

# THE PATHFINDER

Give thanks to God  
even before your  
prayer is answered

For you all day long  
O Lord, your compassion  
abundantly overflows.  
Remember the sins of my youth,  
O Lord, and do not remember  
my acts of rebellion,  
because of your goodness, O Lord,  
remember me.

The Lord is good and upright;  
therefore he shows sinners the way.  
He leads the humble in what is right  
and teaches them his way,  
and all the Lord's ways show faithful love  
and truth.

To those who keep his covenant and decree  
to those who fear his name,  
the Lord will be gracious and merciful,  
for he will forgive my iniquity, for it is immense.

Who is this person who fears the Lord?  
He will show him the way he should go.  
He will live a good life,  
and his descendants will inherit the land.  
The secret counsel of the Lord  
is for those who fear him,  
and he reveals his covenant to them,  
so that they will not be ashamed.  
My eyes are always on the Lord,  
for he will pull my feet out of the net.

Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am alone and afflicted.  
The distresses of my sufferings  
bring me out of my sufferings,  
bring me out of my affliction and trouble.  
Consider my affliction and trouble,  
and forgive all my sins,  
and forgive my enemies;  
they are numerous,  
and they hate me violently,  
and they do not let me be put to shame.  
Guard me and rescue me,  
do not let me be put to shame,  
for I take refuge in you,  
O Lord, my God.  
May integrity and what is right  
watch over me,  
for I wait for you.

25:6 Or everlasting 25:13 Or north 25:17 Or Relieve the distresses of my heart

**THE STRONGHOLD**  
27 Of David  
The Lord is my light and my salvation,  
whom should I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life—  
whom should I dread?  
When evildoers came against me to devour my flesh,  
my foes and my enemies stumbled and fell.  
Though an army deploys against me,  
my heart will not be afraid;  
though a war breaks out against me,  
I will still be confident.  
I have asked one thing from the Lord:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord  
all the days of my life,  
for all my love is in front of my eyes.

# *Faith In Action*

## Sermon Series - November 2023

As we draw close to end of the season of Pentecost, we find ourselves in a time of spiritual growth and renewal. It is a time to reflect on the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and to seek deeper understanding of how we can live more fully into our calling as followers of Jesus Christ. During this season, we have the opportunity to delve into the teachings of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. Our sermon series for this month, titled "Faith in Action," invites us to do just that.

"Faith in Action" is an exploration of four significant passages from Matthew. In these passages, we encounter a dynamic picture of what it means to live a life of active faith, a faith that goes beyond mere words to be lived out in our day-to-day actions and decisions.

### **November 5, 2023**

#### **Humility Over Hypocrisy**

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus warns against hypocrisy, teaching us that our faith should be authentic.

### **November 12, 2023**

#### **Faithfulness Over Fear**

Matthew 25:14--30

On Stewardship Sunday, this parable calls us to be faithful stewards of the gifts God has given us, using them to serve others and advance the reign of God.

### **November 19, 2023**

#### **Readiness Over Complacency**

Matthew 25:1--13

We learn about the importance of being spiritually prepared and vigilant, keeping our lamps filled with oil as we wait for the Bridegroom.

### **November 26, 2023**

#### **Compassion Over Indifference**

Matthew 25:31--46

Here we are reminded about the centrality of compassion in our faith, and the importance of seeing Christ in the least of our brothers and sisters.

## *A Journey Together*

"Faith in Action" is more than a study of these passages. It's an invitation to live out our faith in practical and transformative ways. It's an opportunity to reflect on how we can put our faith into action in our daily lives, serving others, using our talents wisely, and living in readiness for Christ's return.

As we journey through this sermon series together, may we be challenged, inspired, and equipped to live lives of active faith that reflect the love, justice, and compassion of our Lord Jesus Christ. May our study of these passages not only enhance our understanding but also ignite our passion to put our Faith in Action.

May God bless us and guide us on this journey!



## *From the Desk of Pastor Jonathan*

Dear Beloved Community,

One of the rare experiences we cherish in this part of the world is how our environment signifies the relentless passage of time. In addition to the days getting shorter, the presence of heavy machinery around us indicates that the time for harvest has arrived, and now the ground is being prepared for the next crop. The changing colors of the surrounding foliage, the graceful flight of birds, and the subtle presence of pollen in the air, all serve as gentle reminders that we have reached the end of another season. It is now time to prepare ourselves for the next one, embracing the beauty and possibilities it holds.

In the month of November, we reach the last month in the lectionary calendar, having the Gospel readings reflect on the journey as disciples seen from the perspective of Matthew. My prayer is that each of us has been challenged by the radical call of the Cross, which we are to heed unhesitatingly. It has been a time of growth, learning, and spiritual nourishment. We are grateful for every step taken and every lesson learned.

We receive cues from our parent organization, the Illinois South Conference, led compassionately by Rev. Shana Johnson, that has recently met. Her concluding message of our annual conference meeting was spiritually electrifying. Her message: "Keep Calm and Carry on" had three injunctions for us "Be Cooperative, Be Creative". Our reflections were honest and took full cognizance of our limitations. However, an overwhelming sense of encouragement filled the room, leaving us with a note that resonates deep within our hearts. It serves as a powerful reminder that with God's help we can make a lasting impact in our world as we embrace the transformative power of faith, which gives us the courage to believe in ourselves and our abilities. With faith as our compass, we can navigate any challenges that come our way and rise above them with unwavering determination. So let this encouraging note echo in your heart as a constant reminder: embrace faith, nurture hope, and embody perseverance on our journey.

The ending of one season propels us into the next, and now we look forward with great anticipation and hope. Now is the time to roll up our sleeves and continue cultivating our faith. Let us embrace this opportunity for growth and maturity as we navigate life's challenges with grace and resilience. Together, we can deepen our understanding of God's love and purpose for each of us.

Remember, faith is not a destination but an ongoing journey. It requires continuous effort, self-reflection, and a willingness to explore new paths. As we mature in faith, let us remain open to new perspectives, seek wisdom from one another, and extend kindness and compassion to all.

In the days ahead, may we find solace in prayer, draw strength from scripture, and engage in meaningful conversations that nurture our spirits. Let us embody the values of love, forgiveness, and unity as we strive towards a more harmonious world.

In the words of a familiar adage: "Faith moves mountains." Let us hold steadfast to this truth as we face each new day with unwavering hope and trust in God's promise in each season.

May your sleeves be folded with purpose,  
And may your faith continue to mature,  
For you are part of something greater,  
A community rooted in love and compassion.

With unwavering hope,

Pastor Jonathan

# Consistory Corner

BY SHIRLEY ASSELMEIER

Your Consistory deals monthly with the budget, income and expenses and many decisions affecting the life of the church and upkeep of the church building.

Imagine how it feels when we receive a bequest from one of our members who thought to remember the church in their will with a final gift to the church upon their death. In recent months, we have been blessed with tow such gifts that will support the ministry of our church. One such gift was given to the church to be used for Capital Needs of the Church. With this money, this Consistory now and in the future will be allowed to do many repairs and enhancements to our Church building. The Consistory must remain true to the bequest allowing us only to use the money for CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, and not for the ongoing expenses of the church.

A second bequest was given to the Church and was not designated by the donor. This bequest will be discussed by the Consistoty and a decision will be made on how to use this gift. We will consdier what the donor may have wanted the gift to be used for, if it should be added to endowment or used for the expenses of the church.

Each of these bequests are very important to our Church and we are forever grateful to the donors who loved their church and very much wanted to be an ongoing influence of the ministry of St. Paul United Church of Christ.

***Have you thought about how you might remember your church in your will? A gift you leave to the church could help with the upkeep of our facility or allow the great ministry of St. Paul to continue to thrive for years to come.***

WE ARE GREATFUL TO OUR DONORS AND WE LIFT THEM UP IN OUR PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING!

Yours in Christ,

The Consistory

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## Stewardship Sunday

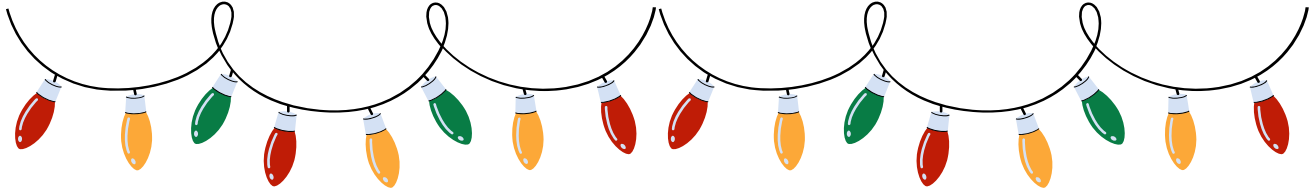
The 2023 Stewardship Sunday is November 12. We will receive and dedicate our pledges of resources during worship at 9:30.

Please consider your commitment with prayer and challenge yourself to expand your participation in our faith community.

Following worship, we will gather at tables in the Fellowship Hall to “break bread” and share the joy of being companions on the journey of faith. Please plan to celebrate our community of faith with good food and rich conversations on November 12.







## *Community Christmas Celebration for Maui*

On December 15, 2023, we are trying something new. We have invited all of the Columbia churches to join us in a fundraiser for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in Maui.

We are planning a family-oriented Christmas to be held in the shed and surrounding areas from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There will be music, food, beverages, crafts, games and cookies to sell. We are also thinking about a photo booth and face painting. We are open to any suggestions!

Have you ever wanted to sing with the choir but didn't want to make that weekly commitment? Well now is your chance to sing Christmas carols for one evening with the choir.

All are welcome... and you never know, you just might love it!

It's never too early to start on those craft projects and stocking stuffers for kids and adults for our craft stand. All kinds of crafts are welcome in the craft booth that we are planning to have. We need the bakers out there to bake cookies for the cookie sale. Please consider helping in whatever way you are able so that we can make this a successful mission!

There will be food and drink available for sale.

All proceeds from this event will be given to Maui.

More details will follow as the time gets closer. Tell your friends... this is a community event and all are welcome!

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Faye Mehrmann, Susan Kuergeleis, Diana Kleinschmidt, or Shirley Bergmann!

Thank you for your support of this event! We hope to see you there!

## Board of Evangelism

BY DIANE HANNA



The Board of Evangelism would like to thank the congregation and friends for making this year's Pumpkin Hunt a success. Ninety people joined in on the fun of the evening, hopefully getting to know members of their faith family a bit better. At the end of October, we will participate in Trunk or Treat at the YMCA and Halloween Hijinks in Columbia, so stop by and say hello. On December 2, watch for our float in the lighted Christmas parade.

Since November is the month for Thanksgiving, our board would like to give thanks for all the organizations and individuals within our church that make things happen. On any day of the week, you can find folks doing a variety of tasks in our building with one purpose – to keep the work, fellowship, and missions of St. Paul alive. It takes more than a few people or a couple of committees to make St. Paul UCC a family of faith and, for the work of the many, we are thankful!

## Board of Mission and Stewardship

BY LYNDA SAUER

The apple pie making was a great success. The proceeds of \$2,080 were donated to Little Friends Preschool. Thanks to all who helped make or buy the pies.

We continue to collect funds for Maui Wildfire Help through the month of October. There is a collection box in the Welcome Center. Starting at the end of October, there will be sign-up sheets for all the church committees. You can sign up for a committee you may be interested in. You can get information about what every committee or board does.

There will soon be envelopes inserted in our Sunday bulletins in regard to Stewardship Sunday, which is November 19th.

Our mission for November is to supply Thanksgiving food supplies for the House of Neighborly Service. We will have a drive-up/drop-off day on Saturday, November 4th. Containers are also at the back entrance and in the Welcome Center. Supplies need to be at church by Sunday, November 12 so that they can be delivered on the 13th.

Needed are \$25 gift cards for meat, stuffing mix, gravy mix, cranberry sauce, cans of sweet potatoes, marshmallows, cans of green beans, corn, mushroom soup, fruit, fried onions, Jello, Bisquick type mix, pumpkin, evaporated milk, pie crust mix and paper products such as paper towels, plates and plastic silverware.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support!! We can't do this without you!!



# Accessibility for All Care Connection

By the time this Pathfinder is received you will have noticed the back parking lot on Bottom Street has a different look! Due to many people needing closer parking to the back elevator, it was decided on by the Consistory and acted on by the Property and Grounds Committee to accommodate and proceed with the marking of the new Handicap Accessible parking areas. This will allow the current striped areas to be used for van usage as needed, as well as adding more parking spaces. For those needing a placard for your car, obtain the form from the Illinois Office of the Secretary of State and then have your doctor sign the form to submit. We are aware that this may change the usual parking area for many, and appreciate your cooperation. Most Sunday's will have a greeter by the elevator door to assist with any of your needs as well!

Psalm 119:76—He understands the stresses and the challenges you face. He notices you, the decisions you must make, the choices you must decide, and the weight that you carry. He knows the exact ways in which you need to be helped and comforted. Come to Him when you are in need and He will give you rest.

## Star Tree

**Christmas will be here before we know it! As we prepare to celebrate, we hope you'll make a difference for those in need during this season of giving through the Star Tree.**

**Star Tree: Want to pick out a special gift for a child?**

**Starting November 19, you can select a gift recipient from the Star Tree (located in the Welcome Center), shop for and wrap their gifts, and return them by 10:30 am on Sunday December 3.**

**A special thank you for all that have shopped from the Amazon Wish list so far.**

**If you haven't shopped from our Amazon Wish list, please consider helping. We have approximately 20 gifts left to purchase for our 1st phase of the 2023 Star Tree which are due in the office by Nov. 22nd. Your generosity makes it possible for Christmas morning to be a little brighter.**

### **MAKE A DONATION**

**If you prefer not to shop, consider donating funds, or gift cards to help us complete the wish lists. Please drop off or mail your donation to the church (127 St Paul St, Columbia) by Wednesday, November 22.**

**Thank you for your continued generosity. Please contact the church office 618-281-5102 or [financial@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:financial@stpaulcolumbia.org) with any questions.**

**Please note that the due dates for gifts are significantly earlier than in years past. This is necessary to make it possible for us to deliver gifts to the various organizations by their deadlines. Thank you for opening your hearts this holiday season!**



# Book Club



St. Paul UCC Book Club meets monthly on the 4th Monday of the month.  
All are welcome to join.

This month will feature:

- **November - All the Children Are Home by Patry Francis**

A novel set in the late 1950's that follows a foster family through a decade after a six-year old indigenous girl comes to live with them and causes irrevocable changes in their lives.

And coming soon...

- December- The Handmaid and the Carpenter by Elizabeth Berg
- January - Lady Tang's Circle of Women by Lisa See
- February - The Secret Daughter by Kelly Rimmer
- March - The Music Shop by Rachel Joyce
- April - Good Night, Irene by Luis Alberto
- May - The Heaven and Earth Grocery Shop by James McBride

## Weekly Attendance

**SEPTEMBER 2023**

September 3- 154  
 September 10- 155  
 September 17- 149  
 September 17 (Installation Service) - 127  
 September 24- 110

## Church Greeters Needed

We are looking for friendly faces willing to help greet in the Welcome Center, in front of the church, and at the back doors on Sunday Mornings.

- No Experience needed (we will train you)
- Singles, couples or families welcome
- Simply Smile and Welcome all who enter!

Sign up in the Welcome Center Today!



# PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY And Their Families

## Nathan Schnittger

U.S. Army  
Nephew of Cathy Huels

## Roberto DeMarquez

Army National Guard  
Son of Ursula DeMarquez

## James K. Combs

Marine Sgt.  
Son of Jim & Debbie Combs

## Jack Augustin

U.S Army  
Son of Jason & Shelly Augustin

## Sean Parrin

Army Ranger - Italy  
Nephew of Jody & Jeff Taake





Little Friends Preschool is selling Cardinal Calendars as a fundraiser. The cost per calendar is \$17. The preschool gets to keep a portion of the sales. Any money that we make will be used to purchase sensory tables for our playground, manipulatives for our light tables, and any “loved toys in need of being replaced.

Checks can be made payable to L.F. Preschool (please no cash). An order form is available in the church office.

Please be sure to include a contact for us to call you when they come in. Calendars will be here by mid-December just in time for the holidays!

Thank you as always for you continued help and support.

L.F.P. Staff

# Youth Ministry News

FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR JULIE



## Parent Night Out

On Saturday, October 14 we celebrated our Not So Spooky Parent Night Out for our kiddos between preschool and fourth grade. We had twelve kids and many helpers. Youth Michael, Jesse and Dexter directed activities and crafts with the help of our adult volunteers: Pam E., Denise J., Faye M, Joshua B. and Pastor Julie. Judy Rickey was our Chef and kitchen-master.



Highlights included the pack-your-own snack station, a Nerf “tin can alley,” face painting and guided pumpkin hunt with flashlights. Pastor Julie led a couple of groups out the church doors to follow some clues and find a pumpkin hidden somewhere on the property. There were cheers of “We Found the Pumpkin, We Found the Pumpkin!” when we finally arrived at the hiding place. The two groups that hunted separately banded together into one big group to search for a second pumpkin hidden inside. We wrapped up the night with the Muppet Haunted Mansion and classic Halloween cartoons.



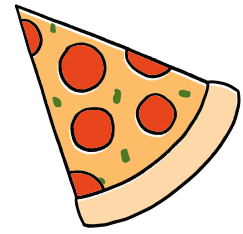
We raised \$300 for the Little Friends Preschool from our Free Will Donations.

## Youth Night

A Thursday Evening Youth Gathering was planned for October 26 with Pastor Jonathan and Denise .

This is the start of something new.

Stay tuned for updates and new events happening soon!



## Coming in November

We will be talking about Faith in Action. Our next mission trip is to Arnold Food Pantry on November 18. All youth welcome, Please RSVP to Pastor Julie. Meet at the Bottom Avenue parking lot at 7:30 am.

Our interfaith connections begin at the end of this month with a trip to Cathedral Basilica on the first week of Advent, Sunday evening November 26 – meeting at St Paul at 4:00 pm.

## Confirmation

In October Confirmation classes we talked about divinity in Trinity! Each aspect of God had an evening class dedicated to it. – Memorable moments included a video clip from a new Star Wars TV series... “How is this character like Jesus?” and a creative attempt to find the Holy Spirit in an egg. Wow, did that get messy... Thank you to the faith partners and parents who have been a part of the shenanigans: Kathleen Habermehl, Emily Ax, Faye Mehrmann, Denise Johnson and Pastor Jonathan.



Want to join in and get involved? Get your “Safe Sanctuary” Background check started at the church website!

On Friday, October 27, confirmands traveled to KinderCottage to learn about this UCC ministry. As I am writing before the event happened – my hope is that the laughter and energy we have in classes carries forward well into Kinder-space.

Faye Mehrmann, Bob Habermehl and Andrew Hoguet came with us. Thank you, again Faith Partners!



# *Director of Christian Ed*

## *Denise Johnson*

### **YOUTH UPDATES AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION**



Parents- Please note:

All youth sixth grade and up will be attending church the first and third Sunday.

Becky Trexler and Sherry Montgomery will have Sunday school/ Faith Formation class on the second and fourth Sundays.

Nursery available, if needed ---As a reminder; all children of any age are always welcome to stay in the sanctuary for worship with their family. If desired, however, our nursery is staffed and open to any child aged 6 weeks through 3 years old.



We also have a Comfort and Care room next to the Welcome Center. A rocker, changing table, baby and toddler toys, first aid items and a privacy curtain for nursing.

Every Communion Sunday, before Communion is served, children will return to the sanctuary to witness &/or participate in the Lord's Supper as your family feels called. At St. Paul UCC we trust parents to decide when their child will participate in Communion. We believe that whatever you decide, God continues to be a presence in your child's life and walks with them their whole life long. As the Church, we have made covenant to teach our children the rituals of the faith and to provide meaning for why we do what we do.



We will continue supporting our "Thankful Pumpkin" tradition by giving each family a pumpkin. Sunday, November 5, we will handout pumpkins in our Sunday School classrooms and in the Fellowship Hall. This activity helps us to find the blessings in our lives because God is with us. All you need to make one is a pumpkin and a permanent marker and a heart full of gratitude.



Each family member takes turns going around the table and saying things for which we are grateful. By writing them on your pumpkin this gives a great visual reminder of how blessed we are. This can be a nightly or weekly ritual. By Thanksgiving you will have an impressive decoration for your family dinner.



“God is with us and we don’t have to be alone! All of us can be adopted into God’s family. Come and join us in the “sleepy” little village of Bethlehem. But in this tiny town something huge and miraculous is about to happen...the birth of the Messiah! Right in the midst of all the action is a group of orphans who reside at the Inn of Bethlehem. This loveable ragamuffin group of characters will put a smile on your lips and a song in your heart as they unveil the story of Christmas and how God sent His only Son to be born. As eyewitnesses to the holy, blessed event, their special re-telling of the story is sure to shine a bright new light on the importance of our Savior’s birth!” Our Sunday school Christmas Program will be Straight Out of Bethlehem! On Sunday December 17 @ 9:30 am. service.

Please mark your family schedules for our Christmas program rehearsals:

- Sunday: (during Sunday School)
- November 12
- November 26
- December 3
- December 10

Our Saturday practices are December 9 and December 16 at 10:30 am.-12:00 pm



❄️ MERRY ❄️  
CHRISTMAS

*November Messy Church*

Thursday, November 30

5:30 pm

*Christmas Around the World*

Start your Advent season with Messy Church. People all over the world celebrate the coming of the messiah in many different ways. No matter the differences between traditions and observances, all Christians are united in their celebration of the birth of Jesus and the hope that it brought into the world. This

Messy session, which is focused on one of the most celebrated stories ever told, offers us a chance to look at the nativity story with fresh eyes and to consider that despite our differences all Christians are united in their celebration of the birth of Immanuel.



December Messy Church  
Thursday, December 28  
5:30 pm

# november

SUN

MON

TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT

			<p>1</p> <p>9 am Preschool 10am Morning Bells 3:30 pm Kids Crew 6pm Evening Bells 6pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 am Preschool 5:30 pm Personnel 7pm Executive Committee</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8 am Quilters</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10 am Drive up donations for HNS  7pm Eppinger Concert</p>
<p>5 <b>Totefest Sunday</b> Kindercottage Collection 9:30 Worship communion and Baptism 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Social Time</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10 am Staff Meeting 7pm Property Committee 7 pm Stewardship Board</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9 am Preschool 6pm Daisy Troop 148 7pm Boy Scout Troop 357</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9 am Preschool 10am Morning Bells 3:30 pm Kids Crew 6pm Evening Bells 6pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9 am Preschool 7 pm Evangelism Bd 7pm Cemetery Board</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8 am Quilters</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Social Time 10:45 New Member Class</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10 am Staff Meeting 6pm Girl Scout Daisy Troop 449 6pm Band Practice 6pm Finance 7pm Consistory</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9 am Preschool 7 pm Boy Scout Troop 357</p>	<p>15 <b>Pathfinder Articles Due</b> 9 am Preschool 10am Morning Bells 3:30 pm Kids Crew 6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop Leaders 6pm Evening Bells 6pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9 am Preschool 5:30 pm Tech Team 7pm Pastoral Relations</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8 am Quilters  Christmas Star Tree  Begins</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Boy Scout Troop 357 Court of Honor</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 Worship and New Member Welcome 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 New Member Reception</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10 am Staff Meeting 6pm Band Practice 7:30 pm Board of Worship</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9 am Preschool 7pm Boy Scout Troop 357</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9 am Preschool 10am Morning Bells 3pm Kids Crew 6pm Evening Bells 6pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>23</p> <p><b>HAPPY THANKS GIVING</b></p>	<p>24</p> <p>8 am Quilters</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30 Worship 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Social Time</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10 am Staff Meeting 6pm Girl Scout Daisy Troop 449 6pm Band- Keystone O'fallon, MO 7pm Book Club</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9 am Preschool 7pm Boy Scout Troop 357</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9 am Preschool 10am Morning Bells 3:30 pm Kids Crew 6pm Evening Bells 6pm Confirmation 7pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9 am Preschool 530 pm Messy Church</p>		





# Memorials



## **Memorials and Tributes Fund**

**In Memory of Sharon Burgdorf given by:**

John and Ric Burgdorf  
Cathy and Chuck Rasco

## **Special Music Fund**

**In Memory of Sharron Burgdorf given by:**

Debbie Notter

## **Kitchen Fund**

**In Appreciation for the Paul Huch Luncheon  
given by:**

Nathan and Stacy Trexler

## **Food Ministry- Messy Church**

**In Memory of George Eckert given by:**

Joanne Odem

## **Kitchen Fund**

**In Appreciation for the George Eckert Luncheon  
given by:**

Eckert Family

## **Kitchen Fund**

**In Memory of George Eckert given by:**

Debbie Franke

## **Technology Fund**

**In Memory of George Eckert given by:**

Tom and Susan Kuergeleis

## Our Members in Senior Living

Garden Place  
480 DD Rd.  
Columbia, IL 62236  
618-281-4200  
Clarice Giffhorn Rm. 204  
Ed Schutte Rm. Rm. 113  
Grace Volkert Rm. 110

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

Garden Place  
Gene Haller: Apt 15  
735 Columbia Ave.  
Waterloo, IL 62298  
618-223-5834

Magnolia Terrace  
Mary Fassel  
623 Hamacher St.  
Apt 122  
Waterloo, IL 62298

## Our Members in Nursing Homes

Itegrity  
Dorothy Klein  
253 Bradington  
Columbia, IL 62236

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

Oak Hill Nursing Home  
Gladys Ludwig  
Don Naumann  
623 Hamacher St  
Waterloo, IL 62298  
618-939-3488

# Financial Report

	September		Year to Date	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
<b>Revenue</b>				
<b>Tithes &amp; Offerings:</b>				
Pledged & NonPledged	23,545.00	34,362.00	273,500.01	295,790.85
Misc. Contributions	50.00	391.00	5,607.00	7,175.00
Interest Income	10.66	72.33	3,179.61	3,311.73
Endowment Interest Income	0.00	0.00	41,273.12	41,410.71
Rental Income	0.00	0.00	300.00	1,450.00
Misc Income	895.59	2,430.33	11,138.25	32,532.06
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>24,501.25</b>	<b>37,255.66</b>	<b>334,997.99</b>	<b>381,670.35</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Personnel	27,468.55	31,354.53	30,929.41	(425.12)
General Expenses	20,386.28	16,791.86	329,317.51	403,601.00
* OCWM	1,534.62	1,869.82	23,358.73	24,764.64
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>49,389.45</b>	<b>50,016.21</b>	<b>383,605.65</b>	<b>427,940.52</b>
<b>Net Receipts</b>	<b>(24,888.20)</b>	<b>(12,760.55)</b>	<b>(48,607.66)</b>	<b>(46,270.17)</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>			<b>73,782.97</b>	<b>43,630.88</b>
*OCWM 10,000.00 out of St Paul Mission (833.33 monthly)				
Solar Loan Balance	0.00			

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
127 St. Paul Street, Columbia, IL 62236



## The Pathfinder

### Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday  
9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul United Church of Christ  
Phone - 618-281-5102 / FAX - 618-281-3032 /  
E Mail - [office@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:office@stpaulcolumbia.org)  
[stpaulcolumbia.org](http://stpaulcolumbia.org)

Does the church office have  
your current contact information?

We don't want you to miss out on any information. If you haven't been receiving emails, chances are we don't have a current email address for you, or the email went to your spam.

If you are unsure, please contact Amanda in the office by email (see below) or call 618-281-5102.

### Staff Contact Information:

Senior Pastor

Rev. Jonathan Bangera- [srpastor@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:srpastor@stpaulcolumbia.org)  
Cell phone (215) 512-4024

Interim Associate Pastor for Youth & Visitation

Rev. Julie Kies - [assocpastor@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:assocpastor@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Office and Communications Coordinator

Amanda Stapf [office@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:office@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Financial Administrator

Barb Gerstenecker- [financial@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:financial@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Christian Education Director

Denise Johnson - [christianed@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:christianed@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Lead Custodian

Terry Schramm - [custodian@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:custodian@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Custodian, Madison Shoellhorn

Music Coordinator/Organist

Lori Morton - [music@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:music@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Youth Bell /Inspire Band Director

Sue Phillips - [band@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:band@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Evening Bell/Choir Director

Emily Thoman- [choir@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:choir@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Morning Bell Director, Patti French

Preschool Director

Jody Taake - [preschool@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:preschool@stpaulcolumbia.org)

Cemetery Treasurer, Robin MacLaughlin  
[cemetery@stpaulcolumbia.org](mailto:cemetery@stpaulcolumbia.org)

### Consistory Members

President - Dennis Hoguet

Vice President - Shirley Bergmann

Secretary - Shirley Hoy

Shirley Asselmeier

Carrie Clayton

Rob Dehn

Susan Hibbits

Diana Kleinschmidt

Susan Kuergeleis

Faye Mehrmann

Mark Thompson

Al Wolfe