

# Newsletter

July 2022



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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### Freedom of Any Kind Does Not Come Cheap

It is true that the word freedom came to us with a history drenched in blood. Two-hundred-forty-six years ago, fifty-six men signed the Declaration of Independence. They wrote, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights..." These men go on to declare their independence and, "with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge our Lives, our Fortunes and our Sacred Honor."

These were not cheap and shallow words. Of the 56, five were captured by the British and tortured before they died. Twelve had their homes ransacked, looted, and occupied by the enemy. Two lost their sons in the war and one had sons captured. Nine of the 56 died in the war.

So, as we celebrate this Fourth of July let's remember to honor all those who have sacrificed so we could enjoy freedom. Many have given their lives and have shed much blood and experienced great trauma so that we could live in freedom from tyranny and oppression.

I'm thinking today of another type of freedom. The freedom of knowing that our sins are forgiven and that the bondage and slavery that sin holds over us has been broken by the person of Jesus Christ, who gave Himself at the cross for us! This freedom in Christ is a gift for all to receive, but it is not cheap. It is the most priceless possession a man can have, and yet it cost Jesus His life. The blood that purchased this freedom was shed once for all in Jerusalem about 2,000 years ago and has had a great influence on our history and our future! Thank God this Fourth of July, not only for those men and women that have sacrificed to buy our freedom, but for the Great Emancipator, Jesus Christ!

## TRANSITION TEAM NEWS

The Transition Team (TT) met for the second half of Retreat #2 on Friday night, June 24. The emphasis of Retreat #2 was to decide what are the three top issues that will be addressed by the congregation to help St. Paul's move toward renewed health and into the vision God has for the next chapter of our history and as we prepare for Pastor Next.

The team appointed four of its members to meet with Pastor Don and summarize the findings to date. They are: Stefan Cug, Lisa Stahlhut, Greg Steimel, and Ralph Stahlhut. This team will report to the Transition Team on Friday evening, July 29. In addition, the results of the MIT (Ministry Insight Tool) Survey will be presented and analyzed and Pastor Don will present to the Team his assessment report.

Following this meeting, Pastor Don will present his assessment report to the congregation at a "Town Hall" meeting sometime in early August. The Transition Team will update the congregation on their findings and conclusions at this meeting as well.

The TT Retreat #3 is scheduled for Friday night and Saturday morning, August 26-27. This retreat will address the ongoing implementation of plans to address the three top issues. They will also begin the process of writing and communicating mission and vision statements as we move into the future.

Thank you for your participation through the SWOTs, the Journey Wall, the MIT Survey, etc. Thank you as well for your ongoing prayers for St. Paul's and for the TT as we move forward.

Blessings and love,  
Don



# BLOOD DRIVE

Give blood July 11 through September 11 and get a voucher for a gift card or bonus points to shop our online store!

## St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church

*Masks and appointments required!*

**Monday, July 18 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Multi-purpose Room 9801 Olive Boulevard**

To schedule an appointment,  
call ImpactLife at 800.747.5401  
or online at [www.bloodcenter.org/group](http://www.bloodcenter.org/group)  
Use group code 9795 to schedule online  
or scan QR code →



**You're invited to join us  
for a prayer walk  
Saturday, July 23 at 9am.**



**We'll pray for our future and each other.**

## CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRIES NEWS

CFM Summer Update:

Well, summer is here and for most of us that means a change of pace. For our Children and Families Ministry Team (CFM), it means a different kind of busy season. Sunday school classes ended in May just in time for us to begin preparing for Vacation Bible School which was held from June 13-17. About 30 kids participated in VBS this year and we had tons of incredible volunteers, including lots of middle and high school students that chipped in and helped. Additionally, Christy Drake led a kitchen staff in providing delicious meals each night of VBS that were a huge hit. The music, the lessons, the imagination station, the snacks and the games were all engaging and specifically geared towards our theme for the day and students learned all about how Jesus helps them through the ups and downs of life.

Right at the beginning of this month, I (Pastor Daniel) will be taking a group of students to the EFCA Challenge Conference from July 3-8. This Conference is held every few years in Kansas City and brings in high school students from all over the United States to grow together in their relationship with God and in service to the community. We will be participating in a local service project while we are there and also get to experience what it is like to live and reach people for Jesus in Japan through the EFCA mission's arm called ReachGlobal. The theme of Challenge is *There is More* and we will be studying the book of 1 Peter (my favorite book) together while we are there. Be praying for the students that will be going that God would capture their hearts and minds during their time there and they would come home changed.

Towards the middle of the month, we have students attending our annual Kings Kids Camp at Camp Wartburg with other local EFCA churches. Pray for the students and adults that will be involved in that important week of fun, making new friendships and learning more about the Holy Spirit. We have students going and counselors as well so be praying for patience, good sleep, deep conversation, and life transformation to occur.

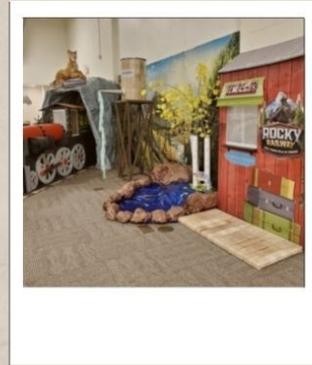
In the midst of all of these exciting events, we also continue to offer Children's Church during our Sunday morning services for kids ages 3-3<sup>rd</sup> grade. A trained volunteer team leads this important ministry to our young families and children, allowing the adults to focus on the message that is being preached, while our kids learn about God in an environment tailored for them.

One other major thing that our CFM team is working on this summer will be launching our midweek programming for young kids during the school year beginning Wednesday, September 7. I am really excited for this incredible opportunity for our church to reach out to our community and the neighborhoods around here with the Gospel. This is one of the reasons I came to St. Paul's and I believe that God will draw in many young people and hopefully some new families through this new weekly outreach. I would appreciate your prayers as we seek to lay out the schedule and organize everything so that we can launch successfully and smoothly this fall with our first series titled: Blast Off!

As you can see, summer may not have Sunday school classes, but it still has plenty going on. As a church, we continue to see a need to reach the next generation for Jesus and to help develop the faith of our young people so that they can become disciples that make more disciples. Continue to pray for us and for our young people.

Pastor Daniel Sjogren on behalf of the Children and Families Ministry Team

# VBS Moments



## FEATURED MISSIONARY



### Cricket Meyer -Uyesu Unathi (Jesus is with us) Ministries

The township of Khayelitsha, with a population of approximately 1.5mil people in 24sq miles, is located on the outskirts of Cape Town. 75% of these people are unemployed, illiterate and in desperate need. Two thirds of the population live in small shacks made from scraps of tin, wood and plastic. Uyesu Unathi, a Christian community centre with limitless potential to serve these people for the glory of Christ, is situated in the midst of this explosion of people. This centre currently has a pre-school with approximately 212 little children between the ages of 6 months & 6 years.

This is where the Lord has called me to serve Him in teaching His word to the children of Uyesu Unathi as well as to lead the staff in

weekly Bible study. Lives are being changed as the staff begin to truly understand who God is and just how much He loves them.

## Our Church Directory is Online!

View our church directory online or via the  
**FREE** mobile app today.

To view the directory online, go to [members.InstantChurchDirectory.com](http://members.InstantChurchDirectory.com) and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you must confirm your email address before you can sign in.

There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and the Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to get the download.

You will need to use your email address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

**Need help or  
have questions?**

**Please contact the church office**





Phyllis Bauer	7/1	Julian Steimel	7/7	Elizabeth Schurwan	7/23
Marlene Buescher	7/1	Dean Alstadt	7/8	Mareika Cug	7/27
Maria del Cid	7/1	Scott Dieckgraefe	7/9	Mary McDannold	7/28
Greg Steimel	7/1	Percy Clark	7/11	Joan Stewart	7/30
Grace van Raalten	7/1	Natalie Doby	7/13	Donna Jayne	8/1
Nicole Sjogreb	7/4	Grace Koewing	7/19	Mary Adams	8/6
Bob Schalk	7/5	Robert Tucker	7/20	Caroline Wong	8/6
Donna Schalk	7/6	Nancy Dahl	7/21		
Sharon McGaully	7/7	Hans Cug	7/23		



Daniel & Nicole Sjogren	11	7/3	Sarah & Josh Shipman	6	7/16
Kristine & Kenneth Williamson	9	7/3	David & Mary Smith	40	7/21
Kurt & Barbara Van Dyk	53	7/5	Greg & Kim Paquette	34	7/23
Bob & Ann Kallemeier	32	7/7	Clay & Nancy Brigham	11	7/24
Greg & Jennifer Steimel	10	7/7	Jim & Nancy Crews	25	8/2
Chuck & Phyllis Caesar	24	7/8	Charles & Marlene Buescher	69	8/7
Mark & Kristine Immekus	28	7/9	Charles & Marlene Eschenbrenner	69	8/8
Dan & Pat Walter	52	7/11	Jim & Cindy Glauert	5	8/10
Frank & Mary Louise Serdy	54	7/13			



**Pastor Jesse Pollmann** went to his Heavenly home on June 11, 2022, at the age of 91. He was a beloved Senior Pastor here for over ten years and a friend to many. Jesse's funeral was officiated by Pastor Don Price at St. Paul's on June 15, with burial at St. Paul's Cemetery.

**Living for Jesus,** below are a couple of excerpts from a small collection of sermons and meditations, from the hundreds given by Pastor Jesse Pollmann, which were included in a booklet handed out at his funeral. If you would like a copy, please contact the church office.

**The Little Things**

Dear Lord, You know we always leave  
 The big things in Your care.  
 We bring to You our needs, our hopes,  
 Our fears-in earnest prayer.  
 But Lord, forgive us when we fail  
 To take the time to say  
 A thank you for the little things  
 That happen every day.

-Annice Harris Brown

***Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.***

**-John 14:1-3**

St. Paul's Evangelical Church  
9801 Olive Blvd  
St. Louis, MO 63141

## HAPPENING THIS MONTH

### Sundays

Worship Service 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m.

### Tuesdays

Quilters and Project Linus 9:30 a.m.

### Wednesdays

Mom Connect 9:30 a.m.

7/3 Communion  
7/4 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED  
7/7 White Cross // 9am  
7/11 Deacons // 5:30pm  
Elders // 7pm  
7/17 *Farewell to the Frederick Family*  
10:30am  
7/17-22 King's Kids Camp  
7/18 Blood Drive // 3-6pm  
7/21 White Cross // 9am  
7/25 Elders // 7pm

### St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church

[www.stpaulsefree.org](http://www.stpaulsefree.org) 9801 Olive Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63141 (314) 993-0015