



The Steeple

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

OCTOBER 2020



Greetings, People of Infinite Worth!

"Listen, O my people, to my instruction; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not conceal them from their children but tell to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and His strength and His wondrous works that He has done."

(Psalm 78:1-4 NASB)

This wonderful Psalm reminds us how important it is to teach the children about the wonders of our God. Since the pandemic has kept us separated and sheltering in place, we have not been able to reach our precious young ones. That is about to change.

In March, we launched a different type of worship service called **Messy Church**. The premise of the service was to teach families about Jesus. It was designed to bring families together in a casual and creative way, to do crafts, enjoy a meal, and sing songs. So much of this we cannot do right now, but we have retooled Messy Church; we are calling it, **Messy Church to Go!**

Messy Church to Go will consist of lessons contained in a packet which will include a Bible story, a couple of fun crafts, and a snack. Parents will need to register their children and pick up the packets. Later that week, we will download a recorded lesson with our very own team members that will tell the Bible story. Our team members will show the kids how to do the craft and pray with them. Please pray for our team as we bring together **Messy Church to Go**.

Our first lesson will be about Paul and Silas. Paul and Silas are put in jail because they were preaching about Jesus Christ. Acts 16:20-34.

Parents must register kids by October 10th by calling the church at 259-5210!

- * Lessons are designed for children from K – 3rd grade
- * Order 1 packet per child

Packets will be available for pick-up from **Monday October 12th – Friday 16th** during office hours (9 a.m. – 4 p.m.). The video lesson will be available on **Friday, October 23rd**.

May God bless this new ministry as we continue to tell the generations about Jesus!

Blessings!
Pastor Debra

REFLECTIONS...

NOTICE → On OCTOBER 12th the SEALING of part of the Parking Lot will occur!
This will include the back half of the lot, over to the garage, and then down the far side!

Watch for signs if you stop by...

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



**I
AM
SAFE...**



Team Honduras News!

Starting on **October 18th**, we will be **filling out order forms** for some of our wonderful autumn treats! Many of the seasonal fairs where we would sell our **Apple Butter** and **Peanut Brittle** have been canceled; please, help us to raise funds for our next trip to Honduras. We are making limited amounts this year, so don't miss out! **Orders may be called in (259-5210) or filled out at church!**

Apple Butter – made by hand, cooked over a bonfire in a copper kettle.

- * Pints – Regular and sugar free – **\$7.00**
- * ½ pints – Regular and sugar free – **\$4.00**

Peanut Brittle – handmade by our team members.

- * 1lb. Bag – **\$8.00**
- * ½ lb. Bag – **\$5.00**

Pay when you pick up order! Make checks out to:
Main Street UMC (put HONDURAS in memo line)



All proceeds go toward the Honduras 2021 Mission Trip!



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

KIND Youth will begin studying “Looking for Lovely: Collecting the Moments that Matter” during the month of October. We are looking for lovely because we are looking for God. We want to see where He is moving, what He has created, and how He is faithful. There's a correlation between beauty and perseverance, between looking for lovely and not giving up. As Christians, we are not promised lives of ease. And only when we learn to spot the lovely in the midst of hardship can we experience the transcendent peace of God that keeps us persevering when we want to give up. We have to be collectors. We have to look around our lives and store up the lovely moments, the profound, the simple, the ones that help us to hold on and persevere. **We meet over video call on Sunday's at Noon.**



THERE IS A CONTEST!! The youth will receive a pumpkin that will be dropped off at their home. They will be tasked with painting, decorating, etc. their pumpkin, and writing a short 4-5 sentence paragraph about how God has helped carve them into His own pumpkin to share His light in the world.

Photos and paragraphs will be highlighted on our St. Paul Facebook page. The picture / pumpkin with the most “likes” will win a prize and all other youth will receive a goodie bag.

Also, we are now looking for 5th grade students to join our youth group. This will be a junior youth group and we will be meeting separately from the older group; occasionally we will meet all together. The older youth will be tasked with picking a prayer buddy. This will help mentor the 5th graders and help them transition to youth group when they enter 6th grade. Parents may inquire by emailing Lauren at laurenfriesse20@gmail.com. Or call her at 660-7967.

We love you, church, and love your prayers for us!
In God's Love and Kindness, Lauren Friesse - Youth Director



OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU'S!

- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the families of **Vivian Westhoff**, **Londa Weller**, **Douglas Upple** (see obituary info within this newsletter); **Michael "Mike" Huff**, step-brother of Cindy Workman; and **Kevin "Fred" Handling**, dear friend of Ruth Bell and Lois Mitchell. **May all who are touched by loss know God's peace now & in the days ahead.**

We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



Vivian F. Westhoff, 97, passed away 8:49 a.m., Sunday, August 30, 2020 at Jerseyville Manor.

Born November 15, 1922 in Hartford, IL, she was the daughter of Clifford & Kathryn (Kirkpatrick) Wisdom. On August 24, 1946 in Roxana, IL, she married Edwin E. Westhoff. He died April 9, 1990.

She had worked as a secretary in the traffic department of the Olin Corporation for 28 years before retiring. Vivian was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Rosewood Heights since February 23, 1992.

Surviving are a daughter, Jimmie Jean "Jeane" (Paul) Steinkuehler of Godfrey, IL; grandchildren, Clark (Linda) Frye, Craig (Gina) Frye; four great-grandchildren; four great-great grandchildren; and sister, Kathleen Wisdom of Godfrey, IL.

Preceding in death were her parents; husband; brother, Warren Wisdom; and sisters, Irene Hagen, Edna Keber, Alberta Sandstrom, Lois Summers, and Lillian Hay.

Graveside services and burial will be at 11 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 2 at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto, IL.

Vivian has had to be away from us for a long time and we have truly missed her. Please remember to keep her family in your prayers.

October Is...



Pastor Appreciation

MONTH!

Jesus is the key to
true fulfillment,
peace, and joy!

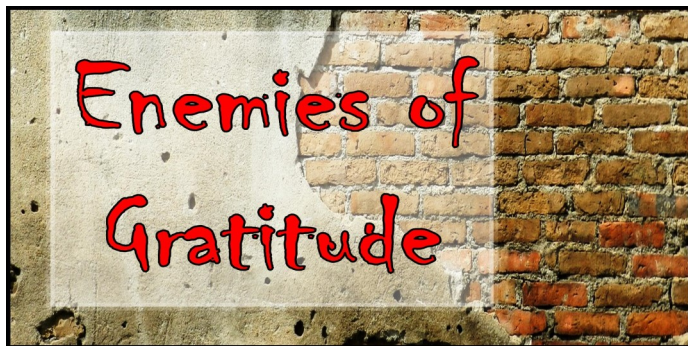


DAYLIGHT
SAVING
TIME ENDS
SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 1



St. Paul Sunday Services in **OCTOBER** 8:45 & 10:30 a.m.

We continue to bring the message to you each Sunday - inside. For now the Traditional Service meets in the Sanctuary at 8:45 and the Awakening Service meets in the Fellowship Hall at 10:30. The online service will continue for those who still cannot join us. The Facebook Pages are: St. Paul United Methodist - East Alton, IL and AwakeningWorshipSTPUMC.
The Website is: www.stpaulwired.org - look under Sermons for the link.



New Sermon Series for October: *Enemies Of Gratitude!*

Gratitude is an important element in our walk with Jesus.

What are the attitudes that interfere with gratitude?

4th: SERMON SERIES: ENEMIES OF GRATITUDE

Message: Nostalgia - Not What It Used To Be Scripture: *Exodus 17:1-17.*

11th: SERMON SERIES: ENEMIES OF GRATITUDE

Message: Worry - Who Me? Scripture: *Philippians 4:1-9.*

18th: SERMON SERIES: ENEMIES OF GRATITUDE

Message: Entitlement - Where's Mine? Scripture: *Matthew 22:1-14.*

25th: SERMON SERIES: ENEMIES OF GRATITUDE

Message: Greed - It's All Mine! Scripture: *Matthew 22:15-22.*



There will be no Trunk 'r Treat at St. Paul this year... ☹️

World Communion Sunday Sunday, October 4th

"This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God."

2 Corinthians 9:12, NIV



On World Communion Sunday your giving helps to enable national and international graduate students to change the world.

WESLEY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

The Wesley Sunday School class and teacher Iris Uzzell continue to meet on Sundays! It meets at **9:15 a.m. in the Parlor**. If you would like to join them, wear a mask, plan to spread out, and know that the room will be well disinfected! If you have questions, **give Iris a call at 259-8106!** There is room for more people and they would love to have you join them!



**Also Available At The
Chicken & Noodle
Drive-Thru:**

→ Pecan Halves from
last year that have been
frozen; there are **10**
bags and they only cost
\$10 each

→ Ruth Voorhees'
Bread & Butter Pickles
in Pint Jars costing
\$3 each

**They last until they
run out!!**

**2020 New
Pecans to arrive
after the
beginning of
November!**
**There will be the
1 lb. of Halves
and also the
Chocolate-
covered. Cost to
be set once we
know the cost to
us. ~WOW~**



**THE ST. PAUL UMC
WOMEN OF WORSHIP
ARE GOING TO OFFER
CARRY-OUT THEIR**

FAMOUS CHICKEN NOODLES!

**Sunday, October 11th
11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**at St. Paul United Methodist Church
10 N. Center Street (corner Airline & C
Rosewood Heights**

PLATE LUNCH INCLUDES:

- Chicken & Noodles-**
- Green Beans & Roll-**

COST:

\$10.00

Give to UMCOR disaster relief

- Flood. Fire. Wind. COVID-19.
- What's the one thing that is the same for every disaster?
- The compassionate & caring response of God's people.

For 80 years, and in this unprecedented time of one disaster after another, UMCOR has been swift to offer relief and is committed to the fullness of recovery.

GIVE TODAY to support the immediate needs of disaster response in the United States and around the world.



01-Oct Daryl Fansler
 01-Oct Susie Pruetzel
 01-Oct Jessie Springer
 01-Oct Tom Vore
 02-Oct Michael Cathorall
 02-Oct Adam Schroedter
 03-Oct Cody Blacklock
 03-Oct Karen Hamm
 03-Oct Lucas Hartman
 03-Oct Jeannie Huddleston
 04-Oct Mickey Dorsey
 04-Oct Una Faye Garland
 04-Oct Dena Tite
 05-Oct Ronda Crain
 05-Oct Emmaleigh Ford
 05-Oct Sherry Huff
 07-Oct Joshua Squier
 07-Oct Rosalie Toner
 08-Oct Brady Cranmer
 08-Oct Kelly Cruthis
 09-Oct Gary Clark
 09-Oct Elaina Gowan
 09-Oct Drew Huddleston
 09-Oct Douglas Phelps
 10-Oct Emily Bowman
 10-Oct Pat Colclasure
 10-Oct Gracie Napp

11-Oct Ashley Cameron
 11-Oct Bill Hale
 11-Oct Lincoln Challandes
 12-Oct Grace Oertle
 13-Oct Leah Butler
 13-Oct Carly Campbell
 13-Oct Jennifer Liedtke
 14-Oct Dana Clutts
 14-Oct Jaxson Hendricks
 14-Oct Erica LaTemp
 14-Oct Joy Pascoe
 14-Oct Gianna Vore
 15-Oct Duane Atchley
 15-Oct Paul Ward
 17-Oct Madelyn Adams
 17-Oct Danielle Baggett
 17-Oct Jim Baggett
 17-Oct Angelina Bailey
 17-Oct Ryan Bentley
 18-Oct Jonathan McCammon
 18-Oct Patty Peters
 20-Oct Amy Helmkamp
 21-Oct Jacobb Uzzell

22-Oct Mandy Armon
 23-Oct Morgan Hatten
 23-Oct Mike Schlemer
 24-Oct Matthew Gowan
 24-Oct Ian Martin
 25-Oct Gene Babcock
 25-Oct Jamie Keith
 26-Oct Lori Hickerson
 26-Oct Joe Huff
 26-Oct Eva Taylor
 27-Oct Stella Lusicic
 27-Oct Anthony Ramirez
 28-Oct Caleb Bentley
 28-Oct Reagan Hubbard
 29-Oct Oliver Bacus
 29-Oct Anna Mae Stewart
 30-Oct Greg Crews
 30-Oct Cecilia Suermann
 31-Oct Don Bunt Jr.
 31-Oct Deanna Ford
 31-Oct Stephanie Kainz

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

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

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

02-Oct Brock & Heather Hendricks
 04-Oct Glenn & Debbie Bowman
 04-Oct DJ & Brandy Lusicic Jr.
 09-Oct Stan & Laurie Griffin
 09-Oct Ted & Cathy Toner
 10-Oct Dave & Noel Schiber
 11-Oct Todd & Joy Virgin
 12-Oct Rodney & Heather Adams
 12-Oct Scott & Kelly Cruthis



15-Oct John & Donna Bailey
 16-Oct Jamie & Jennifer McLain
 17-Oct Alex & Nicole Barnes
 17-Oct Al & Terry Poston
 24-Oct Ronald & Monna Bishop
 25-Oct Geno & Amy Hartman
 27-Oct Mark & Deb Mayer
 30-Oct Chris & Karen Challandes

Information for the Church Directory!

Please contact the church office if you (OR A FAMILY MEMBER) have had a **change of address, phone number, or email address since the last printing!** The NEW Church Directory may not be completed until January 2021! Thank you for your patience!

**SEPTEMBER Stewardship**

Budget Offering:	through 9/30/2020	\$14020.00
Designated Giving:	through 9/30/2020	\$675.29
	Capital Improvements	160.00
	Loose Change	93.00
	Upper Room	10.00
	Operation Blessing	50.00
	Offering Envelopes	10.00
	Helping Hands	100.00
	Reimbursements	162.29
	Memorials	90.00
Coat & Shoe Drive		95.00
World Communion Offng.		50.00
Transfer From Reserve		330.00
Online Giving		375.00
Capital Campaign		550.00
Total:		\$16095.29

OFFERING

AN ACT OF WORSHIP

Just a quick reminder... during this time when you may or may not be able to join our in-person services there are still ways to send your tithes & offerings. You can send it through the US Mail, through Bill Pay with your bank, through our website's Online Giving, and by handing it to us at the door to the building. If you plan to bring it by here, please, call first to make sure we are in the office. Thank you so much!

GENERAL CONFERENCE

Organizers have confirmed that the next General Conference will now be on Aug. 29-Sept. 7, 2021 in Minneapolis. The organizers are still looking for ways to ensure delegates, even if they can't meet in person, can participate online in what many expect to be a historic legislative meeting.

Keep this 2021 meeting in your prayers!

DEADLINE FOR
November 2020
STEEPLE,
Monday,
OCTOBER 19th!

**MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT**

October's Loose Change Project is the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY. Long associated with the United Methodist Church, Red Bird Mission provides a school, dental care, health care, food pantry, thrift store, and other services in one of the most impoverished areas of Appalachia. It has many success stories of helping children rise out of poverty. May God bless and multiply your gifts!

Follow the 3 W's

WASH your hands
WATCH your distance
WEAR your mask

#SlowTheSpread





We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



Londa (Williams) McKnelly Cook Weller joined her Heavenly Father on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2020, at the age of 101. She was born in Williamson County Illinois to Carl & Amy (Mann) Williams Jan. 30, 1919.

She was preceded in death by her parents; along with husbands Charles McKnelly, Carlos Cook, and Jack Weller; by two sisters, Carmen (Mrs. Carl) Lueking and Lois (Mrs. J.R.) Welch; and one niece Amy (Mrs. Ron) Phillips.

In the United Methodist church at Murrayville, IL, Londa served as organist and youth director for 13 years. Returning to Rosewood Heights, IL in 1964, she became a member on Sept. 20th of that year at St. Paul United Methodist Church where she served as president of the United Methodist Women and was the first woman to chair the Administrative Board there. She taught a class of graduate students in Sunday School. Following her retirement from the Roxana Schools Londa organized and directed a Christian entertainment group which she named "Sweet Sounds." This group has brought pleasure since it began in 1985 to seniors, schools, nursing homes, and area churches and remains active today.

During WWII while her husband Charles H. McKnelly was serving in the Philippines she worked as a bookkeeper and sewing instructor for the Alton Singer Sewing Machine Co. and later with the United States Employment Service in Alton, IL.

She loved her hobbies which included sewing, painting, woodcarving, and of course, playing the piano.

Londa graduated as Valedictorian of the Class of 1936 at Meissner High School in Bunker Hill, IL. She obtained her Bachelor's degree from MacMurray College in Jacksonville, IL; and got her Master's degree in Education and Administration from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, IL. She began her teaching career in the small country school in Piggott, AR, taught music in Murrayville, IL, and elementary grade school in Jacksonville, and Roodhouse, IL, retiring from the Roxana School in Rosewood Heights in 1982.

She is survived by three sons: Charles L. McKnelly, a missionary in Hong Kong, Lance McKnelly & wife, Janet, of Kimberling City, MO, and Darryl McKnelly & wife, Vicki, of O'Fallon, MO; four stepchildren, Gary Cook & wife Pat, Wichita Falls, TX, Dr. Bill Cook & wife, Julie, of Ann Arbor, MI, Barbara (Cook) Nyga & husband, Dr. Tom Nyga, Lafayette, CO, and Dr. Gordon Weller & wife, Carla, of Rochester, MN; one niece, Carole (Welch) & husband, Tom Venhaus; and one nephew, Carl David Lueking & wife Kay. She is also survived by nine great-grandchildren; and four great-great grandchildren.

It was such a joy to have Londa as a member of the St. Paul UMC family. She willingly shared her talents and lovingly gave back to people in many ways. We have missed Londa being in our midst for several years and ask that you please remember her family in your prayers. We hope there is a piano in Heaven!





ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

October 4: Sponsored by **Marjorie Hall** in memory of **Dennis Hall**.

October 13: Sponsored by **John & Leona Hendricks** in celebration of **Lincoln Challandes' first birthday!**

October 20: Sponsored by **The Hickerson Family** in memory of **Carole Taylor**.

October 27: Sponsored by **Carol Warner** in memory of **Dean Warner and Daughter, Terri Warner**.

November 1: Sponsored by **Tracy Franks** in honor of **her Grandkids!**

→ **Thank you!** Please remember to pay your **\$10 sponsorships!** Some have not.

We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



Douglas D. Upple, 77, of Wood River, passed away Saturday, September 12, 2020, at Robings Manor in Brighton. He was born October 20, 1942 in Alton the son of Raymond Upple and Larry & Oneita Wilson. He married Carol Stice on March 14, 1964 in Alton and she survives.

Doug worked for Pepsi as a salesman for 10 years; he then began his career as a very successful car salesman, winning many awards and eventually becoming self-employed before his retirement.

He had been a member at St. Paul United Methodist Church of Rosewood Heights since Feb. 5, 2006. He loved his dogs, especially Buffy and Andy. Doug loved spending time with his family and his grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, Carol; he is survived by four children and their spouses, Debbie Murphy and Dan Murphy (deceased) of Edwardsville, Robin & Dee Tull of Texas, Shelley & Tom Spahr of Bethalto, and Dana & Greg Doyle of Edwardsville; a sister and her husband, Gayla & Bill Taylor of Indianapolis, IN; nine grandchildren, Shalyn, Whitney, Nichole, Tyler, Amber, Anthony, Erin, Lauren, and Christopher; two great-grandchildren, Emma and Charlotte; and many other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents; his father, Raymond Upple, his mother and father, Oneita & Larry Wilson and son-in-law, Dan Murphy.

Doug was a wonderful son, husband, father, papa, brother, and friend and will be greatly missed by his loved ones. The family would like to extend their special appreciation for the love and care given to him by the entire staff of Robings Manor Nursing Home for the past 5 years.

Doug has been unable to be here and has been missed for a long time. Please remember Carol and all of their family in your prayers.

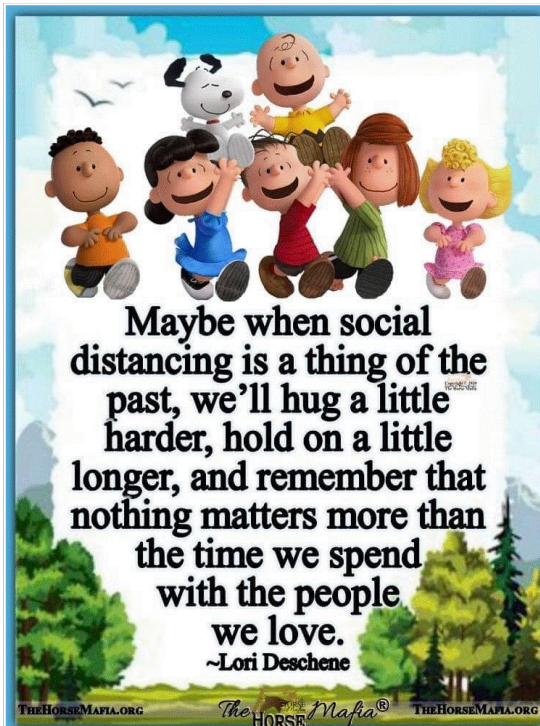
SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION ---

The Outreach Ministry Team thanks you for giving
275 items that were divided between 3 schools!!





Mark Rich, son of Harold & Marilyn Rich, is the one who, along with Harold's mother and brother, donated the church bell to St. Paul UMC many years ago. Mark, a former St. Paul member, said "I love how the bell monument turned out!"



FROM THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER DISTRICT - DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

The Covid pandemic this year has planted us and our churches in some pretty crummy soil, with some very dark days. As the Bishop said in his Annual Conference address, "we ain't where we was." Yet you, pastors and leaders of the MRD, have impressed me so much in your faithful, God honoring, and creative responses!

Pandemics have happened before. The great Spanish Flu epidemic of 1917-1918 kept many churches closed for over a year. Jesus said, "...in this world you will have trouble."

I recently preached on Queen Esther. I did so because I believe we're in the same moment as Esther. We're in a divinely orchestrated moment, with life & death implications..., with eternal implications! We've been placed here for "just such a time as this."

It is by God's providence that you and I are where we are for this time. God assigns the place and the time of our lives. As a result know this: If God could not use you in these chaotic days, you would not be here. God has equipped each of us with the gifts, abilities, experiences, and resources we need to make a kingdom difference where we are.

Last year when I began my tenure as DS, I taped a piece of paper on the inside of my closet. It has this quote on it. "When you're in a dark place, you sometimes tend to think you've been buried. Perhaps you've been planted. Bloom."

Rev. Allynn Walker

District Superintendent, Mississippi River District

Illinois Great Rivers Conference, The United Methodist Church

"But one thing I do, and straining toward what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." →Phil. 3:13b-14

I thank God that you are trusting Him to help you do exactly that!



Annual Coat & Shoe Drive - Redone!

For several years we have collected new & used, coats & shoes for the Riverbend Head Start & Family Services families. **We do this in the fall... BUT** this year the general guidelines they have given us have changed. Because of COVID-19 they are unable to receive physical coats or shoes from us. They have been asked to receive only monetary gifts and they will use all of that to buy online the coats and shoes that are needed. For us the drive will go from **October to Early-November**. We ask that if you can, please, add a gift for the **Riverbend Head Start & Family Services "COAT & SHOE DRIVE"** in with your tithe and offerings. **Mark on the front of your offering envelope the amount we should direct to them for this annual event!** Thank you so much in advance! Call the church with any questions (259-5210). **-OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM-**



Mission Possible UPDATE 😊

We continue to lower the remaining debt to the Endowment Fund on a monthly basis. Please continue your prayers and generous giving as we seek to meet our goal of "no indebtedness." Hopefully, the end of our debt to ourselves will allow us to better meet our apportionments to the greater United Methodist Church.

Many blessings and thanks to all, from your current St. Paul UMC Trustees:
Mike Tappy, Scott Gwaltney, Ian Martin, Noël Schiber, Joe Hoertel, John Hendricks,
Karen Challandes (secretary), Jim Herndon (chairman), and Pastor Debra Hoertel

All the forces of darkness
cannot stop what God
has ordained.

Isaiah 14:27

"COMMITMENT
IS WHAT
TRANSFORMS
A PROMISE INTO
REALITY."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN