



Bible Study Resumes Jan. 22

Our Bible study for spring begins this Sunday, January 22, at 1:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. We will be finishing the Kings of Israel. I will have the study guides available for participants to pick up on the table outside the east entrance to the sanctuary. Please plan to bring a sack lunch or get a sandwich close by and join other study members for lunch prior to our study time together.

Our Bible study dates for the spring session are as follows: January 22, 29; February 5, 12, 19, 26; March 4, and ending on March 11. Plan on joining us to learn about the kings of Israel and have a great time in fellowship.

Pastor Ron



OUR CHURCH WELCOMES

On Sunday, January 15, St. Paul was blessed to have Paula Graves unite with us. We look forward to many years of worship and fellowship with you.



If you would like a visit from the pastor, please contact the church office at 866-4326 or 866-4327.

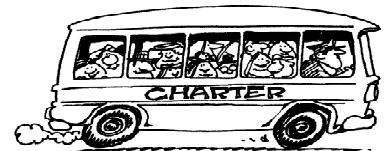
Recent Prayer Requests

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week. These are recent concerns of our church family.

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Billy Gonser | Mary Zabek |
| Mark | Carol Reece |
| Pat Stringer | Cathy Lindstrom |
| Keith Wilson | Mike Wright |
| Michael Simpson | Jan Shryer |
| Alex Redpath | Glenda Keeth |
| Jim & Norma Cooper | Carson |
| Mary Shanahan | Leona Schrader |
| Pat Wyatt | Carla Evans |
| Nancy B. | Mary Oheim |
| Betty Dobyns | Derek |
| Becky Alberty | John O'Roark |
| Seth Breesawitz | Sister Lorraine |

- Nancy Woolford
- Tranbarger Family
- Gillingham Family
- David & Anita Climer
- Lundsford Family
- Karen Christopherson
- Contemporary Service
- Terry & David Kerns
- Marine Marshall Blansett

These prayer concerns will be printed for two weeks. If there are prayer concerns, please contact Linda Mason at home number 886-4779.



Remember if you would like to ride the bus on Sunday mornings, call Alishia Norman at 832-0896 or Daniel Bush at 773-9337 on Saturday evening before 7:00 p.m.

Staff

Reach or leave a message for staff members at 866.4326

Dr. Ron McIntire
Pastor

Nancy Phillips
Secretary

Scott Rankin
Bookkeeper

Gary Snider
Custodian

Rosemary Jackson
Music Ministry

Dr. Jim Tarrant
Organist

Dody Harmon
Contemporary Music

Lauren Wilson
Youth

Amanda Walton
Children

Mission:
The making of new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

I Think We're Committed...

“Neither is new wine put into old wineskins; otherwise, the skins burst, and the wine is spilled, and the skins are destroyed; but new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved.” Matthew 9:17 (NRSV)

If you haven't taken a look at St. Paul's Facebook page recently, you need to. You will see several photos of the east entry and the soon-to-be Bigelow Fellowship Center. This past week workmen have done a magnificent job of removing the old wooden trim (much of it to be reused), the ceilings, rest room dividers, cabinets in the kitchenette area of the old parlor, paneling and plaster partition walls.

In looking at the east entryway, one can visualize what the new fellowship area will look like with its open expanse and taller ceilings. The actual hallway will not resemble a basement steam tunnel any longer. It will be a bright, inviting area that leads worshippers into a fellowship area that is roomy, bright and easy to access. As of right now, the new enlarged handicap accessible rest rooms have not taken shape, but that will occur next week.

I must say our contractor and his crew has been incredibly accommodating, careful and spotlessly clean in their work. I spoke with both the main contractor and his foreman before work began about how important it was to St. Paul to keep the dust and grit contained and not let it stray into the sanctuary or other parts of the building. To that end, before demolition all doorways including the two nursery rooms, pastor's study, and church office were sealed with heavy plastic and taped along the edges and bottom to keep any dust or grit from migrating through during demolition and debris removal. Also, the crew constructed a barricade wall at the end of the east hall just beyond the old bathrooms. This temporary wall is dustproof and stretches wall to wall and floor to ceiling to contain the dust and grit. A large sealed door is located in the center of the wall to permit pass-through access for workmen. The door is weather stripped on all four sides to prevent dust leakage. (To access the church office or the pastor's office, please enter through the door that is just across from the elevator, to the right of the mailboxes. We keep that door open during business hours so just walk right in!)

To further accentuate the cleanliness effort, each day the construction crew polices the area carefully and each Friday they spend much of the day preparing the east hallway for worship traffic on Sunday. Even though persons entering the church through the east door on Sunday can quickly see the degree of work and demolition that has occurred, no speck of dirt or dust is visible since the entire area has been carefully vacuumed in preparation for St. Paul parishioners on Sunday. How is that for thoughtful and accommodating!

I find it exciting that our St. Paul folks can have a weekly progress viewing of this renovation project. Such things are difficult to describe in sufficient detail; whereas, a stroll through the hallway to the sanctuary and from the sanctuary to the parking lot will let everyone see just what is happening and how our project is moving along. At this point, I must sing the praises of our architect firm and our contractor on the job they are doing for us and how they are trying to meet our request to use the east entrance on weekends.

Should you have need to come to the church during the week, please plan on entering the building through the double doors behind the Ragan House or through the Jefferson Street door. The east entrance is closed during the week for the construction project. Worshippers will be greeted with two signs on the east door alerting the fact that the entrance is closed and an alternate route is required. **On Sundays, please disregard the signs and come on in.** Take your time and look at the various ways different remodeling projects were done. Please stay behind any caution tape to make sure you aren't inadvertently injured.

This entire remodeling effort is being done to “spruce-up” the look of our east entrance area and to provide a spacious area for fellowship on the main floor of the church. While the Walker Parlor served St. Paul well for decades, a different look, we hope, will attract new worshippers and make our church even more welcoming. We want to make sure that St. Paul continues to be an inviting, bright, cheerful place for people to come and enjoy passionate worship and delightful fellowship. That's the “one-two” combination that brings them back. When we add the love and friendliness of our congregation, that's the third element of success that will keep them with us.

Blessed to serve,

Pastor Ron



To Ruthie and Cecil Wyett on the passing of Ruthie's sister, Imogene Walton on January 1, 2012. Services were held on January 5 in Rogersville, Missouri. If you wish to send a card or letter of condolence their address is:

Ruthie & Cecil Wyett
4919 S. National Place Blvd.
Springfield, MO 65810

ONLY A QUARTER!

Several years ago a minister moved to the Houston, Texas area. Some weeks after he had arrived, he had occasion to ride the bus from his home to downtown. When he sat down he discovered that the driver had accidentally given him a quarter too much change. As he considered what to do, he thought to himself, "You better give the quarter back. It would be wrong to keep it." Then he reasoned, "Oh, forget it, it's only a quarter. Who would worry about this little amount? Anyway, the bus company already gets too much fare; they will never miss it. Accept it as a gift from God and keep quiet."

When his stop came, he paused momentarily at the door, then he handed the quarter to the driver and said, "Here, you gave me too much change." The driver, with a smile, replied, "Aren't you the new preacher in town?" I have been thinking lately about going to worship somewhere. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you too much change."

When the preacher stepped off the bus, he literally grabbed the nearest light pole and held on, saying, "Oh, God, I almost sold your Son for a quarter."

Our lives are the only Bible some people will ever read.

St. Paul United Methodist Church

Sunday, January 22, 2012

Ushers: Alishia Norman, James Norman
Maridel Allinder, Martha Eddlemon



Will be on Friday, January 27 at 6:00 p.m.
 Bring a covered dish to share with the group.
 Bring a friend and come join the fun.
 Hope to see you there!



GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Harriette Glazier

By: Bob Glazier



On Wednesday, February 22 we begin our Lenten season. There will be two times to select from to receive communion and placing of ashes. The first service will be at noon, with the second service beginning at 6:00 p.m.

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

413 E. Walnut
Springfield, MO 65806

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Phone: 417-866-4326
Fax: 417-866-3442

Email addy: stpaulumcoffice@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.stpaulumcspringfield.org



See us on Facebook.

Dr. Ron McIntire, Pastor

Office: 866-4326

Home: 777-5742

Cell: 417-298-1793

Email: stpaulumcpastor@sbcglobal.net

Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 22

9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Celebration of Worship
1:00 pm	Bible Study
6:00 pm	Contemporary Worship
7:15 pm	BEAT Youth Group meets

Monday, January 23

6:00 pm	Church Council meeting
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Wednesday, January 25

6:30 pm	Choir Practice
8:30 pm	MSU Greenroom Contemporary

Friday, January 27

6:00 pm	Game Night
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St. Paul UMC mission: *The making of new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*