



The Steeple



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

FEBRUARY 2024



1 John 4:7-12

God's Love and Ours:

⁷ Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹ Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹² No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

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

May the blessing and peace of the Lord be upon you in this young and brand **New Year - 2024**. I know that all of us went through many hurdles and difficulties in the past year. But it does not mean that we were hopeless. It does not mean that it was the end of the world. It does not mean that we threw in the towel and gave up. Thanks be to God we are still standing, able, and ready to do the Lord's work. What blessed me more was that this New Year gave me a fresh start to yield to God's call of service and worship no matter the odds with dedication and commitment. So, with the Holy Spirit's encouragement and guidance, I have decided to read the entire Bible this year. I already covered, the Gospel of Mark, finished Luke, and started with Matthew. Just 5 chapters a day. We'll see what will happen. That's just one of the goals of mine. I also plan to finish my Course of Study classes this year and if all goes well, I might complete it before the end of the year. That's what I meant about the "fresh start" for God is a God of new beginnings and new life. What about you? Whatever plans you have this 2024, give it to Jesus and He will lead the way.

We are now in the Month of February which is the Love month for the entire world. But looking beyond the Love month, this is also the beginning of Lent. **February 14, Valentine's Day, is also Ash Wednesday.** Call that coincidence... well, I call that a God-thing. I believe God is reminding us about the greatest Love of all (not the song by the way) to think beyond earthly love and ponder on the Love of the Father through His Son Jesus. I know, there will be many couples who plan to go on a date on that day and those who are in a relationship. There will also be families and friends who will take time out to eat in fine dining restaurants and special places. Nothing wrong with that. I also do that sometimes. But as you are celebrating with your loved ones, find it in your heart to go on a date with God. Maybe set your clocks earlier than the time you usually wake up in the morning on Wednesday; set aside a 10 minute time to pray, read a Bible passage, and worship the Lord with thanksgiving and prayer in your heart so that when you leave your house, you have already met the Lord. Make it special and meaningful. Or... you can join the **EAFUMC Drive-By Ash Wednesday event with the imposition of ashes on your forehead between 4:00 & 6:00p.m. in the parking lot. (If you would like for the pastor to come by your home to do the imposition of ashes there, please, contact the church office ~ [618-259-5210](tel:618-259-5210) ~ to let us know. Call by Feb. 12th.)** Then, also at EAFUMC, we will have a joint Ash Wednesday service at 6:30p.m. **combining the congregations of EAFUMC and SPUMC.** This all may not be good on your date, but if you won't mind then that will not be a problem. But whatever objective you may have, make sure to offer your heart to the Lord and I assure you, God will make your Valentine's Day memorable.

Let us again be inspired specifically by **1 John 4:9-10** that says: *⁹ This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. ¹⁰ This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.*

Therefore, let the whole world know that God's love is real, full of grace and truth in Christ Jesus. Until next time, have a wonderful day and God bless!

Blessings to all!

Edward Granadosin - **Pastor of East Alton 1st UMC and St. Paul UMC**



OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU'S!

- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family & friends of **Wyatt Lippoldt (22)**, great-nephew of Iris Uzzell; **Marjorie "Margie" Hall (92)**, sister of Dorothy Kasinger, Ruth Champlin, and Ann Reichert (see obit on page 3); **Jerry Phelps, Sr. (86)**, brother/brother-in-law of Martha (Rayford) Raby; **Phyllis Daughtee (92)**, mother/mother-in-law of Jeannie (Rick) Huddleston; and **Rev. Roy Baugh (95)**, former pastor here at St. Paul's 1954-1962 serving as the first full-time pastor at the church (see obit on page 3). **May everyone who is touched by loss know God's peace through it all.**
- We welcome **Emersyn Joyce Howard**, born on January 9th weighing 6lbs. 4oz. She is the daughter of Cory & Addie Howard. Her Grandparents are Todd & Laura Ballard and her Great-Grandparents are Larry & Lola Ballard! Congratulations everyone!

THANK YOU! The family of Margie Hall would like to thank Pastor Ed, the Women of Worship, Randy McLain, Martha & Rayford Raby, Lois Mitchell, and all of you for your prayers and sympathy at the passing of Margie. She sure loved this church and all of you. She will be greatly missed. God Bless you all. *-Family of Margie Hall*

THANK YOU! Thank you so much to Jim Herndon (Chairman) and Karen Challandes (Secretary) for your many, many years of service in these roles! *-The Board of Trustees*



Children's Church begins at the start of the 8:45a.m. Worship Service with the children gathering in the sanctuary. After the **Children's Moment they move together to their classroom. It is currently for children ages 5-10 years old. The time may include things like an activity, a story that matches up with the sermon, a Bible Verse, a Song of the Month, a craft, and learning the Lord's Prayer. There will be a teacher & a helper each Sunday at Children's Church!**
Watch for a handout filled with more information as things progress!

WE HOPE YOU ARE AS EXCITED AS WE ARE!!



We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friends...



Marjorie "Margie" Alice Hall, 92, passed away Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at Bria of Wood River.

Born May 24, 1931 in Alton, she was a daughter of George & Beulah (Gentry) Stroheck.

Margie worked as an industrial engineer for the Owens-Illinois Machine Shop in Godfrey, retiring Dec. 31, 1994. She has been a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Rosewood Heights since January 1956.

Survivors include a son, Gerald "Jerry" Hall and his wife Janet of Rosewood Heights; a daughter, Connie Hall of Klondike, TX; 6 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and 6 great-great grandchildren; and three sisters, Ruth Champlin of Bethalto, Dorothy Kasinger of Rosewood Heights, and Ann Reichert of Carrollton, TX.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a daughter, Bonnie Hall; a son, Dennis Hall; a granddaughter, Carrie Armendarez; and her former husband, David J. Hall.

We will miss Margie so very much here at St. Paul UMC. She was involved in so many things over the years. Please, keep her family in your prayers.



Rev. Roy Leland Baugh, 95, of Brownsburg, IN passed away on January 17, 2024. He was born Nov. 15, 1928 to the late William E. & Lena L. (Wert) Baugh in East St. Louis, IL.

Roy married Alice Lee Lyell on March 16, 1951. Roy went to college at McKendree College. He then went on to Emory University and earned a Master's Degree in 1954. He was a Methodist Minister for many years in Illinois (*here at St. Paul from March 1954-1962 as the first full-time pastor*) and Missouri.

Roy retired as the Senior Vice President at Bank of America in 1998, when they moved to Brownsburg IN, where they became members of the Calvary United Methodist Church.

Roy is survived by his three children, Cindy (Andy) Baldauf of IN, Kevin (Carla) Baugh of IL, and Amanda (Dan) Hessel of IN. 6 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren, and 1 great great - grandchild. Along with his parents and wife, Roy was preceded in death by a brother, Charles Baugh, and 2 sisters, Ladena Deppe and Earline Brooks. A private memorial service will be held on Feb. 2, 2024 in Brownsburg, IN. Please, keep his family in your prayers.



St. Paul Sunday Service in **FEBRUARY** 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.** Beginning on February 4th the St. Paul UMC service will also be **LIVE STREAMED** Online! You will be able to go to our **Facebook Page** and click on a link to watch it as it happens. You can also go directly to **Youtube.com** and find it at **StPaulUmc1167**.

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!

4th: Communion Today.

Scriptures: *Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20;*
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39



11th: Birthday Sunday. Transfiguration Sunday.

Scriptures: *2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6;*
Mark 9:2-9

14th: Ash Wednesday. Valentine's Day. EAFUMC hosts a Drive-By Ash Wednesday event with the imposition of ashes on your forehead between 4:00 & 6:00p.m. in their parking lot. (If you would like for the pastor to come by your home to do the imposition of ashes there, please, contact the church office ~ [618-259-5210](tel:618-259-5210) ~ to let us know. Call by Feb. 12th.) Then, also at EAFUMC, we will have a joint Ash Wednesday service at 6:30p.m. combining the congregations of EAFUMC and SPUMC! Please, join us on this special night!

18th: First Sunday In Lent.

Scriptures: *Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15*

25th: Second Sunday In Lent.

Scriptures: *Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31; Romans 4:13-25;*
Mark 8:31-38

Adult Classes

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!



BIBLE STUDY!

We meet on Mondays at
1:30p.m. in the Parlor! To
be ready to study ... just
bring your Bible! Hope to see you!
~Pastor Ed~



2024 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

Feb 4: by **Jim & Maggie Funke** in honor of **her Mom, Sally Lay.**
Feb 11: by **Shelley Heigert** in memory of **her Mom, Shirley Birmingham,**
and in honor of Harvey Birmingham.
Feb 18: Available.
Feb 25: Available.



CONTINUOUS FOOD DRIVE: The Outreach Ministry Team will keep a "Food Drive" going. 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, Dish Detergent, Spices, Sugar, Flour, etc.) You are awesome! Thank you!!

FEBRUARY OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

February 5-6, 12-13, 19-20, 26-27 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

February 7, 14, 21, 28 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

February 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29 = 9 or 10:00a.m. to 2 or 3:00p.m.

ON February 8 GONE FROM 11:15a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH

ON February 12 GONE FROM 11:15a.m. to 12:30p.m. FOR APPOINTMENT

PLEASE NOTE:

If there is snow on a morning when the Church Office is to be open, the Church Secretary will get to the office as soon as safely possible. If there are 3-4 inches on the road, she must wait for her street to be plowed before being able to get out of her subdivision. That gives her time to shovel her driveway with her sister. Please, be patient and pray for her safety on those days. If there are 6 inches or more of snow, she might not make it in at all and will work more the next possible day or in the afternoon of her day off. Thank you for understanding!





FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

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

- | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------|--------|-------------------|
| 01-Feb | Dylan Brueggeman | 12-Feb | Tyler Cameron | 20-Feb | Joni Bunt |
| 01-Feb | Phillip McCammon | 13-Feb | Kari Moore | 20-Feb | Victoria Garrison |
| 01-Feb | Erin Suermann | 13-Feb | Kathy Nash | 20-Feb | Brian Liedtke |
| 02-Feb | Sally Lay | 14-Feb | Addyson Huddleston | 20-Feb | Emerson Mayer |
| 02-Feb | Trenton Liedtke | 14-Feb | Mark Scroggins | 20-Feb | Grady Mayer |
| 02-Feb | Teagan Plummer | 14-Feb | Amber Tappy | 21-Feb | Tesla Plummer |
| 03-Feb | Amanda Bailey | 14-Feb | Amy Tappy | 21-Feb | John Yunker |
| 04-Feb | Reese Brueggeman | 14-Feb | Joshua Williams | 22-Feb | Nicole Poston |
| 04-Feb | Tori Newingham | 14-Feb | Meagan Winchester | 23-Feb | Don Roberts |
| 04-Feb | Randy Roberts | 15-Feb | Nicholas Hobbs | 23-Feb | Eldon Wold Jr. |
| 05-Feb | Rodney Adams | 15-Feb | William Laufersweiler | 24-Feb | Amber Harlan |
| 05-Feb | Brooklyn Boeshans | 15-Feb | Mike Toner | 24-Feb | Ian Wheat |
| 06-Feb | Nick Dorsey | 16-Feb | Brandy Mormino | 25-Feb | Debbie Eggebrecht |
| 07-Feb | Mitch Scroggins | 17-Feb | Chloe Allshouse | 25-Feb | Nikolas Ward |
| 08-Feb | Jane Herndon | 17-Feb | Carleen Balzraine | 26-Feb | Noah Martin |
| 08-Feb | Sydney Palmer | 17-Feb | Megan Ricketts | 26-Feb | Lynda Wheat |
| 08-Feb | Tom Poore | 17-Feb | Tyler Sims | 27-Feb | Kansas Scoggins |
| 09-Feb | James Birmingham | 17-Feb | Jordyn Skjerseth | 28-Feb | Katelyn Garrison |
| 09-Feb | Dillon Henderson | 18-Feb | Chris Greer | | |
| 09-Feb | Jaida Justice | 19-Feb | Jackie Boeshans | | |
| 09-Feb | Kimberly McGilvrey | 19-Feb | Nicholas Dawson | | |
| 09-Feb | Chris Stamper | 19-Feb | Joshua Toner | | |
| 09-Feb | Madeline Wood | | | | |
| 10-Feb | Tony Garland | | | | |
| 10-Feb | Laurie Myers | | | | |
| 10-Feb | Jayne Scroggins | | | | |
| 10-Feb | Sandy Scroggins | | | | |



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February 14 Bunt, Dan & Kathy



WE NEED INFO FOR THE NEXT CHURCH DIRECTORY!

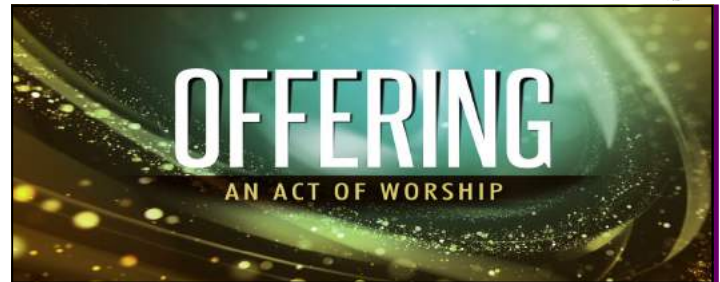
Please contact the church office if you (OR A FAMILY MEMBER) have had a **change of address, phone number, or email address since the last printing!** We have begun the process of completing a new Church Directory! **Please, check the Workbook in the Entryway!**

Thank you for your help!



JANUARY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	1/1/2024 thru 1/31/2024	10046.00
Designated Giving:	1/1/2024 thru 1/31/2024	880.95
	Capital Improvements	260.00
	Loose Change	22.30
	Flowers	20.00
	Women of Worship	20.00
	Upper Room	20.00
	Offering Envelopes	64.65
	Hickerson Scholarship	.00
	Building Use	25.00
	Memorials	370.00
	Trustees Emerg Res Fund	70.00
	2024 Steeple Postage	9.00
	Online Giving	351.50
Total:		\$11278.45



An important reminder... 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 the church 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
MARCH 2024
STEEPLE,
Tuesday,
February 20th!**

GENERAL CONFERENCE

General & Jurisdictional Conference:
The General Commission on General Conference announced that the global gathering will be meeting in NC in-person
APRIL-MAY 2024.

Keep this important meeting in your prayers!



MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

February's Loose Change Project is designated for one of our most valuable assets within our church- the St. Paul Youth! These funds are to be used to help with youth activities throughout the year. May God bless and multiply your gifts!



Ash Wednesday

EAFUMC hosts a Drive-By Ash Wednesday event with the imposition of ashes on your forehead between 4:00 & 6:00p.m. in their parking lot. (If you would like for the pastor to come by your home to do the imposition of ashes there, please, contact the church office ~ 618-259-5210 ~ to let us know. Call by Feb. 12th.)

WORSHIP SERVICE: February 14 @ 6:30 p.m. at EAFUMC - Joint service for both congregations!

Hickerson Scholarship 2024



The tragic skiing accident of January 15, 1995, that claimed the life of Meghan Hickerson of Hartford, IL, will never be forgotten.

God has a way of healing hurt and turning tragedy into triumph. Meghan's death immediately gave life to several people, known collectively as "organ donor recipients." Her legacy of faith and service lives on through the "Meghan Hickerson Christian Teen Leader Memorial Scholarship" that is made available through St. Paul UMC.

Meghan was a student leader who set a standard of excellence within the public school system. She also set an example of faith and dedication by spreading God's love through her church and her academic life, to all she encountered. Our goal each year is to reward one or two

deserving college-bound, graduating seniors who set for him or herself the same standards of outstanding scholastic achievement and faith reflected in their everyday life.

Graduating seniors from the three area high schools (East Alton-Wood River, Roxana, and Civic Memorial) or any who are a member of St. Paul UMC may apply for the **\$500.00 scholarship**.

We encourage members to notify any student that may qualify and have them complete the application process. Application materials are available through the counselors at the above mentioned schools or directly from the church office.

DEADLINE for completed application materials is:

Monday, April 1, 2024

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 618-259-5210.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

If bad weather requires the cancellation of our worship service and Sunday School, we will:

- ✦ **ACTIVATE "OTTO" OUR PHONE TREE CALLING SYSTEM!**
- ✦ contact TV Channel 5 to list it
- ✦ post a notice on our website www.stpaulwired.org (if possible) and on our Facebook page (**St. Paul United Methodist-East Alton IL**)
- ✦ contact those on the e-mail & phone prayer chain (if possible)



BUY YOURS NOW!!

Regular 1lb. bag = **\$12**
 Chocolate-covered = **\$11**

2024 NEWSLETTERS: It is time to start thinking about the 2024 Newsletter (The Steeple). The cost to have the newsletter mailed directly to you at home will be **\$9.00**. Of course we will still email the Newsletter, place it on the website, and have copies at the church for you to pick up, to have extras to give to friends you invite to church, and for visitors to take. Send your request to have it mailed directly to you and your check for **\$9.00** to the Church Office. **Questions...call 618-259-5210.**



2024 THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2024 HAS BEEN POSTED!! HELP FILL IT UP TODAY!

TRUST IN THE LORD
 WITH ALL YOUR HEART
 AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR
 OWN UNDERSTANDING;

PROVERBS 3:5

EASTER FLOWERS! Believe it or not, it is time to order Easter Flowers! The forms will be on the table **next Sunday and the deadline is **February 25th**. Crazy... we know! This is the schedule at the only place we know to order them from! Questions? Call the office at **618-259-5210**. The cost is **\$10** - due when ordered!**



EVENING RE-AWAKENING SERVICE

The Re-Awakening Service 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!!**

The February 1st Re-Awakening has already happened so March 7th will be the next time we meet!! It all begins at 5:30p.m. with a meal. Watch for more information between now and then for the specifics!

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 are excited and looking forward to being together in the same space for worship.

Lauren & Patterson Friese (618-660-7967)



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

The youth will **continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at 4-5:30p.m.**

The high school students will attend the 2024 Fire-Up Conference held February 23rd-25th in Troy, IL. There is still time to sign up high school students, if anyone has a high schooler that would be able to do this; I would love to take them with me.

We need the help of the church to spread the word to area youth who are in middle and high school. We are fervently praying to successfully rebuild our program that is currently at 4 youth who regularly get together. **2024 is going to be a great year for our Youth!!**

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



The Women of Worship will have their annual **RUMMAGE SALE on April 11, 12, & 13.**

Please, start saving items as you clean out closets, cabinets, and garages. (NO ELECTRONICS please, as we have no way of disposing of them after the sale; small kitchen appliances are ok as long as they work.) **You may begin bringing items and placing them on the stage STARTING MONDAY, MARCH 18.** As always, we appreciate all the donations we receive from folks to help make this a successful annual event.

THANK YOU in advance!



2024 STEWARDSHIP



→ **REMEMBER YOUR GIVING!**

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



INFORMATION:

We needed to replace our current **AED**. The company was having a sale and we found one that is good for us. With a discount & free shipping the final cost was only

\$1,179.00.

If anyone would like to chip in any amount toward this item, be sure to **designate it for the AED on your envelope!** Thank you!



WHEN LIFE GETS TOUGH
AND YOU'RE FACED WITH DEFEAT,
REMEMBER SOMEWHERE IN THE
WORLD A FLOWER IS POPPING
THROUGH SOME CONCRETE.

