

# HERALD

St. Paul United Church of Christ

202 E. Main

Carlinville, IL 62626

Rev. Katrina Palan, Intentional Interim

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**April 2021**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I thought I would take this month to do a little catch up for us. As you know, the council met originally with me in December 2019. At this time, we both agreed that I needed to come to St. Paul's UCC as an Intentional Interim Minister. The council had three choices for our combined ministry. First was pulpit supply, where I came weekly to preach and that is it. The second choice was that of an interim. This is a little more detailed. I would move here, be your pastor, a search team would be selected, then church profile put together, then the search for a new pastor would begin. The third option was Intentional Interim Minister. This one is more complicated. I move here, do the work of the pastor, plus the congregation selects a transition team who works the five focus points in the transition. The focus points are heritage, mission, leadership connections and future. During this time, all aspects of the congregation and the administration of the church would be under review. **The council voted unanimously to have the intentional interim process and called me as an intentional interim minister.** I told the council that the process typically takes about two- and three-quarter years to complete. They were completely on board with this.

We got off to a very good start .....then COVID. The transition team, usually chosen by April, did not happen until mid-September (five months late), but we were scrambling learning how to be church in the midst of a pandemic. Once the transition team was chosen by you, we started to meet to do training. In October, the transition team started to work on the first focus point - heritage. As you know, we had opened the church back up and were meeting for worship. The transition team started to plan the conversations that many of you participated in. Then we had to shut down again. Instead of having face-to face meetings we had to learn how to do things on zoom. The transition team worked through the congregation meeting with people in small groups through November, December, and January. They finished up with the meetings in February, then mailed out paper questionnaires to reach those they had not been able to reach. In March they started to compile the data from all the conversations and questionnaires they received. They have come up with a presentation plan to present the data to the congregation. I hope that you will be pleased when it comes out in a couple of weeks. Once again, their work was hampered by the church closure and the restrictions of COVID. If I had to make a guess, I would say that we

are **eight months behind in our work as a congregation and in the Intentional Interim Process.** COVID has played a huge part in this. I will say that the transition team has worked very hard, keeping the congregation in the forefront of all of their efforts. They are a dedicated body of people working on YOUR behalf.

What does this mean for us? We are fourteen months into our process. Subtract the eight months of setback. This gives us six months into the intentional interim process of a thirty-three-month process. I anticipate, with no more setbacks - completely outside of our control - that we have about two years left to complete the Intentional Interim process. That would put us in the spring of 2023. Which is about eight months more that I thought I would spend here at St. Paul's UCC.

So, what is the good news? First of all, first and foremost, **I am an ordained minister with 25 years experience in ministry.** Translated, "I know how to be a pastor". Not only that, I have completed eight interim ministries, including two judicatory (conference minister positions) ministries. During COVID, our income, despite being an over \$6,000 negative budget was met, plus over \$950 to the positive side. Our **endowment** in 2020 **gained over \$23,000** due to instituting a finance committee and careful planning to use the endowment. **The organ fund was totally paid off**, thanks to fundraising and campaigning by the organ committee. We did not qualify for a second PPP Loan **because we gained an average of 39.25 % income in 2020** over 2019 instead of losing 25% in any one quarter.

Ministrywise, we were able to get our services out over the radio and Facebook live. We had special services, including the radio broadcast of the Christmas Eve services. We confirmed seven youth, I have performed three baptisms, six funerals, and two weddings. Life is moving on in a good manner. **St. Paul United Church of Christ is alive and well!** Despite the setbacks of COVIC, **St. Paul's UCC is stable.** This will all pass. The transition team will finish their work. A search team will be formed at the appropriate time. **God is preparing the pastor to come who will lead St. Paul's UCC into the future.** Then I will get to move back to Springfield to be near my grandchildren again. We need to do **God's work**, loving God and loving our Neighbor, **spreading the Good News, that Jesus Christ is here for all people.**

Shalom,

*Pastor Katrina*



**Our monthly Mission Offering** for April is **Habitat for Humanity**.

The current average cost for a habitat home is \$90,000.00 Habitat homes are sold to partner families for no profit and are financed with an affordable mortgage. The cost of the homes may be different depending on the number of bedrooms and construction phase. The average Habitat home in the US is a 1200 square foot house with 3 bedrooms; takes 150lbs of nails and 400 2X4's.

**Habitat will help people build a simple, decent, and affordable home.** The homes do not have features such as fireplaces, garages, or basements.

Other opportunities to help Habitat for Humanity is by **donating new or gently used furniture, appliances, home goods, or building materials to the Habitat for Humanity Restore.** Habitat Restores also sell home improvement items to the public at a fraction of the retail price; proceeds are used for Habitat projects. You may also go to the Habitat Website to sign up to volunteer labor for build events.

In closing, the Mission & Outreach Committee urges you **to remember Habitat for Humanity in your giving.**



## CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

Confirmation was held on Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> with 7 confirmands being confirmed. Our confirmands are Payton Harding, Piper Rives, Halle Kaburick, Brock Lange, Madi Cervi, Blake Killam, & Lilly Wise. A small reception followed the Sunday Service for confirmands and their families.

We had our annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am for children in PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade. It was a tremendous success!

Senior Youth group will meet April 28<sup>th</sup>.  
Junior Youth group met April 7<sup>th</sup>.

Sunday School Numbers:  
Week of March 14<sup>th</sup>- 3 students  
Week of March 21<sup>st</sup>- 7 students

We are starting to plan for Vacation Bible School 2021. Please contact Heather Haley in person or by email [hhaley@northwestern.k12.il.us](mailto:hhaley@northwestern.k12.il.us), or contact the church office 854-4046, if you are interested in volunteering.

## YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The **Junior Youth Group** met on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 from 6-7 pm in the Friendship Room. Any child from pre-k thru 5th grade is welcome to attend.

We met on Wednesday, March 3rd. We had a great turnout with 10 youth in attendance. The Jr Youth made a decision to donate \$1000 to the air conditioner fund. That night we did a few Easter crafts/activities. They all seemed to be glad to be back together again.

The Jr. & Sr Youth groups are planning a pork cookout fundraiser in late May. Details to follow in the May newsletter.

# APRIL



## ANNIVERSARIES

2	Blake & Carissa Hammann
11	Doug & Nichole Eichen
14	Todd & Becky Koller George & Debbie Wills
16	Dean & Margaret Tetzlaff
18	Arthur & Christi Harris
20	Walter & Marsha Smith
28	Dan & Brittany Walden
30	Bill & Connie Steele

## BIRTHDAYS

1	Matthew Klaus Max Chapman Jean Beal
2	Cyndee Goodwin Cole Frizzo
3	Marge Dorr Sylvie Allen
4	Donna Konneker Michael Kessinger
6	Jim Gillespie Becca Griffith Melissa Heyen
7	Greg Hudson Jolene Little Chase Michaelis Ruthie Whittington
8	Angie LeVora Martha Armour Pam Kessinger
9	Jill Hudson Bill Brockmeier
10	Brenda Swires
12	Andrew Thoron Luke Hammann
13	Ken Moore
14	Colton Walker Emily Walker
15	Donald Kahl Tracey Hildebrand Helmy
16	Sean Kolb
19	Tyson Hammann
20	Beth Brockmeier Kenneth A. Moore Shellie Strobe Dan Walden
21	Jesse Konneker
22	William Hammann
23	Tyson Probst
24	Charlie Siegel
25	Noah Atkins-Harris
27	Heather Hudson
29	Pat Keller

*welcome*  
to our church family

On Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> the Confirmation Class was confirmed and became members of the church. Please welcome and congratulate our confirmands:

Madi Cervi  
Payton Harding  
Hallee Kaburick  
Blake Killam  
Brock Lange  
Piper Rives  
Lilly Wise

### CALLING ALL GRADUATES:

Will you or a family member graduate this Spring? If so, please let us know when and where; we would like to share in the joy of your graduation. Call the church office at 217-854-4046 with your graduates' information!

**Deadline: April 26, 2021**



**Fannie Pocklington**

Fannie E. Pocklington, 72, of Girard, passed away Monday morning, March 1, 2021 at her residence in Girard, IL.

Fannie was born on March 28, 1948 to James and Frieda (Kretzer) Malone in Centralia, IL. She attended Carlinville schools and earned herself a degree as an LPN from Capitol Area School of Practical Nursing in 1978. On August 22, 1998 she married Wallace "Wally" Pocklington in Las Vegas, NV.

Fannie worked as an LPN for Dr. Robert England for many years until her retirement. Staying home for Fannie did not last long though as she decided to go back to work as a nurse at Pleasant Hill Nursing Home in Girard, and later for Cathy Guidish, finally permanently retiring in 2011. She was a member of St Paul's United Church of Christ in Carlinville, volunteered at the Macoupin County Historical Society and enjoyed family genealogy. Fannie absolutely loved spending time with her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Fannie is survived by her husband Wally Pocklington; daughter, Lora (Lindell) Striplin; two sons, Charles "Bogey" Chance, Jr., and Jerry (Lindsay) Lynn ;two stepdaughters, Tracy Cummings, and Marla Pocklington; six grandchildren; nine step grandchildren; several great grandchildren; four brothers, James (Bertha) Malone, Donald (Karen) Malone, Charles (Linda) Malone, and Everett (Vicki) Malone; two sisters, Billie (Jerry) Busby, and Mary Sue Eller, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Fannie was preceded in death by her parents, and a grandson, Andrew C. Chance.

Graveside services were held March 5, 2021 Bethel Ridge Cemetery, Rural Atwater, IL with Rev. Katrina Palan

**THANK YOU**

As a member of the Carlinville Food Pantry Board, I would sincerely like **to thank all of my church family for their generous support of the pantry.** Through all the donations of food and monetary support we have received, we can provide a generous amount of food to all of the families who come to us. During the recent Scouting for Food event, we received almost 4,000 pounds of food. A huge thanks to the scouts, their leaders and everyone who donated food for the cause. May God Bless you all for your kindness and support.  
Darlene Barkley



**Current Concerns:**

Those who are struggling with health issues.

Those who are struggling with the economic impact of COVID-19

Those who are struggling with mental health issues

We lift up all who are weary and oppressed, that they might find people and communities around them that are nurturing, strengthening, and freeing.

Transition Team as they work on clarifying the identity, vision, and mission of St. Paul's church

**Shut-ins:** Jean Beal, Marilyn Best, Margaret Bloome Kathleen Gillespie, Norma Hammann, Jean Klaus, Alice McGeachy, Andrew Schroeder, Gerda Stroppe

**Wider Church Leadership:**

Rev. Shana Johnson-ISC Conference Minister

Rev. Dr. John Doerhauser GMP-UCC



*Notes of* **THANKS**

The **Mission and Outreach committee** would like to thank the congregation for their help with the "Care and Share" event for Lent. The event was to support the DCFS program, "Intact Families" (trying to keep families intact in Macoupin and Montgomery counties). The items needed/asked for, were diapers, detergent, and basic household cleaning items. On Friday, March 19th, a sport utility vehicle, stacked full of these items, made the delivery to the local DCFS office. The DCFS administrator was very impressed and thankful for our donation items. Nice job and a big "thank you" to the congregation for their support of this cause.

**Oh! My Goodness**

To my many church members that remembered me on my 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, many thanks for the gift cards, flowers, and phone calls! I so enjoyed each and every one to the fullest.

I'm going to be very busy placing (all of them, 139) and some drifting in in a new file hardback album. Such good memories!

*Mary H. Hammann*

**P.S. To the Confirmation class of 2021,** I sure hope you enjoyed your class as much as I did in mine some 80 years ago this April.

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
202 E. Main  
Carlinville IL 62626  
Sunday School 10:00 am  
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  
Elner Ivers, Organist  
Debra Costello, Choir Director  
Norma Mitchell, Custodian

#### **Church Council Officers**

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

**Office Hours: 8:30am – 12:30pm Monday -Thursday**

#### **Email:**

Pastor Katrina [stpauluccpastor@gmail.com](mailto:stpauluccpastor@gmail.com)  
Church Office: [stpaulucc@nwcable.net](mailto:stpaulucc@nwcable.net)  
Transition Team: [ttstpaulucc@gmail.com](mailto:ttstpaulucc@gmail.com)  
Finance Committee: [finance.stpaulucc@gmail.com](mailto:finance.stpaulucc@gmail.com)

## PARSONAGE REPORT

Our parsonage will have new tenants as of May 1st. It is a couple originally from Connecticut and have been in Carlinville since fall. She is Nicole Lawrence and is a professor at Blackburn. Her husband, Brian Nalley, works from home for Somo Tech International in marketing. They have no children.

Our committee believes they would be great tenants. Please make an effort to welcome them. Thank you.

## ORGAN PROJECT – UPDATE

As I write this report, the new Organ Console has been delivered in pieces to St Paul's and the organ chamber has parts installed.

**As of Friday, April 2, we have met the goal of \$65,708.00 to complete the organ project! Well done St. Paul's UCC!**

I recently learned that the electrical work and materials for the project were donated and we will not be receiving a bill for this! Thanks to our anonymous donor.

The Church Council approved the installation of new carpeting in the choir loft which a few choir & congregation members agreed to pay for. We ALSO recently learned that the carpet has been paid for by an anonymous donor. HOW WONDERFUL!! We are blessed with so many good people!

When the carpet is laid, Mr. Dial (our organ builder) will put the console together, which is followed ASAP by a sound check from the Walker Sound System.

This is the final step. The new organ will be dedicated in our church service in the near future.

We are very anxious and excited as we near completion. Thanks to all again for making our projects a reality in 2021. We pray for this congregation as we continue to work together, worship together, and sing together!

Thank you.

Elnor Ivers (Organ Committee chair)



One of our church members is missing a cake/pie carrier that was left at the church. It is a round, aluminum carrier. If you have seen it somewhere or possibly taken it home with you, please call the church office 217-854-4046.

## TRANSITION TEAM UPDATE

After several months of meeting remotely via zoom due to Covid, the Transition Team is getting back to meeting in person on a weekly schedule. Between meetings, these team members are working on assignments in order to expedite completion of this project.

Presently the team is working on compilation of the information shared by the congregation which will soon appear as a visual art piece for the church.

**Please check out the poster** of the Stages and Focus Points of Intentional Interim Ministry in the Narthex at the back of the sanctuary. As tasks are completed, we will color in the corresponding bubbles on the poster to show our progress.

If you have suggestions or concerns, please let us know.

Eric Ratcliff-217-556-8806

Heather Lohnes-Kanllakan-217-371-1888

Joan Hammann-217-825-9244

Leland Smith-217-971-4044

Rich McClain-217-556-2640

Wanda Hammann-217-825-9290

**We, the transition team wish to thank the congregation for their continued cooperation, support, and prayers as we work toward clarifying the identity, vision, and mission of St. Paul UCC.**

*Wanda, Heather, Joan, Eric, Leland, and Rich.*

### FOOD PANTRY MONTHLY NEEDS:

Cereal  
Pancake Mix  
Syrup  
Peanut Butter