

The Pastoral Search Committee presents Pastor Marc Castro as a Candidate for Lead Pastor at St. Paul's

The Pastoral Search Committee has spent many hours looking at over 40 candidates - looking for a shepherd to shepherd our hearts. At the Church Picnic on September 17th, they announced that they had chosen Pastor Marc Castro as the candidate for Lead Pastor. Each of the members of the committee was asked to tell what characteristic they thought Pastor Marc displayed that would make him a good fit for St. Paul's.

- Marco van Raalten described Pastor Marc as a thinker and someone who is passionate about relational discipleship. He is observant and truly cares about people. He also told us that Pastor Marc is highly recommended by our District EFCA Representative, Mike Shields.
- Barbara van Dyk loved Pastor Marc's depth of insight. When he was asked some tough questions, he did not rush, but gave a lot of thought to his answers.
- Lisa Stahlhut observed that Pastor Marc was very family oriented. He and his wife, Andrea have 2 little girls and were very committed to their family and church community. She also mentioned that he is a Dodgers fan, but maybe time in St. Louis might change that!
- Craig Caesar reported that Pastor Marc had shepherded a past congregation through some tough problems. He also noted that Pastor Marc is interested in youth discipleship.
- Pastor Terry was impressed that Pastor Marc felt God's calling to St. Paul's even when others might shy away from the challenge.
- Maria del Cid said that she saw how God was working to put Pastor Marc in our path. She also commented that he was eager to learn from St. Paul's.
- Marco van Raalten concluded by telling us that Pastor Marc was looking for longevity. He wants to settle down and be part of the long-term strategy at St. Paul's

The committee reported that Pastor Marc Castro will be visiting St. Paul's on the weekend of Sept. 29 - October 1. The congregation is invited to come to the church to meet him on **September 30, from 2-4 p.m.** Pastor Marc will be preaching on **Sunday, October 1st**, with a Congregational Meeting following, when our members will vote on whether to extend a call to Pastor Castro. Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance during this important time for St. Paul's.



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ELDER NEWS

Pastor Terry reported he is now meeting on a regular basis with staff, Worship Team, Mission Team and, when necessary, the Personnel Committee. A request was made by the Worship Team, through Pastor Terry, to discontinue the greeting time during the worship service. Since this was reinstituted at the request of congregants, the Elders decided to continue having this as part of the service. Pastor Terry also discussed the frustration at having a time constraint on hearing God's Word through the sermon. A motion was made to begin worship services at 9:15 a.m. beginning on September 24 when adult and children begin the Fall Bible study session. Although this motion passed, it was later decided to delay implementation until a new Lead Pastor is in place. Plans are being made to begin small sermon-based groups in September.

Marco Van Raalten presented a visual on St. Paul's AIM to love God, love one another and love the lost. This visual aid will be placed throughout the church and inserted into church bulletins.

David Brewer reported Wednesday Night Worship continues to grow in attendance. Leticia Wong plans to meet with Lisa Stahlhut on ways to invite parents to attend this service while their children are with the Wednesday night kids' event. Discussion ensued regarding the team to which Wednesday Night Worship would report. It was decided this was an outreach to the community and, therefore, the appropriate team would be the Outreach Team.

Joyce Lindstrom, on behalf of the Personnel Committee, presented an update to the Personnel Policy. A motion was made to add a Section 6.1.2.b, regarding part-time employees, "Part-time program staff who are not hourly will earn vacation time/sick time according to the estimated hours worked weekly in their employment agreement." This motion was passed.

Christy Drake has been given the authority to approve any building use requests if they have been approved in the past or if it is an event that meets the mission of the church.

The Outreach Team will begin to have a host available, after each worship service, to greet visitors and provide them with a gift.

The Elders are excited by Pastor Terry's offer to teach an Eschatology (End Times) class beginning Sept. 24.

If you have questions, concerns or recommendations, please do not hesitate to contact the Elders at elders@stpaulsefree.org and we will give this consideration at the next meeting.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



St. Paul's Stephen Minsters kicked off their new season with a welcome back dinner on Wednesday, September 13. Stephen Ministers are lay congregation members trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life, such as grief, divorce, job loss, chronic or terminal illness, or relocation. Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, but they all share a passion for bringing Christ's love and care to people during a time of need. If you need a Stephen Minister or would like to be involved, contact Joyce Sabine at jmsabine92@gmail.com.

Pictured above (front to back) are Nancy Cash, Joyce Sabine, Katie Prsha, , Lela Vollmer, Jim Glauert, Cindy Glauert, Sieglinde Schnellbacher, and Barbara van Dyk. Stephen Ministers not in attendance include Barb Hueffmeier, Dwight Holman, and Gregg Peter.

CHURCH PICNIC



Thank you to everyone who worked to make the 180th Anniversary / Church Picnic a special occasion. It was great to hear ministry updates and especially to hear the great news from the Pastor Search Committee. We also enjoyed hearing the history of past church picnics presented by Grace Koewig. We continued the tradition by having our own chicken dinner with wonderful potluck dishes and a dessert contest! Thanks to those who led bingo and games and those who helped us make a memory chain symbolizing how we are all connected.



MISSIONS NEWS

Food Drive The Mission Team is sponsoring the annual pre-Thanksgiving food drive again this year, with donations going to Operation Food Search. Bring your donations of food or cash from October 29th to November 5th. Please, no glass containers, no expired canned goods and no ramen noodles. (Most-wanted items: Light Tuna, Salmon, Chicken (canned & pouches) - Soup, Chili, Stews with Meat - Canned fruit (in natural juices) - Diced Tomatoes, Tomato Paste (low sodium appreciated) - Canned Spaghetti Sauces - Canned beans (low sodium appreciated) - Instant Brown Rice, Whole Wheat Pasta - Boxed Meal Kits - Canned Vegetables - Dried Spices: chili powder, garlic powder, cumin, etc - Deodorant, Toothbrushes & Toothpaste) Pop top cans are especially appreciated. Operation Food Search serves our neighbors in 42 counties across the bi-state area. The agency provides food and services to 200,000 individuals on a monthly basis – one-third of whom are children – through a network of 330 community partners. Thanks in advance for your generosity!!

Christmas in October for St. Paul's Missionaries Every October, St. Paul's collects donations to provide a Christmas gift to our supported missionaries. The cash gifts are a great way to show our love and care and are always greatly appreciated. Imagine if you are John and Melissa in Mozambique, or Cricket in South Africa, far away from family during the holidays, and this gift arrives from St. Paul's! This year our envelopes do not include a designated envelope for Christmas in October. Please place your donation in the offering, any Sunday in October, with it marked for Christmas in October. Thank you for showing your love and support to our missionaries!!

10 DAYS OF PRAYER

On September 20th, the St. Paul's sanctuary was filled and overflowing with prayers of a small but mighty group of prayer warriors. St. Paul's had the privilege to host a 10 Days of Prayer event. Besides praying for Christian unity in the St. Louis area, we also focused on Kabul, Afghanistan and Eastern / Southern Africa. A highlight was a video from Letitia's friend, Laurens Brink, a missionary in South Africa. We want to thank Letitia Wong and David Brewer for leading us in worship. Thank-you to Letitia, Marco van Raalten, and Pastor Brandon Wilkes, and other attendees who led us in prayer and praise to the Lord.



LIFE TEAM / LIFE CHAIN SUNDAY

October 1st, is national Life Chain Sunday. Since 1987, believers have gathered nationwide on the first Sunday in October to prayerfully stand for Life. **LIFE CHAIN** is a peaceful and prayerful public witness of pro-life individuals standing for 90 minutes praying for our nation and for an end to abortion. It is a visual statement of solidarity by the Christian community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception. Please continue to Pray for the innocent lives still being lost and let's put an end to Abortion - "Forever".

If anyone is interested in learning more about Life Team, please talk with Barbara van Dyk .

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

Please join Wednesday Worship this month, on October 18th at 6:30 p.m., as we worship together with Pastor Bennie and the Shammah Church. We hope you will join us in this time of music, prayer, and fellowship, as we get to know the French-African people who have been meeting at our church for many years.

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Trunk-or-Treat

Join us on
October 29th
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Trunk-or-Treat

We are asking people to sign-up to decorate their cars and come join us on the parking lot. We also are requesting donations of candy for the event. Drop-off boxes will be in the Welcome Center. Come join us for a fun afternoon complete with a free hot-dog lunch!

Plans are being made for a new Wednesday Evening Kids Program, JAM, starting later this year. More information will be available soon. If you are interested in volunteering on Wednesday nights, please contact Lisa Stahlhut.



DON'T FORGET - Sunday School for all children, regardless of age, will start out in the Power Plant and then we will break off into groups. Come join us!

180th ANNIVERSARY TRIVIA

There were several observant people that caught the error on the 180th Anniversary front cover of the September newsletter. Our history states that an Education Building was built in 1937, but the picture we displayed was actually the Sunday School Hall addition that was built in 1955 and now houses the second floor classrooms and church office. The 1937 Sunday School Hall was originally used for Sunday School, with several classes meeting in the large open main floor and basement. It was later used as an Auditorium and basement Dining Room. Unfortunately, some of us “young-uns” don’t remember it’s varied history! Good catch!



1937 - Sunday School Hall



1955 - Sunday School Hall Expansion

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP NEWS

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP MEETING on October 11, 2023.
Bring your own lunch. Dessert and drinks are provided.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP BAKE SALE St. Paul's is having a Christmas bake sale at the December 2nd Glo Brunch. The ladies will prepare boxes with a variety of homemade cookies for folks to enjoy during the holidays. If you are willing to donate baked goods, contact Lynn May. All proceeds will go to benefit the Women's Fellowship Mission Fund.



YarnWorks

The Yarnworks women welcomed new members to both our August and September meetings, including a veteran knitter and another who came to learn! We'd love to have you join us for this creative afternoon of fellowship and refreshments. Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 12, 1-3 pm, at the home of Mary Louise Serdy, 13275 Windygate Lane, 63146. Questions? Call 314-210-0065.

DO YOU NEED MORE OF GOD?

Healing Hearts

a Women's Ministry retreat
for women who are a
part of the St. Paul's community

Saturday, October 7th



\$10 per person - includes breakfast & lunch

Register with Elizabeth Thomas - bluebird213@gmail.com

SMALL GROUPS

Small Groups are meeting at St. Paul's and other locations on different days of the week. Pastor Terry will be preaching through the book of Ephesians this Fall, and the small groups will meet weekly for a deeper study and application using *Knowing the Bible: Ephesians, a 12 Week Study* by JL Packer. Call the church office to sign-up.

Happy Anniversary!

ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS

Kate & Daniel Alstadt	10/01	12 years
Tim & Jennifer Bensing	10/11	9 years
Richard & Carol Grater	10/12	60 years
James & Joan Knappenberger	10/12	32 years
Chuck & Colleen Appel	10/15	46 years

Robert & Donna Schalk	10/16	41 years
Robert & Sieglinde Schnellbacher	10/19	50 years
Al & Fern Black	10/25	63 years
Richard & Bobbi Scholl	10/26	38 years
Julie & Timothy Hohmann	10/27	11 years

Happy Birthday!

Walter Gummersheimer	10/5	Rebekah Crews	10/11	Harold Dielmann	10/21
Betty Williams	10/6	Vicky Schjenken	10/12	Gloria Charlwood	10/22
Jamie Stull	10/7	Colleen Appel	10/13	William Musselman	10/23
Jim Glauert	10/8	Carly Caesar	10/13	Dan Walter	10/24
Bob Vass	10/9	Jack Caesar	10/13	Chuck Appel	10/27
Kellie Walter	10/10	Pat Walter	10/13	John Graeler	10/27
		Isabella del Cid	10/18	Marcene Darby	10/28
		Jack Neier	10/20	Charles Jung	11/4

MEMORIALS

Madeline Rohman Oliver, Our Dear sister in Christ, Madelyn J. Rohman Oliver (nee Horn) died peacefully at home surrounded by loving family on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. She was the beloved wife of Gary Oliver and the late Robert Rohman; dear mother and mother-in-law of Tammy (Mike) Davis, Mike (Barb) Rohman and Rusty (Tammi) Rohman; dear grandmother of Jami (Jeremy) Miller, Brad (Emily) Rohman, Leslie (Jackson) Browning, Allison (John) Rosa, Conrad Rohman, Kelsey Rohman and Leanne Davis; dear great grandmother of MacKenzie, Samantha, Dallas, Elle, John Russell and Leighton; dear sister of Dick (Jane) Horn; dear sister-in-law, aunt, step-mother, step grandmother, step great-grandmother, cousin and friend.

Madelyn Jean Horn was born on February 12, 1939, in St. Louis to Stanley and Rosemary (Pat) Horn and grew up in Overland. She met her first husband, Bob, at Ralph Clark Pharmacy. They married, started a family, and Madelyn was a busy mother of three. Bob became the owner of the drugstore, and she worked there in various capacities. Bob and Madelyn were huge Blue's hockey fans. After Bob's death, Madelyn married Gary Oliver. In 2011 Madelyn survived inoperable lung cancer. She held tight to her faith and to the family motto of Slow and Steady Wins the Race! Madelyn's dream of a Stanley Cup in St. Louis was finally realized in 2019 and she was ecstatic! Madelyn's biggest goal and pleasure in life was taking care of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her life was blessed with family who loved her beyond measure.

Ralph Percival, Our dear brother in Christ, Ralph G. Percival, 93, went home peacefully to live with Jesus on Tuesday, September 5, 2023. Born on April 8, 1930 in St. Louis, MO, he was preceded in death by his beloved parents Ralph W. and Gladys Percival, treasured in-laws Elmer and Mary Fewell, and special uncle and aunt Carl and Juanita Jaquith. He is survived by his adored wife of 68 years, Lois, and their daughters Kimberly (Marc) Gerik and Krista Bahre, grandchildren Christopher and Theresa Bahre, great-grandson Roman Carr, nieces Ann Chalfant and Carol Ponder, and sister in spirit Sue Rix.

Ralph will be eternally remembered for his joyful spirit and generosity toward others. He was a devoted husband and father, being married to Lois for almost 7 decades. His other true passion was serving others, and he did so through chaplaincy work, home and hospital visitation for so many people, card ministry, and multiple other ministry positions. He cherished studying scripture and especially loved serving as a Stephen's Minister at St. Paul's Church. Ralph will be warmly remembered by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. He would want all of us to pause during our day to notice flowers and clouds, smile, and show a moment of kindness to someone else.

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



Sundays

Worship Service	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	11:00 a.m.

Mondays - Church Office Closed

Tuesdays

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

Wednesdays

Women's Bible Study	9:00 a.m.
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Thursdays

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

9/29 Pray with the Elders 9am

9/29 Meet Pastor Marc & Andrea 2 - 4pm

10/1 Pastor Marc Castro preaching 9:30am
* Communion

* Congregation Meeting 10:45am
to call Pastor Castro as Lead Pastor

10/2 Missions Team 7:00pm

10/11 Women's Fellowship 11:30am

10/12 YarnWorks 1pm

10/16 White Cross 9:30am

10/18 Wednesday Worship 6:30pm

10/23 Quilts of Valor 9:30am

10/28 Pray with the Elders 9am

10/29 Trunk-or-Treat 1:00 - 2:30pm