

# May 21, 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).



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

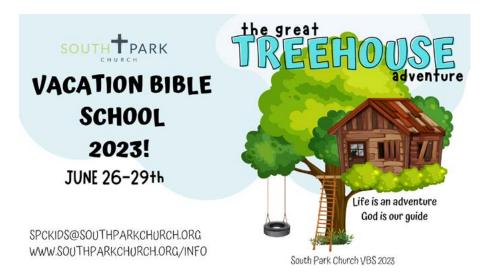
www.southparkchurch.org/info



Save the date and make plans to attend our next congregational meeting where we will welcome new member candidates and vote on Dave Anderson as an elder.



Join us for the Summer Series: Proverbs where a variety of women will teach (in-person) on a variety of Proverbs. Learn more and register on the info hub or visit www.southparkchurch.org/women



Join us for Vacation Bible School 2023, "The Great Treehouse Adventure"! During these 4 days, 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. Spots are filling fast! Click here to register to <u>attend</u> or <u>volun-</u> <u>teer!</u>



MOPPET childcare workers are needed for Wednesday mornings starting in September. Please email Taryn at <u>tarynsoske@gmail.com</u> for more information.



MOPS is an opportunity for a break - to gather, support each other and form friendships. MOPS encourages and equips moms to realize their potential as mothers, women and leaders, in relationship with Jesus, and in partnership with the local church. Meetings are every other Wednesday from September through May from 9:15-11:15 at South Park Church. Childcare is provided. For more info and to register, click on the image or visit <u>www.southparkchurch.org/info</u>.



### Sunday Morning Prayer

Each Sunday at 9 a.m. Fellowship Hall & Zoom

Each Sunday morning you are invited to join in-person or on-line for a time of group prayer prior to the worship service. 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 During Sunday Morning Prayer on June 4, hear from and pray with Outreach Partners Todd and Stephanie Edgar (Peru)!



Missouri from July 8-14th to serve kids with special needs and chronic illnesses and their families. If you'd like to support the team you can make a donation here.





# NOMINATIONS

www.southparkchurch.org/nominations

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Please submit for Vice Chair & Treasurer





Join us for an unforgettable experience of golf and fellowship. No experiene necessary! If you are new to the event, we can find you a team. Contact Tim Pappageorge at <u>tim.pappageorge@gmail.com</u>.



Register now for Community Bible Study! Join us this fall for this year's study of Ruth, Samuel & Ephesians. We offer Tuesday morning classes for Women, Men, Babies, Preschool and School-Aged Children and we have online options too! Classes begin on September 12. Visit our website at **parkridge.cbsclass.org** for more information.

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### 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.

Pray that we will each follow the example of Jesus by offering radical love, remarkable compassion, radical hospitality, outrageous kindness and by turning to the Father when we are anxious.

Please pray for those who are impacted by extreme poverty, violence, and oppression. Pray for continued opportunities to serve the vulnerable among us.

Praise God for how we've seen Him at work in our congregation lately--for cancers that are stable with no growth, for breakthroughs in family relationships, for medical procedures being successful, for great steps of progress for those suffering with mental health illnesses, for many who are ready to take next steps in their faith journeys. Praise the Lord for His power at work among us.

Pray for those suffering in our country and around the world from gun violence, all forms of violence, injustice in the many forms it takes, natural disasters, mental illness, and so much more. 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: Doug Volden, Nick Powell, our Outreach Partners in Ukraine, the Genson family, Catherine Hankins, Greg Van Calbergh, Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky

## SERMON NOTES

### Life of Abundance

- 1. To struggle is to be human
- 2. Our approach to struggle

(Rom. 8:16-18)

- a. Avoidance vs. Acceptance
- 3. Jesus enters into our struggle (1 Peter 3:18)
  - a. Our pain can lead us to God...if we let it.
- 4. Abundant life in the face of struggle(John 10:10)
  - a. Praise in the midst of pain

## **DIGGING** DEEPER

1. What have been some of the most challenging truths you've learned about Jesus in this series?

2. How do you approach the struggles in your life...do you embrace/avoid them? How has your desire for a pain-free life prevented you from fully following Jesus?

3 What is a struggle in your life that has brought you closer to God...caused you to isolate yourself from Him?

4. What is keeping you from praising God in the midst of your pain? If there's nothing...end this time praising God for His goodness (even if it's not easy).