



# The Steeple

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

JUNE 2019



## Greetings, People of Infinite Worth!

Time is ticking away for our mission trip...as of this writing, we are **24 days and counting** from departing for Honduras. Lists abound: packing lists, to do lists, and what to buy lists! We are taking fluoride treatment kits, plus thousands of toothbrushes and toothpaste. Our construction workers are bringing some tools and our cottage industry team members are bringing the tools of our trade: crochet hooks, knitting needles, patterns, fabric, and thread. For most of our team, this will be one of many mission trips to Honduras. This will my first trip to Honduras and Joe's second. It is our prayer to learn, to teach, and to touch the hearts of our Honduran brothers and sisters.

**One of the churches we serve is called, El Paraiso (Paradise).** When it was built, the congregation had a dream of building a two-story structure. However, as a new congregation, they could not afford to build such a large building. Since then, God has blessed the congregation abundantly and now building a second floor is not just a dream, but a necessity! Some of our crew will continue the work at El Paraiso to add another floor. Our team will be working with local construction workers to complete this project. Fortunately, we have several people on our team who are experienced in construction work. Digging out rocks and hauling concrete bags are not new to them. Construction work in June in Honduras is hot and sweaty work! Please be in prayer for their health and safety.

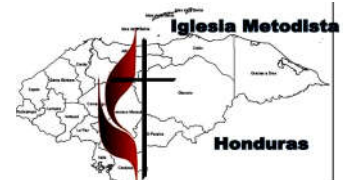
**One of our goals is to empower the women of Honduras.** The unemployment rate is high, and few men are able to provide the entire financial support for their family. The women are gifted and willing to work, but jobs for women are even more scarce than jobs for men. For various reasons many women are raising children without a partner and they too need the skills to begin a cottage industry. We hope to teach the women some skills that will enable them to work from home by producing items for sale. These cottage industries are often the mainstay for Honduran families. The profit from what the women produce means the difference between educating the children or sending them out to work. Among our team of missionaries, we have people who will teach the women how to knit and crochet items for home use, and for sale. We will hold a seminar on how to sew a tote bag (bolso grande) that could be sewn quickly from locally available fabrics and sold in the local market. Pray that our seminars are fruitful and that our students are empowered and blessed!

Another part of our project in Honduras will be to promote dental health for the children. These dear children have been raised in poverty and have never seen a dentist. Generous donors have given us enough fluoride treatment kits to protect the teeth of 2000 children! In addition to fluoride treatments, we will be giving the children their own toothbrush and toothpaste. **Because of the generosity of St. Paul UMC Rosewood Heights and other churches, we will be able to give 2500 children their own toothbrush/paste.** Dental health is closely linked to overall health and longevity; pray for these precious children that we may improve their lives with the care we give them.

**Prayer and missionary work go hand in hand. Our Honduras team covets your prayers as we prepare to go and serve God's people in Honduras.** We ask that you follow the prayer calendar (*see insert*) during the month of June. While it is true we will only be in Honduras for the last half of June, don't forget that there are mission teams all over the world that need your support and prayers. Praying according to the **"30 Ways to Pray for Missionaries Calendar"** will bless not just our team, but all missionaries across the globe.

**Be Blessed! Pastor Debra**

REFLECTIONS...





## OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU'S!

- We rejoice at the birth of **Nora Ashley Ricketts** on May 27th! She weighed in at 7 lbs. 3 oz. She is the daughter of Chris & Megan Ricketts and niece of Lauren Cranmer! Congratulations!
- We have learned that our good friend and former member, **Gene Walls**, was married to his fiancée, **Betty**, on Friday, April 26! We rejoice with them as they start this new journey in life together. Part of the time they will be in Texas and part in Illinois. Congratulations and God's blessings on you both!
- **Congratulations** go out to **Kate Garrison**! On May 4th she performed in her very first piano recital that was held at SIUE. We look forward to hearing you play at St. Paul UMC one day!
- **Congratulations** to our young adults for their achievements noted at the Roxana High School Fine Arts Banquet on May 7th. **Sydney Palmer** earned her choir pin, Thespian stars making her an Honor Thespian, and was inducted as the new Vice President of the Thespian Troupe 556. **Marlo Schiber** earned her numerals for Band and, along with **Piper Martin**, was also inducted into the Thespian Troupe 556.
- **Congratulations!** On May 9th the RiverBend Growth Association's Young Adults Committee held their year-end ceremony. **Grace Napp** represented AHS on this committee. For all of her hard work and points earned Grace received a \$2,900 scholarship. Then during the weekend of May 11-12 **Ian Napp** graduated from the University of Illinois with an Electrical Engineering degree.
- **Congratulations** to our two recipients of the Meghan Hickerson Christian Teen Leader Memorial Scholarship! The scholarships go to **Hailey Keller** of Civic Memorial High School and **Cassidy Harvey** of Roxana High School. They will receive their awards this summer on Sunday, July 14th.
- **Congratulations** to our **St. Paul UMC Bowling Team**! This year's awards included: **Jim Funke** winning High Average (207.77) in the men's division, **Andy Mortland** coming in at 2nd place (196.37), and **Mark Mayer** receiving an Honorable Mention (196.01); **Mark Mayer** winning High Series (727) in the men's division and **Jim Funke** receiving an Honorable Mention (741); and **Mark Mayer** receiving an Honorable Mention for High Game (269). Overall the team had a great time this year. And if anyone is interested in joining the team for the next season, speak to Mark Mayer. Thank you to the **Women of Worship** for preparing the Bowling Banquet for the teams on May 20th and we thank **Steve Oertle** for being the entertainment. A great evening of celebrating!
- On Memorial Sunday, May 26th, we celebrated the lives of those from our church family who have joined the church triumphant since our last Memorial Sunday service. We miss you but rejoice that today you are in the presence of our Lord: **Bill Basden, Evelyn Bunt, Alice Burrows, Marcella Gimmy, David Hall, Mitch Voorhees, Janet Williams, and Randy Williams**. We also dedicated our memorials completed during that time: Monies given to the Sweet Sounds – in Memory of **Alice Burrows**; Monies given for Happy Bears — in Memory of **Dee Hancock**; Monies given for Kids' Sunday School Equipment – in Memory of **Marilyn Cisler, Vi Potter, Janice Wold**; Monies given to Helping Hands — in Memory of **Spencer Bacus**; Monies given to Funeral Dinners — in Memory of **Spencer Bacus**; Monies to the Herman Camping Fund — in Memory of **Benjamin Moore**; Monies given to purchase a Loop Station for Awakening – in Memory of **Mitch Voorhees, Evelyn Bunt, Janice Wold**; and Some or All Monies Transferred or Designated to the Capital Fund Campaign — in Memory of **David Hall, Verda MacDonald, Steve Dunnagan, Chuck Toner**.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



**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.)

## **SHINE LIKE SPENCER!**



This is the inaugural year for the **Bacus family** to extend the "**Shine Like Spencer Kindness Award.**"

On May 13th it was given to graduating Roxana High Senior, **Emily Shelton**, who embodies the same attributes of kindness, service, and self-sacrifice as Spencer. Nominees came from the teachers and we thank them for their help.

## **OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2**

- Joan Ford shared with us that her son-in-law, **Lt. Colonel Jason Whipple**, retired from the military on May 26th. He had served for 21 years. He and wife, Beth (Ford) Whipple, and Wren are moving to Albuquerque, NM where he will work at the Sandia National Labs. Congratulations! Job well done!
- The **Sweet Sounds** held their season ending dinner on May 29. In the fall, they will resume going to Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Sites with their entertaining music and comedy. If you would like to bring smiles to the faces of so many, we invite you to join them in September. Contact **Dorothy Kasinger (259-7255)** and she will see that you get your red vest and become an official part of the group.
- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family of **Orlando "Dit" Panfile**, friend of Dorothy Kasinger; the family of **Raymond Gowin**, brother of Joyce Tappy; the family of **George Meisenheimer**, cousin of Lois Mitchell & Ruth Bell; the family of **David Ufert**, childhood neighbor of Christina Johnson; and the family of **Paula (Trickey) Seaman Myers**, former St. Paul member. May God give to all His comfort, healing, and peace in this time of loss.



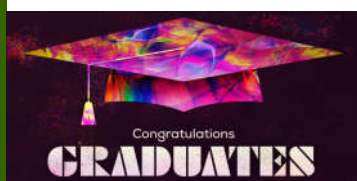


## Sundays at St. Paul in JUNE 8:15 & 10:30 A.M. Services

The 8:15 a.m. worship service is held in the amphitheater in the park. Wear casual clothes and bring your coffee and lawn chair. In case of rain, the service is held in the sanctuary.



**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.**



**2nd: Outdoor Worship in the Park begins today at 8:15! Youth Sunday! and Graduate Sunday today at 10:30. Communion served at both services. 8:15 Outside Service Sermon:**



**Cracked Pot** Scripture: *Isaiah 64:1-9* Theme: We are all cracked pots, but God can still use us. **10:30 Awakening Service: Youth Sunday;** Lauren Cranmer brings the message: "Home."

**9th: Birthday Sunday. Stuff God Never Said: Money Is The Root Of All Evil!** Scripture: *1 Timothy 6:6-10 1:2-4*. Theme: Money is a tool God has given us to use wisely and generously.



**Be in prayer for Pastor Debra & Joe (and the whole of Team Honduras) as they are away from us June 15-30. Pray for safe travels and safety in country as they touch the lives of the people God brings their way...**



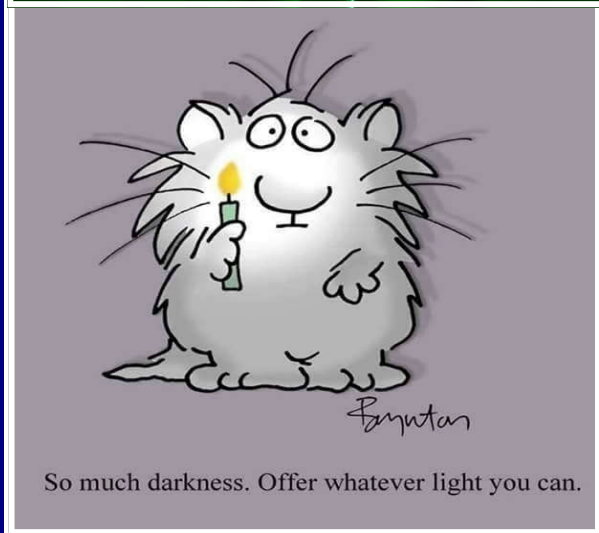
**16th: Father's Day!** Rev. Ed Weston, guest speaker. Sermon: "Making It a Priority." Scripture: *Psalms 128*. There will be NO Communion this day at Awakening.

**23rd:** Julie Gvillo, guest speaker. Sermon: "What Are You Doing Here?" Scriptures: *1 Kings 19:1-15a (focus passage) plus Psalms 42 and 43*. Theme: Seeking God in the silence. There will be NO Communion this day at Awakening.

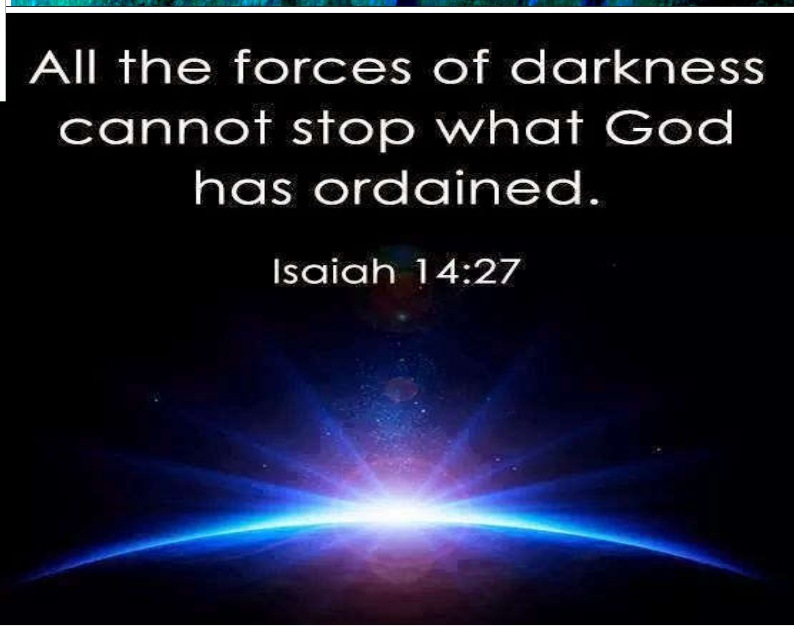


**The Gideons International**

**30th:** Dennis O'Neal of Gideons International, guest speaker. Message: "What Being A Gideon Is All About." Scriptures: *Isaiah 55:10-11 (focus passage) plus 1 Peter 1:3; Ephesians 2:8; Romans 10:17; Mark 16:15*. There will be NO Communion this day at Awakening.



So much darkness. Offer whatever light you can.







## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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

01-Jun Jansen Helmkamp  
 01-Jun Eric Scroggins  
 02-Jun Sarah Campbell  
 03-Jun Sarah Dawson  
 03-Jun Patsy Goss  
 04-Jun Jon Birmingham  
 04-Jun Katie Lair  
 04-Jun Karen Roberts  
 04-Jun Jonathan Scroggins  
 05-Jun Jennifer Sandbach  
 06-Jun Donna Bailey  
 06-Jun Ruth Champlin  
 06-Jun Scott Cruthis  
 06-Jun Myrna Duryea  
 06-Jun Don Franklin  
 07-Jun Joyce Brueggeman  
 07-Jun Pastor Debra Hoertel  
 08-Jun Vi Huebner  
 09-Jun Jimmy Bourne  
 09-Jun J.J. Burt Jr.  
 09-Jun Jacob Gwaltney  
 09-Jun Tori Standefer  
 10-Jun Aubrey Sandbach  
 10-Jun Olivia Virgin

11-Jun Gary Hart  
 11-Jun Lindsey Jensen  
 12-Jun Debbie Bowman  
 12-Jun Cheryl Champa  
 12-Jun Deb Fansler  
 12-Jun Bill Sullivan  
 14-Jun Harper Herndon  
 14-Jun Dave Schiber  
 15-Jun Autumn Betts  
 15-Jun Ashley Sheppard  
 16-Jun Trista Liedtke  
 17-Jun Brianne Bourne  
 17-Jun Jenny Spurgeon  
 18-Jun Nicole Barnes  
 18-Jun Madelynn Cranmer  
 18-Jun Samantha Hermens  
 18-Jun August Suermann  
 18-Jun Xavier Vore  
 18-Jun Zoe Vore  
 19-Jun Dustin Caldwell

19-Jun Sydnie Yates  
 20-Jun Karen Martin  
 20-Jun Annie Redden  
 20-Jun Amie Tillery  
 20-Jun Abigail White  
 21-Jun Lawson Bell  
 22-Jun Ethan Virgin  
 23-Jun Wanda Graves  
 23-Jun John White  
 25-Jun Caden Clark  
 25-Jun Summer Standefer  
 25-Jun Steve Voorhees  
 27-Jun Jamie McLain  
 27-Jun Kaden Sandbach  
 28-Jun Deb Link  
 30-Jun William Lair  
 30-Jun Sharon Szegedy  
 30-Jun Jeri Williams



## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



07-Jun J.J. & Jackie Beth Burt  
 07-Jun John & Laurie Myers  
 08-Jun Brian & Chris Eyster  
 08-Jun Joe & Sherry Huff  
 09-Jun Terry & Sharon Inman  
 10-Jun Cory & Jackie Boeshans  
 10-Jun Richard & Vi Huebner  
 11-Jun Randy & Joyce Brueggeman  
 11-Jun Rick & Jeannie Huddleston  
 14-Jun Steve & Julie Natsch  
 16-Jun Don & Kay Gwaltney

17-Jun Jay & Tracy Bentley  
 20-Jun Neil & Jade Herndon  
 22-Jun Larry & Cheryl Champa  
 24-Jun Larry & Iola Ballard  
 24-Jun Bob & Evelyn Hinkle  
 24-Jun Herrell & Bettie Lewis  
 25-Jun Matt & Cara Gwaltney  
 26-Jun Richard & Dell Demond  
 26-Jun Mike & Teresa Toner  
 28-Jun Matt & Kristen Toner  
 30-Jun Steve & Janet Hughes

**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!** Thank you!



## MAY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	through 5/31/2019	\$16319.00
Designated Giving:	through 5/31/2019	\$1925.00
	Capital Improvements	1486.00
	Loose Change	149.00
	Flowers	125.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	110.00
	Upper Room	5.00
	VBS	50.00
Darla McFadden		381.00
Reimbursements		13.50
Easter Offering		25.00
Capital Campaign		6010.00
Total:		\$24673.50

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

### Average Attendance for MAY 2019

Early Service	44
Late Service	52
Sunday School	23
Visitors	4



Capital Campaign money received as of 5-31-19: \$333,912.92

**DEADLINE FOR**  
**July 2019 STEEPLE,**  
**Thurs., June 20th!**



## MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

June's Loose Change Project is the Happy Bear Project for our church. Members of the church make bears that are given to Alton Memorial Hospital. These are then offered to children in pediatrics and/or coming through the emergency room in time of crisis. The bears provide security and comfort for the children. May God bless your gifts!

## NAZARENE COMMUNITY THEATER

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

**Friday, June 7 @ 7 p.m.**  
**Saturday, June 8 @ 6 p.m.**





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

It is time for VBS! There is at least one item we still need you to be collecting:

→ Empty, paper off, clean, **SMALL SOUP CANS** = 50-75

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 FOR THE SUPPLIES STILL NEEDED!**

We pray this is another fun and inspiring year!

**POSITIONS STILL NEEDED: MUSIC LEADER plus...**

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.

**My God is the lighthouse  
in the midst of my  
terrible storm.**



**I  
AM  
SAFE...**





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

Thank you so much for your support over the past year with our KIND Youth Group! Though we are few in numbers and sometimes the weather and sickness defy us... we still manage to have meaningful and impactful times together. Here is a look at what is coming up this summer...

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

Youth meetings will be different this summer. The schedule looks like this:

**Sunday, June 2—8 p.m. Campfire Devotions & S'mores at Lauren's home.**

**Sunday, June 9—8 p.m. Campfire Devotions & Flashlight Tag at Lauren's (bring friends).**

**Sunday, June 16—The day we leave for camp!**

**Meet at 12:30 p.m. at EAFUMC in the parking lot. Eat lunch before arriving. We will return on Friday, June 21 in the evening.**

**The youth will be going to Little Grassy from June 16-21st for AIR Camp. We have 4 girls who are working towards their registration fees. Help us to help them! 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 23—NO Campfire Devotions...rest from camp.**

**Sunday, June 30—8 p.m. Campfire Devotions at Lauren's; Weenie Roast!**

**Sunday, July 7—NO Campfire Devotions...4th of July Holiday Weekend!**

**Sunday, July 14—7 p.m. (Note time change) Walk to the Cone Barn & Campfire Devotions at Lauren's.**



If you would ever like to help with the cost of our snacks for our Campfire Devotions, please contact Lauren to make arrangements. We do have a peanut allergy and a gluten allergy in the youth group. We are also open to suggestions from parents and the youth on how to better reach as many as possible!

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

**REMEMBER TO WRITE TO OUR CAMPERS  
WHILE THEY ARE AT CAMP!**

**Little Grassy United Methodist,  
1 Methodist Camp Road,  
Makanda IL 62958**

**OR [littlegrassy@igrc.org](mailto:littlegrassy@igrc.org).**



## More Honduras News

Thank you for all of the toothbrushes and toothpaste! My heart is smiling at the generosity of my St. Paul peeps! We have been collecting them for the children of Honduras. Our mission trip begins soon and we will bring smiles to the faces of the children we serve. Just for the record, you have provided: **284 toothbrushes** and **145 tubes of toothpaste!** Muchas Gracias! (And a few more of each has been trickling in!)  
Thank you so much! *-Pastor Debra & Joe Hoertel*



2019 is  
posted on  
the long  
bulletin  
board  
in the

Education Wing.

There are openings in  
the months of:

**SEPT. AND NOV.**

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

**JOSEPH WAITED 13 YEARS.  
ABRAHAM WAITED 25 YEARS.  
MOSES WAITED 40 YEARS.  
JESUS WAITED 30 YEARS.**

**IF GOD IS MAKING YOU WAIT,  
YOU'RE IN GOOD COMPANY.**





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 % 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!



### Midwest Mission



## MISSION PROJECT FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Attendees to 2019 Annual Conference are urged to have their congregations collect items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. **The items needed 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 to the collection area 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



**2019 Annual  
Conference will  
be June 6-8  
at the Peoria  
Civic Center**

**Attending 2019 Annual Conference for St. Paul UMC this year will be Pastor Debra Hoertel and Lay Member, JoAnn Hill. Please be in prayer for their travels and for their participation in the conference! Pray also for the conference.**

While Pastor Debra is required to attend Annual Conference, she is able to return to meet emergency needs. In an emergency, you may reach her by calling the Church Office, 259-5210.



**UPPER ALTON BAPTIST CHURCH  
"THE CHRISTIAN RINGERS"**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 1ST  
7:00 P.M.  
@ ST. PAUL UMC**

In this  
WORLD  
you will have trouble  
BUT  
**TAKE HEART**  
I have  
**OVERCOME**  
THE WORLD

JOHN 16:33

**HEADS UP PLEASE....**

In the parking lot behind the church where 2 vinyl fences border the parking stalls, we are asking that you **PLEASE DO NOT** back into those parking stalls with any vehicles. Sometimes, trucks or other vehicles have a longer radius from the back tires to the end of the vehicle and can reach from the stall bumper to the fence. We realize accidents can happen but if you adhere to this policy from now on, we can minimize any situations that might result in unnecessary minor damage. Thank you. —St. Paul Trustees



**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*.



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

## 😊 ➔ FINISHING THE WORK... ⬅️ 😊

As announced earlier this year, the work of the Mission Possible (topping over \$500,000) is complete. The Jr. Parsonage has been sold and the proceeds, along with approximately \$5,500 from the CFC checking account, were used to pay off our debt to 1st Mid America Credit Union.

The Trustees along with the Church Finance Committee and Church Council have agreed to move \$5,000 from the total that remains in the CFC account into the Trustee Reserve Fund as a jump start on any physical needs of the church in the future. Approximately \$2,000 will be kept in the CFC checking account to pay for incidental church building physical needs in the next few months and the remaining money, approximately \$26,000, will be transferred to the St. Paul Endowment Fund to pay down our in-house loan of \$71,000. The new transfer plus the \$1,000 we already paid to the Endowment Fund leaves us with a balance of approximately \$43,000 of indebtedness to the fund. The very last of our remaining indebtedness!

We ask that you **continue in prayer** about our church's physical needs and **consider either continuing or beginning** a financial contribution to help us pay down our debt to ourselves in the "Endowment Fund." (To do this, pay any monies to the **Capital Fund Campaign designation** as you have done in the past.) Not only is it important to pay ourselves back, to adhere to this church's longtime philosophy of being debt-free, but it is equally important to put ourselves back into a position of paying our fair share of apportionments for the ministry work of the United Methodist Church in general.

Your generosity and prayerful approach to supporting the church's work is appreciated more than mere words can express! God bless...

**Many blessings and thanks to all,**

**From your current St. Paul UMC Trustees:**

Mike Tappy, Scott Gwaltney, Ian Martin, Noël Schiber, Joe Hoertel, Karen Challandes (secretary), Jim Herndon (chairman), and Pastor Debra Hoertel





## 30 Ways to Pray for Missionaries

These ideas can help you focus prayer on the needs your missionaries face every day. For more resources on prayer, visit [EncompassWorldPartners.org/Pray](http://EncompassWorldPartners.org/Pray).



### 1. Focus on God

Pray for missionaries to stay focused on God and His plans above all else.

*But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you. —Matthew 6:33*

### 2. Faithful Bible Study

Pray for missionaries to spend much time in the Word, and ask God to give them discernment.

*Be diligent to present yourselves approved to God, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth. —2 Timothy 2:15*

### 3. Confession and Repentance

Pray for missionaries to regularly seek examination by God, and to repent from any errors that have crept into their lives.

*Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way. —Psalm 139:23,24*

### 4. Humility

Pray for missionaries to have a spirit of humility, and to willingly ask God for wisdom in carrying out their assignment.

*Now if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously and without criticizing, and it will be given to him. —James 1:5*

### 5. Purity

Pray for missionaries to be so renewed by God's Word that no sin will have dominion over them.

*Make my steps steady through Your promise; don't let sin dominate me. —Psalm 119:133*

### 6. Boldness

Pray for boldness in the missionaries when they share the gospel or preach.

*Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel. —Ephesians 6:19*

### 7. Rest

Ask God to help missionaries recognize their need for weekly rest away from ministry responsibilities.

*He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a remote place and rest a while." —Mark 6:31*

### 8. Guard the Treasure

Pray for missionaries to stay focused on the gospel

of Jesus Christ and not be distracted by issues of the day.

*Hold on to the pattern of sound teaching that you have heard from me in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard, through the Holy Spirit who lives in us, that good thing entrusted to you. —2 Timothy 1:13,14*

### 9. Give Glory to God

Ask God to empower missionaries to point people to Jesus and not seek undue recognition for themselves.

*In the same way, let your light shine before men, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. —Matthew 5:16*

### 10. Dependence on God

Pray for missionaries to model a life of dependence on God.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own understanding; think about Him in all your ways, and He will guide you on the right paths. —Proverbs 3:5,6*

### 11. Gracious Speech

Ask God to give missionaries the grace to know how to respond to each person.

*Your speech should always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you should answer each person. —Colossians 4:6*

### 12. Spirit of Unity

Pray for a spirit of unity as missionaries work together, and with other ministry partners.

*Now may the God of endurance and encouragement grant you agreement with one another according to Christ Jesus. —Romans 15:5*

### 13. Resist Temptation

Pray for missionaries to be quick to take the escape God provides when temptation sneaks up on them.

*God is faithful and He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation He will also provide a way of escape, so that you are able to bear it. —1 Corinthians 10:13b*

### 14. Retreat with God

Pray for missionaries to take personal prayer retreats to get their direction from Him.

*The Lord God has given Me the tongue of those who are instructed to know how to sustain the weary with a word... He awakens My ear to listen like those being instructed. —Isaiah 50:4*



**15. Stand Firm**

**Pray for missionaries to stand firm under affliction and to look forward to eternal glory.**

*For our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory.  
-2 Corinthians 4:17*

**16. Daily Prayer**

**Ask God to help missionaries protect their time for prayer and personal meditation in God's Word. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the preaching ministry.** -Acts 6:4

**17. Devotion to God**

**Pray for missionaries to maintain their devotion to Christ.**

*But I fear that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his cunning, your minds may be corrupted from a complete and pure devotion to Christ. -2 Corinthians 11:3*

**18. Hear God**

**Ask God to teach missionaries to hear His voice and follow Him.**

*The sheep follow him because they recognize his voice.  
-John 10:4*

**19. Boast in the Lord**

**Pray for missionaries to be quick to give God the credit.**

*So the one who boasts must boast in the Lord.  
-2 Corinthians 10:17*

**20. Direction from God**

**Pray for missionaries to get their direction from the Lord only.**

*I am the Lord your God, who teaches you for [your] benefit, who leads you in the way you should go. -Isaiah 48:17*

**21. Peace**

**Pray for missionaries to give all their anxious thoughts to God, and rest in His peace.**

*Don't worry about anything, but, in everything through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses every thought, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. -Philippians 4:6,7*

**22. Prayer Support**

**Pray for missionaries to enlist personal prayer support and ask God to call faithful intercessors to respond.**

*So Peter was kept in prison, but prayer was being made earnestly to God for him by the church. -Acts 12:5*

**23. Strong Marriages**

**Pray for marriages of missionaries to be strong and healthy.**

*Husbands, in the same way, live with your wives with understanding of their weaker nature yet showing them honor as co-heirs of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered. -1 Peter 3:7*

**24. Eyes to See Like Jesus**

**Ask God to give missionaries eyes to see as He sees and empower them to love the unlovely, the rejected, and the outcasts, as Jesus did.**

*Man does not see what the Lord sees, for man sees what is visible, but the Lord sees the heart. -1 Samuel 16:7b*

**25. Express Love**

**Pray for missionaries to model loving God completely and others as themselves.**

*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.  
-Mark 12:30*

**26. Hunger for God**

**Ask God to give missionaries a hunger and thirst for Him and for His word.**

*But solid food is for the mature - for those whose senses have been trained to distinguish between good and evil.  
-Hebrews 5:14*

**27. Persistence**

**Pray for endurance, stamina, and pacing for missionaries to insure long-term, fruitful ministry.**

*I pursue as my goal the prize promised by God's heavenly call in Christ Jesus. -Philippians 3:14*

**28. Team Spirit**

**Ask God to build strong teams among missionaries working together so that He gets the glory.**

*So then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth...for we are God's co-workers... -1 Corinthians 3:7-9*

**29. Obedience**

**Pray for missionaries to love and obey God, and to be known for their dependability to obey regardless of outside pressure.**

*If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.  
-John 14:15*

**30. Sacrifice of Holy Living**

**Ask God to empower missionaries to be healthy in mind, body, and spirit.**

*...I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind... -Romans 12:1,2*