

Rev. Drew Henderson



I'm here to help. My hope is that I can help the church recover from some of the struggles and disappointments of the last few years. I want to understand what makes Brookdale tick and where Brookdale gets tripped up.

Every church in the world has to be very intentional about its health and growth. At the center of that effort are the mandates to love God and love people. These great loves are the basis for all mission, discipleship, devotion, worship and evangelism.

I am intentionally spending time with former and currently active elders trying to get to know people, learn about the defining events and efforts of the last decade, enjoy people's testimonies and life stories, and see where the Gospel is at work. I am glad to meet with ANY church member that wants to share their experience or struggles.

The evaluation process is just the beginning of understanding the strengths and gifts of Brookdale. I hope that the time spent serving this congregation will give me specific insights and wisdom that will help the church move forward in strength and by God's grace, be renewed over time and find a lead pastor that will be a Kingdom fit for Brookdale, will be a blessing to the church, the community and give honor to the Gospel.

I know this work will be very difficult at times, but that is the nature of ministry in Jesus' name. But I have found and heard much encouragement and received generous help so far.

Going forward, please pray for my shepherding, teaching and care. Please pray for the whole congregation. Reach out to folks who have left and gently invite them to lunch or coffee and just see how they are doing. Let me know if I or one of the elders can help with those conversations. Be involved in other places in St. Joe. Break the ice with strangers. Be involved in ways to serve in the city. Tutor, mentor, volunteer, inside the church and outside. Pray for the people the Lord wants to bring in the doors.

Brookdale has a deep faith in God and His Gospel. It is firmly planted in your hearts and voices. It has long taken root and in this winter I pray God is getting Brookdale ready for the warmer months, resting us now and healing our hurts and disappointments, recovering and restoring everyone for a blooming, bold emergence in the Spring. Be reconciled to God and one another, make peace and ask the Lord how to be prepared for His revelation and renewal. Lord, guide us and keep us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



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Brookdale joined Makayla and kids to welcome back Liam Hancock from deployment. Liam met his 5 month old son for the first time.

On December 8th SALT sponsored a Christmas luncheon. 52 were in attendance and enjoyed food, music and games. We heard the St Joseph Christian School choir perform and played Christmas bingo during dessert. Our next event is in February to celebrate Valentines. Hope to see you there.



Sunday School News....

Two new Spring Sunday School Classes will start up on January 7th 2024!

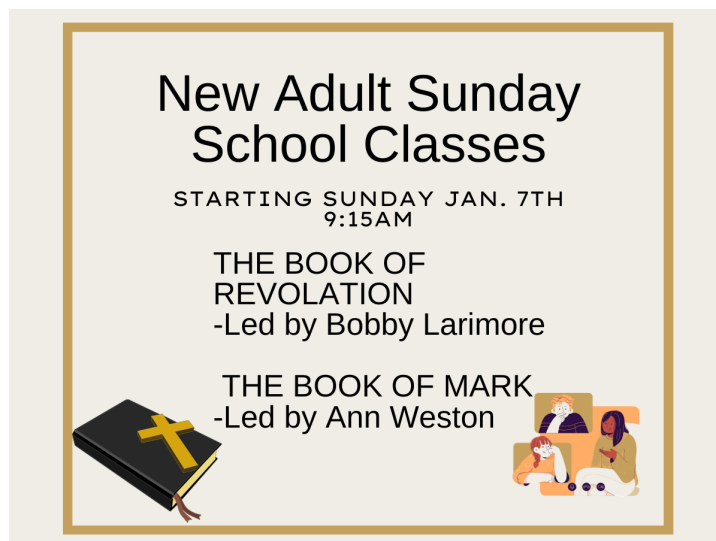
Bobby Larimore will be teaching Revelation

Come study Revelation with us. Together we'll experience God's holiness, power, and eternity. We'll worship his greatness by humbling ourselves, rejoicing in Him, and confessing His Son Jesus as our Savior and Lord. We'll search the text and find that our chief end and greatest blessing is to live for the praise of God and be able to say, with rejoicing in our hearts.

"Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!" - Revelation 4:8

Ann Weston will be teaching Mark

Let's study the book of Mark together, whether you are a longtime believer or a new believer. If you have a friend whom you would like to invite to a Sunday School class this class will be a basic Bible class. Some may say it's Bible 101. We'll read, discuss, and learn together.



Session Summary-December 2023

December giving has been strong so far and it is anticipated that we will finish the year ahead of expenses.

Session further discussed the feedback from the listening Sessions. Elders were assigned to work with Worship Team, Prayer Team, Spiritual Formation Team, Mission Team, and other ministry groups formulate action steps to take in light of the feedback.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 4, 2024. Session will organize the meal and the programming. Time to be determined.

Elders Jerry Zweerink and Ann Weston will represent Brookdale at the next Presbytery meeting to be held on January 26-27, 2024.

Terri Lansbury's membership was transferred to Ashland Method Church at her request.

The next Session meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2024.

Current Elders are Ron Bachman, David Bolander, Brent Colgan, Brandon Furlong, Jay McGhee, Donna Smith, Ann Weston, Scott Nelson and Jerry Zweerink.



Night of **Praise & Worship** **January 17th**
Dinner at 6:00pm
Worship at 7:00pm

\$5 Suggested Donation
 Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans

Brookdale Church
 301 S. 31st Street St. Joseph, MO 64501

Sign-up Sheet at the Welcome Center-Everyone welcome

Grieving the death of a spouse?
Or do you know someone who is?

Your life has changed forever. The daily emotions and challenges can seem too hard to bear.

Find help at a Loss of a Spouse seminar.

You'll hear:

- Practical advice from others who've been there.
- What to expect in your grief.
- How to cope with life without your spouse.
- Why it won't always hurt this much.

LOSS OF A SPOUSE

Please join us for this encouraging seminar.
 January 28, 2024 2-4pm



Brookdale Church
 203 S. 31st Street
 St. Joseph, MO 64501
 816.279.0983

Send Good News, Great Joy
samaritanspurse.org/occ

BROOKDALE CHURCH PACKED AND SENT 27 SHOEBOXES TO OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD!

THANK YOU BROOKDALE!



Brookdale came together to worship and adore the newborn King. Through our service of Lessons & Carols we expressed our gratitude for God's gift of His Son. The candlelight service gives a sense of unity and communion among believers. As each person holds a lit candle, they become part of a collective whole, representing the body of Christ. This unity reflects the message of Christmas - God's desire to reconcile humanity to Himself through Jesus Christ. Lighting candles during the service represents the arrival of Jesus, the Light of the world, into the darkness of our lives. It reminds us of the hope and joy that Christ's birth brings.

God With Us (Emmanuel) - Skit and Music

On Sunday, December 17th, 17 choir members, 6 actors, 4 instrumentalists, 1 pastor, 2 sound techs and the whole congregation put together a wonderful Christmas performance. Earlier that morning I wasn't sure how all the pieces would come together, but I was certain it would. God is good. The kids performed their skit and reminded us how we think we know the story of Christmas, but do we really? As they worked out what Christmas was all about the skit at the dining room table transformed into the Christmas play the pastor asked them to write. Once the song began, we were all reminded of the promise that, God is with us. The last song was beautiful with the choir singing Peace, Peace and the congregation singing Silent Night. Church ended with a benediction offering peace, what a perfect way to end our service.



Youth Christmas Party

This is what a night of crazy fun looks like at youth group. First, we went out for pizza then back to the church for a massive game of Romans vs Christians and a talk about the nativity. I don't know if you know this or not, but our church is set up perfectly for this game. Trying to describe it on paper just won't work, but trust me, it's a blast. After 2 games, we talked about each person or object in the nativity. The symbols don't just represent something that maybe happened 2,000 years ago, it really happened. Jesus was born, angels announced it, wise men did seek him and it all happened in a manger because there wasn't room in the inn. It's about God sending His son to rescue us and that without this Christmas Story, we would be wondering about lost. But fortunately, that star did light the sky to show us the one true king, the one who saved us from our sins, then and now.



The Students praying before their performance.



January Birthdays

5–Gracie Dean
 7–Sharon Patton
 8–Paige Funk
 9–Missie Mulvaney
 10–David Bryant
 14–Gayle Sollars,
 Kelly Wyble,
 Jennie Schwabe,
 Mitzi Hargis
 16–Merrill Schaffer

22–Dan Bryant
 23--Otis Burnham
 24–Kevin Poggemiller, Linda Taylor
 29–Jim Thompson, Richard Dean
 30–Phillip Walley, Patti Jones
 31–Mark Sonnenmoser, Dick Stanton

February

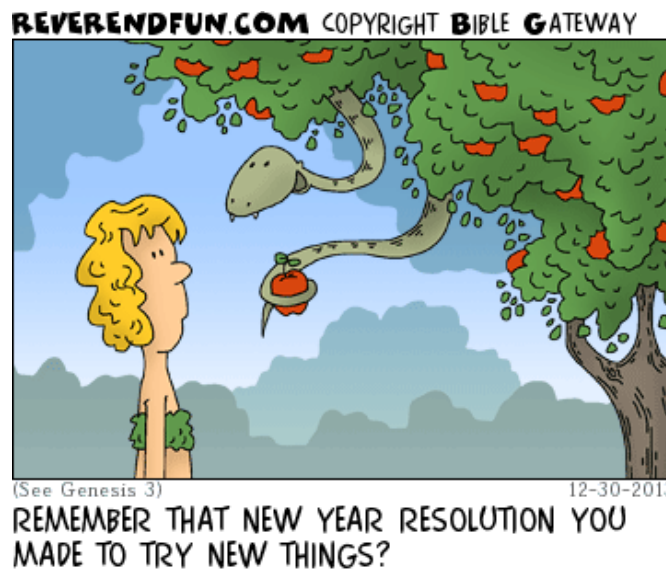
1–Ella Bryant
 5–Don Weston


Thank you notes....

Brookdale Church-Thank you so much for your prayers during Dad’s passing. We appreciate the snacks that were provided during the visitation, and the lovely flower arrangement was very thoughtful. Thank you, Beth and Matt Martz and family

Dear Brookdale Family– Thank you for all who reached out during the time of my Mother’s passing. It has been a “Season” full of all that life offers: the celebration of a wonderful life that so impacted me and many others, and also the support during my new hubby’s surgery. God has surrounded me with wonderful friends. Thank you, Nancy Savely-Grier

Thank you so much for providing the Thanksgiving feast boxes to some of our students! It was greatly appreciated!-Mark Twain ELC



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 6:30 Deacons	3 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible St. SA:T / 1:30pm	4	5 6:30 Mens Bible Study	6 10:00 Dance Fit
7 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship/ Communion 6:30 Youth	8 10:00am Women's Bible Study 5:15 Finance	9 6:30 Men's Ministry 6:00 Trustees	10 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 10:00 Women's Bible St. 11:00 Daytimers 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bible Study	11 9:15 BSF	12 6:30 Mens Bible Study 2:00 Book Club at Doris Wykcoff's house	13 10:00 Dance Fit
14 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth	15 10:00am Women's Bible Study	16 5:30 Personnel 5:30 Dance Fit 6:30 Session	17 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 1:30 SALT 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Worship/Prayer Night	18 Haven House Food Kitchen 9:15 BSF	19 6:30 Men's Bible Study	20 10:00 Dance Fit
21 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 6:30 Youth	22 10:00am Women's Bible Study	23 5:30 Dance Fit	24 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 11:00 Daytimers 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bible Study	25 9:15 BSF	26 6:30 Men's Bible study	27 10:00 Dance Fit
28 9:15 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 2-4pm Loss of Spouse/ Griefshare 6:30 Youth	29 10:00am Women's Bible Study	30 5:30 Dance Fit	31 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 5:30 Dance Fit 6:00 Women's Bible Study			



203 South 31st Street
St. Joseph, MO 64501

Return Service Requested



*Brookdale Church is called to
bring the beauty of the Gospel
to the brokenness of life.*



*NEW YEAR!
START NEW WITH US!
BROOKDALE CHURCH*

NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
STARTING JANUARY 7TH
9:15AM
STUDY THE BOOK OF MARK
OR
THE BOOK OF REVELATION

WORSHIP
10:30AM
OR LIVE STREAM
ON
OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE

*We see Brookdale as a place where people
can struggle honestly, experience grace, and
discover how the beauty of the gospel can
transform every area of their lives.*

**301 S. 31ST STREET
ST. JOSEPH MO**