



December/January 2024-25 Hilltop Herald

Dear Congregation,

As December unfolds, we find ourselves in the sacred season of Advent—a time of waiting, wonder, and preparation. Our journey through the Gospel of Luke has begun with its opening verses, setting the stage for the miraculous story of Christ's birth. The Gospel reminds us of God's faithfulness and the hope fulfilled in Jesus. As we light each candle on the Advent wreath, may we reflect on the promise of God's light breaking through the darkness and carry that light into the world around us.

Christmas is the culmination of this season, the celebration of Emmanuel—God with us. Amid the joy and festivities, we are reminded of the humble beginning of our Savior's story. This holy time invites us to open our hearts to the transformative power of God's love. Join us for our Christmas Eve services as we gather to celebrate the birth of Christ through scripture, song, and candlelight, sharing in the joy that unites us as believers.

As the calendar turns to January, we continue our journey through the Gospel of Luke, chapter by chapter, verse by verse. Starting the new year with a focus on Christ's life and ministry offers us an opportunity to deepen our faith and grow in our understanding of what it means to follow him. Whether you join us in worship, small group studies, or personal reflection, let us commit to making 2025 a year of spiritual renewal, rooted in the good news of the Gospel.

January also calls us to consider new beginnings. The start of a year is a chance to reflect on God's call in our lives and recommit ourselves to living as Christ's disciples. As a church, we are looking ahead to exciting opportunities for ministry, outreach, and fellowship. Together, let us step into this new year with faith, hope, and the assurance that God's presence is with us every step of the way. In Christ's Love, Pastor Andy

Catechism Corner: Reflections on the Evangelical Catechism

- 4. Where are we told about the promises of God, the joyous fact of our salvation, and God's astonishing love for the whole creation?**
- A. We are told about God's promises and the audaciousness of God's love for us all in the Holy Scriptures, which were written by people of faith who were moved by the Holy Spirit.**

The Holy Scriptures are a profound gift, revealing the promises of God, the joy of our salvation, and the boundless love God has for all creation. These sacred writings, authored by people of faith under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, invite us into the unfolding story of God's relationship with humanity and the world. Through Scripture, we witness the steadfastness of God's covenant, the grace offered through Christ's sacrifice, and the hope that sustains us in every season. As we engage with these texts, we are called to trust in God's promises, live joyfully in the assurance of salvation, and share in God's love for the world.

Question for thought: How does reflecting on God's promises in scripture shape the way you live out your faith daily?

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

BELL RINGERS NEEDED: St. Paul, as part of the Ministerial Alliance, will again participate in the annual fund-raising drive. We will be responsible for bell ringers at Village Market on Fridays and Saturdays from, 9-5, beginning Nov. 29th through Dec. 2nd. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. Please volunteer two hrs. of your time to help those persons within our community who need assistance.

FUNDRAISER DRAWING. We are having a Fundraiser drawing in November/December this year. The tickets will be \$50, and only 250 tickets will be sold. Winning tickets will be placed back for all drawings. There will be seven, \$500 drawings and two, \$1,000 drawings. For more information, contact Dale Maune at 636-432-6296, or stop by the church office. There are still tickets available.

ST. PAUL UCC - HERMANN Winter Drawing

- 1 - \$500 Early bird drawing Winner on Thanksgiving Day
- 1 - \$1,000 Winner on Christmas Eve
- 1 - \$1,000 Winner on Christmas Day
- 1 - \$500 Winner on each of the following days:
December 26, 27,28,29,30 & 31

\$50 Each ~ Only 250 tickets sold
Winning Ticket will be placed back in the drawings.

TIME & TALENT SHEETS

Enclosed are the 2025 Time & Talent sheets. Please add your name to the lists to help with various duties and to volunteer for various committees. There are also copies in the front and back of church. This list is most helpful to the church council, the pastor, and the office to fill the positions when they arise. Thank you for any help you are able to provide. Please return to the office by January 6.

BLOOD DRIVE DECEMBER 2

St. Paul UCC will host a Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall on Monday, December 2 from 1:00-6:00 p.m. Please call 1-800-Red Cross (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter StPaulUCCHermann to schedule an appointment. **“Give something that means something, give blood”**

2025 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The boxes of church offering envelopes for 2025 will be set out soon on the table in back of church. Your numbers may be different than they were for 2024; **new numbers will be assigned** for some of you. Please use the new boxes and discard the old ones. If you do not see a box with your name; or if you are not using offering envelopes at the present time but would like to receive a box, please let the office know.

Please contact the office if you would like a Sunday School box of envelopes. Your number for the Sunday School envelopes will **NOT** be the same as last year. A new number will be assigned.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES

Special offering envelopes have been included in this newsletter to receive extra gifts to benefit the Current Fund. These extra gifts will help meet the budget which was approved at the last annual meeting and help to make sure we are able to meet our end-of-year obligations. For those of you receiving the newsletter by email, envelopes will be available on the tables at church. Thank you for these special Christmas gifts.

CHRISTMAS FUND (Veterans of the Cross)

There are also envelopes on the tables for the 2025 Christmas Fund (formerly Veterans of the Cross). The mission of the Christmas Fund is to provide assistance dollars in situations of critical need, while preserving the dignity of those who receive the aid. The goal is to raise money for the vital ministries of Pension Supplementation, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants, and Christmas “Thank You” Gift checks to lower-income retirees during 2025.

CHRISTMAS FLORAL & MONETARY GIFTS

The time is near to receive the list of memorial gifts and poinsettias for use during the Christmas services on December 22 and 24. The flowers need to be brought to the church by 12:00 noon on Friday, December 20. We will need the following information no later than December 10 so the Christmas Memorial List can be compiled.

I (we) plan to place a poinsettia in church for the Christmas altar in memory (in honor) of

I(we) plan to give a cash gift as a memorial for

The gift will be presented by

SNOW CANCELLATIONS

In case snow and ice would make it necessary to cancel worship service on a Sunday morning, check Fox 2 News, KRCG 13, and KPLR. A message will be scrolled across the bottom of their broadcast along with other cancellations. So, if you are wondering about worship service, check there.

EMMAUS HOME Rev. and Mrs. Klemme recorded a video sharing their first memories of Emmaus and the importance of the Church's continued support. There are bookmarks in the front and back of church that include a link to this video.

ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS/GROUPS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The next Christian Education meeting will be February 9th immediately following the church service.

The Christmas activities that have been planned this year include the following Advent activities, as well as the program and end of year information.

December 1: Advent Workshop 9:00-10:00 (during the Sunday School Hour)

December 14: Parent's Night Out (Pizza, practice for Christmas Program, games for the kids) 5-8 pm

December 15: Christmas practice at 9:00 a.m.; Christmas program at 10:15; Christmas Caroling & Pizza

December 29: NO Sunday School



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The St. Paul UCC Christmas Concert will be presented on Sunday, Dec. 22 at 3:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The performers include the Riverside Singers, Senior Choir, and Handbell Choir.

“A Thrill of Hope” is a Christmas Musical arranged by Joel Raney. The Senior Choir, directed by LaNette Kotthoff and accompanied by Lois Kruse, will perform this 30-minute program that is filled with familiar carols and hymns. “A Thrill of Hope” celebrates the birth of Christ from four vantage points--Hope, Love, Peace and Joy.

The Riverside Singers will perform “Jolly Jingle Christmas Medley” featuring five traditional carols arranged in upbeat and interesting musical styles. Numbers include “Up on the Housetop”, “Deck the Hall”, “O Christmas Tree”, “Jingle Bells”, and “Jolly Old St. Nicholas”.

The Handbell Choir will open the program with the rousing “Christmas Bell Suite”, a medley of familiar carols. Additional pieces include “Gesù Bambino”, “We Three Kings”, “Rocking Carol”, and “An Appalachian Christmas”.

All are welcome to attend this free concert, which is open to the public. Bring your family and friends to share in an afternoon of music of the season. Proceeds from the free-will offering will support the Hermann Community Christmas program.

HANDBELL CHOIR

The Handbell Choir is diligently working on music for the Christmas Concert. We hope you'll join us on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 22, at 3 p.m. for a festive afternoon of holiday music presented by the Handbell Choir, Senior Choir, and the Riverside Singers. The bells can also be heard that same morning at the 10:15 service.

This will be our last time to ring in 2024, but you can look for us to resume ringing on the fourth Sunday of the month from February through May in 2025. We will take the month of January off from ringing, but will be planning for the spring semester during the hiatus.

On behalf of the handbell choir, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Nancy Fagerness, Ringer

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Women's Fellowship will host a Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 14 at 12:30 p.m. Pastor Andy Wilson will lead a devotional after lunch. Please bring a \$5 gift for a gift exchange.

The officers will provide the entrée. Members A through M please bring cookies. Members O through W please bring a salad. Women's Fellowship will not meet in January. The next meeting will be February 13. Program to be announced.

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. Be sure to call ahead for lunch reservations.

The book selections for next year are:

- January 13 *Simon the Fiddler*, by Jiles
- February 10 *The Color of Water*, by McBride
- March 10 *The Women*, by Hannah
- April 14 *Tom Lake*, by Patchett
- May 12 *The Boys from Biloxi*, by John Grisham
- June 9 *The Briar Club*, by Quinn

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

AFTER SCHOOL BEARCATS

After School Bearcats continues to meet on Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00 P.M. Thirteen students from St. George, Hermann Elementary, and Hermann Middle School come to have snacks, read, get help with homework, and do enrichment activities. Students recently made pizzas using English muffins and various toppings. Other enrichment activities have included music taught by Ketha Bounds, yoga led by Susan Lenger, and various art activities led by Linda Heck. Bronya Gumper helped students make cards for Veterans Day which went to family members or were given to the high school to be handed out at the Veteran's Day celebration on November 11. The students will be making Christmas gifts for themselves or family members. We will take a break on Christmas and New Year's Day and return on January 8.

We are thankful for our volunteers who mentor or prepare food. We have approximately 20 volunteers who help in a variety of ways. Some volunteers prepare projects, donate food or materials for projects, mentor students or prepare food. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office or Sharen Speckhals at 573-220-0965.

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

This year's goal was to collect 1900 items. That goal was exceeded with 2014 items collected \$1063.78 was also collected. Thank you for again demonstrating your generous spirit to help those within our community.

HURRICANE ASSISTANCE: Church World Service is inviting our congregation to join them in supporting the Helene and Milton Relief Fund. This fund allows them to provide immediate relief and long-term recovery solutions to those affected by these hurricanes. If you would like to make a donation, please designate your check to Hurricane Relief Fund and we will forward it to Church World Service.

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?**

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 December are canned meats, pasta and dried staples. Requests for January are desserts, paper towels, and bathroom tissue. Monetary gifts are always welcome.

DECEMBER MISSION BUCKET: Every Child's Hope (ECH), formerly known as Evangelical Children's Home, was founded in 1858. As the needs of children and their families in St. Louis and across the state of Missouri have evolved, the programs and services at ECH have adapted to meet the ever-changing needs. Services now include Residential Treatment, Steppingstones Transitional Living, ECH School, and Foster Care Management. For many years St. Paul UCC collected and donated "White Gifts" at Christmas. That process has changed to monetary donations to be used for Christmas Gifts, to support various programs and to purchase things the children need in the ECH school.

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!

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.

November 2024 Benevolences

	AMOUNT DONATED	AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED
Non-Budgeted Benevolence		
Hermann Food Pantry	1414.93	1414.93
Emmaus Homes	138.00	138.00
Samaritan Outreach	1,132.75	961.75
One Great Hour of Sharing	365.00	365.00
Gasconade Co. R-1 School	10.00	0.00
Riverbluff Industries	124.00	124.00
CWS Blanket Fund	350.00	200.00
Every Child’s Hope	171.00	0.00
Camp MoVal	57.11	57.11
Neighbors in Need	145.00	0.00
Back Pack Program	743.98	743.98
Special Olympics	530.25	530.25
Hermann Crusade Against Cancer	555.72	555.72
Unleashing Potential (Neighborhood Houses)	66.00	0.00
VFW	453.14	453.14
Community Christmas	234.91	0.00
Backstoppers	272.00	272.00
Total non-budgeted benevolences	6763.79	5815.88

PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers are requested for Mary Korman, Marilyn Rethemeyer, Sharon Elliott, 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, Helen Davis, Rev. Beth McLaughlin, Bob Todd, Ruby Hetlodge, Don Hilgert, Daryl Heck, Nancy Schutt, Michael Benvenuti Sr., Emily Benvenuti, and Michael Benvenuti Jr., staff and residents of area hospitals and care centers, and all affected by recent disasters.

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy to the family of Scott Peters especially to his mother, Moe (Frieda) of Hermann; a daughter, Erica Herron and husband Steven, a son Brandon Peters and wife Nicole; four grandchildren; and two sisters, Cindy Penning and husband Matt and Kelly Hanger and husband Steve.

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.

RECOGNIZING OUR CHURCH FAMILY

BAPTISMS

Parker Diebal was baptized October 20, 2024. He is the son of Jared Diebal and Melanie & Jason Pruessner. His godparents are Luke Shaw and Tami Clark.

Colter Scheible was baptized October 13, 2024, by full immersion in the Gasconade River with Rev. Andrew Wilson officiating. Colter's parents are Jeff and Ellen Scheible.

WEDDINGS

Brooke Grosse and Jonathan Fleer were married on October 12, 2024 at St. Paul UCC, with Rev. Andrew Wilson officiating. Brooke is the daughter of Mike & Dawn Grosse and Jonathan is the son of David & Cindy Fleer.

Austin Lietzow and Ashlee Kiderlen were married September 28, 2024, at St. Paul UCC with Rev. Andrew Wilson officiating. Ashlee is the daughter of Doug and Paula Kiderlen. The couple reside in Morrison, Missouri.

GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



50+ ANNIVERSARIES

Jim & Bonnie Oncken were married December 4, 1970 and will celebrate their 54th anniversary this year.

Ralph & Carol Uthlaut were married December 12, 1953 and will celebrate their 70th anniversary this year.

James & Marjorie Boedges were married December 20, 1968 and will celebrate their 55th anniversary this year.

Donald and Catherine Foust were married December 28, 1974 and will celebrate their 50th anniversary this month.

ANNIVERSARIES

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

3	Frank III & Ellen Struttman		
4	Jim and Bonnie Oncken	20	James and Marjorie Boedges
12	Ralph and Carol Uthlaut	28	Donald and Catherine Foust
14	Gary and Linda Blackwood	30	Tim and Rebecca Cramer

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

1	James & Sharon Hoerstkamp		
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Congratulations to all.

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday greetings are extended to the following church family who will celebrate birthdays in December:

2	Colter Scheible, Emmett Scheible	14	Dawn Page Sanderlin
3	Shirley Kunz	15	Jayne Lewallen, Jacob Murphy
4	Shannon Berkemeyer, Ervin Rehmert	16	Alyssa Schirmer
6	Doris Grannemann, Melissa Schaumberg	18	Hannah Grosse, Derek Menke, Ralph Uthlaut
9	Jocelyn Kreftmeyer	20	Kara Hughes, Tim Schaumberg
10	Parker Puchta	21	Mary Wesselschmidt
11	Shane Sutton	22	Lance Uthlaut
12	Jason Eikermann, Emily Kunz	28	Dale Maune, Annette Witthaus, Josh Witthaus, Marilyn Koenig
13	Braden Hart	29	Bob Kirchhofer, Erika Schutt

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

1	Holly Brethorst, Drake Fredrick, Jenna Schaefer	19	Duane Bierwirth, Robert Winkelmann
2	Diane Lause	20	Chesney Fries, Andy Wilson
3	Dawn Grosse, Chad Schneider, Christina Menke	22	Dorie Draper, Tom Rethemeyer, Nathan Menke
9	Dortha Coulter	23	Barbara Schutt
10	Brian Rector	25	Janet Rector
11	Beverly Englert	27	Jim Hoerstkamp
12	Walter Schluss, Vicki Estes	29	Madison Schneider
13	Rhona Nauman	31	Rachael Williams
14	Donald Foust, Mat Rogers, Charlotte Struttman, Jack Wendleton, Sarah Smith		
15	Diana Cramer		

WORSHIP SERVICE

10/6	10/13	10/20	10/27	11/3	11/10	11/17	11/24
101	91	121	90	80	105	106	94

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

	Nursery	K-3	4-6	Confirmation	Adult	Staff	Total
10/6	3	4	6	7	14	1	35
10/13	3	5	6	7	17	1	39
10/20	2	4	5	6	16	1	34
10/27	3	3	2	7	16	1	32
11/3					15	1	16
11/10	4	4	4		13	1	26
11/17	3	4			15	1	23
11/24	1	2	3	6	14	1	27

ADMINISTRATIVE

VILLAGE MARKET CASH SAVER RECEIPTS

Please save your receipts from Village Market Cash Saver and place them in the boxes on the tables. The church receives a 1% rebate for them. All of your receipts really add up.

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 Derek Menke, Susan Lenger, Matt Wesselschmidt, Steve Lenger, Nathan Menke, Dawn Maune, for serving as liturgists.

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

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

THANK YOU NOTES

The Hermann Crusade Against Cancer wishes to thank you for your generous donation. Since 2005, monetary gifts like yours have aided 245 applicants, easing some of their concerns during cancer treatments. Your gift is most appreciated.

Dear St. Paul UCC Members,

Thank you so much for your large donation of food to the Hermann Community Food Pantry. Your gift goes directly to those in need, and allows us to continue our mission to help the underserved in our area. We truly appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness.

The Hermann Community Food Pantry

Dear St. Paul UCC Congregation,

I want to share a sincere thank you for 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

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 Friends,

Thank you for your generosity with a donation of \$453.14 to the Hermann Food Pantry. The Community Foundation of the Ozarks, along with our regional affiliate foundations, is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in our region and we are grateful for the confidence you have shown by entrusting your gift to us.

Sincerely, Winter Kinne, President & CEO, Community Foundation of the Ozarks.

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.

<p>To change your contact information, complete and return this form to the Church office, or put in the offering basket.</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Phone Number: _____</p> <p>Address/Zip: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – September 16, 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. Maureen Heck made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Derek Menke, the motion carried.
4. Chantele Watson made a motion to approve the July minutes; Dawn Grosse seconded the motion; the motion carried.
5. Old Business
 - A. Craig Schannuth reported that no interest has been found in re-doing the parking lot but to keep looking. Item on hold but leave on agenda.
 - B. We've received 2 bids for painting, waiting for a third to compare since the first 2 are very different.
 - C. Thermostat in sanctuary is working well, can be removed from agenda.
 - D. Checking accounts – Mary informed Missouri Bank that we will be closing our accounts and will open accounts at Peoples Savings Bank after item F under new business is completed.

- E. Maureen will contact members and get help with cleaning when needed before a wedding on Sept. 28th and the Eastern Association Meeting on Sept. 29th. Remove from agenda.
6. New Business
- A. Mission Bucket for October will be the Hermann Food Pantry
 - B. Pastor Andy shared the events of last month as well as upcoming events. Pastor Andy reported that he will have 7 confirmands, 2 of them coming from High Hill and that they will be able to zoom the class most of the time so that they can attend their own church.
 - C. Treasurer's report: Maureen Heck reported that progress is being made in opening Sunday School and Student loan accounts at Peoples Savings Bank. Maureen is also checking on total pledge amounts to see how it compares with where we are so far this year with giving totals.
 - D. Ushers: October is Maureen Heck's month.
 - E. Supporting the Sunday School was tabled until the Christian Ed. Committee meets in Oct. to find out what exactly they are needing for the Sunday School program.
 - F. See addendum.
7. Council reviewed upcoming events:
- A. Wednesday, September 18: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - B. Sunday, September 22: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15; Pastor/Parish meeting 11:15
 - C. Wednesday, September 25: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - D. Sunday, September 29: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15; Eastern Association meeting 3:00
 - E. Wednesday, October 2: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - F. Saturday, October 5: Men's Breakfast 8:00
 - G. Sunday, October 6: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service (World-Wide Communion) 10:15
 - H. Wednesday, October 9: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - I. Thursday, October 10: Women's Fellowship meet 2:00
 - J. Sunday, October 13: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15; Christian Ed meeting 11:15
 - K. Wednesday, October 23: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - L. Sunday, October 20 Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15
 - M. Monday, October 21: Council meeting 7:00
 - N. Tentative Scout meetings September 17,19, October 1,8,15,17,21
September 17 & October 21: 8:00 Quilters
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

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – Addendum, September 16, 2024

A motion was made by Maureen Heck to authorize Mary Binkholder, Fay Scheible, Craig Schannuth – President, and Maureen Heck – Treasurer, to sign checks for our new accounts at Peoples Savings Bank and that there will be 2 signatures required.

This motion was seconded by Scott Jacob and all council members approved the motion; the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted, Dawn Maune, Secretary

St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – October 21, 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, and Chantele Watson.

1. Pastor Andy led the Council in prayer.
 - a. The floor was open for comments. Dale Maune was present to discuss a few items with the council. First, we reviewed the 3 bids for painting and decided the middle bid was the most complete. Maureen Heck made a motion for Gateway Centre Services LLC to paint the metal gable, eaves, dental mold, etc. and replace the gable vent. Derek Menke seconded the motion, the motion carried. The funds are to come out of the Project Property account.
 - b. Second, Dale Maune presented an example of the raffle ticket for the winter fundraiser for everyone to review and said that sales would begin Nov. 1 if the council voted to do it. Vicki Estes made a motion to go ahead with the fundraiser, Scott Jacob seconded, motion carried.
 - c. Third, Dale Maune brought up how dark the lower parking lot below the parsonage is and suggested that the existing light be replaced before the Christmas Eve service. Maureen Heck made a motion to replace the light, Mary Leeper seconded, motion carried. Dale Maune will contact Grannemann Electric to replace it, and the funds are to come out of Project Property.
2. The meeting agenda was reviewed. Maureen Heck made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mary Leeper, the motion carried.
3. Derek Menke made a motion to approve the September minutes; Maureen Heck seconded the motion; the motion carried.
4. Old Business
 - a. Craig Schannuth reported that he has found someone to look at the lower parking lot below the parsonage in a few weeks for repairs. He will continue to look for others.
 - b. Painting: Discussed in opening comments.
 - c. Sunday School and Student Aid checking accounts have been moved to Peoples Savings Bank and progress is being made on the remaining accounts.
 - d. Sunday School support: Maureen Heck talked with Susan Lenger, and she said they don't need any extra funds at this time. Remove item from agenda.
5. New Business
6. Mission Bucket for November will be Community Christmas.

7. Pastor Andy shared the events of last month as well as upcoming events. Pastor Andy reported that worship attendance is up and that there have been quite a few baptisms and weddings in October. Pastor Andy suggested a 2025 Church Rejuvenation program where a group of interested members would get together and discuss the things the church is doing or could do and decide if there is room for improvement, discuss our purpose, ways to get more involvement in committees, etc.
8. Treasurer's report: Maureen Heck reported that about 68% of giving from pledges has been received.
9. Ushers: November is Dawn Grosse's month.
10. Fundraiser raffle: Discussed in opening comments.
11. Contribution letters: It was decided that it was a little late in the year to send them out this year but will send them out next year around June.
12. Council reviewed upcoming events:
 - A. Wednesday, October 23: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - A1. Thursday, October 24: Bell rehearsals 4:00
 - B. Sunday, October 27: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15
 - C. Wednesday, October 30: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - D. Thursday, October 31: Trunk or Treat at Hermann Lumber parking lot
 - E. Saturday, November 2: Men's Breakfast 8:00
 - F. Sunday, November 3: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; NO School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; Worship service w/Communion 10:15
 - G. Wednesday, November 6: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - H. Saturday, November 9: Baby Shower in MPR; Samaritan outreach distribution.
 - I. Sunday, November 10: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15
 - J. Wednesday, November 13: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
 - K. Monday, November 18: Council meeting 7:00
 - L. Sunday, November 20: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15
 - M. Tentative Scout meetings November 5,12,19,21
November 19: 8:00 Quilters
13. There being no further business, Maureen Heck made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Chantele Watson seconded the motion; the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.
14. The meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer
Respectfully submitted, Dawn Maune, Secretary

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/Communion	2 1-6 pm Blood Drive 6:30 Choir	3 7:00 Scouts	4 3:30 After-School Bearcats	5	6	7 8:00 Men's Breakfast
8 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	9 10:00 Book Club	10 6:30 Scouts	11 3:30 After-School Bearcats 6:30 Choir	12 12:30 Women's Fellowship Christmas Party	13	14 9-11 Samaritan Outreach open 5-8 Parents' night out
15 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services Sunday School Christmas Program, Caroling and pizza	16 7:00 Church Council	17 8:00 Quilters 7:00 Scouts	18 3:30 After-School Bearcats 6:30 Choir	19 7:00 Scouts	20	21
22 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services 3:00 Christmas Concert	23	24 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
29 8:00 Adult Bible Study 10:15 Worship Services	30	31				

January 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 8:00 Men's Breakfast
5 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/communion	6	7 6:30 Scouts	8 3:30 After-School Bearcats	9	10	11 9-11 Samaritan Outreach open
12 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	13 8-5 Quilters 10:00 Book Club	14 7:00 Scouts	15 3:30 After-School Bearcats	16	17 Boy Scout Lock-in	18 Boy Scout Lock-in
19 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	20 7:00 Church Council	21 8:00 Quilters 6:30 Scouts	22 3:30 After-School Bearcats	23 7:00 Scouts	24	25
26 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services Soup Sunday	27	28	29 3:30 After-School Bearcats	30	31	