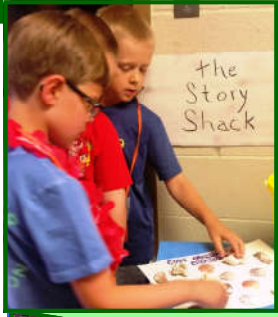
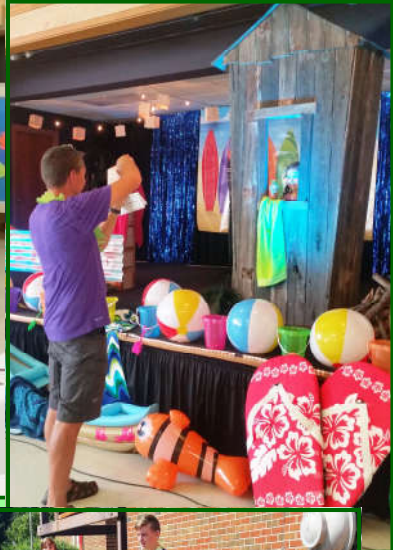




VBS 2016!





How to be a good host!

The Church Council charged the Worship Ministry Team to come up with a strategy to grow our 10:30 a.m. worship service. As we considered the suggestions offered to us by Rev. Bill Tenny-Brittian, we realized what we need to do in all our services is to invite people to worship. Across all age groups in the U.S. many people do not attend worship—on the average 50% of the people in any neighborhood. On an average Sunday now 17% of people in the U.S. are in worship. As the Annual Conference theme noted: the fields are ripe for harvest. What is needed is us: the workers.

The **number one reason** that people give for attending a new church is a personal invitation! And, even if they do not wish to attend a church, people indicate they are not offended by an invitation. They appreciate people who are passionate about their church and worship.

So the Worship Ministry Team **challenges every person to invite someone to worship**; especially on the weekend of Sept. 17-18, Back to Church Weekend. (The following Sunday begins a new sermon series, I Love My Church.) It doesn't matter what age group you are in; you know people who would benefit from knowing Jesus! When was the last time you invited someone to worship at St. Paul?

If you see someone at worship you don't know, introduce yourself and say "I don't believe that I know you?" Talk about the Cardinals—usually a safe subject in our area, but if they are a Cubs fan let them know there are a few of those in our midst. We have not ostracized them yet. Or ask about their family or hobbies.

If they look like they are searching for the restrooms, show them the way. If they have preschool children at the 10:30 a.m. service, tell them about the nursery. If they have children preschool-5th grade, explain More Jesus Time is available after the Children's Time. Offer them a newsletter, a flyer about St. Paul, one of our free worship CDs, or an Upper Room to use for daily devotions.

Explain that we offer three services with different worship styles because we understand that people connect with God in a variety of ways. Our guests will appreciate knowing there are different times of worship to accommodate our busy lives.

New people are guests in God's house. Treat them even better than you would treat guests in your own house! Follow the golden rule. It is scary to walk into a new church for the first time. How would you like to be treated? Go and do likewise.
Pastor Daryl

Installation of Bishop Frank J. Beard



Bishop Frank J. Beard was elected as a Bishop in the North Central Jurisdiction on July 13, 2016. Prior to his election he served as an ordained Elder in the Indiana Area of the United Methodist Church. The newly elected Bishop has been assigned to The Illinois Great Rivers Conference effective September 1, 2016.

Bishop Beard will be installed on **Sunday, September 11th at 3 p.m.** at the First United Methodist Church—Springfield. IGRC Communications is planning to stream the event live on the IGRC website (www.igrc.org).

Bishop Beard is married to wife Melissa, has two adult daughters: Eleanor & Emily, and two grandchildren: Maya and Elijah. The Bishop is an avid fisherman and loves to tell stories about his fishing adventures. When asked if he is going fishing he is quick to reply, "No, I'm going catching, anybody can fish!"

The Back Pew - Jeff Larson



FAITH THE SIZE OF A PAPER BAG

For the Lord did not give us a spirit of timidity (and hyperventilation), but a spirit of power, of love and self-discipline. **2 Timothy 1:7**