

The Post

Reaching Up! Reaching Out!
Saint Paul's UMC



www.saintpauls-umc.com



Well, we're off and running on *the 40 Days of Community Campaign!* Please read the first seven daily readings in the *Better Together: What on Earth Are We Here For?* workbook, memorize your verse this week, and start in a *40 Days of Community* Small Group. Did you know that we have launched over 35 new small groups that have over 350 people participating!! In addition, another 100 people picked up a copy of the *Better Together* study book and will be participating in the daily readings and weekly worship experiences. It is not too late to get into a small group (sign-ups will continue in the lobby) or to get a book and do the daily reading (available in the bookstore for \$7).

NEXT WEEK we will learn about our Heavy Impact project where our small groups will be reaching out to help meet one of the biggest needs in our local community. But reaching out can start now—invite a friend to go to your group or come to worship with you this week to hear this message!

Next Week: Reaching Out Better Together

Here's what's happening with the **40 Days of Community for our youth!** It's not too late to get involved!

- All youth are receiving a devotional book to read through the 40 days (available in the youth office).
- Four of our church's 35 small groups are for youth - join us on Sunday nights from 5:30-6:30 PM at 24/7.
- The 40 Days messages are shared each Wednesday night at the Crossing 6:00-8:00 PM.

Our children are also experiencing the 40 Days of Community by:

- Reading the daily devotional for children called *Road Map* (available at Creation Station).
- Learning about the *40 Days* principles in Sunday School.
- Serving our community through the "Crafts for a Cause" fundraiser on October 22.

Car Accident at The Salvage Yard....

On September 12, there was a car accident outside of The Salvage Yard that resulted in a car entering the building through the front glass windows. The water main to the building was also broken.

The ministry leader Ben Bainbridge, was in the building at the time, but was unharmed. The drivers involved had minor injuries and the responsible party was taken to the hospital via ambulance. Our prayers are for those injured, that they will heal and that the power of God's grace can be demonstrated to them in this event.

Also, the driver who is responsible for the accident, did not have any insurance and therefore, the costs to repair damages is set on the back of the ministry. Initial estimates look to be around \$1,400. We are anticipating our insurance to cover about \$900, but that is yet to be determined.

If you feel as though you can help with the financial burden of this accident, please send a check to Saint Paul's UMC with the memo marked "The Salvage Yard".

Hurricane Relief Update..

The response from our church is amazing! We have collected \$8794 to send to UMCOR, 100% of which will go to the disaster victims. Generosity and compassion are also witnessed by the contributions of items to be sent to a disaster response depot in Ballwin, Louisiana on the semi-trailer (thanks to a generous contribution). Collections will continue until Oct 2. Our collection site is becoming a regional hub for other United Methodist Congregations! Also, our church is working cooperatively with other local agencies to serve the 70+ storm victims who have relocated to our community by:

- "Adopting a family" from the Red Cross that will be assigned to us. We will help provide furnishings for that family.
- Assisting the Economic Security Corp to provide furnishings for apartments that they have made available.
- Salvation Army is searching for employment opportunities for hurricane victims.

For a list of the items we are collecting or for more information about these opportunities, stop by the Information Center in the church lobby.

"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.saintpauls-umc.com
Aaron Brown, Senior Pastor • Sunday Worship—8:15, 9:30, 11:00 a.m., 6:45 p.m. • Sunday School—9:30 a.m.

Student Ministries!

Saint Paul's Youth

Grades 6-12

The Crossing meets Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIME: 9:30 A.M.!

Youth Corner

Sunday, September 25 9:30-10:30 AM Go 4th

4:30-5:30 PM SWIM/SLUG/E Team 5:30 PM 24/7

Wednesday, September 28 6:00-8:00 PM *The Crossing*

Friday, September 30 7:00-9:30 PM Bowling

Sunday, October 2 9:30-10:30 AM Go 4th

5:30 PM 24/7

Wednesday, October 5 6:00-8:00 PM *The Crossing*

Sunday, October 9 9:30-10:30 AM Go 4th

4:00-5:30 PM Ronald McDonald House (Mid High)

5:30 PM 24/7

Nominations are being taken for Saint Paul's Student Teams.....

Are you a youth in grade 6 - 12? Do you want to have a say in things that go on here at Saint Paul's youth? If so, please join the SWIM (Students Working in Missions)/SLUG (Student Leaders Under God) or E Team (Evangelistic team)!

Nomination forms are available in the End Zone and students will be selected based on their application.

Nomination forms are due into youth office by Sunday, October 16. Our first meeting will be held on Sunday, October 23 at 4:30 PM.

Saint Paul's Holiday Gift and Craft Show ...

The Gift and Craft Show is scheduled for **Saturday, December 10**. If you are interested in reserving a booth, please contact Nancy Hampton 623-7090.

Lunch With the Pastor

Come join us for *Lunch With the Pastor* on Sunday, Oct. 9 at 12:00 Noon. Following the last worship service, Aaron will host a lunch. If you are ready to join the Saint Paul's church family or if you would like to know more about the church, please join us in Room 53 outside the Worship Center.

Spiritual Gifts Class...

When we understand our gifts, we become effective, dynamic servants. Dan Distler will be teaching a class to help individuals discover those spiritual gifts.

A two week class will begin on Sunday, September 25, 5:00-6:30 PM and end Sunday, October 2. Another two week class will begin on Wednesday, November 30 and end Wednesday, December 7, 6:30-8:00 PM. If you are interested in signing up for this class, please call the church 623-7090.

A Few Words from Aaron...

I'm excited this week to continue the sermon series we began last week for 40 Days of Community. This week I'll be talking about how we share our faith. I often have people tell me that they don't know the best way to share their faith, that they feel like they don't know enough or are afraid that people will ask them questions that they won't be able to answer, or that people will think they're pushy. This week I'll talk about how sharing your faith is something that can come quite naturally, how it's not about trying to answer every question someone might ask about God or the Christiana faith, and it's certainly not about pushing someone to believe. There are some important things that we'll learn, and a few things that might just surprise you about how Jesus went about leading people to God.

On Sunday I gave a brief financial update for the church and I'd like to reiterate that here. Giving to our **general ministries** (which includes all ministries for children, youth and adults and the staffing for these ministries, as well as our global missions giving) has increased 4% over the same time last year. Our **overall giving**, which would further include giving toward special funds like the building fund, disaster relief, and other special projects, has increased 9% over the same time last year. We continue to be one of the most generous churches I know of. However, as I said on Sunday, our expenses year-to-date are 3% over our general ministry giving. This is partly due to large expenses that we incur at this time of year such as start-up costs for Fall ministries like Alpha, 40 Days of Community, and Catch the Spirit Weekend. This is a good time for all of us to see where we are in our commitments to the church. It's also a good time to remember that all of what you and I give to Saint Paul's helps lead people to an active faith in Jesus Christ. God is blessing us in so many different ways, let's continue to give so that we may be a blessing to many others.

See you on Sunday!

Aaron (stpauls@joplin.com)

Upcoming Sermons

September 25 "Reaching Out Together"

October 2 "What Destroys Relationships and What Builds Them."

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 1,300 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 . . .

Date	Total Worship	Sunday School	Faith Offering	Making Room For All
Aug 28.....	637.....	198.....	\$17,425.....	\$4,974
Sept 4.....	586.....	131.....	\$10,529.....	\$1,989
Sept 11.....	616.....	-----	\$10,766.....	\$3,952
Sept 18.....	603.....	190.....	\$11,329.....	\$9,033

Church Financial Reports may be picked up at the Information Center.

Red Hot and Blue Supports Saint Paul's!

Do you have Sunday lunch plans for October? For the month of October, Red, Hot and Blue has pledged to donate 10% of their total Sunday proceeds to Saint Paul's. That means each Sunday in October you can get a great meal and help the church at the same time. Please keep this in mind when choosing a place to eat next month!

Prayer & Healing Service Monday, September 26...

"And pray for each other, so that you may be healed."

James 5:16. On Monday, Sept 26, 7:00p.m. we will have our monthly Prayer & Healing Service. This service will include prayer, communion, as well as a time at the kneeling rail and for individual prayer for those who desire it. This service is for everyone. The Prayer & Healing Service will be a time to truly rest and recover in His presence.

Hearts & Hammers - October 8th!

We expect to have over 200 people participating in this year's Hearts & Hammers event on October 8.

Many small groups from 40 Days of Community will be teams, and more teams will be developed from other interested individuals. In all, we hope to have over 20 teams and assist over 15 area homes.

You can join up via the Friendship Form in the Sunday worship brochure or call Mark Statler at 623-7090.

Camino in February...

Are you looking for something that might help you find one of life's missing ingredients? Maybe you should attend a Camino weekend. The weekend is a three-day journey through the Christian faith designed to deepen your faith and daily walk with Christ. The next Camino weekend is set and will be held at the First Christian Church of Cassville, MO.

The Men's Weekend is February 16-19 and the Women's Weekend will be the following weekend, February 23-26. Even though these dates are a ways away, mark your calendar so you can remember and be sure to get an application in to reserve a spot. If you are interested in participating in one of these weekends, contact Ben Bainbridge at 206-2990 or Dorothy Poe at 624-2581. Applications will be available at the Information Center.

Prayer Concerns

Military troops & families.	The Women's Retreat.	G. W. Posey & family.
Our sister church in Mozambique.	Craig Yeoman.	Paul Bond.
Melvin Caylor.	The Frising family at the loss of Nick Frising, Jr.	James Bond.
Ben Bainbridge.	Betty Skinner.	The Edmonsons.
Salvage Yard.	Bill Crums.	Barbara O'Dell.
Ricky Foster.	Elaine Curtis.	Tony & Ann Allen.
Lance Windsor.	Eric.	Marilyn Landers.
40 Days of Community Groups & Campaign.	Dale, Dean, Bill, Bobby Joe Lyerla.	Jenny Price.
The lost sheep.	Justin Burch.	Mark Harrell & Father.
Mark Daniel.	Ruby Rowe's mother.	Teenagers.
Dr. Josh & Carrie Platner.	J. Rawling's son.	Relief efforts & volunteers for Katrina Hurricane.
Jason Platner.	Victor Rawlings.	Kara Hulsey.
Lisa Martin.	Harry Boyd.	Dianna Beaver & Family.
Bob Turcotte.	The lost children from Katrina Hurricane.	Zachary Dugan.
Richard Stanley.	Eric Shank.	Brandie Purdy.
Connie Rubottom.	Joan & Robert Hatfield at the death of Mike Hatfield.	Natosha Purdy.
Sue Lazier.	Allen S.	Ed Dugan.
Suzi Steinbeck.	Cathie Higgins.	Frosty.
Cammie Quinn.	Dave Adamson.	Marshal Lowry.
Erdene Gooch.	Jason Peterson & wife.	Amanda.
J. D. & Ardith Wasson.	Gail Blue.	Tina Harter & Brian Harter.
Bill & Shirley Happs.	Animals left homeless & suffering by the hurricane.	Youth.
The family of Mike Hatfield at his death.	Chris Geer.	Chris James.
Chathen Roth.		Gavin James.
Ashley Cozad.		Desi Reyna.
Carrol Skelton.		Grayden Cravens.
Those unemployed.		Bob East.
		Anna Doherty.
		Bill Kinner.

M.S.S.U. Hosting Benefit for Victims of Hurricane Katrina...

The music department at M.S.S.U. will be hosting a benefit concert for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. This event will be held this Sunday, September 25 at 3:00 PM in Webster Auditorium. Admission is free and donations will be taken at the door. This event will feature the Chamber Choir, the jazz combo, the percussion ensemble, the Suzuki Studio, as well as other solo performances by many of the faculty and students. For more information, please contact Dr. Cheryl Cifelli at 625-9660.

WOMAN TO WOMAN

The Lamplighters Circle is a group of women at Saint Paul's that meet the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in members' homes. The meetings are for all ages of women - they study, pray and have lots of fun. The next meeting will be September 27, in the home of Dixie Garvin. If you have questions, call Betty Adams at 782-4407



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Kids' Corner

CrossTraining Kids Celebrate!

110 kids are enrolled in CrossTraining, but it is not the only reason to celebrate. This session kids will learn that God's family always have the best reasons to rejoice.

Kids will learn more about who God is and realize what He has done for them! Kids will celebrate and discover how God's people around the world and throughout time have celebrated and still celebrate God's gifts to us. Their discoveries through games, craft projects, stories and music will bring meaningful and enthusiastic worship and praise to God for his greatness. Come celebrate on Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

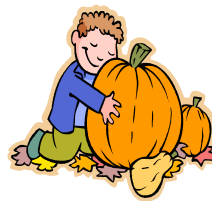
Health and Safety...

We cannot allow sick children into the nursery. We ask that parents please be sensitive in this area, as not all contagious illnesses are obvious to the nursery staff. We trust you as parents, to determine whether or not it is safe for your child to be in close contact with other small children.

Please be sure to inform the staff each time your child attends the nursery of any food allergies your child may have. We are implementing a new tagging system to alert volunteers of allergies.



**Celebrate The
Fall Harvest At
Saint Paul's
Pumpkin Patch!**



Saint Paul's children's ministries will be opening a pumpkin patch this year. There will be pumpkins of all sizes, so make sure you check out our pumpkin patch beginning October 10!

The pumpkins will be located here at the church. Bring your family and pick up your pumpkins for this harvest season. All proceed will benefit children's ministries.



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE OCTOBER 3.