

This story is true. Jeremiah Lamphier handed out an estimated 20,000 flyers inviting people of New York City to a prayer meeting at noon on September 27, 1857. For thirty minutes no one showed up, then six people joined him in prayer in the borrowed upper room of a church. They prayed and the next week fourteen people came. Then twenty-three the following week.

By the winter of 1857, they decided to hold the prayer meetings every day. Soon those praying filled three large churches every day. By March of 1858, Thom Rainer says in his book, *I Will*, that every available public hall and church in New York City was filled with people praying every day. Horace Greeley, a newspaper editor, sent a reporter to cover the spiritual movement and count the number of participants. The reporter could only make it to six locations by horse and buggy, but he counted 6,100 people praying in those locations! Soon the movement spread across the U.S. One scholar has estimated that one million people become followers of Jesus Christ because Jeremiah Lamphier invited people to a prayer meeting.

Debra and I experienced first-hand the presence of God and the power of prayer when we attended the weeknight prayer meeting at the Brooklyn Tabernacle in New York City. The power that Jeremiah Lamphier tapped into is available to us today. We believe this.

In his book, I Will, Thom Rainer, president of Lifeway Christian Resources, says:

"I am concerned about our churches. I am not alone. I won't bore you with more dire statistics about the state of American congregations. Suffice it to say, it's not a pretty picture.

The problem is not the institutional church. The problem is not the denomination. The problem is me. And you.

Denominations are no stronger than their churches. And churches are no stronger than their church members. I am a church member. The problem begins with me and with you.

Jeremiah Lamphier was just one person, just like you and me. He knew he could not create a movement. His role was to petition God for Him to move. His role was to be willing. To be willing to say, "I will."

So God used one obedient nobody and began a movement.

It is time to stop placing the blame elsewhere. It is time to look into the mirror and ask God where we can say, "I will."

We are members of our respective churches. We are responsible. Is it possible, through us, God will start a movement?

While we cannot manufacture a movement, we can do what Jeremiah Lamphier did. He was obedient. It's that simple and that profound. He was obedient.

It is time to become those types of obedient church members in our congregations. It is time to take I Corinthians 12 seriously and become a vital part of the body of Christ.

It is time to say, "I will."

I will have the attitude of Christ and put other church members before my wants and desires.

I will gladly participate in corporate worship with my fellow church members as long as I am physically able. I will get involved in a group or a class so that I might grow spiritually together with others, and so that I

might be accountable to them.

I will go and share the gospel with others in words and deeds, and not be ashamed of my Savior. I will give abundantly and joyfully, recognizing that God is the owner of all things I currently steward.

I will participate in the life of my church because God leads me to do so, not because I feel compelled to please people and overcommit.

I will focus on what Christ has done for me, and not on the flaws of my church, its leaders, or its members. And I will pray that God will use me as an instrument to revive His church, for His name, and for His glory."

Pastor's Corner—Continued On Page 3





2

OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS!

- On Sunday August 20th we had three rosebuds on the altar. They celebrated: 1) the birth of Grace Fiona McPheters, born 8/13/17, weighing 6lbs. 14oz. Daughter of Kelly & Rachel McPheters, granddaughter of Debbie Stewart, and great-granddaughter of Jim & Anna Mae Stewart! 2) the birth of Anika Louise Richter, born 8/15/17, weighing 7lbs. Daughter of Chris & Stephanie Richter and great-niece of Daryl & Debra Fansler! And 3) Michael William Scroggins, born 8/24/16, in honor of his 1st Birthday! Son of Kenneth & Jaclyn Scroggins and grandson of Michael & Linda Scroggins! We congratulate each family!
- Three of our Scouts achieved the rank of **Eagle Scout** last month, something only 4 out of 100 young men do. In recent years, Troop 777 has produced 29 Eagle Scouts. The most recent Eagle Scouts were **Kaleb Smith** who constructed the Prayer Walk leading to our pavilion, **Benjamin Ayers** who built a fire pit in the church park (It was very exciting to see the article in the Advantage about these two projects completed at St. Paul by Kaleb and Benjamin. The whole article is posted on the bulletin board!), and **Caleb Hurst** whose project was at Pere Marquette State Park benefitting us all. Kaleb gave a Mentor pin to **Scott Gwaltney**, a member of the Trustees, for his assistance with the Prayer Walk. Troop 777 is a blessing to us at St. Paul!
- The Venture Crew (a co-ed group of youth and young adults ages 14-20 years old) chartered by St. Paul recently completed a white water rafting trip to Tennessee. You are invited to join them for high adventure activity!
- We celebrated the last Saturday evening Awakening Service on Sat., Aug. 26th at 5 p.m. The *Instruments of Faith*, a Southern gospel group from Belleville, were our guests. Please be in prayer for Ken, a group member battling stage 4 lung cancer, but still singing for Jesus! We thank everyone who has been a part of our Saturday evening services since January of 2015. We invite you to join us for Awakening on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. beginning September 10. Lauren Cranmer continues as our Awakening Worship Coordinator and adds to her responsibilities leadership of our Youth Group beginning in October.
- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family of **Pat Laslie**, sister-in-law of Dorothy Kasinger, aunt of Sean Kasinger; the family of **Cindy Carter-Wishnask**, friend of Mel & Lee Johnson; and the family of **Mary Hauhe**, mother of Gayle Eardley, mother-in-law of Linda Hamilton Hauhe. May you all know God's comfort and peace in the days ahead.

THANK YOU: Thank you so much for your generous donation of school supplies. Your church has been so wonderful to our students for many years and it is truly appreciated! *Mrs. Cary Anderson and Mr. Jim Miller of Central Intermediate School*

THANK YOU: We would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, and concerns during Phill's illness and passing; especially to Pastor Daryl for making the long trips to the hospital and Rev. Ed Weston for doing the service. A special thanks, too, to the ladies who prepared the lunch. We feel truly blessed to have such a caring church family. May God continue to watch over all of you. *The Ford Family*

THANK YOU: The Herndon family would like to express our eternal gratitude to our beloved St. Paul family. As Ed Weston said, St. Paul was Mom's church, she truly loved the church, she loved all members, especially the ones who hugged and worried when she wasn't there. She loved her sisters in WOW, especially the Crafts ladies who not only included her but made her feel useful; and to all her friends who chauffeured her from one place to another God bless you (Amen from the "boys!"). Our sincerest appreciation to Pastor Daryl, Parish Visitor Doug Pascoe, and Parish Nurse Eileen for your visits, your prayers, your comforting words, and most of all your love. To Rhonda Griffin and Mark Bacus for the truly inspiring Christian music... your efforts made all of us feel so loved and reassured... Many thanks to the ladies for a wonderful funeral dinner. Great job as always; Mom would have loved it! God bless you all, sincerely; *Mary's "boys" and their families*



Pastor's Corner—Continued From Page 1

Whenever I read Thom Rainer's book, I knew that God had sent *I Will* into my life to help us lead St. Paul through this time of transition. I have several convictions about the church:

1/ God sends people into the church for me to pastor. The people aren't always people I would have necessarily chosen, but I trust that God knows what He is doing. They are people who need the church and whom the church needs at this time. I need to shepherd the sheep in our fold. And, as a church we need to welcome those whom God sends to us.

2/ This isn't my church or your church. It is God's church. God may have a different role for us in this neighborhood than when we were first planted. Change is O.K. as long as we are obedient to what we discern to be God's vision for St. Paul. The people who attend our church are no longer executives at Olin or the Shell Refinery because they no longer live in our neighborhood. While we are thankful for their role in establishing and building the church, we will see and welcome the people who now live in our neighborhood.

3/ It would be nice to see the sanctuary full on September 24th at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m., but I am O.K. with whoever shows up as long as they are *I Will* Christians or if they are not yet Christians they understand that this is no longer a normal church but an *I Will* church! If you worship here, we expect great, godly things of you! We expect you to move toward being a selfless, I AM Christian.

4/ The bottom line is that I do not view this season as a season of change for our church but rather revival: initiated, bathed in, surrounded and undergirded by prayer. When I arrived at St. Paul, Dick Young greeted me on the first Sunday with these words: *"I have prayed so long and hard for you because we need revival."* My prayer is that Dick Young's prayer will be answered because we have been obedient...just like Jeremiah Lamphier. Pastor Daryl



See You at the Pole[™] was inspired by students in a youth group in Burleson, TX, early in 1990. The teenagers felt led to go & pray at night at several area schools during a weekend youth retreat. Their experience was shared with thousands of other youth from across Texas in the form of a challenge in June 1990 at a large conference. More than 56,000 students on 1,200 campuses in Texas and three other states were documented at the first See You at the Pole[™] in September that year. Since 1991, See You at the Pole[™] has grown to God-sized proportions. The movement began to spread to other nations through missionaries from the U.S. Now each year, more than 3 million students from all over the world participate in See You at the Pole[™]. Students in more than 20 countries are responding to God and taking seriously the challenge to pray.

For 2017 the date is Wed., September 27th! Pray for our youth and their schools!

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.







4

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

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



3: 13th Sunday after Pentecost. LABOR DAY SUNDAY. Communion Celebrated. Outdoor services have ended and the 8:15 a.m. service is back indoors. Pastor Daryl begins a 3-part sermon series based upon the Thom Rainer book being read by all our leaders, "I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian." The primary focus of the book is how we should be joyful Christians in light of the grace we have received. Rainer tells us what we need to do to achieve this goal.

- 10: 14th Sunday after Pentecost. Birthday Sunday. The 8:15 a.m. service returns to its traditional order with organ led hymns while the 10:30 a.m. service becomes Awakening on Sunday. If you are a regular 10:30 a.m. worship attender or if you used to be but haven't attended in a while, we invite you to be like Mikey in the Life commercials: try it, you just might like it. We will be celebrating communion at the conclusion of every 10:30 a.m. service and music will be led by a praise band. Pastor Daryl continues a 3-part sermon series based upon the Thom Rainer book being read by all our leaders, "I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian." The primary focus of the book is how we should be joyful Christians in light of the grace we have received. Rainer tells us what we need to do to achieve this goal.
- 17: 15th Sunday after Pentecost. The 8:15 a.m. service returns to its traditional order with organ led hymns while the 10:30 a.m. service becomes Awakening on Sundays. If you are a regular 10:30 a.m. worship attender or if you used to be but haven't attended in a while, we invite you to be like Mikey in the Life commercials: try it, you just might like it. We will

be celebrating communion at the conclusion of every 10:30 a.m. service and music will be led by a **praise band.** Pastor Daryl continues a 3-part sermon series based upon the Thom Rainer book being read by all our leaders, "I Will: Nine Traits of the Outwardly Focused Christian." The primary focus of the book is how we should be joyful Christians in light of the grace we have received. Rainer tells us what we need to do to achieve this goal.

24: 16th Sunday after Pentecost. The 8:15 a.m. service returns to its traditional order with organ led hymns while we roll out the Awakening on Sunday service at

10:30 a.m. for the wider community. If you attend the 10:30 a.m. service, invite someone with-YBACK out a church home to join you for this service! After the 10:30 a.m. service, we will gather in the church park for bounce house, slide, games, food, face painting, and great fellowship. (If you

attend at 8:15 a.m., join us at 11:30 a.m. for this extra event.) Pastor Daryl begins a new sermon series based upon the book, "Finding Your Way Back to God" by Dave & Jon Ferguson. Next week small groups will meet offering the opportunity to delve deeper into the awakenings raised up during worship. Today, Pastor Daryl talks about Awakening to Longing. Whether we acknowledge God or not, God has made us in His image. Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in God. We were created to be in relationship with God and there is a hole in our hearts until that relationship is established.

OCT. 1: <u>World Communion Sunday</u>. We join all Christians around the table of the Lord! Communion will be celebrated at both services. Traditional Worship

service at 8:15 a.m. Awakening on Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. Pastor Darvl continues a new sermon series based upon the book, "Finding Your Way Back to God" by Dave & Jon Ferguson. Next week small groups will meet offering the opportunity to delve deeper into the awakenings raised up during worship. Today, Pastor Daryl talks about Awakening to Regret. There are moments in all our lives that we wish we could have do-overs on. Sometimes, we become stuck in a cycle of self-condemnation and spiral into despair. Grace helps us become unstuck and live fulfilling lives. Learn how today.











"The doctors of the future will no longer treat the human frame with drugs, but rather will cure and prevent disease with nutrition." – Thomas Edison

There's a lot of mystery inside those little pink, blue, and yellow packets that we see on tables in our favorite restaurants. Despite decades of use, artificial and natural sugar substitutes still provoke guestions and concerns among those of us who use them



spite decades of use, artificial and natural sugar substitutes still provoke questions and concerns among those of us who use them - whether as a substitute to help control blood sugar or as a diet aid. In my own personal use I have found "natural" sugar substitutes to be best for my health. There are also the artificial or synthetic sweeteners, but I will save that conversation for another time. I will make one comment about the artificial substitutes: They are among the world's most scientifically tested food products, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has deemed them "generally recognized as safe." The one sweetener that still carries a warning on its label is aspartame (the sweetener in Equal Classic and NutraSweet) because a small group of people -- about 1 in 25,000 in the United States -- has a genetic condition that prevents the metabolizing of phenylalanine, an amino acid in aspartame. There are still many articles reporting that people who use NutraSweet also have symptoms such as migraine headaches, depression, attention deficit disorder, dizziness and weight gain.

Top 5 Sugar Substitutes

- 1. <u>Raw Honey</u>: We know the many health benefits of raw honey, so you really want to make sure it says raw on the label—because that's the healthiest kind. Ideally, purchase it from a local source. One of the reasons it's so beneficial is that honey is not just a sugar—it's actually a food. In addition to sugar, honey also contains amino acids, specific types of electrolytes and antioxidants, and antimicrobial compounds that can really support the health of your body. So one of your best options when it comes to sugar substitutes is to use pure, raw honey. You should use it sparingly though as it still contains calories. One tablespoon, one to two times daily, is a good, healthy amount that most people can do well with. One tablespoon of raw honey has 64 calories and has less impact on glycemic load than a single banana. It's important to note that these are the benefits of **raw** honey. Once honey has been pasteurized, it loses the health benefits. Also, don't cook with raw honey. Drizzle it on breakfast cereals, over your sprouted grain toast, on yogurt, and for salad dressings. You want to maintain as many of the nutrients in honey as possible, so keep it away from the heat. If you enjoy honey in your tea or coffee, wait until the drink has is just warm enough to sip comfortably, and then add honey to taste.
- 2. <u>Stevia</u>: This is especially good if you have blood sugar issues, if you're overweight, or if you have diabetes. Stevia is a no-calorie, all-natural sweetener that comes from the leaf of a flowering plant. There are many types of stevia, but the full leaf is the best. Another form of stevia that's suitable is stevia that's just ground and part of it has been extracted. Make sure you choose the healthiest, most organic type you can find. The great thing about stevia is there's no sugar involved at all, making it truly one of the best sugar substitutes around. So if you have diabetes or blood sugar issues, or are looking to lose a bit of weight, this is a great choice. It is native to South America and has been used for hundreds of years in that region to support healthy blood sugar levels and promote weight loss. Unlike raw honey, stevia is heat stable, so feel free to use it in any way you desire. Remember, it's 200 times sweeter than sugar, so don't use it in the same ratio. Today, stevioside, (the element in the leaves that makes it more than 200 times as sweet as sugar), is available in liquid drops, packets, dissolvable tablets and baking blends. It has zero calories, zero carbohydrates and none of the nasty side effects of artificial sweeteners, making it an ideal natural sweetener.
- 3. <u>Dates</u>: We could throw other fruits into this category things like raisins, apricots, other dried fruit, and pineapple juice—but the great thing about dates is they're also very high in fiber and potassium, as well as other vitamins and minerals. Of all of the sweeteners listed, dates has the highest nutrient value. The high fiber content of dates actually slows down sugar absorption. Dates are loaded with potassium, copper, iron, manganese, magnesium, and vitamin B6. They are easily digested and help to metabolize proteins, fats, and carbohydrates. Evidence shows that dates may help to reduce LDL cholesterol in the blood and may reduce the risk of stroke.
- 4. <u>Coconut Sugar</u>: Organic coconut sugar is unrefined, vegan, non-GMO. It can be a sugar replacement equal amounts for a recipe. Use coconut sugar in your favorite recipes, for it measures just like sugar! It's a bit coarser than refined sugar, but you can put it in the food processor and process it until you get the desired texture.
- 5. <u>Maple Syrup</u>: 100 % pure organic maple syrup-look for Grade B or even Grade C that is USDA-certified organic. Maple syrup is one of the best sugar substitutes because it's a fantastic sweetener. It's good especially over things like pancakes and waffles and good in certain recipes. (I use it for cookies.) Maple syrup is an outstanding source of manganese and contains calcium, potassium, and zinc. Rich with antioxidants, this all-natural sweetener helps to neutralize free radicals and

reduce oxidative damage. Select darker, Grade B maple syrups, as they contain more beneficial antioxidants than the lighter syrups.

All of these sweeteners, by the way, are **lower on the glycemic index than sugar**. Where regular table sugar scores 100, many of these sweeteners score closer to a 50, so half the glycemic index. That means they affect your body in a lesser amount to where they're not going to **PARISH NURSE CONTINUED ON PAGE 10**





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01-Sep Christi Baggett 01-Sep Jay Bentley III 02-Sep Ron Nelson 02-Sep Jenni Ortegren 03-Sep Al Poston 04-Sep Cherie Buatte 04-Sep Rod Croxford 04-Sep George Hamilton Sr. 04-Sep John Hendricks 05-Sep Damian Newingham 06-Sep Josh Gowan 06-Sep Jason Henderson 06-Sep Ryan Tite 07-Sep Kamryn Bell 07-Sep Jim Dawson 08-Sep Justin Bottorff 09-Sep Angle Hansard 09-Sep Liam Oertle 09-Sep Matthew Poston 10-Sep Jake Birmingham 10-Sep Zelda Plummer 10-Sep Christy Scroggins 11-Sep Don Bunt Sr. 11-Sep Marc Ortegren 12-Sep David Badman 13-Sep Tamara Atchlev 13-Sep Susan Cameron

September Birthdays

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

13-Sep Chelsea Georgeoff 13-Sep Kathy Link 14-Sep Dan Bunt 14-Sep Kiley Herndon 16-Sep Jerry Cameron 16-Sep Dick Redden 16-Sep Jeff Skjerseth 17-Sep Jeff Greer 17-Sep Nic Weigler 18-Sep Christian Greer 18-Sep Linda Scroggins 19-Sep Bettie Lewis 19-Sep Paul Skierseth 19-Sep Ashley Springer 20-Sep Blake Boeshans 20-Sep David Buatte 21-Sep Marcella Gimmy 21-Sep Dani Wilson 22-Sep Neil Herndon 22-Sep Carol Warner 23-Sep Baylee Allshouse 23-Sep Harvey Gowan 23-Sep Nathan Shewmake

24-Sep **Tanner Betts** Tim Bunt 24-Sep 24-Sep Kellie Greer 25-Sep Hayley Schlemer Phil Tite 25-Sep 26-Sep **Bob Blacklock** 26-Sep Sarah Laufersweiler 26-Sep Ashley Poore 26-Sep Lily Roberts 26-Sep Debbie Tite 26-Sep Jan Williams **David Betts** 27-Sep 27-Sep **Becky Chester** 27-Sep Donna Ewing 27-Sep Joyce Hutchens 27-Sep Sharon Inman 29-Sep Jordan Brown Kara Martin 29-Sep 29-Sep Steven Tite



September anniversaries

- 02-Sep Jason & Gretchen Henderson
- 04-Sep Daryl & Debra Fansler
- 06-Sep Jason & Lindsey Mayer
- 13-Sep Phil & Debbie Tite
- 15-Sep Kevin & Lindsey Rader
- 17-Sep Chris & Susan Cameron
- 18-Sep Jerry & Cathy Cameron
- 18-Sep Ben & Jamie Dona



19-Sep Cory & Caroline Crandall
20-Sep Bryan & Katie Clark
20-Sep Ross & Debbie Eggebrecht
24-Sep Nicholas& Julie Hobbs
26-Sep Ryan & Savannah Cincoski
26-Sep Don & Diane Ford Sr.
27-Sep Ryan & Megan Parker
29-Sep Gary & Shirley Clark

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

CHANGE: John & Leona Hendricks, 300 Catharine Street, Shipman, IL 62685; 836-2105.

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



SEPTEMBER · 2017 · STEEPLE



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LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

September's Loose Change Project is Trinity United Methodist Church in East St. Louis/Washington Park. The ministry of the

church has expanded to provide worship services, VBS, and a food pantry to the growing Hispanic Community. The need is greater than the resources of the local church which is why we help. There is a dedicated membership and a strong youth program at both sites. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

DEADLINE FOR <u>reeple</u>, Wed., SEPTEMBER 20th!

AUGUST Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 08/31/2017	\$18000.50
Designated Giving:	through 08/31/2017	\$3903.50
	Capital Improvements	70.00
	Loose Change	105.50
	Flowers	30.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	291.00
	Funeral Dinners	250.00
	Helping Hands	170.00
	Memorials	2712.00
	Offering Envelopes	100.00
	Reimburse for Bounce House	125.00
	UMCOR	50.00
From Eagle Scout Projec	t	747.58
Capital Campaign		1610.00
Total:		\$24261.58

Call the Church Office (259-5210) if you would like to be a Greeter for either **Sunday service!**

Average Attendance for AUGUST 2017 50

43

36

Early Service Late Service Sunday School Visitors 3 Awakening Service **Gibson Girls Concert**



Capital Campaign money received as of 8-31-17: \$258,172.74



Calling all 6th-12th grade students! A new youth group is being formed to meet on the first and third Sundays of the month from 4-5:30 p.m. KIND is a youth group that will focus on teaching and being examples of kind individuals in our community. We will focus on creating a positive image and sharing the love of Christ with others. Quarterly, we will complete a community service project that benefits others outside of the church walls. We are so excited to form a group for our youth! Our first youth group meeting will be on Sunday, October 1st. Please plan to come for pizza and soda! A sign -up sheet will be available in advance.

Looking forward to spreading kindness, Lauren Cranmer, Youth Leader

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We Say Goodbye To Our Friend...

Phillip LeRoy Ford, 79, died at 12:42 p.m. Monday, July 24, 2017 at St. Luke's Hospital from complications of pneumonia.

Born May 19, 1938, in Alton, he was the son of the late Lee Alan Ford and Deliah (Shelton) Ford Sunderland.

On May 25, 1962, he married the former Joan Holland. She survives.

Phillip graduated from Alton High School and Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville with a degree in accounting. He was an Army veteran serving in Germany. In 1968, he was appointed Director of Finance for the City of Wood River. He held that position for 16 years. He then became bookkeeper for Lenhardt Tool and Die for 21 years, retiring in 2005.

Phillip was elected President of the Illinois Municipal Finance Officers Organization. He served on the Wood River Hartford Elementary Board and the East Alton-Wood River High School Board. He was elected President of both boards. A member of St. Paul United Methodist Church, he belonged to the Wood River

Moose Lodge and was a former member of the Alton-Wood River Sportsman's Club.

In addition to his wife of 55 years, he is survived by a son, Bradley Ford of Hampton, Virginia, and his children, Alexander, Nathaniel, Katherine, and Emmaleigh, all of Hampton, Virginia, and a daughter, Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Whipple and her husband Lt. Colonel Jason Whipple of West Point, New York, and their daughter, Wren. He also leaves a sister, Sharon Schreiber and her husband Mike Schreiber of Alton, a brother-inlaw, John Holland of East Alton, three sisters-in-law, Judy Ford of Godfrey, Delores Copley of Godfrey and Shirley Frakes of Alton, plus many nieces, nephews and cousins and friends.

Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by his stepfather, Levi Sunderland, and two brothers, Victor Lee Ford and John Alan Ford.

Sitting with Joan and Beth as Phill passed from this world into the next reminded me once more how fragile life is and how we should cherish each other more than we do. I regret that I was unable to officiate at the celebration of Phill's life, but I knew that Rev. Ed Weston, former pastor of St. Paul, would provide words of hope and comfort to the family. I thank Ed for sharing in this celebration of life and that of Mary Herndon's.

I did want to share with you the things I appreciated about Phill. Phillip Ford loved children: his own, his grandchildren, Beth & Jason's foster children, and all children. He rarely talked about himself, but usually the accomplishments of his grandchildren and the foster children. He kept me updated on all of them.

Phill had a big heart for all children. Phill & Joan are active members of our Outreach Ministry Team. Phill never said this, but I think this team was his chosen place of service because so much of our work positively impacts the lives of children: collection of school supplies, the coats, gloves, and mittens received for the Headstart Program, food that is brought and distributed to food pantries for families, and the Christmas gifts for children we send to Roxana High School Student Council for their annual Christmas party.

Phill had a sly sense of humor. He loved to laugh. Even when he was in intensive care, we usually found something to laugh about together: often a family anecdote he shared with me. Only Phill would have thought of having his whole family dressed in gowns and gloves gathered around him for a family picture. (For we all had to dress in gowns and gloves whenever we visited him.)

Phill had a deep faith. He demonstrated his faith by showing up every Sunday for worship and living out that faith with kindness and compassion every day. There is a lot to be said for showing up when your illness could be used as a convenient excuse for skipping worship. With his presence, Phill showed that his life belonged to Jesus. As news of Phill's death spread throughout the ICU staff at St. Luke's nurses and therapists who had worked with Phill stopped by to express their sorrow at his death. Even in the midst of great illness, Phill's faith had deeply impacted those who cared for him.

Please keep Phill's whole family in your prayers. Their loss and our loss at St. Paul is great. However, let us weep as those who know that we shall be rejoined with Phill and all those who have died in Jesus Christ. Pastor Daryl





We Say Goodbye To Our Friend...





Mary L. Herndon, 89, passed away at 12:07 p.m. on Thursday, August 3, 2017, at Alton Memorial Hospital. She was born on February 24, 1928 in Marshall, MO, the daughter of the late James A. & Mary Pearl (Dirck) Chesser.

Mary married Samuel Richard Herndon on November 28, 1947 in Sedalia, MO. He preceded her in death on June 23, 2007.

Prior to her retirement, she was a teacher and principal of St. Kevin's Catholic Grade School in Rosewood Heights. At one time, she also served as a reporter and columnist for the Wood River Journal.

In 1948, she put her college education on hold to raise her family and returned to college completing her B.S. degree from SIUE in 1972. She was active in her church serving in many leadership capacities but particularly enjoyed her group of craft ladies. For several years she led church members in making "happy bears" for children in Alton Memorial Hospital. She also actively served her community as a member of the Wood River Junior Women's Club, P.E.O. Chapter FCJE and AAUW.

As a mother of three boys she had her hands full but enjoyed those days. However, she took special delight in the times she shared with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. If there was an athletic event or program of any kind involving her darling "kiddos," "Nan" was the first one in the door.

Survivors include three sons, Jim (Jane) Herndon of Godfrey, David (Debbie) Herndon of Edwardsville, John (Diane) Herndon of Roxana; eight grandchildren, Matt (Allison) Herndon, Jennifer (Brian) Roberts, Alicia Herndon Martin, Neil (Jade) Herndon, Colin and Blake Graham, Erin Herndon, Ian Herndon; eight great grandchildren, Kiley Herndon, Katie Herndon, Harper Herndon, Holden Herndon, Lily Roberts, Noah Herndon, Ethan Herndon, and Emma Herndon.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by two brothers, AI H. Chesser and John Robert Chesser; and great grandson, Zachary.

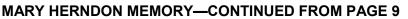
John Wesley wrote down many of his sermons to be studied by Methodists of his day and future generations. One of his greatest sermons, The Character of a *Methodist*, lays out the principles of Methodism. Let me share with you this key section:

"Who is a Methodist, according to your own account?" I answer: A Methodist is one who has "the love of God shed abroad in his heart by the Holy Ghost given unto him;" one who "loves the Lord his God with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his mind, and with all his strength. God is the joy of his heart and the desire of his soul;" which is constantly crying out, "whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth that I desire beside thee! My God and my all! Thou art the strength of my heart, and my portion forever!"

We are God's...completely. At the heart of our faith is the surrender of our life to God and with that commitment we receive the assurance that we have been saved by grace through this faith. God's love for us is a given and that makes a big difference for us.

One consequence of being a Methodist is that we do not look back at what we were but forward to what we shall become as God's grace shapes us. Holiness isn't a moment but a process for us! While John Wesley appreciated as we all do the grace that has saved us, he was more excited by the grace yet to come. Day by day, year by year that grace enabled Wesley to become more like Jesus Christ, His Lord. MARY HERNDON MEMORY—CONTINUED ON PAGE 10





Mary Herndon was a Methodist Mom. I too had a Methodist Mom. One of the greatest frustrations is the example held before us isn't our mothers—as kind, loving, and principled as they might be—but Jesus Christ Himself. Understanding their imperfections, Methodist Moms point beyond themselves to the Christ. Methodist Moms like Mary teach their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to follow the Christ. We are never able to quit and rest upon our good works, for there is always a part of us that needs more of Jesus' grace. The spiritual goal post is always moving.

One consequence of being a Methodist is that we believe in the transforming power of grace. Grace enters our life as children before we are aware of it or able to name it. Once present grace works to dust off and shine up the image of God stamped upon each of our hearts. We believe that grace is strong enough to forgive any sin and extends to the darkest corners of our soul. There is no one beyond the reach of grace. This means that we don't give up on people. We don't believe that what you have been necessarily determines what you shall be. Through repentance and turning to God comes the power to truly change.

Although this understanding of grace shaped all of Mary Herndon's relationships, it was especially influential in her work as an educator. While a child who came from an impoverished background or a dysfunctional family might be greatly challenged, this situation did not have to sabotage their future. Every child matters to God. With God's help and her encouragement, Mary was convinced that every child could achieve their God -given potential. I have no doubt there are many from St. Kevin's Catholic School where Mary served as principal who would testify to the power of God's grace that enabled them to achieve greater goals than they ever dreamed for themselves.

One consequence of being a Methodist is that we become do-gooders because we believe that God has saved us for a unique and great purpose. Our daily prayer as Methodists is this: "Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can." Mary lived out this prayer. Some of the many good things done by Mary Herndon have been mentioned here today, while others are known to Mary, God, and the beneficiaries of her good deeds.

Another consequence of being a Methodist is that we trust in God. When the time comes that our race of faith is done here upon this earth, sure we regret leaving behind our loved one, but we know greater grace awaits us. The fullness of the Christian life is only achieved in heaven. There is the wholeness that escapes us on this earth. Mary was ready. She told us so.

John Wesley was once asked by a member of his movement: "REVEREND WESLEY, IF YOU WERE TO DIE TONIGHT, TELL ME WHAT YOU WOULD DO TODAY." Wesley replied: "I'LL TELL YOU EXACTLY WHAT I WOULD DO. AT FOUR O'CLOCK THIS AFTERNOON, I WOULD SIT DOWN TO TEA. AT SIX, I WOULD GO TO SEE MRS. BROWN AT THE HOSPITAL. AT SEVEN-THIRTY, I'D COME BACK TO THE CHURCH FOR THE PRAYER HOUR. AT 9:10, I WOULD SIT DOWN TO MY EVENING MEAL. I WOULD GO TO BED AT 10 O'CLOCK AND WAKE UP IN GLORY!" In other words, I would not change any of my plans because I am always prepared to meet my God. God is no stranger to me. He is my friend.

As hard as this time is for us as family and friends, I challenge us to remember that God was no stranger to Mary. God was her constant companion and friend. Mary has joined around the throne of God her husband, Sam, and all of her family and friends who have gone before. Together, they sing God's praises for all eternity.

Mary Herndon lived believing that Jesus has robbed death of its power and victory. That Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life. Because Jesus lives, we live also. Let us find comfort today in believing this and living this. Let us find comfort in loving God with our whole being. Pastor Daryl

PARISH NURSE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

cause your energy levels to drop or increase or spike your insulin levels, increasing your risk of diabetes- and they are plant based substitutes which are better for your body- and part of your overall healthy diet!

May you take the time to enjoy the changing of the seasons as we come into the month of September! Eileen



Matthew 14:31 "… 'You have so little faith,' Jesus said. 'Why did you doubt me?' "

September is fast approaching, and with the new month, comes new changes. We will see the days get shorter, the leaves will change colors, and all of the children will be back in school.

The excitement of cooler weather and beautiful fall colors aren't the only changes to be excited for. We have so much to be thankful for within our church. We *can* be joyful church members. I am excited for our **new service to kick off on September 24th**, and I hope that you are, too!

In Matthew 14:22-33 Jesus sends the disciples out on a boat while he is praying on the mountain. The forces of the wind and the waves are rocking the boat, but yet Jesus calls out to Peter. The disciples are fearful that it is a ghost. However, Jesus says, "Don't be afraid, take courage. I am here!"

In many ways, we are in a boat right now, fighting against the forces in the outside world. Christianity has declined, churches are seeing decreased attendance, and everywhere we look there is some form of temptation. It could feel like we are in a boat right now, fighting against the changes that are happening within our church- but we don't have to be. God is right here, reaching His hand out and telling us to come. When Peter kept his eyes focused on the Lord, he was able to walk on water. As soon as he lost sight of Christ, he began to sink. We are at a time now where we can focus our eyes, hearts, and minds on Christ. He will keep us afloat!

As we enter into September, pray that we all can keep our eyes on Christ. Please pray that we can all find ways to willingly serve in our church. Instead of focusing on what we want to happen at the church, let's take a leap of faith and say, "I will!" We can say "I will" to serving communion, being a greeter, leading a small group, or even attending a small group. When we put our faith in the Lord, we can and we *will* accomplish great things.

Don't forget to invite your family, friends, neighbors, or someone in the community to check out our new service. We will celebrate the occasion with an outdoor festival, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Join us for food, bounce houses, face painting, games, music, and fellowship.

God's Blessings,

Lauren Cranmer - Awakening Worship Coordinator

The Wesley Challenge: 21 Days to a more Authentic Faith

Beginning **Sunday**, **September 10** we will start a three week Small Group Study series on the **Wesley Challenge – 21 days to a more authentic faith.** So we will **meet at 5:00 p.m. on September 10, 17, and 24.** After that we will move into a study based upon Pastor Daryl's sermon series.

This study explores the 21 questions John Wesley used in Oxford, England with the group that was nicknamed "The Holy Club." By exploring each of these questions, both individually, and as a group, participants may find a more sustainable union with God through everyday practices.

I think these questions are challenging. The study book has been ordered. Please try to pick up a copy at church and read the **introduction** and **Section I** before we talk on the 10th. If you are unable to do that, <u>please do not let that stop you from attending</u>. There is a video and you will be able to participate. Please encourage others to join us and pray for this study and for the church. **Deb Fansler**







IT WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT...the ST. PAUL ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

We will have our great Chicken & Noodles or the Vegetable Soup, etc., etc. The craft ladies have been busy creating a variety of crafts and gifts – remember to shop your "home church" first! Pick up those gifts for the "special people" you want to remember especially at Christmas and check out the unique Halloween treats for your kids and grandkids. Don't forget to stop at the baked goods/candy, jams/jellies tables.

Lunch is served 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Dinner from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. If you can't "eat in" we'll be glad to fix a "Take-Home-A-Meal."

Of course, in order to make the FALL FESTIVAL a success we will need lots of help. Any amount of time you can spare will be greatly appreciated. There will be sign up inserts in the bulletins and on the table in the hallway during September. Please indicate your donations and possible work times and turn them in on any of the Sundays between now and the FALL FESTIVAL. If you miss signing up at church & want to donate or work, please call Maggie Funke at 259-9490 or the church office, 259-5210. Proceeds from this project and all others held during the year will be disbursed to our mission groups at our December Christmas Party/Meeting. See you IN CHURCH at our Fall Festival!



Memorial Brick Prayer Walkway

Kaleb Smith of Boy Scout Troop #777 constructed a memorial, brick, prayer walkway connecting the parking lot to the pavilion

in the park at St. Paul UMC. You can still order a personalized, permanent memorial to become a part of this special walkway. This is what is available:

4"x8" brick costs \$<u>50</u> 8"x8" brick costs \$<u>100</u> 12"x12" granite block costs <u>\$300</u> Gray granite benches cost \$<u>2000</u>

To receive an order form contact the St. Paul UMC office, 259-5210, or email to request one, info@stpaulwired.org. The church will continue this project whenever someone wants to purchase another memorial.

SEPTEMBER · 2017 · STEEPLE



THANK YOU: We had a great group of volunteers from St. Paul who delivered meals in the Wood River/Roxana area during August. This marks the **32nd year** that St. Paul has been involved in the **Meals**

On Wheels program. Through this important community outreach effort, meals are provided for individuals who need a little extra help. We extend a **great big thank you** to our volunteers:

Larry & Iola Ballard, Harvey Birmingham, Tom Voorhees, Ben Brown, Sam Brown, Duane Atchley, Maggie Funke, John Hendricks, Carol Russell, Pat Colclasure, Phyllis Hill, Tracy Franks, Carleen Balzraine, and Randy & Joyce Brueggeman. ~Larry Bryan & Harvey Birmingham~



Qualifications: Must be male or female; young, middle age, old, older. Must be able to walk and step into the van. NO EXPERIENCE IS REQUIRED! If you like to sing that is a BIG PLUS. You don't have to be trained in opera or even country music. Can't read music? That is OKAY; we only use the words. Must be able to shake hands & spread some sunshine! You need no computer savvy, bookkeeping skills, or accounting degree. Should be available each Friday (at 12:45 p.m.) of the month and one Monday (at 1:00 p.m.). APPLY IN PERSON AND BE PREPARED TO STAY. Excellent benefits to your mind, body, and soul. God and Sweet Sounds need you in this outreach ministry today! **Music IS a powerful memory!**

Our members come from several churches and communities. For more information call Dorothy Kasinger at 259-7255 or email to her at <u>dorothydlk@charter.net</u>. Give us a try this fall!



Worship Choir to Begin!

~From Psalms 148~

<u>1</u>Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. <u>2</u>Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. <u>3</u>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. <u>4</u>Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. <u>5</u>Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created...<u>11</u>kings of the earth and all nations, you princes and all rulers on earth, <u>12</u>young men and women, old men and children. <u>13</u>Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. Praise the Lord!!

If praising the Lord is your passion, then Worship Choir is where you want to be beginning Wednesday, September 6, from 7:15 - 8:15 in the sanctuary. Come ready to sing, with a heart of worship. We will begin our season by singing songs from the "30-minute Choir Book," which you have used in the past and were given practice CDs for. If you still have your CDs, please begin listening to these songs. If you don't have one, please see me ASAP to get one. Looking forward to an excellent time of praising and worshipping our Savior together this year! Blessings, Rhonda







"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 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 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. There is still 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, <u>but please be sure</u> 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 Jim Herndon.

Beginning January 2016, you were able to <u>place the designated amount for "Mission Possible</u>" gifts on the <u>Capital Campaign</u> <u>line</u> on your offering envelopes. Donations toward the expenses of our Church Operations (i.e. the General Budget) would go on the <u>Undesignated</u> line as always. What was Capital Improvements, funds meant for unexpected major expenses, is now labeled <u>Building & Grounds Improvements</u> on the 2016 –2018 envelopes. If you have any questions, please call the Church Office.

UPDATE!

The Capital Campaign work continues. Currently we are working with a contractor to begin the replacement of the windows in the kitchen, Fellowship Hall, and the choir practice room. They are in very bad shape. Also, we are actively looking for a church vehicle! <u>ALSO: when not in use</u>, <u>ALL doors in the building should be closed</u>. *~The Trustees~*

Old Church Directories

HELP.... We need your help in completing our collection of church directories for our history project. If you have any of the following dates: **1967-68**, **1969-70**, **(after this they were single date directories)**, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1981, 1983, 1985, 1986, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1997, & 1999, and if you are willing to donate the directory (pictorial or member directory) to our project please leave your

donated copy in the Trustee mailbox at church. If you wish for us to make a copy of your donation and return the original to you please put a note to that effect on your directory (with your name) and we'll return it. Thanks, **Jim Herndon, Trustees**

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Dear IGRC family,

What can we do?

15

I've heard that question over and over as the news of those affected by Hurricane Harvey's destructive forces are made known. Because United Methodists are people of action, we often wish to be able to

A Pastoral Letter from Bishop Frank J. Beard Resident Bishop, Illinois Area, Tourised Methodist Church

do something to assist. I am writing to encourage your participation in ministry to those suffering from this storm by offering a few suggestions on what we can do together.

As with any disaster, we United Methodists, through the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) are already organizing and positioning ourselves for the time it will take to get the region back on its feet. It is often said that UMCOR is one of the first to arrive and one of the last to leave following a disaster.

Let me offer some guidance on how we can be most effective in lending a hand without adding to the misery through the wrong kind of response.

<u>Pray first</u>! This is something that we all can do. Pray for those affected by the storms (remember, they are survivors, not victims), as well as their families, first responders, churches and pastors. Prayer is essential to our efforts making an eternal difference.

Be patient. There is a tendency to want to go to the disaster site. But before rebuilding and recovery can begin, waters must recede and assessments must be done. Our Conference Communications team will be keeping us informed as information from the Rio Grande and Texas Annual Conferences become available. Wait until we are officially invited.

Be helpful. While it is true that persons lost clothing and other physical items, we do harm when we overwhelm them with our hand-me-downs when they come at the wrong time and are not needed. **Cash donations** are the best means for providing UMCOR the flexibility it needs. When you give to UMCOR, 100 percent of your gift will be directed to the designated need - a claim other charitable organizations cannot make. Our apportionments and UMCOR Sunday offering pay for the administrative overhead that makes this happen. You can give through your local church to General Advance #901670 and designate it to Hurricane Harvey. You may also donate online.

Begin small. Get a Sunday School Class or a Bible Study Group, or another group of interested folks and assemble flood buckets for UMCOR. Our own Midwest Mission Distribution Center is part of the UMCOR network and they are already busy shipping flood buckets to the area. But in order to be able to respond, we must replenish the flood buckets. Information on how to assemble the UMCOR flood buckets can be found here on the UMCOR site. These buckets have all of the essential items needed to assist people with cleanup once the waters recede.

<u>Get training in early disaster response</u>. This training could open the door for your leadership and or service on future work teams. Our Conference Disaster Response Team regularly hosts training events throughout the conference. If your church would like to train a number of volunteers, trainers will come to you. Contact Christy Blickensderfer in the conference office for more information. Among the upcoming training events is an Early Response training at Fairfield First UMC on Sept. 23 and a Disaster Response Mini-Academy on Sept. 29-30 at East Bay Camp in Hudson. Visit the Conference Disaster Response webpage for more details and a link for registering online.

I would also ask that each IGRC congregation take a special offering during September for those affected by Hurricane Harvey. You choose which Sunday. We may not all be able to give equally, but we each can participate in alleviating human suffering. The offering can be sent to the Conference office where it will be promptly routed to the disaster area through UMCOR. Designate the offering for Hurricane Harvey.

We are standing at the beginning of a long journey with our sisters and brothers in Texas. The longest journey still begins with just one step. Let's make sure our steps are measured and helpful with the goal of bringing health and wholeness as the hands and feet of Jesus. Blessings to each of you for caring.

Thanks for your willingness to help! God Bless

Bishop Frank J. Beard



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Location: Riverbend Family Ministries, 131 E. Ferguson Ave., Wood River, IL 62095

Objective: SnapChat, Instagram, Musicaly - Do you have an account with one of these social media outlets? Does your youth have an account?

Learn about social media applications that are commonly used by youth. Participants will hear from two internet safety experts – Sgt. Joe Harris of Wood River Police Department and Special Agent Randy Copsey of Illinois State Police. Participants will also have the opportunity to breakout into groups that will provide hands on learning and navigation of popular social media applications. Positive, helpful, and family friendly social media applications will also be shared.

Also Featured:

Addiction Is Real: Stop the silence. Start the conversation. Save a life. Would you recognize signs of youth alcohol or drug use in your home? This free, interactive exhibit of a teenager's bedroom contains items that could signal that a young person is involved in risky activities. Participants are invited to search the room, learn how to spot warning signs, and get tips for talking with kids about alcohol and drug use.



Other Specifics: Encouraged to bring own device – i.e. smartphone or tablet | Free WiFi available Food and beverages will be provided | Raffle of a 7" Amazon Fire Tablet | Childcare available

Allen Wright Benefit

****LIVE WRIGHT LOVE WRIGHT****

All proceeds from this benefit will go to help assist with medical and living expenses while Allen fights this battle!

Tickets \$20 per person—available at the door or in advance by calling:



Lindee Autery 618-789-3177, Brandy Carter 618-550-3608, Casey Lackey 314-401-5765, Nicki Ogle 618-779-9153 or Robin Ripper 618-410-1373

ALL DONATIONS WELCOMED! NO GIFT IS TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL! Hosted by friends of Allen, Lori & Ashley Wright

Saturday, September 16

6PM-12AM

VFW Hall—Wood River

Tickets include chicken & pasta dinner, beverages and entertainment.

Silent auction items, raffles and a 50/50 drawing.