

ST PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Sharing God's love by serving others

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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2017

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

James Mead in an essay, "Enjoying What Belongs to God" tells readers about a practice of the Evangelical Church in India where each newly baptized believer is given a coconut palm tree. They are asked to take the tree home and plant it. The tree will begin producing coconuts after four years. While it is young it will produce about fifty dollars' worth of coconuts a year and when it matures it will produce twice that. "In India", writes Mead, "one hundred dollars of yearly income is a significant amount of money, even for the middle class."

Why does the church do this? Two reasons; first almost everyone in India is needy, and the income helps to provide income for the family. But the second reason is to teach new converts about stewardship. They are told that they are expected to tithe ten percent of whatever income is received from the tree. The "Coconut tree plan" is a brilliant stewardship program. The income that the family receives from the tree comes free – it is a gift. They didn't buy the tree, it was given to them. The tithe, the ten percent, is also money that they got for free. The family is able to enjoy the fruits of a gift given freely to them and also of being able to give something away themselves which is, in itself, a gift of joy and good feelings.

But the new believers are not forced to tithe the income from the tree. In fact they are free to not even plant the tree. They could choose to take it home, throw it into a corner and let it die, never to grow any coconuts. But they are also free to pick a good spot to plant it, take care of it, and then harvest the coconuts. Everything depends upon their decision. There isn't any "Coconut tree tithing police" to make sure that they are giving ten percent of the coconut tree income to do the Lord's work!

As Psalm 24 reminds us, "The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it." (v.1) Life is a gift. While it is true that we work to earn an income, the fact remains that the ability to work is itself a gift. We come into this world with nothing and are totally dependent upon others to care for us. It is only because God gave us the gift of life and that others gave us what we needed to survive as infants that any of us reached maturity.

We can do some amazing things here at St. Paul to serve God and others but it will take all of us working together; sharing the time, talent, and treasures that are available to us. We are beginning our annual stewardship emphasis and I am asking you to prayerfully consider the amount you will be giving in 2018. What percentage of your income do you give now? Do you give ten percent or more to the church? If not, what percentage do you give? Whatever that percentage is, I challenge you (and myself) to strive for a one percent increase in 2018. If you give two percent now, make it three. If it is three, make it four and so forth. Let us join together in an experiment and put God to the test in 2018 just as the prophet Malachi challenged the Israelites to do so long ago: "Bring the full tithe into my house, and thus put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour down for you an overflowing blessing." (3:10)

There is no investment with a better return than what we give back to God. I have discovered, as I know many of you have too, that we can't out give God. God literally does open the windows of heaven with blessings for those who are faithful stewards! Put God to the test and see for yourselves. Don't believe it? Talk to those who do tithe. ***In all my years of ministry I have never met an x-tither!***

God's promise of blessing is one that you can literally take to the bank. I dare you to prove me wrong!

Blessings, Rodger

FESTIVAL OF SHARING

Pastor Kiepe, the Confirmation Class, and others will go to the Festival of Sharing in Sedalia on Saturday, October 21 to help pack food and other items for distribution to those in need. If you are interested in going, contact Rodger at rodgerkiepe@gmail.com or the church office at 486-5525. We must register by October 13.

St. Paul Women's Fellowship is asking the congregation to help collect the following items for this group to take to Sedalia on Oct. 21: toilet paper with 4 double rolls in each package (they are unable to receive 12 roll packages); 2 roll packages of paper towels (good quality); 2 large rectangular boxes facial tissue. Please place these items in a bin in back of church marked Festival of Sharing and the group will take it with them. Money for these items is also accepted.

Prayers are also needed for our neighbors in need as well

as prayers for everyone who will be going to the Festival of Sharing at Sedalia.

ICE CREAM SALES

New Beginnings will be making ice cream here in the kitchen on Thursday, Oct. 5 at 4:00 p.m. and will be selling it on Saturday, Oct. 7 in front of Impressions Salon at 224 E First St. beginning at 10:00. Volunteer helpers are needed.

ST. PAUL COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE

The Women's Fellowship of St. Paul is challenging this congregation once again to a special collection of food items for the Hermann Food Pantry. They will collect items such as canned vegetables, soups, peanut butter or other non-perishable food items. They will begin collecting on Oct. 1 and continue through Oct. 29. The goal is 1,800 items. Let's all work together to see how high the stack can get. Monetary gifts are also welcome.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

The pastor's new email address is rodgerkiepe@gmail.com

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following persons in your prayers:

Angie Scheidegger, Elizabeth Klemme, Bob Soetebier, Dolores Smith, Carol Kallmeyer, Gene Schaefer, Michelle Mueller, Georgia Ann Rohlfing, Ed Moody, Steve Beckmann, Eloise Sturkey, Marcia Bucker, Lyndon Ruediger, Shirley Waddle, Brandi Wendleton, Joe Hart, Marcia Bucher, Hurricane & Earthquake victims.

AFTER SCHOOL BEARCATS

The After School Bearcats program began on September 6th. The program meets at St. Paul on Wednesdays after school and includes a nutritious snack/meal, an art or music enrichment activity, and homework help or tutoring. We have 18 students enrolled, grades Kindergarten through 7th grade, from Hermann Elementary, Hermann Middle, and St. George Catholic school. We've only been able to meet 2 times, but with each meeting, we are getting into a better groove. After the kids have their snack, we have music or art, which gives the kids a small amount of down time between the end of school and the start of doing their homework. It has been a real treat to watch the kids sit down and try their hand at different rhythm patterns. The kids really seem to be enjoying themselves and I think we are making some real connections between adult and child. We have volunteers from our St. Paul congregation and the community at large. These volunteers share their talents in music or art, help put the snacks together, or sit down one-on-one with kids to help with their studies.

Already after the first week, we have received some positive feedback for the program. Jill Jacob shared the following story.

"As the reading interventionist at Hermann Elementary I work with kids who struggle. They struggle not just in reading but in life as a whole. In an attempt to reach these students I am introducing the 7 strengths of a "Super Reader". The first trait is BELONGING. In order for any of us to grow and flourish we must have a strong sense of belonging, being connected with

people and places. Last week I introduced my students to what it meant to belong and students discussed with whom and where they belong. During our lesson one little girl shared, "I belong at church". Pleasantly surprised by her response, I began to ask if she and her family attended church together. She proudly stated, "No, when I go to after school tutoring, I go to church so I belong there." How AMAZING! In just one week, one hour with a caring adult, this little girl knows someone is there for HER! She lit up when she told the group about the rhythm work and time spent with her friend. She couldn't wait for the first day to come and now she is anxiously awaiting Wednesday so she can come back. She belongs! I cannot express how much this one mission is doing for our young people. Thank you SO much to everyone who is involved in the After School Bearcat Program. You are not just creating Super Readers but Super Kids."

If you have interest in serving as a volunteer in any capacity with the program you can reach me at chrismenke@gmail.com or call my cell 720-231-3193.

Christina Menke

After School Bearcats Director

P.S. If you are curious about me, my family and I have been attending St. Paul for almost a year now. I substitute teach at the elementary, middle, and high school here in Hermann. I am not a teacher by training (my background is in science), but I love subbing and being around all ages of kids. I'm excited about this program.

CHOIR

"In music, one must think with the heart and feel with the brain."

It is wonderful to have all the choir members back in full voice; however, we dearly miss one of our basses, Steve Beckmann, and wish him a speedy recovery.

We are also happy to welcome a group of five young women who will be providing special music at times during the choir season.

The choir is busy working on music for the regular Sunday Services and will begin working toward the Advent Season. They will be joining the Sunday School department to provide special music for the "Hanging on the Greens" service at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, December 3.

The choir's annual Christmas Concert, "Festival of Lessons and Carols", is scheduled for 10:15 a.m., on December 17. The choir will, of course, provide special music for the Christmas Eve Service at 7:30, on Sunday, December 24.

The "Sextet Plus One" is preparing a Gospel Concert for November 12, at 2:00 p.m. at St. George Church, with free-will offering proceeds going to the Ministerial Alliance/Samaritan Outreach. We hope you will be able to join us for an enjoyable afternoon of uplifting music.

We welcome anyone who loves to sing to join us. We practice in the choir loft on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and, except for special services, sing the first and third Sunday of every month, September through May.

Come join us in fellowship and song!

"Praise the Lord in song. For he has done excellent things; Let this be known throughout the earth" Isaiah 12:5

2017 choir members are Shirley Kunz, Bonnie Oncken, Rachel Hunley, Mona Biener-Schaefer, Bonnie Eikermann, Candace Lee Welch, Becky Mayberry, Dawn Maune, Ruth Hulsey, Nancy Fagerness, Lynn Koepke, Marilyn Loehning,

Mary Leeper, Sharen Speckhals, James Hoerstkamp, Gordon Heck, Dan Bohl, Craig Schannuth, Jim Oncken.
Sextet plus One members are: Dawn Maune, LaNette Kotthoff, Ruth Hulsey, Nancy Fagerness, Marilyn Loehnig, Jim Oncken, Craig Schannuth, Lois Kruse, accompanist.
Young Women members are: Hannah and Brooke Grosse, Maggie Kotthoff, Tess Schannuth, Gracie Winkelmann
LaNette Kotthoff

NEWS FROM THE HANDBELL CHOIR AND CHANCEL RINGERS

Ringling continues to be a wonderful experience for us in the bell choir and ensemble, and we appreciate the opportunity to enhance the worship experience at St. Paul UCC.

Due to health issues, our choir is missing two of our valued ringers this season. Please pray for the improved health of Marcia Bucher and Steve Beckman. We appreciate Nancy Kirchofer's return to ringing to fill in for Marcia's vacancy.

With the arrival of autumn, the bell choir has again resumed ringing during the 10:15 am service of worship on the 4th Sunday of each month with the exception of December. We will be ringing on October 22nd and on November 26th. On December 10th, the Bell Choir and Chancel Ringers will present several Christmas numbers during worship.

Once again, our ringers will be a major part of the annual Sounds of Starkenburg concert on November 25, the Saturday immediately following Thanksgiving. This concert, as in years past will feature the Bell Choir, Barry Bierwirth (organ), Carrie Tilly (vocal), Keely Uthlaut (cello) and Kampbell Hemeyer (vocal). In addition, this year Colter Scheible (string bass) will be featured in one of the bell numbers, and Donna Hebb (vocal) will be included in the final number. Concerts are scheduled for 1:00, 3:30 and 7:00 p.m. at Starkenburg. A soup supper will be served in Valentine Hall between the afternoon and evening concerts. Come join us as we welcome the Christmas season. As always, new ringers are welcome to join our bell choir.

Ruth Hulsey, director

CONFIRMATION

The 2017-2018 Confirmation class began September 10 with four members. They are Colten Elsenraat, Hannah Grosse, Woody Heldt, and Zoe Schaefer. They meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room every Sunday.

MISSION FAIR

As a result of discussions at New Beginnings meetings a Mission Fair was held in Fellowship Hall September 24. The day started with celebrating and sharing our own blessings during regular worship and then continued in Fellowship Hall with 11 local organizations providing information about what they do in the community and how we as a church and individuals can help people in need.

The groups represented were: Park Pride, Birthright, Missouri's Long Term Ombudsman Program, CASA, Backpack (Brown Bag), Community Christmas, Food Pantry, Backpack/School Supplies, Samaritan Outreach, Ferals in Peril and Festival of Sharing.

The Mission Fair was organized to help us become aware of the many ways we can pass our blessings on to those

less fortunate and become an "Outward Reaching People" rather than keepers of the aquarium.

LIT 'n LATTE BOOK CLUB

The Lit 'n Latte Book Club meets once a month and all who may be interested may join them at Miss Clara's at 10:00. Please contact Nancy Kirchofer 486-2943 for more information and to make lunch reservations. The schedule for the remainder of the year is: Monday, Oct. 9. The book of the month is "Big Little Lies" by Liane Moriarty; November 13, "Charming Billy" by Alice McDermott; December 11, meet at Nancy Kirchofer's home at 10:00 a.m. for book discussion and brunch. All are welcome. Please call Nancy if interested 486-2943.

ECH WHITE GIFTS

Greetings from ECH:

"There's no place like home for the holidays." This song has meaning for children of all ages, and it is especially true for the youngsters at ECH Every Child's Hope. Nearly every child at ECH has the bittersweet wish for their families to be loving, happy and together for the holidays and beyond. While some of the children serviced by ECH will spend Christmas with their families, others will not.

We work hard to make Christmas a special time for all the children we serve. Even though their resources are quite limited, the children still understand the joy of giving. They take distinct pride in selecting, buying and personally wrapping special presents for their friends and families.

The "Christmas Store" at ECH is a major shopping stop for them. Gifts that the youngsters choose are generously donated from United Church of Christ congregations. Because you choose to give, so, in turn, can the children.

The "Christmas Store" will be on November 30 and December 1 this year. To allow time for set up, we would appreciate receiving the donations by 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 25. When delivering donated items to our campus, please write your group's name and address on the package and mark them, "Christmas Store, % Julie Jennings.

Rev. Julie B. Jennings, Chaplain

NOTE: a list of suggested items is posted by the church entrances, however, it is not limited to these items.

WHAT IS THE GRAPE COUNTRY CLUSTER

Ten years ago, the *Grape Country Cluster of the United Church of Christ Congregations* was established to serve the Franklin and Gasconade counties UCC Churches. There are 11 churches in Franklin and 13 in Gasconade Counties, respectively. The Objectives and Purpose of the "Grape Cluster" are: To share our resources, fulfill our Goals and Needs, and to nurture the Fellowship so that the Living Spirit of the Gospel may be demonstrated

As an organization, we seek to facilitate communications and cooperation between member churches so that, together, we can accomplish our shared goals. Pastor Rodger and I regularly attend these monthly meetings. Last month, we did a self-examination of function and sadly realized that we, as an organization, fall short of accomplishing our stated purpose. We communicate (i.e. at meetings, we report on the activities of our churches in a broad sense, such as the scheduled programs and fundraisers). We have not provided a 'bridge' to connect

our churches to promote the local ministry and mission common to all our churches. At our last meeting, we subdivided our organization into two subgroups. This move will allow us to more effectively work with a smaller number of congregations. We will have 13 churches in our sub group. All 24 churches will meet monthly to report on our activities and progress.

As an active church within our group, it is important for us to express our stated goals and purposes and how we can best assist others in our work. If you have ideas on how we can better communicate the needs of our congregation, or if you are interested in attending a cluster meeting, please let Pastor Rodger or me know.

Jack Wendleton

NEIGHBORS IN NEED OFFERING

The Neighbors in Need offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Through ucc.org/justice, our national Justice and Witness Ministries office offers resources, news updates, and action alerts on a broad spectrum of justice issues. Justice and Witness continues its strong policy advocacy work on issues such as the federal budget, voting rights, immigration, health care, hate crimes, civil liberties, and environmental justice. Neighbors in Need also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC. One-third of the offering supports the UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM). The theme for 2017 is "Protect the Sacred".

St Paul UCC will receive this special offering throughout October. Special envelopes are on the table in back of church and near the ramp entrance and included with the mailing of this newsletter. If you write a check, please make it payable to St. Paul UCC with the notation that it is for NIN offering.

SERVICE PROJECT

Serve St. Louis: Saturday, October 7, 8:00 to noon—All members of the community, especially youth, are invited to serve/volunteer for projects to be done in Hermann. Past projects have been baking cookies for local shut-ins and local EMS staff, cleaning the cemetery, playing games with the elderly, helping with minor home cleaning and maintenance, etc. Cookies will be baked at St. Paul from 8:00-10:00 and will be delivered from 10:00-12:00. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sharen Speckhals. If you are in need of assistance, please call St. George (Kate Engemann) at 573-486-5914.

ADVENT SCHEDULE

The Advent season will begin on Sunday, December 3. The 10:15 a.m. service will include presentations by the Sunday School with the Hanging of the Greens.

The Family Advent Workshop will be held that evening, beginning at 4:00 p.m. This is an opportunity for persons of all ages to gather to create Christmas decorations, make special gifts, etc. The Family Life Committee will be serving a meal around 5:30.

WEDDINGS

Taylor Trotter and Zachary Thomas were married at St. Paul UCC on June 17. They reside in Sweet Springs, MO.

Suhina Deol and Eric Hubbard of Tucson, AZ, were married at St. Paul UCC on August 6, 2017.

Mila Overkamp and Billy Crabtree were married September 16 at St. Paul UCC with Pastor Rodger officiating. The couple resides at Gerald.

Megan Bear and Justin Wright were married September 23 at St. Paul UC with Pastor Rodger officiating. They reside at New Florence.

FUNERALS

Our sympathy to the family of Judy White who passed away recently. She is survived by cousins and many friends.

Funeral service was held August 9 for Bessie Schuch, who passed away at Frene Valley of Hermann Stonebridge. She is survived by a son, Kenneth Schuch and friend, Joyce DiSandro. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three sons, Ward, Larry & Randy and many other relatives and friends.

Our sympathy to Nadine Ulrich and Betty Brunner and families, on the passing of their brother, Edward Baur.

Our sympathy to the family of Curtis Bohl who passed away recently. He is survived by his father, Robert; his sisters, Betty Vollmar & husband Keith, Mary Goth and husband Mark, and Kim Godat and husband Nick; a brother, John Bohl and wife Megan; and many nieces and nephews.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Twenty-eight couples have observed 50 or more wedding anniversaries and were recognized during the worship service on September 10. Following the service, the Family Life Committee served lunch to the anniversary couples and guests.

Those who belong to this select group include:

Jack & Margie Greene, 70 years, September 7, 1947

Earl & Dolores Huxol, 67 years, August 20, 1950

Joe & Rose Marie Faes, 67 years, August 27, 1950

Ben & Thelma Kattelmann, 66 years, May 5, 1951

John & Nancy Bartel, 65 years, May 18, 1952

Ed & Eleanor Bickmeyer, 65 years, November 8, 1952

Truman & Pearlina Eikermann, 64 years, November 28, 1953

Ralph & Carol Uthlout, 64 years, December 12, 1953

Carl & Eunice Ploeger, 63 years, July 10, 1954

Darrell & Betty Reinhardt, 63 years, September 25, 1954

James & Betty Held, 62 years, December 23, 1955

William & Shirley Tilly, 61 years, April 21, 1956

Elwood & Helen Wesselschmidt, 60 years, May 26, 1957

Don & Adlee Witthaus, 58 years, October 17, 1959

Joe & Janet Hart, 57 years, August 20, 1960

Frank & Mary Struttman, 57 years, December 3, 1960

Jim & Gladys Schulte, 55 years, March 17, 1962

Ronald & Jeanne Fredrick, 55 years, May 12, 1962

Robert & Nancy Kirchhofer, 54 years, November 2, 1963

Kenneth & Jane Meyer, 53 years, February 8, 1964

Melvin & Shirley Jacob, 53 years, April 4, 1964

Wiff & LaNette Kotthoff, 53 years, April 25, 1964

Don & Anne Althaus, 53 years, June 20, 1964

Jack & Pat Wendleton, 53 years, August 21, 1964

Melvin & Shirley Berkemeyer, 52 years, June 5, 1965

Gary & Linda Blackwood, 51 years, December 14, 1966

Wayne & Doris Grannemann, 50 years, February 17, 1967
Wayne & Maureen Heck, 50 years, September 2, 1967

ANNIVERSARIES

The following members of our church family will be celebrating their anniversaries in October:

- 4-Gilbert & Annette Witthaus
- 6-James & Amanda Korman
- 8-Larry & Carol Leech
- 9-Mike & Lynn Koepke
- 10-Don & Chantele Watson
- 12-Rodney & Lois Mochel, Tom & Marilyn Rethemeyer
- 15-Doug & Carol Graue
- 17-Don & Adlee Witthaus
- 18-Leon & Carroll LaBoube
- 20-Steve & Susan Lenger
- 27-Jeff & Amanda Schaefer
- 30-Steve & Tara Stephan, Scott & Jill Jacob

The following members of our church family will be celebrating their anniversaries in November:

- 1- Allen & Sharen Speckhals
- 2-Robert & Nancy Kirchhofer
- 6-Stanley & Lisa Heying, Shane & Dana Sutton
- 7- Terry & JoAnn Kirchhofer, Walter & Carol Schluss
- 8- Ed & Eleanor Bickmeyer
- 9-Harvey & Elaine Lalk
- 18-Todd & Maranda Anderson
- 28-Truman & Pearline Eikermann

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of our church family who will celebrate birthdays in October.

- 1-Thomas Held, Craig Schannuth
- 5-Rebekah Mayberry
- 7- Jim Held, Darren Schutt
- 10-Leslie Niiro
- 11-Justin Setzekorn
- 12-Lynn Koepke, Kenneth Oelschlaeger
- 13- Shane Schaefer, Ellen Scheible, Jennifer Schneider, Ashley Schreiner
- 14-Shanay Winkelmann
- 19-Mike Stone
- 21-Shirley Berkemeyer, Tesla Ruediger
- 22-Donna Struttman
- 26-Selma Humburg
- 27-Bonnie Eikermann
- 28-Nick Struttman
- 30-Susan Lenger
- 31-Mike Grosse, Steve Lenger

Birthday greetings are extended to the following members of our church family who will celebrate birthdays in November.

- 1-Darla Schutt
- 3-Shaun Heying, Tara Zaugg
- 6-Brooke Grosse, Rodger Kiepe
- 7-Anne Worland
- 8-Jane Meyer, Dan Wilson
- 9-Ellen Schaumberg, Cole Smith
- 10-JoAnn Cramer
- 11-Caleb Brandt, Calvin Stiers
- 12-Brad Groppe
- 14-Wanda Ruediger

- 16-Cathy Lloyd
- 17-Ashley Nickles, Alverna Koch, Aimee Viehmann
- 20-Dorothy Haeffner, Lois Kruse, Debra Smith, Wil Toedtmann
- 21-Gordon Heck
- 22-Marilyn Rethemeyer
- 25-Nancy Johnston
- 27-Amy Grannemann, Rebecca Rector
- 28-Dana Sutton
- 30-Jonelle Loehnig

TOTENFEST

Totenfest will be observed during the 10:15 a.m. service on November 1. This is the time of remembrance for all those members and friends who have passed away this past year.

NURSING HOMES MINISTRY

Pastor Rodger provides worship service at Frene Valley at 2:00 p.m. and Victorian Place at 2:45 p.m. the first Sunday of every month. Please join him in this ministry if you are available He especially needs someone to play the piano for the hymns and someone to help with communion and fellowship for the residents.

ST PAUL UCC MEN'S CLUB

Last year a men's club was formed at St. Paul. They meet at Lyndee's Restaurant at 8:00 a.m. for breakfast on the first Saturday of each month. All men are invited to join them.

This group initiated a program for St. Paul teens as well as teens from the community. This program is called "Fifth Quarter" and is held after HHS Friday night sports events. Teens join for refreshments, games and fellowship.

In addition, they started a new program recently for members and friends called "Three in One". It is aimed at three age groups: the Men's Club, preteens (including infants) and their parents. The first Saturday of every month parents may drop off their children at the Fellowship Hall at 5:00 p.m. Parents then gather together for an evening out and to enjoy an opportunity for no-cost babysitters. The children will be fed and there will be games and/or movies for their age. There will be plenty grandpas and grandmas to give the kids plenty of attention.

The third part of Three in One will give the men's club and spouses an opportunity to spend quality time with the younger generation before sending them home at 7:00. After the kids have been picked up by their parents the group will decide where they want to go for a meal and social time.

We hope you will join in for an evening of fun and fellowship for both youngsters and oldsters. For more information, please call Bob Kirchhofer at 573-486-2493 or any member of the men's group,

MEMORIALS

Current Fund & Music Fund - In memory of Curtis Bohl

GIFT

Memorial Fund

St. Paul United Church of Christ is the recipient of a bequest gift from the Elmer and Lillian Allemann Estate. This money will be placed in an "Elmer & Lillian Allemann

Memorial Fund” to be used for special projects in the future. Their three sons, Jim, Kevin and Greg, also donated four lots at Oak Haven Cemetery to St. Paul to be used at the council’s discretion. The church is very appreciative of these gifts.

WORSHIP SERVICE

8/6	8/13	8/20	8/27	9/3	9/10	9/17	9/24
105	109	105	84	76	120	102	122

SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

Sunday School classes resumed on September 10 with the following teachers:

- Volunteers – Pre-School
- Chantele Watson – 1st - 2nd Grades
- Barb Schutt – 3rd - 4th Grades
- Linda Heck – 5th & 6th Grades
- Brian Grannemann – 7th & 8th Grads
- Pastor Rodger Kiepe – Confirmation
- Sharen Speckhals – Senior High
- Gene & Nancy Johnston – Adult Class

The Christian Ed Department is in need of a teacher for the Pre-School Class. Please see Jill or Shannon if you are willing to help with this.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

	9/17	9/24
Pre-School	7	7
1 st - 2 nd Grade	10	10
3 rd - 4 th Grade	-	6
5 th & 6 th Grade	7	3
Junior High	9	3
Confirmation	5	3
Senior High	4	--
Adult Class	6	7
Staff	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total	49	40

VOLUNTARY BENEVOLENCES INCOME

As of Sept. 30, 2017 the following organizations have received voluntary directed benevolences:

One Great Hour of Share	\$ 400.00
Neighbors in Need	\$ 2.00
Every Child’s Hope	\$ 208.00
Neighborhood Houses	\$ 98.00
Food Pantry	\$ 839.00
Emmaus Homes	\$ 480.00
Camp MoVal	\$ 219.00
CWS/Blankets	\$ 463.00
Perryville Tornado	\$ 602.00
Hurricane Harvey & Irma	\$ 1560.00
Eden Scholarship	\$ 450.00
CASA	\$ 50.00
Conference	\$ 95.00
Riverbluff Industries	\$ 340.00
Samaritan Outreach	\$ 327.00
Back Pack Program	<u>\$ 965.00</u>
Total	\$ 7098.00

SPECIAL THANK YOU

We wish to thank Helen Wesselschmidt for her many years of service to the church and to the residents of Frene Valley for delivering the enlarged copies of the bulletin to the

nursing home each week. We are sure they looked forward to getting the bulletin each week. Thank you, Helen, for giving of your time and energy for many, many years.

Thanks, also to Marcella Huxel, who has agreed to take over these duties.

TRANK YOU LETTERS

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your generous gift of \$463.00 to the CWS Blankets program. As families and communities around the world recover from emergencies and struggle in the face of challenges, you are standing with them. You are providing relief and hope. Because of you, Church World Service is able to respond when disasters occur and support is needed.

Rev. John L McCullough,
President & CEO, Church World Service

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your contribution of \$390.00 to the Hermann Food Pantry Fund and \$665.00 to the Children’s Backpack Fund.

Brian Fogle, President
Community Foundation of the Ozarks

Dear Friends in Christ:

Your donation of \$650.00 to Eden CUE Scholarship Fund helps support the work of our schools and helps continue the strong commitment to education of the United Church of Christ.

Rev. Dr. David Greenhaw, President
Eden Theological Seminary

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your donation of \$460.00 to Emmaus Homes! We are so blessed with the continued support of St. Paul UCC.....

Lisa A Drier
Chief Development Officer

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who participated in Underwear and Sock month.

Thank you to Mona Schaefer for the fall floral altar arrangements.

Thanks to Maureen Heck, Jane & Ken Meyer, Lois Mochel and everyone else who has worked on the flower beds.

Thank you to Mary Leeper and Shirley Kunz for helping with office details.

Thank you to Darren Schutt for various maintenance and custodial work.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the projection system, loading the information and displaying it for worship services.

Thanks to Mary Leeper for setting up communion each month.

Thanks to everyone who served as liturgists.

Thank you to LaNette Kotthoff & Darren Schutt for handling building security.

Thanks to Becky Mayberry and James Hoerstkamp for handling the sound system for recent weddings.

Thank you to Nancy Kirchhofer and Ruth Hulsey for playing the piano for worship services recently.

Thanks to Rev. Constance Tanis for serving as supply pastor.
Thanks to everyone who helped with coffee hour recently.
Thank you to Nancy Kirchhofer for filling the pew pockets.

Thanks to Maggie Stiegman for serving as a delegate to the Eastern Association meeting.
Thank you to everyone who provided special flowers for the altar recently.

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes - July 11, 2017

Members present were Linda Heck, Ruth Hulsey, Nancy Kirchhofer, Susan Lenger, Ervin Rehmert, Tom Rethemeyer, Darren Schutt, Sharen Speckhals and Keely Uthlaut. Not present: Becky Mayberry, Mark Leech, Maggie Stiegman.

The meeting was opened with prayer by Linda Heck.

Open discussion was held regarding Vacation Bible School and the church dinner.

Minutes of the June meeting were approved on motion made by Susan Lenger and seconded by Sharen Speckhals. Motion carried.

The June financial reports were approved on motion made by Nancy Kirchhofer and seconded by Ruth Hulsey. Motion carried.

New Business:

Darren Schutt is in the process of getting bids for parking lot repairs. He suggests putting conduit in for future expansion possibilities, for electricity, etc.

Nancy Kirchhofer reported on After School Bearcats. The first session will end Nov 15. Chris Menke has been hired to be the director. They will meet again at the end of July with Dawn Grosse and Julie Klingmann. There are about 30 volunteers to assist with the program.

Ushers for August 6 communion will be Ervin Rehmert, Sharen Speckhals, Susan Lenger and Darren Schutt.

The next council meeting will be Monday, August 7 at 6:30 pm.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Nancy Kirchhofer and seconded by Susan Lenger. Motion carried. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Heck, Secretary

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes -August 7, 2017

Members present were Pastor Kiepe, Linda Heck, Ruth Hulsey, Nancy Kirchhofer, Susan Lenger, Ervin Rehmert, Tom Rethemeyer, Darren Schutt, Sharen Speckhals and Maggie Stiegman. Not present: Keely Uthlaut

The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Kiepe.

Maggie Stiegman presented the Safe Sanctuary Guide for review before the next council meeting.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved on motion made by Susan Lenger and seconded by Becky Mayberry. Motion carried.

The July financial reports were approved on motion made by Sharen Speckhals and seconded by Maggie Stiegman. Motion carried.

Fundraising possibilities were discussed. Nancy Kirchhofer and Maureen Heck are checking into possible future venues and requirements for using them. Pastor Rodger mentioned beer and brats at the 2018 Biker Rally and a "dinnerless dinner" where \$100 donations are made for NOT working a dinner.

The Pastor's Report was presented. On October 22 a planned giving seminar will be made by Priscilla Bizer. Pastor Kiepe will be away August 21 through September 5th and has replacement ministers lined up.

Old Business:

The Minister's Personnel Description was presented by Mark Leech for review. Council members will have any questions ready for the next council meeting.

New Business:

The council discussed a request by Rev. Ron Stair of the Morrison UCC to use the church van. Motion was made by Mark Leech to allow Morrison UCC, as a UCC church, to use the van with reimbursement at the federal mileage rate and with the understanding that the van will be returned in the same condition and with a full tank of gas, assuming our insurance approves Rev. Stair as a driver. Nancy Kirchhofer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nancy Kirchhofer reported on After School Bearcats. Christina Menke will lead an informational meeting on August 30 in Fellowship Hall. There will be a one to one mentor student relationship, thanks to the large number of volunteers.

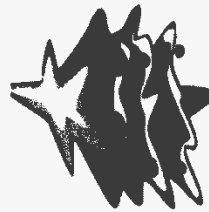
Pastor Kiepe discussed stewardship, the need for both gift and endowment policies, and explained the Pony Express method of establishing giving estimates, rather than pledges. Plans for a Capital Campaign, which may take up to a year, should begin toward the end of the Pony Express.

Ushers for September communion will be Maggie Stiegman, Becky Mayberry, Nancy Kirchhofer and Susan Lenger.

St. Paul is thankful to be the recipient of 10% of Elmer and Lillian Allemann's estate. Motion was made by Maggie Stiegman to establish a permanent fund in the Allemann's name with United Church Funds, with any additional funds that come from the estate to that fund. Second was made by Becky Mayberry. Motion carried. A personal note of thanks is to be sent to the family from the council.

The next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 12 at 6:30 pm. There being no further business, motion to adjourn was made by Becky Mayberry and seconded by Susan Lenger. Motion carried. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Heck, Secretary



EACH EVERY CHILD'S HOPE

SUGGESTED NEW ITEMS FOR THE CHRISTMAS STORE



<p><u>Jewelry</u> Bracelets (Men's & Women's) Earrings (Men's & Women's) Pierced Earrings (Men's & Women's) Necklaces (Men's & Women's) Wristbands (Men's & Women's)</p>	<p><u>Toys</u> Action Figures Blocks Bubbles Card Games CD Players Comic Books Dolls Flash Cards Frisbees Board Games Hot Wheel Cars Jump Rope Kites Magic Slates Model Cars/Airplanes, etc Nerf Balls Paddle Balls Pinball Games Play Dough Playing Cards Pull Toys Puzzles Sandbox Bucket Stuffed Animals (New) Toy Dishes Transistor Radios</p>	<p><u>Men's Items</u> Aftershave Belts Cologne Combs Dress Shirts Gloves Hats House Slippers Hair Picks Shaving Crème Shirts Socks Special Shoe Strings Sports Hats Stocking Hats Sunglasses Sun-Visor Sweatshirts T-Shirts Ties Tools Wallets Watches</p>	<p><u>Women's Items</u> Barrettes Curling Iron Diary Footies Hair Brushes Headbands House Slippers Leg Warmers Make-up Nail Polish Perfume Perm Rod Curlers Hair Picks Purses Scarves Special Shoe Strings Stockings Sunglasses Sun-visor Watches Wristbands</p>	<p><u>Crafts</u> Colored Pencils Coloring Books Crayons Envelopes Markers Paint-a-Figurine Paint-by-number sets Pencil Boxes Ribbon/Bows School Supplies Scribbled Pads Stationery Stickers Yarn Friendship bracelet kits Models</p> <p><u>Christmas Items</u> Wrapping Paper Ribbon Bows Tape</p>	<p><u>Miscellaneous</u> Baby Rattles Batteries Bibs Booties Books for small children Bulletin Board for Door Calendar (for the following year) CD Holder for Car Visor Christmas Decorations Christmas Stockings Decorative Jars Dish Towels Dishcloths Flashlight Gym Bags Kitchen Mitts Kitchen Utensils Paper Weights Paperback Books Picture Frames Piggy Banks Placemats Posters Pot-Holders Salt and Pepper Shakers Towels Travel Bags Travel Cups Washcloths</p>
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