

St. Paul's United Church of Christ



Commit your work
to the
LORD,
and your plans
will be established.

PROVERBS 16:3, ESV

Sunday, July 20, 2025
202 E. Main St.
Carlinville, IL 62626
217-854-4046

Announcements For Sunday, July 20, 2025

Worship Attendance: July 13, 2025: 29

Mission Offering: Heifer

The Closet of Christ will be closed to donations on Monday, July 21. The ladies are having a well-deserved vacation day.

Movie Nite will be on Saturday, July 26 at 6 p.m. The movie is “Forrest Gump”. Popcorn is provided, please bring a drink.

The Semi-annual Congregation Meeting will be on Sunday, July 27 after worship. We must meet a quorum of 21 active members to have the meeting.

July Book Club will be on Thursday, July 31. The book is “Men are from Mars; Women are from Venus. If you need a book, talk to Pastor Burton. If you have any other questions please contact Amy Ratcliff.

Save the Dates:

If you have any information that you would like to post in the Sunday Bulletin Announcements, please send that information to the office no later than Tuesday at 9 a.m.

Please remember to check on our elderly this summer. Look for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke, such as heavy sweating, dizziness, headache, nausea, or confusion. If you observe any of these symptoms, seek immediate medical attention.



Sixth Sunday after Pentecost - 10 a.m.

**Indicates all who are able, Please Stand*

TOWER BELLS

Glenn Hammann

PRELUDE

Elnor Ivers

WELCOME

Carl Kasten

***CALL TO WORSHIP (*Responsively*)**

Carl Kasten

In the presence of the faithful, we proclaim the name of God, for it is good.

We thank you forever because of what you have done.

Holy One, we trust in you. We take refuge in your safety. We call your presence our home.

We are like olive trees rooted in your soil—growing and fruitful. You nourish us and shine your light upon us.

Faithful God, in you, we find love and truth, abundance and compassion, community and care.

We praise and exalt you, Eternal One. We trust in your steadfast love forever and ever.

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Carl Kasten

Abiding God, we invite you to inhabit our space. We long to renew our minds, restore our souls, and rest our presence before you. Still, we bring the burdens we carry into this gathering. We hold our responsibilities, cares, and concerns. Let us bind ourselves in your love and strength and the community of faithful and curious. We affirm that this time with you and one another equips and fortifies us for the journey and helps us discern the better way. Be glorified in our worship. Be honored by our praise. Be known by your people, O Creator, Teacher, and Friend. In your many names, we pray. Amen.

***MORNING HYMN**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

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***CALL TO CONFESSION (Unison)**

Carl Kasten

Gracious God, evil surrounds us and entices us to join in its ways, of matching energy and returning evil for evil, of seeking the comfortable and convenient way over the common good, of turning from pain and despair rather than leaning into solidarity and support. Help us, O God, to choose the path you have paved and give us strength to journey into rough spaces. Surround us with hosts of righteousness and infuse us with peace that surpasses understanding as we serve as agents and ambassadors of your kingdom. As you continually make all things new, fill us with the joy of new life. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Pastor Eddie Burton Jr.

Citizens of the kingdom commit anew to the joys and costs of discipleship. Creator has endowed you, in grace, the power to be witnesses of the Living God and the promise of the reign of God on earth. Release shame, doubt, and fear in order to choose good things and better ways to be in communion with the Triune God and neighbor.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

CHURCH AT PRAYER

Pastor Eddie Burton Jr.

Prayer List

Harold, Jim, Alice, Caitlyn, Jean, Nancy, Mary Jo, Celia, Virginia, Gerda, Doris, Kate, Wanda, Church Pastor, Church Council, ISC Minister: Rev. Shana Johnson.

Pastoral Prayer - Take This Time for Silent Prayer Time

Lord’s Prayer (debts/debtors)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer Response *Hear our prayer, O God; hear our prayer, O God;
Incline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Carl Kasten

*** HYMN** *"Lift Every Voice and Sing"* **593**

***SCRIPTURE** Matthew 13 :1-9

SERMON "The Good Soil" **Pastor Eddie Burton Jr.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING **Carl Kasten**

Let us give generously from the abundance of God's provision, demonstrate our trust in God's provision, and embrace mutuality with God's creation.

***OFFERTORY**

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** **Pastor Eddie Burton Jr.**

Giver of all good and perfect gifts, we celebrate the opportunity to contribute to the ministry of this faith community. Receive the resources we offer in love and hope that needs will be met, lives will be changed, and the world will receive the testimony of compassionate care, action, and sharing. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN** *"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"* **400**

***BENEDICTION** **Pastor Eddie Burton Jr.**

As you go, boast in the goodness of God. Live in the abundance of God's love. Remember that you are more than enough. Find rest and joy in the day. Know hope and safety in the night. Go, in peace to love and to serve.

***POSTLUDE** **Elnor Ivers**

***EXTINGUISHING OF CANDLES**



This Week's Calendar

Sunday, July 20-

Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m.
Mission and Outreach Meeting 11 a.m.

Monday, July 21-

NO Closet of Christ Workday

Tuesday, July 22-

Coffee Group 8 a.m.

Saturday, July 26 -

Movie Nite "Forrest Gump" – 6 p.m.

Sunday, July 27-

Sunday Worship Service 10 a.m.
Semi – Annual Congregational Meeting – After Worship

Greeting and Usher Schedule

20 Fellowship Committee

27 Farm Committee

Please remember that you personally do not have to be an usher or greeter. Your committee is responsible for making sure that there are ushers and greeters for your week.

If you would like to volunteer to be a Sunday Liturgist please contact the pastor, church president or call the office.

Liturgist Schedule

20 Carl Kasten

27 Amy Ratcliff

Supporting the Ministry and Mission of St. Paul's UCC

Church Council Officers

Douglas Eichen, President
Fran Goodman, Vice President
Leanne Gahr, Secretary

Ellen Eldred, Financial Secretary
Susie Loeschner, Custodian

Church Office Staff

Eddie Burton Jr., Pastor
Nicole Eichen, Church Secretary
Gail Sanson, Treasurer

Church Worship Staff

Debra Costello, Choir Director
Elner Ivers, Organist

Office Hours: Unless Otherwise Noted

Summer Hours: Monday – Thursday
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Office Phone: 217-854-4046 * Office Cell: 217-313-7688

Pastor's Hours: Please see the bulletin board by the Pastor's office for this week's schedule.

Pastor Phone: 314-495-3949 Email: vismediallc@yahoo.com

Church office: stpaulucccarlinville@gmail.com

Don't forget we have Online Giving:

<https://stpaulucccarlinville.360unite.com/home>

