



The Steeple

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



MAY 2019

Greetings people of infinite worth!

As we reflect back on the many events that lead toward Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, one of the most stirring vignettes is found in Matthew 27:54, "*The Roman officer and the other soldiers at the crucifixion were terrified by the earthquake and all that had happened. They said, 'This man truly was the Son of God!'*" (NLT).

What had happened to frighten and enlighten the hardened killing machines known as Roman soldiers? What was it that spoke to their hearts so that they confessed that Jesus 'truly was the Son of God'? The magnitude of Jesus' crucifixion was evident in nature. We read in scripture that the sky went dark in the middle of the day, a fearsome portent for the people of the first century, and for many civilizations yet today. Whether it was an eclipse or some other holy manifestation that obscured the rays of the sun, it was dark, ominous and held great foreboding. Dark skies in the middle of the day will do that.

Here in the Midwest, on Monday, August 21, 2017 during the solar eclipse we witnessed just such a time of darkness during the mid-day. I remember standing outside the church where I served at the time with a shoe box contraption that allowed us to see the progress of the eclipse. The pastor, his wife, our secretary, and I stood in the parking lot sharing the shoebox back and forth. When the eclipse was at its height, it was as if the entire world was holding its breath. The temperature dropped a few degrees, the world was oddly silent, and it seemed that nature was out of tune. Of course, my companions and I understood what was happening; it was a long predicted natural phenomenon. But even in the fact that it was predicted and occurred right on cue that did nothing to diminish the breathtaking power of God.

It reminded us of just how dependent we are on the light that comes from the sun, how it brightens our days, makes the trees and plants grow, signals the birds when to sing and when to be silent. We were awestruck, as we considered who created the sun, who controls our cycles around it, and who keeps it all in order.

The Roman guards were a superstitious and uneducated lot, but even they seemed to comprehend the power of the sun and how the absence of it was to be feared. To their way of thinking, the God of the Christians was withholding his light as his Son was dying on the cross. All of nature seemed to be in mourning in those hours of darkness. Finally, when Jesus was dead, they recognized that Jesus really was the Son of God. I have to wonder if their declaration of his identity changed their lives. Did they become Christians, or did they just live in the terrible knowledge that they helped put him to death?

Nature testifies to the power of God, the one who created it all. He is the same One who keeps it all in order, the planets in their orbits, and everything else, right down to the cells reproducing in our bodies. Praise God for the glory that is His alone!

REFLECTIONS...

Have a Blessed Easter Season!
Love, Pastor Debra



OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS!

- ◆ We rejoiced with **Nicholas & Julie Hobbs** as their son, **Leo Nicholas Hobbs**, was baptized on Easter Sunday, April 21. We welcome Leo into our church family and look forward to watching him grow in the Lord! Congratulations!
- ◆ Congratulations to **Oliver Bacus** for his performances in the SIUE original play "**AreUR**" created by Dr. Igor Crk, Chuck Harper, and Eric Ruckh. The play was inspired by Karl Capek's "R.U.R. (Rossman's Universal Robots)" famous from 1920 for the first use of the word *robot* taken from the Czech word "*robotá*" meaning *forced labor*. Oliver was a member of the cast of the play which ran from April 24-28.
- ◆ **Teresa & Mike Toner** are rejoicing at the April 20th birth of **Wyatt Thomas DeGrand**, the first grandchild from Teresa's side of the family. Wyatt's parents are Tommy (Teresa's son) & Emily DeGrand. May God Bless this growing family!
- ◆ Thank you God for an answer to prayer for **Opal Lang** after 130 days in a Chicago hospital waiting for a heart transplant. This 2 year old **great-niece of Rosalie Toner** now has a new heart (April 25) and it is just beating away like it should. Opal also has a new baby brother, **Apollo Keith Lang**, who was born on April 27 to parents Tyler & Priscilla Lang. This family has much to rejoice about; Praise God!
- ◆ Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family of **Logan Taylor**, grandson of Robert & Dorothy Watt, great-grandson of Tom (Hilde) Piper; the family of **Margaret Hinkle**, sister of Joe Hanfelder, our custodian; the family of **David Wiseman**, friend of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; the family of **Dixie Brown**, friend of Christina Johnson; and the family of **Tom McPherson** friend of Maggie Funke. May God give to all His comfort, healing, and peace in this time of loss.
- ◆ Thank you to all the members of the 2019 Easter Cantata Choir - **Jennifer Garrison, Debra Hoertel, Jeannie Huddleston, Jean Kainz, Karen Martin, Rachel Schiber, Tana Yankovich, Elinor Blacklock, Tracy Franks, Christina Johnson, Noël Schiber, Iris Uzzell, Dorothy Kasinger, Rick Rader, Randy McLain**, director **Cherilyn Trusty**, narrator **Dave Schiber**, and sound tech **Mark Mayer**. You all helped to make this a very special Resurrection Sunday!

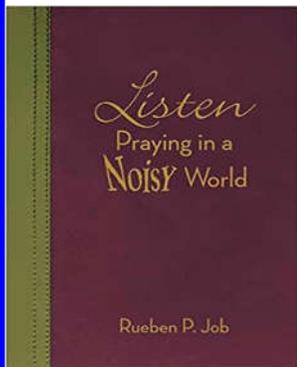
THANK YOU: The Board of Trustees says **THANK YOU to the folks** who helped with the Spring Church Work Day! It is important and necessary, and we appreciate all who gave up some of their Saturday time to help with the work! **Trustees**

THANK YOU: Thank you to all who wished me a happy Administrative Professionals / Secretaries Day! I appreciated all the gifts, cards, and sentiments! It is truly amazing to minister here with each of you! **Lois Mitchell**



Small Group Study

Listen: Praying in a Noisy World
by Rueben P. Job
Sundays at 5:00 P.M.



This study is a six-week video driven study that includes a daily devotional reading. Jesus is always with us and communicating with us, but our lives are so noisy (TV, music, radio, Netflix,

cell phones, YouTube, to do lists) we seldom hear his gentle voice. What if we could slow down, quiet the noise in our heads, and really hear what Jesus wants to tell us? Let's learn to listen to Jesus! **You may still join the group if you wish to do so.**

- May 5th – Everyone Needs Help
- May 19th – Flying Solo
- June 2nd – Getting into Position

CAMPING...CAMPING...CAMPING

Pick up *Connecting Campers, Nature, And Christ*—a publication offering a complete listing of our church camps. It is available in the wall rack 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 *Connecting Campers, Nature, And Christ*.



Give generously on Native American Ministries Sunday to:



Did you know that more than 20,000 Native American people are part of The United Methodist Church? On **May 5**, we celebrate the **Native American Ministries**. You may give a special offering that will directly support all of the different parts of the Native American Ministries.



WORSHIP UNDER THE TREES ON SUNDAYS IN THE CHURCH AMPHITHEATER

**AT 8:15 a.m.
JUNE 2nd-AUGUST 25th**

(In case of extreme weather the service is held in the sanctuary! The 10:30 a.m. service is held in the sanctuary)

TRUST
in the **LORD**
with all your
HEART
and lean **NOT**
on your own
UNDERSTANDING
Prov. 3.5



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

Our 8:15 a.m. service is a traditional service with hymns played upon our beautiful pipe organ as . The Pastor leads worship clothed in a robe and stole. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. Our 10:30 a.m. service—*Awakening*—is a contemporary service. The preaching focuses upon life lessons from the Bible. Music is played by a worship band. Words to the songs are projected on the screen or are available on the entryway table. Communion is celebrated at the end of every service. The intent of both worship services is to draw people into a closer connection with Jesus Christ and with each other. **A Nursery and “More Jesus Time” for Pre-school - 5th grade is provided during the 10:30 a.m. service.**



5th: Communion served at both services. Hand Bell Choir is playing. **NEW SERMON SERIES...Stuff God Never Said: God Helps Those Who Help Themselves!** Scripture: *Matthew 6:25-33*. Theme: We are called to seek after the kingdom of God first, not our own welfare.



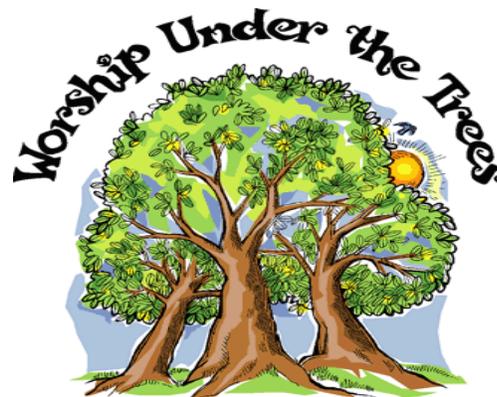
12th: Mother’s Day Sunday! Angel Choir sings! Birthday Sunday. During both services, we will enjoy a mini-concert by **Darla McFadden** from St. Louis. Those who have heard her previously recall how her music blesses us. A love offering will be taken to support her music ministry.



19th: Stuff God Never Said: Follow Your Heart! Scripture: *Jeremiah 17:7-10*. Theme: Following our heart more often leads to trouble. Our feelings change from moment to moment. Let’s follow God instead.



26th: Memorial Sunday. **Stuff God Never Said: Suffering Always Comes From Sin!** Scripture: *James 1:2-4*. Theme: No matter what the cause of our trials, we know that God will use it to strengthen our walk with him. Also, we will remember those who have gone on before us into heaven. And we will dedicate completed memorial gifts.



JUNE 2nd: Outdoor Worship in the Park begins today at 8:15! Youth Sunday!



The Lord Is My Portion

by Bill Gaultiere

It's ironic that the more we long for Jesus — to know him intimately and love him fully — the more we are deeply satisfied. Most things in life don't work that way. If you cultivate a craving for chocolate you're likely to keep eating it and gain weight or get sick to your stomach!

Craving becomes a big problem if what you're longing for is acceptance or self-worth and you keep striving to achieve it. You can never accomplish enough. Never be attractive enough. Never keep people happy with you. Many addictions and much unhappiness come out of craving for things other than Jesus.

Is the Lord your Portion?

Many times the Psalmist says, "The Lord is my portion." For instance, he prays, "Whom have I in heaven but you, Lord, and earth has nothing I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever" (Psalm 73:26-26).

In other words, "Lord Jesus, I wouldn't even want to be in heaven if you weren't there and this earth has nothing that satisfies me except you. My own strength and abilities often fail, but with you living in my heart I have all the power I need and more joy than I can contain."

What if this prayer were really true of you and I? What would it be like to be the kind of person who continually thirsted for Jesus and found delight in him? Imagine if the way you do your work, relate to people, spend your free time, and even the things you think about were an expression of your love for Jesus. I'm not talking about perfection, but growing towards it, by God's grace, little-by-little.

You can find more Joy in Jesus!

To live by the words "The Lord is my portion" requires abandoning other pursuits and desires, including good ones. It also requires soul training. Longing for Jesus is the only way to participate in and naturally share with others "the life that is truly life" (1 Timothy 6:19).

A wonderful way to cultivate this devotion to the Lord is to pray the Psalms. We can "take heart" from the Psalmist, praying his prayers to absorb his whole-hearted love for God.

A prayer for letting God be my Portion:

Dear Heavenly Father, When I am afraid, you are the strength of my heart. When I feel incomplete, you are my portion. Thank you, Lord, for being more than enough to satisfy my every need. Thank you for comforting me, loving me, and being my portion forever.

In Jesus' name, Amen.





may BIRTHDAYS

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

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

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

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



may ANNIVERSARIES



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

- 21-May Tom & Karen Martin
- 22-May Jimmy & Brianne Bourne
- 25-May Bruce & Karen Hatten
- 26-May Keith & Mandy Armon
- 27-May Brennen & Samantha Hermens
- 27-May Steve & Jean Kainz

Be sure to pick up your Church Directory for 2019!

ALWAYS be sure to contact the church office if you have a **change of address, phone number, or email address!** The 2019 Church Directory is now available.

Thank you!



APRIL Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 4/30/2019	\$16900.75
Designated Giving:	through 4/30/2019	\$1769.89
	Capital Improvements	150.00
	Loose Change	154.89
	Flowers	316.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	160.00
	Community Hope Center	50.00
	Offering Envelopes	45.00
	UMCOR	30.00
	Upper Room	4.00
	Charles McKnelly	500.00
	Memorials	340.00
	Helping Hands	20.00
Reimbursements		5480.00
Easter Offering		1697.00
Capital Campaign		1326.00
Total:		\$27173.64

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

Average Attendance for APRIL 2019

Early Service	55
Late Service	70
Sunday School	28
Visitors	7



Capital Campaign money received as of 4-30-19: \$328,002.92



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!

DEADLINE FOR
June 2019 STEEPLE,
Tuesday, May 21st!

NAZARENE COMMUNITY THEATER

400 N. Central Ave.
Roxana, IL
FREE FAMILY MOVIES
EACH MONTH!

Mary Poppins Returns
Friday May 3 @ 7 p.m.
Saturday May 4 @ 6 p.m.





VBS 2019 JUNE 10-14 9:30 A.M.-NOON

It is really time to think about VBS! There are a couple of items we need you to be collecting:

- Empty, paper off, clean, frosting containers = 50-75 needed
- Empty toilet paper rolls = 50-75 needed

Volunteers are always needed and welcomed! We will have classes for children age 3 (who are potty trained) through the 6th grade. The stations are: Recreation, Crafts, Movie, Story, Snacks, Praise Songs, Science Lab, and Puppet & Song.

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

CHECK THE BULLETIN BOARD IN MAY FOR THE SUPPLIES NEEDED!

We pray this is another fun and inspiring year!

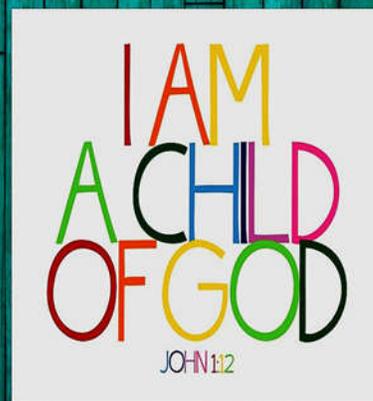
POSITIONS STILL NEEDED:

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

Remember to contact Jamie Gwaltney and tell her how you can help 692-0898.

SEEKING GRADUATE INFORMATION

If you have a son, daughter, or grandkid who is a member or an active participant at St. Paul graduating from 8th grade, high school, junior college, college, graduate school, etc. please turn their name and information into the Church Office so we are able to honor him or her on Graduate Sunday, June 2!





2019 is posted on the long bulletin board

in the Education Wing. There are openings in the months of: **Sept., Nov., & Dec.**

This is a great ministry to honor or remember someone or a special day. **Please, help fill it in! Thank you!**



In a world where you can be anything... Be Kind!

On Sunday, May 5th the youth group will have a **Cinco de Mayo Taco Party** at Lauren's house from 4-7 p.m. They will also be watching the movie, *The Case for Christ*.

The youth will be meeting again on **May 19** from 4-5:30 p.m. at the church.

Youth will take a break from the Sunday meetings during June/July to allow for summer travel plans. The youth will be going to **Little Grassy** from **June 16-21st for AIR Camp**. Please be in prayer for them as they spend a week in God's wonderful presence. We have witnessed great happenings at Little Grassy and are so blessed to be a part of the summer camping ministry.



Sunday, June 2nd will be our **YOUTH SUNDAY** during the 10:30 service. Please come support your youth!

And we are still a little shy of our camping fund goals, so we will be hosting a **Car Wash** on **Sunday, June 2nd** after the 10:30 service. We ask that you bring your cars (clean or dirty!) and let us wash them for a donation towards our week at camp. We have 4 girls who are working towards their registration fees. Help us to help them!

We love you, church!
In God's Love and Kindness,
Lauren Cranmer - Youth Director





More Honduras News

In the February Steeple, I spoke about our upcoming trip to Honduras this June. Our ministry to the children of Honduras includes fluoride treatments and lessons on dental hygiene. When I say dental hygiene lessons, I am talking about teaching them how to brush their teeth! Many of the children there have never seen a toothbrush or toothpaste, much less know how to use one. Part of our mission will be to give each child their own toothbrush plus toothpaste, and teach them to use it.



The Honduras team is **now** asking for donations of **travel-sized toothpaste (no particular brand)! There is a box outside my office where you can place your toothpaste donations.**

As always, thank you for your generosity! **Blessings! Pastor Debra and Joe**



**DEAR GOD,
THANK YOU FOR ANOTHER DAY.
PLEASE WATCH OVER MY
FAMILY AND FRIENDS.
THANK YOU!
AMEN.**



Today the main grocery store in our area is Schnucks. If you do not already have a Schnucks eScrip card, we have them available on the Welcome table in the entryway. Pick up the whole sheet of 2 cards and 2 key fobs. Schnucks eScrip is based on the amount of money people spend at Schnucks. We are given a monthly amount based on a percentage of the monthly sales of those who have signed up and chosen St. Paul UMC as the recipient. **Then all one need do is show the cashier their key fob or plastic card during check-out to credit St. Paul. THIS IS NOT A CREDIT CARD.** This program is to benefit non-profit organizations in the area. **NO PURCHASE IS TOO SMALL** to benefit St. Paul. Pick up and sign-up online for your very own account today! **Need help? Call the church office!**



EASTER FLOWERS 2019

LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in honor of our Family
LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in memory of all our Loved Ones who have passed away
DON BUNT, SR. in memory of my dear Wife, Evelyn
BECKY CHESTER in memory of my Daughter, Lynnann Chester
RONDA CRAIN in memory of my Parents, Jim & Mona Dunham
TRACY FRANKS in memory of my Parents, Lute & Doloros Taulbee
MARJORIE HALL in memory of my Son, Dennis Hall
JIM & JANE HERNDON in memory of our Parents, Ed & Emma Sidwell and Sam & Mary Herndon
JIM & JANE HERNDON in honor of our Children & Grandchildren
HICKERSON FAMILY in memory of our Friends, Dr. Norman & Mrs. Carole Taylor
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in memory of our Daughter, Meghan Marie
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in honor of our Daughter, Lori Marie
NICHOLAS & JULIE HOBBS in honor of our Son, Leo Hobbs
DOROTHY KASINGER in memory of my Parents, Victor & Beulah Stroheck

DOROTHY KASINGER in honor of my Children & Grandchildren
TAMERA MARTIN in memory of my Mom, Pamela Rhodes
TAMERA MARTIN in memory of my Father, Mike Harris
MARK & DEB MAYER in memory of our Parents, Richard & Ginny Kiel and Louise Mayer
MARK & DEB MAYER in honor of our Kids & Grandkids
RANDY & MINDY McLAIN in memory of Randy's Parents, Bob & Annabelle McLain
RANDY & MINDY McLAIN in memory of Mindy's Parents, Merle & Norma Davis
KELLY & RACHEL McPHETERS in memory of Jamie Kuruicar
KELLY & RACHEL McPHETERS in memory of Star McPheters
BEULAH MOORE in honor of my Family
JAYME SCROGGINS in honor of my Children & Grandchildren
TOM & RUTH VOORHEES in memory of our Son, Mitch
CAROL WARNER in memory of my Husband, Dean and Daughter, Terri
BOB, BEV, & JOE WEBBER AND FAMILIES in memory of Helen & Morris "Mo" Tschannen



MISSION PROJECT FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Attendees to 2019 Annual Conference are urged to have their congregations collect items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. **Tornado Kits include the basic necessities for persons whose homes have been affected by tornados or floods. The items needed for each kit include the following:**

- \$9 Donation for 2 Totes**
- 2 pairs of work gloves**
- 2 boxes of gallon-size resealable plastic bags (24 bags total)**
- 2 permanent markers (i.e. Sharpie)**
- 1 roll of duct tape (prefer colored) (to label household items)**
- 2 dust masks (no surgical)**
- 24 heavy duty trash bags rolled (33-45 gallon) (more for trash removal)**
- 24 clear / white trash bags (20-33 gallon) (for larger, personal items that need containment)**

Those wishing to help with the cost of shipping and/or the purchase of supplies in bulk can make checks payable to **IGRC Advance Special #6620** and mail them to:

MMDC, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee IL 62558

You may continue to bring your items to church through Tuesday, JUNE 4th.



UPCOMING IGRC EVENTS & MEETINGS

Prayer team initiates Conference Prayer Line

If you are involved in any prayer ministry for the Lord, the IGRC prayer team THANKS you for being faithful. I am hopeful that all is going well as we continue to be in prayer for our conference, our churches, and ourselves.

The **IGRC Prayer Team** has started a **Conference Prayer Line** that meets every **Sunday at 7 p.m.** This conference Prayer Line consists of a five minute devotion, prayer requests, testimonies, and prayers. Please join us. The call number and access code are as follows:

Conference number: (218) 895-0912 Access code: 339523

Grace and Peace

Aletha Weatherall - IGRC Prayer Team Coordinator



Youth Worker Training events

IGRC Youth Ministries is hosting student ministry training events in three locations May 4 & May 11. Each training session will be from 9 a.m. to noon.

May 4 -- Normal First UMC

May 4 -- Quincy Vermont St. UMC

May 11 -- O'Fallon First UMC

For more information, contact Curt Franklin (cfranklin@igrc.org).



**Annual
 Conference
 will be
 June 6-8
 at the
 Peoria Civic
 Center**



RUMMAGE SALE

Thank You!

THANK YOU! Thank you to all of the great workers who turned out for the Annual Rummage Sale. First of all thanks to the donors who always supply a wealth of items for the sale, men who did the set-up and all who helped clean-up; people who sorted, priced, and displayed items as well as ladies who folded and bagged purchases, cashiered, and our “strong men and ladies” who helped carry out purchases.

We again received many compliments about the nice appearance and friendly atmosphere by those attending. After the sale the leftover clothing, shoes, and bedding were donated to the Community Hope Center and the other items were donated to someone who has a resale shop in the area. Also many pajamas and robes were taken to Oasis, and unusable bedding was donated to the Rosewood Pet Hospital. To-date, approximately **\$2,164** has been raised from the Rummage Sale and **\$106** from the craft sales at that time.

Thank you again and God’s Blessings on **EVERYONE** who helped make this another successful event!

-Women of Worship

UPPER ALTON BAPTIST CHURCH



SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST

7:00 P.M.

@ ST. PAUL UMC

SOMETIMES
GOD
DOESN'T CHANGE
YOUR SITUATION
BECAUSE

HE
IS TRYING
TO CHANGE
YOUR
HEART.

“A ship in a harbor is safe, but that is not what ships are built for.”

~William Shedd~



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

☺ → **SALE GOES THROUGH** ← ☺

As of April 5, 2019 St. Paul UMC, via the Trustees, sold the property known as the Jr. Parsonage at 360 Airline Drive! As you may recall, based upon a majority vote of the church members held at a church conference on March 15, 2018, the decision was made to sell the Jr. Parsonage to reduce existing church debt. Therefore, as a result of that church-wide decision, the proceeds from the sale of said property which sold for \$92,700, after closing costs and miscellaneous costs were taken out of the proceeds, along with an additional \$5,592.67 from the Capital Fund Campaign treasury were all used to eliminate our debt of \$89,092 to 1st Mid America Credit Union for the “Mission Possible” Campaign.

As you know we have spent just under \$500,000 doing much needed renovation work to the church facilities. Through your prayers and generosity we incurred a debt of only \$160,020 of which \$89,020 was to 1st Mid America CU and the remaining \$71,000 to a loan from the St. Paul Endowment Fund. It is important to note that a large part of the remaining Capital Fund Campaign treasury will go toward eliminating part of this in-house debt. Trustees, in a future meeting, will consider keeping some of the funds in reserve as a jump start on future physical needs of the church.

With the elimination of the “outside” debt to 1st Mid America CU **we pray that you will continue your generosity toward erasing our “in-house” debt to our Endowment Fund.** This we do in an effort to respect the long-time philosophy of St. Paul UMC in having a debt-free church.

We are so thankful to the congregation for your vision and generosity. The trustees have gone over and above; they have labored long and hard to make difficult decisions to continue the viability of our physical church & ministry within the community. Pastors Daryl Fansler and Debra Hoertel have provided constant inspiration and spiritual guidance in leading our efforts to a successful fruition. Many thanks to the original “Mission Possible” team for their time and dedication to the vision and for providing wonderful facilities for the future of St. Paul.

None of this much-needed work would have been possible without the congregation’s generosity and the willing volunteers to step forward for the benefit of our St. Paul ministries through our physical facilities. God is indeed good and he certainly answers prayers, as none of this would have been possible, for a church who struggles to meet its monthly budget, while all the while looking to the future and what God provides for us!!

Many blessings and thanks to all involved,

From your current St. Paul Trustees: Mike Tappy, Scott Gwaltney, Ian Martin, Noël Schiber, Joe Hoertel, Karen Challandes (secretary), Jim Herndon (chairman), and Pastor Debra Hoertel