

# The Valley Voice

Missouri Valley Baptist Church | 11950 SW 66 Road, St. Joseph, MO 64504 | (816) 688-7674 | [www.comevisitthevalley.org](http://www.comevisitthevalley.org)

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## MVBC STAFF

### Interim Pastor

Paul Damery

### Worship Pastor

Seth Mason

## WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### Sunday

Sunday School – 9:30 AM  
Worship Service – 10:45 AM

### Wednesday

TeamKids (back this fall!)  
SOX Youth Group – 7:00 PM  
Adult Bible Study – 7:00 PM

### A Message From Your Interim Pastor

Have you been outside much lately? I absolutely love spring and the opportunity to be outside – especially if it involves taking care of my yard or garden. Recently, my family and I have all been outside trying to get rid of one weed in particular – the Star of Bethlehem. I'm aware of the fact that to some of you this might possibly be a flower worth saving, but when it is in my yard, it is most definitely a weed! It looks like a blade of grass above ground, but it actually has an onion bulb type of root system. This is not a weed which can be pulled to remove it – and it is also not a weed eradicated through normal weed control. My neighbor has given up the fight against this weed, saying that his efforts to eliminate it only cause it to become more prevalent!

As I have been working with this plant, God has really impressed on my heart the importance of allowing Him to pull the weeds out of our hearts. The Star of Bethlehem weed, although it begins as an incredibly small bulb, quickly grows into a clump of bulbs with many blades of “grass” poking through the ground. At that point, the weed has taken root firmly in the ground, and pulling it out becomes quite an ordeal. In many ways, this is like sin. It starts out small, and grows quickly to take root in the heart – doing whatever it can to become a controlling reality in our hearts.

I wonder if out of control weeds in a yard are somewhat like the yeast that works its way through a batch of dough. The Apostle Paul compares the action of the yeast to sin that works its way through a church (Galatians 5:9), hindering the work of God. A little sin quickly becomes a big deal. I wonder if God wanted to pull the weeds of sin in our hearts, would we let Him? I fear that too often we are content with sin. It is easy to give up the fight, saying that it is no use or simply too much work! Nevertheless, God's Word compels us, “but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior” (1 Peter 1:15).

What weeds does God want to pull from your heart? As we seek to be a church that reaches out to our community, I believe God desires that we first honor Him in our own lives. May revival and spiritual renewal characterize what God is doing in our midst!

For His Glory,  
Paul

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### June Business Meeting

We will be having our monthly business meeting on the second Sunday of the month (6/8), rather than the first Sunday. A pot-luck lunch will be held following the meeting, so please bring enough food to feed your own family.

### Benevolence Offering

The Deacons at MVBC manage a benevolence fund, which allows them to provide for the needs of church members as they arise. The Deacons take up an offering for this purpose every third Sunday of the month (May 18<sup>th</sup> this month).

### TeamKID

TeamKID will be taking a summer break. The last activities of the school year will be on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. Watch for an announcement in August about the start of a new year with a new curriculum! Thanks to Mandi Griffin and Terri Matthews for all of their hard work with this ministry!

### Thanks!

Thanks to Clyde Elder for filling in for Paul while he was gone for the men's retreat!

### Small Group Bible Studies

Small groups continue to meet. If you're interested in participating in this ministry, contact John Stickley.

### Pastor Search Committee

Our committee continues to seek God's will to find our new pastor. Please continue to keep them in prayer!

## HELP THE PESINAS!

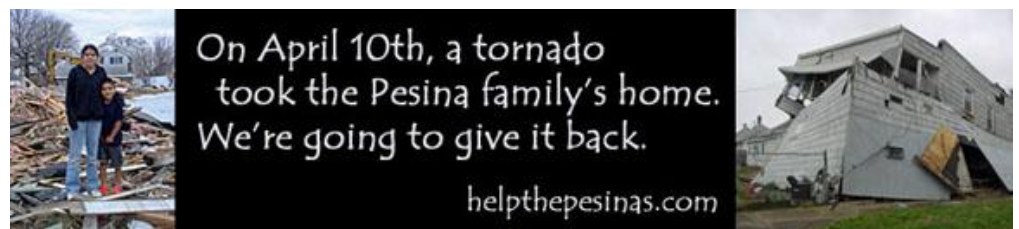


Most of you are familiar with the Pesina family... their children have been part of our church family for quite a while now, coming on Wednesdays and Sundays with Jodi Brager and the rest of the gang from Southside Youth Outreach.

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, a tornado took their home. Jodi Brager was on the scene that evening, and began helping them to pick up the pieces. As the evening passed and the next day came, an idea began to form in her mind... why can't we give this family a new home? Not just a new rental... but a home they can call their own.

HelpThePesinas.com was born the next day to help publicize this ministry opportunity for churches in the area. God has blessed these efforts in amazing ways so far (we already have a house offered to us for renovation, at an unbelievable price, and have close to \$6,000 committed to date)... we believe he'll see it through to the end.

If you'd like to participate, check out the website, or just ask Jodi how you can help! What an awesome way to be the hands and feet of Jesus!



## TITHES & OFFERINGS

<u>Date</u>	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Missions Offering</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>
4/6	\$1,385.00	\$65.00	\$310.00
4/13	\$1,170.78	\$35.00	\$55.00
4/20	\$1,489.91	\$25.00	\$106.00
4/27	\$1,319.76	\$65.00	\$130.00

Missions offerings given in the month of May go to the Missouri-Belarus Family Link, enabling children from the Chernobyl area of Belarus to come to Missouri for six to eight weeks for medical and dental care.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to our graduates, Irene Moore (Benton), Andy Charles (Central), Steffany Graves (Institute of Teen Evangelism), and Lindsey Moran (Master's in Speech Pathology, University of Missouri)! Way to go!

### Budget Committee

The budget committee will meet on May 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM to discuss the upcoming budget year (beginning July 1). There is a standing committee that needs to attend, but everyone is welcome to come and provide input!

### Valley Food Kitchen

Each month when the 30<sup>th</sup> falls during the week, Sunday School classes from MVBC serve at the Food Kitchen on Valley Street. Each class is responsible for preparing the menu, cooking, and serving, as well as having a brief devotional time. Brenda Moran coordinates this program. On May 30<sup>th</sup>, the youth will serve, and on June 30<sup>th</sup>, John Stickley's class is responsible.

### Co-Ed Softball!

The season starts May 6<sup>th</sup>! All games are played at Heritage Park. If you're playing and can't make a game, please let Kirk Hartman know!

Upcoming schedule:

May 6<sup>th</sup>: 7:30 PM  
 May 13<sup>th</sup>: 8:30 PM  
 May 20<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 PM  
 May 27<sup>th</sup>: 9:30 PM  
 June 3<sup>rd</sup>: 6:30 PM

## MEET OUR MEMBERS!



**Forrest Pettijohn**

Forrest is a friendly man that sits at the back of the church. It may seem like he's awfully quiet, but that's only because you haven't stopped to talk with him... he's quite happy to carry on a conversation and share what's going on in life. Forrest started attending MVBC in 1947, but as the years passed by he stopped coming for an extended period of time. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit led him back. Prior to being baptized by Bro. Dave Stephens, he gave his life to God. He is grateful that he has regained his faith and that his relationship with the Savior has been strengthened.

Forrest is retired from Peachtree Doors. He has lived in Halls, Rushville, and DeKalb, but now resides in St. Joseph. He likes to go fishing and mushroom hunting.

In 2003, Forrest lost the love of his life when his wife Connie passed away. They have two sons, ages 32 and 24, and four grandchildren (whom he LOVES spending time with).

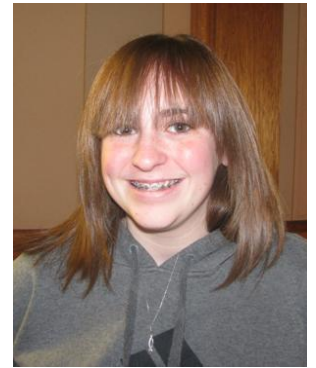
If you ever need to find Forrest in the morning, check out the south end McDonald's. He and a group of friends gather there each day to visit.

Heather is an enthusiastic Sophomore at Benton High School. She likes to read, sing, write, go for long walks, and take lots of pictures. One of her favorite hobbies is scrapbooking. Heather moved to St. Joseph from San Diego, California when she was little. She lives with her mom and step dad. Her dad lives in Iowa. She has three brothers and one sister.

The mission trip to the Dominican Republic last year made a lasting impression on Heather. She plans to go on many more, including the trip to Russia this summer.

After finishing high school, Heather plans on getting a degree in elementary education. She is willing and waiting to see what God has planned for her future, though, so those plans may change!

If you ever need to know anything about Veggie Tales, be sure to ask Heather... she still loves to watch them!



**Heather Brown**

## NURSERY SCHEDULES

<u>Week of...</u>	<u>Nursery (S.S.)</u>	<u>Nursery (Worship)</u>	<u>Nursery (Wed.)</u>
5/4	Jala Damery	Kenny & Ona Hartman	Ona Hartman
5/11	Kim Hartman	Sheila Kovac & Rick Hartman	Kim Hartman
5/18	Gwen Sampson	Ronnie & Gwen Sampson	Brenda Moran
5/25	Brenda Moran	Jala Damery & volunteer	Mona Parsons
6/1	Jala Damery	Kirk & Kim Hartman	Sheila Kovac
6/8	Kim Hartman	Mike & Kelley Wertin	Mary Rogers



P.O. Box 144  
DeKalb, MO 64440

**May 2008**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				6:30p – Janecek SG <sup>1</sup>	<sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup>
<sup>4</sup> 9:30a – S.S. 10:45a – Worship 12:00p – Bus. Mtg. / Carry-In Lunch 6:30p – Atchison Senior Home	<sup>5</sup>	<sup>6</sup> 7:30p – Softball at Heritage Park	<sup>7</sup> 7:00p – TeamKids 7:00p – SOX 7:00p – Bible Study	<sup>8</sup> 6:30p – Janecek SG	<sup>9</sup>	<sup>10</sup>
<sup>11</sup> 9:30a – S.S. 10:45a – Worship	<sup>12</sup>	<sup>13</sup> 6:00p – Stickley SG 8:30p – Softball at Heritage Park	<sup>14</sup> 7:00p – SOX 7:00p – Bible Study	<sup>15</sup> 6:30p – Janecek SG	<sup>16</sup>	<sup>17</sup>
<sup>18</sup> 8:00a – Breakfast 9:30a – S.S. 10:45a – Worship & Graduate Recognition	<sup>19</sup>	<sup>20</sup> 6:00p – Stickley SG 9:30p – Softball at Heritage Park	<sup>21</sup> 7:00p – SOX 7:00p – Bible Study	<sup>22</sup> 6:30p – Janecek SG	<sup>23</sup>	<sup>24</sup>
<sup>25</sup> 9:30a – S.S. 10:45a – Worship	<sup>26</sup>	<sup>27</sup> 6:00p – Stickley SG 9:30p – Softball at Heritage Park	<sup>28</sup> 7:00p – SOX 7:00p – Bible Study	<sup>29</sup> 6:30p – Janecek SG	<sup>30</sup> 5:30p – Valley Food Kitchen (the Youth are responsible for serving this month)	<sup>31</sup>