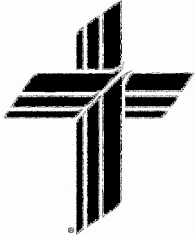


God's Family



- 10:00 a.m.—Sunday
Worship Service

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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New Melle, MO 63365
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Volume XXIV Issue 7
July 2023

Will You Join Jesus on His Mission?

“How has Jesus been messing with you lately?”

I love this question that author and pastor Greg Finke poses in his book, *Joining Jesus on His Mission*.

And I want to ask you the same thing. How has Jesus been messing with you lately?

Maybe we feel like he is messing with us too much. His church seems to be struggling mightily in this new era. We see it in our communities, families and even our local congregations. What will turn the tides? How do we see a return to full seats on Sunday?

The fact is, an increasing majority of Americans simply aren't interested in church, don't know what church is, or don't like what they think it is. Even more concerning is more and more Americans don't even really know about Jesus.

That means simply having a church with open doors, won't necessarily encourage people to come to it, let alone join its membership.

So, what can we do?

Joining Jesus on His Mission is a hopeful reminder that although what we see seems bleak, that the Kingdom of God is always advancing, and its mission being accomplished.

What's more, we are still a part of that mission.

But that means getting out into the mission field. That doesn't necessarily mean going to Uganda (but that's great, too), it means looking at the world around you differently. There are people who don't yet know or have a relationship with Jesus RIGHT NEXT TO YOU EVERY DAY!

That's why we get the question, “How has Jesus been messing with you lately?”

Jesus is stirring up mission and mission opportunities in your life; he is pointing out opportunities; he is raising up new challenges; he is pushing and prodding and encouraging and guiding... and it's all in your backyard and it is happening EVERY DAY!

St. Paul's, you are invited to join in on our next sermon series where we will unpack how we can become deeper and more effective disciples in the Kingdom work in the mission field of Jesus Christ.

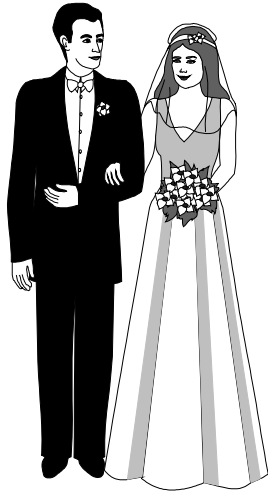
Our series will start July 9th and span for six weeks. Included in this series will be a call to read the book for yourself. Buy your own copy online or purchase a copy in the sanctuary when they become available.

(continued on page 3)



July Birthdays

7/4 – Sherry Brandes
7/7 – Missy Motz
7/15 – Jackie Diederich
7/20 – Larry Zuhone



July Anniversaries

7/1 – Doug & Rhonda DeGeal – 17 years
7/8 – Scott & Pam Alexander – 40 years

July Services

Communion at all services:

7/2—Sunday Service—10:00 a.m.
7/9—Sunday Service—10:00 a.m.
7/16—Sunday Service—10:00 a.m.
7/23—Sunday Service—10:00 a.m.
7/30—Sunday Service—10:00 a.m.



June Food Pantry Donations

Members of the congregation reported donating 36 food items and \$90.00 in cash to the New Melle Food Pantry during the month of June.

In the future, if you donate, please report this to Sherry in the office, so your donations can be included in our tally.

Meal-a-Month Needs for July

The **MEAL-A-MONTH ITEMS** for July: Sugar, cooking oil, coffee, laundry detergent, shaving cream, Sloppy Joe sauce, gravy packets, canned oranges, canned pineapple, beef stew, and fruit juice.

Please take your items directly to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in New Melle during their office hours. Call 636-398-5270 in advance to be sure there is someone present to accept your donation. Monetary donations should be made payable to “St. Vincent De Paul Society” (“Food Pantry” on the memo line). Monetary donations may be

hand-delivered to the church or be mailed to: Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, PO Box 100, New Melle, MO 63365.

Please report your donation to Sherry Brandes in the office for Voters Assembly and Ladies Aid records. You only need to report number of items (or boxes or bags) and dollar amount. No names will be attached to the donations; just a monthly tally of the number of food items and dollars donated will be recorded.

NOTE: Food Pantry hours are: The 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Please tell anyone who might benefit from this service!

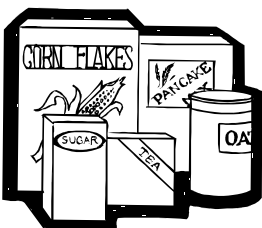
Services of Silence and Prayer

July Schedule
9:00—9:35 a.m.

July 3
July 10
July 17

If you wish to stay longer to continue your prayer time, the church will remain open afterwards until 12:30 p.m.

Also, if you wish to speak to Pastor Fisher following the service, he will be available in his office.



Joining Jesus (continued from page 1)

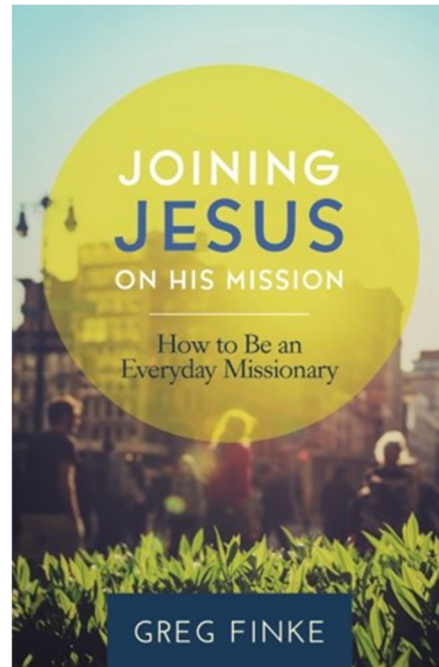
Additionally, I encourage you to take notes, ask questions and submit them to the suggestion box, or email!

Last but not least, a little homework never hurt anyone. We will have some questions and practice for our discipleship as we seek to join Jesus in what he is up to.

I hope our Joining Jesus on His Mission sermon series is a joy to you. And hey, why not buddy up and try walking through the material together?

I for one am excited to join you, joining Jesus, on His mission to share the gospel with New Melle.

In Jesus,
Pastor Maxx



**Joining Jesus on His Mission
Sermon Series**

Begins

July 9th

Continues

July 16th

July 23rd

July 30th

Concludes

August 6

About the Author: Greg and Susan Finke founded Dwelling 1:14 to help Jesus-followers to connect in their neighborhoods, workplaces and schools for discipling and missional living. They offer coaching, consulting, and training experiences for congregations and their leaders in discipling, living missionally and multiplying missional communities. Greg and Susan enjoy life as neighborhood missionaries in League City, Texas.

You can purchase copies of *Joining Jesus on His Mission* by Greg Finke (in the church narthex when they become available) or by going online to www.amazon.com and typing in the title of the book and author’s name.

LCEF Demographics Study Presentation—Sunday, July 16

Mike Wadley from the LCEF Missouri District of the LCMS is coming to present our area’s local demographic results.

Members of St. Paul’s are encouraged to join the conversation and learn more about what our community actually looks like, and realize what the real needs are of those people who actually represent our community.

All are encouraged to learn more about the people and community we are being called to serve and witness the gospel to.

The presentation will begin after church at 11:30 a.m. and last no more than an hour. Refreshments served.

Member Biography Corner

Rick Pohlmann



How long have you been at St. Paul's?

I have been a member of St. Paul's for approximately 23 years.

What do you do and enjoy doing at St. Paul's?

I am currently the president of the congregation, and I enjoy Sunday mornings and being at church with the people of St. Paul's.

What do you enjoy about being a member at St. Paul's?

I find a lot of joy being around the members of St. Paul's, whether it's at church or outside of church.

What is something interesting about yourself? A hobby? Etc.

My brother got me started hunting with bird dogs. We've been hunting and training our dogs for well over 20 years. The sad part is dogs don't live long enough. I currently have two German wirehaired pointers, and yes, they can be as hard-headed as us Germans, but I enjoy them a lot.

Note about future member biographies: We plan to highlight one member each month, starting with our leadership. Then we will move on to our office staff, and eventually every member of St. Paul's, so you can start writing your biography now, using the questions from Rick's biography above!

Oktoberfest Sponsorships & Insert—Support for St. Paul's

This year's Oktoberfest is would definitely benefit from some additional funding. So for the first time, St. Paul's has developed a group of Sponsorship Packages that will help offset the cost of the event. These sponsorships can help advertise area businesses, as well as show individual and community support for St. Paul's.

Please read the insert explaining each package and consider investing in the future of St. Paul's (as well as the entire community) by purchasing one of these sponsorship packages.

If this is not something you can do at this time, please give the insert to someone who might like to do this—relatives, neighbors, area business people. The flyer explains where their name or business name will appear and what expenses those funds will help cover for St. Paul's Oktoberfest.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH VOTERS MEETING MINUTES May 21, 2023

CALL TO ORDER – President Rick Pohlmann called the meeting to order. Nine members were present.

OPENING DEVOTION – led by Pastor Fisher.

MINUTES – Accepted as presented.

NEW COMMUNICATE MEMBERS – Scott and Pam Alexander and Don Horstmann were admitted as new members of St. Paul's.

ADMISSION OF NEW VOTING MEMBERS – Scott and Pam Alexander

REPORT OF PASTOR – Continuing to meet with consultant. Discussed having an Artist in Residence position. A grant would be applied for to help pay for this program. Messiah Lutheran church would also be giving \$10,000.00 for the Artist in Residence position.

REPORT OF TREASURER – Accepted as presented.

BOARD OF ELDERS – The tree by the white fence is to be cut down. This work will be completed by the LERT team from Immanuel, Wentzville. Discussing an upgrade to the technical equipment in church.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Repair bathroom in the Parsonage.

NEW BUSINESS – The Board approved Push Pay as the system for our digital payment system. Motion made, seconded, and voiced passed to approve up to \$3,500.00 for new technology equipment from the Improvement Fund. Motion made, seconded, and voiced passed to approve \$5,000.00 for the Artist in Residence program from the General Fund.

ADJOURNMENT CLOSING PRAYER

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn Finke

St. Paul's Shines During the New Melle Festival Parade

On Saturday, July 10, some dedicated St. Paul's members prepared to welcome the community onto our church grounds to view the parade honoring the 70th Anniversary of the New Melle Festival.



They arranged our pop-up tents and set out water bottles, other supplies, and surprise gifts to welcome everyone who chose to watch the parade from our church yard.



Then some of them went to the Bavarian Smoke Haus to enjoy a relaxing time of fellowship before the festivities began.

Workers included: Mark Wehmeier, Pastor Maxx, Rick Pohlmann, Randy Pohlmann, Don Horstmann, Jeff and Annie Schneider, and Scott Alexander. Others joined the fun on the church grounds as the parade drew near. (MORE PICTURES on page 6 & 7...)

St. Paul's "Shines" at the New Melle Festival Parade



Parade Grand Marshall, Dianne Sudbrock led the parade, followed by the "Hippie Chicks" Queen Candidates float, other area business and community entries, and even the smallest float entry (a cart pulled by a mom, whose daughter wanted to throw candy to others, so her mom made it happen).

Meanwhile, at St. Paul's, kids there were given St. Paul's bags to collect their candy and popsicles to keep them cool. Adults were content under the shade provided by the pop-up tents and water provided by St. Paul's. Smiles were plentiful, too!





Members from St. Paul's, their relatives, friends, neighbors, and even complete strangers gathered under the pop-up tents to enjoy the shade, cold water, and simple, but sincere, St. Paul's friendship. All were welcomed and "Scooby-Do" (Pastor Maxx, of course) made sure everyone was entertained between floats rolling by and candy landing everywhere.



Vacation Bible School 2023

From June 12-16, kids gathered together at Immanuel Lutheran Church—Wentzville for Vacation Bible School. This event featured singing and dancing, Bible lessons, crafts, games, snacks, and discussions about how we can shine Jesus' light in all circumstances.

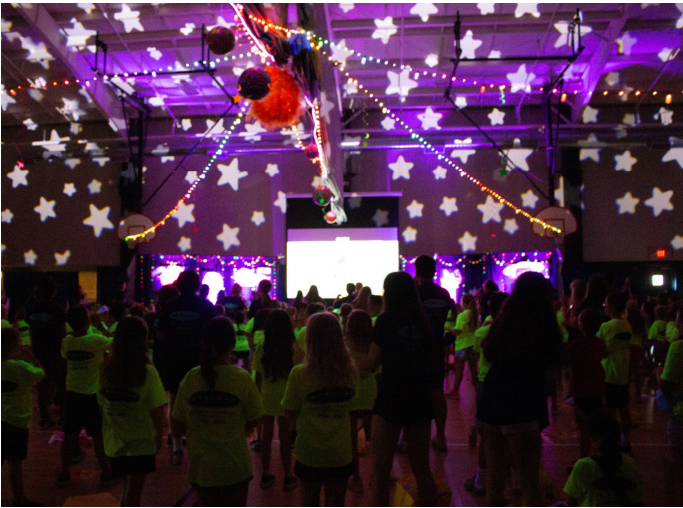
Our own David Chappell led the "KidVid" station, where kids watched videos about real life people who are living out their faith. After the videos, David led insightful conversations about how we can shine for Jesus in our lives.

Pastor Maxx also contributed his talents by leading the opening and closing celebrations each day as astronaut "Mickey Way".

Thank you to all the volunteers who made this event a success and an opportunity to reach so many children in our community! Please continue to pray for all the kids who attended, that they would grow in their faith as they continue walking with Jesus.

— Deaconess Janie Fisher





TO LAUNCH INTO ADVENTURE!



Ladies Aid Outing to Sunflower Hill Farms



ABOVE LEFT (Back to Front): Missy Motz, Jackie Eslinger, Carol Oberaitis, Wanda Greiwe, and Diana Eschenbrenner. **ABOVE RIGHT** (Back to Front): Pam Alexander, Mary Bethel, Sherry Brandes, Annie Schneider, Carolyn Schwede, and Vicki Zuhone.

Thursday, June 22, found eleven St. Paul's Ladies Aid members going on an adventure. They traveled to Sunflower Hill Farms just outside Defiance, where they had lunch together and were given a tour of the property and greenhouse by the owner and operator, Karen Koehneman. She arranged for them to have rides to and from the greenhouse and told about the history of the property, how the business worked, and even explained the farmhouse wedding venue, which can be booked online for weddings and other events.

Their delicious lunch consisted of soup, salad, a half-sandwich, a cookie, and a choice of several beverages. The waitresses were very friendly and even taught about the centerpieces on the table and items grown on the farm that were used in some of their menu items.





Following lunch, the ladies were driven to the greenhouse and given plenty of time to ask questions, learn about the growing operation, and shop for plants.

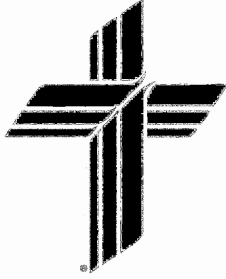
Special thanks to Carol Oberaitis for arranging all of this for the group. They had a GREAT TIME!



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 70
New Melle, MO 63365

"A new command I give
you: Love one another."
John 13:34



St. Paul's Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod

Ladies Aid June Meeting Attendees Enjoy Their Special Guest Speaker

Prior to the June 1 meeting, a presentation was given by "Ranger" Bob Dietrich from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The ladies also learned that he is a neighbor of one of their own members, Annie Schneider.

He taught the members about the different mammals found in the wild near New Melle and the surrounding area in Missouri. Ranger Bob answered questions about animals found in other parts of the U.S., also.

He brought samples of hides and skulls to explain the animals' hunting and eating habits. He also answered questions about preventing damage to gardens and property.

