



# The Steeple

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

**NOVEMBER 2025**



**To the People of St. Paul United Methodist Church,**

**Hebrews 4:14-15**

**14 Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.**

**15 For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but ONE who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.**

The Love and Grace of our Lord be upon you this November. This month is packed with a lot of great memorials and Thanksgivings. Veteran's Day is on Nov. 11th, Thanksgiving is on the last Thursday-the 27th, National Native-American Heritage Month is Nov.; it will include the start of Advent, and the end of Daylight Saving Time. But in November, American Diabetes Month and Epilepsy Awareness Month have also been declared to raise our attention and understanding; for I am sure many lives were cut short due to these illnesses and stress-related causes.

We are grateful to God; that His leading has been a blessing and great encouragement. There are not enough words to describe our gratitude and praise to the God of heaven and earth through Jesus Christ our Savior. Indeed, we have the Great High Priest who was willing to give everything to the point of death, which is His greatest sacrifice and love for the godly, even to the ungodly. So, I'd like to share with you one of my morning devotions to let all of you know how good our God is. From "**In Touch Ministries**," they wrote, and I quote:

**"We often try to comfort others who are going through a difficult time. But on occasion, our attempts to console create even more pain. Well-intentioned words like "You're in my thoughts and prayers" or even "I understand" may feel empty to those who are struggling—unless we have endured something similar. We all long to feel understood, and today's passage reassures us that our Savior truly sympathizes because He experienced struggles like ours.**

The writer of Hebrews refers to Jesus as our High Priest. Each year the man serving in this capacity would enter the Holy of Holies and, in God's presence, offer a sacrifice for sin. The priest was the Jewish people's bridge to God. Christ not only took on this role, but He Himself also became the sacrifice when He died on the cross. Now He sits at the right hand of the Father in heaven and intercedes on our behalf ([Hebrews 1:2-4](#); [Hebrews 7:25](#)).

That is tremendously encouraging, but even more than that; we know Jesus truly understands our pain and our weakness. He faced the very temptations, needs, and hurts we experience. If you feel alone in the hardships you're facing, recall Jesus' trials and hurts. You'll find comfort knowing that the One who loves you beyond all measure understands *exactly* how you feel."

Praise be to God in Christ. Have a meaningful November!  
Happy Veteran's Day and Happy Thanksgiving to all.

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

**In Christ Alone, *Edward Granadosin***

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





## OUR CHURCH FAMILY & THANK YOUS!

- **Our deepest sympathy** goes out to each family that has recently lost a loved one. This includes the family & friends of **Eugene Raymond “Ray” Babcock Jr. (68)**, son of Gene & the late Shirley Babcock, **brother** of Mike Babcock, Donna Bailey, Debbie Green, and Sandy Harlan, **father** of Ashley, Felecia, and Tyler (see obit page 3); **Ann Symons (64)**, daughter of Ruth (and the late Roland) Rawson; and **Lisa Hull (67)**, sister and sister-in-law of Ricci (Mike) Voorhees. **May everyone who is touched by loss know God’s peace through it all.**



- **Congratulations to Sydney Martin & Sean Pontow** who were married on October 4, 2025.

Sydney is the daughter of Ian & Tamera Martin and has been a member of St. Paul UMC since April 14, 2013. May God fill their home with His love and peace as they journey on together! (See Photo ←)

**ENJOY!!**



## PECANS

**START COMING IN  
NOVEMBER!**

Regular 1lb. bag = **\$12** [Here!](#)  
Chocolate-covered 1lb. bag = **\$12**



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 after the Children's Moment...See you on Sundays!

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

**WE HOPE YOU ARE AS EXCITED AS WE ARE!!**





## We Say Goodbye To Our Dear Friend...



**Eugene Raymond "Ray" Babcock Jr., 68**, passed away at 4:28a.m. on Friday, October 3, 2025, at Alton Memorial Hospital. He was born on May 21, 1957, in Quonset Point, RI, the son of Gene Ray Babcock, Sr. of Bethalto, and the late Shirley (David) Babcock. In addition to his dad, Ray is survived by two daughters and sons-in-law: Ashley & Ross Williams of Kansas City, MO, Felecia & Roger Ernst of Edwardsville, a son: Tyler Babcock of Dorsey, four grandchildren: Gabriella, Elliana, Lincoln, L.T., three sisters and brothers-in-law: Donna & John Bailey of Bethalto, Debbie & Kevin Green of Channahon, IL, Sandy & Jay Harlan of Bethalto, a brother and sister-in-law: Mike & Carol Babcock of Bethalto, his girlfriend: Andrianna Argyropoulos of Moro, many nieces, nephews, and other extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his mom.

Ray was formerly employed at Great Central Lumber and was a contractor by trade. He was a jack of all trades, enjoyed history, enjoyed collecting coins as well as other antiques, writing poems, and was a published author. He loved reading his Bible, loved God, painting, baseball, softball, and Raiders football. He formerly delivered Meals on Wheels during the Thanksgiving season. He was a member of St. Paul United Methodist Church of Rosewood Heights.

Please, remember this family in your prayers as they journey on without Ray.

## 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](http://www.stpaulwired.org) (if possible) and on our Facebook page (St. Paul United Methodist-East Alton IL)**
- ✂ **contact those on the e-mail prayer chain (if possible)**

## NOVEMBER OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change):

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

November 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

November 5, 12, 19, 26 (at 1p.m.) = Office Closed for regular Wednesday week day off

November 6-7, 13-14, 20-21 = 10:00a.m. to 2 or 3:00p.m.

**ON November 11 GONE FROM 11:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR WOW LUNCH MEETING HERE.**

**ON November 13 GONE FROM 11:15a.m. to 1:00p.m. FOR LUNCH MEETING AWAY.**

➔ **ON November 26 at 1p.m. Office Closed through November 27 for Thanksgiving.**

**ON November 28 Office is Closed - Vacation Day!**



## St. Paul Sunday Service in **NOVEMBER** 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!



### **2nd: All Saints Sunday. Communion. Daylight Saving Time Ends.**

Scriptures: *Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; Psalm 119:137-144; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10*



### **9th: Veteran's Sunday.** Scriptures: *Habakkuk 1:15b-2:9; Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38*

### **16th:** Scriptures: *Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12; 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19*

### **23rd: Christ The King/Reign Of Christ Sunday. Thanksgiving Sunday. Bounty Sunday.** We will bless all of the many things that we have given so far in 2025! Scriptures: *Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 1:68-79; Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43*



### **27th: THANKSGIVING DAY!**



### **30th: First Sunday Of Advent. UM Student Sunday.** Scriptures: *Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44*



**Thank you to everyone who was able to order their poinsettias by the "really early" October 5th date. If you missed it we did order 2 or 3 extras in case you want to be included! Please, call the church office ASAP!**



### **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 A CLASS!!**



### **BIBLE STUDY!**

Bible Study on Tuesdays at **11a.m.** in the Parlor! **NO Bible Study on Nov. 11th OR all of December!**

~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:

**Nov 2:** by **Jim & Maggie Funke** in celebration of **Jim’s Birthday!**

**Nov 9:** by **Shelley Heigert** in celebration of **Kya’s Birthday!**

**Nov 16:** by \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Nov 23:** by **Jim & Anita Dawson** in celebration of **their 60th Wedding Anniversary!**

**Nov 30:** by **Donna Badman** in memory of **her parents’, Charles & Irene McKean,** birthdays.



**THE 2026 FLOWER CHART WILL BE POSTED BY THE LAST SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER...NOVEMBER 30th...OR BY DECEMBER 7th! START THINKING ON WHAT DATES YOU MIGHT WANT TO FILL!**

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*

© Sweatpants And Coffee, LLC 2018







## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

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

01-Nov Richard Demond  
01-Nov Kyle Norris  
02-Nov Larry Ballard  
03-Nov Monna Bishop  
04-Nov Maximus Justice  
05-Nov Raegan Martin  
05-Nov Amber McCammon  
06-Nov Karen Hatten  
06-Nov Brett Huff  
06-Nov Madelaine Ramirez  
06-Nov Morgann Ramirez  
06-Nov Lilly Shaffer  
07-Nov Corinne Crandall  
07-Nov Courtney Dorsey  
08-Nov Donna Badman  
08-Nov Christopher Ricketts  
09-Nov Caroline Crandall  
11-Nov Julie Brown  
11-Nov Bill Crain Jr.  
12-Nov Daniel Jensen Jr.

12-Nov Charlie Sparling  
13-Nov Charles McKnelly  
14-Nov Jim Funke  
14-Nov Julie Natsch  
15-Nov Cathy Dorsey  
15-Nov Steve Natsch  
17-Nov Kristi Ward  
18-Nov Ashley Williams  
18-Nov Heather McCammon  
19-Nov Nathan Chester  
21-Nov Emma Martin  
21-Nov Jason Ortegren  
22-Nov Ryleigh Spurgeon  
25-Nov Jill Taylor-Sullivan  
26-Nov Emma Wood  
27-Nov Paul Mormino  
27-Nov Greg Mortland

28-Nov Dan Davis  
29-Nov Jacob Crews  
30-Nov Sam Brown  
30-Nov Adyson Bunt  
30-Nov Dot Elliott  
30-Nov Rachel McPheters



## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

01-Nov Mark & Debbie Bacus  
01-Nov Douglas & Susan Phelps  
02-Nov Brian & Caroline Fuentes  
03-Nov Mickey & Cathy Dorsey  
05-Nov Daniel Jr. & Lindsey Jensen  
07-Nov Mike & Bobbie Jean Schlemer  
11-Nov Josh & Jordan Brown  
18-Nov Ian & Tamera Martin

23-Nov Allan & Kyle Napp  
26-Nov Jim & Anita Dawson  
29-Nov Mike & Ricci Voorhees



## 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!



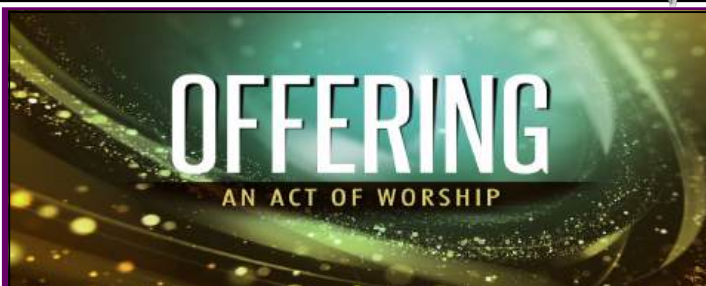
## OCTOBER Stewardship

Budget Offering:	10/1/2025 thru 10/31/2025	\$14,129.50
Designated Giving:	10/1/2025 thru 10/31/2025	1,642.52
	Capital Improvements	75.00
	Loose Change	53.52
	Flowers	182.00
	Pastor Appreciation	40.00
	Helping Hands	150.00
	Memorials	235.00
	Parking Lot Work	600.00
	World Communion Offering	85.00
	Upper Room Donations	12.00
	Reimbursement	40.00
	Coats 4 Kids	170.00
Online Giving		351.50
Total:		\$16,123.52

**DEADLINE FOR  
DECEMBER 2025  
STEEPLE,  
Monday, November  
17th!**

When you *keep praising*,  
you remind your soul that  
*God is still in control.*

*"I will bless the Lord at all times;  
His praise shall continually be in  
my mouth." — Psalm 34:1*



**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

**The November Loose Change Project** is the **Mid-West Mission Distribution Center** in Chatham, IL. This is a United Methodist warehouse/depot out of which materials and supplies are distributed throughout the United States and the world at times of natural and man-made disasters. May God bless and multiply your gifts!



Thank You!

# 2025 FALL FESTIVAL

**THANK YOU:** The **Women of Worship** send a super big thank you to everyone who helped with the **FALL FESTIVAL** in any way! Working, donating, buying, cooking, cleaning up, etc. It is all important, necessary, and you were wonderful! Approximately **\$3924.57** was raised so far (with more coming in as crafts continue to be sold and this month we will start selling pecans)! Thank you doesn't seem like enough but it is what we have to give...God Bless you all for what you do to make this event even possible!

Women of Worship  
W.O.W.

WOW Fall  
Festival  
Evaluation  
Meeting

Tues., Nov. 11  
At 11a.m.

FOLLOWED BY  
LUNCH FOR YOU!



**Christmas Party  
Potluck 2025**

**Tuesday, December 2nd 11:30a.m.**

**Potluck – bring your favorite dish of food!**

**And socks & underwear for the Cap 'N Mitten Tree!**

**We will disburse our 2025 funds.**

**ALL St. Paul women are welcome!**



## THE ST. PAUL SINGERS!

**Something old that is new again!**

We have been invited to sing **Christmas Carols** at the **East Alton Museum** on **Saturday, Dec. 6** as part of the Annual East Alton Christmas event. We would love to have several folks join in the singing for this...we will meet at St. Paul UMC at 3p.m. on Dec. 6 and warm-up until 3:30p.m. We will then get on the van and head to the museum and to our parking spot! We will sing from 4-6p.m. and then we will pick a place nearby to enjoy a meal together before going back to the church! For more information please, call the church office at **618-259-5210** or call Maggie Funke, **618-259-9490!**





**\* 2025 STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFTS! \***

We are now starting to collect toward the 2025 Staff Christmas Gifts thru Sunday, December 14th.

**8:45a.m. service – give your gifts to Becky Tuchalski, Joyce Brueggeman, Deb Mayer, or Jayme Scroggins!**

**You may also mail or bring your gift to the office during the week!**

**If using a check, mark on memo as: Staff Christmas Gift**

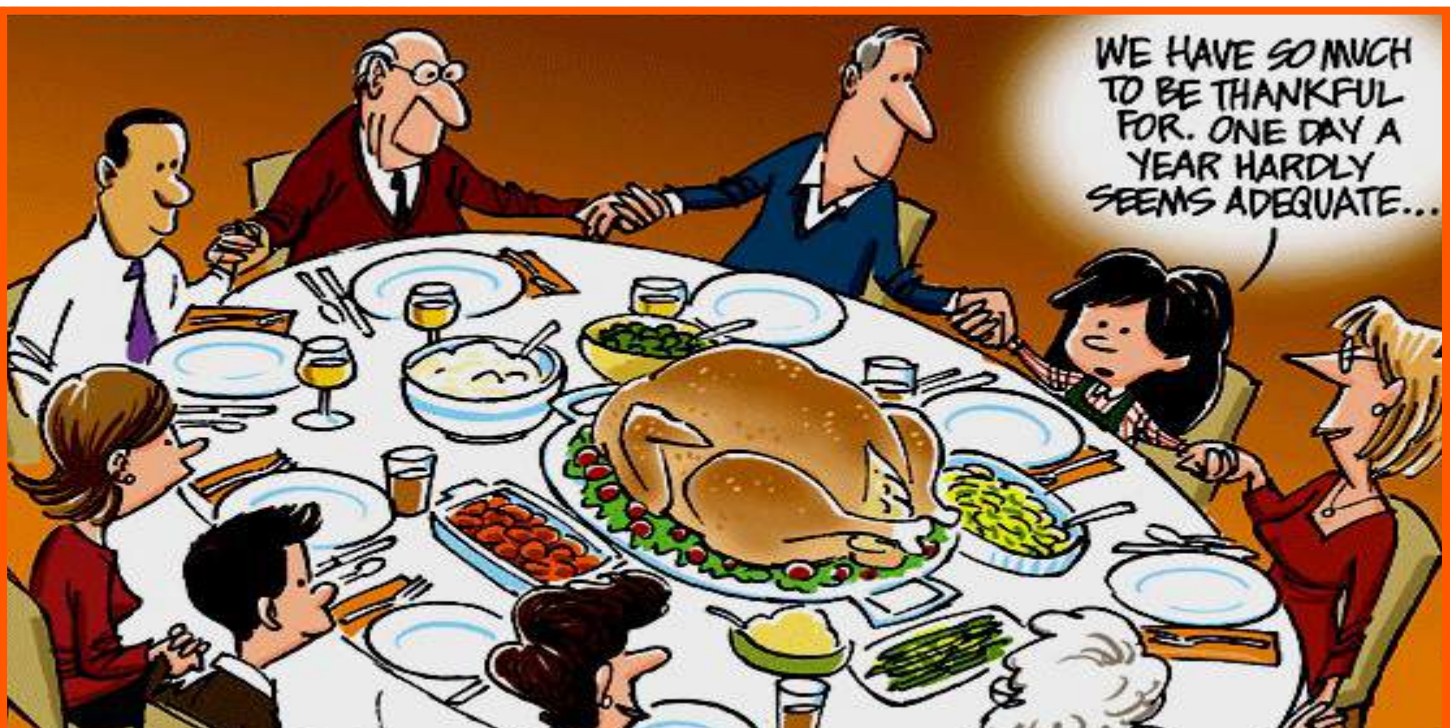
Find *joy* in every day, not because life is always good but because **God is.**



For the Lord your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs. Zephaniah 3:17



No Perfect Church, No Perfect Family, No Perfect People, But we have a Perfect **God.** Amen.



**Happy Thanksgiving Everyone! Nov. 27**



## Annual Coats 4 Kids Drive



It is time to collect donations for the **Riverbend Head Start & Family Services** so they can buy new & used, coats & shoes for the children they work with. We do this in the fall. This year, they have indicated that they still prefer to receive monetary donations. For us, the drive goes from Sept. 28 thru Nov. 2. 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**



## Outreach FOR Christmas

The **Student Councils of Roxana Jr. & Sr. High Schools** are preparing to host their **29th Annual Community Christmas for Kids**.

**What Is Needed:** **monetary donations** (average cost per child is **\$35**). Make checks out to the **"RCUSD Student Councils"** and place it in an envelope marked

**RHS Kids Christmas** and give it to the church office or put it in the offering plate.

**We need the donations by Nov. 16th.**

**Your generosity is always appreciated!**

**IMPORTANT:** A lot of work will need to be done on our parking lot in the year or so ahead! A large chunk of it needs to be replaced. If you would like to donate 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-**

## SEASONAL ITEMS! THANKSGIVING and CHRISTMAS ITEMS!



There are still several beautiful decorations and possible gifts available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall. Please, remember to go see if anything is what you are looking for or is the perfect gift to give. You may even come during the week to check it all out!

**-Women Of Worship-**







**Thursday, November 13th & 20th  
9:00a.m. - Noon**

**Come to the Fellowship Hall and shop  
for those seasonal and  
holiday items!**



**Everyone is  
welcomed to come  
help the Worship  
Ministry Team  
decorate the church  
for Christmas on  
Saturday,  
November 29th  
from 9 a.m. - Noon!**

## **Cap 'N Mitten Tree 2025**



**NOV. 2nd - DEC. 7th!**



There is a "Thanksgiving Offering" envelope in with your regular envelopes. As you plan what to give for a "Thanksgiving Offering," you may choose to designate it for a missionary, a mission project, or any local church fund. You may also leave it "undesignated."

This year the **undesignated monies** will go:

**50% to the COMMUNITY HOPE CENTER**  
**and 50% to the RIVERBEND FAMILY MINISTRIES.**

We thank you in advance for giving!

