

April
2019

HARVEST MONTHLY

EVERY
SUN

PRAYER MEETING @ 9:30a

Join us in the Worship Center before the service to ask God to reveal His power through worship.

WORSHIP SERVICE
@ 10a

Current
Series

EASTER SERIES



EVERY
WEEK

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at Harvest @ 10a

Just Moved Ministry

Breath of God (Beth Moore)

Mondays at Harvest @ 7p

Esther Study

EVERY
SAT

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ 7:30a

Meets at Harvest Café in the church lobby. Doors open at 7a, study begins at 7:30a. All men are cordially invited to join us.

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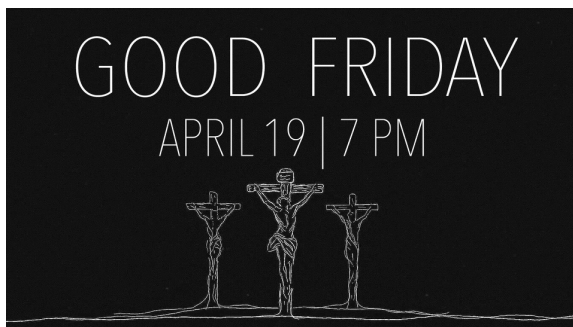
SAT



19

FRI

GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 19 | 7 PM



21

SUN



MAY

10

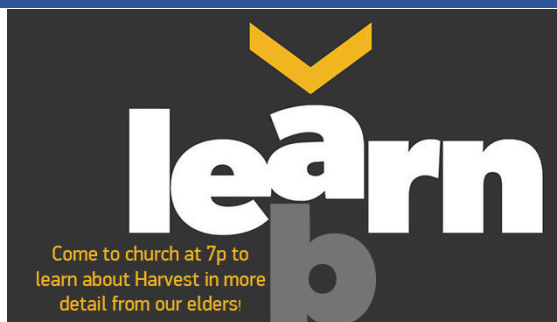
meet

New here? Come to a party at the pastor's house at 7p for coffee, dessert, and fellowship with Harvest leaders!



MAY

23



YOU ARE
LOVED



Preaching Schedule

The Easter Series will focus on three key ingredients of God's plan in laying down the firm foundation of the hope we have in Christ: faith, forgiveness and the resurrection. May He speak to us through His Word this Easter season.



April 7

The Faith That Will Not Fail

Luke 22:31-34

April 14

It's Never Too Late

Luke 23:39-43

April 21 (Easter Sunday)

Remember His Words!

Luke 24:1-9

April 28

Guest Speaker: Aaron Dogotch

Aaron is the former pastor of Harvest Bible Chapel in Knoxville, TN, and the lead pastor of a core group currently meeting in Joplin, MO with the goal of launching a vertical church this fall.



Listen to messages during the week at
<http://harveststlouis.org/sermons>

Great God, Small World

"Wow, what a small world..." This is a popular expression often used when people discover they share a friend somewhere faraway or find out they got married in the same church a week apart twenty years ago or perhaps bump into friends from their neighborhood while visiting a foreign country.

Sometimes unforeseen circumstances create a common ground and a bond we didn't know we shared – and the world suddenly seems smaller. As God's people, we know that nothing really happens by accident. God orchestrates human encounters for His own special purposes. When we experience God's power through connecting us to specific people from one side of the globe to the other, the world shrinks even more.

When I first met Mikulaš Ježek, I found out we shared a music conservatory background, the same teachers and a few friends having attended the same school about 20 years apart. Moreover, God's special purpose for us turned out to be the December visit of the Smiling String Orchestra (of which Mikulaš is the director) that marked the beginning of many friendships God used to impact the Czech students' lives.

How do I know there was an impact? Last week, a parent of one of the Czech students emailed me a flyer announcing a special concert entitled "Vzpomínky na Ameriku," (Memories of America), a public event with music and students sharing how the visit to the USA,

and specifically, the time spent at Harvest St. Louis changed their lives. This group is the best student string orchestra in the Czech Republic and their concerts draw large crowds. I wish I could be a fly on the wall in the one coming to hear everything they will share. Perhaps some of them will share about God and the Bible teaching they received at Harvest St. Louis.

Our Big God keeps building bridges in this small world. This July, we will continue our student internships we started last year. We have a few students signed up from overseas and hope to have some American kids as well who would like to deepen their faith and train alongside our leaders to serve God in a church. You too can participate in this blessing – here is how:

We are looking for **host families for the student interns** in July – one week at a time, two students per household. They will need a bed to sleep in, breakfast and dinner at home, drop off at the church in the morning and pick up in the evening. Would you pray about hosting a couple of students this July? Let God make the world a little smaller for a couple of students by becoming a part of your family for a week! Please let me know! Your love, your personal life, and your hospitality will make a great impact for Christ.





How can you prepare your heart to worship at Easter?

- 1) *Please consider Pastor Michael's call to fasting this Easter season. This doesn't necessarily have to be from food. Consider giving up even 1 day a week on your phone, or giving up eating out over the course of the next few weeks. Use that time to draw your focus to what God is revealing to you this Easter season.*
- 2) *Easter services are the perfect time to invite someone who is not walking with the Lord to worship with you. Don't just send them an invitation, but invite them to sit with you and have Easter lunch with you!*

If you are interested in serving on the Worship or Tech Teams on Sunday morning, please shoot me an email!

We are so excited to continue to grow our Worship and Teach Teams over the next few months, so now is the perfect time to start serving!

He Is Risen!

Written by Steve Reischl

Can you believe Easter is only 3 weeks away? I don't know about you, but life itself seems to fly by day, and in the hustle and bustle it is easy to lose sight of what God is wanting to teach us during the special season of remembering his greatest gift: the resurrection of his Son. One thing that is very important to me as a worship leader is that we view worship as more than just a few songs we sing on Sunday morning. Truly our best and perhaps most important worship is how we live and draw our hearts towards Christ throughout the week. In doing so, we open our hearts up to be used by the Lord and our lives minister to the world around us!

As we prepare for Easter, in your own person devotion and worship time, I would love if you would partner with me in praying over the following as we strive to honor the Lord with the opportunity he has offered us to minister to the community:

- Pray that hearts would be stirred to attend an Easter service.
- Pray that all those in attendance would have their hearts softened to the love and hope of Jesus.
- Pray that God would grant Pastor Michael the right words to share the message God would have him speak.
- Pray that in the businesses of the Easter season, our teams of volunteers would be able to focus their hearts on Christ and find necessary times for rest and renewal in the Lord!

Recent Happenings in the Worship Ministry!

We are so excited that Theodore Brooks has been appointed as an Elder here at Harvest! Theodore has an incredible heart for the Lord and for worship, and we are so thankful for his continued leadership on the worship team and in our church! Please join us in prayer for Theodore and Heidi as they enter into this season of leadership!



Even though our good Pastor mentions us regularly, **WE STILL HAVE NEEDS...**

- 1) The second Sunday, we have **NO** volunteers in Upper Elementary!
- 2) We have a need for volunteers each Sunday to greet parents in Pre-school prior to service. This position is one more security measure for our little ones. You must arrive no later than 9:40 am, and you would greet the parents, make sure each parent and child have matching name tags and all the child's belongings are labeled. You would be in service by 10:20 am.
- 3) The Bed Babies (Nursery) only has one worker in that classroom each Sunday. *Keeping with our policies,* we need one more person each Sunday in that room.

Feel free to contact Terri Shukri with questions or to volunteer at
tshukri@harveststlouis.org

Make a Joyful Noise

Written by Terri Shukri

“Hear this, you kings! Listen, you rulers! I will sing to the Lord I will sing; I will make music to the Lord, the God of Israel.”

Judges 5:3

I hope you were able to be in the service when Harvest Kids led one of the worship songs. They did such a great job and your response to them was very encouraging! Harvest Kids will be a part of the worship service again on Palm Sunday, April 14th. I am so happy to be a small part of teaching kids what they will be doing in eternity – praising God! We are having so much fun in Harvest Kids! You should join us.

This month, we begin a new series called Savior. It is about the Easter Season and why we are so grateful that Jesus is our Savior. Remember, your kids come home each Sunday they attend with a devotional you can review with them. Ask them to tell you about it!



Missions Giving

Beginning this month, encourage your children to bring their tithes and offerings. We will be collecting offerings for missions for our very own Missionary, Christy Šust. This will be our giving theme through August.

“You must present as the Lord’s portion the best and holiest part of everything given to you.”

Numbers 18:29

Details About Harvest's First Family Small Group:

- + Meets **Wednesday nights** at Mike & Debbie Breneman's house in Wildwood
- + **6:30 pm** – group gathers for study and potluck dinner generally every week
- + Currently studying the Gospel of Mark



Pictured above: Andy, Hannah, Lindsay, and Arianna Lee

Pictured to the right a few members of the group: Debbie Breneman, Mike Breneman, Rick Barnhill, and Bethani Wade

We are incredibly grateful for the Lees' vision and willingness to take lead on launching Harvest's first ever "family" small group. If you are interested in becoming a part of this group, it is not too late – reach out to Theodore & Heidi Brooks, Andy & Lindsay Lee, or Mike & Debbie Breneman!

A Place to Belong

Written by: Andy & Lindsay Lee

The story of the inception and first chapter of Harvest's family small group:

We gathered at the end of the driveway in front of the tightly packed moving truck: twelve adults circled up, holding hands in prayer to entrust to the Lord one of our own. We, the Lees, were leaving Chicago and our small group family of nine years. Through that group, we learned to love, do life together, laugh, cry and lean heavily on each other in tough times. We experienced the many characteristics of God firsthand through each other.

Almost one year after arriving in St Louis, the Lord brought us to Harvest. Harvest embraced us from the first day, outpouring a passion for small group community with a genuine desire to enter into our lives. We rejoiced, as the Lord had brought us home to a family church, and soon we were introduced to our small group family. In late January, the Lord brought together the first family small group including five family units. This new group, a small green shoot in the sight of the Lord, has recently completed the church wide study of *The Case for Christ*.

In the short two months since its inception, the Lord has planted and sprouted this group through friendship and willingness from all to share of our life stories – the victories and the lows. Perhaps it's the potluck meal we share each week that brings the comfort to share as evidenced by the many laughs, hugs, and stories. God has already torn down walls, and we have invited each other into our lives. We are a small group of diverse backgrounds, age, and station in life, yet we are bonded together by a common denominator: we are drawn to grow together in Christ. Please join us in prayer that the Lord would continue to strengthen His church through fellowship and the breaking of bread together. It is encouraging to see our Holy Spirit light fires in our hearts as we surrender our lives to His direction. May God be praised through us now and forever!



Women's Ministry Calendar Items

Ladies' Bible Studies

Keep your heart with all vigilance for from it flows the spring of life. Proverbs 4:23

Mondays @ 7p

Esther

For more information or to sign-up, contact Jennifer Schumacher at
jschumacher@harveststlouis.org

Thursdays @ 10a

Come at 9:30am for fellowship, prayer, & praise!

Current study options:

After the Boxes are Unpacked

For those who have recently moved or are going through some other major life change. For more information or to sign-up, contact Debbie Breneman at dbreneman@harveststlouis.org

Breath: The Spirit of God in Us

A study by Beth Moore on the power of the Holy Spirit. For more information or to sign-up, contact Mary Jo Stralka at
marystralka@gmail.com

Women's Leadership Team Meeting

Sunday, April 7 | 12:00pm | Harvest Cafe

Interested in being involved in what's happening with Harvest Women? Join us after worship on April 7th in the Cafe for a light lunch meeting!

Coming soon!

Planning is happening now for the following Special Events for Harvest Women and your guests in 2019. We would love your input. Join the Special Events planning team by e-mailing dbreneman@harveststlouis.org.

Summer | Bible Study & Exercise Group
October 4-5 | Harvest Women Fall Retreat
December 7 | Harvest Women Christmas Luncheon

Harvest Women is GROWING!

Written by Debbie Breneman

The purpose of Harvest Women is to serve women of all ages in our church by providing opportunities for growth in their relationship with Christ through small groups, Bible studies, special events and retreats.

Our Harvest Women Leadership Team has been hard at work fulfilling our purpose by framing out ministry opportunities in each of the areas mentioned in our purpose statement above, such as women's small groups/Bible studies, special events and a retreat in the fall. To make this happen, it takes all of us. Don't hesitate – join us!

The measure of our success will be seen in the participation and GROWTH in the faith of our women. To that end, we are putting together a framework of ministry opportunities with the intent that, as much as we possibly can, we consider the situation and needs of all our women: single, married, moms, working outside of the home, retired, etc. Do any of these categories describe you? Is there another category I overlooked? Let me know!

Take a look at the studies and events listed in the side bar to the left and, if you aren't already involved, plan to give some a try. I can tell you that we would love to have you!

In addition to these studies and special events, we are also forming teams focused on Inreach/Caring ministry, Outreach/Sharing ministry, and Prayer ministry. In addition, we need some administrative team help with event coordination, publicity, social media....

Does any of this pique your interest? Please accept this invitation to join us at the leadership team meeting on April 7th in the Harvest Cafe. All women are welcome! Whether you have volunteered with any women's ministry before or would be brand new to it, come on! We need to hear from you. I truly believe we will better meet the needs of all of our women through the diversity of our team.

You are LOVED!

Next Steps

We all have needed or will need counsel at some point in our life. We generously offer an initial consultation for most directional and corrective issues free of charge. Contact Jennifer Schumacher for more information on receiving counsel or how to become a BSC Counselor.

Types of Issues we Help with:

- Addiction
- Anger
- Anxiety/Worry/Fear
- Cutting
- Depression
- Marriage conflict/issues
- Eating Disorders
- Much more...

Referrals Welcome

Biblical Soul Care is not just for our church members, it is open to anyone. Do you know someone outside of Harvest that may need Biblical guidance facing a trial? Refer them to us.

The Spring Will Come

Written by Jennifer Schumacher

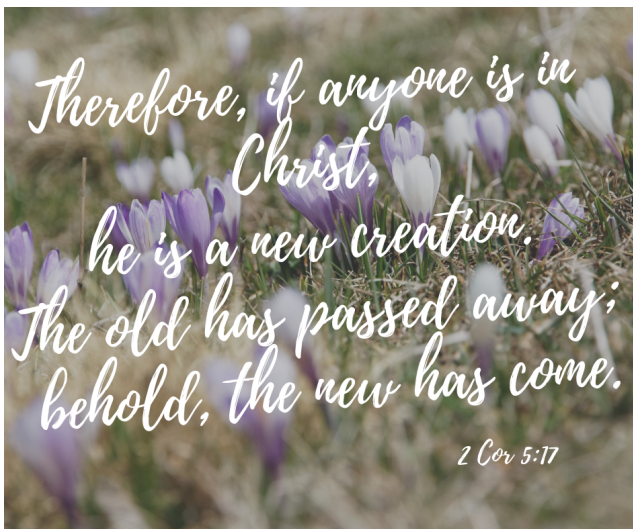
Praise God spring is here!

After a long cold winter, I am always amazed and joyful when the buds begin to pop open. Growing up in South Florida, I did not experience the 4 seasons. In Florida, it is always green – the trees never lose their leaves. I called it the ‘land of perpetual summer.’ It was late November when I moved to Virginia. When I arrived, the trees were already bare, and I found myself asking “Why are the trees dead?” Having ever experienced spring before, I did not have confidence that they would bloom again. Even though I left Florida 20 years ago, in the dead of winter, I can still forget spring will come.

My spiritual walk can feel like this. If all I see are dead trees, I can forget that there is life inside them waiting for the proper season to bloom (Psalm 1:3). If my focus is on my circumstances, all I will see is pain, despair, or fear, but if I set my mind on Christ, I will see Him working through it all. It says in Romans 8:6: “For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.” Oh, how I long for life and peace! Lord, may we all set our minds and hearts on You.

This Easter season, my focus will be on God’s promises and faithfulness (Joshua 21:45). I don’t think it was coincidence that Jesus was raised from the dead in the spring. I love how God uses the seasons to remind us of how He is always working even when we do not see it (Psalm 85:11-12). You may be still walking in the dead of winter, but if Christ is in you, there is life (Romans 6:11; Eph 2:5; Col 2:13) and the power to overcome all the trials of the world (John 16:33).

Spring has sprung, Christ is risen, death has no hold on us any longer!



Team Playground



We are going to take back the playground! It's time to beat back the weeds, lay down a double layer of landscaping fabric, and install playground wood chips to give our Harvest Kids a safe place to play. Pastor Michael will be leading a group of 5-6 people committed to taking back the playground.

Team Prayer Garden

Spring is in the air and it's time to spruce up the Prayer Garden with new mulch, trim back the bushes, and prune the roses. Shirley Green will be leading a team of 3-4 people with rakes and clippers, working to give us a quiet place of sanctuary to seek the Lord among the beauty He has created.

Upcoming Team Work Days

April 6 – All Church Day

April 13 – Back-up

May 11 – Team Work Day

Calling All God's People!

Written by Scott and Susan Reynolds

Come join us **Saturday, April 6** from 9 AM to 1 PM for our annual church clean up! There are sign-up sheets in the lobby for the six teams:

Team Beautification

Do you love the smell of fresh mulch as it is being spread in the flower beds? Or do you enjoy working with your hands in the garden to create beauty from the gray of winter? Then come join Susan Reynolds and her team as they put a new "face" on our building entrance area, trimming back the bushes, pulling out dead/dying plants, and spreading black forest mulch over the garden beds to "beautify" the church.

For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:9



Team Classroom

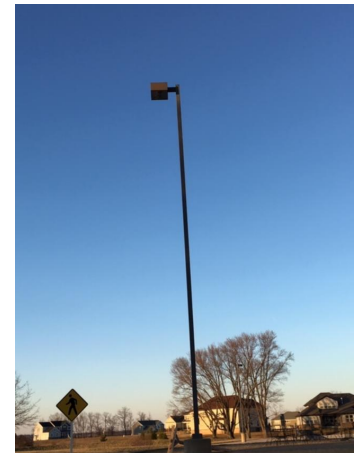
Are you a Harvest Kids teacher? Terri Shukri needs you on her team for a "deep-cleaning" of the kid's rooms.

Team Maintenance

Not afraid of heights? Want to learn how to use concrete? Join Scott Reynolds on the maintenance team as they replace the bulbs in the parking lot poles and the sanctuary can lights with a 50-foot boom. Help dig post holes and mix concrete to secure our parking lot signs. Know how to use a power saw? Help cut up and discard old damaged doors to free up storage space.

Team Sanctuary

Need an inside job? Dave Deane could use you on his team scrubbing and cleaning the sanctuary floor!



The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden to work it and take care of it.

Genesis 2:15

Stewardship Report

March 2019

	Actual	Budget
Week 1	1,105	9,475
Week 2	8,777	9,475
Week 3	9,473	9,475
Week 4	61,149	9,475
Week 5	6,418	9,475
Total	86,922	47,375

OUR FOUR PILLARS

1 UNAPOLOGETIC PROCLAMATION

Proclaiming the authority of God's Word without apology.
2 Timothy 4:2 | Hebrews 4:12

2 CHRIST-CENTERED WORSHIP

Lifting high the name of Jesus through worship.
John 4:24 | John 12:32

3 CONFIDENT PRAYER

Believing firmly in the power of prayer.
Ephesians 6:18 | Hebrews 4:16

4 FEARLESS SHARING

Sharing the good news of Jesus with boldness.
Ephesians 6:19 | Romans 1:16

OUR MISSION

The Church exists to glorify God through the fulfillment of the Great Commission, in the spirit of the Great Commandment.
Matthew 28:19-20; 22:37-39

OUR ELDERS

Michael Šust | Pastor

Mark Hohenstein | Elder Chairman

Lou Stralka | Elder

Mike Breneman | Elder

Theodore Brooks | Elder



17795 Wild Horse Creek Rd. | Chesterfield, MO 63005

HarvestSTLouis.org | 636.394.4444