



The Beacon of St. Paul United Methodist Church

Feb. 1, 2012

Staff

Reach or leave a message for staff members at 866.4326

Dr. Ron McIntire
Pastor

Nancy Phillips
Secretary

Scott Rankin
Bookkeeper

Gary Snider
Custodian

Rosemary Jackson
Music Ministry

Dr. Jim Tarrant
Organist

Dody Harmon
Contemporary Music

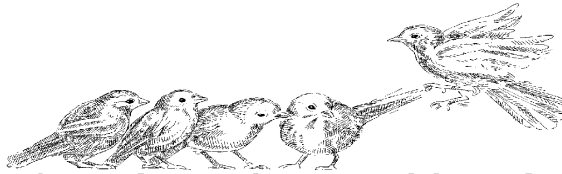
Lauren Wilson
Youth

Amanda Walton
Children

Mission:
The making of new disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.



On Wednesday, February 22 we begin our Lenten season. There will be two times to select from to receive communion and placing of ashes. The first service will be at noon, with the second service beginning at 6:00 p.m.



OUR CHURCH WELCOMES

On Sunday, January 22, St. Paul was blessed to have Robert & Austen Bauder unite with us. We look forward to many years of worship and of watching Brady & Jax grow up as we fellowship with you.

JANUARY MISSION HOURS

St. Paul served a total of 536 hours of service. Thank you to all who serve and turn in your hours.



If you would like a visit from the pastor, please contact the church office at 866-4326 or 866-4327.

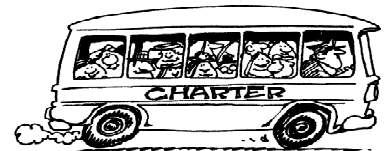
Recent Prayer Requests

Please keep the following people in your prayers this week. These are recent concerns of our church family.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Billy Gonser | Mary Zabek |
| Mark | Carol Reece |
| Pat Stringer | Cathy Lindstrom |
| Keith Wilson | Mike Wright |
| Michael Simpson | Jan Shryer |
| Alex Redpath | Paxton |
| Jim & Norma Cooper | Mary Shanahan |
| Leona Schrader | Pat Wyatt |
| Carla Evans | Nancy B. |
| Mary Oheim | Sam Avers |
| Betty Dobyns | Derek |
| Becky Alberty | John O'Roark |
| Lin Schneider | Fran Allen |
| Nancy Woolford | Clayton Family |
| Esther Hollars | Glen Matlock |
| Tim | Loyd |
| Gloria & Greg | Hamasaki Family |

Karen Christopherson
Contemporary Service
Marine Marshall Blansett
Shire Mae

These prayer concerns will be printed for two weeks. If there are prayer concerns, please contact Linda Mason at home number 886-4779.



Remember if you would like to ride the bus on Sunday mornings, call Alishia Norman at 832-0896 or Daniel Bush at 773-9337 on Saturday evening before 7:00 p.m.

A Valentine Reminder

Valentine's Day is two weeks away. Based on the number of ads we are seeing in the newspaper and television and hearing on the radio, it is arguably one of the most popular days of the year. It's a day when we're expected to remember those we love. This special day elicits thoughts of Cupid and of love, and the heart has become the symbol for Valentine's Day and for love. We see heart shaped balloons, hearts on cards and heart-shaped boxes of candy, and heart-shaped cookies just to name a few.

Do you know that one of the Seven Wonders of the World, the Taj Mahal in India, is another symbol or memorial to love. In the seventeenth century, Emperor Shah Jahan, ordered this magnificent structure built as a memorial to his wife. They had been married in 1612, and she died in childbirth in 1631. Her death devastated the Shah.

The devoted husband immediately ordered construction of the imposing monument on the bank of the Jumna River as a tribute to his love for her. The Taj Mahal was started in 1632 and took some 22 years to construct. At one point, history records over 20,000 workers were involved on a daily basis.

Today, more than 355 years later, the imposing structure has amazed and intrigued hundreds of thousands of people who've been moved by its sheer opulence and beauty. Also, generations of people have celebrated the story of the deep love that both prompted and inspired the building's creation. Truly, it's one of the wonders that mankind has constructed.

As beautiful and palatial as it is, the Taj Mahal and every other building will deteriorate over time. Some day this marvelous tribute to love will be a ruin and only a distant, but beautiful memory. While the Taj Mahal is grand, the earth's greatest testimony to love isn't subject to decay. Read on . . .

The Bible describes this testimony, or demonstration of love to which I refer in these words: "We know love by this, that Jesus laid down his life for us" (1 John 3:16). It's a deathless exhibition of love because the Christ who died on the cross for us, rose from the dead, and is alive forevermore! His eternal memorial isn't some extravagant building furnished with expensive items. Rather, Jesus' memorial is in the lives of all who have believed in him and accepted him as their Lord and Savior.

Those countless millions of people who have lived in the past, present and future and either have or will experience personally the sense of liberation and belonging that comes to everyone who will admit their need for and their trust in Christ Jesus for salvation—these people have been and will continue to be Jesus' memorial here on earth.

Interestingly, this love of Jesus for us and us for him is a love unlike all others that isn't terminated by death. The One who died on the cross was the great conqueror of death that gives eternal life to all who trust in him. The verse in the Bible that has become known as the "golden text" is God's simple and straightforward Valentine message of love to us: "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). That is a love story that not even the Seven Wonders of the World can come close to matching.

I want to give you this advance reminder: The Valentine message you've been given by God is specifically for you—no one can answer for you—it requires your personal response. Don't wait . . . answer now! As you know, "Eternity begins right now!"

Blessings,

Pastor Ron



READ THEM & REAP

Book Club Group to Form

On Saturday, February 18, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall there will be a discussion of the current best seller, *THE HELP* by Kathryn Stockett. Our church library has several copies of this book available.

Come and join us. Jo McDowell will lead this discussion.

CLOBBERING CLUTTER...

It is not too late to learn how to control the mayhem in your closets, cupboards and drawers and on flat surfaces in your home. Would you like to know the secrets behind successfully organizing anything, especially papers (all types, from newspapers to correspondence, from bills to tax documents)?

Four sessions, each one-hour long, are still available and will cover areas such as organizing closets, drawers, cupboards, flat top surfaces, important papers, daily mail, clothing, books and magazines, and even your garage. Sessions are on Thursday afternoons at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

If you are interested in attending one of the remaining sessions, let Sandie McIntire know or call the church office.

NEW ADDRESS

Our good friend Fran Allen has a new address that we want to share with those of you who send cards and write her letters. Fran's new mailing address is:

**Country Health Nursing Home Room 111
2304 C. R. 3000 N
Gifford, IL 61847**

St. Paul United Methodist Church

Sunday, February 5, 2012

Ushers: Lynn Culton, Linda Maddux
Jean Graham, Mary Ellen Collins

JANUARY CROSSLINES UPDATE

On Friday, January 27 St. Paul served sixty-four families. Thanks to everyone who helped that day.

Ragan House Task Force

The Ragan House Task Force is finishing up restoration in Phase 1b. Since the church is developing a different policy for parking cars on Friday and Saturday nights, we are looking for other means of funding so that we can pay back the church's loan of \$10,600 and proceed to Phase 2 once we are approved to move forward. The church to date has benefited by having over \$52,168 worth of goods and services provided for an investment by the church of \$10,600.

Marti Robinette and the rest of the RHTF

Remodel Update

Work on the remodeling of our east entrance and fellowship hall continues on a daily basis. Workmen are virtually done with all needed demolition and are beginning to put back new walls. The plumbers are here today and removing all of the old fixtures in the restrooms and will begin installing the new water and drain lines as well.

Once the walls are in place, the electricians will be on site to install the needed wiring to the various areas, with sheet rock installers following soon behind. This is the stage of the remodeling work where you will be able to notice significant changes week to week. I am pleased that we are able to use the east door and hallway to access the sanctuary on Sunday. Not only does it make attendance easier on all of us, it also provides a week-to-week opportunity to see the progress of our endeavor.

We are all excited about what is happening! God is doing a wonderful work at St. Paul with the help of all of you. May God's blessing continue to abound!

Pastor Ron

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

413 E. Walnut
Springfield, MO 65806

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OFFICE HOURS MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 9-4 PM

Phone: 417-866-4326
Fax: 417-866-3442

Email addy: stpaulumcoffice@sbcglobal.net
Website: www.stpaulumcspringfield.org



See us on Facebook.

Dr. Ron McIntire, Pastor

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Calendar of Events

Sunday, February 5

9:30 am	Sunday School
10:45 am	Celebration of Worship
1:00 pm	Bible Study
6:00 pm	Contemporary Worship
7:15 pm	BEAT Youth Group meets

Monday, February 6

5:30 pm	Trustee Committee meets
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Wednesday, February 8

6:30 pm	Choir Practice
8:30 pm	MSU Greenroom Contemporary

Thursday, February 9

10:00 am	Ragan Task Force meets
7:00 pm	Lovely Lane circle meets

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