

Herald

St. Paul United Church of Christ
202 E. Main
Carlinville, IL 62626

Rev. Katrina Palan, Intentional Interim Minister
Office: 217-854-4046
E-mail: stpaulucc@nwcable.net

August 2021

Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Unbelievable as it is, we have almost gotten through the "dog days" of Summer. This is the period of summer between July 3 and August 11. This name, "the dog days" refers to the time when the sun is nearest the constellation Canis Major, the Greater Dog, in which the brightest star is Sirius. This is usually the hottest time of the year. The strangest thing about this summer is the coolness of it. Now, I know that the last week in July was hot, but it never went over 100°. That is unusual for me. Even in Nebraska, by this time in the summer it was really hot. What this all reminds me is that with all our technological advancements, we still have no control over the weather. God, who has the master plan, still has the ability to do things that are out of the ordinary.

What we can control is our response to God and to others. The Transition Team just completed (and was approved by the congregation) the Core values of the church, the mission statement, and the vision statement. These values, mission and vision statement were taken from the conversations the team had with the congregation over the winter. The values: Tradition, Sacraments, Community of faith and Faithfulness describe who you are as a church. These values are important for you to claim as you are looking to do mission in the community. The mission statement (think, can we tell our mission on a bumper sticker?) is:

St. Paul's: Loving God While
Serving Our Neighbors.

Loving God means that we know who God is and that we want to be in relationship with God. This means a larger commitment to God. I was talking with an 80-year-old woman in the community who told me she reads her Bible every day and prays three times a day. She is a faithful woman of God. I wonder how many of us can say the same. I wonder if God even crosses our minds during the day or is God just on

reserve for emergencies? Serving our neighbors brings us to the old question, "Who is My Neighbor?" The short answer to a long sermon is your neighbor is anyone who crosses your path. Because God created All People in God's image, each time you serve a "neighbor, you are serving and loving God.

The vision statement pulled from the congregational answers, to be enacted over the next three to five years is as follows: "A unified congregation that intentionally embraces transparent communication and encourages the use of our gifts and talents to create missions to serve God and each other, fulfilling the current and future needs of our church and wider community." The transition team is working on a mission plan that will help the congregation to accomplish this vision. I applaud the congregation for adopting the core values, mission and vision statements on Sunday, July 25, 2021. This is a step that will allow the congregation to move forward into a future that loves God and serves neighbors.

Shalom,

Pa4Éoz *Katrina*

St. Paul United Church of Christ — Carlinville, IL
Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting —
Minutes Sunday, July 25, 2021

opening Prayer

Jerry Eiffert opened with comments. Pastor Katrina opened with prayer.

Committee and Finance Reports

Jerry thanked Glenn Hammann for taking over church set up and preparation. Gene Gahr then received a standing ovation for his work and dedication over the last many years in this role.

Jerry noted that Pastor Katrina will be on vacation the week of August 8th. He also presented a brief update on committees.

He noted the following:

Giving compared to the budget:

January 100%

February 93%

March —

April 96%

May 97%

June 96%

There will be a Stewardship drive in October.

*dowment and Kuene Rogers Fund

Chris Hammann gave a financial update as well as balances in the Endowment fund and the Kuene Rogers fund. He also noted that scholarships were awarded this year.

Financial Policy

Blake Hammann gave an update on the purpose of the Financial Policy.

Jerry mentioned the audit that has been underway as well as reiterated that the Financial Policy is a working document.

Transition Team

Rich McClain and Heather Lohnes-Kanllakan presented the Transition Team report. The team started in 2020 with Intentional Interim Process. They discussed the progress they have made in the process steps and where they are in the process. The discussion included a handout which included

Core Values of St. Paul United Church of Christ

- Tradition
- The Sacraments (communion, baptism, and confirmation) ●
- Community of Faith
- Faithfulness

A Mission Statement: Loving God While Serving Our Neighbors

Vision Statement: A unified congregation that intentionally embraces transparent communication and encourages the use of our gifts and talents to create missions to serve God and each other, fulfilling the current and future needs of our church and wider community.

Rich recommended adopting the Core Values, Mission Statement and Vision Statement. A vote was taken. The results were as follows: Yes 41, No = 2, Abstain = 1.

Pastor Katrina's contract ends Jan. 15, 2022, where it can then be renewed in 3-month increments. Rich asked to extend her contract by a year to help facilitate the interim process and then move to three-month increments. Discussion ensued. A vote was taken. The results were as follows: Yes = 28, No = 13, Abstain = 1

Chris Hammann asked for quarterly updates from the Transition Team. Dick McClain seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Pastor Katrina closed with prayer.



Harlee Jane Hammann was born July 20, 2021, in Springfield, IL. She weighed 7lb 15oz and was 19.5" long.

Her parents are Blake & Carissa Hammann, her siblings are Henry and Harper. Her paternal grandparents are Albert & Sheila Hammann, maternal great-grandmother is Mary Hammann. Congratulations!



The Council wants to hit the ground running when it is time for the search for a permanent Minister. The Transition Team is currently working hard to reach the point that enables the Search Committee to begin its work.

Because of this the church needs names of those interested in being on the search committee. We invite all to send in their name. The church also wants to know who you think will be good to serve on the search committee. We will need 7 persons including the Search Committee Chair and one representative from the Transition Team (who will be named at the conclusion of their work). The committee will work with and receive guidance from the Illinois South Conference office. We would like to have these names by the end of August and are planning to send the names to the nominating committee. The Nominating committee will have the slate of names to report to the

October Council meeting. The congregation will vote on the recommendation of the council at the January Annual meeting.

You can send or drop by your name suggestions by the end of August to:

Nominating Committee

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

202 E. Main

Carlinville, IL

62626 or email:

stpaulucc@nwcable.net

We hope we have a lot of interest. Thanks for wanting to be involved!

AUDIT REPORT

The Church financial audit has been completed. The auditors will make a report to members of the congregation on Monday, August 9th at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The congregation is encouraged and welcome to attend.

AUGUST 2021 Missions Moment

The mission for August is the Carlinville Food Pantry. What a year 2020 was for the pantry! What began as a normal operation soon became a victim of the pandemic, just as so many other businesses. Although the pantry didn't have the miles-long lines that we saw on tv, there were still many families in our area that needed extra food. The pantry immediately went to a drive-up distribution method that continues today.

The pantry continues to serve anyone in the Carlinville School District area who experiences food insecurity. Their hours remain Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9-11 and Wednesday afternoons from 2-4. They have added one additional distribution time — the 3rd Thursday from 5-6:30 in the evening enabling folks to have a time to be served after their workday.

The Carlinville Food Pantry is a part of Good Samaritan Ministries which is also the umbrella agency for Salvation Army bell ringing campaign that helps with utilities costs, a voucher program that helps with prescription costs, and the Good Neighbor Fund which helps with overnight housing in emergency situations. Good Samaritan Ministries is not affiliated with any other organization and is best known for its food pantry program.

The pantry has volunteers from nearly every church who distribute food each day. Our day is the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Thanks to our current volunteers — Peggy, Deb, Brad, Brock, Kathy, and Donna. Darlene Barkley is currently our congregation's representative on the Good Samaritan Ministries Board. If anyone else would like to

help, please come to the pantry (#55 Carlinville Plaza) on the 3rd Tuesday and you'll get put to work!

It is hard to imagine that in this country there are families who don't always know if they will have enough food to adequately feed their children. Many of the families who come to the local pantry have health issues that don't allow them to work. Or they have jobs that don't allow them 40-hour-week jobs with benefits. They often have jobs that pay minimum wage, not giving them enough income to cover housing, food, medical assistance, clothing — all the things that families need to live comfortably. This congregation has always been extremely supportive of the pantry. I'm sure we will get back to sharing Food on the First, but food donations are appreciated any time during the month.

current
And we
Prairie
Cause"
for cash.



ways to
helping
needs is a

There are many help our neighbors and them with their food great way to be God's heart and hands in our community. Thanks so much for your support! !!

Darlene puts a list of needs in each newsletter. are still collecting the Farms "Our Caps Your milk lids that are redeem

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION REPORT

Sunday School will start on September 12th. It will be held from 9-9:45, prior to the church service. Our Kickoff Party will be held September 12th. Anyone interested in teaching Sunday School, please contact Heather Haley at 217-556-9375, or the church office.

The Nursery will be back open on September 12th. Volunteers will be needed for this. We would like to have one adult and one Sr. Youth Group Member. Please contact Heather Haley at 217-889-9375 or the church office.

The Movie Night was held on July 28th. Thank you to everyone that donated drinks.

If anyone would like reminders for church activities and events, please join our new "GroupMe" group by downloading the app or going to "GroupMe" on your computer with this link:

https://groupme.com/join_group/69324596/b1Ombxiy

Confirmation Class starts Wednesday, September 8th. The class is for kids entering 6th grade and up, and will meet each Wednesday after school 4:40pm. If you are planning on your child attending and have not contacted the office, please do so as soon

as possible so we have enough books for each student.
854-4046

GEORGE WILLS BENEFIT

A benefit has been scheduled for George Wills, to help with medical costs.

August 8, 2021

Carlinville Elks

5:00-7:00pm

\$11.00 per person

Dinner — Auctions — Darts

Chicken & Grilled Pork Chops will be served.

The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) announced it is fully adopting updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) masking recommendations to protect against COVID-19 and the Delta variant. CDC recommends that everyone, including fully vaccinated individuals, wear a mask in public indoor setting in areas with substantial and high transmission. This means masks are required in worship again.



YOUTH GROUP

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP NEWS

The Sr Youth Group had a great time at our annual field trip, which was Wednesday, July 21 st.

We spent the day enjoying a horseback trail ride at the Pere Marquette Stables, followed by a delicious meal at the Pere Marquette Lodge Dining room! On the way home we stopped at Macurry's Dairyland in Jerseyville for an ice cream treat, and Pastor Katrina was able to join us there for some fellowship before we returned home. We had seven of our youth group able to make the trip and we missed all of you that could not attend!

Amy Ratcliff will be shopping with some helpers for the school supply drive.

There is no meeting in August, but a tentative date has been set for September 15 for the next meeting, for a kickoff and planning.

We are looking forward to our fall meeting where we welcome our new members to the group !! ! If you are a youth entering grades 6-12 this upcoming school year, we would love to have you join us! ! A reminder will be sent out to the group with info for our next upcoming meeting. Donna, Joan, and O%ny



Recipients of the St. Paul UCC Scholarships this year are Breanna Whys, Brigid Dunn, and Emma Ganz. The recipients of the Wanda Weaver scholarships are Max Wilson and Lorelei Wofford. Congratulation to these Carlinville High School graduates!

Thank You

Dear St. Paul United Church of Christ Members,

Hi, my name is Emma Gansz. Thank you for choosing me as a recipient for the St. Paul Scholarship. I will be attending Lewis and Clark this Fall to further my education to become a Pediatric Nurse.

Thank you so much again.

Sincerely,

Emma Gansz



Food Pantpg Needs

Since summer is here and children are out of school our needs for this month are the same as last month. We need canned pasta, brownie & cake mixes and hamburger helper. These are items that can help over the summer months when the children are out of school.

The new vases on the communion table were a gift from Pastor Katrina in celebration of her 20th ordination anniversary. They will be dedicated on Seotember 12th, the Sunday closest to

Norma Hammann, Jean Klaus, Andrew Schroeder, Gerda Strope, Alice McGeachy

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



UPDATE-JUNE 30, 2021

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Current Concerns

Health Issues: Mel Hunter-Covid-19D- Jen's friend, Isiah's Grandfather-Grandpa Jerry, Lynda Power, George Wills. Donna Konneker's brother-Joe, Linda Leefers'-brother Larry. Kathy Witt's cousin-Fred Emery

Those who are struggling with health issues.
 Those who are struggling with mental health issues
 We lift up all who are weary and oppressed, that they might find a world of peace and justice.
 Transition Team as they work on clarifying the identity, vision, and mission of _____
 St. Paul's church

Shut-ins: Jean Beal, Margaret Bloome, Kathleen Gillespie,

Offering	57,499.51
Endowment Interest	14,000.00
Farm	22,500.00
Parsonage	5,301.36
Mission Giving	4,340.04
Total Income	\$104,640.91

Salaries	62,160.82
Programs	10,270.00
Building & Grounds	20,765.63
Administrative	
Mission	5,380.52

Total Expenses \$106,990.39



August
BIRTHDAYS

- 28 Ashlyn Killam
- 29 Andrew Schroeder
- Amy Moore
- Dana Leefers
- 29 Tyler Knudson
- Alexia Mosby
- 30 Mark Ivers

1 Anthony Goodwin

31 Becky Bernhardt
Anne Stilwell

Joshua Gillespie

Kayla Smalter

5 Jamie Brockmeier

Jack Sanson

9 Lucas Webb

10 Glenn Hammann

1 Willie & Sandy Owens

3 John & Paula Lapp
Ken & Donna Moore

5 Chris & Betsey Rodgers

II	Dawn Ann Raftis	8	David & Janet Steiner
	Candace Smith		Brad & Heather Haley
12	Christi Harris	12	Brandon & Rebecca Hammann
	Will Chapman	15	Martin & Katie Kasten
	Ryan Hammann	17	Drew & Connie Schroeder
13	Lori Schaefer	21	Greg & Nikki Armour
	Nathan Klaus		Jerry & Donna Eiffert
	Quincy Lohnes-Kanllakan	24	Albert & Sheila Hammann
15	Jason Leefers	26	Jim & Anne Stilwell
	Jay Greenwalt	29	Jon & Sara Klaus
	Seth Darr		Tim & Michelle Moore
16	Jeff Gillespie	31	Phil & Becky Williams
	Jerry Eiffert		
	Tracie Knudson		
2	Peggy Yudinsky		
3	Greg Griffel		
	Helen Jennings		
4	Christina Witt		
17	Walter Smith		
18	Kody Brown		
	Stephanie Pool		
	Luke Davis		
	Heather Haley		
19	Kathleen Gillespie		
20	Geoff Lohnes		
	Elaine Brockmeier		
	Anastasia Darr		
	Makenna Harding		
21	Curtis Eichen		
	Craig Witham		
	Shellie Lutz		
23	Matt Gahr		
	Ariel Chapman		
	Owen Hammann		
24	Blake Killam		
	Dennis Boehm		
	Cora Shade		
	Wade Stults		
26	Pauletta Coffelt		
27	Kelsey Klaus		



Reimbursement

Because the council and congregation approved the financial policy, a new reimbursement plan is in place. "All employees and congregational members must fill out a reimbursement form and provide proper documentation and receipts for reimbursements of supplies, equipment, travel expenses, higher education, conferences, etc.

You will need a request for payment or reimbursement form. Look for the forms printed on "green" paper in the boxes outside of the office. You will need to fill out the form, attach the receipt to the form and have the form signed by the appropriate committee chairperson. Turn it into the office. Payment to requester will happen when the form and receipt are processed.

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



AWG UST

Church Staff

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

Church Council Officers

Jerry Eiffert — President email: stpauluccp@gmail.com
Katie Thomas - Vice President
Lari Vanderpoel- Secretary email: spuccs@gmail.com
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
Online giving: <https://stpaulucccarlinville.360unite.com/home>