



October/November 2024 Hilltop Herald

Dear Congregation,

As we enter the fall season, our hearts and minds turn toward two essential themes: *prayer* and *thanksgiving*. In October, we'll be delving into one of the most profound aspects of our faith—*The Lord's Prayer*. Together, we will dive into not just the words of the Lord's Prayer, but also the profound significance of prayer in our daily lives. We will explore common questions about prayer, such as, "How do we approach God in genuine conversation?" and "In what ways does prayer shape, comfort, and lead us on our spiritual journey?"

A special opportunity to deepen our prayer life comes with the *Ten Days of Prayer*, hosted by the Hermann Ministerial Alliance. Starting on October 2nd, this will be a time for our entire community to come together in prayer. On October 3rd, St. Paul will have the privilege of hosting the Ten Days of Prayer with a prayer service beginning at 6 PM. However, our doors will be open all afternoon for anyone who wishes to come and pray. An insert in our Sunday morning bulletin will provide details about the locations and times of the prayer services during the Ten Days of Prayer. This is a sacred time, and I encourage everyone to participate, whether in person or in spirit.

As we move into November, our focus shifts to *thanksgiving*. Not just the holiday but the biblical moments of thanksgiving that shaped the lives of God's people. We'll reflect on the powerful impact gratitude has on us, on our relationship with God, and on our community. From Moses' song of thanksgiving after crossing the Red Sea, to Paul's letters filled with gratitude, we'll be reminded of the transformative power of a thankful heart.

These two months provide a meaningful time to engage in prayer and thanksgiving—two pillars of our faith that can strengthen and uplift us all. Let us come together as a church family, ready to pray, give thanks, and grow deeper in our relationship with God.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Andy

Catechism Corner: Reflections on the Evangelical Catechism

- 3. In our seeking the Kingdom of God, in our longing for God's righteousness, and in our hope of inheriting eternal life, what must we do?**
- A. We must place our trust and our hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, who is god's mighty claim upon our whole lives. Through him we are delivered from the idols of the world to free, joyous, and grateful service to the whole creation.**

In seeking the Kingdom of God, our task is not simply to perform good deeds or follow religious rituals, but to place our full trust in Jesus Christ. He is God's ultimate claim on our lives, calling us

to turn away from the false idols of the world—things like power, wealth, or personal ambition—and toward a life of freedom, joy, and gratitude. Through Christ, we are invited into a new way of living, one that serves and honors the whole of creation. It is through Him, not through our own striving, that we inherit eternal life and live in righteousness.

Question for Thought: In a world that often values self-sufficiency and control, how do we truly place our hope in Christ and reject the "idols" of the modern age (e.g., materialism, individualism, or security)? How might this shift impact the way we live, work, and serve others today?

SCAM WARNING

Dear Congregation,

It has come to my attention that someone is impersonating me, sending fraudulent text messages asking members of our church to purchase eBay gift cards. Please know that **this is not me**. I would never ask for money in any form—especially not through text messages.

If you receive any communication like this, please **do not respond** or engage with the message in any way. Simply delete the message immediately.

Your safety and trust are important to me, and I want to assure you that any requests for donations or financial contributions from the church will always come through official channels, either during worship services, through our church office, or in approved fundraising efforts. Thank you for your understanding and vigilance. If you have any concerns or need to confirm any messages, feel free to reach out to me directly.

Pastor Andy

TOTENFEST NOVEMBER 24

If you would like to include your loved ones in our Totenfest service, please contact the church office. If you have a photograph that you would like us to share, please provide that also.

RETURN OF THE PONY EXPRESS

The financial planning and budgeting drive will again utilize the Pony Express relay system. The relay system is as follows:

- Our church families have been divided so that the homes are in approximately the same neighborhoods. Each route is headed by a Trail Boss.
- A Saddlebag has been prepared for each Route. Each Saddlebag will contain the Route and personal giving cards for each family in an unsealed envelope.
- The Trail Bosses will begin the Run in October or November. They will complete their giving card. Each giving card has 2 sections: 1) the large section of the giving card is placed in the envelope and sealed; 2) the small section of the giving card is to be kept as your reference throughout the year. They will return the sealed envelope to the Saddlebag.
- The Saddlebag is then taken to the first family on the Route. Families on the Route are listed by name, phone number, address and order of delivery. When you move the Saddlebag, call the Trail Boss that the bag has moved. This will allow us to track the progress of the Run. Our goal is to move the Saddlebag every 24 hours. When the last family on the Route has completed their giving card, call the Trail Boss to pick up the Saddlebag.
- The Saddlebags will be taken to the Church office. Our secretaries will open the envelopes, maintaining complete confidentiality as is done with your weekly giving. The Finance committee will be presented with the total of the estimated giving from all cards.

Remember, we are asking for an estimate of giving. We understand that your circumstances may change throughout the year. Things may occur which would prevent you from meeting your giving goal. Conversely, you might be able to give more than anticipated. This is not a pledge but an

estimate of giving which can be changed at any time. This process will facilitate budget planning to support St. Paul and our missions in 2025.

Please join us in this opportunity. Stewardship isn't a chore but a task performed willingly with the joy of personal giving and involvement in the life of our church.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

The Women Fellowship's Annual Food Drive will be held during the month of October.

Each year the Food Pantry provides families with the items needed to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner. The following is a list of the suggested food items: instant mashed potatoes, cranberries, gravy, cornbread mix, boxed stuffing, applesauce, biscuit mix, yams, green beans, corn, peas, pie filling.

Of course, any and all food items are gladly accepted. If you wish to have us purchase your food items, please make your check to St. Paul with a notation indicating the Food Drive. Please bring your donations to the church on Monday, Tuesday, Friday mornings or with you on Sunday mornings. There are containers located at the ramp and Narthex entrances. The goal for this year is to collect 1900 items of food.

The mission of St. Paul is "Sharing God's love by helping others". Please join us in helping to provide for those within our community who are in need.

ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS

HANDBELL CHOIR

The handbell choir has resumed its rehearsal schedule after taking the summer off. Practices are on Wednesday afternoons at 4:45 p.m. Anyone from the community, who would like to give ringing a try, is welcome to join the bell choir. Please contact Nancy Fagerness at 573-486-3700 for more information.

There have been a few recent personnel changes. We are happy to welcome Ben Berkemeyer back to the bell choir. He is anxious to ring again and is working hard to learn to play four-in-hand (two bells in each hand). Ben looks forward to the challenge, and he will do a fine job.

We are sorry to lose Mary Kunstmann, who has been a ringer in the bell choir for many years. Mary and Ken have moved to South Carolina and will be living near their daughter and family in the Greenville area. While she no longer will ring at St. Paul, she now is a ringer with Carolina Bronze in Greenville, a community based bell choir similar to the Columbia Handbell Ensemble that has played in Hermann for many years. We wish Mary great success in her new life in South Carolina.

This season's ringers include Dawn Maune, Ben Berkemeyer, Nancy Fagerness, Steve Beckmann, Bonnie Oncken, Becky Mayberry, Marilyn Loehnig and Colter Scheible. Our director is Jim Oncken. But, there is always room for more ringers.

The handbell choir will play at the 10:15 service on the fourth Sundays in September, October, November and December as well as at the Christmas Concert scheduled on Sunday, Dec. 22, at 5:00 p.m. We look forward to playing for the congregation this season and we thank you for your continued support.

Nancy Fagerness

CHOIR

The Sr. Choir has resumed practicing and it is great to be together singing praises to God. Although we are small, we are mighty.

It is so good to have everybody back sharing their musical talents and friendship. I appreciate their dedication and hard work.

We are busy preparing for Sunday morning worship services and the Christmas Concert, which will be December 22nd at 5:00 p.m. with the Bell Choir, Sr. Choir and Riverside Singers.

We would invite anyone who enjoys singing and friendship to join us. We practice on Wednesdays at 6:00 in the choir loft.

Come. "Sing to the Lord a new song"

LaNette Kotthoff

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Women's Fellowship enjoyed an informative presentation by Pastor Dave Thomas, talking about the work of Ministerial Alliance on Thursday, September 12.

Women's Fellowship's next meeting is Thursday, October 10 at 2:00 p.m. Three people will present information on CASA, the Foster Parent Meal Train, and the Franklin County Foster Closet.

Ashley Schneider is the current staff member of CASA who has an office at St. Paul. St. Paul has several members that participate in different roles for CASA in Gasconade County. All are welcome to attend this informative meeting. Refreshments will be served.

The Women Fellowship's meeting on November 14 at 2:00 p.m. will feature a staff member of the Hermann Police Department speaking about cyber security and fraud.

Women's Fellowship will host a Christmas luncheon on December 12 at 12:30 p.m. Details to follow.

AFTER SCHOOL BEARCATS

The After School Bearcat program has been meeting on Wednesdays from 3-5:00 P.M. We currently have twelve students from St. George, Hermann Elementary, and Hermann Middle school attending. We have approximately twenty volunteers that mentor students or help with food preparation. Susan Lenger teaches the students yoga. Linda Heck has led an art project with leaf painting. Ketha Bounds is helping teach music. We had an anonymous donor provide food staples for snacks and cooking. We are very thankful for our volunteers and all donations to the program.

We are always in need of more volunteers. Contact Sharen Speckhals @ 573-220-0965 if you are interested in volunteering or donating.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The next Christian Education meeting will be October 13 immediately following the church service.

LIT n' LATTE BOOK CLUB

Our book club is continuing to meet at Miss Clara's on the second Monday of every month. We meet at 10:00 for discussion and then enjoy lunch and fellowship together.

The book selection for October is *Circling the Sun*, by Paula McLain

If you enjoy reading and sharing your thoughts and feelings about books (or just listening to the discussion) we encourage you to join the group.

We have many different churches and walks of life represented and all are welcome! If you have any interest or questions about the book club, call or text Nancy Kirchhofer at 573-291-1126.

PASTOR/PARISH COMMITTEE

The Pastor/Parish Committee is a standing committee of St. Paul. The purpose of the committee is to support a healthy relationship between the pastor and the congregation to enhance the effectiveness of the church's ministry. The committee serves in two primary ways:

- As an advisory group to the pastor: sharing ideas, dreams, expectations, and concerns of the congregation with the pastor.

- As a support group for the pastor's leadership: interpreting roles, functions, boundaries, opportunities and needs of the pastor to the congregation.

If you feel the need to voice a concern on any topic, please follow St. Paul's policy by speaking with a member of the committee. We all have a right to our opinions but we need to think about our actions and the potential consequences they might create. Open, honest discussion will help resolve issues as they might arise.

Current members of the committee are: Sharen Speckhals, Mike Grosse, Scott Jacob and Maureen Heck.

OUTREACH

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.

St Paul UCC will receive this special offering throughout **October**. Special envelopes are on the table in back of church 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.

BLOOD DRIVE – SAVE THE DATE

Our annual Red Cross Blood Drive will be December 2, from 1-6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

CASA

Are you recently retired and/or looking for volunteer opportunities? Would you like to make a positive impact for a child in need?

CASA of Mideast Missouri advocates for the best interest of children of abuse and neglect who are currently placed in foster care in Franklin, Gasconade and Osage Counties. Our Volunteer Advocates are highly trained individuals that spend one-on-one time with foster children, getting to know their individual needs and concerns. Volunteers take this knowledge and use it to advocate for them before the courts, helping ensure their journey in foster care is safe, happy and never travelled alone. There are children in our area who need a **CASA! Could you be that someone?**

The next CASA volunteer training session will begin in October. To learn more or to apply, visit casamideastmo.org.

FOOD PANTRY

St. Paul UCC members are asked to bring food items for the community food pantry and place them near the church office. Requests for October are jelly, flour and soups. Requests for November are breakfast foods, crackers, and peanut butter. Monetary gifts are always welcome.

MISSION CUP

The Mission Cup for October will benefit the Hermann Food Pantry. The Hermann Food Pantry serves between 75 to 85 families consisting of around 200 family members primarily living within our school boundary. They are a completely volunteer organization with approximately 20 volunteers. The volunteers participate in organizing, collecting applications and determining how much food to order. They also help with unloading, boxing, and delivering the food. All of our food products are locally provided by monetary donations and food drives.

Our church is very active in the food pantry with three members serving on our governing board and members who volunteer at the pantry.

MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE

Anyone who is in need of assistance may call the Hermann Area Ministerial Alliance at 573-569-2082. The 5th Sunday offering of each month is designated for the Ministerial Alliance.

LITTLE FREE PANTRY

Girl Scout Troop 30657 has constructed a Little Free Pantry, as a project toward earning the Girl Scout Silver Award. It is located in front of the Hermann United Methodist Church on Hwy. 100 West, and needs: canned food, personal care items, kid-friendly snacks, and non-perishables. Donation boxes are located in the grocery stores and in the narthex and front entrances of St. Paul UCC. Please donate and help everyone out. Good job girls!

September 2024 Benevolences

	AMOUNT DONATED	AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED	AMOUNT DUE
Non-Budgeted Benevolence			
Hermann Food Pantry	351.15	251.15	100.00
Emmaus Homes	138.00	138.00	0.00
Ministerial Alliance	1,132.75	961.75	171.00
One Great Hour of Sharing	365.00	365.00	0.00
Gasconade Co. R-1 School	10.00	0.00	10.00
Riverbluff Industries	124.00	124.00	0.00
CWS Blanket Fund	200.00	200.00	0.00
Every Child's Hope	101.00	0.00	101.00
Camp MoVal	57.11	57.11	0.00
Back Pack Program	743.98	743.98	0.00
Special Olympics	530.25	530.25	0.00
Hermann Crusade Against Cancer	555.72	555.72	0.00
Unleashing Potential (Neighborhood Houses)	66.00	0.00	66.00
VFW	453.14	0.00	453.14
Backstoppers	272.00	272.00	0.00
Total non-budgeted benevolences	5,100.10	4,198.96	901.14
Budgeted Benevolence OCWM		4000.00	
Budgeted Benevolence Eastern Association		1000.00	
Total All Benevolences		9,198.96	

Hermann Crusade Against Cancer will be paid in late September.

TOUCH OF HOPE PROJECT

The Women's Fellowship is assisting the "Touch of Hope" project. This group distributes purses or shoe bags to women, men and children for various reasons such as domestic violence or homelessness, primarily in the state of Missouri. They fill the bags with personal care items to make them feel supported, such as new/gently used purses, new hygiene products such as tampons, pads, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, disposable razors, combs, brushes, lotion, first aid supplies, etc. There is a collection box near the church office. On it is a list of items requested. Information about this project is posted outside the church office.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy to the family of Carolyn Sue Berkemeyer

She is survived by her husband, John Berkemeyer; daughters, Madonna Palladino (Michael), Micki Knudsen (John); and sons, Erik Palladino (Melody) and Jeff Berkemeyer (Shannon), a sister and brother, eight grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

Our sympathy to the family of Roy Schroff who passed away September 4. He is survived by his wife Mary and many relatives and friends.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers are requested for Mary Korman, Marilyn Rethemeyer, Sharon Elliott, Robert Buesking, Moe Peters, Gary Grannemann, Joe Claus, Megan Daniels, Glen Holtgrewe, Janet Mueller, Shawn Davis, Tim Randles, Jane Mueller, Richard Fennesey, Christine Gleeson, Jeanne Hoffman, Jan Dial, Nancy Kirchhofer, Joe Hart, K.C. VonBehren, Nancy Wright, Jim Elliott, Rhonda Nauman, Brenda Todd, Avery Sherrow, Pat Propst, Ketha Bounds, staff and residents of area hospitals and care centers.

NURSING HOME & SHUT-INS

St. Paul members and friends who are residents of Victorian Place, Frene Valley of Hermann Stonebridge, and other shut-ins may enjoy a call or a card. If you know of someone living at home, in a care facility, or a caregiver who needs a church member to call or visit, please contact the church office so that we can reach out to them.

The Nurturing Committee; Church Office at 486-5525.

FRENE VALLEY OF HERMANN STONEBRIDGE

Janet Mueller

VICTORIAN PLACE (2120 Village Lane)

JoAnn Lenger, 573-282-0923

Gladys Schulte, Rm. 24

OPPORTUNITIES

ENDOWMENT FUND

There is a copy of the endowment policy on the back table. You may consider making a gift to St. Paul that will support this historic congregation into perpetuity. For as little as \$1,000 you can establish a named fund that will support this ministry even after you are gone. Please contact the church office with any questions.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Stewardship committee would like to mention a feature of the new tax law that could be of benefit to those who have attained age 72, who hold investments that are subject to RMDs (required minimum distributions) from IRA accounts. The account owner may direct the distribution check to an exempt charity, avoiding federal and state taxes, rather than receiving the required RMD check themselves. To be tax exempt, the distribution must be made payable directly to a qualified charity or church.

RMDs required from other investments such as 401(k) or 403(b) accounts do not qualify for this tax exemption. However, this same benefit can be obtained by transferring the desired RMD amount from these accounts to an IRA before December 31 of the year before the RMD is required.

So, for those over 72 with investment accounts, this new tax provision can be a major advantage to church members. And, this exemption is not limited to the required minimum—more can be distributed if desired.

If you have questions, you may contact Kenny Kunz, Finance/Budget Committee Chairman. For more information, a call to your tax advisor or financial institution is advised.

WORSHIP SERVICE

8/4	8/11	8/18	8/25	9/1	9/8	9/15	9/22	9/29
85	60	115	101	91	84	65	102	83

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

	Nursery	K-3	4-6	Confirmation	Adult	Staff	Total
9/8	1	5	6	7		1	19
9/15	1	3	4	*	*	1	8
9/22	1					1	2
9/29	1	2	4	7	12	1	27

*Did not meet

RECOGNIZING OUR CHURCH FAMILY

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY COUPLES

Twenty-four couples who have observed 50 or more wedding anniversaries were recognized during the worship service on September 15th. Following the service, the Family Life Committee provided lunch for the anniversary couples.

Those who belong to this select group include:

- John & Nancy Bartel, 72 years, May 18, 1952
- Ralph & Carol Uthlaut, 71 years, December 12, 1953
- Joe & Janet Hart, 64 years, August 20, 1960
- Ronald & Jeanne Fredrick, 62 years, May 12, 1962
- Robert & Nancy Kirchhofer, 61 years, November 2, 1963
- Kenneth & Jane Meyer, 60 years, February 8, 1964
- Melvin & Shirley Jacob, 60 years, April 4, 1964
- Don & Anne Althaus, 60 years, June 20, 1964
- Jack & Pat Wendleton, 60 years, August 21, 1964
- Wayne & Doris Grannemann, 57 years, February 17, 1967
- Wayne & Maureen Heck, 57 years, September 2, 1967
- Terry & Marilyn Loehnig, 56 years, June 22, 1968
- James & Marjorie Boedges, 56 years, December 20, 1968
- Rodney & Lois Mochel, 56 years, October 12, 1968
- Leon & Carroll LaBoube, 55 years, October 18, 1969
- Mark & Sharon Leech, 54 years, June 26, 1970
- Stanley & Carol Massman, 54 years, August 1, 1970
- Jim & Bonnie Oncken, 43 years, December 4, 1970
- Donald & Barbara Groppe, 53 years, June 12, 1971
- Wilmer & Josie Erling, 53 years, June 12, 1971
- Ervin & Jane Rehmert, 52 years, April 8, 1972
- Ken & Betty Oelschlaeger, 52 years, April 29, 1972
- Gordon & Linda Heck, 51 years, August 11, 1973
- Duane & Elaine Bierwirth, 50 years, June 29, 1974

Happy Anniversary!

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



50+ ANNIVERSARIES

Rodney and Lois Mochel will celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary on October 12.

Leon and Carroll LaBoube will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on October 18.

Robert and Nancy Kirchhofer will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary on November 2nd.
Congratulations to all!

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following members of our church family who will celebrate anniversaries in the month of October.

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

Congratulations to the following members of our church family who will celebrate anniversaries in the month of November

1	Allen & Sharen Speckhals	6	Stanley & Lisa Heying, Shane & Dana Sutton
2	Robert & Nancy Kirchhofer	7	Walter & Carol Schluss
4	4 James & Vicki Estes		

Congratulations to all.

BIRTHDAYS

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

1	Thomas Held, Craig Schannuth	13	Shane Schaefer, Ellen Scheible, Jennifer Schneider, Ashley Schreiner
2	Woody Heldt	14	Shanay Winkelmann
3	Ehren Oncken	21	Tesla Ruediger
5	Rebekah Mayberry	22	Donna Struttman
7	Darren Schutt	23	Clara Scheible; Allyson Hollrah
9	Parker Anderson	27	Bonnie Eikermann, Bryce Williams
10	Leslie Niro, Faith Williams	28	Nick Struttman
12	Lynn Koepke	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	14	Wanda Ruediger
3	Shaun Heying, Tara Zaugg	17	Ashley Nickles, Alverna Koch, Aimee Viehmann
4	Kale Bickmeyer	19	Samantha Boedges
5	Gary Grannemann	20	Lois Kruse, Debra Smith, Wil Toedtman

6	Brooke Grosse, Rodger Kiepe	21	Gordon Heck
8	Jane Meyer, Dan Wilson	22	Marilyn Rethemeyer
9	Ellen Schaumberg, Cole Smith	25	Nancy Johnston
10	JoAnn Cramer	27	Amy Grannemann, Rebecca Rector, Ken Wray
11	Caleb Brandt, Calvin Stiers	28	Dana Sutton
		30	Jonelle Loehnig

ADMINISTRATIVE

ACTIVITY BAGS FOR CHILDREN

We have put together church bags with crayons, color pages and plain paper for children to enjoy during the service. They are on the tables as you come into the sanctuary. Please take any papers with you after the service and replace the bags on the tables so we can refill them during the week. If you have suggestions for other things to include, please let the office know.

DROPBOX is located near the office door. Please use it for any office correspondence, offerings, etc. when office is closed.

CHURCH VAN

Please call the church office 486-5525 if you would like the church van to pick you up for worship service at St Paul. This service is free.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The office will be open 9-noon on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays; and other dates/times by appointment or by chance.

If you need to contact the church, please email churchoffice@hermannucc.com or call 573-486-5525; messages will be returned by the next business day. If you have an issue that needs immediate attention, you may call Pastor Andy at 618-578-2772.

NEWSLETTER MAILING

If you wish to receive the newsletter via e-mail, send e-mail to churchoffice@hermannucc.com with your name and indicate that you want to receive the newsletter by e-mail. If your email address changes, please keep the church office updated.

THANK YOU TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to everyone who helped with landscaping.

Thanks to LaNette Kotthoff for changing out flowers in the church

Thanks to everyone who helped to record and display the liturgy on the projection system.

Thanks to Nancy Kirchhofer, Susan Lenger, Matt Wesselschmidt, Alivia Witthaus, Nathan Menke, Dawn Maune, for serving as liturgists.

Thank you to Mary Leeper and Elaine Lalk for helping with office work recently.

Thank you to everyone who provides music every Sunday, including LaNette Kotthoff, Lois Kruse, Margie Greene, Craig Schannuth, Becky Mayberry, Dawn Maune, Josephine Tappmeyer, the Handbell Choir, and the Senior Choir.

THANK YOU NOTES

St. Paul UCC,

Thank you very much for your donation towards the Back To School Supply drive. We truly appreciate the church’s ongoing support in our efforts to serve the students in our community.

Thanks Again.

Dawn Grosse

Dear St. Paul UCC Congregation,

I want to share a sincere Thank You with you all for your continued support of our local Special Olympics. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will allow us to continue hosting this event for years to come. We couldn’t do it without the support of people like you!

Sincerely, Missy Ash

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please keep the church office updated on any changes to your phone number, e-mail or address. It is often difficult for us to contact you because you have changed your phone number. You can call or e-mail the church office at churchoffice@hermannucc.com.

To change your contact information, complete and return this form to the Church office, or put in the offering basket.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address/Zip: _____

Email: _____

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes—July 15, 2024

Members present: Pastor Andy Wilson, Craig Schannuth, President, Maureen Heck, Treasurer, Mary Leeper, Vicki Estes, Scott Jacob, Dawn Grosse and Chantele Watson.

Pastor Andy opened the meeting with prayer:

The floor was open for comments. No comments.

The meeting agenda was reviewed. Dawn Grosse made the motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Vickie Estes. Motion passed.

Maureen Heck made a motion to approve the June minutes as submitted. Seconded by Dawn Grosse. The motion carried.

Old Business:

1. Craig Schannuth has contacted West Paving concerning repair to the parking lot. They will be submitting a bid to grade the lot for adequate drainage and resurface with asphalt.
2. Dale Maune is obtaining bids to complete the painting of the aluminum trim on the church possible alternative to standard scaffolding.

New Business:

1. Mission Bucket for August will be Hermann Crusade for Cancer.
2. Pastor Andy reported on the activities of the last month as well as up-coming events. He was pleased to report that the congregation met and exceeded the monetary need of one of our members. The Chicken Fund raiser was a success with over \$2000 in profit and positive comments within the community.
3. Worship time will return to 10:15, beginning with Rally Sunday on August 18th.
4. Following the suggestion of the Finance Committee, persons who are making their offerings via on-line giving will be asked to change to bill pay. There is a large fee associated with the current form of payment. Those affected will be individually contacted.
5. An additional recommendation of the Finance Committee is to explore the possibility of opening a business account to replace the current checking and money market accounts at a larger earned interest rate. Maureen Heck will contact the three local banks for information concerning what options are available.
6. There was extensive discussion concerning the inadequate temperature regulation in the sanctuary. This has affected the comfort of our worshipers but also is a potential harm to the organ. The company that services the organ stated that varying the degree of temperature by more than 5 degrees will cause the organ to become out of tune. It is also not energy efficient to allow the area to become too warm and then attempt to cool down in a short period of time. The current thermostat is outdated. A motion was made by Maureen Heck to have Brian Grannemann replace the thermostat with a programable unit. Once the program has been set to the appropriate temperatures for the week, the unit will be sealed to avoid changes being made. Funding for this will come from Project Property. Motion was seconded by Dawn Grosse. Motion carried.
7. The Girl Scouts have asked to hold a "birthday kit" drive as one of their journey projects. They are asking to place a box at church for the collection of cake mix, icing, soda and pans from July 28th to August 1st. Request was approved.
8. Ushers: Vicki Estes will be responsible for the month of August.
9. Council reviewed the schedule of upcoming events.
 - A. July 21: Adult Sunday School 8:00; Worship Service 9:00
 - B. July 21-30: Rummage items received
 - C. July 28: Adult Sunday School 8:00; Worship Service 9:00
 - D. August 1-3: Rummage Sale
 - E. August 3: Men's Breakfast
 - F. August 4: Adult Sunday School 8:00; Worship Service 9:00 with communion
 - G. August 11: Adult Sunday School 8:00; Worship Service 9:00
 - H. August 18: Rally Sunday at the Amphitheater 10:15 with blessing of the Backpacks and presentation of the future confirmation class
 - I. August 19: Council meeting 7:00
 - J. Tentative Scout meetings: July 16, August 6,13,15
 - K. July 16: Quilters 8:00
10. There being no further business, Mary Leeper made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Scott Jacob. Motion carried.
11. The meeting concluded with the Lord's prayer.
Respectfully submitted, Maureen Heck, Treasurer

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – August 19, 2024

Members present: Pastor Andy Wilson, Craig Schannuth, President, Derek Menke, Vice-President, Maureen Heck, Treasurer, Dawn Maune, Secretary, Mary Leeper, Vicki Estes, Scott Jacob, Dawn Grosse, and Chantele Watson.

1. Pastor Andy led the Council in prayer.
2. The floor was open for comments. No comments.
3. The meeting agenda was reviewed. Dawn Grosse made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mary Leeper, the motion carried.
4. Vicki Estes made a motion to approve the July minutes; Chantele Watson seconded the motion; the motion carried.
5. Old Business
 - A. Parking lot – Craig Schannuth reported that West no longer has the equipment to do small jobs and has another recommendation from Terry Kirchhofer and is waiting for them to call back.
 - B. Painting – Still waiting to hear from contractors that Dale Maune submitted bids to.
 - C. Rally Sunday – Was very successful. Next year a committee or list of workers will need to be formed to help with the details of the event.
 - D. Thermostat in sanctuary – It is installed and working well. The fans in the doorways can be put away and doors closed during worship.
 - E. Checking accounts - After much discussion and research, a motion was made by Derek Menke and seconded by Dawn Grosse stating that the church accounts will be moved to Peoples Savings Bank. The Sunday School (Christian Ed) account will be a checking account with checks written from that account. The Student Loan fund and its money market will be converted to an interest-bearing money market account with checks written from that account. After this transition has been achieved, the general checking and money market accounts will be combined into an interest-bearing business money market account with checks written from that account. The motion carried.
6. New Business
 - A. Mission Bucket for September will be the VFW. Dale Maune will submit a short explanation for the bulletin.
 - B. Pastor's Report: Pastor Andy shared the events of last month as well as upcoming events. Pastor Andy reported that he will have five confirmands in the next class and updated us on the committees that Darren Schutt has resigned from. Pastor Andy said that Susan Lenger has agreed to fill the Christian Ed. spot. There will be a fall workday and Maureen Heck will set a date and find help with that before the Sausage Supper and the Eastern Assoc. meeting on Sept. 29th. Pastor Andy also asked about again paying for half of the fee for our members to attend the women's retreat in March 2025. A motion was made by Scott Jacob and seconded by Dawn Grosse, motion carried. The funds are to be taken from the general account.
 - C. Treasurer's report: Maureen Heck reported that Derek Menke has helped in explaining the UCF accounts, how they work, and that they are doing well.
 - D. Ushers: September is Craig Schannuth's month.
7. Council reviewed upcoming events: The Golden Anniversary lunch has been moved from Sept. 8 to Sept. 15.

- A. Wednesday, August 21: Choir rehearsals resume 6:30
- B. Sunday, August 25: Adult Sunday School 9:00; Worship Service 10:15
- C. Wednesday, August 28: After School Bearcats resume 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals resume 4:00
- D. Sunday, September 1: Adult Sunday School 9:00; Worship service /Communion 10:15
- E. Saturday, September 7: Men's Breakfast 8:00
- F. Sunday, September 8: Sunday School/Confirmation; Adult Sunday School 9:00; Worship service, 10:15
- G. Thursday, September 12: Women's Fellowship meet 2:00
- H. September 9-16 Pastor's Vacation
- I. Monday, September 16: Council meeting 7:00
- Golden Anniversary Celebration moved to Sept. 15th.

- 8. There being no further business, Derek Menke made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mary Leeper seconded the motion; the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.
- 9. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer
Respectfully submitted, Dawn Maune, Secretary

October 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7:00 Scouts	2 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	3	4	5 8:00 Men's Breakfast
6 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/Communion	7	8 7:00 Scouts	9 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	10 2:00 Women's Fellowship – CASA Representative	11 Wedding Rehearsal	12 Wedding
13 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services 11:15 Christian Ed Meeting	14 10:00 Book Club	15 8:00 Quilters 7:00 Scouts	16 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	17 7:00 Scouts	18	19
20 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/Baptism	21 7:00 Church Council	22	23 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	24	25	26
27 8:00 Adult Bible Study 10:15 Worship Services	28	29	30 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	31		

November 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00 Men's Breakfast
3 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/Communion	4	5 7:00 Scouts	6 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	7	8	9
10 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/communion	11 Veterans Day	12 6:30 Scouts	13 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	14 2:00 Women's Fellowship	15	16
17 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	18 7:00 Church Council	19 8:00 Quilters 7:00 Scouts	20 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir	21 7:00 Scouts	22	23
24 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services – Totenfest 7:00 pm Community Thanksgiving Services	25	26	27 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells	28 Thanksgiving	29	30