



The Steeple

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



APRIL 2015

"Sleeper hit: a term used in the entertainment industry for a film that plays successfully for a long period and becomes a big success, despite having relatively little promotion or lacking a successful opening." Wikipedia

Some movies become hits almost completely by word-of-mouth. An example is the movie *Halloween* that was made for \$325,000 and ended up playing for nearly a year around the world during 1978-1979. *Halloween* grossed over \$50 million dollars and spawned a series of sequels. It also made Jamie Lee Curtis a big star and John Carpenter a hot action director.

When you think about it, the Resurrection was a sleeper hit. The news that Jesus was alive spread by word of mouth from the women at the empty tomb to the disciples to the close followers of Jesus. The news is reinforced by the post-Easter appearances to the disciples and the 500 followers. However, the news didn't go viral until the arrival of the Holy Spirit when the disciples were inspired to tell the story of the Resurrection and call people to join the Church. The thousands become the millions and then the 2.1 billion followers of Jesus in the world today. Proof that word-of-mouth is the best advertising.

The Resurrection is far different than a movie. For the Resurrection does more than entertain us for a few hours. It changes us. If we did not experience daily the presence and the power of the Resurrection in our lives, it would not have spread from the backwater city of Jerusalem to Rome and from there to every corner of the world.

There is a world of truth in the words of the Gaithers:

*Because he lives, I can face tomorrow; because he lives, all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future, and life is worth the living just because he lives.*

The Resurrection is more than the promise of life in the world to come, it is the promise of abundant life in this world. I live with the assurance that whatever life throws at me, Jesus, my forever friend, is there to help me through. He gives me the grace to make it through today, tomorrow and the day after that. He helps me not merely survive, but to thrive.

Only someone for whom the Resurrection formed the foundation of their lives could write these words written by Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:7-12:

If you only look at us, you might well miss the brightness. We carry this precious Message around in the unadorned clay pots of our ordinary lives. That's to prevent anyone from confusing God's incomparable power with us. As it is, there's not much chance of that. You know for yourselves that we're not much to look at. We've been surrounded and battered by troubles, but we're not demoralized; we're not sure what to do, but we know that God knows what to do; we've been spiritually terrorized, but God hasn't left our side; we've been thrown down, but we haven't broken. What they did to Jesus, they do to us—trial and torture, mockery and murder; what Jesus did among them, he does in us—he lives! Our lives are at constant risk for Jesus' sake, which makes Jesus' life all the more evident in us. While we're going through the worst, you're getting in on the best!

Jesus lives in us and therefore we live in him. We live Jesus' life. That is Resurrection.

From its very beginning, the Resurrection has been a sleeper hit. Passed by word-of-mouth from person to person. A power that is understood only by those who are living it.

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OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- Congratulations to **Samantha Draper & Nathan Shewmake** who were joined in marriage at St. Paul on Saturday, March 7th. We pray that their home may always be a place of peace where Christ is at the center.
- Congratulations to **Lori Hickerson** who was elected to National Honor Society at East Alton/Wood River High School.
- **Oliver Bacus** played Prince Charming in the Roxana High School production of Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella. **Sydney Martin** was the Steward and **Brendan Palmer** was part of The Company. **Debbie Bacus** served as Drama Assistant and **Mark Bacus** ran the Light Board. Congratulations on a great production of this classic!
- Thank you to **Boy Scout Troop 777** and **Cub Scout Pack 3030** for raking up the leaves and gumballs in the church park. Your hard work prepares the park for the Easter Egg Hunt and for our Outdoor Worship Services. We are blessed to have you as part of the ministry of St. Paul!
- We are excited about the news concerning a summer intern! We are pleased to announce that **Shannah Wagner** from Edwardsville will be our summer intern. She will be here for 8 weeks full-time. We look forward to her work with many aspects of ministry that we have at St. Paul. After the retreat that she will attend with the pastor more details and a schedule will be worked out. Keep her in your prayers as her time with us draws near.
- Our prayers and deepest sympathy goes to those who have lost loved ones recently. To the family of **Roger Pohlman**, friend of Jim & Jane Herndon and husband of Dave Schiber's cousin; the family of **Betty Gill**, cousin of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; the family of **Ande Yakstis**, friend of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; the family of **Sharon McGraw**, friend of Deb Mayer; the family & many friends of **Joy Zimmermann**, retired teacher; the family of **Clifford Meisenheimer**, cousin of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; the family of **Rev. Jonathan Dixon**, pastor at Riverton; the family of **Julia Thien**, friend from Joe Hanfelder's church; the family of **Fred Ufert**, Mayor of Wood River; and to the community of Wood River for their great loss. May God give you all comfort, healing, and peace in this time of grieving.
- Thank you to **Matt and Christina Johnson** for installing a new router in the Fellowship Hall so we now have WiFi throughout more of our building.

Thank You!

Thank You: I really appreciated all the cards I received from my St. Paul Church Family for my milestone (80th) birthday! **Harvey Birmingham**

Thank You: Thank you so very much for all of your prayers. I am so grateful that we all believe in the power of prayer! **Duane Atchley**



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In a world filled with social media like Twitter, Pinterest, Vine, Instagram and a thousand yet to be invented ways of mass communication, the most effective telling of the Resurrection comes when we tell a friend, a neighbor, a coworker: *“Here is what Jesus means to me. Here is how the Resurrection helps me live each day. Maybe you should try it. It might do the same for you.”* If there is someone in your life who does not know about the Resurrection, for their sake tell them.

Easter on April 5th is a celebration of the Resurrection: the Resurrection of Jesus and the resurrection of us. We join together to shout: *Jesus Lives! And, because He lives, I live too!*

After Easter from April 12th-May 3rd, we examine this sleeper hit, the Resurrection, in a new sermon series: *Encounters of the Risen Lord*. See you in worship where every Sunday is a little Easter. Pastor Daryl



APRIL - Church of Rock (COR) Youth News

Psalm 136:26 – *“Give thanks to the God of heaven, for His steadfast love endures forever.”*

Youth meet on Sundays @6:30 p.m. at SPUMC in the Youth Room!

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



EASTER WEEKEND WORSHIP

Awakening Sat., April 4 at 5 p.m.

Easter Music by the Awakening Band

Pastor Daryl preaches on

Living on the Far Side of Easter!

Communion Celebrated

Easter Sunday April 5

Traditional Service at 8:15 a.m.

Praise & Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Daryl preaches on

Why We Need A Resurrection!

Special music at both services



Thursday, April 2nd

7:00 p.m.

Special music and Observance of the Last Supper!



Saturdays at St. Paul in **APRIL 5:00 P.M. Service**

Join us on **SATURDAYS** at 5 p.m. for **Awakening!** Awakening is St. Paul's newest worship service featuring a relaxed, contemporary theme with the Awakening Praise Band in a family friendly setting. The Holy Spirit has been at work, feeding us from the initial idea through the intensive planning phase and now it is offered to the community. We hope you will join us (and bring your family, friends, and neighbors) as we praise God and celebrate what the Holy Spirit has done!



Our APRIL Speakers:

4th - Pastor Daryl	11th - Kevin Rader
18th - Christina Johnson	25th - Dave & Noël Schiber

(Why we should love one another)

Sundays at St. Paul in **APRIL 8:15 & 10:30 A.M. Services**

"More Jesus Time" for Pre-school - 5th grade and Nursery are provided for the 10:30 a.m. service.



5 **EASTER. Celebration of the Resurrection!** Read John 20:1-10. Pastor Daryl preaches on *Why We Need A Resurrection*. Lots of special music as we celebrate that Christ is Risen. He is Risen Indeed.



12 **2nd Sunday of Easter. Communion celebrated. Birthday Sunday.** Pastor Daryl begins a new sermon series, *Encounters of the Risen Lord*, with Mary Magdalene meeting Jesus near the garden tomb. Read John 20:11-18.



19 **3rd Sunday of Easter.** Rev. Ted Frost, Director of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference Foundation, will preach at both services. After each service, Rev. Frost will walk us through the recent Feasibility Study that the Foundation conducted for St. Paul. We invite you to stay briefly after worship so you may be informed as our church considers the next step. Rev. Frost will be glad to answer any questions you might bring to the gathering.



26 **4th Sunday of Easter.** Pastor Daryl continues the sermon series, *Encounters of the Risen Lord*, with Jesus appearing to Thomas behind locked doors. Thomas moves from doubt to belief and becomes a model of faith for all of us. Read John 20:24-29.

**Nurses Notes for APRIL 2015 from Parish Nurse, Eileen Cheatham RN, BC, B.S.N.!**

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time” (1 Peter 1:3-5).

As you read this newsletter, we, as a people of God, will be getting ready to celebrate Easter. Easter is my absolute favorite holiday. Yes, I enjoy Christmas and all that it brings with it to the manger- but Easter is a time to celebrate all that is hoped for and fulfilled in Christ.

Before I even sat down to write this newsletter article I knew that I wanted to talk to you about **hope**. That is the word that comes to me when I think of Easter. I guess we are all familiar with hope- we discuss this with each other during our week; I hope that she has a girl, I hope that my son gets the new job, or I hope that the Cubs win the World Series (I don’t see that happening anytime soon). I hope that _____ (fill in the blank). For us believers we have a much more excellent hope- it is a living hope! It is different from the hope we see in today’s world where hope can be placed in the riches of the world or in our own strength. It is the living hope of Jesus- and this is the reason we can face many of the trials that we face in life. It is the reason that many of our dear friends are able to suffer with illness, whether acute or chronic, or bury a wife or husband after many years of marriage. It is a hope not based on circumstances, luck, or our own worthiness. It is a hope based on what has already been done, already accomplished on the cross and at the tomb. It is a living hope! It is the hope that helps us to walk through the wilderness journeys in this life and still sing praises to God for His faithfulness after we walk out on the other side.

Because of this living hope, we can joyfully share it with others. We are called as a church to be in community with each other, and not just each other at church. We are also called to be in community outside of the walls of the sanctuary. It is a fallen world full of many terrible things- and now due to technology we can hear about all of it almost instantaneously. It is a world full of sin and darkness. But we, as a body of believers, have been called to come closer to each other, and to open our eyes and hearts to how we can serve the One who has given us hope. During this season of Easter hope, ask yourself what can I do to be of service to others? How can I show grace to someone else? How can I follow the example of Christ to love others well? Who will Christ place in front of me today to extend love and mercy to? If we truly share in this living hope we will be excited and eager to be loving and gracious to others.

During this Lenten season I have listened to a song by the group **Third Day** many times. I share it with you to inspire you during this Easter season, this season of hope, to go out and do anything- to serve the One who gave everything, including His life.

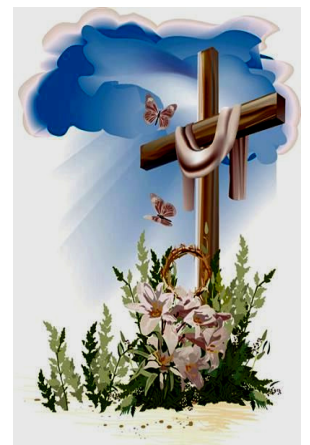
I've heard it said that a man would climb a mountain just to be with the one he loves
How many times has he broken that promise it has never been done.
I've never climbed the highest mountain but I walked the hill of Calvary

I've heard it said that a man would swim the ocean just to be with the one he loves
But all of those dreams are an empty emotion it can never be done
I've never swam the deepest ocean but I walked upon the raging sea

I know that you don't understand the fullness of My love
How I died upon the cross for your sins
And I know that you don't realize how much that I gave you
But I promise, I would do it all again.

Just to be with you, I've done everything
There's no price I did not pay
Just to be with you, I gave everything
Yes, I gave my life away.

Share the hope this Easter season!
Blessings to all- Eileen





APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

- April 01 Hartman, Amy
- April 02 Williams, Randy
- April 02 Foiles, Jarod
- April 03 Voorhees, Mike
- April 03 Voorhees, Mitch
- April 03 Challandes, Karen
- April 04 Bunt, Evelyn
- April 04 Martin, Tom
- April 04 Ford, Donald Jr.
- April 04 Hartman, Payton
- April 05 Pruetzel, Rohland
- April 05 Moore, Kelly
- April 05 Mayer, Jason
- April 06 Sitze, Barb
- April 06 Winchester, Jessica
- April 07 Acton, Vicki
- April 07 Bunt, Ashley
- April 07 McBride, Jaxson
- April 08 Nelson, Florence
- April 08 Bottorff, Patrick
- April 09 Skjerseth, Abbygail
- April 10 Croxford, Virginia
- April 10 Clark, Bryan
- April 10 Dawson, Lizzie
- April 11 Roberts, Jennifer
- April 11 Tite, Alyssa
- April 14 Paris, Evelyn
- April 14 Inman, Terry
- April 14 McLain, Mindy
- April 14 Wesley, Rilyn
- April 15 Lair, Alexander

- April 16 Bishop, Nathan
- April 16 Laufersweiler, Peter
- April 16 Davis, Lauren
- April 17 Sands-Franklin, Vivian
- April 17 Toner, Cathy
- April 17 Tillery, Scott
- April 17 Harlan, Brittney
- April 17 Harlan, Brooke
- April 17 Decker, Lauryn
- April 18 Bunt, Michael
- April 18 Plummer, Brandon
- April 18 Dawson, Luke
- April 19 Natsch, Ilona
- April 19 Scroggins, Madison
- April 19 Scroggins, Patsy
- April 20 Gwaltney, Kay
- April 20 Hovan, Rosalind
- April 21 Parker, Ryan
- April 21 Mayer, Edith
- April 24 Hendricks, Leona
- April 24 Plummer, Mike
- April 25 Williams, Madison
- April 25 Laufersweiler, Logan
- April 26 Garrison, Andrew
- April 26 Eyster, Logan
- April 27 Kissack, Bob Jr.

- April 27 Wells, Brent
- April 27 Sheppard, Keith
- April 27 Henderson, Jaden
- April 28 Bailey, John
- April 28 Scroggins, Taylor
- April 28 Barclay, Tabatha
- April 29 White, Rita
- April 29 Redden, Darin Sr.
- April 29 Giddings, Jacob
- April 30 Cameron, Chase



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- April 05 Pruetzel, Rohland & Susie
- April 08 Crain, Bill Jr. & Ronda
- April 10 Schroedter, Adam & Stephanie
- April 11 Tillery, Joe & Linda
- April 11 Acton, Phil & Vicki
- April 14 Toner, Joshua & Brooke



- April 16 Toner, Chuck & Rosalie
- April 20 Brueggeman, Kyle & Emily
- April 21 Schuerman, Steve & Judy
- April 21 Decker, Eric & Heather
- April 21 Laufersweiler, Peter & Sarah
- April 24 Yankovich, Frank Jr. & Tana
- April 24 Sandbach, Justin & Jennifer

New Church Directory available on Easter Sunday!

Check here each month to get updates, changes, and additions to your current church directory!

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!



**DEADLINE FOR
MAY 2015
STEEPLE, Fri.,
April 17th!**

MARCH Stewardship


Budget Offering:	through 3/31/2015	\$24929.00
Designated Giving:	through 3/31/2015	\$1376.00
	Capital Improvements	345.00
	Loose Change	107.50
	Flowers	493.00
	Youth	20.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	45.00
	Upper Rooms	35.00
	Memorials	125.00
	Charles McKnelly	100.00
	Helping Hands	50.00
	2015 Steeple Postage	25.50
	2015 Offering Envelopes	30.00
Transfer from Reserve		1335.62
One Great Hour of Sharing		330.00
Trivia 2015 Donation		100.00
Wedding Fee		225.00
Total:		\$28295.62

APRIL Ushers (10:30 a.m.):
Apr. 5: Scott & Jamie Gwaltney
Apr. 12: Jamie Keith & Jeff Cox
Apr. 19: Mark Bacus Family
Apr. 26: Jamie Keith & Jeff Cox

GREETERS NEEDED FOR SOME SERVICES, TOO
 Please Call the Church Office (259-5210)
 if you will help be an usher or greeter!

Average Attendance for MARCH 2015

Early Service	40
Late Service	76
Sunday School	41
Visitors	3
4 Awakening Services	50




MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT
April's Loose Change Project is the **Community Hope Center** in Cottage Hills. Not only do they run a food pantry which our church uses as a referral source, but they offer free clothing and other programs to help people in need. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

Church Mice

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!

VBS has been scheduled for **June 15th-19th**, with the closing program taking place on June 20th during Awakening! Mark your calendar now for this fantastic week of ministry and watch the bulletins and the next 2 newsletters for more information!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU! The St. Paul Women of Worship would like to send out a **GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to all of the great workers that turned out for the Annual Rummage Sale. First of all thanks to the donors who always supply a wealth of items for the sale, the men and Awakening folks who helped set up and clean up, people who sorted, displayed and priced items before the sale; the ladies who folded and bagged purchases, cashiered; and our "strong men and ladies" who helped carry out purchases. We again received many compliments about the nice appearance and friendly atmosphere by those attending. The remaining items that could be used at the Community Hope Center were taken there and the rest of the items were taken to Goodwill. Also, a large amount of bedding, PJs, robes, and a few household items were taken to Oasis. Although it's always a lot of hard work, it is a time of great fellowship and the proceeds are used for the many missions and charities we support. Again, **ALL OF YOU** helped make this another successful event. To date, approximately **\$2,300 for rummage plus \$192 for craft sales has been received.** God Bless Each of You.

The Women of Worship



open hearts
open minds
open doors



ST PAUL
united methodist church

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

Our mission is to share our love of Christ to open hearts for a life filled with amazing possibilities!

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 Facilitator - Betsy Blacklock 618.250.3858
betsy.healingimages@yahoo.com

CRAVE - 9:15 a.m. Sunday morning:
Currently meeting with Iris Uzzell's class

Awakening Service:

Every Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Contemporary Worship Service, Fellowship Hall

<https://www.facebook.com/AwakeningWorshipSTPUMC>

twigs

The Awakening Service on Saturdays at 5 p.m. is collecting items for **TWIGS: Pack-a-Sack**.

This program provides food for children of the Granite City School District who are at risk of having nothing to eat over a weekend. Each child in the program discreetly receives a sack of non-perishable food items each Friday. You can participate by placing these food items in the **TWIGS blue garbage can** at the front of the stage: Pudding Cups, Jello Cups, Applesauce Cups, Fruit Cups, Individual Cereal Cups, Granola Bars, Ramen Noodles, Soup: Chicken Noodle or Vegetable Beef, Mac n Cheese, Cheese n Crackers, Fruit Chews, Hot Cocoa Mix Pouches, Beef Jerky Sticks (Small, individually wrapped).

PLEASE, NOTHING WITH PEANUTS. **TWIGS** was started by Rev. Lisa Guilliams, pastor at Trinity United Methodist Church in Granite City. For more information, check out the website:

www.twigsforkids.org.



CHURCH SPRING WORK DAY!

**Saturday, April 18th
8:00 a.m.-Noon**

There is work inside and outside. The more folks who come out to help, the more work we get completed and the more fun we have! If you have any questions or suggestions call Trustees Chair, Jim Herndon, @ 466-6736.

Softball



Are you interested in playing on a Coed St. Paul Softball Team this summer? Please contact the Church Office ASAP by calling 259-5210 or emailing info@stpaulwired.org.

Games would be played on Thursdays at Roxana park and begin on May 14th. We need to hear from you!



The stone was rolled away from the door, not to permit Christ to come out, but to enable the disciples to go in.

~Peter Marshall~

The resurrection gives my life meaning and direction and the opportunity to start over no matter what my circumstances.

~Robert Flatt~





THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL

GIDEONS OFFERING

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Gideons Offering on Sunday, March 8th. \$1,547 was received and that is wonderful!



CAMPING...CAMPING... CAMPING

There are a variety of camping opportunities for all ages (beginning with 1st grade) at any of our six campsites. There are horse camps, treehouse camps, night owl camps, Bible camps, archery camp, sailing camp, just girls camp and more. **Dani Wilson** will be a counselor all summer at Little Grassy. She would love to have you join her at camp. Information on all our camps is available in the Church Office. We have funds available to assist you to go to camp through the Herman Camping Fund!

The great gift of Easter is hope - Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in His ultimate triumph, and in His goodness and love, which nothing can shake.

~Basil Hume~

Confirmation



A Confirmation Class for those in the 7th & 8th grades

Weekly sessions began with Pastor Daryl on Sun., Feb. 22 at 9:15 a.m. in the Youth Room and continue through Sun., April 19.

At the end of our time together, youth choose whether they desire to commit to be disciples of Jesus Christ and join His church.

EASTER FIND

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.

- ACTS 17:27 NIV

www.joyfultoons.com © 2007 Michael D. Waters



A.D. THE BIBLE CONTINUES

Series Premieres on Easter Sunday, April 5th (and every Sunday for a 12- week NBC television event) at 8:00 p.m. From exec producers Mark Burnett & Roma Downey. The epic story picks up where "The Bible" left off, exploring the aftermath of events following the Crucifixion.



As of the end of March, we are sad to announce that Marilyn Cisler has had to retire as

Director of the Hand Bell Choir. We sure have appreciated all of her hard work over all the years. We have enjoyed the beautiful music that she and her group of bell ringers have made. We will miss her skill as a director and her love of the music. May God Bless Marilyn in all the ways she has blessed us! Thank you dear friend of St. Paul UMC for your service!



THE EASTER OFFERING

You are welcome to designate your Easter Offering to go toward any project or missionary. Undesignated gifts will go 50% to the Africa University Endowment Scholarship the conference is sponsoring (see information below) and 50% to the Trustees Emergency Reserve Fund.

AFRICA UNIVERSITY - The AU Mission is: to provide quality education within a Pan-African context through which persons can acquire general and professional knowledge and skills, grow in spiritual maturity, develop sound moral values, ethics, and leadership qualities. One graduate at a time, lives are being changed. Many graduates hold significant leadership roles in their home countries. The Illinois Great Rivers Conference is launching their Africa University Endowment Scholarship campaign with a 1 million dollar goal in two years time! This amount will educate 7 students annually for the life of the institution with enough left to provide 90% of an 8th student's funding.

