



The Steeple

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

AUGUST 2026



To the People of St. Paul United Methodist Church,

Psalm 91:4

⁴He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart.

May love and grace be upon you all this new month of August!

We are indeed blessed that the Lord has allowed us to survive over half of 2026. It is still going to be an exciting 2nd half. So, let us welcome this month with a big praise to our Lord. I'd like us to see and understand Psalm 91:4. And my study said that Moses had something to do about it. Well, that was the whole of Chapter 91. But if you think more deeply about the great Prophet Moses, to be called by God to lead almost over a million people, to be uprooted and rescued from the hand of the Egyptian tyrants, specifically Pharaoh, ask yourself, where would the servant of God Moses get his divine wisdom and leadership? It is true, although he was a Hebrew man, he too was rescued by an Egyptian royalty, from the killings of infants declared by the reigning Egyptian ruler at the time. Reason: Pharaoh Seti ordered the drowning of Hebrew baby boys because their rapidly growing population made him fear a rebellion or an alliance with Egypt's enemies. He sought to control the enslaved Hebrew population and cripple their future military strength. Moses was spared. He lived his life as a prince of Egypt, so you can imagine the training he had. But I believe that was not enough. And so, we read this passage in Psalm 91 confirming his reliance on the one true God of the universe to cover him with HIS protection, metaphorically speaking... God's feathers or wings. God's faithfulness was Moses' shield and fortification. Without God's Almighty power safeguarding Moses' impossible task, Moses would not have survived his mission.

This passage indeed would be a strong encouragement for all of us. Our lives, fully committed to the life and love of Christ, must be fortified as well. God's faithfulness, HIS enormous wings that can deflect any fiery arrows of the enemy, will never be penetrated through its shield-like defense and safety. We, like Moses and all who have gone ahead in the faith, must remain committed and cling to the power of the Holy Spirit in Christ Jesus. God our Father yearns for His children to depend on Him especially in these trying times. We can easily be persuaded by frustration, disappointments, fear, hopelessness, and anxiety if we depend on ourselves and others. But in the Lord, Psalm 91 would be our armor, and no one, not anything, can ever defeat God, for the Lord's might and sovereignty shall be our strength. This August, there will be more challenges. But Jesus said in **John 16:33** ... ³³ ***These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.***

God bless, and to God be the glory. Amen.

**Blessings to all and until the next issue -
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 **Connie Hall (73)**, daughter of the late Margie Hall, mother of Bill Hall and Abbie Hall, and niece of Dorothy Kasinger and Ruth Champlin. **May everyone who is touched by loss know God's peace.**
- **Congratulations!** **Stephanie Redden & Michael Huber** were married on July 17! (See the photo -->)

THANK YOU: Thank you so very much for all of your prayers while Team Honduras was in Honduras to serve, minister, work hard, and be a blessing! Your prayers made a huge difference. Also, thank you for the wonderful supply of toothbrushes and toothpastes that you collected for us to take along. You are all so amazing! **-Pastor Deb & Joe Hoertel**



THANK YOU: Thank you to Mike Tappy who did such a wonderful job of painting the roof hatch and the front sign! Thank you to John Hendricks who painted the conduit in the Sanctuary so it would not be so noticeable. Thank you to absolutely everyone who has put in time, thought, hard work, and prayers concerning the TV/AV Sanctuary Project this year. We are in the final stretch and you all helped to make it happen! **-St. Paul Board Of Trustees**



THANK YOU: To St. Paul United Methodist Church...Thank you to everyone for your support! For Best Birthday Wishes and support for our mom's 100th Birthday Party at the church on July 12, 2026. Everyone was so helpful and nice...it made the celebration one to remember! Thank you for the cards and the gifts. (See the photo -->)



-Sincerely, Ruth Rawson Family



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

8:45 a.m.

CONTINUES - WEATHER PERMITTING

(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 2nd and continues through August 30th.** This is so school supplies can be distributed to the children as 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 on the table** 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 30th.

TV / AV SANCTUARY PROJECT

On Saturday, July 25th, the church project related to new visual worship experiences was completed with a combination of Trustees and friends. **Thank you to all** who have worked on this project, especially Mark Mayer who along with Zach Lasbury engineered the work. Those participating in the final completion with the mounting of televisions were: Chris, Karen, & Lincoln (chief photographer and vacuum man)

Challandes; Matthew Ludwig; Randy McLain; John & Leona Hendricks; Steve Campbell; Mark Mayer; Scott Gwaltney; and Jim Herndon. Congratulations to all as we seek to expand our visual worship of our Lord & Savior Jesus Christ.





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 **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!



2nd: Outdoor Worship in the Park continues! 10th Sunday after Pentecost! Communion Today. Hickerson Scholarship Sunday.

Scriptures: *Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21*

9th: 11th Sunday after Pentecost! Scriptures: *Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15; Matthew 14:22-33*

16th: 12th Sunday after Pentecost! Scriptures: *Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28*

23rd: 13th Sunday after Pentecost!

Scriptures: *Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20*

23rd: 14th Sunday after Pentecost!

Scriptures: *Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28*



Weather permitting, we will Worship in the Amphitheater every Sunday through the first Sunday in September!

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 Hall Classroom!

**WE WOULD LOVE TO
HAVE YOU
JOIN A CLASS!!**



BIBLE STUDY!

**Bible Study is on most
Tuesdays, at 11a.m. !**

~Pastor Ed~





Back To School Blessing



**FOLLOWED
BY A**

PIZZA PARTY

It all happens on
**Sunday, August 16th beginning
at NOON!** It will be in the
Fellowship Hall!

Come back to church and bring
your kids, grandkids, and
their friends for a great
afternoon of fun!

AND

FUN

TIME

We hope to take a van full of
people to this Seminar on
Tuesday, August 11th!

If you would like to go and
want to ride in the van,
please, **sign-up on the sheet
in the Sanctuary Entryway
ASAP!** We will meet and
leave from our parking lot at
11:30a.m. that morning to
drive to Godfrey Baptist
Church. The first thing you
get there is a lite lunch!

We hope that you will come!

— SENIOR — FRAUD PREVENTION SEMINAR

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

SAVE THE DATE

12 PM | AUGUST 11
2026

Location:

Godfrey Baptist Church
1601 W. Delmar Ave.
Godfrey, IL

Discussion Topics:

- Scams targeting seniors online & over the phone
- Phishing Scams
- IRS Tax Scams/Amazon Scams
- Mail Fraud and Wire Fraud



Presentation by:

Zoe Gross

Assistant U.S. Attorney

LITE LUNCH PROVIDED!

FREE





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
 05-Aug Rayford Raby
 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
 15-Aug Chandra Redden
 16-Aug Ryne Emerick
 16-Aug Stephanie Redden-Huber
 17-Aug Andrea Reed
 17-Aug Tracy Scoggins
 19-Aug Chance Foss
 20-Aug JoAnn Hill
 20-Aug Gracie Mortland
 22-Aug Brooke Standefer
 23-Aug Carol Carn
 23-Aug Dave Herndon
 23-Aug Tori Ludwig
 24-Aug Michael Scroggins
 25-Aug Lauren Frieze
 25-Aug Emily Hall

25-Aug Bethany Rain
 26-Aug Teri Sabo, RN
 26-Aug Terry Sitze
 27-Aug Keith Armon
 27-Aug Logan Scroggins
 28-Aug Noël Schiber
 29-Aug Doug Clouatre
 29-Aug Danny Redden
 29-Aug Joanna Scroggins
 29-Aug Lori Seba
 30-Aug Karah Phelps
 31-Aug Mike Scroggins
 31-Aug Juliana Sullivan



AUGUST ANIVERSARIES



06-Aug Duane & Sandy Moore
 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!** We have paused the process of completing a new Church Directory until Outside Services are over! **Please, check the Workbook in the Entryway once it shows up!** Thank you for your help!

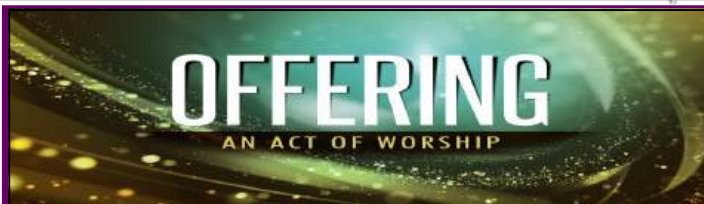
**JULY Stewardship**

Budget Offering:	7/1/2026 thru 7/31/2026	\$7,995.00
Designated Giving:	7/1/2026 thru 7/31/2026	1,046.94
	Capital Improvements	260.00
	Loose Change	53.94
	Flowers	40.00
	Helping Hands	50.00
	Hickerson Scholarship	0.00
	Parking Lot Work	50.00
	Upper Room Donations	18.00
	AED	100.00
	Memorials	475.00
	Online Giving -General Fund	351.50
Total:		\$9,393.44

**DEADLINE FOR
SEPTEMBER 2026
STEEPLE,
Thurs., August 20th!**

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

— C.S. Lewis



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!



WOW Crafts have been meeting on **Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m.**
We now also meet on **THURSDAYS at 9:00 a.m.** each week.
We want to have the crafts completed in time!
Please, join us!!

Needlecraft Nights!

@ St. Paul United Methodist Church
10 N. Center Street, East Alton

Are you interested in learning how to knit, crochet, embroider, sew, quilt, etc.?

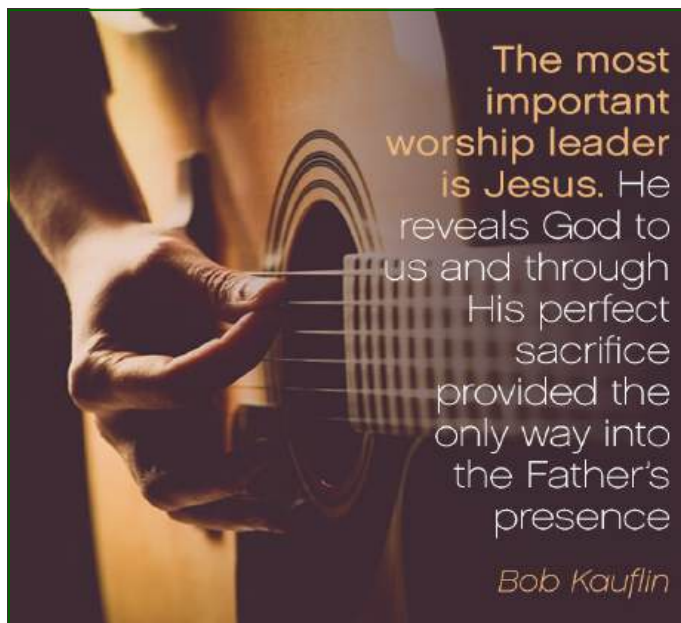
Maybe you know how to do some of these, but can't find the "time" at home to refine your skills.

Maybe you have been "crafting" for a long time and would love to find a few friends to visit with while you work with your hands.

We are planning on opening the church on the
2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings
every month starting in May
from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

to provide an opportunity for you to learn new skills or to hone the skills you already have started to develop.

If you have one, bring your project, or let us help you find a craft you will enjoy and we will supply the starting items needed! **Questions?? Call 618-259-5210!**



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

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-



HYMN SING

A
N
D

FAMILY NIGHT

Thank you to all who attended one or both of these events! There were 50+ at the HYMN SING and most stayed for the FAMILY NIGHT (which moved into the Fellowship Hall) and others joined us for the good eats and the Bounce House! It was a very delightful time to share with our guests! Thank you Connie Hickerson for so many wonderful photos!





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!!



**THE 2026 FLOWER CHART HAS BEEN POSTED!
3 SUNDAYS IN NOVEMBER REMAIN!
KEEP FILLING IN THE DATES! THANK YOU!**

2026 ALTAR FLOWER INFORMATION:

Aug 2: by **Martha Raby** in celebration of **Rayford Raby's (8/5) Birthday!**

Aug 9: by **John & Leona Hendricks** in celebration of **their 49th Wedding Anniversary!**

Aug 16: by **The Herndon Family** in memory of **Mary Herndon.**

Aug 23: by **Susan Voorhees Chapman** in memory of **Ruth Voorhees.**

Aug 30: by **Jim & Jane Herndon** in honor of **St. Paul UMC.**



AUGUST OFFICE HOURS (may be subject to change): (ALSO, IT IS POSTED ON THE CHURCH OFFICE DOOR)

August 3-4, 10, 17-18, 24-25, 31 = 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

August 5, 12, 19, 26 = Office Closed for regular Wednesday weekday off

August 6-7, 13-14, 19-20, 27-28 = 10:00a.m. to 2 or 3:00p.m.

→ ON August 11 OFFICE CLOSED FOR A VACATION DAY!

**→ ON August 13 OUT FROM 11:15a.m. to 1:00p.m.
FOR A LUNCH MEETING AWAY.**



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 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!!

2026 FALL FESTIVAL

Coming Saturday October 3rd,
Lunch AND Dinner will be served!

Watch for the sign-up sheets once back inside!

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! Again, it will be on a SATURDAY this year! We are going to try it again and see how it works on that day!



2026 STEWARDSHIP

→ **REMEMBER YOUR GIVING!**

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