



# THE STEEPLE

A Publication of St. Paul United Methodist Church  
of Rosewood Heights, Illinois



**SEPTEMBER 2014**

*<sup>5</sup> I remember your genuine faith, for you share the faith that first filled your grandmother Lois and your mother, Eunice. And I know that same faith continues strong in you. <sup>6</sup> This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. <sup>7</sup> For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. <sup>8</sup> So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either, even though I'm in prison for him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News."*

**2 Timothy 1:5-8**

In our sermons, our prayers and our hymns, God the Father and Jesus the Son are often mentioned. Far rarer is the mention of the Holy Spirit. It is almost as most churches have decided that if you want to talk about the Holy Spirit you need to go to a Pentecostal Church.

Our summer sermon series revealed that the primary actor in the early church wasn't Stephen, Paul, Peter, Philip, John, or Lydia. Oh, they all had an important role in the formation and spreading of the faith. However, the primary actor is the Holy Spirit. Until the Holy Spirit arrives the followers of Jesus are hopeless and hapless. Afterwards, they are filled with a holy boldness.

The Spirit fills their preaching. The Spirit directs where they go. The Spirit expands their mission from the Jews to the Gentiles. The Spirit gives them power. The Spirit kick starts the Church and fills all those who are baptized. Without the presence of the Holy Spirit, not much would happen in the Book of Acts.

That is why Luke repeats the command of Jesus in the first few verses of his book: *"Once when he [Jesus] was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." Acts 1* Jesus wanted his followers to hang around and wait for the Holy Spirit because without it they could not complete their mission.

In his instructions to Timothy, Paul underlines how crucial the Holy Spirit is to the beginning and sustaining of faith and ministry. Only with the Holy Spirit roaring like a bonfire may Timothy carry on Paul's ministry. All of us are here at St. Paul not by our own virtue, but because when the Holy Spirit nudged us we moved forward to be baptized. And, when the Holy Spirit entered where only sin dwelt before in our lives, we found the courage and the power to do the task that the Spirit placed before us.

We cannot be all that Jesus wants us to be and do all that we are meant to do without the presence, guidance and power of the Holy Spirit. That in a nutshell is the message of our next sermon series, *When God's Spirit Moves*, which begins Sunday, September 21st. I hope to see you in worship on the 21st at either 8:15 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. with a friend whom you have invited! Pastor Daryl

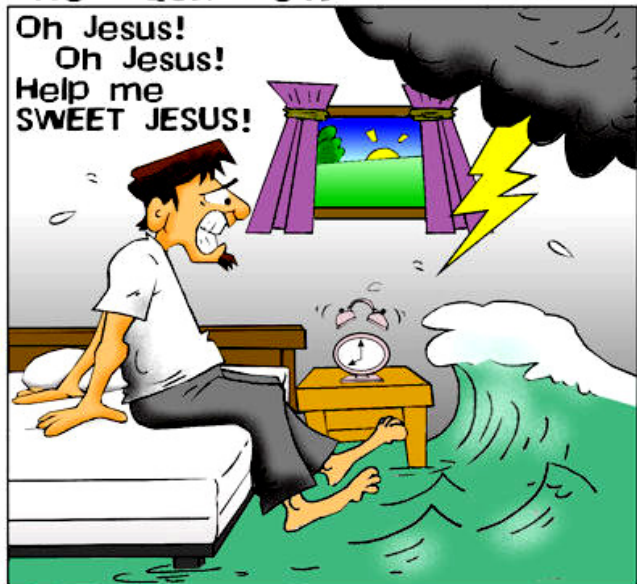


## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- We welcome home **Caleb Betts** and pray that his surgery in Minnesota will continue to diminish his pain and improve his quality of life. We all love you Caleb.
- **Butch McGill**, Rosewood Heights fireman and a friend to many people, came home from Barnes. We pray for the strength he needs to get through the therapy that awaits him.
- Congratulations to **Darin Sheary & Beret Vukson** who were united in marriage at St. Paul on August 30th. Our prayer is that their home will always be a place of blessing and peace where Christ is at the center.
- Thanks to **CRAVE** who provided gift baskets for the bride and groom (Vukson & Sheary). The newly married couple appreciated the thoughtfulness on their special day.
- We extend our deepest sympathy and our prayers to those who lost loved ones recently. To the family of **Leota Meisenheimer**, cousin of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; to the family of **Wanda Hendrix**, friend of Jamie Keith; to the family of **Michael Brown** from Ferguson, MO; to the family of **Frances "Herbie" O'Connell**, friend of the Fanslers; to the family of **Chance Phillips**, best friend of Devin Caldwell; and to the family & friends of **Rudy Papa**, a dedicated community leader for so many years. May God comfort all in this time of loss.

### The Back Pew - Jeff Larson

Oh Jesus!  
Oh Jesus!  
Help me  
SWEET JESUS!



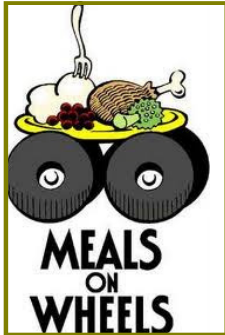
For those mornings when getting out of bed is as terrifying as walking on water, the answer is still Jesus. **|| Timothy 1:7; Psalms 23**





# THANK YOU

→ *Thank yous are saved throughout the month and included in the next month's newsletter.*



**THANK YOU:** We had a great group of volunteers from St. Paul who delivered meals in the Wood River/Roxana area during the month of August. This marks the **29th year** that St. Paul has been involved in the Meals On Wheels program. Through

this important community outreach effort, meals are provided for individuals who need a little extra help. We extend a great big thank you to our volunteer: *Spencer & Debbie Bacus; Cherie & Dave Buatte; Carleen Balzraine; Sherry & Joe Huff; Donna Redden; Pat Colclasure; Anita Dawson; John Hendricks; Larry Bryan; Terry Sitze; Harvey Birmingham; Phyllis Hill (and grandkids Olivia Gebhardt - 11, Luke Gebhardt - 8); and Barb Smith.* Thank you also to our willing and ready extras: *Norma Shaffer and Joan & Phill Ford.* If anyone is interested in delivering meals **ANY TIME** during the year, there is always a need for volunteers. Contact Harvey Birmingham (377-7957) or Larry Bryan (210-7548) for more information.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you so much for your generous donation of school supplies! I wish you could all see the happy little faces of the students getting their new school supplies (not to mention the relief on their parent's faces)! **Jim & Cary or Central Elementary in Roxana**

**THANK YOU:** I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude on behalf of the students and staff of South Roxana Elementary School for your generous donations. The beginning of the school year is always filled with excitement and anticipation. Your service and willingness to assist our students with school supplies has been greatly appreciated. The relationship between school and community is essential in developing a culture of learning for our young students. With gratitude, **Ryan Tusek, Principal**

**THANK YOU:** The family of Doris Lamparter (mother of Mike Link) would like to thank the church family for all of your prayers, cards, calls, and support during this time. We are stronger because of it. May God bless you as you have blessed us.

**The Mike Link family**

**THANK YOU:** Thanks to all who helped give our SS room a facelift. To *Scott, Jamie, & Jake Gwaltney, Lindsey Rader, Betsy Blacklock, Meg & Daryl Fansler* for painting. To the Trustees for paying for the carpet to be cleaned. To the "anonymous" donor for organizational supplies, and to *Iris Uzzell, Connie Hickerson, Jean Kainz, Betsy Blacklock, Lindsey Rader, Ryan Tite, & Joy Miller* for clearing out and putting back together the room. Ryan Tite has a future as an organizer if this accounting thing doesn't work. **Deb Fansler & the Helping Hands SS Class**

**THANK YOU:** The **family of Bill Crews** would like to thank Pastor Daryl and all of the church family for the many ways you have showed your love and support during our recent loss. May God Bless you all!

**THANK YOU:** Thank you so much for your welcoming & hospitality during my morning at St. Paul! I so enjoyed worshipping with you all and your welcoming nature as a church makes me feel at home every time I get to visit. In Christ's strength, **Dani Wilson**





## Sundays at St. Paul in SEPTEMBER 8:15 & 10:30 A.M. Services



The 8:15 a.m. worship service is held in the amphitheater in the park **through SEPTEMBER 14**. Wear casual clothes and bring your lawn chair. Tailgate At Eight Fellowship with coffee, juice, and snacks is at 8 p.m. In case of rain, the service is held in the sanctuary. The 10:30 a.m. service is always held in the sanctuary. **“More Jesus Time” for Pre-school - 5th grade and Nursery is provided for the 10:30 a.m. service.**

**7** 13th Sunday after Pentecost. Communion Celebrated. Blessing of Children at 10:30 a.m. Today Pastor Daryl preaches on *I Love My Church*. The sermon is intended to spark your thinking on what you love about St. Paul so you may share those feelings with others as you invite them to worship on Sept. 21. During the 10:30 a.m. service, we bless those children who have returned to school.



**14** 14th Sunday after Pentecost. Birthday Sunday. Last Outdoor Service. Special speaker, Dan Nickel, will bring today’s message.



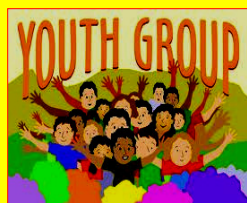
**21** 15th Sunday after Pentecost. National Back to Church Sunday. **Who are you inviting to join you in worship?** Pastor Daryl starts a new sermon series, *When God’s Spirit Moves*, based upon Jim Cymbala’s book, *Spirit Rising*. Small group studies will be available for those who wish to delve deeper into each Sunday’s themes.

**28** 16th Sunday after Pentecost. Pastor Daryl continues the sermon series, *When God’s Spirit Moves*, based upon Jim Cymbala’s book, *Spirit Rising*. Small group studies will be available for those who wish to delve deeper into each Sunday’s themes.

## SEPTEMBER - Church of Rock (COR) Youth News

Psalm 136:26 - "Give thanks to the God of heaven, for His steadfast love endures forever."

The Youth meet at **StPUMC** every Sunday in September @6:30 p.m.!



Contact Kevin Rader at (618) 303-0044 for more info!

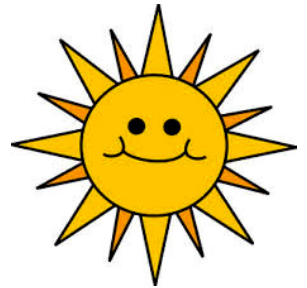
## She needs to retire...

Joyce Tappy needs to retire from the task of decorating the bulletin boards. Is this a ministry that you would like to do? Joyce will help you get started and show you where all the bulletin board supplies and cut-outs are kept. Please, pray about this and call the office if you are interested!



**Nurses Notes for SEPTEMBER 2014 from Parish Nurse, Eileen!**

*"Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well." 3 John 1:2 (NIV)*



It's official- we must soon get ready to say goodbye to Summer 2014. A season that was filled with BBQ's, church picnics and outdoor services, vacations, summer breaks for the kiddos, and Cardinal baseball games. Some parents have become empty nesters as they send off a child to college (sigh). I on the other hand, have one more year left, and am determined to thoroughly enjoy the time with my senior guy, Jonathan! Still, I say yay, autumn is near! No more sandals- or worrying about pedicures and shaved legs! (Sorry gentlemen, it's a girl thing!) I am ready for sweaters and scarves and a chilly autumn breeze! But for those of you who will mourn the end of the season and try to cram in some more summer fun, here are a few things to think about!

It's really hot out there! We all like the sunshine but we need to stay safe. Consider the following:

- Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States.
- In 2010 (most recent stats available) over 61,000 people in the U.S. were diagnosed with melanomas of the skin and over 9,000 of those people died from the disease.
- The most preventable cause of skin cancer is exposure to UV light either from the direct sun or artificial tanning beds.

**The Basics:** The two most common forms of cancer are basal cell and squamous cell carcinomas. They are highly curable if caught and treated early. The third most common is melanoma- it is the most dangerous and causes the most deaths

**UV/Ultraviolet light:** an invisible kind of radiation that comes from the sun, tanning beds, and sunlamps. UV rays penetrate the skin and can change the skin cells.

**UVA:** the most common kind of sunlight at the earth's surface. UVA can damage connective tissue and increase the risk of skin cancer.

**UVB:** Most is absorbed by the ozone layer. These rays help produce vitamin D in the skin and don't reach as far into the skin, but can still cause some damage. (We can get the Vitamin D we need from food!)

Excessive exposure to UV rays can cause sunburns, change skin texture, cause the skin to age prematurely, and lead to skin cancer. UV rays are also linked to cataracts.

**UV Index:** The National Weather Service and the EPA developed the UV Index to forecast risk of sun exposure. The UV Index predicts exposure on a scale of 1-15, and takes into consideration cloud cover and other local conditions.

When UV rays reach the skin (from sun exposure or tanning beds) the skin produces more melanin. Melanin is the pigment that colors the skin. It moves towards the outer layers in an effort to protect the skin- and this is what you see as a tan.

**A tan does not indicate good health!** It is the body's response to an injury. The skin cells have signaled that they are being damaged. People burn or tan depending on their skin type and how long they have been exposed to the UV rays. Have dark skin? The sun's rays still penetrate deeply into dark skin and cause damage too.

**Symptoms:** A change in the skin is the most common sign of possible skin cancer. A new growth, a sore that doesn't heal or a change in a mole are some others. Remember the ABC's of skin cancer:

- A- Asymmetry:** One half of the mole does not match the other half
- B- Border irregularity:** The edges of the mole are irregular, ragged, blurred or notched.
- C- Color:** The color over the mole is not the same all over. There may be shades of tan, brown, or black.
- D- Diameter:** The mole is larger than about ¼ inch – about the size of a pencil eraser; although, doctors are now finding more melanomas that are smaller.

If you find a worrisome change in your skin you should report it to your doctor. Alton Memorial Hospital also offers skin screenings the second Wednesday of each month at the Cancer Center. The screening is free; you need only call 800-392-0936 for an appointment. They do fill up fast! The next screening will be September 10th.

Please check the church bulletin boards for more information concerning sunscreens, myths about tanning, and the Surgeon General's call to action to prevent skin cancer. I will also have the UV Index posted. If you have other questions you can always stop by during office hours and I will try to get you an answer.

Enjoy what is left of this summer season- but stay safe in the sun! Have a great Labor Day weekend.

Following Him-  
Eileen

Sources: Mayo Clinic, CDC, American Melanoma Foundation, National Cancer Institute, U.S. Cancer Statistics, 1999-2010, Atlanta, GA.

*Before me, even as behind, God is, and all is well. ~ John Greenleaf Whittier*



# SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

*"Before you were born, I set you apart for a special work!"*

September 02 Nelson, Ron  
 September 02 Ortegren, Jenni  
 September 03 Poston, Al  
 September 04 Croxford, Rod  
 September 04 Hamilton, George  
 September 04 Buatte, Cherie  
 September 04 Hendricks, John  
 September 05 Newingham, Damian  
 September 06 Henderson, Jason  
 September 06 Gowan, Josh  
 September 06 Tite, Ryan  
 September 07 Dawson, Jim  
 September 07 Bell, Kamryn  
 September 08 Bottorff, Justin  
 September 09 Hansard, Angie  
 September 09 Poston, Matthew  
 September 09 Oertle, Liam  
 September 10 Scroggins, Christy  
 September 10 Birmingham, Jake  
 September 10 Plummer, Zeld  
 September 11 Bunt, Don Sr.  
 September 11 Schuerman, Steve  
 September 11 Schuerman, Judy  
 September 11 Ortegren, Marc  
 September 12 Badman, David  
 September 13 Link, Kathy

September 13 Atchley, Tamara  
 September 13 Cameron, Susan  
 September 14 Bunt, Dan  
 September 14 Herndon, Kiley  
 September 16 Cameron, Jerry  
 September 16 Redden, Dick  
 September 16 Skjerseth, Jeff  
 September 17 Greer, Jeff  
 September 17 Weigler, Nic  
 September 18 Scroggins, Linda  
 September 18 Greer, Christian  
 September 19 Lewis, Bettie  
 September 19 Skjerseth, Paul  
 September 20 Buatte, David  
 September 20 Boeshans, Blake  
 September 21 Gimmy, Marcella  
 September 21 Wilson, Dani  
 September 22 Warner, Carol  
 September 22 Herndon, Neil  
 September 23 Gowan, Harvey  
 September 23 Allhouse, Baylee

September 24 Bunt, Tim  
 September 24 Greer, Kellie  
 September 24 Betts, Tanner  
 September 25 Fox, Kenneth  
 September 25 Tite, Phil  
 September 25 Schlemer, Hayley  
 September 26 Williams, Jan  
 September 26 Tite, Debbie  
 September 26 Blacklock, Bob  
 September 26 Poore, Ashley  
 September 26 Laufersweiler, Sarah  
 September 26 Roberts, Lily  
 September 27 Hutchens, Joyce  
 September 27 Inman, Sharon  
 September 27 Chester, Becky  
 September 27 Betts, David  
 September 29 Martin, Kara  
 September 29 Tite, Steven  
 September 29 Brown, Jordan



# SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 02 Henderson, Jason & Gretchen  
 September 04 Fansler, Daryl & Debra  
 September 06 Mayer, Jason & Lindsey  
 September 13 Tite, Phil & Debbie  
 September 14 Cloninger, Wayne & Sue  
 September 15 Rader, Kevin & Lindsey  
 September 17 Cameron, Chris & Susan  
 September 18 Cameron, Jerry & Cathy  
 September 18 Dona, Ben & Jamie



September 19 Crandall, Cory & Caroline  
 September 20 Clark, Bryan & Katie  
 September 20 Eggebrecht, Ross & Debbie  
 September 26 Ford, Don Sr. & Diane  
 September 26 Cincoski, Ryan & Savannah  
 September 27 Parker, Ryan & Megan  
 September 28 Moore, Ben & Beulah  
 September 28 Bottorff, Mike & Priscilla  
 September 29 Clark, Gary & Shirley

**Church Directories are available from the Church office!**

**Changes/Additions:** Steve & Judy Schuerman 9694 Hampton Circle N., Indianapolis, IN 46256; Gary & Julie Brown 1803 W. Delmar Avenue, Godfrey, IL 62035, (618) 466-9698; Tom Caldwell 7092 S. Outer Road 364, Apt. 140, O'Fallon, MO 63368.

**If you are going to move soon, give the church office advance notice of your new address. Also, remember to update us on your new phone number. Thank you!**



 **Monthly Loose Change Project!**  
**(loose coins in offering plate)**

**September's Loose Change Project** is Trinity United Methodist Church in East St. Louis/Washington Park. The ministry of the church has expanded to provide worship services, Vacation Bible School, and a food pantry to the growing Hispanic Community. The need is greater than the resources of the local church which is why we help. There is a dedicated membership and a strong youth program at both sites. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

**DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2014 STEEPLE, Fri., SEPTEMBER 19th!**

**AUGUST Stewardship**

<b>Budget Offering:</b>	through 8/31/2014	<b>\$20559.00</b>
<b>Designated Giving:</b>	through 8/31/2014	<b>\$1349.50</b>
	Capital Improvements	335.00
	Loose Change	156.50
	Flowers	73.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	115.00
	Memorials	300.00
	Awakening Service	100.00
	Youth	20.00
	Gas & Electricity	100.00
	Charles McKnelly	100.00
	UMCOR	50.00
<b>Church Mutual Rebate</b>		<b>394.00</b>
<b>Wedding Fee (Vukson)</b>		<b>225.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$22527.50</b>

**SEPTEMBER Ushers (10:30):**

- Sep. 7: Deb Fansler, Tracy Franks, Dorothy Kasinger
- Sep. 14: → **USHERS NEEDED!**
- Sep. 21: → **USHERS NEEDED!**
- Sep. 28: Debbie & Ryan Tite, Janet Hughes, Lindsey Rader

**Please Call the Head Usher if you will help!**

**SEPTEMBER Head Usher:**  
**TRACY FRANKS/JOE HUFF**

**Average Attendance for AUGUST 2014**

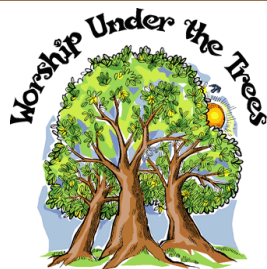
Early Service	66
Late Service	62
Sunday School	44
Visitors	8



**INSTALLATION:**

The new District Superintendent, Rev. Roger Grimmatt, will be officially installed on Sunday, Sept. 7th at 3:00 p.m. at Union UMC in Belleville. Bishop Keaton will be present at the installation.





# WORSHIP UNDER THE TREES ON SUNDAYS IN THE CHURCH AMPHITHEATER

8:15 a.m.

Through **SEPTEMBER 14th**

Pastor Daryl will be preaching a series on the sermons in the **Book of Acts**



# TAILGATE FELLOWSHIP AT 8 A.M.

(In case of rain, service is held in the sanctuary! 10:30 a.m. service is held in the sanctuary.)

# WORSHIP

## TOGETHER



We will celebrate together as a church in one worship service on **Sunday, Oct. 19 at 10 a.m.** Roger Grimmett, our new District Superintendent, will be present in worship and after worship will lead a Charge Conference to consider a motion to approve hiring Rev. Ted Frost and the Conference Foundation to conduct a feasibility study for a major Capital Funds Drive. You will receive information from the Board of Trustees explaining our capital needs at St. Paul.

***We invite you to join us for this special service.***

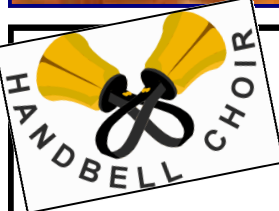
**Bowlers are needed** for the St. Paul Bowling team. We bowl on Monday nights at 6:30 p.m. at Bowl Haven in the Mixed Church League. Teams consist of 4 bowlers who rotate weeks so we can accommodate people working shift work, etc. It is a lot of fun and good exercise. Please, contact **Mark Mayer @377-6463** or **Dot Aitken @377-6494** if you are interested!



# Prayer gathering



Watch for the "Prayer Focus" displayed on the bulletin board inside the door off the back parking lot and the one alongside of the Pastor's Office.



**IT IS TIME TO BEGIN HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE!**

**PRACTICE WILL BEGIN ON WED., SEPTEMBER 10TH AT 6:30 P.M.**





We say  
goodbye to  
our dear  
friend...

**Billy Vernon Crews**, 84, passed away 9:18 p.m. Wednesday, August 27, 2014, peacefully, surrounded by his family at his residence.

Born in Wood River on April 21, 1930, he was the son of William Crews and Minnie (Hamilton) Crews-Gimmeson.

A U.S. Air Force veteran, he worked 30 years as a mold maker for Owens-IL Glass, then became an AFL-CIO Community Service Representative for the United Way. He was later elected President of the Riverbend Growth Association and served until he retired. He was a member of the Mold Makers Union and an active member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Rosewood Heights. On April 10, 1954, in Wood River, he married the former Shirley Calvin. She survives.

Surviving also are a daughter, Tracy (Tom) Scoggins of Rosewood Heights; son, Greg (Kathleen) Crews of Bethalto; four grandchildren, Jessica (Brent) Springer, Jacob Crews, Miranda Scoggins, Leland Scoggins; great-grandchild, Kansas Scoggins; two sisters, Maxine Burns of Waynesville, MO, Norma (Floyd) Dean of Oklahoma; and several nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents; stepfather, Frank Gimmeson; grandson, Zachary Crews; and two sisters, Ruth Dreisbach and Velma Hutte.

As I reflected upon Bill Crews' life, the verse from Proverbs popped into my mind. Faithfulness captured for me what Bill Crews was all about. Here is a portion of what I shared at his Memorial Service.

*"Many a man proclaims his own loving-kindness and goodness, but a faithful man who can find?" Proverbs 20:6 AMP*

Bill Crews was not one to proclaim his own loving-kindness and goodness, but rather one who faithfully lived it. He served as an embodiment of this proverb. Indeed, what makes today so very difficult is that he would have been the one to guide us through this valley of life as he had done so many times before. He would have been the one to sit beside Shirley and comfort her, the one to be a steady presence for his children Tracy and Greg, and the one who was a fountain of encouragement for his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Bill Crews did not proclaim his own loving-kindness and goodness because he was aware of his shortcomings. He knew he wasn't perfect. However, Bill also knew that his sins were forgiven. He came to church--not to show how good he was--but to proclaim how great God is. Every day Bill experienced new examples of God's loving-kindness and goodness.

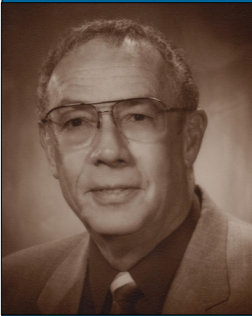
When I think of Bill, these words from Lamentations 3:21-25 spring to mind: *"But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him."*

Bill was one who was ever seeking that closer relationship with his Lord, so more and more mercy would pour into his life.

I want you to think about this. All those words we have used in our mind to describe Bill were the result of his faithfulness. He was there for us; especially when we needed him. A faithful man like Bill is so very precious.

Bill's faithfulness in worship points us to a God who promises to never abandon us, but to be there for us. A God who promises to walk with us even through the valley of the shadow of death. A God who promises that even though Bill has died; yet he lives. Bill lives not just in our memories, but with the God who he loved. And, with all those who he loved and have gone on before him to God's house.

*Continued on Page 12*





open hearts  
open minds  
open doors



**ST PAUL**  
united methodist church

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/171020936311281/>

**Who are we?**

We are young adults with a passion for living, a passion for learning, and a passion for loving Christ! We CRAVE knowledge that helps us live more like Christ, we CRAVE a life filled with Christ's love, and we CRAVE fellowship with others that CRAVE the same. **Do you feel like something is missing from your life?** We invite you to join us as we feed the craving to learn more and build a stronger relationship with Christ! Young adults – 18 yrs old to 30s.

**CRAVE ACTIVITIES SUMMER SCHEDULE -  
JUNE 9 - SEPT 7**

**CRAVE McBible Study**

Mondays - 7 p.m. at Wood River McDonald's

**CRAVE Connections**

Sundays - 9:15 a.m. upstairs in CRAVE Room

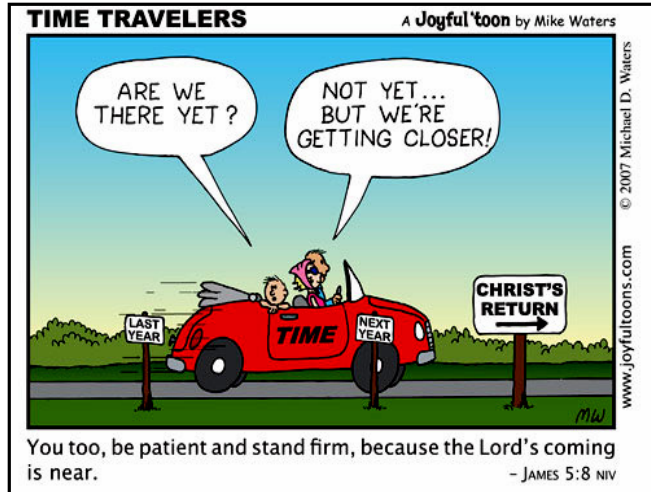
**Service -**

Water At the Ballparks

**Special Events -**

CRAVE Sunset Service: (TBA) 7:45 p.m.

CRAVE Facilitator - Betsy Blacklock 618.250.3858  
[betsy.healingimages@yahoo.com](mailto:betsy.healingimages@yahoo.com)





We say  
goodbye to  
our dear  
friend...



**Wilford "Leon" Davis**, 84, went to be with the Lord, 10:27 a.m. Wednesday, August 6, 2014 at his home with his family by his side, under the care of St. Anthony's Hospice.

He was born on February 6, 1930 in Hartford, IL, the son of the late Ray O. & Mable R. (Jones) Davis. He married Ola V. "Sally" (Hosford) Davis on June 7, 1952, enjoying 52 years of marriage. She preceded him in death in on December 16, 2004. He then married Betty J. (Elledge) Campbell on May 15, 2011 at St. Paul United Methodist Church in Rosewood Heights. She survives.

Leon served his country in the United States Army serving in Germany and recalled during the Korean Conflict. He was employed at Olin Corp. for 30 years, retiring in 1990 as the superintendent of maintenance. He attended St. Paul United Methodist Church in Rosewood Heights. Leon was a life member of the Alton VFW Post 1308 where he serviced as a Sr. Vice Commander of the Club, Alton Eagles # 254, and the Wood River Masonic Lodge # 1062. He enjoyed his family, traveling, reading, wood working where he loved to do projects, spending time with his fellow veterans from the VFW 1308, and later in life taking walks with Betty.

He is survived by his wife Betty, eight children and their spouses, Dan & Tammy Davis of Godfrey, Barbara Durr of FL, Terri Schulte of Springfield, MO, Don & Susan Campbell of Chesterfield, MO, Phil Campbell of Bethalto, Steve & Sarah Campbell of Wood River, Brad & Mary Campbell of Collinsville, and Lori & Bill Davis of Branson, MO; seventeen grandchildren, Justin Ford, Lindsay and Chris Schulte, Tyler Durr, Lauren and Alex Davis, Nicole, Marisa, Ashley, Ryan, Taylor, Luke, Carly, Thomas, and Nathan Campbell, and Hunter and Sterling Davis, and six great grandchildren.

In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by a son, Jeff Campbell and his sister, Annita McCain.

*<sup>6</sup>As for me, my life has already been poured out as an offering to God. The time of my death is near. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful. <sup>8</sup>And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing. 2 Timothy 4*



One Sunday Leon asked if he could speak to the congregation. I said: Sure. Leon shared with us that his cancer had returned but he was going to fight it with everything he possessed. He said that when you are out on patrol, you keep your eyes trained ahead confident that your fellow soldiers have your back. Leon stated that he wasn't afraid because he knew that God had his back. We all assured Leon that we would surround him and Betty with prayer. And, I know Leon has been in all our prayers since that day.

We prayed that Leon would beat the odds and be healed. Still, the cancer overwhelmed him and he died. Some might wonder how this could happen since God had his back. I'll be honest. I'm not God. I don't know why this person is restored to health while another one isn't. This I do know. Leon's death doesn't mean that God took his eyes off his back.

Paul has chosen Timothy to carry on his ministry. He writes two letters filled with advice to young Timothy. He is in prison so he can't be there in person to train Timothy. Paul has survived shipwrecks, beatings, earthquakes, and attacks by wild beasts, but he knows the end is near for him. He has no regrets. He has lived life fully and faithfully. **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, and I have remained faithful.**

Paul isn't giving up because the best is yet to come: the prize that awaits the winner at the end of the race. Paul is a sports junkie because he is referring to the footraces that many had participated in and all had seen. They would put the prize--usually a garland of olive branches--at the finish line as an inspiration for every runner to put forth maximum effort.

Instead of a garland of olive branches, there is a crown of righteousness awaiting us at the finish line. And, the Lord himself will place that crown upon our head. Now, this race is different because there isn't just one winner but many. In fact, all who confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, who receive his grace and eagerly look forward to his return...all these will receive a crown. No one will be left out.

*Continued on Page 12*





**TO:** Seniors (70 & over in 2014) of St. Paul UMC

**WHAT:** A Luncheon and Celebration of You!

**WHERE:** St. Paul UMC, Fellowship Hall

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 16, 2014

**TIME:** 12:00 p.m. (NOON)

## 4TH SENIOR LUNCHEON

Won't you plan to join us for the 4th annual senior luncheon catered by Chef Bob and served in your honor! Included will be time for fellowship & fun. The fun will be music presented by Rich Cullen, a one-man band who has played at numerous venues over the years providing easy listening music, Big Band tunes, Broadway tunes, etc. Bring your spouse, a family member, or a friend; an appetite; and a smile to have a great time! We would love to know that you will be coming and who you might bring. Please call Lois at the **church office, 259-5210**, or **Debbie Tite, 377-8504**, by *Monday, Oct. 13th* to make a reservation. Arrangements for **door-to-door service or valet parking** are just a phone call away because we want you to be here!

Let us, with God's help, bless you with food, fellowship, & friendship on October 16th!

Invitations will be mailed in the next few weeks. We look forward to seeing you!



### *Bill Crews Continued from Page 9*

Finally, Bill's faithfulness in worship has given us this church. Not this building, but the people. The people who pray for us, who weep with us, who surround us with loving arms. The people who will be there for us today and tomorrow. These are just a few of God's mercies that pour into our lives today.

All this...all of this comes because of a faithful man. Thank you, God, for Bill Crews. Please keep Shirley, Greg, Tracy, and their families in your prayers. Their loss is great. Pastor Daryl

### *Leon Davis Continued from Page 11*

Our prayers weren't answered as we might have chosen. Leon's healing didn't come upon this earth but in heaven where all that is broken is made whole. The body he dwells in now is a Resurrection body that will never be racked by cancer.

As Christians, we live with the assurance that our sovereign God has our back. God is the good shepherd and we are his sheep. On this earth we have questions because our understanding is limited, but there will come a time when we shall see clearly how God's hand was at work for good in all our lives. Until that time, we trust God.

We trust God with our own lives and with the lives of those we love. Please keep Betty and all of Leon's family in your prayers. Pastor Daryl





When we moved here in July 2000, the nearest branch bank for us was located on West Florissant Ave. in Ferguson, Mo. Since the church still issues paper paychecks, sometimes I would deposit my paycheck at the Ferguson branch.

My cursory impression was that Ferguson was a lot like the neighborhoods on the south side of my hometown. It was racially mixed with small houses that often lacked garages. I guessed that most of the people were living from paycheck to paycheck as we did. My impression was that with the well-kept houses and thriving business strip, Ferguson looked more prosperous than the south side of my hometown today.

I don't want to be another pundit commenting upon Ferguson when I do not live there. My heart has ached for the people of Ferguson. Those who have watched the stores where they worked or shopped destroyed. The parents who scrambled to find a safe place for their children to stay while the schools could not start classes. Those huddled in their houses at night hoping the violence would remain on West Florissant Ave. Those who hoped that West Florissant Ave. would be opened in time for the buses to run because they couldn't afford to miss a day of work. I have been praying for these.

And, yes, I have been praying for the family of Michael Brown. Only those of you who have lost a child can begin to know the depth of their grief. Also, I have been praying for the police officer, Darren Wilson. I doubt whether the officer intended to kill anyone that day. Regardless of where the evidence takes us, this is a great tragedy for all involved.

While we have an African-American president, the racial divide remains within our nation. As the Kerner commission noted in 1967, our experience of America is often dependent upon the color of our skin. I pray for a time when this is no longer so.

Finally, I pray for all of us. May we seek justice. May we strive to be peacemakers. Most of all I pray that there will be no more Fergusons. Pastor Daryl



See You at the Pole™ was inspired by the initiative of students in one youth group in Burseson, Texas, early in 1990. The teenagers felt led to go and pray at night at several area schools during a weekend youth group retreat. They had a profound time of prayer, and their experience was shared with thousands of other youth from across Texas in the form of a challenge in June 1990 at a large conference. More than 56,000 students on 1,200 campuses in Texas and three other states were documented at the first See You at the Pole™ in September of that year. Since 1991, See You at the Pole™ has grown to God-sized

proportions. Within the first few years, the movement began to spread to other nations through missionaries from the U.S. Now each year, more than 3 million students from all over the world participate in See You at the Pole™. Students in more than 20 countries take part. In places like Canada, Korea, Japan, Turkey, and the Ivory Coast, students are responding to God and taking seriously the challenge to pray.



## BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

Our church is participating in “Back to Church Sunday,” part of a national movement of churches across America, which will be held on Sept. 21 at 8:15 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Our church and service times are listed on their website, [www.backtochurch.com](http://www.backtochurch.com).

National Back to Church Sunday is an initiative that is “Inviting America Back to Church.” It seeks to reach the “un-churched” and “de-churched”—people who have never attended church, or who once attended church but don’t any more—and invite them to return on Sept. 21. In 2013, a Gallup survey stated that 87% of people believe in God. Yet only 27% of those surveyed individuals attended church in the last 7 days. In addition, 82% of people who don’t attend church say they would attend if invited by a friend, yet only 2% of Christians ever invite someone to church.

We are asking you to make a list of five friends, relatives, neighbors, or coworkers to invite to join us in worship on Sept. 21. First, pray over each person. Second, invite them to worship with you...offer them a ride.

Since its inception six years ago, National Back to Church Sunday participating churches have extended an estimated 8.5 million invitations to their churches. Over 30,000 churches representing 120 denominations are expected to invite over 3 million people to church this year.

There are nearly 100 million Americans, including teens and children, who are presently un-churched as people increasingly move away from attending church and practicing religion. Back to Church Sunday is not just a day—it is a movement to empower church members to invite everyone to come to church. It is designed to help combat the decline of evangelism and church attendance by providing an easily implemented “invite-able” event that gives church members a reason to invite, and gives people a reason to try church again or for the first time.

Back to Church Sunday has an interactive Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/backtochurch](http://www.facebook.com/backtochurch)) and a roster of participating churches at [www.BacktoChurch.com/find\\_a\\_church](http://www.BacktoChurch.com/find_a_church) the Back to Church website.

**ONE QUESTION  
COULD CHANGE  
EVERYTHING.**

NATIONAL  
BACK TO  
CHURCH  
SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2014

**WHO WILL  
YOU INVITE  
#BACKTOCHURCH?**

[FACEBOOK.COM/BACKTOCHURCH](http://FACEBOOK.COM/BACKTOCHURCH)



### Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center BLOOD DRIVE

**St. Paul UM Church  
September 25th 4-7 p.m.**

*Look for the van, go inside, and donate to help others! Plan now to give!*



**Sept. 16th  
11 a.m.**

**A light,  
appropriate  
lunch will be  
provided.**

**Sponsored by the Nurture Ministry Team**