



*"Her children rise up and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:
'Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.'"*

Proverbs 31:28–29

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FROM PASTOR MARC'S DESK

*"The less power we feel over a situation,
the more intense our fears become."*

Jenita Pace

Have you ever felt like you've lost control of a situation? This could be in your family, work or school. Or, we may feel like we have no idea what's going to happen in our world or our country. We feel powerless over these situations. Fear can enter our hearts because of this.



Those of us who are followers can turn to the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David. He has conquered. He is worthy to bring about God's saving plan for the world. When you feel powerless, that's when you can turn to him. He wants to take people who are powerless and turn them into people who will reign with him!

MISSOURI PRO-CHOICE AMMENDMENT

A group known as "The Missourians for Constitutional Freedom" is currently circulating a petition to collect signatures for the "Missouri Right to Reproductive Freedom Amendment (2024)." They are attempting to get this constitutional amendment on the ballot for November 5, 2024. The deadline to submit the required number of signatures is May 5th.

Signature collectors may tell you that the amendment is about women's health or reproductive rights. Please be aware that this amendment, if passed, will eliminate the current restrictions on abortion in the State of Missouri and limit the general assembly's ability to regulate abortion only after "fetal viability." The amendment defines fetal viability as "the point in pregnancy when, in the good faith judgment of a treating health care professional and based on the particular facts of the case, there is a significant likelihood of the fetus's sustained survival outside the uterus without the application of extraordinary medical measures." There are several phrases in this definition which are open to a wide degree of interpretation.

The full text of the proposed amendment can be read at

<https://www.sos.mo.gov/cmsimages/Elections/Petitions/2024-086.pdf>

This amendment will remove the hard-won protections for the unborn in Missouri. We can support life by refusing to sign this petition. We can support pregnant women and mothers in crisis in a wide variety of ways. Consider monetary donations or volunteering with any of the following organizations: Thrive St. Louis Pregnancy Centers / Our Lady's Inn / Haven of Grace Missouri Baptist Children's Home / Good Shepherd Children & Family Services

FOOD DRIVE



The Missions Team will be collecting food donations. Canned meats are the greatest need as well as other canned and dry goods. Food items will be gathered through May 12. A collection box can be found along the east wall in the Welcome Center.

ELDER & DEACON NEWS

New Member Class - Thank you to the leaders who have assisted Pastor Marc in teaching this class. After the class ends, the elders will interview and listen to testimonies from anyone who wants to be a member. Please pray for our future new members.

Youth Program - David Pollmann briefed the elders on the youth program. We currently have 10 to 18 students participating, with half of the kids from outside of our church! We continue to look for a staff person or volunteer to lead the youth. A job description for the position is being developed. Information on this Summer's youth mission trip can be found on Page 6.

Piano Upgrades - A grand piano that was part of June Kummer's estate (Melanie Brewer's mother) has been donated to St. Paul's. The new piano will replace the one in the front of the sanctuary. Additionally, the problems with the grand piano and organ in the choir loft have also been addressed.

Monthly Prayer Guide - Since the Good Friday Prayer Vigil prayer guide was well received, we are considering having a prayer guide for each month, including prayers for shut-ins, missionaries, youth, church programs, etc. This could be available both online and in person on the first of the month. More information will be available as this program is developed.

Deacon Update - Things are going well, financially and otherwise, and there is a good spirit in the church. The narthex speakers and hearing-assist system have been fixed. Issues with the sanctuary computer, phone & streaming are still being addressed.

Prayer with the Elders - All are invited to participate on May 25 at 9:00 a.m.

TRIVIA NIGHT



A BIG thank-you to everyone, especially Susan Jackson, Susan Musselman, Donna Schalk and the Silent Auction Team, who helped make Trivia Night a success. Lots of fun was had by all, and we were able to raise over \$5,000 to be used for Children and Family Ministry programs!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Women's Fellowship - Join us May 8 at 11:30 a.m. for our monthly meeting. Ladies should bring their own lunch. Dessert & drinks will be provided. Please bring a baby picture of yourself or a loved one.

At last month's meeting we celebrated the 98th birthday of Joan Althaus in style. Joan, joined by her daughter, Marcy, brought many of the hats in her collection to share with the women. They also served a "hat" cake for dessert. It was a lovely time of celebration.



Women's Fellowship is having a **"Mother's Day Baby Shower"** to support Nurses for Newborns. This ministry provides critical healthcare services for infants and prenatal mothers who are at medical, economic, environmental, or social risk. We hope you'll consider donating one or more items. Diapers, pull-ups, and wipes are especially needed. Other baby care items such as A&D or Dawn laundry soap are appreciated. Collection boxes will be in the Welcome Center until May 5.

Mother-Daughter Banquet

Friday, May 3 @ 6:00pm

Invite your mom, daughters,
granddaughters or a friend and join us
for this fun evening!

Tickets available in the Welcome Center
Contact: Judy Pfeiffer 314-423-2601



YarnWorks - Summer would be a great time to learn how to knit or crochet! The ladies will be meeting on Thursday, May 9, 1-3 pm. at the Schnellbacher's home at 2619 White Manor Ct. to work on prayer shawls plus other items for those in need. If you would like to meet at another time, please call Sieglinde at 314-210-0065.

Dear Women of St. Paul's,

I want to know what you want for our Women's Ministry. I will be emailing groups of you to meet for coffee, tea, and brainstorming! If you are interested in helping with Women's Ministry, please let me know.

With love in Christ, Elizabeth Thomas
bluebird213@gmail.com





CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

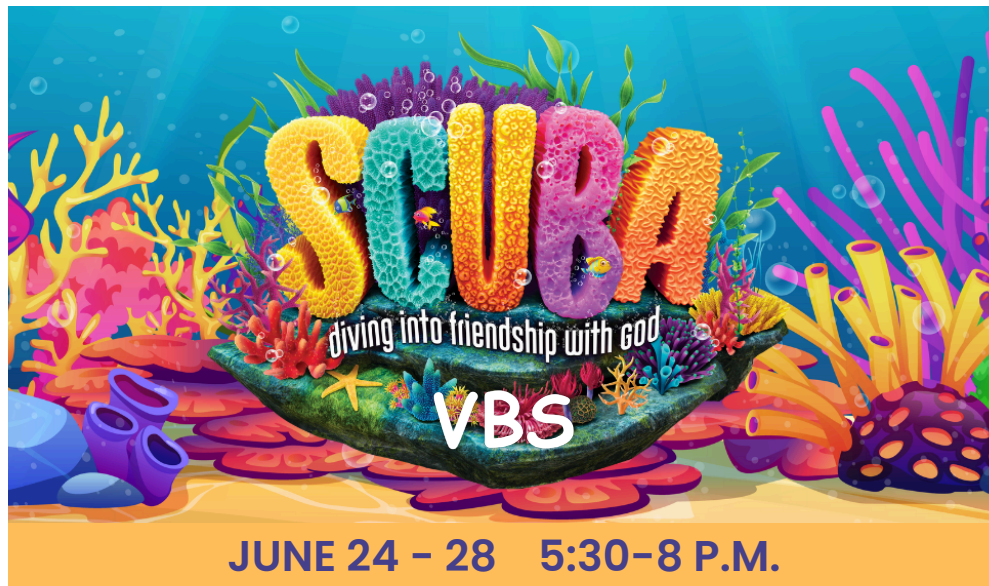
The kids are really enjoying JAM! We have been very blessed with volunteers, both in the kitchen as well as those helping with JAM time. JAM will continue through the month of May. We look forward to seeing you next fall.

Thank you to everyone that helped make our **Annual Easter Egg Hunt** a huge success! The kids were excited to see so many eggs, and loved all the treasures they found inside. We had approximately 50 children attend and even saw some come back to JAM the next Wednesday!

Regular Sunday School will be ending for the school year on May 26. We will have a special lesson and snacks on the 26th as a celebration! Be sure to check the Welcome Center for a bag with your child's name on it on the first Sunday of each month in the Summer. This is a way to help your child know that their church family is thinking of them and remind them of some special Bible stories.

Kids Church will be meeting this summer to continue the learning adventure. Check the weekly bulletin for any schedule changes.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



VBS is coming, June 24 - 28, with an underwater theme called Scuba – Diving into Friendship with God. At Scuba VBS, kids will dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. We will begin each evening with a free family dinner at 5:30 pm and will end promptly at 8:00 pm. Starting mid-May, you can visit stpaulsefree.org to register your kids (4 years old thru 5th grade).

We will need many volunteers to help during the week, so please contact Lisa Stahlhut at lisa_stahlhut@yahoo.com if you can help. We will also need help constructing the backdrops prior to the week of VBS. Please consider helping to make this week a success for our children.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

St. Paul's Youth will be sending 10 youth and 3 adults to Maumee, Ohio, near Cleveland, for a Group mission trip from June 16 - 22.



At Group work camps, hundreds of teenagers from youth groups across the country repair and transform homes while deepening their faith and building new relationships with their peers and youth leaders. Home repair mission trips are mid-sized gatherings with up to 400 teenage participants that focus specifically on residential home repair. Home repair projects range from painting to building decks and wheelchair ramps, and other general home repairs. But, the service projects are often secondary to the spiritual growth that happens when students step out on their own and serve those in need. Beyond the physical transformation that happens in the served communities, teenagers bring the hope and light of Jesus to the residents they serve.



Group has been planning work camps for youth for 30+ years. St. Paul's has participated in the past (see picture) in Group work camps. Our experiences have always been great with students getting the opportunity to blossom with new friends in new environments, reaching outside of their comfort zones.

During work camp, we will stay at a local school that is full of fun and energy as we interact, share meals together, and participate in worship and teaching in morning and evening programs. Each work camp has a strong Gospel message component that is discussed at four different periods throughout the day.

This year's program theme is "Influencer." We're all influenced and influencers to others through interactions, news, music, work, school, sports and anywhere we focus our attention. Whether we think so or not, everyone is an influencer. Everything we do is seen and watched by our friends, family, peers, and others around us. We make an impression and have real influence. The goal this year is to help students navigate the many influences in their lives and encourage them to look toward Jesus to positively change our culture. Romans 12:2 reminds us: *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

St. Paul's is being asked to take a gift along to support the community after we have gone. They have asked us to supply diapers and/or home paper products to be given to families in need in Maumee. We will have a collection box in the Welcome Center starting mid-May for anyone who would care to donate.

Anniversaries

05/08 Jeff & Tera Stahlhut (14 yrs)
05/25 Dennis & Donna Jayne (50 yrs)
05/26 Robert & Betty Binns (62 yrs)

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

05/26 Brian & Elizabeth Thomas (45 yrs)
05/26 Marco & Kari van Raalten (34 yrs)
05/29 Kevin & Laura Graeler (8 yrs)



Birthdays

05/01 Sarah Crews
05/01 Conway Wong
05/05 Cindy Glauert
05/07 David Oliver
05/08 Ginnie Thomas
05/09 Jim Knappenberger
05/10 Carol Teter
05/12 Katie Paquette

05/14 Fred Triebe
05/15 Juliet Daniel
05/16 Kathy Fischer
05/16 Larry Jackson
05/17 Jane Fischer
05/20 Charlie Bensing
05/22 Kim Paquette
05/23 Jerry Gill

05/23 Barb Hueffmeier
05/24 Phyllis Caesar
05/24 Joseph Pollmann
05/24 Fred Vollmer
05/25 Faye Eichholz
05/26 Mary Broky
05/27 Olivia Neier
06/01 Roger Lindstrom

UPCOMING MISSIONARY VISITS

We have heard from several of our supported missionaries who will be visiting over the next few months. All of the missionaries will be with us for the ABF hour.

- May 19: Derrill & Becky Martin (TEAM) along with Tony Aldemero, one of the front line workers in the Philippines.
- June 2: Brad Wos, Multicultural Director with the EFCA Central District. Brad will also have the sermon during the worship service.
- July 7: Craig & LaDonna Smith, Tribal Rescue Missions.
- August 11: Mark & Mary Esther Penner and one of the Japanese sign language translators.

We look forward to these visits and hope many of you can join us!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 3, 2024

The Rummage Sale is a marvelous outreach to our community while also providing funds for various ministries of St. Paul's. We have set up/pricing jobs throughout the week prior to the sale, and need many hands on the day of the sale to assist customers and clean up. Please contact Judy Pfeiffer, Susan Pollmann, Lisa Stahlhut or Nicole Youngquist if you have any questions or want to volunteer.

Donations can be dropped off at the bus garage on May 5, June 2 and July 7 (10:45 - 11:30 AM), and at the church the week prior to the sale.

RUMMAGE SALE



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.
JAM - Jesus & Me 5:30 p.m.

Thursdays

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

5/3 Mother - Daughter Banquet 6pm
5/6 Missions Team 7pm
5/8 Women's Fellowship 11:30am
5/9 YarnWorks 1pm
5/13 Deacon / Elder Meetings
5/19 Missionaries - Martins 11am
5/20 White Cross 9:30am
5/25 Pray with the Elders 9am
5/27 Quilts of Valor 9am