



# The Steeple

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

**MARCH 2016**



On Sunday mornings, we are looking at a topic often experienced by our members, but rarely talked about within the church: undeserved, unjust, and unmerited suffering. We have done this by looking at two innocent sufferers: Job and Jesus.

Job is a decent, God-fearing man. He is blessed with wealth, a large, loving family. Life is good. Satan—the father of lies—says to God: *“Of course, Job is a God-fearing, upstanding man. He has nothing to complain about. But I’ll bet you—God—that if you let everything be taken away from Job HE WILL CURSE YOU!”*

God is convinced that Job loves God for being God and will stand fast in faith—despite the assaults of Satan. God is so convinced of this truth that God gives Satan permission to take everything from Job—except his life.

Then everything goes to pot as my grandmother would exclaim. A messenger arrives to say that men from Sheba have taken all of Job’s livestock in the field and slaughtered all the servants except for him.

Another messenger says that fire fell from the sky and burned the rest of Job’s flocks and servants. Only the messenger survived to tell Job the bad news.

A third messenger arrived to announce that three companies of Chaldeans had carried off all the camels and killed the servants working with them.

Just when Job thinks it can’t get worse, it does. All of his sons and daughters are enjoying a fine feast at the oldest son’s home when a windstorm sweeps across the desert, causing the house to collapse, and killing all ten of his children. Only the messenger survived to convey the terrible news.

In that moment, Job is truly grief stricken. He tears his robe, shaves his head as was the practice of a person in mourning, but then he falls to the ground in worship saying:

*“Naked I came from my mother,  
and naked I will return.  
The LORD has given,  
and the LORD has taken away!  
May the name of the LORD be praised.”*

Notice that Job does not curse his bad luck or even God for what has happened. Instead, Job worships. Not my first inclination!

**Like Job, we have three choices when something catastrophic happens. We can let it *destroy* us. We can let it *define* us. Or we can let it *develop* us.**

## **WE CAN LET THE CATASTROPHIC DESTROY US:**

We know people who are so devastated by misfortune that they never recover from it. They live their lives a shell of their former selves. They plod through life with little joy, simply marking the days until they too will die. In a real sense, they have died with their loved one. What happened is so terrible that it has destroyed them.

I had an uncle who came back from Korea suffering from what we would now call *post traumatic stress syndrome*. As children, our uncle would not pick us up for fear of contaminating us. The war destroyed him.

## **WE CAN LET THE CATASTROPHIC DEFINE US:**

The Great Depression shaped my grandparents’ behavior as it did so many Americans. When his life insurance company folded, my grandfather lost all the equity he had built up in his policy. He never bought life insurance again. Instead, he took what he usually paid in premiums each month and placed that money into a savings account.

*Continued on Page 8*



# PALM WAVERS NEEDED FOR PALM SUNDAY!

On Palm Sunday, March, 20, the children open our 10:30 a.m. worship service with a Palm Processional.

We remember how Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem with shouts of "Hosanna" which means "God save us." Our children remind us that Jesus has come to save us all, big and small. All children who wish to participate should meet in the Parlor, the room off the entryway, at 10:15 a.m. to receive their palm and instructions.



## Maundy Thursday Holy Communion

# Thursday, March 24th 7:00 p.m.

*During the darkest moments of our lives,  
God gives us a song to sing.  
We may still praise Him!*

With bread and cup we remember the darkness of deceit which is a prelude to the dawn of God's great truth:  
Jesus Lives!

Special music provided by our Worship Choir.

## Easter Egg Hunt



**Palm Sunday, March 20th in the church park after the 10:30 a.m. Service!**

It is a St. Paul tradition to hold an Easter Egg Hunt for our children after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Palm Sunday. Children leave from "More Jesus Time" in the Fellowship Hall for the church park where the hunt is held. If it rains, the Easter egg hunt is held in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to donate candy or empty, plastic eggs for this event there is a box set-up in the entryway. Place your donations there. Thank you in advance!



## COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

### March 25 @7 p.m.

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
Meditations upon the *Last Words of Jesus*  
Special Music

Special offering taken for the WRTMA

### Benevolence Projects:

emergency prescription drugs & transient aid.  
Sponsored by Wood River Township Ministerial Alliance and the Hartford Churches



## OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS!

- On Wed., Feb. 17th at the Salvation Army Bellringers “Thank You” Luncheon, St. Paul UMC received an award for being the **highest earning Faith-Based organization in 2015!** We raised **\$810.99**. The award and the article are posted on the big bulletin board, so check them out. We already have our date for 2016 at the Wood River Walmart grocery door – Friday, Dec. 9th – so mark your calendar!
- Roxana High School presented *The Pajama Game*, Feb. 26-28. **Oliver Bacus** played Sid singing classics like *Hey There* and *There Once Was A Man*. **Sydney Martin** played Gladys singing and dancing to classics like *Steam Heat* and *Hernando’s Hideaway*. **Brendan Palmer** played Pops who proudly showed off his stamp album to Sid! These adults from our church were involved in the play as well: **Debbie Bacus** as Drama Assistant and **Mark Bacus** on the Lighting Board. **Judy McGill** was the director. If you did not attend, you missed a memorable production.
- We want to **thank everyone** who distributed flyers and promoted the appearance of *The Farm Hands* from Nashville, TN at St. Paul. We were blessed by their inspirational music, leaving worship with a smile on our faces and a song in our hearts. Please keep *The Farm Hands* in your prayers as they continue their music ministry: Tim Graves, Daryl Mosley, Keith Tew, and Bennie Boling.
- The **Roxana High School Boys’ Basketball Team** made it to the Regional Finals, losing in overtime to the Marquette Explorers. We congratulate them upon a great season. **Chance Foss** from our church plays on the team.
- **Cody Blacklock** played in his last basketball game for East Alton/Wood River. While they did not advance in the regional, they never gave up and played with great heart. Cody was the defensive specialist who often shut down the leading scorer on opposing teams.
- **Lori Hickerson** also wound down her cheerleading career at East Alton/Wood River High School. Her enthusiasm was unparalleled on the team.
- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family of **Conrad Jones**, father of Barb Panfile; the family of Senior Associate Justice **Antonin Scalia** of the US Supreme Court; and the family of **John Nasello**, friend of Ruth Bell & Lois Mitchell. May you all know God’s comfort as you go through this time of grief.
- Congratulations to **Jason & Emily Thatcher** of Bethalto who welcomed a son, **Logan James**, 7 lbs. 5 oz. on January 7, 2016. Their older son, Jackson, was baptized here December 2012.
- **THANK YOU:** Thank you for all the prayers and cards. I really appreciated them! You are a blessing to me! **Marilyn Cisler**
- **THANK YOU:** Thank you for all the cards and prayers and calls. My knee is so much better now and I appreciate being remembered. **Jerry Cameron**



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



Join us on **SATURDAYS** at 5 p.m. for **Awakening!** Awakening is St. Paul's 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 MARCH Speakers:

- 5th - Lauren Cranmer
- 12th - Jason McAtee & the Gibson Girls (Easter Concert)
- 19th - Christian Lacher
- 26th - Christian Lacher

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

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



### **6: 4th Sunday in Lent. Communion Celebrated. One Great Hour of Sharing Sunday.**

Read Job 14:1-14. Job 14 begins with a sober description of life. "We're all adrift in the same boat: too few days, too many troubles. We spring up like wildflowers in the desert and then wilt., transient as the shadow of a cloud. He then laments, "Mortals have a limited life span. You've already decided how long we'll live—you set the boundary and no one can cross." Job is at the end of his rope. He had it all and now he has lost it all. He is absolutely overwhelmed by darkness and death. But then, in the midst of the storm Job says, "For a tree there is always hope. Chop it down and it still has a chance—its roots can put out fresh sprouts." From what appears to be a dead stump, a sprout appears offering hope for new life. So it is with us! **We take up a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing which supports the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Your gifts mean that we are able to respond immediately to disasters throughout the world.**



**13: 5th Sunday in Lent. Birthday Sunday.** Read Job 23:1-17. Job refuses to give into the prevailing notion that his misfortune is the result of some great failing. He rejects the prevailing notion that prosperity is a sign of God's blessing. Our God is great enough to allow something good to emerge from the bad of our lives. Job challenges God: "But he knows where I am and what I've done. He can cross-examine me all he wants, and I'll pass the test with honors. I've followed him closely, my feet in his footprints, not once swerving from his way. I've obeyed every word he's spoken, and not just obeyed his advice—I've treasured it."



### **20: PALM SUNDAY. During the 10:30 a.m. service, the children open worship with a palm processional. (Meet in the Parlor to get your palm leaf and instructions.)**

Read Job 38:1-11. If we like Job seek satisfying answers to our questions, we will not find them in this chapter. Ultimately, God is the Creator and we are the creature. As Job says in Chapter 42: "I babbled on about things far beyond me, made small talk about wonders way over my head...I'm sorry—forgive me. I'll never do that again, I promise!" We must make a leap of faith and trust in God's goodness—even when we cannot see it.



**27: EASTER SUNDAY.** Read Job 19:23-26. There is no hope. There is no justice. There is no reason to go on living...unless there is a Resurrection. Today, we affirm with Job: "Still, I know that God lives—the One who gives me back my life—and eventually he'll take his stand on earth. And I'll see him—even though I get skinned alive!—see God myself, with my very own eyes. Oh, how I long for that day!"



**Nurses Notes for MARCH 2016 from Parish Nurse, Eileen Cheatham RN, BC, B.S.N.!**

March's newsletter is a discussion about diabetes. As I work out in the churches and the community, I meet many people that have diabetes. It is a major health concern in the United States, with 29% of the population having the diagnosis. Plus, it is thought that over 8 million people have it and don't realize it! It is a concern because diabetes leads to so many other problems, such as eye (retinopathy), nerve damage (neuropathy), skin, kidney and heart complications. Diabetes is the leading cause of blindness, kidney disease, and lower limb amputation. Yet, there is good news. Many of these complications can be avoided when people with diabetes will manage their disease with proper lifestyle changes.



**There are three types of diabetes.**

**Type 1: the body fails to produce insulin**, which is the hormone that "unlocks" the body's cells to allow glucose to get in to be used for fuel. Every cell needs glucose to survive.

**Type 2: is a result of insulin resistance**, in which the muscle, fat and liver cells fail to respond to the insulin in the body. So the cells do not get the insulin needed, and the pancreas works overtime sending out more insulin to see if it can "jump start" the body to receive the insulin. This increase in insulin helps the body receive the glucose in the cells, and it will work for a while, but then the pancreas just cannot keep up anymore. Although insulin resistance alone does not cause diabetes, it can, over time set the stage that leads to diabetes. Research now suspects that insulin resistance is caused by obesity- especially belly fat. Belly fat causes excess inflammation in the body that can lead to many other complications. Other causes of insulin resistance can be certain medications, steroid use, smoking, sleep problems (especially sleep apnea) and older age.

**Type 3: Gestational diabetes-** 7-10% of pregnant women develops this, but usually blood sugars return to normal after delivery.

Diabetes greatly increases the risk of heart disease and stroke. It is very important for all of us to make good choices in order to lead a healthy life. The good news is that insulin resistance can be reversed by losing weight; maintaining a healthy weight, stop smoking, and increasing physical activity. The body also requires a good night's sleep!

Alton Memorial Hospital offers an **American Diabetes Self-Management Program** for all ages. We have on staff a certified diabetes educator, Lisa James, and a Registered Dietician, Naomi Ward, and both are ready and available to assist you with personal consultations, education and resources. Services include: diabetes overview and explanation, medication instruction, dietary and carbohydrate counseling, exercise planning, sick day management, instructions with finger sticks, and insulin pump training.

If you would like to have the assistance of the Diabetes Management Center at the hospital, start by getting a referral from your physician. If you have an appointment with your doctor, I can provide you with a form to take to your physician- and will make some available to the church offices too. I will leave forms with the Wiseman-Pollock receptionist for UMV residents. Should you have any questions, I can assist you. Medicare, IPA, and private insurances will cover program fees. Before you are set up, your insurance company is contacted.

There is also a **monthly Diabetes Support Group** for people with diabetes, and family members. The group offers education and the opportunity to share valuable experiences with others- and just to share fellowship and support. The monthly dates are located on the bulletin boards at the churches and also on the information board across from Wiseman Pollock receptionist for UMV residents. If you have any questions or would like further information you may also call 618-463-7526 and ask for Lisa James, or Naomi Ward.

Please remember the **Daffodil Campaign** at the hospital on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. The parish nurses and other AMH employees will sell daffodils in the connector lobby. We sell them by the bunch (10 stems) for 10 dollars or a bunch in a vase for 15.00. All of the money raised is placed in a fund and used for the cancer patients here at the hospital. In the past, the funds have been used to help pay the patients bills, such as an electric bill or rent, transportation expenses, or whatever assistance the patient could need because of their illness. It is a wonderful way to be gracious to others! Many thanks to the church members who came out last year!

**Enjoy the Easter season!** Easter gives us the greatest reason for being thankful, which is our salvation and eternal life in Jesus. Easter reminds us of the forgiveness, peace and joy that we have in the Risen One. Even in the midst of crisis, such as financial problems, health concerns, family or friends that harbor unforgiveness- there is a Light that shines through within the darkness. Have hope dear friends- Jesus has overcome and His mercies are new each day! My prayer for all of you is a renewal of love, joy, and life through Him. A Joyous Easter to all of you. He is risen! He is risen indeed! *Eileen*



# MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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

- March 01 Betts, Lisa
- March 01 Toner, Ava
- March 02 Brown, Robert
- March 02 Voorhees, Ricci
- March 02 Baker, Kristin
- March 03 Toner, Ted
- March 04 Ballard, Iola
- March 04 Napp, Allan
- March 04 Springer, Brent
- March 05 Toner, Chuck
- March 05 Plummer, Alexis
- March 05 Sandbach, Ava
- March 07 Glassmeyer, Judy
- March 07 Mayer, Mark
- March 08 Hamm, Pat
- March 09 Bell, Corey
- March 09 Fansler, Meg
- March 09 Clark, Landon
- March 10 Hamilton, Donna
- March 10 Emerick, Micki
- March 11 Diveley, Kasey
- March 11 Oertle, Jill
- March 11 Laws, Ashley
- March 12 Toner, Brooke
- March 13 Huddleston, John
- March 13 Schroedter, Stephanie
- March 13 Terry, Codey
- March 13 Bonds, Hunter

- March 17 Upple, Carol
- March 17 Kainz, Jean
- March 17 Foiles, Kelsey
- March 17 Henderson, Sophia
- March 17 Schiber, Rachel
- March 18 Birmingham, Harvey
- March 19 Ward, Gerry
- March 19 Huddleston, Rick
- March 19 Tillery, Joe
- March 19 Witthoft, Tim
- March 20 Michels, Mike
- March 20 Clark, Katie
- March 20 Gwaltney, Matt
- March 21 Hill, Phyllis
- March 21 Bishop, Krista
- March 22 Brueggeman, Randy
- March 22 Kamp, Lori
- March 22 Napp, Kyle
- March 22 Toner, Matt
- March 22 Gebhardt, Lucas
- March 23 Moon, Bob
- March 23 Sandbach, Justin
- March 24 Grizzle, Lucy

- March 24 Oertle, Logan
- March 24 White, Audrey
- March 25 Dawson, Anita
- March 25 LaTempt, Tonya
- March 26 McCammon, Toby
- March 26 Bell, Jayden
- March 28 Sparling, Rick III
- March 28 Watt, Tyler
- March 29 Hamlin, Mark
- March 29 Bentley, Tracy
- March 30 Eyster, Chris
- March 30 Wells, Amy
- March 31 Gwaltney, Don Sr.
- March 31 Blacklock, Betsy
- March 31 Herndon, Holden



# MARCH ANNIVERSARIES



- |                                      |                                    |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| March 02 Dorsey, Norris & Mary Lou   | March 11 Roberts, Brian & Jennifer |
| March 03 Buatte, David & Cherie      | March 14 Basden, Bill & Gloria     |
| March 07 Garrison, Andrew & Jennifer | March 19 Herndon, Jim & Jane       |
| March 07 Shewmake, Nathan & Samantha | March 20 White, Jeff & Laura Mae   |
| March 09 Ortegren, Al & Bobbi        | March 21 Pascoe, Doug & Joy        |
| March 09 Springer, Brent & Jessie    | March 21 Scroggins, Mike & Linda   |

# Changes and Additions to the current Church Directory

**George Tappy** Cedarhurst Memory Care, Apt. A6, 7108 Marine Rd., Edwardsville, IL 62025

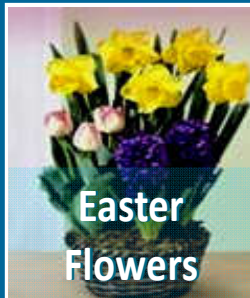
If you are going to move soon, give the church office advance notice of your new address. Also, remember to update us on your new phone number and/or email address. Thank you!



## FEBRUARY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 2/29/2016	\$20871.25
Designated Giving:	through 2/29/2016	\$881.50
	Capital Improvements	405.00
	Loose Change	142.15
	Flowers	225.50
	Hickerson Scholarship	20.00
	Offering Envelopes	35.00
	2016 Steeple Postage	33.50
	Upper Room Donations	20.00
Capital Campaign		7465.00
One Great Hour of Sharing		14.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$29231.40</b>

**Total Capital Campaign money received as of 2-29-16: \$137,177.46**



Easter Flowers

It is time to order your Easter Flowers for 2016. The order forms will be in the worship bulletins.

Remember to pay for your flowers when you order them. The flowers will cost **\$8.50** each this year. If you have any questions, call the church office @ **259-5210**.

### MARCH Ushers (10:30 a.m.):

- Mar. 6th: Anita Dawson, Diane Murbarger
- Mar. 13th: **FOLKS NEEDED!**
- Mar. 20th: **FOLKS NEEDED!**
- Mar. 27th: **FOLKS NEEDED!**

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

### Average Attendance for FEBRUARY 2016

Early Service	34
Late Service	58
Sunday School	32
Visitors	4
4 Awakening Services	47



**RENEW A STEADFAST SPIRIT WITHIN ME.**

PSALM 51:10, NIV

### MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT



March's Loose Change Project is McKendree University. This university

was established as a private Methodist College. It currently has over 2,000 students and 150 staff. The university needs financial support for scholarships, building funds, and the many other needs always present in maintaining an ongoing educational institution. May God bless your gifts!

**DEADLINE FOR APRIL 2016 STEEPLE, Fri., MARCH 18th!**



**Sunday, March 13th**  
Set your clock ahead one hour!



### *Pastor's Corner - Continued from Page 1*

#### **WE CAN LET THE CATASTROPHIC DEVELOP US.**

Does God test us in order to strengthen us...to develop our character?

I don't believe so. We live in an imperfect world filled with pain, suffering and death. These afflictions were not part of God's original plan for the world. I don't believe that God singles out this person to get cancer, that person to have a child die, or a young man to die in combat.

Philip Yancey, a Christian writer, puts it like this: *"Life happens."* Or as the Bible puts it: *"The rain falls on the just and the unjust."* In other words, sometimes evil people prosper while the good suffer. There is no rhyme or reason for this—at least not this side of heaven.

We can't control what happens to us in life. We can control how we respond to life events. This is why it is significant that Job worships God at the moment Satan is convinced Job will turn away from God. We can flee from God, but whom will we flee to? Satan? What comfort will we find there?

When Job lost everything, all that he had left was faith. The belief that even though he did not understand why his whole world had collapsed around him, he must still trust God. Somehow, someday God would bring some small good out of this great evil.

Satan tested not only Job, but Jesus as well. He tested Jesus to the point of death.

When we experience a devastating and catastrophic loss it's normal to feel like *"It's the end. It's all over. I'm done. I'm ruined forever. Nothing good can ever come from it. All is lost."* We lose all hope.

When we cry out, from the depths of our crushed lives, *"Where are you, God?"* Jesus says: *"I'm here, feeling your pain, dying your death. I'll always be here for you. And when the New Jerusalem comes down from heaven, replacing the brokenness of this old world, then I will reach out my hand and like a Kleenex wipe away every tear from your eye. There will be no more death, no more grieving, no more crying, no more pain. All this will be gone forever."*

As we continue our journey with Job and Jesus, my hope is that we will come to Easter able to say with **Job 19:25-27:** *"I know my Redeemer lives, and in the end He will rise and take His stand on the earth. And though my skin has been stripped off, still, in my flesh, I will see God. I, myself, will see Him: not some stranger, but actually me, with these eyes. Toward this end, my deepest longings pine away within my chest."* (God's Voice) Pastor Daryl

## **Awakening Service - Easter Concert!**



Jason McAtee will be providing an **Easter Concert** at the Awakening service on **Saturday, March 12th at 5:00 p.m.** He will be bringing the Gibson Girls (four sisters) from Jerseyville to be a part of the concert. If you attended Jason's Christmas concert in December, you remember how great that concert was. **We are looking forward to Jason & the Gibson Girls being here at St. Paul UMC on March 12th.** A free will offering will be taken for their ministry. Please invite your friends, family, and neighbors to this event!





# Hickerson Scholarship 2016



The tragic skiing accident of January 15, 1995, that claimed the life of Meghan Hickerson of Hartford, IL, will never be forgotten.

God has a way of healing hurt and turning tragedy into triumph. Meghan's death immediately gave life to several people, known collectively as "organ donor recipients." Her legacy of faith and service lives on through the "Meghan Hickerson Christian Teen Leader Memorial Scholarship" that is made available through St. Paul UMC.

Meghan was a student leader who set a standard of excellence within the public school system. She also set an example of faith and dedication by spreading God's love through her church and her academic life, to all she encountered. Our goal each year is to reward one or two

deserving college-bound graduating seniors who sets for him or herself the same standards of outstanding scholastic achievement and faith reflected in their everyday life.

Graduating seniors from the three area high schools (East Alton-Wood River, Roxana, and Civic Memorial) or any who are a member of St. Paul UMC may apply for the \$500.00 scholarship.

We encourage members to notify any student that may qualify and have them complete the application process. Application materials will be available through the counselors at the above mentioned schools or directly from the church office.

**DEADLINE for completed application materials is:**

**Friday, April 1, 2016**

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 259-5210.



## Easter Baskets for Needy Children

Once again our congregation has the opportunity to make Easter Baskets for needy children. We have delivered approximately 400 baskets over the last 10 years to the Community Hope Center and Operation Blessing. We deliver baskets before Easter.

Baskets can be homemade or bought. Traditional Easter candy, a small toy, a stuffed animal, or some personal items, or school supplies can go into them. We do ask that you cover the basket with cellophane or some kind of see through protection,

so the items do not fall out. Place these in the food collection area.

You can also bring individual items which will be made into baskets by the craft ladies. Put the items in the bins labeled for such in the same area. The craft ladies will then assemble baskets from these. We need "empty" baskets and we need lots of good things to fill them with.

**Easter is on March 27th this year...**

**Individual items need to be in the collection area by Sunday, March 13th.**

**Completed Baskets need to be in the collection area by Sunday, March 20th.**

**Delivery will take place on the week of March 21st.**

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE!!**

# RUMMAGE



The 2016 Women Of Worship Spring Rummage Sale will be held on **Friday and Saturday, April 29th & 30th**

**(with a Pre-Sale opportunity on Thursday, April 28th).**

It is still many weeks away but we thought that we would give you notice on the dates so you can start collecting items to bring to the church once the time gets here. When you do your Spring Cleaning this month, be on the lookout for the many things that you can donate to this annual mission fund raiser!

**Thank You!**



### The Light Kids Conference – Troy, IL Saturday, March 19 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

Troy UMC, 407 Edwardsville, Rd,

The Light Kids Conference is a one day event designed for children in grades 1-5. The purpose of the Light Kids Conference is to get kids excited about the faith and the walk with Jesus.

#### Pricing

**Early Rates** (Postmarked 2 weeks before event)

Student Early Registration Rate – \$20

Adult Early Registration Rate – \$15

**Regular Rates** (Registered/Paid before event date)

Student Regular Registration Rate – \$25

Adult Regular Registration Rate – \$20

**Registering at the Door**

Student at the Door – \$30

Adult at the Door – \$25

**Contact Church Office if interested (259-5210)!**



April 9, 2016, for the Mission Possible Trivia Night at St. Paul! We hope you

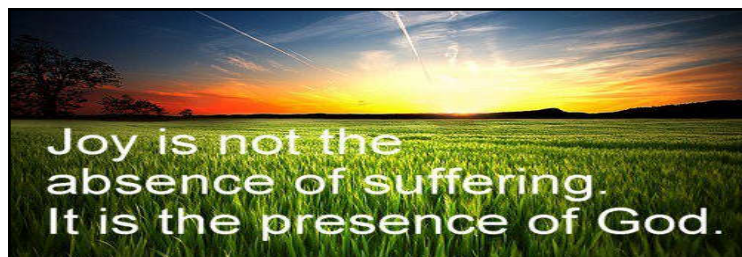
can join us that evening as we enjoy Christian fellowship and raise funds for the Capital Campaign.

So ask your friends, family, and neighbors, and let's fill the Fellowship Hall with tables. **See page 11** of the Steeple for the flyer with the full details on this event!



Our *One Great Hour of Sharing* offering on **Sun., March 6** provides major support for the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), which gives immediate assistance in the wake of natural

disasters, refugees and provides long- and short-term hunger relief. Your gifts allow 100% of designated gifts to be used for a specific disaster response or other ministry. For example, 100% of what we gave last year to provide relief to those affected by the Nepal earthquakes went for direct aid. Your gifts enable us to respond swiftly as needs arise throughout the year. You may either use the special offering envelope for *One Great Hour of Sharing* or mark a designated amount for it on your regular offering envelope. Or simply grab a pew envelope and write *One Great Hour of Sharing* upon the outside. Thank you for your generous response.



### REPORT ON "GROW ONE STEP IN 2016!" COMMITMENT WEEKEND

There is still time to return your **Estimate of Giving card**. If you misplaced your card, stop by the Church Office or the welcome table in the entryway for a replacement. Your estimate is important to the 2016 budget.

- A total of **77** individuals, couples, and families have completed *Estimate of Giving Cards* to-date (2/29/2016).
- The total committed on these *Estimate of Giving Cards* to our ministry for 2016 to-date is **\$170,533.00**.



# St. Paul United Methodist Church TRIVIA NIGHT

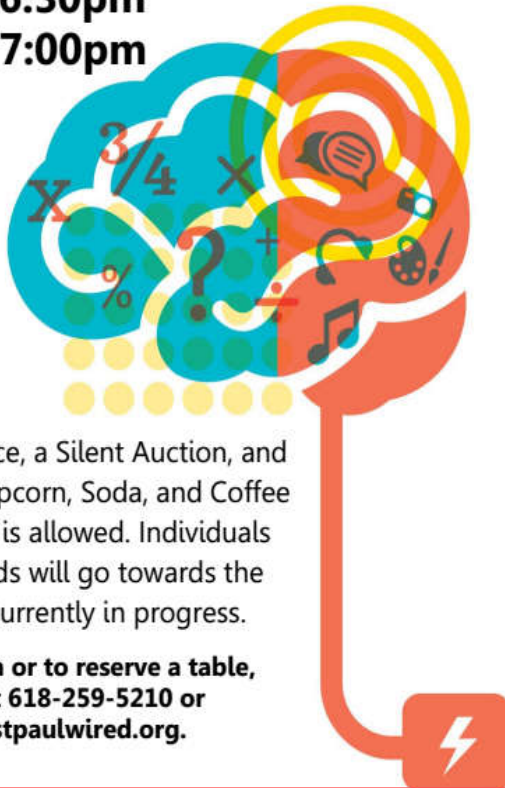
## Saturday, April 9, 2016

### Doors Open at 6:30pm

### Trivia Starts at 7:00pm

**Cost:** \$12/person –  
Maximum 8 players per  
table

**Where:** St. Paul United  
Methodist Church-  
10 N. Center St.  
East Alton, IL 62024



Cash prize for First Place, a Silent Auction, and a Dessert Auction!!! Popcorn, Soda, and Coffee provided. No alcohol is allowed. Individuals welcome! All proceeds will go towards the Capital Campaign currently in progress.

**For more information or to reserve a table,**  
call the church at 618-259-5210 or  
email at [info@stpaulwired.org](mailto:info@stpaulwired.org).



## Happy St. Patrick's Day, March 17th

### CAMPING...CAMPING...

#### CAMPING

Pick up *Quest*—a publication offering a complete listing of our church camps—is available on top of the mailboxes across from the Church Office and on the wall in the church entryway. Camps for all ages are available at Little Grassy near Carbondale, East Bay near Bloomington, Beulah in Eldorado, and Epworth near Greenville. College students and adults might consider serving as counselors in our camps. Everything you need to know about being a camper or counselor is found in *Quest*.



### THE THIRD DAY

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



www.joyfultoons.com © 2010 Michael D. Waters

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—

— HEBREWS 2:14 NIV

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of 'disaster,' I remember my mother's words and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers – so many caring people in this world."



**CALLING MEN OF ALL AGES (13-55+) WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS? WOULD YOU LIKE TO ATTEND? PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE (259-5210) OR PASTOR DARYL, TODAY!**



The Main Street United Methodist Men have invited us to join them for the *Iron Sharpens Iron Men's Conference* on **Saturday, March 19 at the First United Methodist Church in Springfield, IL.**

This amazing conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:55 p.m. and is open to men from 13 yrs. +. Registration by March 9 is \$56 while registration afterwards is \$62. Student registration (13-22) is \$32. With early registration, you may sign up for lunch at a cost of \$8.

The main speakers are Michael Crawford, founder and pastor of Freedom Church in Baltimore, MD and Vince D'Acchioli, founder and president of *On Target Ministries*, a Christian outreach to men, pastors, and couples. There will be sixteen different equipping seminars. (See speaker and seminar information on the big bulletin board.) We may ride along with the men of Main Street in their church vans. Please contact the Church Office by phone or email if you are interested in attending *Iron Sharpens Iron*.

**IRON SHARPENS IRON 2016**  
NATIONAL MEN'S ONE-DAY EQUIPPING CONFERENCES  
**MARCH 19**  
**SPRINGFIELD, IL**

**EQUIPPING MEN OF ALL AGES**

- WORSHIP
- SEMINARS
- EXHIBITORS
- RESOURCES

7:30AM DOORS OPEN  
 8:30AM CONFERENCE BEGINS  
 4:55PM CONFERENCE ENDS  
**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

EMERGING MEN (AGES 13-19) PIONEERING MEN (AGES 20-29)  
 FULL THROTTLE MEN (AGES 30-55) SEASONED MEN (AGES 55+)

**Keynote Speaker**  
**VINCE D'ACCHIOLI**



**Keynote Speaker**  
**MICHAEL CRAWFORD**

REGISTER WITH THE MEN OF YOUR CHURCH  
[WWW.RPMFM.ORG](http://WWW.RPMFM.ORG)

HOSTED BY RELEVANT PRACTICAL MINISTRY FOR MEN



**The Awakening Service on Saturdays has added another mission project. We are collecting women's and men's socks for the Client Service Department of Riverbend Family Ministries (RFM) in Wood River.**

The RFM client service department (CSD) works one-on-one with our clients and their families needing aid with rental and utility assistance, job coaching, interview skills, resume writing, financial fitness, social service navigation, and rehabilitation connections. Their goal is to provide training in basic life skills, groups that help individuals deal with the stresses of life, and assistance in the pursuit of a new career path. While receiving invaluable life skills and tools to better their futures, individuals also benefit from the encouragement of our staff to go forward in their lives. Our clients experiencing homelessness are given facilities to shower, do laundry and a hot cup of coffee and conversation while here. Often the needs are simple...like a new, warm pair of socks. All services are free of charge. A collection barrel is located to the left of the stage. Help the homeless keep their feet warm and dry this year!



## 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 any 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 2015 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 now 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):

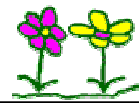
- If you are interested in a one-time gift, send the donation to the church or place it in the Sunday offering, **but please be sure to note Mission Possible (or CFC for Capital Fund Campaign) on the check memo line/ offering envelope.**
- You can also give online through our website.
- You can give 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.

Beginning in **January 2016**, you will place the designated amount for “Mission Possible” gifts on the **Capital Campaign** line on your offering envelopes. Donations toward the expenses of our Church Operations (i.e. the General Budget) would go on the **Undesignated** line as always. What was Capital Improvements, funds meant for unexpected major expenses, is now 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!**



## ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PRESERVING THE PHYSICAL INTEGRITY OF ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
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"THROUGH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE" MATTHEW 19:26

The Trustees wanted to take this time to update you about our "Mission Possible" project. The Trustees have approved using Sigman, Indoor Climate Solutions, Inc. of Belleville, Illinois as our contractor for the project. Sigman was chosen from 3 contractors expressing an interest in our project (although we had sent invitations to bid to several firms we only had 3 firms move to examine our project and 2 submitted bids). Sigman comes highly recommended having worked with several churches on both sides of the river including churches of some of the members of the UMC District Building and Location Committee.

The project involves replacement of the majority of our HVAC equipment with more efficient equipment and a re-instrumentation of our current boiler as a backup source of heat. The bid also includes replacing ceiling tile and lighting throughout the church (with the exception of the main portion of the sanctuary) and any necessary electrical work required of an updated system. The Trustees are working diligently to bring the project costs in under \$500,000 including priorities one, two and possibly three. The Trustees met with the contractor for a final run through on the bid, at their February 21 meeting, which is the signal to begin final work toward financial aspects and developing a project schedule.

Our hope is that the HVAC work will begin fairly soon and be completed by the end of May if not before. Thanks again for all of your support and encouragement!

***Respectfully the St. Paul Board of Trustees***

**FLOWER  
CALENDAR**

**Flower Calendar for  
2016 is posted on the  
big bulletin board in  
the Education Wing.**

**Many openings!**

**Please, fill it up!**

**Thank you!**

**2016 NEWSLETTERS:**

The cost to have the newsletter mailed directly to you at home will be **\$8.50**. We will still email the Newsletter, place it on the website, and have copies at the church for you to pick up, to have extras to give to friends you invite to church, and for visitors to take. You may go ahead and send your request to the Church Office and your check for **\$8.50**.

Any questions...please call 259-5210.