



The Steeple



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

OCTOBER 2024



To the People of St. Paul United Methodist Church,

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you and bless you as we come to the last 3 months of 2024. I am excited because these are the busiest months of the ministry of all churches. I encourage everyone to be well prepared, stay physically healthy, but most of all be spiritually ready for the great task ahead. I know, if we remain prayerful, thankful, and worshipful, the Lord will be with us to the end.

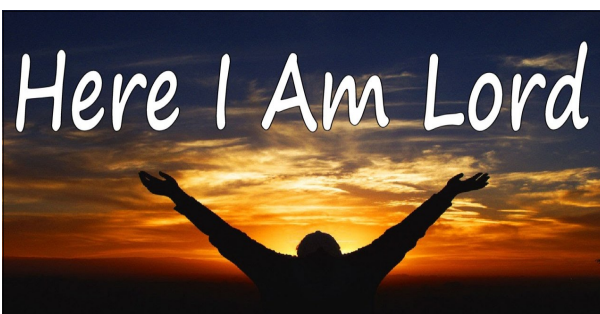
FYI, our numbers have been on a plateau averaging between 55-60 people. But I believe in my heart as a team we can make this better in the months and years ahead. I had the chance to meet School District Superintendent Nancy Werden of East Alton last month. As much as the culture of our churches has been restructured, so has the school. The idea of reaching out to young students through sports and activities has declined mainly because they would rather use their devices than go out and do physical activities. So the school turned to Social media, web announcements, and Digital information to connect with the young generation.

So, what I propose to do is to strengthen our outreach program. Come up with ways and means for people in this community to be curious about St. Paul UMC. Ask ourselves; are we just an attraction to them because no doubt we have a wonderful facility? Are we just an old building that offers VBS, Rummage sale, etc.? Or... are we more than what we are to them? Let us be more intentional and invest in creative ways to make sure our events have reached the families that live here in our area. Something that will make them feel welcome and not just for United Methodists only.

As I've said, we have a beautiful facility. So let us use this facility to our advantage. We have exerted so much effort in sustaining this big area, now it is time we benefit from what this place can do to the community for the sake of the Gospel. I know we are afraid of any mishaps that may lead to lawsuits that may affect our church insurance. However, this campus ground was not built to stand as a display for the community. It was not built to make the insurance companies richer. This facility is not just for United Methodists. This place was not built to be well maintained until we run out of resources. This facility was built for a purpose and that is to bring more souls to God. So that means this is for all. A place where all people can gather be it your friends, families, or neighbors. Bring them here in this place and let them know who Jesus Christ is. This is the Mission of St. Paul UMC. Let the whole community know that we preach truth and the love of Christ. But we can also be fun, candid, and spontaneous.

And so, in these final months of 2024 we must achieve our goals to bring more people to the Lord's Table because if we don't, this year will never be different from the rest of the years we've had. Are we just here to exist and not to persist? Are we just here to be contained and stay in our comfort zone? Would you think our Lord will be pleased if that is all we are?

Therefore, we must become bolder and courageous. God said to **Joshua**, 3 times, "**Be strong and courageous!**" I believe he did that. God indeed was with Joshua to the end. Thank you to all of our volunteers and helpers. I know that many of you are exhausted already. But there is no time to be tired and weak. We are in a spiritual warfare and giving up is not an option. We stand by the Word of God and His Will must be done to defeat the enemy. I say this with love in my heart and in Jesus' divine name.



Blessings to all and until the next issue--

In Christ,

Edward Granadosin

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



OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU!

- We rejoice at the Sep. 4th birth of **Drew Weigler** who was born to Dominic Weigler & Maddi Johnson. He weighed 9lbs.10oz. at birth. His delighted grandmother is Ashley (Poore) Hatcher, great-grandmother is Jan Poore, and great-great-grandfather is Tom Voorhees. God bless Drew and his family! (see photo➡)



- Congratulations to **Cody Blacklock & Taylor Stamper** who were married on Sep. 28th! May God bless you and your families as you journey this life together!

- Our deepest sympathy goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family & friends of **Adaline Palmer (0)**, born Aug. 26, died Sep. 1 (her twin, Aurora, clings to life), infant daughter of Brendan & Tamara Palmer, granddaughter of Stephanie Palmer and Jamie & Jennifer Palmer, great-granddaughter of Jeffrey Greer; **Michael “Mike” Cox (79)**, former teacher at Wood River Elementary, later Principal in Hartford, and retired as the Superintendent of Bunker Hill Community School District #8; **William “Bill” Witthoft (87)**, brother/brother-in-law of Roy (Jackie) Witthoft; **James “Jimmie” Johnson (54)**, owner of Johnson’s Corner who died on Sept. 28, 2024; and **Rev. Michael Rayson (50)**, former UMC lead pastor who was currently the Worship Music & Technology Pastor at Main Street UMC of Alton. **May everyone touched by loss know God’s peace.**

THANK YOU! Thank you all for the get well cards & phone calls during the last few months. It made us feel blessed. A special thank you to Pastor Ed & Maggie Funke for visiting us and serving communion. We are getting better every day and hope to see you all soon! **-Rod & Virginia Croxford**

THANK YOU! Thank you so very much for the generous donation of school supplies! We appreciate you thinking about our school and students when choosing a donation site. Our students will benefit greatly from all of your donations. **-Ashley Lowe, Eastwood Elementary Principal**

THANK YOU! Thank you church for the **221** (more if you count individual items in packages) **donated school supplies!** You are so generous! **-Outreach Ministry Team**



October Is...



Pastor Appreciation

MONTH!



It's time for the EAFUMC annual Trunk or Treat! Please, bring your children dressed in their costumes to get a treat!

Sunday, October 27, 2024
East Alton FUMC
Trunk or Treat 6p.m.-7p.m.
Haunted House 5p.m.-8p.m.



Children's Church begins at the start of our 8:45a.m. Worship Service. A little bit into the service we have a **Children's Moment**. A variety of activities are then held in the Children's Church room after the Children's Moment. Don't miss it! See you on Sundays!

This is currently for children ages 5-10 years old.

WE HOPE YOU ARE AS EXCITED AS WE ARE!!



World Communion Sunday, October 6th

On World Communion Sunday - United Methodists, in conjunction with other denominations and believers worldwide, participate in communion to recognize our unity in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. **You may give your World Communion Offering throughout October.** The gifts will be used to help students here and around the world have access to higher education.

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! 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 of your interest. Give it a try!



St. Paul Sunday Service in **OCTOBER** 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 will also be able to watch it on Youtube.com starting with a 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!

6th: World Communion Sunday.

Scriptures: *Job 1:1; 2:1-10; Psalm 25 or 26;*
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16



13th: Scriptures: *Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16;* *Mark 10:17-31*

20th: Laity Sunday; Children's Sabbath.

Scriptures: *Job 38:1-7; Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c; Hebrews 5:1-10;*
Mark 10:35-45

27th: Reformation Sunday.

Scriptures: *Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Psalm 34:1-8; Hebrews 7:23-28;*
Mark 10:46-52

*** SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd...** Please, join us at **East Alton FUMC** for a Combined **Pastor Appreciation Gathering 11:30a.m.-1p.m.** Come eat and celebrate with us!

Adult Sunday Classes

⇒ Wesley Sunday School Class
After the Service in the Parlor!

⇒ Adult Bible Study Sunday
School Class
After the Service in the Main
Hallway Classroom!

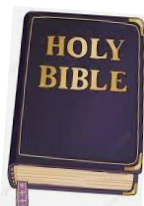
**WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU
JOIN ONE OF THESE TWO
ADULT CLASSES!!**

hoooray



BIBLE STUDY!

We meet on Tuesdays at
Noon in the Parlor! ...
just bring your Bible!
Hope to see you there!
~Pastor Ed~





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:** Mayonnaise, Can Opener, Oil, 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 STEWARDSHIP → REMEMBER YOUR GIVING!

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



2024 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

- October 6:** by **Tracy Franks** in honor of **the Taulbee Family.**
- October 13:** by **John & Leona Hendricks** in celebration of **Grandson Lincoln’s Birthday!**
- October 20:** by **The Hickerson Family** in memory of **Mrs. Carole Taylor.**
- October 27:** by **Mark & Deb Mayer** in honor of **our Kids & Grandkids!**



Thank you to everyone who was able to order their poinsettias by the “really early” September date. If you missed it we did order 2 or 3 extras in case you want to be included! Please, call the church office!



**THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2024 IS ALL FILLED IN!
THANK YOU EVERYONE!**

OCTOBER OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

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

October 2,9,16,23,30 = Office Closed/regular Wednesday off

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

ON OCTOBER 4 WILL BE GONE FROM 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH

On October 10 the Office will be closed lunch time 11:30a.m.-1p.m.



01-Oct Daryl Fansler
 01-Oct Joe Martin
 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
 06-Oct John Palmer
 07-Oct Rosalie Toner
 08-Oct Brady Cranmer
 08-Oct Kelly Cruthis
 09-Oct Gary Clark
 09-Oct Drew Huddleston
 09-Oct Douglas Phelps
 10-Oct Emily Bowman
 10-Oct Gracie Napp
 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 Frantz
 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 Hutson
 26-Oct Joe Huff
 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 & Noël 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

16-Oct Chris & Emily Elliott
 17-Oct Alex & Nicole Barnes
 17-Oct Al & Terry Poston
 24-Oct Ronald & Monna Bishop
 24-Oct Aaron & Kristen Arbuthnot
 24-Oct Chris & Stephanie Redden-Oliver
 25-Oct Geno & Amy Hartman
 27-Oct Mark & Deb Mayer
 30-Oct Chris & Karen Challandes
 31-Oct Larry & Megan Newingham



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!**



SEPTEMBER Stewardship

Budget Offering:	9/1/2024 thru 9/30/2024	11068.00
Designated Giving:	9/1/2024 thru 9/30/2024	2432.76
	Capital Improvements	220.00
	Loose Change	73.76
	Flowers	263.00
	Trustees Emerg. Res.	140.00
	Upper Room Donations	46.00
	Steeple Postage	10.00
	Helping Hands	150.00
	Parking Lot Work	400.00
	Women of Worship	20.00
	UMCOR	50.00
	Trinity UMC	20.00
	Coats 4 Kids	40.00
	Reimbursement From The Hickerson Scholarship	1000.00
	Online Giving	351.50
Total:		\$13852.2



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!

HELPING



HANDS

DONATIONS ARE NEEDED!

**DEADLINE FOR
NOVEMBER 2024
STEEPLE,
Monday, October
21st!**



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!



➔ Results of Congregational Input!

Thank you to everyone who stayed for the Informational Congregational Meeting in September so as to offer your input on the two questions concerning actions taken at the UMC General Conference. There were 49 people of the congregation who voted and the results on both questions were right about 50/50. This information was then taken to the Church Council Meeting later in September to help them make their decision on the two questions. The Church Council is where the final decision had to come from. After much discussion a private vote among the 10 Church Council members present was taken. The result of the vote was:

- 1. A policy has been adopted by St. Paul UMC of Rosewood Heights prohibiting any same-sex marriage to be performed on this property.**
- 2. The Church Council of St. Paul UMC of Rosewood Heights requests that the IGRC District Superintendent and Bishop not appoint a LGBTQ+ clergy to St. Paul UMC when making pastoral appointments.**

Please, remember that this is not a permanent decision and can be revisited after one year if the question arises. We thank everyone for their input and patience as this matter was being decided. -Church Council of St. Paul UMC-



EVENING RE-AWAKENING SERVICE

➔ Re-Awakening continues a pause.

At this time, Lauren is still 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. -Lauren Friese

TURN YOUR



BACK



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3



The ST. PAUL UMC ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL
will be here very soon!

It will be on **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10th** from **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

We will have our famous **Chicken & Noodles**, the **Vegetable Soup**, etc. The craft ladies have been busy creating a variety of crafts and gifts – remember to shop your “home church” first! Pick up gifts for the “special people” you want to remember during the holidays including treats for your kids and grandkids. Don’t forget to stop at the baked goods, candy, jams/jellies, plants, farmer’s market, AND This ‘N That tables.

Lunch is served from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

If you can’t “dine-in” we’ll be glad to fix a “Take-Home-A-Meal.”

In order to make the **FALL FESTIVAL** a success we will need lots of help! Any amount of time you can spare will be greatly appreciated. Sign-up is happening! The papers are on the table with the Sunday Bulletin Sheets.

If you miss signing up at church & want to donate or work, please call Karen Martin at 618-792-7303 or the church office, 618-259-5210, with your information.

Proceeds from this project and all others held during the year will be disbursed to our mission groups at the end of the year.

See you at our Fall Festival 2024!



BUY SOME NOW!!

Several 1lb. Bags available = **\$12 each**
(More coming in November!)



October 2024 Lay Servant Classes

Anyone can take the classes, not just Lay Servants or Certified Lay Speakers.

Title: *Living Our United Methodist Beliefs*
(UM heritage) (counts toward Certified Lay Speaker track)
Dates: October 19, 2024
Times: 8:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.
Location: Sugar Creek UMC, 1022 New City Rd, Chatham IL
Cost: \$35.00 Lunch is provided.

Title: *Leading Worship*
(counts toward Certified Lay Speaker track)
Dates: October 19, 2024
Times: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Location: Sugar Creek UMC, 1022 New City Rd, Chatham IL
Cost: \$35.00 Lunch is provided.

Title: *God's Mission...Our Journey*
Dates: October 19, 2024
Times: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm
Location: Midwest Mission Distribution Center, 1001 Mission Drive, Pawnee, IL
Cost: \$20.00 (bring own lunch, snacks, beverages)

Title: *The Method of our Mission*
(UM Polity & Organization) (counts toward Certified Lay Speaker Track) Polity is a good class to take to learn about UMC organization.
Dates: October 26, 2024
Times: 8:30 a.m.-5:30p.m.
Location: Union UMC, 721 E Main St. Belleville, IL
Cost: \$20.00

Title: *Called to Preach*
(counts toward Certified Lay Speaker Track)
Dates: October 26, 2024, 2nd Class TBA
Times: 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. 2nd Class TBA
Location: Union UMC, 721 E. Main St. Belleville, IL
Cost: \$20.00

Registration and payment can be done online at www.igrc.org under Featured Links - Online Registration Center found on the top right of the first page on a computer.

Dennis and Becky Tuchalski will be going to Chatham and the Midwest Distribution Center on October 19, 2024 and will have two extra seats if there is someone who really wants to go, but does not know how they would get there!



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

➔ **October & November Youth Activities** are still being finalized so keep your eyes open for more information in the days ahead!

There is a **Youth Retreat at Little Grassy Nov. 1-3**. If your Middle School/High School student is interested, please, contact Lauren **NOW** at laurenfriese20@gmail.com or call 618-660-7967.

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 coffee table alongside the bulletin sheets on Sunday morning! Put the completed informational sheet in the mailbox for the Church Office or in the offering plate.**

We are fervently praying to successfully rebuild our Youth program. 2024 is going to finish as a great year for our Youth!!

In Christ's Love & Kindness,
Lauren Friese - Youth Leader (618-660-7967)





Annual Coats 4 Kids Drive

It is time to collect donations for the **Riverbend Head Start & Family Services** to buy new & used, coats & shoes. We do this in the fall. This year, they have

indicated that they prefer to receive monetary donations, but if you have a gently used or even new child's coat, they can take that, too. For us, the drive goes **from Sept. 29 thru Nov. 3**. We ask that if you can, please, add a gift for the **COATS 4 KIDS DRIVE** in with your tithe and offerings.

Mark on the front of your offering envelope or check memo line what amount we should direct to them for this annual drive!

Thank you so much in advance!
Call the church office with questions!
-OUTREACH MINISTRY TEAM



200th anniversary celebration of Illinois Methodism

A conference-wide celebration, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the first Annual Conference session of the Illinois Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church will be held on **Saturday, Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to Noon at Belleville: Signal Hill UMC.**

Methodists from throughout Illinois are welcome to join in the celebration of that first meeting of the Illinois Methodist Conference, which was held Oct. 23, 1824 in St. Clair County, and marked the launching point for the development of thousands of churches and hundreds of thousands of Methodists throughout the State of Illinois.

We'll gather for an old-fashioned Methodist hymn sing, be introduced to our 200th Anniversary commemorative historic sites, hear a message from Illinois Great Rivers Conference United Methodist Church Bishop David Bard, and join in a re-covenanting service as we look forward to the future for Methodists in Illinois.

The celebration will be a great time for pastors, laity, history fans, confirmation classes, new Methodists, and anyone looking to ground a vision for the future of Methodism in the spirit of our heritage. If you have questions, feel free to contact Curtis Brown in the Illinois Great Rivers Conference Office of Connectional Ministries, cbrown@igrc.org.