



# The Steeple

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



**AUGUST 2023**

**Dear St. Paul UMC and East Alton 1st UMC,**

Blessings and Peace to all faithful members of East Alton 1st UMC and St. Paul UMC in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and The Central District (formerly The Mississippi River District) of the IGR Conference. Since our big move to Illinois, we have never experienced such love and warm welcome from church people we only met for the very first time back in 2019 (EAFUMC) and now 2023 (St. Paul UMC). From the simple shaking of hands and genuine embraces and hugs... we have been ministered to already. For that we thank you all.

Many of you have heard of my new assignment at St. Paul UMC; I feel that you deserve an official address from me about this big task ahead. Not just for me... but for all of us. Our churches still stand to do Christ's great commission in Matthew 28:16-20. Our duties as ministers in the faith are certain and are a directive toward God's mission and the very reason why our churches still exist to this day. We may have wonderful and beautiful facilities, but without the people and worshippers in them, all will be just bricks and pieces that are insignificant and lifeless. Leading the Church in a direction other than JESUS would be detrimental and harmful. Working together is vital in ministry; there may be disagreements but let us avoid disaffections. To please our God is still our priority.

Other concerns are the increased decline of our UMC denomination, disaffiliating, and closures of churches; we will be facing more challenges and difficulties ahead. I ask everyone to pray and continue to pray with much urgency and earnestness, with love and mercy on ways and means to bring more souls to Christ full of grace and truth. It is so troubling to know that the wisdom of the world has infiltrated the wisdom and culture of God's people creating divisions and disunity. Unless we declare Jesus is still LORD, we will get pulled into this whirlpool of uncertainty and death. I hope and pray that we will not turn out to be a relic but a working body of faith that serves as a beacon of light for all and for the glory of God in Christ. Therefore, I call you to take our faith into action this coming year and in the years ahead.

Pastors are servants and I am here to serve with my utmost capacity. But I am also just one person... and for our churches to flourish, your commitment, help, and dedication in Christ Jesus are needed to make our ministries successful and meaningful. Only through our team effort with Jesus as our team leader will we survive and thrive. I am excited, encouraged, and blessed by this call, praying that the power of God's Spirit be upon us now and forever. From the bottom of my heart and together with my family, we thank you very much and may God bless us all.

**In Christ,**

*Edward Granadosin*

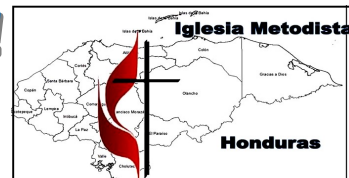
**Pastor Edward Granadosin**





# OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU'S!

## Team Honduras News!



- **THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS!** ... The two weeks of work and ministry in Honduras were amazing and we could not have done this without the support that comes from God's people praying! Please, remember the people of Honduras in your prayers going forward as God continues to move in their midst doing so many awesome things! (see group photo→)
- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the families & friends of **Pam Russell Kaizer (66)**, high school friend of Lois Mitchell and friend of Ruth Bell; **Sharon Waters (82)**, known by and a friend to so many in the community; and **Vincent "Neal" Manns (85)**, husband of Sylvia, who is cousin to Lois Mitchell and Ruth Bell. **May everyone who is touched by loss know God's peace through it all.**



- **Congratulations to Oliver Bacus** on his successful run, July 6-23, in the play "The Nerd" performed at the Kirkwood Performing Arts Center with the Moonstone Theater Company! It is so exciting to see all of the wonderful shows you have been a part of these days! (see photo→)



### •The Meghan Hickerson

### Scholarship awards were given out on Sunday, July 23.

Heartfelt congratulations to the 2023 recipients of the Meghan Hickerson Christian Teen Leader Memorial Scholarships, **Alyssa Mann & Emma Smith**. We are so proud of you both and wish you great success in the future! God bless you on your continuing life journey! Thank you, Pastor Ed, for the special music! (see photo from Tammy Atchley→)



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(Continued from Page 2 in Our Church Family & Thank Yous!)

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to all who continue to contribute food supplies to the food pantries! We know it can be hard to do but every little bit sure helps to get people who have less than we have fed. Great job! **-Outreach Ministry Team**

**THANK YOU!** Thank you to everyone who contributed to our **HYMN SING** on July 30th! Thank you to Iris Uzzell and the Wesley Class for coming up with the idea and following through! Thank you to them for providing all of the delicious treats and fellowship time! Thank you to our musicians, Rayford & Martha Raby! Thank you for the special music Pastor Ed (and son, Dru)! And thank you everyone (about 80 folks) who came out to join in the time of worship and praise, and of refreshing renewal!

**-Worship Ministry Team** (see some Connie Hickerson photos below!)

### HYMN SING - AS FOLKS ARE GATHERING!



What a blessing we had to worship in song at the **HYMN SING**.

Thank you for a wonderful evening of singing and fellowship. God just poured out his Holy Spirit as Pastor Ed and his son sang "His Eye Is On the Sparrow" and you selected your favorite hymns for congregational singing. You are a "singing church" and it is our privilege to



serve as musicians for St. Paul United Methodist Church. Thank you for your encouragement each Sunday. As Pastor Ed wrote in the July Steeple, "I have dreamed of flourishing ministries, vibrant members, and praiseworthy activities...." The Hymn Sing was just the beginning of what God has in store for this church family. Pastor Ed's dream is alive! Come, be part of the dream every Sunday as we worship in Word and song. **-Rayford & Martha Raby**



**St. Paul Sunday Services in AUGUST at 8:45 a.m.**

St. Paul UMC is part of a two-point charge with East Alton First UMC. Each congregation has one service on Sundays and Pastor Ed serves as the pastor in both places. The service at St. Paul UMC begins at 8:45 a.m. You are also welcome to attend the service at East Alton First UMC which begins at 10:15 a.m. if you cannot get here at the earlier time. Please, keep both congregations in your prayers as we work together. Thank you!

**6th:** PASTOR ED IS AWAY AND WE WELCOME HIS SON, "DRU" (JOHN EDRU) GRANADOSIN TO THE PULPIT TODAY! Communion Postponed Until Next Sunday.

Message: All We Need Is Jesus Scripture: *Philippians 4:10-13*

**13th:** Communion Sunday. Birthday Sunday.

Message: Sinking? Scripture: *Matthew 14:22-33*



**20th:**



**27th:**



**Wesley Sunday School Class**

meets **After Service Ends** in the Parlor!

**Adult Bible Study Sunday School Class**

meets **After Service Ends** in classroom on the main hallway!



**CRAFTS HAS ADDED THURSDAYS AT 9:00a.m. TO THE TUESDAY TIME...SO COME WORK WITH US!!**

**AUGUST OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):**

**(ALSO, IT IS POSTED ON THE CHURCH OFFICE DOOR)**

August 1,7-8,14-15,21-22,28-29 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

August 2,9,16,23,30 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

August 3-4,10-11,17-18,24-25,31 = 9 or 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.

**ON AUGUST 10 WILL BE GONE FROM 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH**

**ON AUGUST 22 MUST LEAVE AT 1:40p.m. FOR AN APPOINTMENT**



Friends in Christ,

LoveJoy United Presbyterian Church is looking for handbell ringers who would like to join us. Our 3-octave bell choir currently has 2 positions empty that we would like to fill. If interest is high enough, we could expand to a larger number of bells. We try to ring one Sunday a month at a 10:15a.m. service. Currently we rehearse from 9:00 to 10:00a.m. on Tuesday mornings but could negotiate rehearsal time according to need. We are on summer recess right now but would welcome a chance to begin in the fall with all positions filled and ready to ring.

If this “rings a bell” with you, contact Ann French by phone or text at 618-917-4368, or by email at [frenchterry65@gmail.com](mailto:frenchterry65@gmail.com). Ann French, Music Director

**THE OUTREACH MINISTRY CONTINUOUS FOOD DRIVE:**

If you can, whenever you shop, get a few extra non-perishables to bring to church for us to give to the food pantries! (Suggestions: Oat Milk or Coconut Milk the non-refrigerated kind, Powdered Milk, Mayonnaise, Can Opener, Oil, Coffee, Tuna Fish, Crackers, Tea Bags, Spaghetti Sauce in a can, Pasta, Salt & Pepper, Canned Vegetables or Meat, Ketchup & Mustard, Cans of Gravy, Cereal, Dish Detergent, Spices, Sugar, Flour, Jell-O or Pudding boxes, etc.)



**You are awesome! Thank you everyone!!**

**2023 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:**

**Aug 6:** by Rod & Virginia Croxford in celebration of their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Aug. 10th!

**Aug 13:** by John & Leona Hendricks in celebration of their Wedding Anniversary!

**Aug 20:** by Kay Gwaltney in celebration of Scott & Jamie Gwaltney's 38th Wedding Anniversary!

**Aug 27:** by The Herndon Family in memory of Mary Herndon.



**THANK YOU FOR FILLING IN THE CHART!**

Join us for Bible Study



**BIBLE STUDY ... ON HOLD FOR NOW!**

The Monday afternoon Bible Study is paused for right now...

The summer months are busy for folks and Pastor Ed wants to get acquainted with people before beginning a new study. Please let him know of your interest in continuing the Bible Study in September!



# AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

- 01-Aug Savannah Cincoski
- 01-Aug Finnegan Plummer
- 01-Aug Delaney Reed
- 02-Aug Josh Brown
- 03-Aug Nealy Budde
- 03-Aug Linda Tillery
- 04-Aug Alec Sabatino
- 05-Aug Ryan Scroggins
- 06-Aug Norris Dorsey
- 07-Aug Jessica Roberts
- 08-Aug Gabriella Ernst
- 09-Aug Tracy Franks
- 09-Aug Nic Hale
- 10-Aug Lois Mitchell
- 11-Aug Betty Burns
- 11-Aug Alex Davis
- 11-Aug Erin Hall
- 11-Aug Tyler Skinner
- 12-Aug Jaxson Helmkamp
- 13-Aug Elinor Blacklock
- 13-Aug Brandie Brown
- 13-Aug Jennifer Garrison
- 13-Aug Katie Herndon
- 13-Aug Grace McPheters
- 14-Aug Alicia Herndon Gregg
- 14-Aug Jim Stewart

- 15-Aug Chandra Redden
- 16-Aug Ryne Emerick
- 16-Aug Stephanie Redden-Oliver
- 17-Aug Andrea Reed
- 17-Aug Tracy Scoggins
- 19-Aug Chance Foss
- 19-Aug Alan Uzzell
- 20-Aug Leta Harshbarger
- 20-Aug JoAnn Hill
- 20-Aug Gracie Mortland
- 22-Aug Brooke Standefer
- 23-Aug Carol Carn
- 23-Aug Dave Herndon
- 24-Aug Michael Scroggins
- 25-Aug Lauren Friese
- 25-Aug Emily Hall
- 25-Aug Bethany Rain
- 26-Aug Teri Sabo, RN
- 26-Aug Terry Sitze
- 27-Aug Keith Armon

- 27-Aug Logan Scroggins
- 28-Aug Noël Schiber
- 29-Aug Doug Clouatre
- 29-Aug Danny Redden
- 29-Aug Joanna Scroggins
- 29-Aug Lori Seba
- 30-Aug Karah Phelps
- 31-Aug Mike Scroggins
- 31-Aug Juliana Sullivan



happy birthday

# AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES



- 06-Aug Duane & Sandy Moore
- 10-Aug Rod & Virginia Croxford
- 12-Aug Randy & Mindy McLain
- 13-Aug John & Leona Hendricks
- 15-Aug Duane & Tamara Atchley
- 17-Aug Steve & Sarah Campbell
- 18-Aug Bill & Amy Hale
- 19-Aug John & Barbara Yunker
- 22-Aug Tim & Joni Bunt
- 22-Aug Keith & Ashley Sheppard
- 23-Aug Terry & Betty Sitze
- 24-Aug Scott & Jamie Gwaltney
- 26-Aug Jim & Maggie Funke
- 27-Aug Alec & Stephanie Sabatino
- 29-Aug George & Grace Keagle
- 30-Aug David & Lisa Betts

## WE NEED INFO FOR THE NEXT 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!



### JULY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	7/1/2023 thru 7/31/2023	\$13797.00
Designated Giving:	7/1/2023 thru 7/31/2023	\$853.51
	Capital Improvements	570.00
	Loose Change	83.51
	Flowers	20.00
	Community Hope Center	50.00
	Upper Room	10.00
	WOW	20.00
	Help with Ameren bill	100.00
	Online Giving	454.25
	Capital Campaign	50.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$15154.76</b>



**An important reminder...** at this time there are several ways to send your tithes & offerings if you cannot be here. You can send through the **U.S. Mail**, through **Bill Pay** with your bank or Credit Union, through our website's **Online Giving (VANCO)**, and by **bringing it by** during the week. If you plan to bring it by, please, call first to make sure we know you are on the way.

**Thank you so much!**

**DEADLINE FOR  
SEPTEMBER 2023  
STEEPLE,  
Monday,  
AUGUST 21st!**

**GENERAL CONFERENCE**  
**General & Jurisdictional Conference:**  
 The General Commission on General Conference announced that it has had to, once again, postpone General Conference due to unavoidable complications. The global gathering is hoping to meet in-person **around APRIL 2024.**  
**Keep this important meeting in your prayers!**



**MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT**

**August's Loose Change Project** is UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. This ministry assists in disasters in our country and throughout the world. Help is given for floods, tornados, hurricanes, and fires. In addition this agency supports ongoing programs in parts of the world that have nutrition and food supply problems. May God bless and multiply your gifts!



# \* SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION \*

Each year in August the Outreach Ministry Team sponsors the collection of school supplies. **This year it begins August 6th and continues through August 27th.** This is so school supplies can be distributed to the children as school starts, whatever date that is in each School District.

The school supplies go to school nurses in the districts of Bethalto, Roxana, and East Alton. These are then distributed to children who need supplies which families cannot provide. **Paper, crayons, scissors, pencils, erasers, folders, notebooks, glue, binders, backpacks etc. are always needed.** Place the supplies in the **coat area/hallway across from** where we are gathering items for our **Continuous Food Drive!** Any amount will be greatly appreciated! Thank you!!



The school supplies will be distributed the week of August 27th.



## WORSHIP UNDER THE TREES ON SUNDAYS IN THE CHURCH AMPHITHEATER 8:45 a.m.

### We Go Through September 17th!

(In case of extreme weather the service is held in the sanctuary!)

**WALKING IN  
FAITH  
DRESSED  
IN  
FAVOR  
AND  
GIVING  
GOD  
THE GLORY**



ALMOST EVERYTHING  
WILL WORK AGAIN  
IF YOU UNPLUG IT  
FOR A FEW MINUTES,  
INCLUDING YOU.



**I DID A PUSH-UP TODAY.**



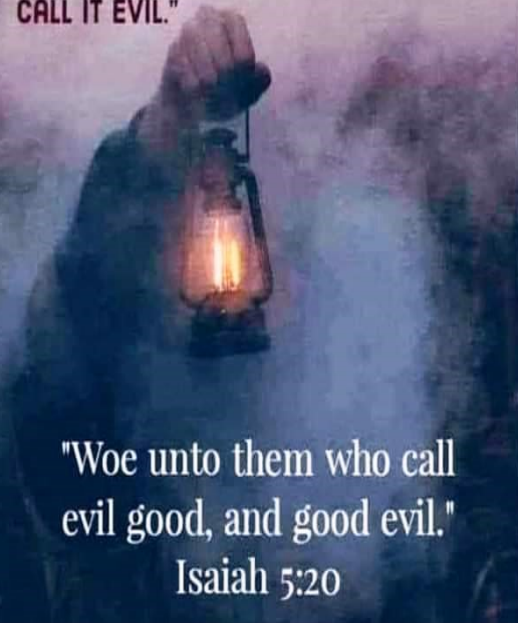
WELL, ACTUALLY  
I FELL DOWN, BUT  
I HAD TO USE MY  
MY ARMS TO GET  
BACK UP, SO ...  
CLOSE ENOUGH

**NOW I NEED CHOCOLATE**

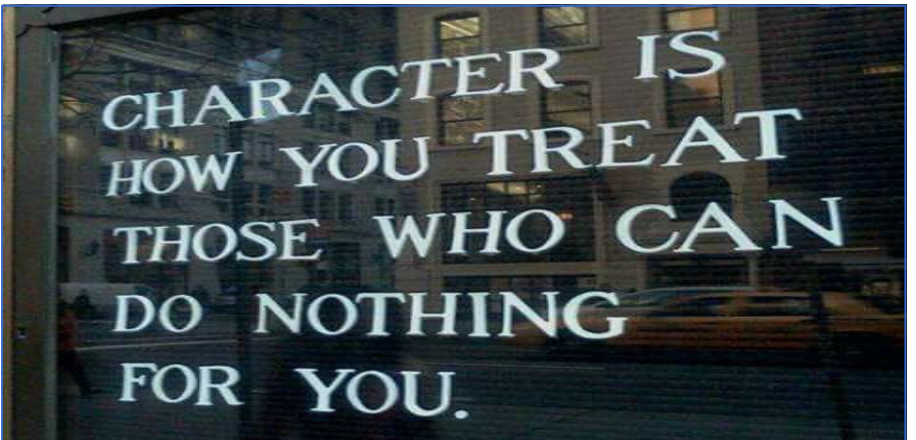
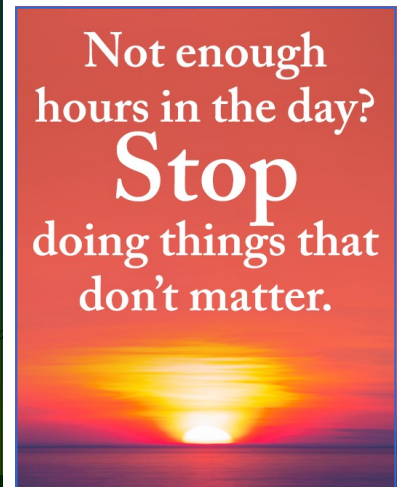
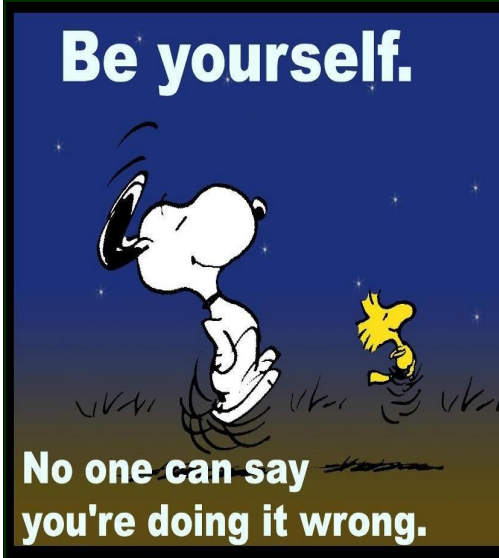
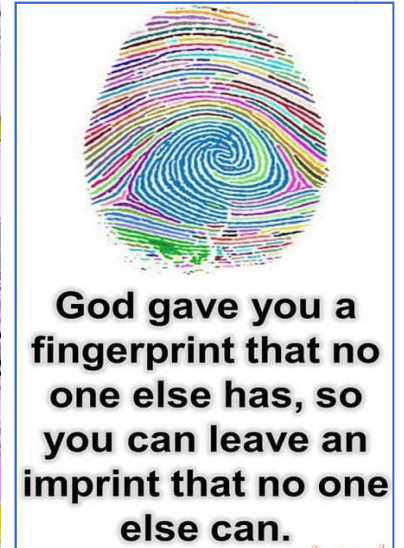
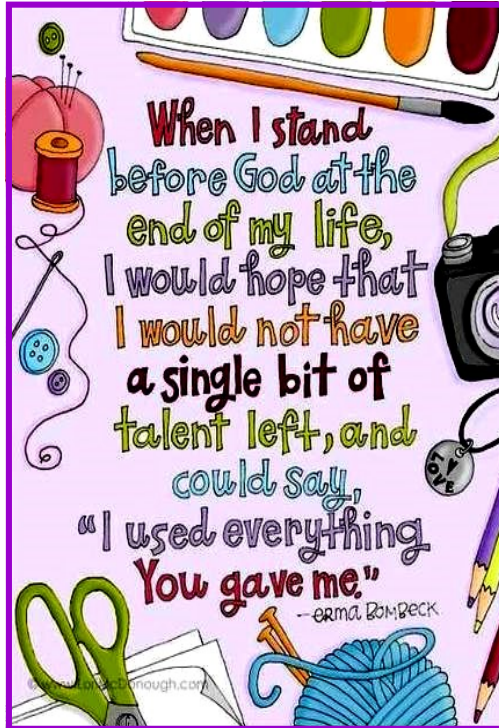




"FIRST WE OVERLOOK EVIL.  
 THEN WE PERMIT EVIL.  
 THEN WE LEGALIZE EVIL.  
 THEN WE PROMOTE EVIL.  
 THEN WE CELEBRATE EVIL.  
 THEN WE PERSECUTE THOSE WHO STILL  
 CALL IT EVIL."



"Woe unto them who call  
 evil good, and good evil."  
 Isaiah 5:20





## EVENING RE-AWAKENING SERVICE

The Re-Awakening Service usually meets on the **First Thursday of the month**. It is not defined as a “contemporary service,” but rather as a relaxed style of worship that can be fluid with its music and messages. **Collect up your family, friends, neighbors, and acquaintances and join us for a meal and service once a month!! There will not be a meeting in August as Pastor Ed is away.**

**September 7th we will be meeting so plan to come!! Watch for more info!**

We are hopeful that one day this will reach others and lead to other doors opening, such as a kids’ ministry on Thursday evenings.

We love St. Paul and we love serving at our home church. We are excited and looking forward to being together in the same space of worship.

**Lauren & Patterson Friese (618-660-7967)**



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

Some of our youth have been very busy this summer! Four of our students went to Restore Décor in Edwardsville on July 10th to help paint furniture. We had a great time being a community helper!

Three of our youth helped as VBS helpers at two different church Vacation Bible School programs this summer as a mission to other churches, and are hoping to be huge helpers for St. Paul next summer, as well!

On **August 1st** we will be volunteering at **Unity Hospice** from **10am-3pm**. This is a great opportunity for our kids to be involved in community service!

While this summer has been an opportunity to serve in the mission field, it’s time to focus back on youth lessons and fellowship. We will be regularly meeting again **starting in September**. Our meetings did not quite mesh well with school schedules, therefore we will be **returning to a Sunday evening program**. We will be **meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month from 4pm-5:30pm**. I am looking for donations to help feed the kids.

Please, be in prayer for us as we are working with a company, **First Priority**, that will be planting us as student pastors in a local school. We are praying to get established where a majority of our youth are attending, so that we can start rebuilding our program and be a resource in our community. This program would have me meeting weekly with students in the district to provide prayer, biblical instruction, as well as spiritual support. It is a great opportunity; we are excited to be involved in it!

Remember, friends of the church, we need your help, more than ever, encouraging young people to get involved.

**In Christ’s Love & Kindness, Lauren & Patterson Friese - Youth Leaders**  
**(217-851-4651) (patterson.friese@gmail.com)**



### NEW AC WORK!



### 2023 STEWARDSHIP → REMEMBER YOUR GIVING!

...to keep the ministry of St. Paul UMC growing; a ministry which is needed now more than ever!  
Thank you!!



### → COFFEE BEFORE THE SERVICE BEGINS:

Do you enjoy having coffee waiting for you when you arrive? Would you be willing to **volunteer** to help? It is easy... You can even bring snacks if you want to! Please, sign-up if you will help!

### Sweet Sounds!



The Sweet Sounds NEEDS YOU!! Have you retired in the last few years? Do you like to sing? We could sure use a few more voices in the group when we start up in September! Think and pray about joining in and then give Dorothy Kasinger (618-259-7255) a call if you need more info or to let her know your interest. Give it a try!