



The Steeple

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

JUNE 2025



To the People of St. Paul United Methodist Church,

Paul writes in Romans 12:1-2 (NASB)

- 1 *Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.***
- 2 *And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.***

I would just like to share with you a reading from, "In Touch Ministries" of the late Dr. Charles Stanley (died April 18, 2023 at 90 yrs old). Dr Stanley was one of those Pastors who ministered to my heart even before I decided to become a servant of God. I can truly say that He was a Man of God and one of my scholarly Heroes in the faith. When I read it, it reminded me of how we must live our lives here on earth until the day we will be with the Lord. And so, the writer wrote:

"The Bible tells us God's will is good, acceptable, and perfect in every way (Rom. 12:2). To live life at its spiritual best, we need to discover His plans and desires for us, and then we must walk in them every day. Yet certain hindrances can prevent us from discerning the Lord's intentions for us:

- **Desire for control.** We're born into this world with a fallen nature. To follow God's plan, we need to surrender our rights and embrace His ways. We must choose every day to let Him rule over our thought life, emotions, decisions, families, and work (Luke 9:23).
- **Ignorance of God's principles.** Without the light of biblical guidance, we'll wander away from the Lord's plan (Psalm 119:105).
- **Influence of others.** People have lots of opinions about what we ought to do and how God would want us to behave. Unless we are extremely careful, we will act to satisfy them. Then we'll end up out of God's will because we put people's preferences ahead of the Lord.

If we abandon ourselves to God's care, then "self" will be subdued, a hunger for His Word will grow, and we will live to please Him, not others. Make it your goal to give the "throne of your life" **over to Him.**"

Indeed, living a Christ-like life must be our way of life. We may never achieve Christ's perfection but if we desire his love and grace with much perseverance and humility in HIS name, then that will be more than enough. Let the Lord Jesus be our King and we will never go wrong.

Blessings to all and until the next issue, just believe--

In Christ,

Edward Granadosin

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





OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOU!

- **Our deepest sympathy** goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family & friends of **Joan Albers (88)**, friend of Lois Mitchell and Ruth Bell; **Stacie Colclasure (55)**, wife of Paul Colclasure and daughter-in-law of the late Donald & Pat Colclasure; **Wilbur Gowin (93)**, brother of Joyce Tappy; **James “Jim” Stewart, Sr. (98)**, husband of Anna Mae Stewart, longtime member of St. Paul UMC (see obit page 8); and **Dale Lockard (77)**, pianist/organist at many churches and funeral homes, friend of Lois Mitchell. **May everyone who is touched by loss know God’s peace through it all.**
- On **Memorial Sunday, May 25th**, we celebrated the lives of those from our church family who have joined the church triumphant since our last Memorial Sunday service. We miss you but rejoice that today you are in the presence of our Lord: **Orisa Babcock, Florence “Flo” Nelson, Lori Tappy, James “Jim” Stewart, and Phillip “Phil” Walker.** We also dedicated our memorial projects, groups, activities, items, etc. advanced or completed during this time: **Women Of Worship - Florence “Flo” Nelson, Women Of Worship and Helping Hands - Lori Tappy.**
- **Congratulations to the St. Paul UMC Bowling Team** who has won First Place this year in the Church Bowling League! This adds to their first place wins in 1999 and 2015!
- **Congratulations to Sydnie Palmer** who had her pinning ceremony at Southwestern Illinois College for Medical Assistant! She also earned an extra certificate in venipuncture.

THANK YOU! To Rosewood Heights, St. Paul! Thank you for hosting your Mission Event! I hope this blesses your community as much as it will bless those who receive the items. I know they will feel all the love you put into it. *-Thank you, Midwest Mission*

THANK YOU! We just wanted to thank you for the church bells. They are a blessing to us to hear familiar hymns drifting through the trees as we sit out on the back deck. A reminder of God’s faithfulness and love, and a privilege to live in a country where we have the freedom to proclaim the name of the Lord! *-Paul & Debby Roberts*



**WORSHIP UNDER
THE TREES
ON SUNDAYS IN THE
CHURCH AMPHITHEATER**

8:45 a.m.

**BEGINS JUNE 8th
(second Sunday)**

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



Focus On

Jesus

SEEKING GRADUATE INFORMATION

If you have a son, daughter, or grandkid who is a member or an active participant at St. Paul UMC graduating from 8th grade, high school, junior college, college, graduate school, trade school, etc. please, send their name and information to the Church Office so we are able to honor him or her on

**Graduate Sunday,
June 29!**



Children's Church begins at the start of our 8:45a.m. Worship Service. Into the beginning of the service we have a **Children's Moment.**

A variety of activities are then held in the Children's Church room or outside after the Children's Moment...as this may look different once we go outside for worship! See you on Sundays!

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

WE HOPE YOU ARE AS EXCITED AS WE ARE!!

JUNE OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

June 2-3,9-10,16-17,23-24,30 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

June 4,11,18,25 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

June 5-6,12-13,19-20,26-27 = 10:00a.m. to 2 or 3:00p.m.

ON June 12 GONE FROM 11:15a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH MEETING



St. Paul Sunday Service in **JUNE** 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 **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 to serve the Lord. Thank you!

1st: Final Sunday of Easter; Ascension Sunday; Communion Today.

Scriptures: *Acts 16:16-34; Psalm 97;*
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21



8th: Outdoor Worship in the Park Begins Today! Pentecost!

Scriptures: *Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:14-17;*
John 14:8-17, 25-27



15th: Father's Day; Trinity Sunday; Peace with Justice Sunday.

Scriptures: *Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31; Psalm 8; Romans 5:1-5;*
John 14:8-17, 25-27

22nd: Scriptures: *1 Kings 19:1-15a; Psalm 42; Galatians 3:23-29;* *Luke 8:26-39*

29th: Graduate Sunday.

Scriptures: *2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20;*
Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62



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 CLASSES!!**

hoooray



BIBLE STUDY!



Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at NOON in the Parlor! To be ready to study ... bring your Bible! Hoping to see you in 2025! ~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 church for us to give to the food pantries! (**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 awesome! Thank you!!

2025 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

June 1: by **Larry & Iola Ballard** in celebration of **their 64th Wedding Anniversary!**
June 8: by **The Herndon Family** in memory of **Sam Herndon.**
June 15: by **Jim & Maggie Funke** in honor of **their Children & Grandchildren.**
June 22: by **Matthew & Tori Ludwig** in celebration of **their 9th Wedding Anniversary on June 18th!**
June 29: by **Vicki Graham** in memory of **her Husband, Les Graham.**



PLEASE, HELP TO FILL IN THE 2025 FLOWER CHART!

IMPORTANT: A lot of work will need to be done on our parking lot in the year or so ahead! Part is good enough to be sealed, but a large chunk of it needs to be replaced. If you would like to donate specifically to this work, designate any amount (small or large) to: **PARKING LOT WORK** and it will be held to pay for the work as it happens... Thank you for any extra you want to give!
-The Trustees-



Nightly Prayer Time On Youtube.com

Join in by going to youtube.com and searching for “East Alton First United Methodist Church”

Livestream begins at 4:45p.m. · Live program at 5p.m. NOTE: Check dates and check “live” for live worship. Held on Monday thru Thursday evenings most weeks!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

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

01-Jun Jansen Helmkamp

01-Jun Eric Scroggins

02-Jun Sarah Campbell

03-Jun Sarah Dawson

04-Jun Jon Birmingham

04-Jun Katie Lair

04-Jun Karen Roberts

04-Jun Jonathan Scroggins

05-Jun Jennifer Sandbach

06-Jun Donna Bailey

06-Jun Ruth Champlin

06-Jun Scott Cruthis

06-Jun Don Franklin

07-Jun Joyce Brueggeman

07-Jun Pastor Debra Hoertel

07-Jun Benson Friesse

08-Jun Vi Huebner

09-Jun Jimmy Bourne

09-Jun J.J. Burt Jr.

09-Jun Jacob Gwaltney

09-Jun Tori Standefer

10-Jun Aubrey Sandbach

10-Jun Olivia Virgin

10-Jun Claire McPheters

11-Jun Gary Hart

11-Jun Lindsey Jensen

12-Jun Debbie Bowman

12-Jun Cheryl Champa

12-Jun Deb Fansler

14-Jun Harper Herndon

14-Jun Dave Schiber

15-Jun Autumn Betts

15-Jun Ashley Sheppard

16-Jun Trista Liedtke

17-Jun Brianne Bourne

17-Jun Jenny Spurgeon

18-Jun Nicole Barnes

18-Jun Madelynn Cranmer

18-Jun Samantha Hermens

18-Jun August Suermann

18-Jun Xavier Vore

18-Jun Zoe Vore

19-Jun Dustin Caldwell

19-Jun Sydnie Yates

20-Jun Karen Martin

20-Jun Annie Redden

20-Jun Amie Tillery

20-Jun Abigail White

21-Jun Lawson Bell

22-Jun Ethan Virgin

23-Jun Wanda Graves

23-Jun John White

25-Jun Caden Clark

25-Jun Summer Standefer

25-Jun Steve Voorhees

27-Jun Jamie McLain

27-Jun Kaden Sandbach

28-Jun Katy Hoertel

30-Jun William Lair

30-Jun Sharon Szegedy

30-Jun Jeri Williams

happy
birthday

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES



07-Jun J.J. & Jackie Beth Burt

07-Jun John & Laurie Myers

08-Jun Brian & Chris Eyster

08-Jun Joe & Sherry Huff

09-Jun Terry & Sharon Inman

10-Jun Cory & Jackie Boeshans

10-Jun Richard & Vi Huebner

11-Jun Randy & Joyce Brueggeman

11-Jun Rick & Jeannie Huddleston

14-Jun Steve & Julie Natsch

17-Jun Jay & Tracy Bentley

20-Jun Neil & Jade Herndon

24-Jun Larry & Lola Ballard

25-Jun Matt & Cara Gwaltney

26-Jun Richard & Dell Demond

26-Jun Mike & Teresa Toner

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 will soon begin the process of completing a new Church Directory! **Please, check the Workbook in the Entryway once it is available!** Thank you for your help!



MAY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	5/1/2025 thru 5/31/2025	\$12315.50
Designated Giving:	5/1/2025 thru 5/31/2025	1683.28
	Capital Improvements	200.00
	Loose Change	67.28
	Flowers	20.00
	Trustees Emerg. Res. Fund	0.00
	Upper Room	1.00
	Helping Hands	50.00
	Parking Lot Work	400.00
	Women of Worship	0.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	0.00
	Memorials	945.00
Online Giving		351.50
Total:		\$14350.28

**DEADLINE FOR
JULY 2025
STEEPLE,
Friday, JUNE 20th!**

We are living in a time where
Satan doesn't even hide
anymore, and the
world still can't see him.

1 PETER 5:8



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!



MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

June's Loose Change Project is the Happy Bear Project for our church. Members of the church make bears that are given to Alton Memorial Hospital. These are then offered to children in pediatrics and/or coming through the emergency room in a time of crisis. The bears provide security and comfort for the children.

May God bless your gifts!



We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



James David “Jim” Stewart, Sr. (98) passed away on May 5, 2025, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, IL in hospice care after a brief illness having lived an incredibly full life. Jim was born August 14, 1926, at his family home in East Saint Louis, IL to Mary (Goss) Stewart & Edward B. Stewart. He grew up in East St Louis and often spoke of his friends there and helping his grandma, Emma Goss, with yard work and stoking her wood stove.

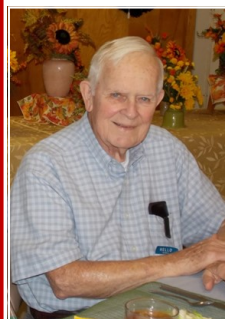
After graduating from East St Louis High School in 1944, Jim passed up an appointment to the US Naval Academy and enlisted in the Navy. He served as a radioman on the USS Comet, a troop transport, in the South Pacific. On Jim’s 19th birthday, while in the Port of Seattle, Japan surrendered, and the war was over.

Jim was accepted at the University of Illinois, but when he found out he would be housed on a cot under the bleachers in the gymnasium, he enrolled at Shurtleff College in Alton, IL, where he met Anna Mae Smith of Wood River, IL. They were married on November 3, 1950, in Wood River. Jim graduated from Washington University in 1952.

After college, Jim went to work as a laborer at the Sinclair refinery in Wood River. He worked in the refinery for Sinclair, Clark Oil, and subsequent owners until he retired in 1991 as personnel manager. While working shift work at the refinery, he built his own home in rural Fort Russell Township, doing most of the work himself. He was able to stay in that home for the rest of his life. That property supported a small herd of cattle and a long line of really good dogs.



Vacation time was traveling with the family to National Parks and National Forests, tent camping, and later with a pickup camper. The family traveled to the Smoky Mountains, Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone, Glacier, Olympic, and Acadia National Parks and drove the Alaska Highway in the camper. Jim loved to travel. Jim & Anna Mae traveled the world seeing all seven continents and forty-nine of fifty states.



Jim’s family joined St Paul United Methodist Church on June 7, 1959, and he was very active in the church. Jim & Anna Mae were square dancers. Jim was a popular square dance caller around the region. He taught square dance lessons in his basement, and he cut two square dance records. He was a private pilot and aircraft owner. He was an active Rotarian and a Paul Harris Fellow. He was a Master Gardener. He was an avid golfer and aced #12 at Belk Park on two different occasions.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Mary & Edward Stewart and his brother Robert E. Stewart of Shreveport, LA.

He is survived by his wife of 74 years, Anna Mae (Smith) Stewart, daughter Deborah Stewart of Champaign, IL, son David (J.D. Stewart, Jr.) & Kim of Casper, WY. There are 7 grandchildren: Rachel (Kelly) McPheters, Sarah (Peter) Laufersweiler, Andrew (Kiersten) Stewart, Charles Stewart, Ian Anderson, Lisa Stewart & Emily Stewart. There are 5 great grandchildren: Logan, William, and David Laufersweiler, and Grace and Claire McPheters. We will miss Jim, Dad, Grampy, G Pa, Pop, and we will celebrate his life with some sadness for his passing and some joy for a life well-lived. Pray for the family...



2025 Annual Conference June 5-7, 2025

Pastor Ed and Dennis Tuchalski will be going to Peoria for the conference this year. Please, pray for all that will be accomplished at this important event.



SALM 37:7,8

"BE STILL BEFORE THE LORD
AND WAIT PATIENTLY FOR
HIM; DO NOT FRET WHEN
MEN SUCCEED IN THEIR EVIL
WAYS, WHEN THEY CARRY
OUT THEIR WICKED SCHEMES.
REFRAIN FROM ANGER
AND TURN FROM WRATH;
DO NOT FRET - IT LEADS
ONLY TO EVIL."



**MMDC collection in
Peoria! Bring items to the
church by Tues., June 3rd!**

Attendees to the 2025 Annual Conference are urged to have congregations collect items for the Midwest Mission Distribution Center. Supplies can be collected and brought to Annual Conference. Items most needed are:

**Liquid laundry detergent,
bottle sized 100-150 oz.**

**Liquid Dish soap,
bottle sized 42-64 oz.**

**Liquid Household Cleaner,
bottle sized 56-80 oz. (no spray)**

**5 Gallon Round Buckets with
Resealable Lids**

ALSO: Washcloths & handtowels,
bar soap 3-4 oz., lotion 8-10 oz.,
boxes of one gallon resealable
bags, scrub brush... also new or
gently used non-kit items: canes,
crutches, foldable walkers, and
reusable day / night pads.
Monetary donations are always
welcome.

Please, place them on or under
the table across from the food drive
table! Thank you for any help you
can offer!



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

**THE YOUTH GROUP WILL BE ON HOLD UNTIL WE HIRE A
NEW YOUTH DIRECTOR.**



**THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2025 HAS JUST A VERY FEW
SPOTS LEFT IN **SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, &
DECEMBER!** PLEASE, HELP FINISH FILLING IT!**



**PLEASE
HELP US
HELP YOU!**

*Hospice...
Hospital...
Nursing/Care Center...*

Whenever you or a member of your family enters the hospital, rehab/care/nursing center, or hospice, you need to call the Pastor or the Church Office (and make sure we know the person's official name). None of the area institutions will notify the church when you enter their facility due to privacy laws (a few exceptions). We want to reach out to you at a time when you and your family may need it the most. Your call may be the only way for us to know of the situation.

Thank you for your help!



**2025
STEWARDSHIP**

→ REMEMBER YOUR GIVING!

...to keep the ministry of St.

**Paul UMC growing; a ministry which is
needed now more than ever! Thank you!!**



PECANS

BUY NOW!!

Regular 1lb. bag = \$12


Chocolate-covered 1lb. bag = \$12

**I AM
A CHILD
OF GOD**
JOHN 1:12



Faith is not about
everything turning
out okay.

Faith is about being
okay no matter how
things turn out.


“An eclipse is a cosmic reminder that the universe is not a random collection of matter and events that happened by chance. The cosmos is so finely tuned that we can know precisely where every heavenly body will be 200 years from now, down to the minute. These events remind us that the universe is not an accident, and neither are we. God made both, and He is in control.”

—R. L. Solberg

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

PROVERBS 3:5

Blessed
to be a
Blessing