



The Steeple

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

APRIL 2024



Dear St. Paul UMC Members and Friends,

I greet you all in the name of our Savior Jesus Christ. May His peace, joy, and love be upon everyone as we look forward to the coming months of our faith journey in the Lord. It has been 8 months since the conference assigned St. Paul UMC as my 2nd charge and I must admit, it has been challenging but at the same time exciting because of the opportunities given by God to do more work in building the Kingdom. And so, I urge everyone to have a heart for mission and outreach as ordained by our resurrected Christ in **Matthew 28:16-20**. With this great commission by God in Christ, I will give more attention to **3 basic missions of the church**.

1. Remain Prayerful - The people of God must always be in a prayerful attitude. Paul wrote to the Ephesians in **Ephesians 6:18-23** *18 Never stop praying, especially for others. Always pray by the power of the Spirit. Stay alert and keep praying for God's people.* Praying and other spiritual practices are our way of life. **Proverbs 3:5-6** *5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

2. Go Out and Share - to confine ourselves comfortably in the walls of the building will not help in the spread of the gospel. Jesus went from town to town meeting people from all walks of life. He even preached in synagogues even if he was not welcomed. But did it stop Him from telling the Good News of salvation? Certainly not. This is what God wants for all of us.

3. Encourage and Invite - I know it has been hard to bring people back into our building. It hurts to be rejected by our own loved ones. To change their minds to come back and worship with us again seems impossible. But nothing is impossible with God. And if we all become messengers of Christ, we can turn this community around for the glory of God. In **Romans 10:14-15** Paul writes: *14 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? 15 And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

And let us not forget, the Holy Spirit. **Ephesians 6:11-13** says, *"Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness in this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places."*

This is what my heart desires in 2024. Let us all work together in the name of our Resurrected Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Till next newsletter...

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 **Larry Ludwig (72)**, father of Matthew Ludwig (Matthew is John Hendricks' nephew). **May everyone who is touched by loss know God's peace.**
- "Our granddaughter, **Avery Huddleston** was inducted into the National Honor Society, and was also selected (along with another student) Eagles Girls' Basketball defensive player-of-the-year and to the MVC 2nd all-conference team. So proud of you Avery!!"
~**Jeannie Huddleston** (see photo ⇨)



THANK YOU! We **thank everyone** who helped make Lent and Easter such a special time here at St. Paul UMC. Thank you to **Pastor Ed** for his guidance through Lent and helping us celebrate Easter! Thank you to **those who signed up** for and brought items for the Easter Baskets.

Thank you to **the ladies** who helped put those baskets together! Thank you to **Becky Tuchalski and all** who pulled together the Easter Egg Hunt! Thank you to **Joyce Tappy** for the beautiful Easter bulletin board. Thank you to **Tracy Franks and her helpers** for arranging the Easter Flowers so beautifully! Thank you to **everyone who ordered** Easter Flowers to help the sanctuary smell so wonderful on Easter Sunday. Thank you to **Pastor Debra & Joe Hoertel** for helping out during the Maundy Thursday Communion and Hand Washing service. Thank you to **Mark Mayer and Randy McLain** for live streaming all of our services now. Thank you to **Rayford & Martha Raby** for all of the incredible music throughout the season! We are so very blessed at St. Paul! **Happy Resurrection Day, indeed!**





RUMMAGE SALE

The 2024 Women Of Worship Spring Rummage Sale will be:

**Fri. & Sat., 8:30a.m. - Noon
April 12 & 13**

(and a Pre-Sale Thursday evening, April 11, 6 - 8p.m. \$2 entry fee)

The GREAT ST. PAUL WOW Rummage Sale is almost here! Items for sale are accepted **through Monday, April 8th**. We appreciate all of the great regularly donated items that are brought. There is still time to collect your **clean, working, sellable items** to bring to the church.

PLEASE, NO lotions, perfumes, etc. that have been opened. **NO** computer monitors, printers, VCRs, TVs that are not flat screen, or other electronics. **They do not sell and we have no way to dispose of them.** Make sure any clothes or bedding items are **clean, stain free, and in good condition...Do not bring if they are not!** Please, **NO** sharp knives or child car seats. Books, puzzles, magazines, kitchen & household items, etc. are good selling items.

NOTE: WE ARE TRYING SOMETHING NEW THIS YEAR – We have been given permission by the Trustees to use the garage of the parsonage to sell used furniture from. We are accepting **GOOD, CLEAN, USABLE FURNITURE TO BE BROUGHT BY APPOINTMENT ONLY!**

To make an appointment or ask a question about this, **call Karen Martin at 618-792-7303. DO NOT** bring the furniture items to the basement of the church. You **must** have people to help unload and move your furniture into place at the garage as we will have no one to help with that.

→ **Help Wanted: the week of April 8th** to sort and prepare items for the sale. We will also need workers to total purchase amounts, keep tables neat, and to assist shoppers in any way needed during the sale. We need a few men to help carry items to shoppers' cars all 3 days. Any amount of time you can help will be appreciated **AND** you get first chance at all of the bargains!

LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER GREAT SALE - REMEMBER ALL OF THE PROFITS GO TO UNITED METHODIST AND LOCAL GROUPS NEEDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



Welcome back to **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

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,**

singing, a craft, or learning the Lord's Prayer. There will be a teacher & a helper each Sunday at Children's Church!

WE HOPE YOU ARE AS EXCITED AS WE ARE!!



St. Paul Sunday Service in **APRIL** 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. The St. Paul UMC service is also **LIVE STREAMED** online! You are 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](https://www.youtube.com) and search for **St Paul UMC 1167.**

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!

7th: Communion Sunday.

Scriptures: *Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31*



14th: Birthday Sunday. Native American Ministries Sunday.

Scriptures: *Acts 3:12-19; Psalm 4; 1 John 3:1-7; Luke 24:36b-48*

21st: Festival of God's Creation.

Scriptures: *Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23; 1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18*

28th: Scriptures: *Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8*

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~



THANK YOU!

The **WOMEN OF WORSHIP** and **OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM** would like to thank **EVERYONE** who gave items for them to create **EASTER BASKETS** for Operation Blessing to give out to the families they help this year. With your donations and items from Operation Blessing, **43 baskets of joy** were made!



**SAVE
THE
DATES**

VBS 2024 June 10-13



VBS asks folks to collect empty rectangle-sized (NO CUBES) Kleenex or Scotties Facial Tissue boxes! We need about 40 of them! ~*Jamie Gwaltney*



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 the church for us to give to the food pantries! **Some suggestions:** Oil, Can Opener, Mayonnaise, Powdered Milk, Milk/Oat Milk/Almond Milk/Coconut Milk – kind that is non-refrigerated until opened, Coffee, Peanut Butter, Crackers, Tea Bags, Salt & Pepper, Spaghetti Sauce in a Can or Plastic Jar, Pasta, Canned Vegetables or Meats, Ketchup & Mustard, Spices, Sugar, Cereal, Tuna Fish, Rice, Flour, Dish Detergent, Hand Lotion, Rolls of Paper Towel, Boxes of Facial Tissues, etc. You are doing so wonderful! **THANK YOU!**

2024 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

Apr 7: by **Steve & Jean Kainz** in memory of **Eric Wood.**

Apr 14: by **Donna Badman** in memory of **Charles & Irene McKean.**

Apr 21: by **John & Leona Hendricks** in celebration of **Leona’s Birthday!**

Apr 28: by **The Family** in honor of **Henry & Barbara Thielemann.**



THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2024 HAS BEEN POSTED AND IT HAS JUST A FEW SPOTS LEFT! PLEASE, HELP FINISH FILLING IT!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

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

- 01-Apr Amy Hartman
- 02-Apr Jarod Foiles
- 03-Apr Karen Challandes
- 03-Apr Mike Voorhees
- 04-Apr Donald Ford Jr.
- 04-Apr Payton Hartman
- 04-Apr Tom Martin
- 05-Apr Jason Mayer
- 05-Apr Kelly Moore
- 05-Apr Rohland Pruetzel
- 06-Apr Barb Sitze
- 06-Apr Jessica Winchester
- 07-Apr Vicki Acton
- 07-Apr Ashley Bunt
- 07-Apr Jaxson McBride
- 08-Apr Patrick Bottorff
- 08-Apr Florence Nelson
- 09-Apr Abbygail Skjerseth
- 10-Apr Bryan Clark
- 10-Apr Virginia Croxford
- 10-Apr Lizzie Dawson
- 11-Apr Jennifer Roberts
- 11-Apr Alyssa Tite
- 14-Apr Terry Inman
- 14-Apr Mindy McLain
- 14-Apr Rilyn Chester

- 14-Apr Nora Toner
- 15-Apr Alexander Lair
- 16-Apr Nathan Bishop
- 16-Apr Lauren Davis
- 16-Apr Peter Laufersweiler
- 17-Apr Lauryn Decker
- 17-Apr Brittney Harlan
- 17-Apr Brooke Harlan
- 17-Apr Vivian Sands-Franklin
- 17-Apr Scott Tillery
- 17-Apr Cathy Toner
- 18-Apr Michael Bunt
- 18-Apr Luke Dawson
- 18-Apr Brandon Plummer
- 19-Apr Ilona Townsend
- 19-Apr Madison Scroggins
- 19-Apr Patsy Scroggins
- 20-Apr Kay Gwaltney
- 20-Apr Rosalind Hovan
- 21-Apr Edith Mayer
- 21-Apr Ryan Parker

- 24-Apr Leona Hendricks
- 24-Apr Mike Plummer
- 25-Apr Logan Laufersweiler
- 25-Apr Madison Williams
- 26-Apr Logan Eyster
- 26-Apr Andrew Garrison
- 27-Apr Jaden Henderson
- 27-Apr Bob Kissack Jr.
- 27-Apr Keith Sheppard
- 28-Apr John Bailey
- 28-Apr Tabatha Barclay
- 28-Apr Taylor Scroggins
- 29-Apr Jacob Giddings
- 29-Apr Stacey Kathriner
- 29-Apr Darin Redden Sr.
- 29-Apr Rita White
- 30-Apr Chase Cameron



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



- 05-Apr Rohland & Susie Pruetzel
- 08-Apr Bill & Ronda Crain Jr.
- 10-Apr Adam & Stephanie Schroedter
- 11-Apr Phil & Vicki Acton
- 11-Apr Joe & Linda Tillery
- 14-Apr Joshua & Brooke Toner

- 20-Apr Jim & Betty Burns
- 20-Apr Jake & Jessica Toner
- 21-Apr Eric & Heather Decker
- 21-Apr Peter & Sarah Laufersweiler
- 24-Apr Justin & Jennifer Sandbach

BE SURE TO PICK UP A 2024 CHURCH DIRECTORY!

Please contact the church office if you (OR A FAMILY MEMBER) have had a **change of address, phone number, or email address!** Pick up your copy of the 2024 Church Directory the next time you stop by the church! If they are all gone, just let the Church Office know so we can print a copy for you!



MARCH Stewardship

Budget Offering:	3/1/2024 thru 3/31/2024	16418.00
Designated Giving:	3/1/2024 thru 3/31/2024	2074.61
	Capital Improvements	410.00
	Loose Change	67.61
	Flowers	50.00
	Women of Worship	80.00
	Upper Room	17.00
	Offering Envelopes	10.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	50.00
	AED Project	525.00
	Memorials	100.00
	Trustees Emerg Res Fund	70.00
	Postage	10.00
	UMCOR	70.00
	Operation Blessing	50.00
	Easter Offering	515.00
	Philippines Ret. Min. Fund	50.00
	Online Giving	351.50
Total:		\$18844.11



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 to 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
MAY 2024
STEEPLE,
Monday,
April 22nd!**



MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

April's Loose Change Project is the Community Hope Center in Cottage Hills. Not only do they run a food pantry which our church uses as a referral source, but they offer free clothing and many other programs to help people in need. May God bless and multiply your gifts!



GENERAL CONFERENCE

It has been announced that the General Conference, a global gathering, will meet in

Charlotte, NC in-person from **April 23 through May 4.**

Keep this important meeting in your prayers!



EASTER FLOWERS 2024

DUANE & TAMMY ATCHLEY in memory of her Parents, Cliff & Lois Stull
DUANE & TAMMY ATCHLEY in memory of his Parents, Harold & Wanda Atchley
DONNA BADMAN in memory of Irene & Charles McKean
LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in memory of our Loved Ones Who Have Passed
LARRY & IOLA BALLARD in honor of our Family
DON BUNT, SR. in memory of Evelyn M. Bunt
CHRIS & KAREN CHALLANDES in memory of our Grandparents
CHRIS & KAREN CHALLANDES in honor of our Son, Lincoln Challandes
CHRIS & KAREN CHALLANDES in honor of our Parents - John & Leona Hendricks and Phillip & Kim Challandes
BECKY CHESTER in memory of Lynnann Chester and Lydia Chester
BECKY CHESTER in memory of Lydia Chester, Daughter-in-law
BECKY CHESTER in memory of Lynnann Chester, Daughter
JIM & ANITA DAWSON in honor of our Family
TRACY FRANKS in memory of my Parents and Grandparents
KAY GWALTNEY & FAMILY in memory of Rev. Roy Baugh - He married Don & me in 1959
SHELLEY HEIGERT in memory of my Mother, Shirley Birmingham, and my Roose Grandparents
SHELLEY HEIGERT in honor of Harv Birmingham
JIM & JANE HERNDON in memory of our Parents and Jane's Siblings
JIM & JANE HERNDON in honor of our Children, Grandkids, and Great-Granddaughter
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in memory of Meghan Hickerson
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in memory of Dr. Norman & Carole Taylor
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in honor of Evan & Lori Hutson
JIM & CONNIE HICKERSON in honor of Jill, Bill, and Juliana Sullivan
DOROTHY KASINGER in memory of my Parents, Victor & Beulah Strohbeck
DOROTHY KASINGER in memory of my Sister, Margie Hall
DOROTHY KASINGER in honor of my Children, Grandchildren, and Great-Grandchildren
MARK & DEB MAYER in memory of our Parents and in honor of our Kids and Grandkids
RANDY & MINDY McLAIN in memory of our Parents - Bob & Annabelle McLain and Merle & Norma Davis
RANDY & MINDY McLAIN in honor of our Kids and Grandkids
RACHEL McPHETERS in honor of Jim & Anna Mae Stewart
BEULAH MOORE in memory of my Husband, Ben Moore
BEULAH MOORE in memory of my Grandson, Andy Moore
MICHAEL & LINDA SCROGGINS in memory of our Parents
MICHAEL & LINDA SCROGGINS in honor of our Children and Grandchildren
VICKI STEWART in memory of Keith Elliott
PAUL & GERRY WARD in memory of our Family Members
PAUL & GERRY WARD in memory of our Family Members
BOB, BEV, & JOE (THE KIDS) in memory of Helen & Morris "Mo" Tschannen





CHURCH SPRING WORK DAY!

Saturday, April 20th
8:00 a.m.-Noon

*If you are willing & able to work, we would appreciate your help! Thank you! Questions?
Call John Hendricks, 618-978-7771.*

Easter Offering

The Finance Committee & Church Council voted to give **75%** of the undesignated Easter Offering to **UMCOR - to use where Needed** and **25%** to the **Philippines Central Conference Retired Ministers Fund**. You may also designate your **Easter Offering** to a specific group, account, or mission. **Offering received throughout April.**

GOD'S NOT DONE WITH YOU YET.

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!!

APRIL OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

April 1-2,8-9,15-16,22-23,29-30 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

April 3,10,17,24 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

April 4-5,11-12,18-19,25-26 = 9 or 10:00a.m. to 2:00p.m.

ON April 11 GONE FROM 10:45a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH.



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!!**

➔ Re-Awakening is taking a pause.

At this time, Lauren is looking for folks who would be dedicated to joining a vision team that would help rebuild and plan the future of Re-Awakening.

Please, contact Lauren at laurenfrieese20@gmail.com or give her a call at (618-660-7967), if you would like to be a part of this.

We are still hopeful that one day this will reach others and lead to other doors opening, such as a kids' ministry on Thursday evenings. We look forward to more worship together!

Lauren & Patterson Frieese (618-660-7967)



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

Congratulations to **Audrey and Andrèa Pena, and Madelynn and Marjorie Cranmer** for their achievement on the high honor roll. The youth are in discussion about attending camp this summer. Please be in prayer for these students as they make their decisions for their summer plans. We are hoping to start campfire devotions back up for the summer months, so be on the lookout for the plans in the May newsletter.

If you know of a young person or are connected to a young person in your life who is seeking opportunities for Christian fellowship, activities, sporting events, camps, retreats, etc., please, fill out the informational sheet on the table in the entryway alongside the bulletin sheets on Sunday morning! Put the completed informational sheet in the mailbox for the Church Office or in the offering plate. Thank you!!

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. **2024 is going to be a great year for our Youth!!**

**In Christ's Love & Kindness, Patterson & Lauren Frieese - Youth Leaders
(217-851-4651) (patterson.frieese@gmail.com)**



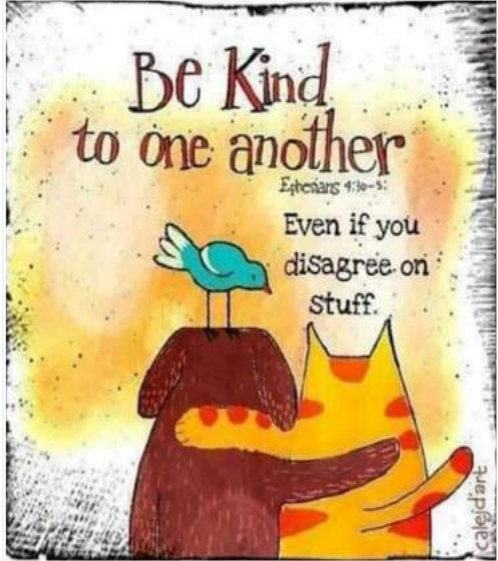
PECANS

BUY YOURS NOW!!

Several Regular 1lb. bag = \$12
3 bags Chocolate-covered = \$11

"The LORD bless you,
AND Keep you;
The LORD make His Face
Shine UPON you;
AND BE Gracious to you;
The LORD lift up His
Countenance UPON you,
AND Give you Peace."
NUMBERS 6:24-26

Always pray to have
eyes that see the
best in people,
A heart that forgives
the worst,
A mind that forgets
the bad,
And a soul that never
loses faith in God.



**The Longer I serve Him
The Sweeter He Grows**

“
*No matter how
foreboding the
future, the
Christian knows
the end of the story
– and it is
glorious! Don't
lose heart. The best
is yet to be!*
BILLY GRAHAM



**Don't let anyone
rent a space
in your head,
unless they're
a good tenant.**
unknown

**God's favor
outweighs all
opposition.**

**FAITH IS NOT
AN EMOTION,
IT'S A DECISION
TO STAND ON
GOD'S WORD.**