



The Steeple

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

AUGUST 2025



To the People of St. Paul United Methodist Church,

In the Gospel of **John 16:33** it says:

33 "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation but take courage; I have overcome the world."

I'd like to share with you a short devotion from **In Touch Ministries** that spoke to my heart today. I hope that it will encourage you as well. It reads:

"Some people have the wrong idea about the Christian life. Once they become believers, they expect everything to be smooth sailing. Yet Jesus made it clear that troubles are inevitable, even for God's children (**John 16:33**). His own life was no exception.

So, even as His followers, we can expect difficulty, though the causes of tribulation differ with each circumstance. Some problems arise from the fallen nature of the world, while others result from ignorance, sin, or poor decisions. There's also another possibility—sometimes God Himself allows trials. While this last option is hard to accept during painful times, we should remember the Lord never permits hardship unless He has a beautiful purpose for it. And He promises to give us strength to endure.

That's why, when we encounter struggles, it's essential for us to remember that they can ultimately be for our benefit. Perhaps they are intended to purify and grow us. Maybe God's purpose is to test our endurance and devotion, strengthening our trust. Or He might be revealing His sustaining power. This side of heaven, we may never know the cause, but we can trust the Lord's character and ability to deliver us. What trials are you facing? Jesus understands your pain and longs to be the One you cling to in both good times and bad."

When I read this, the Lord settled my heart. I know about the challenges of life, but when it directly involves you, your panic button gets pressed, and you go into survival mode as if there was no one to turn to but yourself. That's a big mistake. I am a child of God and my Savior is just a prayer away. I am assured of the presence of the Lord through the Holy Spirit that continues to teach me to stand strong with my Faith in Christ Jesus alone.

Psalm 23:4 says, ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

And that promise is more than enough for me. I pray as we go through the 2nd half of 2025, you and I will rely on the power of God and declare to the world His glory, honor, and majesty forever. Take courage, Christ has overcome the world. Have a great month of August and to God be the glory. Amen.



**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'S!

- **Our deepest sympathy** goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family & friends of **Leroy Johnson (90)**, friend of Lois Mitchell from the First Baptist Church of East Alton and **Shirley Schumacher (86)**, neighbor of Lois Mitchell and Ruth Bell since 1967. **May everyone who is touched by loss know God's peace through it all.**

THANK YOU! St. Paul UMC...Your Kindness Means The World To Me! Thank you for the gift card and recognition at church for my graduation! *-Sincerely, Harper Herndon*

THANK YOU! St. Paul UMC...Thank you so much for supporting campers! We appreciate you letting us use the bus! *-From East Alton First United Methodist Church: Debbie P., Debra Hoertel, Debbie, Sarah Lee, Linda S., Arlene, Carolyn, Mark Hines, Carla, and Pastor Ed!*



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...this will look different each week while we are 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!!



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

8:45 a.m.

CONTINUES!

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



* SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION *

Each year in August the Outreach Ministry Team sponsors the collection of school supplies. **This year it begins August 3rd and continues through August 24th.** This is so school supplies can be distributed to the children right after 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 24th.

2025 FALL FESTIVAL

Coming Saturday, October 18th!
Lunch AND Dinner will be served!

We wanted to let you know now so you could be planning on the date and the week before when we will need some help! Be sure to write it down on your calendar that it will be on a SATURDAY this year! We are going to give it a try and see how it works on that day!

AUGUST OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

August 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

August 6, 13, 20, 27 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

August 1, 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29 = 10:00a.m. to 2 or 3:00p.m.

ON August 14 GONE FROM 11:15a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH MEETING



St. Paul Sunday Service in **AUGUST** 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 **LIVESTREAMED** 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!

3rd: Outdoor Worship in the Park Continues! Communion Sunday. Hickerson Scholarship Sunday!

Scriptures: *Hosea 11:1-11; Psalm 107:1-9, 43;*
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21



10th: Scriptures: *Isaiah 1:1, 10-20; Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23;*
Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40

17th: Scriptures: *Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19; Hebrews 11:29-12:2;*
Luke 12:49-56

24th: Scriptures: *Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; Hebrews 12:18-29;*
Luke 13:10-17

31st: Community B-B-Q 3p.m. & Concert 5p.m. in the Park & Amphitheater!
Scriptures: *Jeremiah 2:4-13; Psalm 81:1, 10-16; Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16;*
Luke 14:1, 7-14

THEY ARE BACK!

Adult Classes

- ⇒ Wesley Sunday School Class
- ⇒ Adult Bible Study Sunday School Class

**ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 3rd THE
TWO CLASSES ARE BACK IN
SESSION! IF YOU HAVEN'T BEEN
COMING THIS MIGHT BE A REALLY
GREAT TIME TO START!**



BIBLE STUDY! **(New Time)**



Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 11a.m. 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:

Aug 3: by **Shelley Heigert** in celebration of her Son, Joshua Gore's birthday!

Also: by **Martha Raby** in celebration of her Husband, Rayford's birthday!

Aug 10: by **John & Leona Hendricks** in celebration of their 48th Wedding Anniversary!

Aug 17: by **The Herndon Family** in memory of **Mary Herndon**.

Aug 24: by **The Kainz Family** in memory of **Bill & Jan Pullen**.

Also: by **The Gwaltney Family** in celebration of **Scott & Jamie's 40th Wedding Anniversary!**

Aug 31: by **Tom & Karen Martin** in honor of their 4 Grandsons!



THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2025 HAS ONE SUNDAY EACH REMAINING IN **OCTOBER & NOVEMBER! PLEASE, HELP FINISH FILLING IT IN!**

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!



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
 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	26-Aug Teri Sabo, RN
15-Aug Chandra Redden	26-Aug Terry Sitze
16-Aug Ryne Emerick	27-Aug Keith Armon
16-Aug Stephanie Redden	27-Aug Logan Scroggins
17-Aug Andrea Reed	28-Aug Noël Schiber
17-Aug Tracy Scoggins	29-Aug Doug Clouatre
19-Aug Chance Foss	29-Aug Danny Redden
20-Aug Leta Harshbarger	29-Aug Joanna Scroggins
20-Aug JoAnn Hill	29-Aug Lori Seba
20-Aug Gracie Mortland	30-Aug Karah Phelps
22-Aug Brooke Standefer	31-Aug Mike Scroggins
23-Aug Carol Carn	31-Aug Juliana Sullivan
23-Aug Dave Herndon	
24-Aug Michael Scroggins	
25-Aug Lauren Friese	
25-Aug Emily Hall	
25-Aug Bethany Rain	



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

06-Aug Duane & Sandy Moore
 10-Aug Rod & Virginia Croxford
 12-Aug Randy & Mindy McLain
 12-Aug Evan & Lori Hutson
 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
 29-Aug George & Grace Keagle
 30-Aug David & Lisa Betts

WE NEED UPDATES FOR THE 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! Thank you for your help!



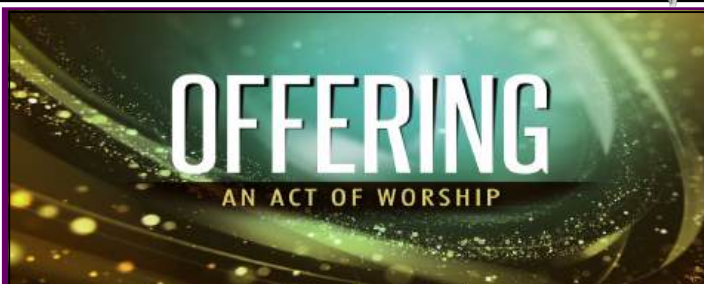
JULY Stewardship

Budget Offering:	7/1/2025 thru 7/31/2025	\$10881.00
Designated Giving:	7/1/2025 thru 7/31/2025	765.58
	Capital Improvements	275.00
	Loose Change	105.58
	Flowers	31.00
	Trustees Emerg. Res. Fund	75.00
	Happy Bears	0.00
	Helping Hands	0.00
	Parking Lot Work	275.00
	Upper Room	4.00
Online Giving		351.50
Total:		\$11998.08

**DEADLINE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2025
STEEPLE,
Tuesday, AUGUST
19th!**



**CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
ON LABOR DAY, SEPT. 1st!**



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!

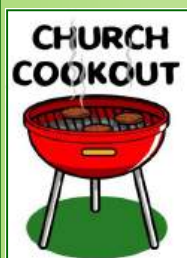


MONTHLY LOOSE CHANGE PROJECT

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!



Sunday, August 31st



**We are hosting a B-B-Q
and a Concert!**



Please, help us with the picnic meal! 😊

There will be a donation sign-up list available Aug. 3rd! It will look like the ones we have posted in the past for VBS and Easter Basket items. It will follow us inside or outside (wherever we worship each Sunday) and be sitting on an easel so that you can take off post-its and sign-up your name for what you can help with. Throughout the week it will be sitting inside in the hallway. We are purchasing the meats to B-B-Q. Your help will be in filling out the rest of the meal and whatever you can do, it will be greatly appreciated! 😊

Also, if you are willing to help make a dessert at the church on Sat., Aug. 30th please, call Leona Hendricks at 618-823-1114 for information. We will need 8 or 9 more desserts than what is already planned. These desserts will be made on site as per Health Department requirements.

So, thank you for your help! --- Now, let's have a picnic!!! 😊

The kinds of items that you will find on the list are:

chips (a variety of kinds), #10 cans of baked beans, watermelon, veggie trays, hotdog & hamburger buns, beverages (soda, water), condiments, etc.



St. Paul United Methodist Church--
Corner of Airline Dr. & Center St., Rosewood Heights
invites you to join us for a:



**COMMUNITY
BAR-B-QUE**



& CONCERT WITH...



This ALL Happens on

Sunday, August 31st

in the church's PARK and AMPHITHEATER!

BBQ at 3:00p.m.

Concert at 5:00p.m.



IT IS COMING!
Put this on your calendar
now! Bring your family
and friends!



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

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

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 = **\$10**
Chocolate-covered 1lb. bag = **\$10**



**I AM NOT IN
CONTROL**

**BUT I AM
DEEPLY LOVED
BY THE ONE WHO IS**

Whenever
you or a
member of
your family
enters the
hospital,
rehab/
care/



**PLEASE
HELP US
HELP YOU!**

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

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!



Sweet Sounds News!

Sweet Sounds is hosting an Ice Cream Social for all present, past, and possible new members for the fall. If you have been thinking of joining us, come and meet the gang AND enjoy ice cream with all the toppings on Friday, August 8th at 2:00p.m. in the church Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there!



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 on September 5! 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!

"Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching."

— C.S. Lewis

Go make stuff today.

Make coffee.
Make a ruckus.
Make a difference.
Make a memory.
Make time for
someone or something you love.
The world needs makers.



Nanea Hoffman