

Saint Paul's Connection

September 1, 2011

KEEP CLIMBING

**WHY GOD DOESN'T GIVE
YOU EVERYTHING YOU WANT**

"Keep Climbing" Starts September 11. Saint Paul's will be launching a new spiritual life experience that will include Sunday messages with the opportunity to get into a 4-week home-based study group. This is a great time to get connected into a small group! The best way to start a group is to get some friends to join you in launching it! Or, you can let us know you're interested and we will try to find a group that is right for you.

The video host for Keep Climbing, Todd Phillips, uses lessons learned from a mountain climbing experience to help us understand the way God works in and through the challenges of our lives. The four topics are: Leaving Comfort Behind, Flatten the Mountain, Climbing in Silence, A Better View. The home-based study groups will utilize excellent video teaching in addition to the Sunday Messages to spark conversation.

Call Nancy Hampton at 623-7090 for more information or to get into a group.

CrossTraining- Invite a Friend Fun Night on September 14th.

Kids...looking for a great way to spend some time with your friends? Then join us on Wednesday, September 14th from 6-8 PM. CrossTraining (for children in Kindergarten to 5th grade) is back and Saint Paul's KidSPace has just the event that you don't want to miss. You and your friends will have an enjoyable time racing on our team challenge inflatable game, sliding down the 24ft. high slide, getting twisted up in a game of inflatable twister or bouncing in our moon room. We will also be serving pizza and other treats throughout the night. Tell you parents that you can't wait and ask them to be sure to drive you to Saint Paul's for a great time at CrossTraining on September 14!

Student Ministries Presents

One Huge Night

Mark your calendars for Wednesday, September 14th from 6-8 PM, as we officially kick the Crossing (for youth grades 6-12) into full gear. It is truly going to be a night you will not want to miss! Bring a friend, or bring 100 friends, to enjoy the inflatable games, along with a variety of other games and food! Who knows, you might even get a chance to dunk me in a dunk tank! It will be **HUGE**, so you don't want to miss it. For more information call Brandon Hawkins at 417-434-8070.

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

Saint Paul's wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular weekly offering. Electronic giving offers convenience for individual congregation members and provides much-needed donation consistency for our congregation.

Direct Debit Giving is used to automatically transfer funds from your checking or savings account to the church's bank account.

Credit & Debit Card Giving lets you make offerings automatically on a predetermined schedule using a credit or debit card.

Online Giving lets you go to spwired.com at any time to set up an automatic donation plan, change your donation plan, make a one-time donation or view your online donation history.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving.

Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office.

Camino

Camino is a gathering of Christians from different denominations and churches who come together for an amazing experience of God's grace in a weekend setting. It is a great way to rekindle your faith from a spark to a flame or launch your faith from a flame to a fire. The next Camino experience is coming up this October. The Men's weekend is Oct 20-23, and the Women's weekend is Oct 27-30. Contact Pastor Ben for more information at ben@thesalvageyard.com.

Kindermusik Now Enrolling for the Fall Semester

The fall semester of Kindermusik classes have begun, but it's not too late to enroll. If you have a little one who enjoys music, then Kindermusik is a great option for you. Kindermusik is a unique music and movement program designed specifically for babies, toddlers, and pre-schoolers. In a typical class, you'll sing, dance, play instruments, and experience the wonderful gift of music in a fun, learning environment. Classes have just started but it's not too late to get started! For a detailed look at the schedule for the fall, visit our church website and download an enrollment form. Go to www.spwired.com. Click on "Download Forms" then "Kindermusik." You may also contact Janet Brown at www.spumcmusic@gmail.com or call her at church at 623-7090, ext. 31.

News from The Salvage Yard

CHECK US OUT! Enjoy an evening of live music every weekend featuring both local and national talent and various genres. This is the perfect opportunity for you to have a great night and not regret it the next morning! We are located at 1402 South Main, Joplin, MO or visit us online at www.thesalvageyard.com. Come join us **September 9th for Happy Music Fun Nite!!!**

Connections...

Newcomers Course

What does it mean to be a “member” at a church? **The Newcomers 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 one time course also covers what we believe membership in the church looks like in your life. Attendance is highly recommended before joining Saint Paul’s. Come join us Sunday, September 11th at 11:00 at the OCC campus in the Missions Building. You may sign up on the Connection Form in the Sunday worship brochure or call the church @ 623-7090.

Saint Paul’s Cheergivers

Do you know a person who would like a friendly visit from a Saint Paul’s Cheergiver? The low-key visits are made at the convenience of the cheer recipients. The individuals we visit may be in their own home or in a care facility and they do not need to be a member of Saint Paul’s or of any church. Please take a minute to think of the people you know that might enjoy a visit and then please call Jim Gant at 291-4432. Give Jim a call also if you’d like to be a part of this meaningful ministry.

Join the Communion Team

Saint Paul’s celebrates Communion the first Sunday of every month during all worship services. Assisting our pastors with this Holy Sacrament enriches our faith and gives us the opportunity to serve others in the process. If you would like to assist with the serving of communion, then call Dixie Wynne (623-7090 ext. 18).

The Caring People - A Ministry for Single Moms

Beginning Wednesday, September 14, The Caring People - A Ministry for Single Moms, will begin meeting at 6:30pm at St. Paul’s for the fall semester. If you’re a Single Mom looking to connect with other moms just like you, please join us as we begin our series entitled, *You’re Designed to Shine!*. Child care and meal are provided at no cost, you do not have to be a member of St. Paul’s and you can jump in any Wednesday night. You can sign up on Sunday during worship on the Connection Form or for more information contact Lin Harris at 918-607-5125, or at marklinharris@yahoo.com

Missions...

UPDATES for Saint Paul’s Tornado Relief...

Since the May 22nd tornado, Saint Paul’s has played an active role in providing relief to those in need within our church and community. This help has come in the form of financial assistance, donations of supplies, prayer, and countless volunteer hours. Upon observing a busy workday organized through Saint Paul’s, one volunteer commented that “...this is what all churches should look like.” This individual wasn’t referring to the damaged exterior of a building, but rather the Christ-like service of the many volunteers that particular day and every day. Our building may be damaged, but the Church, the body of believers, is not. Here’s what you have accomplished in just a few short months:

- 18 shepherds have overseen the needs of 150 tornado survivors/families.
- 4 volunteer teams have been housed at Saint Paul’s.
- 11 individual volunteers have been housed within your homes.
- 30 volunteer teams (churches, organizations, individuals) from 11 states (Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma, Maryland, Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Ohio, Illinois) have been dispatched from Saint Paul’s.

- 6 church denominations have been represented by volunteers (Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal, Christian, Non-Denominational, Assembly of God).
- More than 50 families or organizations have been helped with physical labor (ie., debris removal, clean-up, handy-man type projects, moving, etc.)
- Countless families and organizations have been given financial and/or emotional support.
- An immeasurable number of prayers have been offered on behalf of tornado survivors.
- And we've only begun!

Thank you to the many individuals who have been able to help in any way. Reflecting on Pastor Aaron's recent sermon, I believe that each of us has been prepared "...for such a time as this" (Esther 4:14). So continue the good work as you follow God's calling to serve in big and small ways. Please contact Chuck Kralik, our Tornado Relief Coordinator, with needs, questions, and suggestions. Chuck can be reached @ 623-7090, ext. 15 or 629-4436. His email address is sptornadorelief@gmail.com.

Serve 2011

Serve 2011 will take place September 10th, 2011. The purpose is for every United Methodist Congregation in the Missouri Conference to be in service to their community at the same time. Saint. Paul's will participate in "Serve 2011" by hosting a workday on Saturday, September 10th from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Come for a little while or come for a long while. Come anytime throughout the day. Just come! Lunch will be served by the kitchen team between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

If you are able to help out in any way, or if you have questions or ideas for work projects, please reserve your spot by contacting Nancy Hampton at spconnections@gmail.com or Chuck Kralik at sptornadorelief@gmail.com.

Free Community Support Groups:

- **Forest Park Baptist Church, 7th and Range Line**

Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. – Cindy Lungstrum

Wednesday nights at 6:00 p.m. – David Hair

- **Joplin NAMI, 2701 South Davis (call Diana Harper 291-3173)**

Wednesday morning 10:00 a.m. – Earl Kirn

Friday evening 6:30 p.m. – David Hair and Angie Parker

- Another resource would be to call **Ozark Center**, 417-347-7070 or 800-247-0661

Children's Ministries...

Come Join us for
CrossTraining
and
PandaMania!



This year's CrossTraining will begin on September 14 and end on December 7. Each evening will begin at 6 pm and end at 8 pm. Join us for an exciting adventure filled with dinner, games, art, songs and more. We are so excited to explore all the ways that God is wild about us!

To register your child for CrossTraining, please fill out information located on the Sunday Connection Form or register on our website www.spwired.com and print out the form and drop it by the church. (children must be at least 3 years of age thru 5th grade). Childcare will also be available. See you there!

Volunteer Opportunities at CrossTraining - PandaMania Wednesday Nights

Welcome to CrossTraining - PandaMania: Where God is Wild About You!

In just a few short weeks, our church will go wild with kids (and pandas) at our CrossTraining – PandaMania! Kids will worship God through songs and prayer, make Bible Point Art, and discover life-changing Bible truths in fun and memorable ways.

Be a part of this fun adventure with our kids!!!! Here is an easy way you can help make this ministry happen!! You can sign up Sunday on the Connection Form in the worship program or contact Becca at 623-7090, ext. 20 for more information.

Student Ministries...

Mission Shareholders Banquet Postponed

We were unable to go on our mission trip this summer as planned, but we still want to honor so many of you who supported us through the purchase of mission trip shares. We are re-scheduling our mission trip for spring break week in March of 2012, and will be applying the proceeds from the sale of shares to that trip. So if you purchased shares to help send a youth on a mission trip, we want you to know that a shareholder's banquet is still one of the benefits you receive, but it obviously won't be before our trip next March! Thank you and we will let you know about the date once it is set.