



The Steeple



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

NOVEMBER 2015

Thanksgiving in the U.S. is usually traced to 1621 when a Pilgrim leader, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of feasting to commemorate the first harvest after a long year of suffering. When I was at Petersburg, the children in our preschool held a Thanksgiving feast every year. The teacher let the children choose whether they wanted to be pilgrims or Native Americans. At our annual feast, the Native Americans always outnumbered the pilgrims. It may have been true of that first thanksgiving.

Throughout most of our nation's history, the celebration of Thanksgiving was sporadic. Then in 1822 Sarah Hale, a young widow from New Hampshire, decided to revive this important celebration. Sarah, a mother of five children and an editor of a women's magazine, began a 40-year campaign of writing editorials and letters to governors and presidents to get Thanksgiving officially recognized as a national holiday. Three Presidents turned her down. Her obsession became a reality, however. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as an annual celebration of Thanksgiving.

It is remarkable that President Lincoln chose to establish this holiday at a time when our nation was mired in a bloody Civil War. Lincoln's popularity was at a personal low with the media daily attacking him and his wife. In the midst of all this, Lincoln thought it was important to pause and give thanks for the blessings we did possess.

In his proclamation, Lincoln wrote:

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequalled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

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Lincoln understood that we should give thanks at all times. Also, giving thanks reminds us that God is the author of all good things in our lives and our nation. In the words of John 1:16, from Jesus' fullness we have received *grace upon grace*. Our lives didn't just happen. God our creator has given us every wondrous gift. In every day, we should pause and give thanks for the blessings that are ours.

As Christians, we believe that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others. This is why we collect food for our local food pantries--Community Hope Center and Operation Blessing--throughout this month. On **Bounty Sunday**, November 22, we celebrate during the 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. services all that the Lord has done for us. We bring our offerings of food as well as our offering to support the ministry of the church.

Bounty Sunday is extra special this year since the **Ugandan Kids Choir** will lead us in giving thanks with their joyous singing and dancing. Through a special offering, we will have the opportunity to support their ministry. The Ugandan Kids Choir will present their program during the Awakening Service on Saturday, November 21 at 5 p.m. as well. I hope you will invite your friends to join us for one of these special thanksgiving celebrations!

Psalm 107:1 says: *"Give thanks to the LORD because he is good, because his mercy endures forever."* May we gather to thank God for His tender mercies on Bounty Sunday and on Thanksgiving. Pastor Daryl

P.S. We invite you to join us for a **Community Thanksgiving Worship Service** on Tuesday, November 24 at 6 p.m. at Hartford First Baptist Church. The church located at 301 N. Delmar Ave. Rev. Ron Wenzel is our host pastor. This service is sponsored by the Hartford Churches and the Wood River Township Ministerial Alliance.



COAT AND SHOE COLLECTION FOR CHILDREN

We are again partnering with Riverbend Head Start & Family Services to collect new & used coats and shoes for area children. Case managers from this organization go into poverty income homes to provide enrichment programs and parenting skills. We will collect: Coats and winter jackets, new or gently used, sizes 2T to 7-8 AND Shoes, new or gently used, sizes infant to children size 1. Last year we collected 75 coats and many pairs of shoes which were distributed to some of the 200 families served by this organization. The Agency representative says there are never enough needed items for all the children. Collection begins now and will continue through **Sunday, Nov. 8.** Place items in the area where we collect for food across from the coat racks. On behalf of the children who will receive these items the Outreach Ministry Team and Riverbend Head Start & Family Services thanks you.



ALTAR FLOWERS

We have received word that starting in October the altar flowers increased in cost by \$1. Instead of them costing \$24 they now will cost \$25. Please note this when you pay for your flowers.
Thank you!



NOVEMBER - 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 NOVEMBER info!



OUR CHURCH FAMILY

- ◆ Congratulations to **Lori Hickerson** who was a candidate for Queen of the Harvest at East Alton/Wood River High School. We are so proud of you!
- ◆ Congratulations to **Nicole Arview & Alex Barnes** who were united in marriage at our church on Sat., October 17th. May their home be a place of God’s blessing and peace.
- ◆ Congratulations to **Casey Elliott & Lucas Hartley** who were united in marriage at our church on Sat., October 24th. May Christ always be at the center of their life together.
- ◆ Congratulations to **Nick Darr** who was named General Manager and Vice President of WGBZ-radio in Alton.
- ◆ We offer our prayers and sympathy to all of those who have lost loved ones recently. These include: the family of **Gladys Fisher**, friend of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; family of **Jacques “Jack” Aderton**, cousin of Alice Burrows; family of **Donna Martin**, sister/sister-in-law of Ron & Flo Nelson; and the family of **Bernadine “Bernie” Ray**, friend of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell. May God give you all the comfort needed in this grieving time.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU: October was Pastor Appreciation Month. I did not expect a month long celebration as it turned out to be. I am so very thankful for the cards from all the Sunday School Classes, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, and church members. For the many packages of Peeps, the cookies, and the gift cards, thank you so very much. Every Sunday I was surprised by a different group bearing gifts. May God bless you all and continue to bless our ministry together. It is a privilege to lead you during this important time for St. Paul. It is gratifying to see you using your gifts to build up the Body of Christ in this place. *Pastor Daryl*

THANK YOU: The Mission Possible weekend was an amazing experience! We want to thank everyone that gave of their time and talents....whether you helped with preparation or clean-up, donated food or prepared food, shared your testimony, painted pumpkins, prepared the slide show of historical pictures, helped hand out info about Mission Possible, prayed for the success of the campaign - any and all efforts are so appreciated! We also want to thank those who prayerfully considered their financial support of Mission Possible. It is apparent that the Holy Spirit continues to infiltrate our efforts to continue our missions and outreach at St. Paul UMC. *Sincerely, The Capital Fund Campaign Steering Committee (Mission Possible)*

THANK YOU: Thank you for Thayer’s basket of gifts. It was very thoughtful. We are very blessed! *Love, Jeremy, Tiffany & Thayer Nairn*

**Cookie Walk
Saturday,
December 5th
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Join us for this fun
fund raiser for
Mission Possible!**



There is a “Thanksgiving Offering” envelope in with your envelopes. As you start planning to give a “thanksgiving offering,” you may choose to designate it for a missionary, a mission project, or a church special fund like Capital Improvements. You may also leave it “undesigned.” The undesigned monies will be given **100% to our Helping Hands fund.** **Helping Hands** is a benevolent fund that we use to assist folks who need help with utilities, rent, gas, etc. We thank you in advance for your generous response to God’s great goodness.



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



Join us on SATURDAYS at 5 p.m. for Awakening! Awakening is St. Paul's newest worship service featuring the Awakening Praise Band in a family friendly setting. We hope you will join us (bring your family, friends, & neighbors) as we praise God & celebrate what the Holy Spirit has done!

Our NOVEMBER Speakers:

- 7th - Lauren Cranmer
- 14th - Doug Pascoe
- 21st - Ugandan Kids Choir
- 28th - Dennis Day

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



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

1 ALL SAINTS DAY. Daylight Saving Time Ends. Communion Celebrated. Pastor Daryl concludes the *Mission Possible* series by talking about our ongoing mission. We are building this church upon the foundation of those who have gone before us. We cannot rest in our work until Jesus returns. We hear the initial reports from our *Mission Possible Campaign* during each worship service.

8 24th Sunday after Pentecost. Birthday Sunday. Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. Veterans Sunday. Sometimes we go through spiritual deserts when God seems so distant. That is the experience of the author of Psalm 42. During those times, we need the assurance that God does care for us.



15 25th Sunday after Pentecost. God calls us to live boldly and to give bountifully. We give thanks to God who is the author of all good things in our world and our lives. Although Thanksgiving is a few weeks away, it is always good to pause and give thanks to God. Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.

22 BOUNTY SUNDAY. Although you have been bringing food all month, today is the day when we bless your contributions to our local food pantries. We welcome the **Ugandan Kids Choir** to both worship services. They lead us in worship with joyous songs and dance. During the services, a special offering will be taken for the choir.



29 1st Sunday of Advent. Student Day. Bible Sunday. This is the age of the superhero! Even obscure characters like *Antman* have their own movies. We have a deeply-seated desire to know, and even to emulate, heroes. What is uncanny – and so apt for the Christmas season – is that is *exactly* what God wants us to do. He wants us to *know* Him and to *be just like* Him. Pastor Daryl begins a new sermon series on **The Amazing Emmanuel**. Today, we *Thank God for a Hero Too Wonderful for Words: Jesus*. We begin our beloved Christmas traditions like the lighting of the Advent wreath and the singing of Christmas carols. *We take up a special offering for Student Day. The offering goes to support scholarships and loans to United Methodist students. During the 10:30 a.m. service, we will hand out Bibles to those in the sixth grade.*



DECEMBER 6 - 2nd Sunday of Advent. Pastor Daryl continues the sermon series on *The Amazing Emmanuel*. Jesus is our superhero! Today the focus is on *Discover What True Hero Worship is Like*. As Emmanuel, Almighty God became just like us to be our superhero, to conquer sickness, sin, and death. Even some of those who already know about Christ have yet to grasp that Jesus *is* God; that He *is* almighty and all-powerful. This is an opportunity to lead them to that heroic truth.





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

November is one of my favorite months. It is the birth month of my middle son, but it also has to do with the Thanksgiving holiday. How I long to be able to put my many memories of past Thanksgiving Days in a box so I could take them out and relive each one. The smells coming from the kitchen as the turkey was placed in the oven and then carefully checked and basted; my mother's dressing- (and yes she still to this day continues to cook it inside the turkey and we love it that way), the home baked desserts, always an extra chair at the table in case mom would bring one of the residents home from the nursing home who had no family. Those are fond memories that I love to wrap up in each November- and wait to make even more. I pray that all of you will take some time and reminisce about your Thanksgiving memories!

Now- on to the "health" part of the newsletter. **November is American Diabetes Month.** I have had quite a few people come to see me with questions about diabetes- and so this is an opportunity to do a bit of education.



So what is diabetes? Diabetes is the condition in which the body does not properly process food for use as energy. The food that we eat is turned into glucose, for our bodies to use for energy. The pancreas, makes insulin to help glucose get into the cells. When you have diabetes, your body doesn't make enough insulin or can't use its own insulin as well as it should. This causes sugar to build up in the blood.

The symptoms are: frequent urination, excessive thirst, unexplained weight loss, extreme hunger, sudden vision changes, feeling very tired all of the time, very dry skin.

What are the types of diabetes? **Type 1 diabetes:** this used to be referred to as juvenile onset diabetes. Only 5 % of people with diabetes have this form of the disease. Research is currently being conducted on pancreas transplants. In Type 1 diabetes the body attacks itself and destroys the cells in the pancreas that produce insulin. Insulin serves as the "key" to open up your cells to allow the glucose to come in so you can use it for energy. Without the insulin for the key, the glucose does not come in and the cells "starve". The glucose circulates in the blood and can cause great damage to the eyes, kidneys, nerves and the heart. If left untreated it can lead to coma and eventual death. **Type 2 diabetes:** is the most common. The body does not use insulin properly, which is called insulin resistance. At first the pancreas will make extra insulin to make up for it, but over time the pancreas cannot keep up to keep the blood glucose levels normal. Some type 2 diabetes patients can control this with healthy eating (less processed foods that are loaded with sugar and carbs) and medication. Type 2 usually gets worse over time. Type 2 accounts for 90-95% of all diagnosed cases of diabetes. **Gestational diabetes:** can develop with pregnancy, and usually goes away after the baby is born. But these women and their children have a greater chance of getting diabetes later in life.

Would you like to learn more about diabetes? Let me invite you to the **Diabetes Health Fair** being held at Alton Memorial Hospital. The fair will be **Saturday, November 7th from 9 a.m. to noon.** There will be guest speakers, free diabetes screenings (including A1C's), glucose, blood pressure, and foot screenings. A free boxed lunch will be provided by Firehouse Subs. **You must register in advance by calling 1-800-392-0936.** This is a great way to take charge of your health and learn more about your own health, or a loved one's health. I hope to see you there.

Don't forget for the kids- we have the winter **Kids in The Kitchen** activity on **Wed., November 4th from 6-7:30 p.m.** Call the registration number (800-392-0936) and bring your children or grandchildren to learn hands on about "Superfoods." The kids always have fun. Seating is limited for this event, so if you are thinking about it call soon.

It was great to see so many turn out for the flu vaccines. I am thankful that Jill Woodward, owner of The Medicine Shoppe in Wood River, came out and gave the flu vaccines, and also some pneumonia and shingles vaccines, too. Jill is a great resource if you have questions about medications. All of the flu shot clinics went smoothly and without any problems. Thanks to all of you for taking the time to come in and get vaccinated.

During this month of thankfulness, be thankful for the communities of faith and family that God has placed you in. He has placed you there for His eternal purposes- so work with a cheerful heart! Thank Him for friends who love us by choice, companions at work who have become our friends, and even the smiles and hellos of strangers that may pass our way during the day. Be thankful for life, for one more day to love and care for others, and for God's grace, His presence, and His promises to us.

I am thankful to know all of you and call you friends.

Have a joyous Thanksgiving.
Eileen





NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| November 01 Demond, Richard | November 14 Russell, Gordon | November 27 Mormino, Paul |
| November 01 Norris, Kyle | November 14 Funke, Jim | November 28 Tappy, George |
| November 02 Ballard, Larry | November 14 Natsch, Julie | November 28 Davis, Dan |
| November 03 Bishop, Monna | November 15 Westhoff, Vivian | November 29 Crews, Jacob |
| November 04 Justic, Maximus | November 15 Hanfelder, Joe | November 30 Elliott, Dot |
| November 05 Champa, Larry | November 15 Natsch, Steve | November 30 McPheters, Rachel |
| November 05 McCammon, Amber | November 15 Dorsey, Cathy | November 30 Brown, Sam |
| November 05 Martin, Raegan | November 17 Yankovich, Frank Jr. | November 30 Bunt, Adyson |
| November 06 Hatten, Karen | November 17 Ward, Kristi | |
| November 06 Huff, Brett | November 17 Chester, Lydia | |
| November 06 Ramirez, Madelaine | November 18 McCammon, Heather | |
| November 06 Ramirez, Morgann | November 18 Babcock, Ashley | |
| November 06 Shaffer, Lilly | November 19 Chester, Nathan | |
| November 07 Dorsey, Courtney | November 20 Gowan, Elaine | |
| November 08 Badman, Donna | November 21 Ortegren, Jason | |
| November 09 Crandall, Caroline | November 21 Martin, Emma | |
| November 10 Basden, Gloria | November 22 Dunnagan, Steve | |
| November 11 Brown, Julie | November 22 Spurgeon, Ryleigh | |
| November 11 Crain, Bill Jr. | November 25 Taylor-Sullivan, Jill | |
| November 12 Jensen, Daniel Jr. | November 26 Wood, Emma | |
| November 13 McKnelly, Charles | November 27 Mortland, Greg | |



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|--|--|
| November 01 Bacus, Mark & Debbie | November 19 Nairn, Jeremy & Tiffany |
| November 01 Phelps, Douglas & Susan | November 22 Voorhees, Mitch & Kimberly |
| November 03 Stewart, Jim & Anna Mae | November 23 Napp, Allan & Kyle |
| November 03 Dorsey, Mickey & Cathy | November 24 Wells, Brent & Amy |
| November 05 Jensen, Daniel Jr. & Lindsey | November 26 Dawson, Jim & Anita |
| November 07 Schlemer, Mike & Bobbie Jean | November 29 Voorhees, Mike & Ricci |
| November 18 Martin, Ian & Tamera | |
| November 19 Liedtke, Gregg & Lana | |



Changes and Additions to the current Church Directory

CHANGES/ADDITIONS: Mr. & Mrs. Adam Coleman 18 Glen Echo Drive, Edwardsville IL 62025;
Laura Jo White 322 N. Church St., Belleville, IL 62220;
Minnie Tindall 137 Rau Des Chateaux, Bethalto IL 62010.

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 and/or email address. Thank you!



OCTOBER Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 10/31/2015	\$19853.75
Designated Giving:	through 10/31/2015	\$1119.00
	Capital Improvements	770.00
	Loose Change	99.00
	Flowers	25.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	35.00
	Youth	20.00
	Upper Room Donations	20.00
	Helping Hands	150.00
Capital Campaign		1000.00
Wedding Fee		225.00
Reimbursement (Church Mutual)		731.00
World Communion Offering		182.00
Total:		\$23110.75

Capital Campaign deposit: \$9,934.50

**DEADLINE FOR
December 2015
STEEPLE, Wed.,
Nov. 18th!**



MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

November's Loose Change Project is Mid-West Mission Distribution Center in

Chatham, IL. This is a United Methodist warehouse/depot out of which materials and supplies are distributed throughout the United States and the world at times of natural and man-made disasters. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

NOVEMBER Ushers (10:30 a.m.):

- Nov. 1st: Randy & Joyce Brueggeman, Diane Murbarger
- Nov. 8th: **NEED FOLKS!**
- Nov. 15th: **NEED FOLKS!**
- Nov. 22nd: Deb Fansler, Connie Hickerson, Jean Kainz
- Nov. 29th: **NEED FOLKS!**

Call the Church Office (259-5210) if you will be a greeter or usher!

Average Attendance for OCTOBER 2015

Early Service	47
Late Service	61
Sunday School	41
Visitors	5
4 Awakening Services	25



*open hearts
open minds
open doors*



ST PAUL
united methodist church

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

**CRAVE Facilitator - Betsy Blacklock 618.259.3858
betsy.healingimages@yahoo.com**

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



Bounty Sunday, November 22nd

is a long-standing tradition within our church. It is a time when we stop and reflect how God has richly blessed us. We do this during the 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. worship services. The proper response to God's blessings is to give thanks and praise Him. Bounty Sunday is filled with music, prayers, and praises. We bring an offering of food and other necessary items for our food pantries: Community Hope Center and Operation Blessing. Bags with information have been passed out. Suggested items are listed on the bags. If you will not be in worship on the 22nd, please do not let that stop you from bringing in a sack of food. You may place it in the food collection area anytime before Nov. 22nd. We invite you to participate in our Bounty Sunday. For us, it captures the true meaning of Thanksgiving!



Everyone is welcomed to come help the Worship Ministry Team decorate the church for Christmas on Saturday, November 28th from 9 a.m. - Noon!



It will *soon* be time to order your poinsettias. The cost may be at least **\$8.00** per poinsettia. **The order deadline will be Sunday, December 6th.** The poinsettias may be taken home following the services on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th. Please indicate when you order to whom it is "*in memory*" or "*in honor*" of and it is **important** to include your payment when you order. Questions? Call **259-5210**.



Church outreach for Christmas

The last five years our church has supplied unwrapped gifts for the Roxana Jr. & Sr. High School student councils' annual party for at-risk children. Approximately 150 children are identified by school nurses and teachers from all the area schools. These are children from very low income families. They are invited to a Christmas party at the Roxana School.



The date for the party this year is Saturday, December 5th, 10:30 a.m.-Noon.

The children get a picture with Santa, a meal, and gifts. Our gifts supplement those purchased through funds raised at the school. Details follow:

What: Unwrapped toys for children aged infant to 14 years, wrapping paper, and tape

Due Date: Collected now through Sun., Nov. 29

Where: Place in big Christmas box in the entryway

The gifts will be delivered and then wrapped by students. **Adult volunteers are needed.** If anyone would like to help out for the party on December 5th, call **Jane Herndon** for details.



IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND WILL HEAL THEIR LAND



We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...

Kenneth M. Fox, 90, died at 1:25 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, at Calhoun Nursing & Rehab. in Hardin.

Born Sept. 25, 1925 in Mozier, IL, he was the son of the late Theodore and Nellie (Shireman) Fox.

He married Hazel N. (Jackson) Fox June 4, 1947, and she died May 6, 2013.

He was a retired ground and truck driver for Ill. Power. He was a member of IBEW Local 309 of Collinsville, working out of Wood River. He was a World War II Navy veteran.

Survivors include a son, Reggie (Nancy) Fox of Hamburg, IL, daughter-in-law, Kathy Wright of Mozier; five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, wife and two sons, Daniel Fox and infant Stanley Fox; six brothers: Butch, Harry, Eurban, Lloyd, Loren and Frank Fox; two sisters, Myrtle Peuterbaugh and Eula Stauffer.

He was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Rosewood Heights, the Masons, and the [VFW](#) in Wood River.

Although Kenny & Hazel Fox had moved to Mosier, IL by the time I arrived at St. Paul, they remained interested in the people and the ministry here. They started attending our church when we were meeting in the basement of Zike's Drugstore. Hazel worked in the Milk Store while Kenny worked at Illinois Power. During the service, I said in part:

"There are no atheists in foxholes." I'm sure that you've heard that saying. I have found so many veterans like Kenny came out of WWII with a faith that was real and fundamental in their lives. They didn't spend a lot of time talking about their faith, but they really lived it. They were living their lives—not only for themselves—but also for those who did not return home. They became what Tom Brokaw called *The Greatest Generation*. Those who were willing to lend a helping hand to their neighbor in need. Those who were committed to building the businesses for which they worked into economic juggernauts. Those who were dedicated to making their communities great places in which to live. Those who were careful to pass on the right values to their children and grandchildren.

Throughout I Corinthians 15, Paul reveals why the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and our own personal resurrection is the cornerstone of our faith. Rev. Billy Graham once told *Time* magazine: **"IF I WERE AN ENEMY OF CHRISTIANITY, I WOULD AIM RIGHT AT THE RESURRECTION, BECAUSE THAT IS THE HEART OF CHRISTIANITY."** Indeed, Paul admits that if the Resurrection is an illusion, then we should be pitied for clinging to empty promises. If the Resurrection is an illusion, then we should be partying all the time because there is nothing else to live for. This world is all there is.

I love the way the Message translation puts the key part of Paul's argument: **"IF ALL WE GET OUT OF CHRIST IS A LITTLE INSPIRATION FOR A FEW SHORT YEARS, WE'RE A PRETTY SORRY LOT. BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT CHRIST HAS BEEN RAISED UP, THE FIRST IN A LONG LEGACY OF THOSE WHO ARE GOING TO LEAVE THE CEMETERIES."**

An anemic faith provides little comfort in the midst of battle, but a Resurrection faith provides the assurance that even though I may die yet shall I live. In the midst of a terrible war, this was the only true hope.

These words of Jesus that comforted Kenny in battle comfort us today: **"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN ME WILL LIVE, EVEN THOUGH THEY DIE; AND THOSE WHO LIVE AND BELIEVE IN ME WILL NEVER DIE."** Those who trust in Jesus will be raised from the dead; just as He was raised.

God says to us today: **"DON'T DESPAIR. YOU'LL SEE YOUR LOVED ONE AGAIN. OUR PARTING IS ONLY FOR A WHILE."** We know this to be true because of the Resurrection. This is the promise of God upon which we stand and build our lives. It is our strength today, tomorrow and always.

Paul says this is how it will be for all of us who believe in Jesus:

But let me tell you something wonderful, a mystery I'll probably never fully understand. We're not all going to die—but we are all going to be changed. You hear a blast to end all blasts from a trumpet, and in the time that you look up and blink your eyes—it's over. On signal from that trumpet from heaven, the dead will be up and out of their graves, beyond the reach of death, never to die again. At the same moment and in the same way, we'll all be changed. In the resurrection scheme of things, this has to happen: everything perishable taken off the shelves and replaced by the imperishable, this mortal replaced by the immortal. Then the saying will come true:

**Death swallowed by triumphant Life!
Who got the last word, oh, Death?
Oh, Death, who's afraid of you now?**



FALL FESTIVAL Thank You!

The Women of Worship would like to thank **EVERYONE** who helped make this year's Annual Fall Festival and Craft Celebration Sale a success. There were helpers who set up for the Celebration Of Crafts Sale on Oct. 3rd and then again for the Fall Festival on Oct. 8th - our faithful ladies who cooked and managed the kitchen, servers, dishwashers and dish driers, dining room workers, take-out order folks, and people who priced the donations and managed the various booths. We also appreciate all those who came and enjoyed a meal or two and/or made purchases at the bakery/candy booths. Hopefully you became acquainted, or reacquainted, with someone to make the day more enjoyable. The approximate profit to-date is **\$4990+**. The bills are paid and we still have some lovely crafts & gift items available in the Fellowship Hall. The money gathered during the entire year from all our events will be distributed to our various mission and charity groups at the **WOW Christmas party December 1st at 6 p.m.** – watch for the details in the Bulletin. All ladies of the church are invited to join us in distributing these funds. **AGAIN, A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED.**

God Bless you! *Women of Worship*



PECANS:

This year's pecans will be here soon after the beginning of NOVEMBER. The costs are: **\$10.00** for the 1lb. bag of plain or **\$8.00** for a bag of the chocolate covered pecans.

The pecans being sold are a Fundraiser for the Women of Worship to add to the mission money raised so far this year!

Winter & Defensive Workshop

The Nurture Ministry Team is sponsoring a Winter & Defensive Driving Workshop on **Wed., November 4th** and it begins at **11 a.m.** Lunch is included so if you are planning to join us please sign-up on the bulletin board in the Education Wing on



Sunday or give **Maggie Funke** a call at **259-9490**. Sgt. Burdict is our instructor.

"God is not so concerned with what you do or how you do it, but for Whom you do it."

- Dr. Bob



CAP 'N MITTEN TREE



Our Cap 'N Mitten Tree will be placed in the entryway by **Sunday, Nov. 15th** so start searching for those bargains on gloves, scarfs, and hats to hang on the tree. We also will have a box to collect packages of new underwear and socks. Let's do all we can to help keep folks in need warm this winter. The tree will be up through Sunday, Dec. 6th.




Christmas Boutique

The Women of Worship will be sponsoring a **Christmas Boutique** on **Saturday, Nov. 21** from **8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.** and **Sunday, Nov. 22** after the services. Crafts and gifts will be displayed upstairs in the parlor and hallway. Get started on your "last minute" shopping ahead of time this year.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing will be on Friday, December 11th 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at Walmart in Wood River (Garden & Grocery Doors)

We ring at two entrances with teams of two people each for one hour at a time... WATCH FOR THE sign up SHEETS!



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24th
6:00 P.M.**

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
OF HARTFORD
301 N. Delmar Ave., Hartford, IL**

Rev. Ron Wenzel, host pastor

Special Speaker
Special Music
Offering taken

Sponsored by the Churches of Hartford and the Wood River Township Ministerial Alliance.



Christmas Dinner & Program

It is a St. Paul tradition for the church to gather for a Christmas Dinner. During Nov. you will have an opportunity to make reservation for this year's **Christmas Dinner** (prepared by Chef Bob) on **Sat., Dec. 5th at 6 p.m.** There is no set charge for the dinner.

Instead, **we all make a donation for the meal.** **Reservation forms** will be in the Sunday bulletins 4 times in the month of November. Please fill **one** out for your family. If you cannot be here to do this, **please call the church office (259-5210)** during the week or email **info@stpaulwired.org** and leave your information with the church secretary. *Dinner will be followed by "SLEEPOVER AT THE STABLE," a musical featuring our children and youth!* So plan now to attend it all! It is a wonderful evening filled with the joy of Christmas fellowship around the table as well as enjoying our children and youth sharing the news of the baby Jesus!



ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PRESERVING THE PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
AS A FOUNDATION OF FAITH AND MISSIONS IN OUR COMMUNITY**Mission Possible**

"THROUGH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE" MATTHEW 19:26

UNDERSTANDING & GIVING TO MISSION POSSIBLE

The following information is provided to clarify some misconceptions about our Mission Possible campaign and to further clarify how one might give to the cause. **Mission Possible** is a campaign to provide funding above and beyond our normal operational costs to address some much needed maintenance and renovation work at St. Paul. The primary target of the campaign is the replacement of our aging heating and air conditioning system (HVAC) as well as other much needed items for our church building and senior parsonage. We do this in large part as we consider the future of the ministry of St. Paul UMC and the over 50 diverse ministries that radiate from our church home, and as we consider the role our church building will play in future ministry.

The **October 24th & 25th Mission Possible Commitment Weekend** was the kickoff to our fund raising campaign. So if you were absent or did not give to the campaign during that time, but feel led to participate with your financial gifts, there is still plenty of time to participate. **In order that we can know where we stand with pledges, we ask that you fill out a commitment card (which is available in the church narthex or by calling the church office) if you plan to give to the Mission Possible Campaign.**

Providing your gift(s):

- If you are interested in a one-time gift, send the donation to the church or place it in the Sunday offering, **but please be sure to note Mission Possible (or CFC for Capital Fund Campaign) on the check memo line/ offering envelope.**
- You can also give online through our website.
- You can give using your credit card when you provide that information to the church office.
- You can give by cash or check.
- You can also provide financial contributions via securities, real estate, personal properties, or an estate gift by contacting the church office or Bob Blacklock.

If you use the **2015 envelopes** to donate to the *Mission Possible Capital Campaign*, please designate your gift to either **Mission Possible** or **CFC (for Capital Fund Campaign)**. Beginning in **January 2016**, you would place the designated amount for "Mission Possible" gifts on the Capital Campaign line. Donations toward the expenses of our Church Operations (i.e. the General Budget) would go on the **Undesignated** line as always. What is now Capital Improvements, funds meant for unexpected major expenses, will be labeled **Building & Grounds Improvements** on the 2016 envelopes.

If you have any questions, please call the Church Office for clarification.

► IMPORTANT ◀

Please, look for the MISSION POSSIBLE in red on the outside of any envelopes from St. Paul UMC for timely information regarding our Capital Fund Campaign!

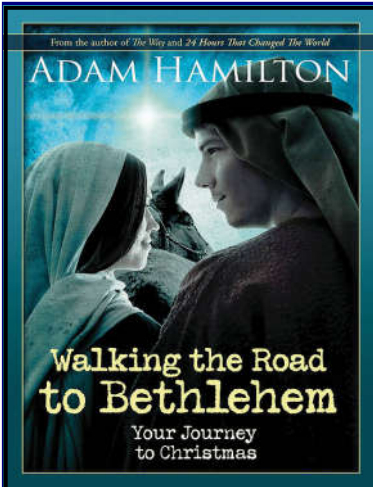


Annual Gwaltney Bonfire - Weiner Roast - Chili Feed!

Sunday, November 1st @5 p.m.

6850 QUERCUS GROVE RD., EDWARDSVILLE

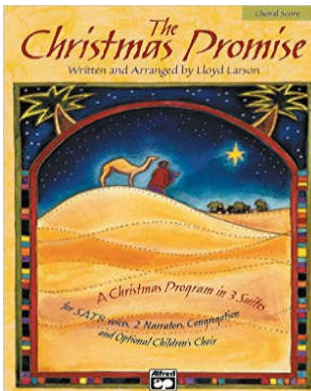
If you need a ride or want to follow someone out to their home, be at the church parking lot by 4:30 p.m., at which time we will leave to go out there. Don't miss out on this annual event filled with fun, food, and fellowship!



Adam Hamilton's study, *Walking the Road to Bethlehem: Your Journey to Christmas*

is the focus for our Small Study Group beginning Sun., Nov. 8 at 5 p.m. and running every Sunday through Sun., Dec. 6 at 5 p.m. Each week, Hamilton retraces the actual path for Mary & Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Although you will benefit from the entire journey, you will still gain valuable insights to the Christmas story from each segment. You are invited to come as you are able to our gatherings in the Parlor. Here is our schedule:

- Nov. 8: Mary of Nazareth**
- Nov. 15: Joseph of Bethlehem**
- Nov. 22: Mary's Visit to Elizabeth**
- Nov. 29: From Nazareth to Bethlehem**
- Dec. 6: The Manger**



Worship Choir has Begun Cantata Practice!

“The Christmas Promise” is an inspired worship program in 3 suites. Drawing upon familiar seasonal melodies and texts, sometimes arranged in unique combinations, the timeless story of the promised Messiah is presented. We practice on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in the choir loft! There is still time to join us if you want to sing in the cantata this year! Just come to practice beginning this week!

SLEEPOVER AT THE STABLE: A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

All of our children and youth are invited to be part of the Christmas musical *Sleepover at the Stable*. Practices are being held on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. during *More Jesus Time*. The musical will be presented on Sat., Dec. 5th after our 6 p.m. Christmas Dinner.



KASIM

THE UGANDAN KIDS CHOIR

The Ugandan Kids Choir will sing and dance at the Awakening Service on Sat., Nov. 21 at 5 p.m. and during the Sunday Worship Services at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. on Sun., Nov. 22. During the services, we will take up a special collection for their ministry.

You are invited to join us for a meal with the children following the Awakening Service on Saturday and for a potluck after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday.

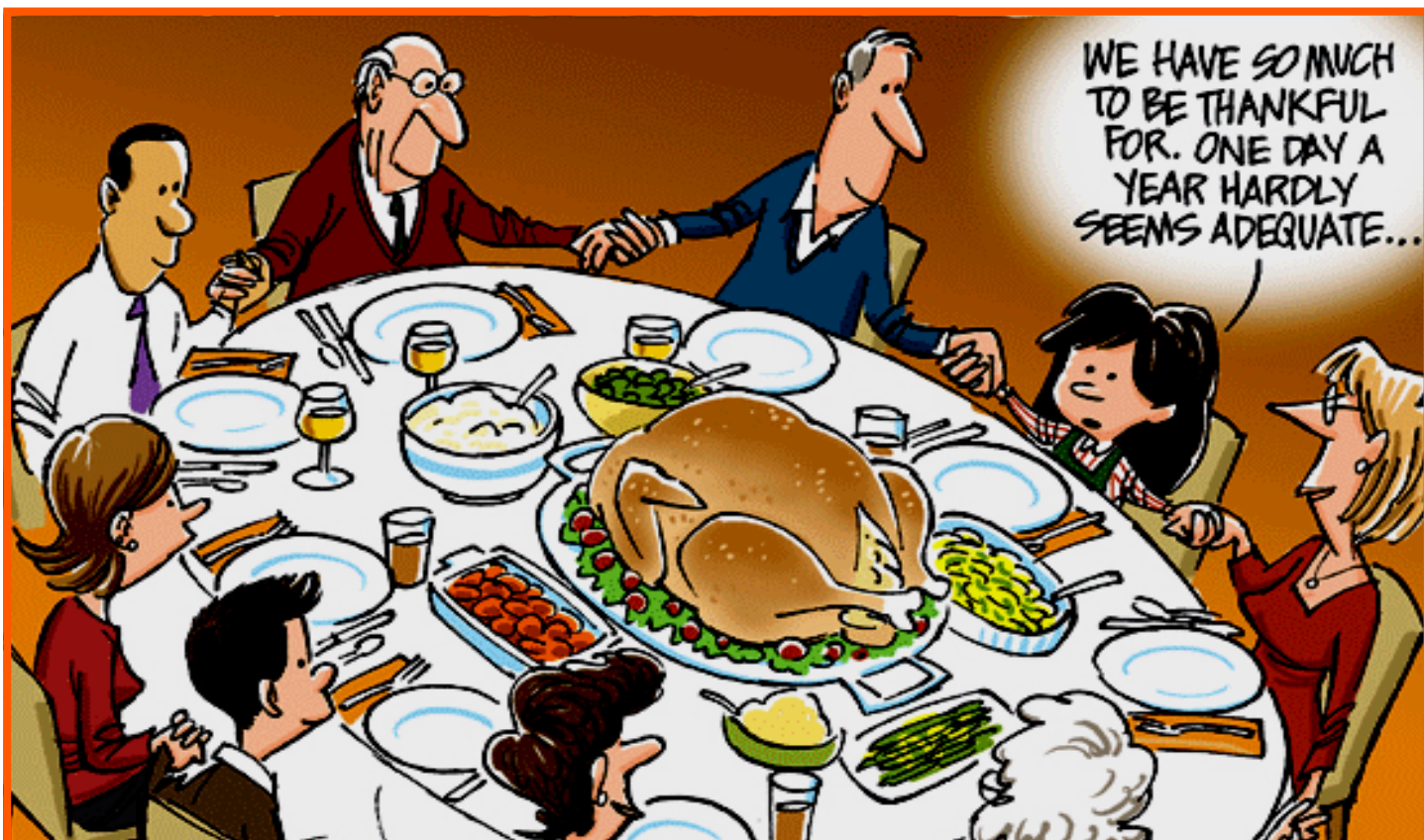
The children in the Ugandan Kids Choir bring a message of hope—sharing the power of God’s love through traditional music and dance. As they tour the US, they delight audiences



with their high-energy performances and infectious joy.

Each choir is made up of 10 sponsored children who come from the poorest parts of Uganda. The children are chosen for their enthusiasm, ability, and dedication—all of which make them potential leaders when they return to their communities.

<https://childcareworldwide.org/ugandan-kids-choir/choir-resource-page>



Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!