

HAPPY 4th of JULY

For many Americans, the Fourth of July serves as a day to watch fireworks, barbeque and have a good time with friends and family. While there is nothing wrong with having these traditions, it is important to remember the reason behind why we celebrate this holiday.

Samuel Adams, the father of the American Revolution, was bold in proclaiming his faith. To him, signing the Declaration of Independence meant no longer submitting to Great Britain, but rather, submitting to the Lord (Crowe, 2008). As a result, America would be free from the power of man and able to serve Christ. What a significant day in history!

It is important to remember what our duties are as Christians. We are called to serve Christ and Christ alone, and it is such a blessing that we can live in a country where we have the freedom to do so. Oftentimes, the enemy will use distractions to keep us from fulfilling our duties as Christians. Being distracted by all that happens on the Fourth of July can cause us to lose sight of the true meaning of the holiday. This is dangerous, as it can ultimately cause us to stray away from Christ.

American liberty is a blessing from God. Because of our freedom, we can express our faith and boldly share it with others. It is important to recognize that in many other parts of the world, this is not the case. The cost of following Christ is much greater for our brothers and sisters across the globe.

With this in mind, I encourage you to not lose sight of why we celebrate Independence Day. Take time to reflect on the ways God has blessed you in your life, and make it a goal to not take the freedom we have for granted. As you spend this day with family and friends, I encourage you to celebrate the blessing of freedom that was given to us by Christ.

Laura Abraham, Grand Canyon University
Weekly Devotional: The Importance of Independence Day

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ELDER & DEACON NEWS

Monthly Prayer Guide - The July prayer emphasis is Missionaries. Copies of the missionary prayer guide are available in the Welcome Center.

Annointing - The Elders had the honor of praying over a member of St. Paul's and anoint them with oil as prescribed in James 5:14. We encourage anyone who is sick or troubled to request prayer and anointing.

Town Hall Meeting - There will be a Town Hall Meeting on July 14, following fellowship time.

Special Needs - Elders are exploring ways to provide aid to visitors with special needs.

Church Picnic - The church picnic is scheduled for September 8 at Irv Zeid Park, off Old Bonhomme Road. In addition to fellowship among members, there will be an emphasis on outreach to the community.

Prayer with the Elders - All are invited to participate on July 27 at 9:00 a.m.

Do you know of a shut-in who needs a visit?



Call the church office or contact Barbara van Dyk

FROM PASTOR MARC'S DESK

"but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night." Psalm 1:2

Instead of walking, standing and sitting with the unwise counsel of the wicked, God calls us to meditate on His Word day and night. Not just on Sundays, but every day. We live in a world of prideful mockers who laugh at those who try and follow God's word. Those of us who follow Jesus also need to be careful of pride. Do we love those who correct us with wise counsel from God's word? (Proverbs 9:8) The way of God is the way to life. The way of the wicked will perish. Which way will we choose? And which way do we want for our loved ones, neighbors, city, country and world?



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

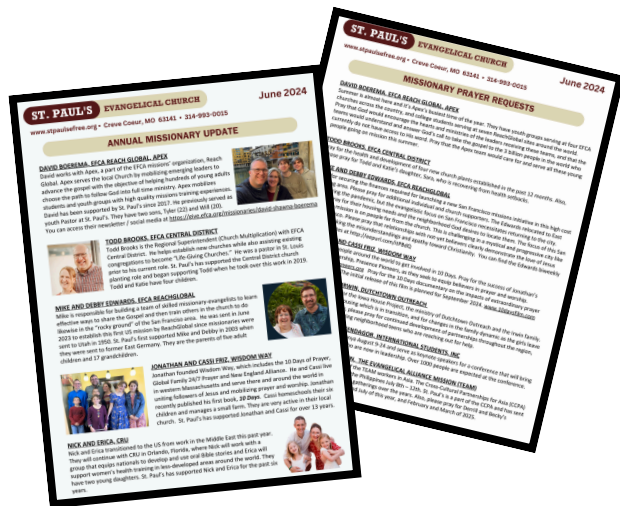
Women's Fellowship - Join us July 10 at 11:30 a.m. for our monthly meeting. Please bring your own lunch. Lynn May will be presenting a travelogue on her trip to Italy and Oberammergau.

In June, Marco van Raalten gave a ministry update on Together STL as well as introduced us to one of his network partners, Kiesha Williams. Kiesha is a frontline worker with Love the Lou, responding to the families who are victims of violence. Our thank offering this year went to Marco and the ministries he supports here in St. Louis.



YarnWorks - The ladies presented a prayer shawl to Kiesha Williams (see photo above). They also provided 6 prayer shawls and 4 lap robes (for men) for the youth mission trip to Maumee, Ohio. The Yarnworks group will not be meeting in July or August, but all are encouraged to work on projects at home. If you would like patterns or instructions, please call Sieglinde at 314-210-0065.

MISSION NEWS



St. Paul's prayer emphasis for July is **Missions**. You can pick up your copy of Missionary Prayer Requests in the Welcome Center to use all month.

You can also pick up the annual Missionary Newsletter with information on the missionaries currently being supported by St. Paul's.

Call the church office if you would like a copy of one or both of these mailed to you.

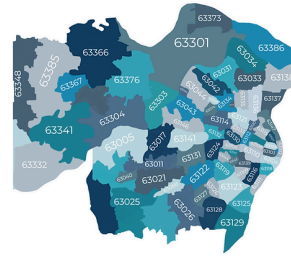
Several missionaries will be visiting during the ABF hour (10:30 a.m. Sunday).

- July 7 - Craig & LaDonna Smith, Tribal Rescue Missions
- July 21 - Allan and Cindy Pavey, France
- August 4 - Chantal, Togo, Africa
- August 11 - Mark & Mary Esther Penner, Japanese Sign Language Interpreters
- August 18 - Marco van Raalten, Gateway Metro St. Louis

Thank-you to the missionaries who visited us in May and June: Derrill & Becky Martin (TEAM), Brad Wos (Multicultural Director, EFCA Central District), and Ryan Irwin (Dutchtown Outreach).

EQUIP TO ENGAGE COURSE

July 2, 9, 16, 23 --- 6:30 - 8 p.m.
@ St. Paul's Church



All Nations St. Louis is presenting a 4 week course designed to give the St. Paul's congregation, plus participants from other churches, the tools to help love God and love our neighbors, with a specific focus on reaching out to those of different ethnic backgrounds.

Course details can be found on their website: <https://www.allnations-stl.org/nettraining>

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Our 13 intrepid work campers left St. Paul's on June 15 at 6:50 am, trekking 7 hours to Maumee, Ohio. Each day during the week at camp, we had morning devotions with the entire group of 162 work campers. Then we proceeded to our job site with our crew of 5 students and an adult for a day of very warm but rewarding work. We were all assigned to a crew, all members from different churches. The jobs included deck building, house painting, fence mending, and other various tasks. The work days were very hot with temperatures reaching above 90 degrees every day. During lunch, we had crew devotions which continued the theme introduced in the morning. At 3 pm we headed back to Maumee High School to clean up and have dinner. The evening program included worship, teaching, and a game. After that, our youth group met as a team to review the lessons for the day, talk about our day, and pray together.

On Wednesday, our afternoon off, St. Paul's went go-kart riding, stopped for ice cream, then went to Lake Erie to cool off. We had our best meal of the week, 110 hot wings at Jed's. That evening there was at the talent show where our own Benny Kibombi, along with Fernando del Cid, Eddie Gastelum, and Kayden Williamson, performed a well-received work camp rap. The week flew by and soon it was Friday and time to say goodbye to new friends.



Work camp was a time to get out of our comfort zone and into a new environment. Romans 12:2 was the foundational scripture for our week. We explored different facets of this topic each day.

- Monday: Conformed – acting in accordance with socially accepted standards. Galatians 1:10
- Tuesday: Transformed – a change in character or condition. Ecclesiastes 3:11
- Wednesday: Renewed – repair of something worn out. Matthew 11:28-30
- Thursday: Tested – to reveal a person's inner strength when put under strain. Luke 18:42-43
- Friday: Approved – to speak of, think favorably of something. Genesis 1:31

CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY

Be sure to check the Welcome Center for a bag with your child's name on it on the first Sunday of each month this 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** is meeting this summer to continue the learning adventure. Check the weekly bulletin for any schedule changes.

VBS took place June 24 - 28, with an underwater theme called Scuba – Diving into Friendship with God. At Scuba VBS, kids dove deep into an amazing undersea adventure where they experienced the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Thanks to everyone who worked together to make this week a success for our children.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Blood Drive

LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD TOGETHER

ImpactLife

Monday, July 15
3:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the
Multipurpose Room

There is a dangerous shortage in our area so please sign up today

Call the church office to schedule an appointment

OR

Scan this code to schedule online



Wednesday Worship

July 17th 6:30 P.M.

Join us for a time of music and prayer.
 Contact Letitia Wong for more information.

The Rummage Sale is Coming!

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 jobs throughout the week prior to the sale and need many hands on the day of the sale to assist customers and clean up. Contact Judy Pfeiffer, Susan Pollmann or Lisa Stahlhut if you want to volunteer.

Donations accepted at bus garage July 7 @ 10:45 AM, and at church the week prior to the sale.



MARTIAL ARTS MINISTRY



St. Paul's - Martial Arts

Starting in August, learn Martial Arts in a gospel-centered environment!

Tuesdays & Fridays

6:00-6:55 pm Families & Kids (age 6-11)
7:00-8:00 pm Adults (age 12 and up)

Seek perfection of character
 Endeavor
 Be faithful
 Respect others
 Refrain from violent behavior
 Honor my family and myself

314-737-2905

conway.h.wong@gmail.com

Shuri-Ryu - Karate of St. Louis

www.shurikaratetl.com

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Anniversaries

07/03 Ken & Kristine Williamson (11)
 07/05 Kurt & Barbara van Dyk (55)
 07/07 Robert & Ann Kallemeier (34)
 07/08 Chuck & Phyllis Caesar (26)
 07/09 Mark & Kris Immekus (30)
 07/11 Joe & Amanda Pollmann (4)
 07/11 Dan & Pat Walter (54)
 07/13 Frank & Mary Louise Serdy (56)
 07/21 David & Mary Smith (42)
 07/23 Greg & Kim Paquette (36)
 07/24 Clay & Nancy Brigham (13)

08/02 Jim & Nancy Crews (27)
 08/10 Jim & Cindy Glauert (7)
 08/11 Walter & Jody Graeler (68)
 08/11 Mike & Janet Kolmer (50)
 08/11 Roger & Joyce Lindstrom (61)
 08/14 Harry & Phyllis Bauer (59)
 08/22 Bob & Heidi Aslin (43)
 08/24 Ralph & Carole Stahlhut (61)
 08/26 John & Marcie Darby (24)
 08/29 Rich & Edith Niedringhaus (65)
 08/31 Ken & Kathy Fischer (56)



Birthdays

07/01 Phyllis Bauer	07/19 Grace Koewing	08/12 Al Black
07/01 Marlene Buescher	07/20 Robert Tucker	08/16 Mary Smith
07/01 Maria del Cid	07/21 Nancy Dahl	08/19 Walter Graeler
07/01 Grace van Raalten	07/21 Cindy Graeler	08/20 Melanie Brewer
07/05 Robert Schalk	07/23 Elizabeth Schurwan	08/20 Steve Huber
07/06 Donna Schalk	07/28 Mary McDannold	08/25 Lela Vollmer
07/07 Sharon McGaully	07/30 Joan Stewart	08/28 Donna Dubinsky
07/11 Priscilla Clark	08/01 Donna Jayne	08/29 Andy Dielmann
07/13 Natalie Doby	08/06 Mary Adams	08/31 Betty Binns
	08/06 Caroline Wong	08/31 Melissa Shehan

Cardinals VS. Dodgers

Join us for a night at the ballpark!
August 17 @ 6:15 pm

Tickets are \$33 each
 Payments go to David Pollmann



Save the date

September 8

St. Paul's Church Picnic

This Year the picnic will be held at Irv Zeid Park off Old Bonhomme Rd.

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.

7/2 Equip to Engage 6:30pm thru 7/23
7/7 Craig & LaDonna Smith 11am
7/8 Deacon / Elder Meetings
7/10 Women's Fellowship 11:30am
7/14 Town Hall Meeting 11am
7/15 White Cross 9:30am
7/15 Blood Drive 3pm
7/15 Reasonable Faith 7pm
7/17 Wednesday Worship 6:30pm
7/21 Allan and Cindy Pavey 11am
7/27 Pray with the Elders 9am
7/27 Rummage Sale Set-up thru 8/2
8/3 Rummage Sale 8am