



# February/March 2025 Hilltop Herald

**Dear Congregation,**

As February rolls around, the world seems to burst into red hearts and roses, celebrating love in all its forms. Valentine's Day is a beautiful reminder of the relationships that shape our lives—spouses, family, friends, and community. But as Christians, we are also reminded of the deeper, enduring love of God. In 1 Corinthians 13, Paul writes, “Love is patient, love is kind... It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.” This divine love calls us to go beyond fleeting gestures and embrace a love that is steadfast and transformative, reflecting God's boundless care for us.

In March, we enter the season of Lent, a time for reflection, repentance, and renewal. Lent is not just a season of giving up; it is also a season of opening up—opening our hearts to God's work in our lives and opening our lives to the needs of others. As we journey toward the cross, we are invited to remember the ultimate act of love: Christ laying down His life for us so that we might live fully in God's grace.

These two themes—love and renewal—are deeply connected. When we love as God loves, we experience transformation. This Lent, consider how love might inspire your Lenten practices. Instead of only giving something up, perhaps take something on: an act of kindness each day, volunteering for a ministry, or dedicating time to prayer and scripture. Let love guide your steps toward deeper faith and richer community.

I pray that this season will be one of growth for each of us as individuals and as a church family. Together, let us reflect God's love to a world longing for it, and let us embrace the hope and renewal found in the journey to Easter.

In Christ's Love, Pastor Andy

## **Catechism Corner: Reflections on the Evangelical Catechism**

- 4. In what ways do the Scriptures reveal to us the purposes of God for our lives and for the life of the world around us?**
- A. God's purposes are made know to us in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the witness of the apostles, as well as in the Ten Commandments, in the prayers and songs of the psalmists, in the testimony of the biblical prophets, and in the faith and travail of the people of Israel.**

The Scriptures serve as a divine roadmap, revealing God's purposes for our lives and the world. Through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we see God's love and grace in action, guiding us toward salvation and abundant life. The witness of the apostles teaches us how to live in faithful obedience to Christ. The Ten Commandments show us God's moral will for human relationships, while the prayers and songs of the psalms provide words for our deepest joys and struggles. The prophets call

us to justice and faithfulness, and the story of Israel reveals God's steadfast presence even in times of hardship. Together, these scriptures invite us into a deeper understanding of God's work in the world and our role in it.

**Question for thought:** How might the wisdom of Scripture shape your decisions and actions in the coming week?

### **SUPER BOWL WING DING**

St. Paul UCC will be cooking and selling wings on Superbowl Sunday (February 9) at the Hermann VFW. Pre-order by February 3 if you want to buy wings. You can order on our Facebook page or you can call the office. We will have extra servings, but we cannot guarantee they will be available to you unless you preorder. We are asking for donations to help cover the cost of the wings, oil, and other needed supplies for this fundraiser. We also are in need of volunteers to help that Sunday. Please contact Dale Maune at 636-432-6296 if you can help or have other questions.

### **FEBRUARY MISSION CUP**

#### **Support Femme Osage UCC's Bridge Rebuilding Effort!**

In July 2024, severe flooding caused the collapse of the iconic bridge connecting Femme Osage UCC to its community. Rebuilding the bridge is essential, but estimates range from a quarter-million to over a million dollars—far beyond their congregation's resources. This February, St. Paul's Mission Bucket will collect funds to help Femme Osage UCC restore this vital connection. Together, we can support their faith-filled efforts and be part of God's provision for their needs.

### **FUNDRAISER DRAWING**

Our raffle fundraiser was a resounding success! We ended up with a profit of \$8,910. Thank you to all who were sold and purchased tickets, and especially to Dale Maune who coordinated the project.

### **SOUP SUNDAY**

On January 26, we served soup and chili after services. We raised \$230 for the Hermann Food Pantry. Thank you for your generous donations.

### **DONATE TO ASSIST CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE VICTIMS**

The United Church of Christ is supporting victims of the California Wildfires in many ways. Recovery efforts are listed on the UCC.org webpage. If you wish to donate to Hurricane relief through the UCC, you may donate online or by writing a check payable to United Church of Christ. Please be sure to note "California Wildfires 2025" in the memo of your check.

### **SNOW CANCELLATIONS**

In case snow and ice would make it necessary to cancel worship service on a Sunday morning, check Fox 2 News, KRCC 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.

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held March 16, 2025, immediately following the worship service. If you would like to have an article included in the booklet about your group or committee, please send it to the church office by February 23rd.

## **ANNUAL STATEMENTS MAILED**

The annual statements of giving for 2024 were mailed the week of January 12th. If there are any questions, please call the church office at 486-5525. Please remember that these statements reflect those gifts that were received between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Thanks to everyone who supported your church and its many projects and services. If you did not get a statement and want one, please call the office.

**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.

## **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING SUNDAY, MARCH 30**

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) special mission offering of the United Church of Christ involves you in disaster, refugee/immigration, and development ministries throughout the world. When a disaster strikes or people are displaced or made refugees by violence or extreme poverty, you are part of the immediate response and of the long-term recovery.

Through OGHS you engage in holistic development programs including health care, education, agriculture, food sustainability, micro-financing and women's empowerment. Because the UCC relates in mutual partnership to churches and organizations through Global Ministries and worldwide response & recovery networks, your contributions to One Great Hour of Sharing put you in the right place at the right time for the relief, accompaniment and recovery of the most vulnerable. You meet immediate needs and you address the underlying causes that create those needs in the first place

Envelopes will be in the front and back of church in March.

## **ACTIVITIES/MEETINGS/GROUPS**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

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

### **HANDBELL CHOIR**

After a six-week hiatus, the handbell choir is back in action. We will be ringing at the worship services on the fourth Sunday monthly from February through May.

We welcome back Nancy Kirchhofer for the next two months. Nancy was the first director of the bell choir when we started ringing 20 years ago. She is subbing for Bonnie Oncken, who is on medical leave. Thank you, Nancy, for filling in.

On occasion, Colter Scheible will join us when his work schedule allows him to be home. It will be great to hear those big bells when he's able to ring with us.

Practices will continue to be on Wednesdays at 4:45 p.m. We ring for approximately 1 1/2 hours. If anyone is interested in learning about playing with the bell choir, please come by during a practice and see what we're all about. Or, you can contact Nancy Fagerness at 573-486-3700 or the church office for additional information.

### **CHOIR**

Thank you to the Senior Choir for a successful first half of the choir season. Your dedication to St. Paul's Music Program is very much appreciated.

The Christmas Cantata was beautiful thanks to your hard work and exceptional talent. I am looking forward to the second half of the season.

"Sing to the Lord a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let the Faithful exalt in glory,  
Let them sing for joy upon their couches,  
Let the high praises of God be in their throats." (Psalm 149)  
LaNette Kotthoff

## **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

The Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, February 13 at 2:00 p.m. Pastor Andrew Wilson will present the program for this meeting. The Women' Fellowship will meet on Thursday, March 13 at 2:00 p.m. and will play Bingo after a Lenten devotional and business meeting. Anyone is welcome to join us!

## **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:

- 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 began meeting again on Wednesday, January 15 after Christmas break and a snow break. Thirteen students and mentors read, worked on homework, tied a fleece blanket, and made Christmas ornaments in December. On January 15, students and mentors made bird feeders with pinecones, peanut butter, and birdseed. We will continue our schedule of yoga, music, and arts in the coming weeks. We welcome more volunteers. If you are interested in mentoring or helping

with snacks, please contact Sharen Speckhals at 573-220-0965 or email [sharenspeckhals2011@hotmail.com](mailto:sharenspeckhals2011@hotmail.com).

## **DECEMBER BLOOD DRIVE**

Thanks to all who donated blood on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. With 25 signed up online to give and a few walk-ins, 22 whole pints were donated and 10 Power Red donations. Two donors were deferred for various reasons. Special thanks to Gordon Heck for helping with the drive all day. Everyone seemed to like the holiday socks that replaced the usual tee shirts.

Linda Heck

## **CASA IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

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! The next CASA volunteer training session will begin at the end of February with an **application deadline of Feb. 8th**. To APPLY, donate, or learn more about CASA please visit [casamideastmo.org](http://casamideastmo.org) or call 636-583-4422.

## **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 February are sugar, shortening, and margarine. Requests for March are jelly, flour and soup. Monetary gifts are always welcome.

## **MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE**

Anyone who is in need of assistance may call the Hermann Area Ministerial Alliance at 573-569-2082. The 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

**December 2024 Benevolences**

	<b>AMOUNT DONATED</b>	<b>AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED</b>
<b>Non-Budgeted Benevolence</b>		
Hermann Food Pantry	1,614.93	1614.93
Emmaus Homes	138.00	138.00
Samaritan Outreach	1,152.75	1152.75
One Great Hour of Sharing	365.00	365.00
Gasconade Co. R-1 School	220.00	220.00
Riverbluff Industries	124.00	124.00
CWS Blanket Fund	350.00	350.00
Every Child's Hope	824.20	824.20
Camp MoVal	67.11	67.11
Neighbors in Need	165.00	165.00
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	66.00
VFW	453.14	453.14
Community Christmas	594.04	594.04
Backstoppers	272.00	272.00
Total non-budgeted benevolences	8,236.12	8,236.12
Budgeted Benevolence OCWM		6000.00
"          "          Eastern Association		1000.00
Total All Benevolences		\$15,236.12

**Christmas Monetary Gifts— Current Fund**

*In memory of William and Brian Tilly*

Shirley Tilly and Family

*In memory of our parents, Robert & Norma Lloyd and*

*William & June Fricke*

Brad & Chery Fricke

*In memory of Edmund and Mark Bickmeyer*

Eleanor Bickmeyer

*In memory of Jenna, Anna Mae & Lee Lenger and Dave Huxel*

Lenger and Wolk Families

*In memory of Don Witthaus, Edmund Bickmeyer & Mark Bickmeyer*

Scott, Diane, and Seth Witthaus, Danny and Jill Bacon

*In memory of James Held and James Richard Held*

Betty Held

**Christmas Floral Gifts**

*In memory of our parents, Kenneth & Marie Skouby and James & Mary Crowe; and Kim's sister  
Brenda Baur*

Marty & Kim Crowe and Family

*In memory of Harvey and Ruth Cramer*

Diana Cramer

*In memory of Wiff Kotthoff, and BA & LaVerne Wagner*

The Kotthoff Family

**Church Maintenance Fund**

*In memory of Ralph & Elizabeth Grannemann; Robert Grannemann,  
Glenda Kraettli and Austin Kirchner*

Ralph & Dolores Grannemann, Jr.

**After School Bearcats Fund**

*In honor of our four grandchildren*

Marty & Kim Crowe

**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

**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, Michael Benvenuti Sr., Emily Benvenuti, and Michael Benvenuti Jr., Daryl Heck, Darrell Reinhardt, Tara Stephan, Doris Grannemann, staff and residents of area hospitals and care centers, and all affected by recent disasters.

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

Or, if you would prefer the newsletter in hard copy (and you are currently receiving it via e-mail, please contact the church office).

## 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.

## RECOGNIZING OUR CHURCH FAMILY

### GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES



#### 50+ ANNIVERSARIES

The following members of our church family will be celebrating their anniversaries in February. Ken & Jane Meyer will celebrate their 61st anniversary on February 8; and Wayne & Doris Grannemann will celebrate their 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary on February 17.

### ANNIVERSARIES

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

8	Ken & Jane Meyer	17	Wayne & Doris Grannemann
14	Ken & Fern Wray	22	Jeff & Ellen Scheible

The following members of our church family will be celebrating their anniversaries in March.

4	Mike & Julie Ruediger	14	Dave & Nancy Fagerness
10	Stephen & Rhonda Nauman	18	Dale & Dawn Maune

**Congratulations to all.**



## BIRTHDAYS

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

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Kelly Hanger Linda Landolt,<br>Lisa Winkelmann     | 12 - Lane Cramer                                  |
| 2 - Howard Horstmann                                   | 15 - Andrea Held, Carol Paubel                    |
| 3 - Lauren Dickerson                                   | 17 - Averil Elsenraat                             |
| 4 - Tara Stephan                                       | 18 - Nancy Fagerness                              |
| 5 - Betty Held   | 19 - Ed Knehans                                   |
| 6 - Maranda Anderson, Eleanor Bickmeyer,<br>Linda Heck | 21 - Debra Brethorst                              |
| 8 - Allison Boedges                                    | 23 - Ashley Schaefer, Larry Schulte               |
| 9 - Sharon Hoerstkamp                                  | 24 - Tara Stephen, Keely Uthlaut                  |
| 10 - Alex Gleeson, Mike Koepke                         | 26 - Alex Smith                                   |
| 11 - Mason Scheible                                    | 27 - Brad Hart, Rhonda Scheible, Joe<br>Elsenraat |

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3 - Wayne Rupp; Brady Grosse                              | 19 - Megan Pohlmann; Ashley Lamke                         |
| 4 - Ben Berkemeyer  | 24 - Nathan Eikermann, Robert Kottwitz,<br>Angela Sherrow |
| 6 - Cathy Foust, Nancy Kirchhofer,<br>LaNette Kotthoff    | 25 - Shane Graue  |
| 8 - Mary Goth, Marilyn Loehnig                            | 26 - Dalton Bickmeyer, Kurt Bickmeyer                     |
| 9 - Carol Graue   | 27 - Frank Struttman III                                  |
| 11 - Chad Struttman                                       | 28 - Korinna Bickmeyer                                    |
| 13 - Duane Kraettli                                       | 29 - Sheri Schneider, Adlee Witthaus                      |
| 15 - Melissa Eikermann, Shelby Schutt,<br>Forrest Koeller | 30 - Lindsey Peterson                                     |
| 18 - Tyler Groteweil, Katlyn Rector                       | 31 - Dan Bohl   |

## WORSHIP SERVICE

12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/24	12/29	1/5	1/12	1/19	1/26
65	104	114	97	177	98	Services Cancelled	91	79	102

## SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

	Nursery	1-3	4-7	Confirmation	Adult	Staff	Total
12/8	3	5	4	7	14	1	34
12/15	4	5	8	7	5	1	30
12/22	2	2	2	7		1	14
12/29				7	15	1	23
1/5	Services cancelled due to weather						
1/12	3	5	4	7	10	1	30
1/19	2	4	2	7		1	16
1/26	2	5		7		1	15

## 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 Susan Lenger, Matt Wesselschmidt, Nancy Kirchhofer, Susan Lenger, Steve Lenger, Nathan Menke, Dawn Maune, and Todd Anderson for serving as liturgists.

Thank you to Elaine Lalk and Shirley Kunz for helping with office work recently.

Thank you to everyone who provides music every Sunday, including LaNette Kotthoff, Josephine Tappmeyer, Lois Kruse, Craig Schannuth, Jim Oncken, Becky Mayberry, Dawn Maune, Marilyn Loehnig, the Handbell Choir, the Sunday School students and teachers, and the Senior Choir.

## THANK YOU NOTES

St. Paul Church:

Thank you for your generous donation to the Hermann VFW Post Building Fund.

Thank you, Hermann VFW Post 4182

Dear St. Paul UCC Members,

Thank you so much for your recent donation to the Hermann Community Food Pantry. It was very generous and thoughtful. You are helping to improve the lives of many in our community, and we appreciate your continued support.

Thanks again for paying it forward!

The Hermann Community Food Pantry.

Greetings,

Thank you very much for your 2024 donations to the Eastern Association. We appreciate your support.

Terry Elia, Treasurer

Dear St. Paul UCC,

We would like to thank you for the generous donation to the school to assist with the students and families of our community. We are truly grateful for your contribution.

Sincerely, Dawn Grosse & Krystal Witthaus

Dear Friends,

All of us at UP (Unleashing Portential) are incredible grateful for your support. Your \$66 contribution is deeply appreciated by our students and their families this holiday season.

Unleashing Potential wishes you and yours the happiest of holidays and a wonderful New Year.

Sincerely, Darlene Sowell, President and CEO

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generosity. We received your donation of \$1,163.78 for the Hermann Food Pantry Fund. The Community Foundation of the Ozarks 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.

Thanks again.

Sincerely, Caitlin Golike, Senior Director of Operations, 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](mailto:churchoffice@hermannucc.com).

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES

### St. Paul United Church of Christ Council Minutes – November 18, 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. Also present were confirmands Adelynn Jacob and Hailey Diebal.

1. Pastor Andy led the Council in prayer.
2. The floor was open for comments. No comments
3. The meeting agenda was reviewed. Dawn Grosse made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Vicki Estes, the motion carried.
4. Derek Menke made a motion to approve the October minutes; Scott Jacob seconded the motion; the motion carried.
5. Old Business
  - A. Craig Schannuth reported that he has one bid from Hot Shot for fixing the parking lots. The bid is \$36,000 for the upper lot and \$8,000 for the lower lot. He is also expecting a bid from West Contracting in the next week or so.
  - B. Painting is complete and the new gable vent will be replaced this week.
  - C. Moving the checking accounts to Peoples Savings Bank is still in progress.
  - D. UCF withdrawal is done, may come off agenda.
  - E. It was reported that the fund raiser raffle is going well. The prizes are accounted for, and the rest of the proceeds will be profit.
6. New Business
  - A. Mission Bucket for December will be Every Child's Hope.
  - B. Pastor Andy shared the events of last month as well as upcoming events. Pastor Andy reported that average worship attendance has hit our goal for the year and we will soon have new members. He also said that confirmation is going well.
  - C. Treasurer's report: Maureen Heck reported that all was good, but still working on reconciling accounts from a refund for paint.
  - D. Ushers: November is Maureen Heck's month.  
Maureen Heck brought up that on the Saturday of the Samaritan outreach distribution, someone from Wentzville had a baby shower in the multi-purpose room and she did not

know any of the people in attendance. At the meeting in December, the council wants to review a copy of the church policy of renting to non-members.

7. Council reviewed upcoming events:
  - A. Wednesday, November 20: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
  - B. Thursday, November 21: Bell rehearsals 4:45
  - C. Sunday, November 24: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Totenfest Worship service 10:15; Community Thanksgiving Service 6:00 (*Corrected from 7:00*)
  - D. Sunday, December 1: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; 9:00; Worship service w/Communion 10:15; Advent Workshop 9:00-10:00
  - E. Saturday, December 7: Men's Breakfast 8:00
  - F. Sunday, December 8: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; Worship service (*no communion*)
  - G. Wednesday, December 11: After School Bearcats 3:15-5:00; Bell rehearsals 4:45; Choir rehearsals 6:30
  - H. Thursday, December 12: Women's Fellowship Christmas 12:30
  - I. Saturday, December 14: Parents' Night Out
  - J. Sunday, December 15: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Sunday School Program/Worship service 10:15; Caroling/Pizza following worship service
  - K. Monday, December 16: Council meeting 7:00
  - L. Sunday, December 22: Choir/Handbells Concert 3:00
  - M. Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Service 7:00
  - N. Tentative Scout meetings November 19,21, December 3,10,17,19  
December 17: 8:00 Quilters
8. There being no further business, Derek Menke made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Dawn Grosse 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 – December 23, 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.
2. The floor was open for comments. No comments
3. The meeting agenda was reviewed. Scott Jacob made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Mary Leeper, the motion carried.
4. Derek Menke made a motion to approve the November minutes as amended; Mary Leeper seconded the motion; the motion carried.
5. Old Business
  - A. Parking Lot – Craig Schannuth now has 2 bids. One from Hot Shot Asphalt and one from West Contracting. After review and discussion of the 2 bids, it was decided that it would be too costly at this time and to wait a year. Instead, the council will contact the maintenance committee about re-stripping the lot next spring before Easter to best utilize the parking space we currently have.

- B. Painting – Remove from agenda
  - C. Checking accounts still being worked on.
  - D. Fundraiser raffle went well, all tickets were sold and winners are being drawn. Much appreciation was expressed to Dale Maune for his efforts.
  - E. Maureen Heck reported that all the Pony Express saddlebags were turned in and there should be a total in a few weeks.
6. New Business
- A. Mission Bucket for January will be the Hermann Food Pantry.
  - B. Pastor Andy shared the events of last month as well as upcoming events. Pastor Andy reported that average worship attendance is still up and requested that the January council meeting be moved. It was agreed that the meeting will be on Tuesday January 21 instead of the 20<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Andy also asked the council to start looking for new council members for the upcoming year.
  - C. Treasurer’s report: Financials were discussed.
  - D. Time and talent sheets are beginning to get turned in for 2025.
  - E. Ushers: January is Craig Schannuth’s month.
  - F. Scouts are asking for permission to have a lock-in on January 17-18 and Maureen Heck made a motion to let them have it. Vicki Estes seconded the motion, the motion carried. Craig Schannuth informed the council that he received a letter of retirement from Fay Scheible. Fay is tentatively planning April 30 as her last day. A motion was made, with much regret, by Maureen Heck, to accept Fay Scheible’s retirement. Derek Menke seconded the motion, the motion carried. After some discussion, a committee was formed to investigate what the job would entail. Craig Schannuth, Derek Menke, and Maureen Heck volunteered to be on the committee.
- Maureen Heck brought a copy of the church policy of renting the various areas of the church and stated that we are not following it. At the January meeting the council will review the policy more fully and update it where necessary.
7. Council reviewed upcoming events:
- A. Sunday, January 5: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour 9:00; School Sunday School/Confirmation Classes; Worship service 10:15 w/communion
  - B. Sunday, January 12: Adult Bible Study 8:00; Fellowship Hour, Sunday School/Confirmation Classes 9:00; Worship service 10:15
  - C. Tuesday, January 21: Council meeting 7:00 (*Changed from Monday, January 20*)
  - D. Tentative Scout meetings December 17,19, January 7,21,23 and lock-in January 17-18  
January 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

## February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 8:00 Men's Breakfast
<b>2</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/communion	<b>3</b> 6:30 Budget Meeting	<b>4</b> 7:00 Scouts	<b>5</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at Lionheart	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9-11 Samaritan Outreach Open
<b>9</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services 11:15 Christian Ed Meeting 11-5 Wingding	<b>10</b> 8-5 Quilters 10:00 Book Club	<b>11</b> 7:00 Scouts	<b>12</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at St. Paul	<b>13</b> 2:00 Women's Fellowship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	<b>17</b> 7:00 Church Council	<b>18</b> 8:00 Quilters 7:00 Scouts	<b>19</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at Lionheart	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Scouts Pinewood Derby
<b>23</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at St. Paul	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	

## March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<b>1</b> 8:00 Men's Breakfast
<b>2</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services w/communion	<b>3</b> 6:30 Choir	<b>4</b> 7:00 Scouts	<b>5</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 7:00 Ash Wednesday services	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9-11 Samaritan Outreach Open
<b>9</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	<b>10</b> 10:00 Book Club	<b>11</b> 7:00 Scouts	<b>12</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at St. Paul	<b>13</b> 2:00 Women's Fellowship	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services <b>Annual Meeting following services</b>	<b>17</b> 7:00 Church Council	<b>18</b> 8:00 Quilters 7:00 Scouts	<b>19</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at St. Paul	<b>20</b> 7:00 Scouts	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 3:30 After School Bearcats 4:45 Bells 6:30 Choir 6:30 Community Bible Study at St. Paul	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 Adult Bible Study 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 Worship Services	<b>31</b>					

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