

The Post

Reaching Up! Reaching Out!
Saint Paul's UMC



www.spwired.com

Ash Wednesday Worship Service, February 6th

We begin the Lenten season with our Ash Wednesday Worship Service, Wednesday, February 6th at 7:00 p.m. This is a very multi-sensory worship service that begins our preparations for Easter. During this special worship time we will have an opportunity to step away from things that stand between us and a closer relationship with God; to focus on Him, the meaning of the season of Lent and the glory of Easter. This is always a powerful event that you will not want to miss.



New Sunday Morning Growth Opportunities for Adults!

Two new short-term classes on Sunday Mornings (9:30-10:30 a.m.) will be starting on Feb 17th. This is a great time to get connected to a group and enrich your life through spiritual growth. Register for either course via the Friendship Form on Sunday morning or call the church at 623-7090.

Making Your Children Mind Without Losing Yours is a wonderful, video based study by Dr. Kevin Leman and will help you discover and employ the principles of Biblical, Christ-centered parenting. Class is six weeks long and there is a materials cost of \$8.25 (available in the Soul Source Bookstore), and will be led by Patti McGregor.

Love Talk is a marriage enrichment class that utilizes the video based teaching of Les and Leslie Parrott, nationally renowned teachers who specialize in strengthening marriages. This class is six weeks long and will be led by Bob and Susie Hicks. There is a materials cost of \$7.00 (available soon in the Soul Source Bookstore).

Upcoming Messages

Current Series: "Conversations with an Atheist"

January 27 "The Bible's Disturbing Passages"

February 3 "God and Suffering"

February 10 "The Case for God"

Get Connected!

From the moment you first walk into Saint Paul's, we strive to help you get connected: Connected to people, connected to ministry and most importantly, connected to God. Every month we will highlight a specific way that you can get connected.

This month, we invite you to join us on Tuesday, January 29 at 10:00 a.m. for a workday at Crosslines Churches of Joplin, located at 131 S. High Ave. in Joplin. On the 3rd Monday of each month (unless that Monday falls on a holiday) a group of volunteers from Saint Paul's, organized by Pauline Lewis, goes to Crosslines and works in their food and clothing pantry from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.. You can come and work the entire time or just come for a few hours. Crosslines serves low income residents in the Joplin area. They offer rent and utility assistance, a food pantry, clothing bank, and household items. They also offer special programs such as their new mother gifts, back to school program, and a toy room for kids at Christmas.

If you would like more information on how to get connected to Crosslines, contact Pauline at 417-623-1393.

Open Auditions for Musicians and Singers!

As Saint Paul's has grown in the past few years, so has our music ministry. We have lots of wonderful people who sing solos and play various instruments. But, we know there are many folks out there with musical gifts that we don't yet know about. So...here's your chance! If you play an instrument (from the drums to the violin) or sing and would be interested in providing special music on occasion or filling in for a current band member. We will be holding auditions **Sunday, January 27th starting at 2:00 p.m. in the Worship Center.** We will also hold auditions at the **Salvage Yard on Sunday, February 10th (Time To Be Announced).**

If you might be interested in sharing your gifts, please contact Janet Brown at 623-7090 at the church.

"The primary purpose of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is to lead people to an active faith in Jesus Christ."

Located at 2423 W. 26th Street • Joplin, Missouri 64804 • 417-623-7090 • fax 623-7533 • www.spwired.com
Aaron Brown, Senior Pastor • Sunday Worship—8:15, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m. at the Salvage Yard • Sunday School—9:30 a.m.

Student Ministries!

Saint Paul's Youth

Grades 6-12

The Crossing meets Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME: 9:30 a.m.

Youth Corner

Saturday, Jan. 26 WOW Youth Conference

Sunday, Jan. 27 9:30-10:30 am Go 4th Sunday

School WOW returns 4:00-6:00 pm

24/7 small groups 4:00-5:30 pm

4-5:30 pm Confirmation Meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 30 6:00-8:00 pm

The Crossing

Sunday, Feb. 3 We're going to church!

Wednesday, Feb. 6 Ash Wednesday Service

Super Bowl Subs!

The youth of Saint Paul's are selling 6" Super Bowl Sub sandwiches! These subs come with 3 kinds of meat, 2 kinds of cheese, lettuce, tomato, pickles and onions. Please pre-order your sub before Thursday, January 31. There will be a sign up sheet in the lobby. The cost is \$5 for this huge sub sandwich and orders can be picked up before or after worship on Sunday, February 3.

Bring soup to the church for the needy!

Saint Paul's youth is sponsoring "Souper Sundays". We are asking everyone to donate at least one can of soup from each person in their family. Please bring your soup (and cracker!) to the church by Sunday, February 3, Super Bowl Sunday. Your donations can be dropped off by the display in the lobby. All donations will go to Crosslines.



30 Hour Famine

On February 29 the high school students will begin a 30 Hour fast. After school they will set up "cardboard city" on the church yard and spend the night experiencing life from a less than plush perspective, camping out in a cardboard box. Saturday, March 1st, will consist of worship, reflection, fellowship and a service project before they celebrate the lives saved during the famine with a "break fast" and a meal like a child in Africa may eat.

True Love Waits Rally

This won't be your typical true love waits event. Instead it will be a night to reflect on your relationship with Christ and consider the impact that relationship has on the other relationships in your life. The rally, for 6th-12th graders, is on February 13th from 6:30-8 pm. If you would like to be part of a huge caravan, be at The Zone at 6 pm and we will travel together to Memorial Hall. You can be picked up at Memorial Hall at 8:00 p.m. or the church at 8:30 pm. You will need a signed parent permission form.



A few words from Aaron...

A question I like to ask and be asked is: What is the state of your soul? I think it's a good question, albeit a very wide one, that gets me thinking about what is going on underneath the surface of my life. So, what is the state of your soul? Joyful? Energized? Purpose-filled? Or would you describe the state of your soul diluted? Distracted? Troubled? Sometimes the state of my soul is a strange combination of some of those traits. What I know is this, that the state of my soul is much healthier when I do a few things regularly:

meet with my small group, read the Bible, spend time in prayer, and serve others (particularly the poor). I can certainly see places where I have a lot of room for improvement, but a key word for all of us in having a healthy state of soul is "intentionality." We never just drift into a healthy state of soul. We never just arrive there accidentally. I believe it happens when we're intentional about it. Make 2008 a year where you are intentional about your soul, your connection to God, the way you live out your faith.

I would also remind everybody about the **Ash Wednesday worship service**. We gear this service so that it is multi-sensory, challenging, and a great way to get us started toward Easter. People say it's one of the most powerful services of the year. So don't miss out. It's Wednesday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m.

This Sunday, we'll continue in the current message series called "Conversations with an Atheist." This week, I'll be talking about how we can understand the disturbing passages of the Bible. Many atheists point to these passages as confusing and reason to discount religion. Many believers struggle with how we face these passages in the light of the teachings of Jesus. This week we'll look at how we do just that.

See you on Sunday, Aaron.

Sponsor a Newsletter!

Would you like the opportunity to reach 1,300 families and help your church at the same time? You could do this by sponsoring a newsletter. Every other week, we send out approximately 1,500 newsletters to families in our community and throughout the country. You can publicize your business or an upcoming event, show a loved one your appreciation, or simply praise God for His blessings.

If you would like to sponsor an issue of *The Post* Newsletter as an individual or business, contact Linda at 623-7090.

Our Stewardship Tells of our Faith . . .

Week of	Total	Sunday	Wednesday	Faith	Making Room
Worship	Discipleship	Nite Live	Offering	For All	
Dec 23.....	697	142	N/A	\$15,283	\$1,969
Dec 24.....	1359	N/A	N/A	\$12,924	
Dec 30.....	661	124	N/A	\$32,815	\$3,462
Jan 6.....	728	137	296	\$16,503	\$1,486
Jan 13.....	785	197	308	\$12,431	\$2,943
Jan 20.....	813	193	N/A	\$24,844	\$1,355

Sunday Discipleship includes all children, youth, & adult classes & courses offered on Sundays. Wednesday Nite Live includes children, youth & adult ministries on Wednesday evenings.

A note about stock gifts

If you have recently made, or plan to make, stock gifts to Saint Paul's through a broker, please call Fred Hampton (623-7090), our Administrator, and let him know. This will ensure that we can designate your gift how you wish (general offering, building fund, etc.), and give you proper tax credit. Thanks for your generosity!

Building Update



The sounds of saws and hammers are starting to fill the new KidSpace area as it is being finished! Things are beginning to take shape as we aim for a springtime completion. This space will be a welcomed addition as our children's area is full on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings. The new space will also allow us to

expand our preschool which has a waiting list.

We would like to pay as we go as much as possible during this building phase and only borrow when or if we need to. So if you haven't made a commitment to the Making Room for All(2) Campaign and would like to help us complete KidSpace, please do. Just note on your contribution "MRFA(2)" and this will go toward this project. Please pray for this project and the young lives that it will allow us to reach.

What's New @ The Salvage Yard...

Super-Sunday Night, February 3rd at 4pm will be The Salvage Yard's version of Superbowl XLII and Mosaic Worship. Everyone is welcome to come early and tailgate with us. The Game will be showing on the big screen and we will have a time of devotion during half-time. There will be music, and fellowship.

H2O begins February 13th. H2O is a 9 week, video based study that takes on some of the foundational questions of Christianity and the church. The class lasts from 6pm-8pm, and a meal is included.

The Salvage Yard is located at 1402 South Main Street, in Joplin. Check us out online at www.thesalvageyard.com.

Prayer Concerns

Serving in Iraq:

Jason Lewis
Eric Larson
Michell Kent

Military:

Stephen Leadbetter

Surgery:

George Pyles

Grief:

The family of Pat Owens

The family of Steve Looney

Other Concerns:

Mary Jane Smith
Edna & Ervin Dill
Patrick Hamilton & Family
Luke & Britany Cranor
Hannah Cranor
Jim & Freddie McGee
Viola & Pippin Hicks

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursday Morning Bible Study has started again. We meet at Saint Paul's in Room 51 from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Our study will be the Book of Genesis, which means "beginnings". Anyone is welcome to be a part of this Bible study group, so bring your Bible and come join us. If you have questions, call Carolyn Schemahorn at 782-0039.

Want to know more about Saint Paul's? Interested in joining?

The Saint Paul's Experience Course is a great way to discover the mission, vision and values that make Saint Paul's one of the fastest growing United Methodist churches in Missouri. This 2 week course also covers what we believe membership in the church means. Attendance is highly recommended before joining Saint Paul's. Come join us on Sundays, February 10 & 17 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 40.

Troop 39 Chili Supper

Troop 39 will have its annual Chili Supper on Friday, February 1st, 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center of Saint Paul's UMC. The cost for adults is \$5.00 and children under 10 is \$2.50. Proceeds from the Chili Supper will go towards the troop's travel fund. If you would like more information, contact Everett Holman at 529-6560.

Ice Clean Up Continues

Over 200 residences in Joplin remain in need of assistance with ice storm clean up! The city is organizing another community-wide clean up day on February 2nd. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 9:00 a.m. at the Boys & Girls Club (317 Comingo) that morning, to be placed on teams!

Educational Scholarships Available...

Application forms for the Methodist Women's Educational Scholarships may be picked up in the main church office. Members of all ages who are pursuing any form of education beyond high school are eligible to participate.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE TURNED IN TO THE CHURCH OFFICE NO LATER THAN 12:00 NOON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2008.



Don't Forget

Ash Wednesday Services
February 6
7:00 p.m.



Inside This Issue!

- *Ash Wednesday Service, Feb. 6th!*
- *New Sunday Morning Classes begin Feb. 17th!*
- *Open Auditions for Musicians & Singers, Feb. 27th!*



Dear Parents:

We really want to encourage you to take some time to look over the materials that we send home with your kids. Children will be bringing home (every Sunday), a letter which explains what they learned during **9:30 a.m. Sunday School**.

We hope you and your family will be blessed as you study God's "word" together.

KidMo children will continue to bring home their weekly programs that we encourage kids and their families to sit down and fill out together. Kids can bring back the program the next week to receive an incentive KidMo buck.

Our purpose is to supplement our Sunday morning curriculum and give you an opportunity to encourage your children to develop a daily devotional life.

Saint Paul's Children's Ministries

www.spwired.com

Mark Your Calendars!

February 10 - Elementary children will sing during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

March 23 - Elementary children will sing during 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services.

Make plans now and start preparing for a great summer!



June 2 - FBI Day Camp begins (Kindergarten through 5th grade)

June 2 - 7 - Camp Galilee - Older Elementary (Children entering 5th and 6th grade)

June 30, July 1 & 2 - Camp Galilee Middle Elementary (Children entering 3rd and 4th grade)

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FEBRUARY 18