

April 23, 2023

Welcome SOUTH PARK

South Park Church exists to help people walk with God, connect as family & love people in Jesus' name.

VISION WHAT DO WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE IN THE FUTURE?

WE ARE ONE ...

- Being ONE with God means living in the awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence & promptings in our lives. Being ONE with God, means we recognize & obey His voice above all the others.
- Being **ONE** Body is about creating loving relationships within the church. God created the Body of Christ to be a diverse group of believers. It is important to maintain our unity IN diversity as a part of our witness to this world. The key to that unity comes when we make our identity as God's children our most important identity.
- Being ONE Kingdom is about creating loving relationships outside of the church with
 other kingdom minded churches/ministries. We recognize that South Park Church is
 one small part of the global Christian Church and we desire to serve the Kingdom in
 partnership with those who share our belief in Jesus Christ.

CORE VALUES WHAT ARE THE FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS THAT DRIVE OUR BEHAVIOR & AINISTRY?

- **STAY CONNECTED TO GOD** We want to serve out of the fullness of life and power that comes from God (*Ephesians 3:19*). Staying connected to God is how we learn to yield our will to His.
- ACCEPT THAT ALL PEOPLE ARE OF UNSURPASSABLE WORTH TO GOD

Scripture teaches us that Christ died for us while we were still sinners (*Romans 5:8*). Therefore that is the example of love we will follow. We will love and welcome people who are sinners... just like us.

- LIFT YOUR ENEMIES UP IN PRAYER We don't want to respond to the sin & hate of this world with more sin and hate. We want to respond the way Jesus taught us to in His Sermon on the Mount - by lifting our enemies up in prayer (Matthew 5:44)
- TAKE STEWARDSHIP SERIOUSLY We want to use all that we are and all that we've been given to give glory to God and grow His Kingdom (Matthew 25:14-30).



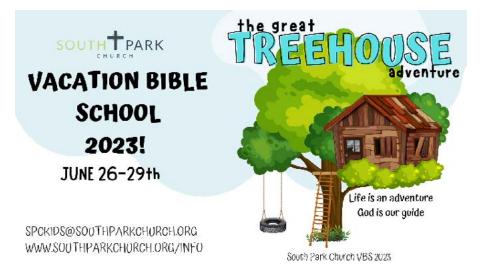
"He's so organized!" "She's got training in finance!" "That person takes great notes!" "Do you know who would be a great connection to the staff?..."

If someone comes to mind as the answer to any of these questions, nominate them for position of Vice Chair or Treasurer! Visit <u>www.southparkchurch.org/nominations</u> for more information!



We've made it easy for you to find info about what's happening at South Park Church! Visit the info hub!

www.southparkchurch.org/info



Life is an Adventure when you live with God as your guide! You are invited to South Park Church's Vacation Bible School 2023, "The Great Treehouse Adventure"! During this 4 day series, students will learn about the adventures of the disciple Peter, and how God used the ups and downs in his life to bring others to Christ and grow in their faith. Click here to register to <u>attend</u> or <u>volunteer!</u>



RSVP to kristin@southparkchurch.org

Have you recently begun attending South Park Church? Join us in Fellowship Hall after service today. We'd love to get to know you and help you get connected at SPC!



Every day we make choices in life and relate to others who may be difficult to get along with. Wisdom is the ability to make godly choices in life. Join us for the Summer Series: Proverbs where a variety of women will teach (inperson) on a variety of Proverbs. Learn more and register at <u>www.southparkchurch.org/women</u>



High School South Park Church students are invited to serve this summer again at Camp Barnabas, a summer camp that provides an amazing camp experience and encounters with God for disabled individuals and their families.<u>Registration now open!</u>



We are looking for experienced electric guitar and drum set players to join the team! If you are passionate about worship and have a heart for leading others in praise, we would love to hear from you! For more information, P\ please email <u>bernie@southparkchurch.org.</u>



Each Sunday morning you are invited to join in-person or on-line for a wonderful time of group prayer prior to the worship service. All are welcome to drop in for as long as you are able for this warm-up for Sunday worship! Come try it out! Want to join online? <u>Click here for the link to the zoom meeting</u>. Meeting ID: 874 0226 6783 Password: 807766

6

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

These prayer requests represent just one way in which we pray as a church body and just some of the people we are lifting in prayer. For additional opportunity to pray, share, and celebrate answered prayer, please attend Sunday Morning Prayer each Sunday at 9am in Fellowship Hall and over Zoom (email info@southparkchurch.org for the Zoom link). And please email kristin@southparkchurch.org if you have a prayer request you'd like shared with the confidential Prayer Chain.

Please pray that our almighty God would comfort and relieve those in our congregation who are struggling with serious mental health illnesses. Pray that the Lord's power of healing would minister to their needs, strengthen them in their weaknesses, and restore their health and relationships.

Pray for those mourning the recent losses within the Chicago first responder community including police officer Andres Vasquez-Lasso and firefighters Jermaine Pelt and Lieutenant Jan Tchoryk. Pray that the first responder community, both as a whole and those within our church body, would serve with a hedge of protection around them and with God's supernatural courage and strength.

Please pray for those suffering following recent tragedies. Pray that those affected will be comforted in the way that only Christ can. Pray for those suffering in our country and around the world from all forms of violence, injustice in the many forms it takes, natural disasters, and so much else. Pray that Christ would be made known in the midst of heartbreak and that suffering would cease through the powerful name of Jesus and the spirit-led actions of believers.

Continue to pray for: Nick Powell, our Outreach Partners in Ukraine, Doug Volden, the Genson family, Catherine Hankins, Greg Van Calbergh, Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky

SERMON NOTES

Radical Compassion Matthew 9:35-38

- 1. The Power of Compassion
- 2. Teaching the way Jesus taught (vs. 35)
 - a. Faith AND action
- 3. Seeing People the way Jesus saw them (vs. 36)
 - a. Confused & Helpless
- 4. Praying the way Jesus prayed (vs. 37–38)

a. Compassion drives us to pray

b. Compassion drives us to be the answer to prayer

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What are the most effective ways you bring Sunday's message to the rest of your week? After Sunday's discussion, did you learn any new ways to do that?

2. When you think about your relationship with Jesus, does it lean more towards head knowledge or acts of compassion? Explain both.

3. Owning our selfishness is hard. What are the ways your selfishness is most likely to keep you from loving other people?

4. As you've thought/prayed about showing compassion like Jesus, are there any sacrifices you feel God might be calling you to make?