

St. Paul's Mission and Vision Statements



St. Paul's logo incorporates both the cross (the head/knowledge component - the Truth that is Jesus) and our heart response (the Spirit-filled life).

The double "C" on the left side stands for Creve Coeur – our Jerusalem and the heart is "broken" as a nod to Creve Coeur, which translates to "broken-heart". (There are certainly many broken-hearted people in our community that need Jesus!)

Mission Statement: TO KNOW CHRIST / TO LIVE THE CHRIST LIFE

"Our mission is to glorify God by helping others come to know Christ, and to live the life for which they were created."

Vision Statement: SHINE / SHARE / SERVE

"We will live out our mission by **shining** with God's light; **sharing** the good news of Jesus; and **servicing** in His love and power."

'We envision a vibrant, unified, church where the light of Jesus **shines** to our surrounding communities; where everyone's passion is to **share** the good news with the broken-hearted – teaching and training those that follow Him to become disciples who make disciples; and where each one's spiritual gifts are utilized in **service** to our church, our community, and the world. We want everyone to enjoy a personal relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, forever!"

OUR VALUES

Worship

The Bible

The Holy Spirit - The Great Companion

Love - The Great Commandment

The Great Commission

Evangelism - (both local outreach and global missions).

Education - (teaching).

Equipping - (training).

Prayer

Empowering Leadership

Stewardship

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FROM PASTOR DON'S DESK

RELAPSE or REVIVAL?

"What will it be in 2023?"

As we begin a new year, I am reminded of the constant need that we all have, both corporately and personally, of restoration and revival. We are not naturally going to grow closer to God and to the Savior. The world, the devil, and our own self (which Ephesians 4:22 says "is being corrupted") all work to draw us away from our faith and our God. So, we need constant revival and renewal by God's Spirit. Daily we need to draw from Him the desire and the will to be revived and restored.

Like a fork in the road, we can go only one of two ways. The choice is either *Relapse or Revival*. For the Christian there is no other option. You are either moving forward in your Christian life or you are moving backwards. Earlier in 2022 we studied the book of Nehemiah on Sunday mornings. Look again at Nehemiah 13:4-31 for some instruction in this area. Nehemiah had been greatly used of God in seeing the wall around Jerusalem rebuilt and as a result the people had experienced 12 years of peace and prosperity.

As we pick up the story Nehemiah is back in Jerusalem and realizes rather quickly that the people are in need of revival and restoration in four areas (areas we need to watch as well):

1. They had developed some **Ungodly and Compromising Companionships**. (vv. 4-9)
Tobiah was an enemy (see 2:10, 19; 4:3, 7-8; 6:1-14 and 19). What in the world was Eliashib the priest doing hanging out with him anyway? Nehemiah tossed Tobiah out of the temple and had the place fumigated! (8-9) God feels strongly about our companions.
2. They had become **Unfaithful in their Contributions**. (10-14)
The Levites (the missionaries and the pastors), were not being supported financially. Malachi, the prophet and writer of the last book in the OT was one of them and was prophesying during this time period. Note what he has to say about this issue in Chapter 3:6-12 of his book (the last one in the O.T.). God will not tolerate relapses in this area.
3. They had begun to **Break the Sabbath**. (15-22)
Read it and ask God to help you to honor the Sabbath. God will show you if you need to make any changes.
4. They were making some **Unholy Commitments**. (23-31)
5. Marriage to unbelievers was just as dangerous then as now. God feels strongly about willfully, casually, knowingly becoming united to unbelievers. Him guide you to that believing mate He has all picked out for you.

Relapse of Revival

What will it be for you in 2023? Won't you let Him have your heart this moment and allow Him to bring fresh revival and restoration to you daily. Forsake the old way of doing things (the ungodly companions, the unfaithfulness in contributions, the disregard of the Sabbath, and the unholy commitments) and enjoy His blessing.

Meditate on these promises:

Psalm 37:4 – Delight yourself in the LORD, AND he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 103:11-14 -- ¹¹For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; ¹²as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us. ¹³As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him. ¹⁴For he knows our frame, he remembers that we are dust.

Hebrews 12:10-11 -- ¹⁰For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. ¹¹For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.

Julie joins me in asking God for blessings of health, peace, joy, and fruitfulness on you and your families and on St. Paul's in this next year.

Love,
Don and Julie

Winter and Spring 2023 ABF Classes

(Adult Sunday School):

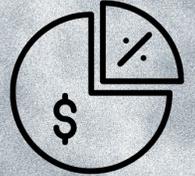
- Women's Bible Study taught by Donna Triebe - The Upper Room.
- Men's Class taught by Terry Daniels - The Front Room.
- Adult ABF taught this winter by Larry Smith in Room 5.

Parables of the Bible.

Parables are a common teaching tool in both the Old and New Testaments and we will look at examples throughout Scripture and examine the parable tradition and what it means in both Jewish and Christian teaching.

- Book Club meets at 8:30 in the Conference Room, led by Bob Vass

Budget Hearing January 16 ~ 7pm



Small Group Training

during ABF hour on Jan. 15 and Feb. 5 and 12.

This training will be hosted by Pastor Don and led by David Pollmann.

A small group interest survey will be conducted in late January and early February and the first series of small groups will be held during Lent. All are welcome to sit in on the training, especially those considering leading or hosting a small group.

Annual Meeting

JAN 29, 1:00

Potluck lunch before the meeting

bring your favorite
side dish and dessert
fried chicken provided

BLOOD DRIVE

St. Paul's Evangelical Free Church

Monday, January 30

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Multi-purpose Room

9801 Olive Boulevard

Masks optional. Appointments required.
To schedule an appointment, scan QR code
call ImpactLife at 800.747.5401
or go to bloodcenter.org/group, grp #9795



Give and get \$10 gift card or t-shirt.
First time donor with ImpactLife?
Choose \$25 gift card or t-shirt.



PASTORAL SEARCH TEAM

The Elders have appointed the Pastoral Search Team. Pastor Don and Craig Caesar, Elder Chairman, will participate ex-officio to support this team's efforts but will not offer a vote in any decision making. Terry Daniels will participate fully as the Elder representative and will vote in decision making. Other Search Team members are:

Maria del Cid

Ben/April Gemignani (tag team with one vote)

Jill Padua

Marco van Raalten

Greg Steimel

The team will be kicking off their work by meeting with EFCA Superintendent Mike Shields on January 11. Please keep this team and our search for "Pastor Next" in prayer. As more updates become available they will be shared with the congregation, beginning at the Annual Meeting. A candidate profile has been developed based on transition team outcomes and Elder/congregation input. Thank you search team for your willingness to patiently serve God and our congregation as we look forward to Pastor Next!



MISSIONARY NEWS



From your St. Paul's Life Team

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday January 22, 2023

During the ABF hour, the Life Team is planning a special speaker, Dr. Carol Fouse of Churches for Life. Carol is the most well-versed person on all aspects of the sanctity of human life from pre-born thru life-ending issues and how recent laws might impact those issues. Please join us on the 22nd for this special presentation in the multipurpose room.

Note: There will be no adult Sunday school classes held that day.

Dave and Cindy Kahre have been working with CRU for 39 years, and are currently working in Florida. They are very appreciative of the support received from St. Paul's for many years.



Register your family
at stpaulsefree.org.

FREE

For kids age 3-grade 6
& their families.

free dinner • free kids program • crafts
games • trained volunteers • fun environment

Free Family Dinner

Wednesdays beginning 1/18
5:45pm-7:30pm at St. Paul's Church

Cultivate Kids

Teaching kids to love like Jesus.

Happy Anniversary!

David & Susan Pollmann 40 years 1/8 Tim & Nancy Dahl 41 years 1/16

Happy Birthday!

Betty Keely	1/2	Art Maclean	1/26
Camila del Cid	1/4	Naomi Lebsock	1/30
Joan Knappenberger	1/4	Ruth Wyne	1/31
Daniel Sjogren	1/5	Art Pasteris	2/1
Jan Smith	1/9	Jorge del Cid	2/2
Pauline Indermark	1/11	Margy Robinson	2/2
Charles Buescher	1/14	Fern Black	2/6
Mary Louise Serdy	1/18	Maureen Kozlowski	2/6
Donna Triebe	1/22	Carolyn Maclean	2/6
Ralph Stahlhut	1/24	Beverly Millard	2/8

Deaths

We have recently had the following friends pass away. Together we pray for the comfort of their families and all that knew them.

Bob Gill, November 21 at the age of 78.

Ruth Effinger, December 4 at the age of 97.

Vivian Young, January 1, 2023 at the age of 82.

Richard Tappmeyer, January 1, 2023 at the age of 86.

We hold fast to Jesus' promise, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even though they die. Everyone who lives and believes in me will never die" (John 11:25-26)



Carolyn and Art Maclean

St. Charles Lake Retirement Community
45 Honey Locust Ln, Rm 304A
St. Charles, MO 63303



Shut-in Cards and Gifts

Thank you to all who provided Christmas cards for our shut-ins. Each of these folks also received a handmade, winter-themed pillowcase, lovingly made by our St. Paul's sewing group, We say a huge Thank You to them!



Adopt-a-Family

Our church family showed an abundance of kindness with donations to the Tabernacle Development group. The packages and gift cards were delivered right before Christmas, and our group was given a tour of the very impressive facility that is serving those in St. Louis by helping families to make changes for the better in their lives.



SAUSAGE SUPPER
FEBRUARY 19, 2023



**MORE INFORMATION SOON
ON WAYS TO HELP
AND FOR TICKET SALES**

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



ST. PAUL'S

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Sundays

Worship Service	9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time	10:30 a.m.
Cultivate Teens	6:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

Quilters and Project Linus	9:30 a.m.
Prayer & Care Meeting	1:30 p.m.

Wednesdays

Women's Bible Study	9:00 p.m.
Cultivate Kids	5:45 p.m.

Thursdays

Praise Ringers	6:00 p.m.
Chorale	7:00 p.m.

1/8	Communion
1/9	Deacons // 5:30pm
1/11	Women's Fellowship // 11:30am
1/14	Take down Christmas decorations // 9am
1/16	Budget Hearing // 7pm Elders // 7pm
1/19	White Cross // 9:30am
1/22	Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
1/29	Annual Meeting // 1:00pm Potluck @ Noon
1/30	Blood Drive // 3-6pm