



Solar Update: After over one year of trying to get SREC (Solar Energy Recovery Credits) approval, we found out that we are not eligible for this program; only low income areas qualify.

We have applied as a commercial business and are waiting for approval from Ameren; and then we need approval from Carbon Solutions, the ones with the SREC's. Please be patient.

New Consistory members are Joan Daab, Dennis Hoguet, Mary Hillestad and Gregg Giffhorn.

Trivia Night will be held March 7, at Turner Hall. Doors open at 6 p.m., and trivia starts at 7 p.m. Child Care available at St. Paul Church from 6:30 p.m.—10:30 p.m. Call the church office to sign up.

Gifts received. Gifts given. The spirit of Christmas continues at St. Paul around the year. I continue to be overwhelmed by those of you who remember me, and Jan, throughout the year, but most intentionally during the year-end holiday season. It is not just the gift that we remember. It is being remembered that we remember one another. Thank you for your support through your loving prayers and cards and gifts. Thank you for your continued support throughout my ministry with you. God's blessing to all of you throughout 2020 and throughout the entirety of your lives.

Pastor Bob



**SAVE THE DATE...VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:
JUNE 8 - 12, 9 A.M. - NOON**

**Joins us as we explore the
*Quest for the King's Armor!***

We're going on a quest this year and need you to join us on our way to Knights of the North Castle. This noble adventure includes music, amazing science, creative crafts, fun recreation and memorable Bible stories that will show us God's amazing strength.

Ephesians 6:10 Be strong in the Lord and the strength of his power.

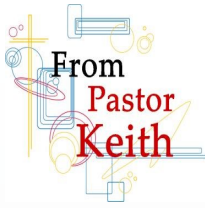
Look for registration online in March! To sign up for opportunities to serve, lead and most of all, HAVE FUN on an adventure at Knights of the North Castle contact Denise Johnson email denisej@stpaulucc4u.org or cell 618-340-2952.

ISC FESTIVAL OF FAITH
Festival of Faith 2020, an event for 6th-8th graders and their chaperones, will take place on Saturday, February 15 - Sunday, February 16, at DuBois Center. For a third year, we welcome Craig Bielke, from St Paul UCC in Belleville as the event's leader and thank him for taking on this exciting but challenging responsibility! All are invited to worship, play, grow and experience God's great back yard at DuBois Center. While we have already submitted our space request form, there may be space available, so let Pastor Keith know if you are interested **by February 4.**

CHILDREN'S DEFENSE FUND PROCTOR BOOK CLUB
Tammy Krebel and Pastor Keith are co-leading a book study promoted by the Deaconess Foundation. Our book will be Nobody Cries When We Die: God, Community, and Surviving to Adulthood, by Patrick B. Reyes. Together we will grow in our understanding of those who are on the margins, and discuss our own faith response to a world of need. This book would be a helpful companion for those involved with the TWIGS program, or Kindercottage ministry. Contact the Pastor Keith or the church office if you are interested.
Sign-Up by February 7, for us to order a book.
Discussion on Thursday, March 5 – Third Floor - 7 p.m.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE GIVING TREE! The gifts went to children and adults in need, including Hoyleton, Bridges of Hope, Kindercottage, a women's shelter, as well as several local families.
ON A MISSION
Our Sunday school wants to thank everyone who donated food and/or money for the Holiday Food baskets. 30 baskets filled with yummy holiday fixings were made, blessed and handed out in our community. Thank you for adding holiday cheer to so many families.

MYSTERY GETS YOU!



“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Isaiah 55:8-9

“That which is impossible for you is not impossible to me: I will preserve my word in all things and I will make all things well.’ This is the great deed that Our Lord will do.... Our good Lord answered all my questions and doubts by saying with full energy: ‘I can make all things well, I know how to make all things well, I desire to make all things well, I will make all things well. And you will see with your own eyes that every kind of thing will be well.’” Julian of Norwich (1342—C. 1416)

“Remember, mystery isn’t something you cannot understand—it is something that you can endlessly understand! There is no point at which you can say, ‘I’ve got it.’ Always and forever, mystery gets you!” Richard Rohr

This year our confirmation curriculum began with this quote from Richard Rohr. It is a reminder, not just for those beginning their faith journey, but for all those who continue onward. It reminds us that God is beyond human understanding. Now, that doesn’t mean we know nothing, because we indeed know some things, but we are reassured that unknown to us, God is actively at work in our time.

I often look at what is going on in the world, and feel the despair of brokenness. There are moments where I can not bear to read another news article because it is just too much to hold on to. Then I read a story about volunteer firefighters from the U.S., going to help in Australia. I hear a preschooler tell a classmate that it is not polite to lie, or I have a pleasant conversation with a complete stranger in the check-out line at Aldi. These signs surround us, every day, reminding us that God is not finished. They are epiphanies of the risen Christ in our midst, a piece of the kin-dom shining through the dark.

Which voice above reminds you that God is more than you can know? What does your faith tell you about who God is? Is it love? Is it grace? Is it peace? Is it solidarity? Is it compassion? Whatever you hold to, God is and more than you can ever know. Trust God, *and you will see with your own eyes that every kind of thing will be well.*

Blessings for the Journey,
Pastor Keith

2020 NATIONAL YOUTH EVENT

UNITE! UNITE FOR THE EARTH! UNITE FOR JUSTICE! UNITE IN FAITH!

Who: Youth and Young Adults ages 12-22

What: United Church of Christ’s National Youth Event

When: July 22-25, 2020

Where: Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana

Cost: \$375 (with fundraising less)

This 4 day event is celebrated as the largest denominational gathering. Often bringing 4,000 participants, this time together is centered on faith, leadership, service and social justice to empower our youth and young adults.

We still need safe-church certified chaperones to go along, so let Pastor Keith know if you are interested.

For more details go to... <http://nye.uccpages.org/>

INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 9, BETWEEN SERVICES ON THE 3RD FLOOR

THE WALK:

FIVE ESSENTIAL PRACTICES OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
Five Men’s Breakfast studies starting Saturday, February 1.

8:00 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Video based program & study.





9:30 a.m. Heading out to live our lives in Christ

CEMETERY BOARD

A reminder from the Cemetery Board - Christmas flowers must be removed from Evangelical St. Paul Cemetery by March 1.

Thank you.

Shirley Asselmeier

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8 am Men's Breakfast
2 Souper Bowl Subs 9 am Worship, Classes Bd. of Evangelism, between services 10:30 Worship 	3 7 pm Property Management	4 Due Date for Festival of Faith Reservations for grades 6-8 9 am Preschool 6 pm Inspire Band, Cedarhurst, Waterloo	5 9 am Preschool Bells 2:30 pm After School Program 6 pm Confirmation Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	6 9 am Preschool 9:30 am Cedarhurst 10:30 am Oak Hill	7 8 am Quilters	8
9 9 am Worship, Classes 2020 National Youth Event Infor- mational Meeting between services 10:30 Worship	10 6:15 pm Finance Committee 7 pm Consistory	11 Pathfinder Articles Due 9 am Preschool 6 pm Inspire Band, Garden Place, Millstadt	12 9 am Preschool Bells 2:30 pm After School Program 6 pm Confirmation Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	13 9 am Preschool 7 pm Cemetery Board	14 8 am Quilters 	15 Festival of Faith at DuBois Center (grades 6-8)
16 9 am Worship, Classes 10:30 Worship Festival of Faith at DuBois Center (grades 6-8)	17 Office Closed 	18 9 am Preschool Out & About 6 pm Inspire Band, practice	19 9 am Preschool Bells 2:30 pm After School Program 6 pm Confirmation Bells 7 pm Chancel Choir	20 9 am Preschool 10 am Integrity	21 8 am Quilters 8:30 am Assemble Pathfinder	22
23 9 am Worship, Classes 10:30 Worship 6:30 pm Dessert Meets Church & Society	24 7 pm Book Discussion Group	25 9 am Preschool 6:15 pm Inspire Band, St. Paul Home, Belleville	26 Ash Wednesday 9 am Preschool Bells 2:30 pm After School Program 6 pm Confirmation Bells 7 pm Worship Chancel Choir	27 9 am Preschool	28 9 am Quilters	29

Sunday Dessert Meets Church & Society - February 23, at 6:30 p.m. Lisa Brennan talks about her new book:

The Auditorium in My Mind: Treasuring My Transgender Child

In January of 2018, Lisa started a new chapter of life, as her youngest child shared with the family that she is a transgender woman. After some adjustment, the Brennan family has found that when you treasure someone for who they are, it is magical and sacred. Lisa wrote a beginner's guidebook for family and friends, and to her surprise, it was widely shared, with churches, hospitals, and schools asking her to share her family's adventure of love and acceptance. This prompted Lisa to write a book about her family's journey. She hopes that it will spread some education and love into the world.

Offering Envelopes for 2020 are in the Welcome Center. To save on the cost of postage, please pick up envelopes for your family and friends that are unable.

BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

February 24 - 7 p.m.
Little Fires Everywhere
by Celeste Ng

OUT AND ABOUT

February 18
Trip to the Movies

Check lobby sign up sheet for more information.

March 9
Bunco at Eckert's

April 16
Visit the new Aquarium

2020 BAND CALENDAR

February 4 - Cedarhurst, Waterloo , 6 p.m.
February 11 - Garden Place, Millstadt , 6 p.m.
February 18 - Practice, 6 p.m.
February 25 - St Paul Home, Belleville, 6:15 p.m.

Hoyleton Honors Banquet

Friday, February 21, 2020
The Regency Conference Center - O'Fallon, IL

DAY OF DISCIPLESHIP

Saturday, February 29; Registration at 9 a.m.
Program from 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Welcome and Ministry with those with mental health issues. Workshops include:

Discussion on welcoming those who suffer with mental health issues and their loved ones; Issues of self-medication; Ministry with those with PTSD; Dementia; and Grief

IN HONOR & IN MEMORY

BELL CHOIR

In memory of Ron Langhans, given by:
Mary Lynn Harres

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of David Berry, given by
Lea Berry

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Jerry Lavoie,
given by:
Holly Jackson, Tammy Link & Robby Schaefer, Jr.
Jody and Denise Johnson
Joydean and Rick Beatty

HOYLETON

In honor of Kathleen Habermehl's birthday,
given by Ron and Lolly Glenn

LABYRINTH

In honor of Edna Dell Weinell,
given by James Weinell

MEMORIAL & TRIBUTE

In memory of Ron Langhans, given by:
Jean Habermehl
Lynda Sauer
Larry & Shirley Hoy
Bob & Jan Habermehl
Barry & Marge Krizan

In memory of Ron Langhans,
given by:
Janet Leonard
Mary and Paul Hillestad

Jo Anne Odem

Dale and Laverne Ritter
Wil and Shirley Myers
Shirley Asselmeier
Glenn Stechmesser
Bill and Wendy Norman
Roger and Kathleen Stechmesser
Carla and Gary Wenzel
John Bradenkamp
Dee Steppig
Today's Dentistry

In memory of Rosalie Giffhorn,
given by Clarice Giffhorn

RENOVATIONS

In memory of Ron Langhans,
given by Bruce and Joanne Counce
In memory of Eleanora and Herman Faust, given by Carol Faust

Our Members in Senior Living

Garden Place Of Columbia
480 DD Rd.
Columbia, IL 62236
618-281-4200

Helen Byers
Clarice Giffhorn
Dee Steppig - Unit 313
Irene Ebert

Betty Lou Carle - Dammert G.C.
The Esquiline
726 Community Drive
Belleville, IL 62223

Garden Place
735 Columbia Ave.
Waterloo, IL 62298
618-223-5834

Gene Haller: Apt. 15
Ellen Kuergeleis: Apt. 29
Jean Habermehl: Apt. 36
939-4900

Magnolia Terrace
623 Hamacher St.
Waterloo, IL 62298

Gladys Ludwig
Novella Arms

Our Members in Nursing Homes

Integrity
253 Bradington
Columbia, IL 62236
618-281-6800
Lela Arras
Dorothy Klein
Anne Manson
Maureen Mueller
Howard Rudder

Nira Probstmeyer
Eden Village
400 S. Station Rd.
Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Oak Hill Nursing Home
623 Hamacher St
Waterloo, IL 62298
618-939-3488
Harold Devenport
Leola Schueler
Bruce Soehnlín

St. Paul received Thank You's from...

- **Human Support Services - \$1,000 and \$100 donations**
- **St. Louis Metro Singers - for hosting their concert**
 - **Kindercottage - \$2,950 and \$3,000 donations**

Military Prayer List

Nathan Schnittger - U.S.
Army Nephew of Cathy Huels

Roberto DeMarquez
Army National Guard
Son of Ursula DeMarquez

Marine Cpl. James K. Combs
Son of Jim & Debbie Combs

Sean Parrin
Army National Guard - Qatar
Nephew of Jody & Jeff Taake

Matthew Gage Toler
USMC, deployed to Syria,
Great Nephew of
Mel & Margie Lindhorst

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Henry Bass
Colleen Jackson
Jack Mayer
Wesley Clayton
Eloise Wolfe
Anna Daab
Landon Habermehl
Dexter Crawford
Benjamin Tarr
*Sherry Montgomery
*Debbie Notter
*Betty
Gummersheimer
*Jan Toon
*denotes teacher

ATTENDANCE

DATE	9:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	Total
12/1			
12/8	161	47	208
12/15	115	S.S. Program 181	296
12/22	148	45	193
12/24	6:30 pm	228	468
	8:30 pm	139	
	11 pm	101	
12/29	10 am	100	100

FINANCIAL REPORT	December		Year to Date	
	2018	2019	2018	2019
Revenue				
Tithes & Offerings:				
Pledged & NonPledged	60,524.00	46,450.00	400,737.16	428,595.52
Misc. Contributions	1,393.00	1,613.25	15,668.63	13,565.27
Interest Income	173.33	1,431.43	4,269.17	6,584.30
Endowment Interest Income	0.00	0.00	51,867.62	51,964.10
Rental Income	1,639.85	830.02	7,060.80	5,872.35
Misc Income	3,357.61	1,003.05	12,052.18	7,615.23
Total Revenues	67,087.79	51,327.75	491,655.56	514,196.77
Expenses				
Personnel	25,112.47	25,890.18	348,773.50	342,044.79
General Expenses	16,191.20	14,974.83	105,836.52	107,036.01
* OCWM	6,557.10	6,140.22	36,954.53	40,411.65
Total Expenses	47,860.77	47,005.23	491,564.55	489,492.45
Net Receipts	19,227.02	4,322.52	91.01	24,704.32
RESERVES			72,293.11	96,997.43

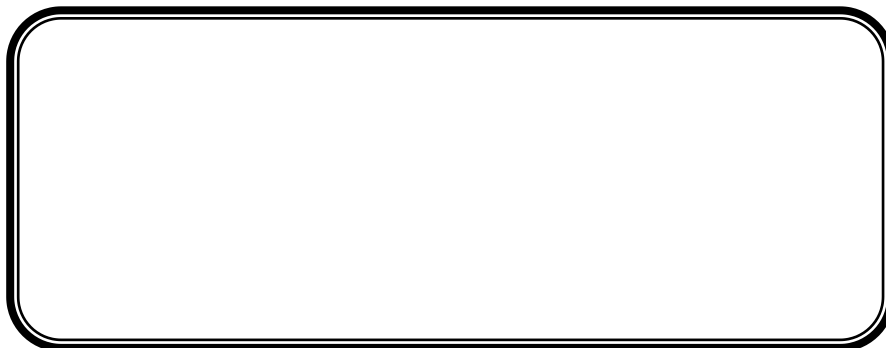
*OCWM 10,000.00 out of St Paul Mission (833.33 monthly)



As there are so many volunteers who generously donate their time and talents, we would like to say "Thank You" to all who volunteer! Your efforts do not go unnoticed; you are so very much appreciated!

**Please notify the church office if you
would like to help reduce the use of
paper and the cost of postage,
by choosing to receive The
Pathfinder by email only.**

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Columbia, Illinois
Permit No. 7



THE PATHFINDER

CONSISTORY PRESIDENT.....Katie Janssen
 SENIOR PASTORBob Goddard
 PASTORAL INTERN.....Keith McDevitt
 STUDENT PASTOR.....Karen Pepmeier
 DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.....Denise Johnson
 SECRETARY.....Cathy Fritz
 FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR.....Barb Gerstenecker
 PARISH NURSE.....Joanne Counce
 MUSIC COORDINATOR & ORGANIST.....Lori Morton
 ADULT HANDBELL & CHOIR DIRECTOR.....Emily Thoman
 YOUTH HANDBELL & BAND DIRECTOR.....Sue Phillips
 MORNING HANDBELL DIRECTOR.....Patti French
 CEMETERY.....Shirley Asselmeier
 LITTLE FRIENDS PRESCHOOL DIRECTORJody Taake
 LEAD CUSTODIAN.....Terry Schramm
 ASSISTANT CUSTODIAN.....Janet Zinn

WORSHIP SERVICES Sundays, 9 & 10:30 a.m.

SUMMER FAMILY WORSHIP

Memorial Day - Labor Day, 9:30 a.m.
 Nursery only, No Classes

FELLOWSHIP HOUR.....Sunday, 10 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.
 NURSERY.....Provided for the 9 a.m. Services
 HOLY COMMUNION.....1st Sunday of the month
 CHURCH SCHOOL.....9 a.m. (Nursery - adults)
 AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMWednesdays
 (Sept. - May) 2:30 p.m.
 CHOIR PRACTICE.....Wednesdays (Sept. - May)
 CHILDREN'S CHOIR.....4:45 p.m.
 CHANCEL CHOIR.....7 p.m.
 HANDBELL CHOIR.....Wednesdays (Sept.-May)
 ALLELUIA RINGERS - 3:45 p.m.
 FESTIVE RINGERS - 9 a.m. BELLS OF JOY - 6 p.m.
 INSPIRE BANDTuesdays (Sept. - May) - 6 p.m.

CONSISTORY MEMBERS	
President -	Kathleen Habermehl
Katie Janssen	Karen Kirk
Vice President -	Mike Koenigstein
Tom Kuergeleis	Cathie Krueger
Secretary -	Dana Lechner
Curt Harres	Mike Riley
Bob Habermehl	Dennis Rueter
	Allison Wolfe

Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul United Church of Christ

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 Web Site - www.stpaulucc4u.org Dial-A-Meditation - 618-281-5102, Ext. 34