

HERALD

St. Paul United Church of Christ

202 E. Main

Carlinville, IL 62626

Rev. Katrina Palan, Intentional Interim

Office: 217-854-4046

E-mail: stpaulucc@nwcable.net

March 2021



FROM THE
PASTOR

Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

We have started into the season of Lent. Most importantly, we are back in the sanctuary together! You have no idea how wonderful it was to see the 22 faces in the pews. A couple of weeks ago, on Valentine's Day, I was able to see most of our shut-ins or older folk who did not dare to be in church for fear of weather and COVID-19. I could not stay to visit them but promised to be back for a more extended visit soon. I heard that some nursing homes were allowing visitors, by appointment. I got my second COVID shot and have heard that many of you have gotten yours. Best of all, the weather, as I write this is up to 52°. What a huge difference from -2 with -22 wind chill. As you can tell, we are slowly coming back to a place where we can be comfortable.

Lent, as you know, is a season of introspection. Lent is a time when we look deep within ourselves to see how our faith is holding up. It is so easy to get busy doing everything else, to get side-tracked from being the people God calls us to be. Lent is a great time for us to push the "reset" button on our lives, to once again allow God to lead us to do mission in Jesus' name.

I have been blessed to be working with seven amazing youth who are learning about their faith and their church. They are eager to learn who and what God is. They are eager to do service for others in the church (They brought me valentines to deliver to the shut-ins along with mine). They want to know about the history of the United Church of Christ and of St. Paul's so they can add their names to the rest of your and be called "the body of Christ". I am sorry that you have not been able to join me as I have watched them grow these past five months. On March 28, in the worship service, they will "Confirm" the decision to follow Christ made for them by others at their baptism. I hope you will be there either on the radio, Facebook or in the pews as they begin a new part of their Christian walk.

As I write about my joy in their growth and transformation, I wonder what we, as a congregation, are going to do to continue to nurture and add to their faith journey. After all, we cannot shepherd them in places where we have not been ourselves. It is my deepest prayer that you too will share in the eagerness to learn more about God, the history of the United Church of Christ, and how you can serve

the God to whom you say you belong.

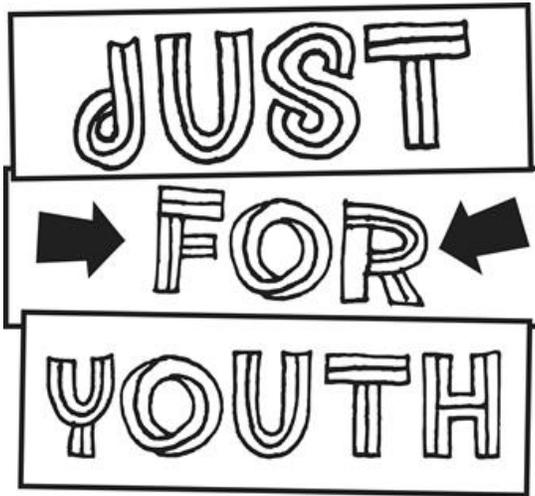
I remind us of the words of the apostle, Paul in Colossians 3: 12-17

"12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. 13 Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. 14 And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. 16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."

Pastor Katrina



- Wednesday Bible Study 6pm Fellowship Hall
"An Altar to the World" Through March
- March 28- Confirmation Sunday
- April 1-Maundy Thursday Service
- April 4-Easter



The **Jr. Youth Group** will be meeting Wednesday, **March 3rd** from **6-7pm**. They will be meeting in the downstairs Sunday School room or the Friendship Room.

The **Sr. Youth Group** will be meeting Wednesday, **March 24th** at **4:45**. They will also be meeting in the downstairs Sunday School room or the Friendship Room.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Great news! We are excited for Sunday school to resume on Sunday, **March 14th**. All ages will meet in the downstairs Sunday School room (across from the nursery) at **10:00am**. Please enter and exit through the **west doors near the office**. Masks and temperature checks required.



EASTER EGG HUNT

It's that time of year again! Easter is approaching and that means so is the Easter Egg hunt. We need filled Easter Eggs for the hunt. There are some empty eggs in the office, stop by and pick some up or drop off wrapped treats and we will fill them for you. Feel free to buy eggs and fill them at home, because we need lots of eggs for the kids to hunt. Stop by and pick up some eggs, or call if you have questions 854-4046. **All eggs & candy need to be returned to the office no later than Sunday, March 28.** The Easter Egg hunt will be **April 4th** at **9:15 am**.

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 2021 Income	\$21,167.79
Expenses	\$22,763.54
Liabilities Organ	\$6,700.00
A/C	\$3,918.72

COMMITTEE UPDATE

We want to report to you that after the 1st payment of \$16,427, we had an organ fund balance of \$18,283. In late November 2020, we sent a letter to all members of the congregation asking for help to reach the total necessary to cover the organs cost and installation of approximately \$66,000.00. *You are continuing to answer the call* as St. Paul's members have always done.

The organ fund balance on hand is now 42,909.00. This balance when coupled with the first payment already paid means that since the fundraising started more than a year ago, a total of \$59,336 of the approximately \$66,000 needed has been raised and that we are now only about \$6,700 short in meeting the cost.

While more will need to be done to reach the goal, each of us first wants to **Thank you**, the many members who saw the need and very generously contributed to get the goal within sight. We are advised by Mr. Dial that we will be installing our new organ within the month.

We also want to thank the Church Council, individually and collectively, for their steadfast support and other church officers for monitoring the organ fund as we proceed.

We are looking forward to the next few months and the completion of all our efforts and yours and the installation of the organ!
Elner, Donna, Leland, Elise & Carl



Organ Fund



MISSION OFFERING for March is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) . In 2021 the theme is *“Let Love Flow”* Starting in 1946, Protestant Churches came together to form a common goal to provide world relief and reconstruction. The Early Church Leaders found that pulling together they could unite in a great power that could fuel this common cause. In 1950 the title of "One Great Hour of Sharing " was used for the first time. From the beginning this has been an ecumenical effort. As denominations changed and merged, OGHS has varied from eight to twenty- nine participation communions. *It is one of four special mission offering of the United Church of Christ.* This mission Moment occurs during the Lenten season. It supports the rebuilding after natural disaster, helps refugees, and the development and construction of resources for people to better them selves

The purpose of OGHS is an offering that makes the LOVE of Christ real **for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardships.** Today, projects are underway in more than 100 countries, including the U.S. and Canada, Contributions to OGHS make a difference in the lives of real people. Leaders of impacted communities identify the of their people. Priorities for short, medium, and long-term solutions are then made for the purpose of improving the quality of life for individuals and the communities. Around the world, OGHS continues to respond to needs equally critical as when it was first created. Please do your part by donating to One Great Hour of Sharing. This can be done by *3 different ways:*

Here at :
St Paul's United Church of Christ with your envelope.

By Mail to
One Great Hour of Sharing
United Church of Christ
700 Prospect Ave
Financial Services 6th Floor
Cleveland, OH 44115

Or Online @ United Church of Christ website

Jesus Call us as Christians to extend a hand of Love, Healing, and Generosity, by our contributions, we can accomplish this in a Larger Great effort.

CARE & SHARE FOR LENT

There has been a good response from the congregation for this year's Care & Share for Lent, and only a few Hearts remain to be picked up. The original deadline was to return the donations by Palm Sunday (March 28). However, we would like to **move the donation deadline to March 15th** and get the items earlier to DCFS. Thank you for your donation to help the Intact Families program.

FOOD DONATIONS: See calendar



ONGOING CONCERNS

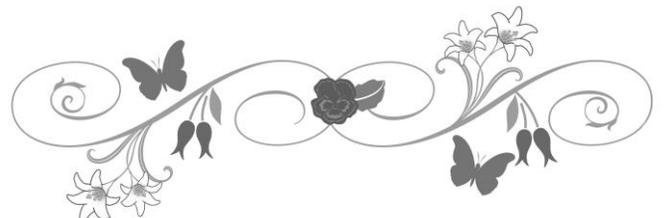
Angie Jansen
John Koehne Friend of Wanda Hammann
Those struggling with the health or economic impact of COVID-19

SHUT INS

Jean Beal
Marilyn Best
Margaret Bloome
Kathleen Gillespie
Norma Hammann-Moved to Morse Farms
Jean Klaus
Andrew Schroeder
Alice McGeachy
Gerda Strope

WIDER CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Rev. Shana Johnson-ISC Conference Minister
Rev. Dr. John Doerhauser GMP-UCC





- 1 Mary Kay Berry
Kyle Witham
Amanda Roberts
- 2 Mary Hammann
Marji Best
Dennis Slightom
- 3 Allison Snider
- 5 Norma Hammann
Dakota Moore
Jackson Lohnes
- 6 Becky Brockmeier
Kyle Bennett
Jeran Hammann
- 8 Ava Armour
Judith DeMunbrum
- 9 Joe Kaburick
Chris Thoron
Donna Chapman
- 10 Kathy Witt
Ron Morse
- 12 Andrea Hammann
- 13 Debbie Wills
- 14 Kim Barber
- 16 Janet Steiner
Bev Neuhaus
Wendell Armour
- 18 Matthew Dufner
- 20 Matthew Witt
- 21 Willie Morse
Jacob Griffel
- 22 John Goodwin
- 23 Travis Tipps
Debbie Davis
- 24 Dean Wiese
- 26 Rodney Eichen
Dale Kasten
Lauryn Pool
Amanda Witt
- 28 Ernie Costello

29 Kaleb Kirk

- Mary Mack
- Hank Hammann
- 30 Norma Mitchell
Marsha Smith
Louis Whitlock
Lynda Power



- 4 Tim & Beth Chapman
- 5 Jeff & Laura Hammann
- 12 Donald & Marjorie Kahl
- 14 Alan & Jennifer Kaburick
- 19 Dennis & Deb Boehm
- 20 Jerel & Marilyn Loveless
Bradley & Elizabeth Shade
- 24 Mike & Trisha Dixon
- 25 Don & Stephanie Pool
Mike & Amy Yudinsky
- 29 Gene & Doris Gahr
- 31 Jay & Carmen Trump

If you have any additions or corrections to the birthday or anniversary list, please let the office know. Thanks!



Remember to *set your clocks ahead* one hour when you go to bed **Saturday, March 13th** so you will be at church on time Sunday March 14th .

St. Paul United Church of Christ
202 E. Main
Carlinville IL 62626
Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #155

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Church Staff

Rev. Katrina Palan – Intentional Interim Minister
Linda Leefers, Church Secretary
Kathy Witt, Treasurer
Brian Mitchell, Financial Secretary
Elnor Ivers, Organist
Debbie Costello, Choir Director
Norma Mitchell, Custodian

Church Council Officers

Jerry Eiffert - President
Katie Thomas- Vice President
Lari Vanderpoel-Secretary

Office Hours: 8:30 am –12:30 pm Monday through Thursday

Email:

Pastor Katrina: stpaulpastorucc@gmail.com
Church Office: stpaulucc@nwcable.net
Transition Team: ttstpaulucc@gmail.com
Finance Committee: finance.stpaulucc@gmail.com