



The Steeple

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

MAY 2017



An outdoor church sign at Faith Temple Church, Sioux Falls, SD, on Mother's Day said: *"And God rested on the seventh day and Mom took over."*

As we gather on this Mother's Day, I am like many of you; truly thankful for my mother. I echo the sentiments of Abraham Lincoln who said: *"All that I am I owe to my godly mother."*

It isn't just my mother, but dozens of women whose concern and love for me shaped my life. These women were my Sunday School teachers, Den Mothers, school teachers, or simply the mothers of my friends. Some of these had children of their own while others treated us as their children. Their influence shaped me into the man I have become.

Our great nation was built upon the quiet faith and gentle devotion of good, Christian women like these. The impact they had upon our lives was so subtle that it is only in adulthood we appreciate the imprint they left.

Let's just pause for a moment this Mother's Day and recall all of those women who mothered us. All those women who helped us become loving, moral, godly human beings. Aren't we blessed by all the moms who weren't our biological moms that God sent our way?

When the people of Israel enter the Promised Land, God is convinced that they will forget the God who led them there. And God was right. They did forget.

To prompt their remembering, God has the people build altars marking significant historical places in the Promised Land so when the children in years to come pass by these piles of stones, they will ask their parents: *why is that there?* Then, the parents would tell the story of what God did to help His people in this place. The children will remember and not forget God's goodness.

Remembering is important to God. After Moses descends from Mt. Sinai with the Ten Commandments, God instructs Moses how to ensure that these commandments are remembered. God says: *"You must surround your children with these commandments. Talk about them all the time, whether you're at home or walking along the road or going to bed at night, or getting up in the morning. Write down copies and tie them to your wrists and foreheads to help you obey them. Write these laws on the door frames of your house."* God understood that we need to surround our children with godly values so these values become a natural part of their life. God understood that a godly life is caught more than it is taught.

Mother's Day is a time when we remember that whatever godly values we possess come—not from our own goodness—but from the persistent influence of these godly women God sent into our lives. From these many moms, we have absorbed the importance of being connected to God, the difference between right and wrong, and the abiding assurance of God's love for us.

"And God rested on the seventh day and Mom took over." I guess I would add to this saying: *"God knew that one mom would never be enough for any of us, so he sent us many!"* As long as our world is filled with these many moms, there is hope for our children. There is hope for all of us.

We invite you to join us during the 8:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. services at St Paul on Mother's Day, May 14, to remember and give thanks for the godly influence of the women in our lives. Every mother present receives a special gift. During the 10:30 a.m. service, the children's bell choir plays a special song for their mothers and all children will make a gift for the mothers at More Jesus Time.

Pastor Daryl



OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS!

- **Piper Martin** was a Shadow Dancer and **Marlo Schiber** was a Lost Boy in the Roxana Jr. High School April production of “Peter Pan.” The performance was directed by **Debbie Bacus** and the set was designed by **Mark Bacus**. It was great to hear the familiar songs that many of us grew up with. Of course, we all clapped because we believe in fairies!
- **Sam Brown** played a dual role as a Paris policeman and a revolutionary in Alton High School’s April presentation of “Les Misérables.” His role called for Sam not only to sing but also to shoot a gun off the ramparts. **Julie Brown** played the piano as part of the pit orchestra. Alton High has great voices to sing this complex piece.
- At SIUE the musical “The Drowsy Chaperone” was presented in April. **Oliver Bacus** played the role of Aldolpho. “He was incredible and funny – he was crazy good! This production was off the charts!” said his proud dad, Mark Bacus, on Facebook.
- With great joy **Finnegan Brock Murtagh Plummer** was welcomed into the St. Paul family through baptism on April 23rd. His proud parents are Tim & Ashley Plummer; his excited sisters are Zelda, Tesla, & Teagan; and his delighted grandparents are David & Lori Kamp and Mike & Carrie Plummer. Congratulations!
- **Thank you to all** who helped with the church workday. Your presence and work were greatly appreciated. It is always good to catch up on some of these things.
- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family of **Coleen McClelland**, sister/sister-in-law of (the late George) & Joyce Tappy; the family of **Jim Velloff**, uncle of Julie & Gary Brown; the family of **Henry Cathorall**, cousin of Michael Cathorall; the family of **Marymae Vatole**, cousin of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; and the family of **Alfred Nation**, grandfather (who was like a father) of Josh Nation. May you all know God’s comfort and peace in the days ahead.
- **Thank you to everyone** who contributed to The Gideons International on Gideons Sunday! We have received word that a total of **\$342** was given.

- **THANK YOU:** I want to thank our church family for their prayers and cards during my recent emergency surgery. I especially appreciate visits from Pastor Daryl. A special thanks to nurse Eileen for being with my children during my surgery and her follow-up visits. God Bless! *Sally Lay*
- **THANK YOU: A Big Thank You:** to my church family for your prayers, cards, calls, visits, and the delicious Car-ing Casserole meal... plus the surprise visit from the Sweet Sounds... to all help me through this unexpected “down time.” A special thank you to Pastor Daryl, Doug & Joy Pascoe, and Eileen for their prayers and visits. God bless you all! *Carol Warner*
- **THANK YOU:** The Trustees and the Mission Possible Steering Committee would like to take this opportunity to express a big “thank you” to the Awakening team, especially Ryan Tite’s leadership, and all others who donated items, sponsored rounds, were part of the volunteer work crew, and/or participated in the Harry Potter Trivia Night. The event was a tremendous success and the over \$5,000 in funds raised will go a long way to our continuing renovation work. Thank you so much to all for your hard work and dedication to the on-going ministry of St. Paul UMC. *St. Paul Trustees*
- **THANK YOU:** To the Boy Scouts, the Gwaltneys, and all others who participated in the construction of the brick walkway from the parking lot to the picnic shelter and also some landscaping..... God bless you one and all! Once the engraved bricks and stone benches are completed and installed we will have a beautiful addition to our worship and park area. Also, a HUGE thank you to the Boy Scouts for raking up the gumballs, leaves, and sticks in preparation for our Easter Egg Hunt and summer worship season. With young people like those in our Scout Troop....our future is definitely in good hands....just ask Don Gwaltney! And thank you to the Gwaltneys for other landscaping work done around the church and the Parsonage in the last couple of months. The whole place is shaping up nicely for spring and summer! *St. Paul Trustees*



"For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me." (Matthew 25:35-36)

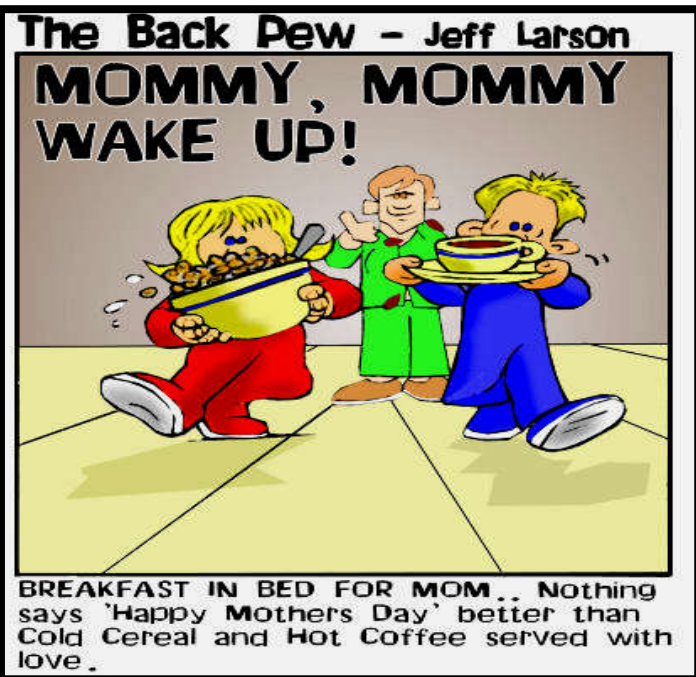
On Saturday, **May 6th, at 5 p.m.**, Awakening will open our doors to the community with an event called **Pizza & Praise**. This **café style worship** will allow us to feed those who are hungry; whether physically or spiritually. We ask that you invite a friend, family member, or stranger to attend. It is our hope that we can share the love of Jesus Christ through the opening of the church doors and sharing a meal together with others.

Awakening continues to explore new and exciting ways that we can reach other people. We would love for everyone to try out a service if you have not yet. We are blessed with a wonderful church family and enjoy the time that we can all come together to worship Christ our King.

Mark your calendars! There will **NOT** be an Awakening service on Saturday, June 3rd. **On Sunday, June 4th**, the first ever **Paws in the Park** will be held in the park at St. Paul. Bring your four-legged friends and join the fun for **Popsicles, Pets, & Praise!** We ask that you bring a donation to benefit the Pound Pets, Inc. This ministry and rescue is based out of Granite City/Collinsville, IL and helps rescue animals who need a second chance. Alongside of their rescue mission, they also deliver pet food to the elderly, disabled, or anyone who is unable to financially afford to feed their pets. Through their ministry, they keep furry families with their owners instead of letting financial constraints pull them apart. **Registration for this event begins at 4:30 p.m.** A blessing of the pets and pet parade will commence at 5:30 p.m.

To RSVP to the Pizza & Praise event, or inquire about vendor space at the Paws in the Park, please contact Lauren Cranmer at (618) 660-7967 or lauren.cranmer@online.gbcol.edu.

May God's Blessings Flow Abundantly Throughout the Month of May!
Lauren Cranmer, Awakening Worship Coordinator





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



Join us on SATURDAYS at 5 p.m. for Awakening - St. Paul's contemporary worship service 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 MAY Speakers:

6th - This night is our special café style worship: **PIZZA & PRAISE!** Please bring your family, friends & neighbors and join us for praise & worship, fellowship, and pizza with chips and soda! RSVP with your numbers to 660-7967 or lauren.cranmer@online.gbcol.edu.

13th - Judy McGill **20th** - Pastor Mike Rayson

27th - Glenn Breuklander - Navy veteran



Sundays at St. Paul in MAY 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.

7: **4th Sunday of Easter. Communion celebrated.** Jesus appeared many times to the disciples and other followers. Today we recall how he surprised two disciples on the road to Emmaus. Read Luke 24:13-35.



14: **5th Sunday of Easter. Mother's Day. Birthday Sunday.** We honor the faith of our mothers today. Every mother present receives a gift. During *More Jesus Time* at the 10:30 a.m. service, the children make a gift for their mothers. From its beginning the church has depended upon the support of women to advance its mission. We celebrate the contribution that women are making in our local churches.



21: **6th Sunday of Easter.** Pastor Daryl begins a new 3- part sermon series on discipleship. Today he issues an invitation to be a disciple, a follower, of Jesus. Read Matthew 4:18-32.



28: **7th Sunday of Easter. Memorial Sunday.** Pastor Daryl continues the sermon series on discipleship. Today he teaches how to do what disciples do. Read John 15:12-17. We will remember those who have gone on before us into heaven. We will also dedicate memorial gifts.

JUNE 4: PENTECOST. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHURCH! Outdoor Worship in the Park begins today at 8:15! Graduate Sunday at 10:30. Pastor Daryl continues the sermon series on discipleship. Today he highlights the beginning of the church which calls us to be disciples and carry on the work of Jesus. He discusses the difference that disciples make in the world. Read Matthew 5:13-16.





Nurse's Notes for MAY 2017 from Parish Nurse, Eileen Cheatham RN, BC, B.S.N.

Asthma Awareness

May is Asthma Awareness Month

Asthma is a disease that affects your lungs. It is one of the most common long-term diseases of children, but adults can have asthma, too. Normally the airways to the lungs are fully open when we breathe- so air moves in and out frequently. People with asthma have highly sensitive airways that become inflamed easily. Asthma causes wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing at night or early in the morning. If you have asthma, you have it all the time, but you will have asthma attacks **only** when something bothers your lungs. In most cases, we don't know what causes asthma, and we don't know how to cure it. We know that if someone in your family has asthma you are more likely to have it. **30 million people in the U.S. have a diagnosis of asthma.**

An asthma attack may include coughing, chest tightness, wheezing, and trouble breathing. The attack happens in your body's airways, which are the paths that carry air to your lungs. As the air moves through your lungs, the airways become smaller, like the branches of a tree are smaller than the tree trunk. During an asthma attack, the sides of the airways in your lungs swell and the airways shrink. Less air gets in and out of your lungs, and mucous that your body makes clogs up the airways even more.

You can control your asthma by knowing the warning signs of an asthma attack, staying away from things that cause an attack, and following your doctor's advice. When you can control your asthma, you won't have symptoms such as wheezing or coughing, you'll sleep better, you won't miss work, you can take part in all physical activities, and you won't have to go to the hospital.

An asthma attack can happen when you are exposed to "asthma triggers". Your triggers can be very different from those of someone else with asthma. Know your triggers and learn how to avoid them. Watch out for an attack when you can't avoid the triggers. Some of the most common triggers are tobacco smoke, dust mites, outdoor air pollution, cockroach allergen, pets, mold, and smoke from burning wood or grass. The best way to control asthma is to take your medicine exactly as your doctor tells you and stay away from things that can trigger an attack to control your asthma.

I think you would all agree that the first love of your life is your mother. I cannot write a May newsletter without mentioning **Mother's Day**. I love being a mom- it has been my greatest joy. I love sitting in my room and opening up a little chest filled with crayoned drawings and construction paper cards, and it is then that memories flood back of those dandelion bouquets (in those grubby little boy hands), the red licorice hearts glued to paper, the songs sung at special school assemblies. I especially like to look back on how the cards first started with "you are the best mommy ever", but then as the years progressed became, "thanks Mom for all you have done for me." Each year when we put up the Christmas tree in the family room and I take out all of the homemade Christmas ornaments I still cry! I also like to look back on my own childhood to my own mom and am thankful for the rides home from school when we missed the bus, for sitting through all of my brothers baseballs games, and our band and chorus concerts, for remembering things for us- like lunch money, or when a project was due, and also for forgetting and not believing us when in times of anger we said those three piercing words, "I hate you" and stormed off. I am grateful for the grace shown to me when I least deserved it.

My best memory of my mom was sitting on her lap, or at her side when very young and her teaching my siblings and me the Lord's Prayer and the 23rd Psalm. Both have brought me great comfort over the years. Mothers are our first introduction to God, and our first glimpse of His love. They help develop our and shape our personalities, our attitudes and our vocabularies. They are our teachers, our nurse, our counselor and our "driver". I think that all of us at one time or another just want our moms!



Happy Mother's Day to each and every one of you who have had the great pleasure to be a mother to your children- or to you "other mother's, who embrace, love and support someone else's children!

God's blessings to you- Eileen



MAY BIRTHDAYS

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

- May 01 Scroggins, Kennedy
- May 03 Ayres, Bowen
- May 03 Fulks, Sharon
- May 03 Eyster, Brian
- May 03 Workman, Kristina
- May 04 Toner, Zack
- May 05 Whaley, Keri
- May 05 Martin, Sydney
- May 06 Tappy, Mike
- May 07 White, Jeff
- May 07 Barnes, Alex
- May 07 Napp, Ian
- May 08 Lehnen, Trudy
- May 08 Hatten, Bruce
- May 08 Skjerseth, Gina
- May 08 Virgin, Joy
- May 08 Rader, Kevin
- May 08 Decker, Brayden
- May 09 Burt, Jackie Beth
- May 10 Hinkle, Bob Sr.
- May 10 Bentley, Brandon
- May 10 Toner, Jake
- May 10 Ford, Katie
- May 11 Tindall, Minnie
- May 12 Goodman, Nelba
- May 12 Hickerson, Connie
- May 12 Hendricks, Heather
- May 12 Bottorff, Aaron

- May 12 White, Laura Mae
- May 12 Cincoski, Liam
- May 13 Yankovich, Tana
- May 13 Cameron, Troy
- May 13 Rich, Aaron
- May 13 Whaley, Shelby
- May 13 Martin, Ethan
- May 15 Giddings, Joshua
- May 15 Parker, Wyatt
- May 16 Bowman, Paul
- May 16 Spurgeon, Adelyn
- May 17 Uzzell, John
- May 17 Ortegren, Bobbi
- May 17 Bacus, Debbie
- May 17 Nairn, Jeremy
- May 19 Ford, Phill
- May 19 Winchester, Kylie
- May 20 Baggett, Barbara
- May 21 Babcock, Ray Jr.
- May 21 Toner, Jocelyn
- May 22 Babcock, Tyler
- May 22 Hubbard, Ridgely
- May 24 Hall, Marjorie
- May 24 Spurgeon, Ryan

- May 25 Nairn, Tiffany
- May 26 McPheters, Kelly
- May 26 Palmer, Brendan
- May 27 Campbell, Betty
- May 27 Mortland, Lana
- May 27 Lusicic, Brandy
- May 28 Lusicic, DJ Jr.
- May 29 Huebner, Richard
- May 29 Brown, Gina
- May 29 Griffin, Laurie
- May 30 Dawson, Steve
- May 30 Gebhardt, Sarah
- May 30 Griffin, Sam



MAY ANNIVERSARIES



- May 01 Scroggins, Mark & Sandy
- May 02 Hickerson, Jim & Connie
- May 05 Sparling, Rick III & Meghan
- May 12 Greer, Chris & Kellie
- May 15 Blacklock, Bob & Betsy
- May 17 Liedtke, Brian & Trista
- May 19 Cameron, Troy & Kristin

- May 21 Martin, Tom & Karen
- May 22 Bourne, Jimmy & Brianne
- May 25 Ford, Phill & Joan
- May 25 Hatten, Bruce & Karen
- May 26 Armon, Keith & Mandy
- May 27 Kainz, Steve & Jean
- May 31 Martin, Joe & Alicia

Be Sure To Pick Up A copy of the Church Directory for 2017!

Please be sure to contact the church office if you have a change of address, phone number, or email address! Thank you!



DEADLINE FOR JUNE 2017 STEEPLE, Mon., MAY 22nd!

DENNIS THE MENACE By Hank Ketcham



"YOU'LL BE GLAD TO KNOW I ONLY BROKE THREE-ANA-HALF COMMANDMENTS TODAY."

APRIL Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 04/30/2017	\$23927.36
Designated Giving:	through 04/30/2017	\$2187.00
	Capital Improvements	350.00
	Loose Change	124.00
	Flowers	436.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	115.00
	Upper Room Donations	22.00
	Offering Envelopes	20.00
	Memorials	350.00
	Kitchen Use	50.00
	Helping Hands	120.00
	Brad Fester/Wycliffe	50.00
	Charles McKnelly	500.00
	Community Hope Center	50.00
Reimbursements		365.00
One Great Hour Sharing		75.00
Easter Offering		1190.00
Christmas Offering		165.00
Capital Campaign		4310.00
Total:		\$32219.36

MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT



May's Loose Change Project goes to the Liberian Mission of the Methodist Church. After 20 years of civil war the

church is rebuilding. This will help support pastors in the churches who only earn \$1 per month in salary. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

Capital Campaign money as of 4-30-17:

\$234,883.95

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

May 7th: Dave Schiber Family

May 14th: Maggie Funke

May 21st: FOLKS NEEDED!

May 28th: FOLKS NEEDED!

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

Average Attendance for APRIL 2017

Early Service	38
Late Service	81
Sunday School	35
Visitors	6
4 Awakening Service	27



faith
does not
make things easy
it makes them
POSSIBLE
luke 1:37





~ WORSHIP UNDER THE TREES
ON SUNDAYS IN THE CHURCH
AMPHITHEATER~

at 8:15 a.m.
JUNE 4th-AUGUST 27th

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

Thank you! The girls have finished making blankets for shelter dogs (they made more than 40) and it was possible because people at St. Paul donated so much fabric. We are now arranging to deliver the blankets to 5As.

Thank you from Troop 769!



If there is enough interest, Pastor Daryl is willing to lead a small group session on *The Shack*. The small group would meet for five weeks.

Either email the pastor at dfansler@stpaulwired.org or call the Church Office at 259-5210. Indicate the good weekdays and times for your participation.



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am proud and thankful to be a Methodist. The term, "Methodist" was assigned to our founder, John Wesley, and the members of his "holy club." The term was meant to be critical and condemning because the members of Wesley's small band were "methodical" in the way that they attended to the practice of ministry and soul care.

Today I take great pleasure in knowing that the denomination that I love has a process and a plan designed to hold its members accountable while doing its best to assure a fair process when addressing a variety of issues. Our process seems, at times, long and complex when it comes to rendering a final decision. I am reminded that Jesus, though often pressed and pushed, never rushed to a decision. Jesus was not reactionary; he was responsive.

The Judicial Council released its decision on a request for a declaratory decision from the South-Central Jurisdiction (SCJ) in response to the Western Jurisdiction's (WJ) nomination, election, consecration and assignment of Reverend Karen Oliveto as a Bishop of the United Methodist Church.

In its decision, the Judicial Council ruled that the consecration of a gay bishop violates church law. The Judicial Council went on to say that Bishop Oliveto "remains in good standing, until an administrative or judicial process is completed." [All UM pastors are deemed to be in "good standing" until they are found guilty, through due process, of violating the Book of Discipline.]

The decision of the Judicial Council rightly recognizes that their initial decision is only one step in our judicial process. The ruling by the Judicial Council is not the final step!

So, what does this mean for the people called "Methodist" and what does this mean for the IGRC?

- First and foremost, it means that our process is ongoing. I say to the Superintendents when we face difficult challenges as a Cabinet, "trust the process because the process does work!"
- Secondly, it means that Bishop Oliveto will continue to serve as a Bishop while the process continues.
- Finally, it means that we all must continue to exercise patience, grace, and fervency in prayer as we seek "a way forward" as a denomination attempting to address complex issues during difficult times.

The ruling of the Judicial Council does not alter or change our *Book of Discipline*. Only the General Conference has the legislative power to change our denomination wide polity and discipline. The mission of the IGRC and of the United Methodist Church has not changed. Our mission is "to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Please join me in praying for unity during our search for common ground around diverse views, for our denomination and its process, for the General Church's "Way Forward Commission," for revival and renewal to happen in the IGRC, and for lost sheep to be found.

Please also remember to pray for me as I do my best to listen and discern the direction the Lord would have us go as an Episcopal Area. The peace of the resurrected Lord be with each of us as we walk together in the love of Jesus Christ.

God Bless

Bishop Frank J. Beard



to help set up for the summer outdoor worship service! If you can help, please call Randy McLain at 580-5522 ASAP! Thank you!



SEEKING GRADUATION INFORMATION

If you have a son or daughter who is a **member** or an **active participant** at St. Paul graduating from 8th grade, high school, junior college, college, graduate school, etc. **OR** if **YOU** are a graduate, please turn their/your name and information into the Church Office immediately so we will be able to honor him, her, or you on **Graduate Sunday, JUNE 4th** during the 10:30 a.m. service! Call 259-5210 or send to info@stpaulwired.org. Thank you for your assistance!



VBS 2017

June 12 - 16

9:30 a.m. - Noon

For VBS we have much of our leadership in place, but volunteers are always needed and welcomed! We will have classes for children age 3 (who are potty trained) through 6th grade. The stations are: Recreation, Crafts, Movie, Story, Snacks, Praise Songs, Science Lab, and Puppets & Play.

Class Leaders, Class Assistants, Station Leaders, Station Assistants & all extra helpers—
Please come join us as a student or a volunteer.
It's a fun and rewarding week of learning more about God!

If you are in 7th grade or older and are interested in helping with VBS, please talk to Jamie Gwaltney or call 692-0898. If you are 18 years old or older, please pick up a policy packet from the office with a background check form in it to fill out and drop off back to the church office, if you have not done so before.

CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD FOR SUPPLIES THAT ARE NEEDED! We pray this is another fun and inspiring year!



2017 Annual Conference
June 8-10
Peoria Civic Center

NAVIGATING CHANGE

CHURCH LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

2017 Navigating Change Church Leadership Conference held on *May 8 - 10* at Christ Church in Fairview Heights.



THANK YOU! The Women of Worship would like to thank everyone who helped in any way to make this year's Rummage Sale such a success. First, our appreciation to all who donated those great items for the sale. I think the donations have surpassed all the previous years. Then, from day one – setting up the tables to several days of sorting, pricing, labeling, greeting people, bagging, cashiering, and - finally – helping customers to their cars with their purchases, our volunteers did a SUPER job. We always receive compliments about how neat and well organized we have our merchandise. In addition, all of our profits are donated to many church and community charities.

A profit report will be announced in the Bulletin and also next month's Steeple. Again, DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS – THANK YOU – God Bless Everyone who participated in **any way**. We couldn't have done it without your help!

-Women of Worship-

THANK YOU!

Thank you from the Outreach Ministry Team to everyone for all the was contributed to the April Food Drive! The food was



divided up between the food pantries. God bless your gifts!

(Ad for Music Position)
**WORSHIP LEADER/
 MUSIC COORDINATOR:**

Part time – varied music background, Traditional/ Contemporary music including ability to play pipe organ and piano. Experience in leading choirs a plus. May be split into 2 positions. Job description and application available at www.stpaulwired.org.

Send resume and application to:
**Staff-Parish Committee, St. Paul UMC,
 10 N. Center St., East Alton IL 62024
 by MAY 17, 2017**

CAMPING...CAMPING...CAMPING

Pick up *Renewed*—a publication offering a complete listing of our church camps. It is available on the tables 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 *Renewed*.





We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



Shirley Sue Cloninger, 86, passed away on Friday, April 21, 2017 at Rosewood Care Center in Alton. She was born Jan. 1, 1931, in Vandalia, IL, the only child of Helen Curry & Floyd W. Radcliffe.

She married C. Wayne Cloninger Sept. 14, 1952, in Wood River. Both were members of St. Paul United Methodist Church in Rosewood Heights. He survives in Alton.

Sue was a 1949 graduate of Roxana High School. In 1952, she graduated from Alton Memorial School of Nursing before she began her 42-year nursing career at Drs. W.V. Roberson and B.L. Roberson and Wood River Township Hospital. She retired in 1991.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, Gregory Wayne Cloninger; and daughter, Nancy Lynn Walker Bobo.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by a daughter, Kathryn Sue Theen and son-in-law, John F. Theen of O'Fallon, Illinois; 7 grandchildren, Jeffrey Cloninger and wife Laura of East Alton, Jeremy Stalcup and wife Irene of Norfolk, Virginia, Brian Cloninger of Moro, Kyle Walker and wife Tamara of Liberty, Missouri, Alicia Stalcup of St. Charles, Missouri, Ryan Theen and fiancé Jama Fabry of Collinsville, and Christopher Stalcup and wife Rachael of Cottage Hills, as well as 6 great-grandchildren.

For the Celebration of Sue Cloninger's life, I began by reading the story of the paralyzed man in Mark 2. His friends were so convinced that Jesus could heal the man that they tore a hole in the roof and lowered their paralyzed friend down to Jesus. I began by asking: Why did Jesus heal people? Jesus wasn't a magician demonstrating his skill. He didn't seek to impress us with his power.

Jesus cares for us—body and soul. Again and again, he demonstrates his concern for our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. Jesus' desire for us is the same as God's: to be healthy in body, mind and spirit. This is important to God because we are called to praise Him with our whole being! Psalm 103 says: *"Praise His holy name, all that is within me."*

The friends of the paralyzed man bring him to Jesus because they are convinced that Jesus has the power to heal in God's name. When the crowds cut off easy access to Jesus, they climb to the roof—probably a thatched roof made of mud and straw—and tear a hole large enough to lower their friend to Jesus. Seeing the great love and faith of these friends, Jesus says to the paralyzed man: *"Friend, your sins are forgiven."*

The religious leaders are upset because only God has the authority to forgive sins. Only God may heal people. Of course, that is the whole point. Jesus forgives sin and heals with the authority of God.

Since these words offend the religious leaders, Jesus uses a different command, telling the man: *"Get up, pick up your cot, and go home!"* To everyone's amazement, the paralyzed man gets up, picks up his cot and walks away. Jesus has healed him: spiritually and physically.

Besides revealing Jesus' compassion for us, the healing stories tell us that Jesus is who He says He is: the Son of God. He heals with the authority of God. This means that we can trust Him.

Sue was proud of her work as a nurse. Last Sunday one of our adults said that as a child it was always comforting to see Sue at his pediatrician's office. Being a nurse is a sacred calling because you share in the healing ministry of Jesus. When you see a sick patient get better because of the treatment you have provided, there is satisfaction as well as an awareness of your limited role in this process. For ultimately, God is the great healer.

Today, we lift up and celebrate Sue's role in the healing ministry of Jesus. Sue not only cared for her patients, but also her family. The grandchildren shared how grandma would patch up their burns or scrapes; assuring them it wasn't that serious.

Throughout these past few years, Sue would bounce back from serious health crises but that did not happen this time. A question that arises for us is this: **WHY DIDN'T THE GOD WHOM SUE FAITHFULLY SERVED, HEAL HER? AS THE ULTIMATE HEALER, DID GOD FAIL SUE?** This would be true if healing only took place upon this earth. Heaven is the place of final healing for us. John pictures heaven as a place of healing. In Revelation 22, John says: *Then the angel showed me a river with the water of life, clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ² It flowed down the center of the main street. On each side of the river grew a tree of life, bearing*

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EASTER FLOWERS 2017

LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in honor of our Children
LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in honor of our Grandchildren
DON & EVELYN BUNT in memory of Floyd & Luella Bunt
DON & EVELYN BUNT in memory of Coy & Mary Jenkins
ALICE BURROWS in memory of Richard Burrows, her Husband
JIM & ANITA DAWSON in memory of Mom, Dad, Kelly, Robyn, & Max
JIM & ANITA DAWSON in honor of our Kids and Grandkids
DOT ELLIOTT & FAMILY in memory of Keith Elliott
DARYL, DEBRA, & MEG FANSLER in honor of Marge & Wayne Detmers
DARYL & MEG FANSLER in honor of Debra Fansler
DARYL & DEBRA FANSLER in honor of Meg Fansler
TRACY FRANKS in memory of her Parents, Lute & Doloros Taulbee
JIM & MAGGIE FUNKE in memory of her Father, Bill Shoppell
JIM & MAGGIE FUNKE in honor of her Mother, Sally Lay
JUDY GLASSMEYER in loving memory of Leo Glassmeyer
MARJORIE HALL in memory of her Son, Dennis Hall
JIM & JANE HERNDON in memory of all their deceased loved ones
JIM & JANE HERNDON in honor of their Children, Grandchildren, Nan, and Jim & Jane's siblings
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in memory of Meghan Hickerson
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in memory of Carole Taylor
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in honor of Lori Hickerson
RICHARD & VIOLA HUEBNER in honor of their Children

JOE & SHERRY HUFF in memory of Kenny & Wilma Brueggeman
JOE & SHERRY HUFF in memory of William & Elma Huff
STEVE, JEAN, & STEPH KAINZ in memory of Bill & Janet Pullen
DOROTHY KASINGER in memory of her Parents, Beulah & Victor Strohbeck
DOROTHY KASINGER in honor of her Children & Grandchildren
JAMIE KEITH in memory of her daughter, Jacqueline R. Keith (x2)
DEANNA KELLER, DANILLIE & TIM FRANCIS, ERIN MAGARY, CHRISTOPHER FEYERABEND, RILEY FRANCIS, AMANDA KELLER, & KINSLEY FRANCIS in honor of their Grandmother/Great-Grandmother, Alice Burrows
KELLY & RACHEL MCPHETERS in memory of Jamie Kurucar
KELLY & RACHEL MCPHETERS in honor of their Grandparents
BEULAH MOORE in memory of Ben & Grandson, Andy
BEULAH MOORE in honor of her Children & Grandchildren
STACEY, SHELLEY, & JON in memory of their Mother, Shirley Birmingham
MIKE & LORI TAPPY in memory of his Parents, George & Jean Tappy
JILL TAYLOR-SULLIVAN in memory of her Parents, Norman & Carole Taylor



Cloninger—Continued from Page 12

twelve crops of fruit, with a fresh crop each month. The leaves were used for medicine to heal the nations.

³No longer will there be a curse upon anything. For the throne of God and of the Lamb will be there, and his servants will worship him. ⁴And they will see his face, and his name will be written on their foreheads. ⁵And there will be no night there—no need for lamps or sun—for the Lord God will shine on them. And they will reign forever and ever.

Heaven is a place of healing—where there is no more sickness, no more suffering, no more sorrow, and no more memory of those things. Instead, we will gather around the throne of God singing His praises forever and ever.

On Friday, Jesus said to Sue: “*Get up, pick up your cot, and go home!*” Only the home she went to wasn’t her home on Seminary Road but the home awaiting her in heaven. The promise given to us is that there is a room for us in our Father’s house with our name beside the door. No one else may occupy that room. It is for us alone. We don’t need a roadmap to get to heaven. We only need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Jesus is the way home to heaven. This is what Sue believed. This is what we believe.

Sue had reached the point where Jesus—only Jesus—could heal her. Jesus looked upon Sue’s broken body and His heart was filled with compassion for her. Jesus acted to make her whole once more in body and soul. Our God is a great God who in the words of Psalm 103: forgives all our sins and heals all our diseases. For this, we are truly thankful.

Please keep Sue’s family in your prayers, especially Wayne. Pastor Daryl



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 information 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 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 your check memo line and 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 **January 2016**, you were able to 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 –2018 envelopes. **If you have any questions, please call the Church Office.**

**MISSION PROJECT FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Attendees to 2017 Annual Conference are urged to have their congregations collect items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. A truck will be located at the Peoria Civic Center to accept those donations during the Annual Conference.

The Midwest Mission Distribution Center is seeking the following:

- Kitchen dishwashing gloves
- Insect repellent spray, 6 to 14 oz. (ex. Off, Cutter)
- Scouring pads
- Pens - with **no advertising**
- Protractors - 6" with metric measurements

Those wishing to help with the cost of shipping and/or the purchase of supplies in bulk can make checks payable to **MMDC** and mail them to: **MMDC, PO Box 56, Chatham, IL 62629**

You may start to bring your items any time and no later than Sunday, JUNE 4th.