



Greetings!

Now that Fall is approaching and school is back in session, I hope you had a chance to take advantage of the warmer weather of summer and the lessening of the activities of the school year and got in at least a short vacation, a time to unplug and reconnect.

I love the job of being your pastor, and as I approach our six-month anniversary here, I am more grateful to you than ever for this opportunity to share in your lives and in the mission of this particular congregation of God's people in this beautiful part of the world. I love doing the work I do, the challenge of sharing the good news in worship with you every Sunday, the discipline of helping keep all the wheels of the church turning, the opportunity to share with you my passion for the Gospel.

You may not know it yet, but I am a big fan of the Fourth Commandment.

I was thinking lately about some commercials I'd seen in the past, featuring kids talking about unused vacation days, and the importance of getting away. These commercials, I think, make a lot of sense, not only intellectually, but theologically as well.

Recall Exodus 20:8, the fourth of the Ten Commandments: "Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy." And remember Jesus' attitude about it: "the sabbath was made for humankind, not humankind for the sabbath." (Mark 2:27). God gave human beings a gift: the sabbath. God says that it is important to take time away from work, and day to day activity, and rest. This isn't just a suggestion, either. It is a commandment.

Although we tend to think of the Sabbath as a day in which to worship (which is a GREAT idea, by the way), the main point seems to have been a time set apart (the Hebrew word here is *kadosh*, which is translated here as "holy", but also which means "set apart" or "keep separate") to rest from the day to day toil and stress of our lives.

Think about that for a second: a COMMANDMENT to rest, to take it easy, to have fun, to reflect on the goodness of God on that day that God has commanded us to set apart for our own health and wholeness.

I don't usually stay up late, but one night I thought about that as I sat on the porch in my rocking chair as the day began to dim, and I heard the symphony of the insects' songs. I thought about that as I heard a hawk calling at dusk, and when I heard first one, then two, then finally three owls calling back and forth when it was full dark. I thought about the goodness of God and the wonder of Sabbath as I watched the stars begin to appear and the moon rise.

Thank you, God, for the gift of Sabbath.

Pastor Jim

Our Church Family



Food Pantry News

During the month of July, 107 people visited the Food Pantry with a total of 331 people being helped.



The Food Pantry needs the following items: Toilet Paper, Shampoo/Conditioner, Soap, Soup, PB/Jelly, Cereal, Canned Fruit.

PLEASE, NO: Mac & Cheese, Diced Tomatoes, Corn, or Green Beans!

Save the Date

2026 Church Planning Event

Sunday, October 12, 2025

After worship we will be having a carry in dinner while we plan events for the holiday season and the upcoming year.

What would you like your church to be involved in?

What fun event would you like to host and invite the community?

How are we called to serve - Is there a service project you'd like to be involved in?

As a church family, is there an outing you'd like to plan or an event you'd like to attend?

What would you like to learn about?

There is a board in the fellowship hall for you to begin sharing ideas

We continue to keep in our prayers: Lauretta, Tara, Rich M., Steve, Mark H., All who are grieving, Larry (Sharon's grandson), Janina, Teresa, James T, Pastor Susan, Rick, Cory, Lynn and Ron D., Bill D., Cody.

We lift up in our prayers those who need prayers for their *long-term circumstances*: Carol Jean P, Mary A, and David L.

Bright Futures of Winfield now has a donation box for textile and clothing recycling. It's located in the parking lot of the Early Childhood building at 105 8th Street, Winfield. (it was previously the primary building -it's the school building just up from ambulance base) The bins are bright green, you can't miss them. Proceeds benefit Bright Futures and help students and their families basic needs.

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

2025 Monthly Attendance Average

January: 21
February: 29
March: 23
April: 38
May: 21
June: 31
July: 19
August:
September:
October:
November:
December:

July Attendance:

July 27: 21

August Attendance:

August 3: 23
August 10: 28
August 17: 24
August 24: 20
August 31:

Our giving in 2025...

Based on our budget for 2025 our offering each week needs to average \$2317.02

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Stewardship</u>
July 27	\$ 20.00	\$ 0.00
August 3	\$ 3,190.00	\$ 170.00
August 10	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 25.00
August 17	\$ 1,160.00	\$ 0.00
August 24	\$ 210.00	\$ 106.00
August 31		

Our giving in 2025...

January Average:	\$ 1,251.80
February Average:	\$ 797.64
March Average:	\$ 1,827.60
April Average:	\$ 1,777.50
May Average:	\$ 1,078.75
June Average:	\$ 870.60
July Average:	\$ 1,237.25
August Average:	
September Average:	
October Average:	
November Average:	
December Average:	

Please remember to invite our inactive members, as well as your family and friends, to worship. Evangelism and hospitality go hand in hand!

Our Guests

Charles & Marleen Hearn



Ushers/Greeters

Sept. 7 Stan & Ann Rolf
 Sept. 14 Bob Bothe & Jennifer Schulte
 Sept. 21 Richard Warren & Rick Kincer
 Sept. 28 Jerry & Pat Gifford

Jerry Gifford 01
 Jane Meyer 03
 Alexis Schulte 09
 Darryl Freese 12
 Liam Gifford 18
 Ron Dutton 20
 Norma Keeteman 21
 Doug Gifford 27

Acolytes

Sept. 7 Ann Rolf
 Sept. 14 Jennifer Schulte
 Sept. 21 Janet Drown
 Sept. 28 Janet Drown

Fellowship Hour Servers

Sept. 7 Messenger
 Sept. 14 Food Pantry
 Sept. 21 PPR
 Sept. 28 Worship



Food Pantry Schedule

Sept. 3 11 to 1 Phyllis & Karol
 4 to 6 Jane & Janet
 Sept. 10 11 to 1 Norma & Karol
 4 to 6 Joyce & Richard
 Sept. 17 11 to 1 Steve & Norma
 4 to 6 Liza & Janet
 Sept. 24 11 to 1 Steve & Jane
 4 to 6 Janet & Liza

ST. PAUL UCC COUNCIL MINUTES

July 21, 2025

PRESENT: Jerry Gifford, Glenda Keeteman, Jennifer Schulte, Chris Dickmeyer, Karol Keeteman, Rev. Jim Oleson, Joann Jungermann, Treasurer, non-member. Dodie Nelke, non-member.

Opening Prayer – Jennifer

Quorum Count (Four (4) = ½ plus one total Council members) – Jennifer, Quorum

Pastor Exit Interview – Committee on Ministry came for exit interview for Pastor Susan.

Review of Agenda – Glenda made motion to accept with changes; seconded by Chris. No discussion, motion passed.

- **Treasurer's Report** – Jennifer made motion to accept as written, seconded by Karol. Motion passed.
- **Secretary's Report** – Chris made motion to accept as written, seconded by Karol. Motion passed.
- **Pastor's Report** – Pastor Jim presented his report. No mileage at this time that needs to be approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Worship – Christopher** – nothing to report
2. **Grounds Committee – Jennifer** – work in progress to fix an old alarm device that is no longer connected to anything that continues to beep in the lower level of the Ed Building.
3. **Christian Nurture – Jennifer** – we are hosting a Trivia Night August 23rd, at 6pm to benefit the Food Pantry.
4. **Stewardship – Glenda** – hosted Carol Jean on Sunday, June 20th, and she would like to come more if possible.
5. **Finance – Joann** – nothing to report
6. **Boy Scouts – Jerry** – just got back from Boy Scout Camp in Philmont, in New Mexico. Otherwise, just normal meetings.
7. **Food Pantry – Karol** – low on food donations.
8. **Bright Futures – Glenda** – nothing to report

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Signs/Bench** – new bench has been installed. Edna Graven's family decided on a vinyl sign on the side yard facing Brevator Road as well as updating the sign in the front of the church. Chris made the motion to replace flooring in food pantry with the Edna Graven's fund, seconded by Karol. No discussion, motion passed.
- **Paint Hallway in Christian Ed Building** – still in the works
- **Lights** – still in the works
- **Sanctuary Thermostat** – still in the works.
- **Lawn Care** – Jerry is going to talk to Joe with our concerns to have him address with lawn company.
- **Sanctuary Flooring** – since recent vote for all vinyl, they have to remeasure. Waiting on response to get reschedule.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Changing Names on Bank Account** – Glenda made a motion to add Dolores Nelke (Dodie) on the General Fund checking account. Joann will remain on the account, continue as treasurer and be compensated. Chris seconded the motion. No discussion, motion passed.
- **Church Insurance** – insurance company will no longer cover us due to the electrical panels that we currently have unless we change them due to them being a fire hazard or the other option is to change insurance companies to one that will cover us with the current electrical boxes. Policy renews in October 2025. Chris made motion to research changing the electrical boxes. Karol seconded the motion. No discussion, motion passed.
- **Congregational Planning Meeting** –. have a meeting to discuss ideas with the Congregation to put our church out into the community. Meeting set for October 12th, along with a carry-in dinner.

NEXT MEETING:

- **Date and Time** – August 18th at 5:15pm
- **Opening Prayer** – Chris

ENTERTAIN MOTION TO CLOSE – Motion made by Jennifer, seconded by Karol. Motion passed.

CLOSING PRAYER – Lord's Prayer

Respectively submitted by:

Jennifer Schulte, Council Secretary

September Stewardship

Being-a-Neighbor

Every night in eastern Lincoln County, there are children who go to bed hungry and/or wake up hungry. The circumstances and causes vary, but the common thread is the children are victims of situations beyond their control. Stewardship has designated the Food for All program at Winfield RIV schools as the special offering for the month of August.

Food for All provides food items for Winfield RIV students on the weekends when free and reduced breakfast and lunch are not available at school. Students served by this program receive a food package at the end of each week which includes two breakfast items, two lunch items and two snack items. The program is supported through community donations, spearheaded by the school's social worker and functions each week thanks to high school student volunteers who bag the items for distribution.


Stewardship will be accepting monetary donations as well as individual serving food items throughout the month of August. Individually pre-packaged non-perishable food items needed include:

oatmeal packets, pop tarts, cereal bars, granola bars, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, applesauce cups, diced fruit cups, single servings of ravioli, tuna, easy mac or ramen noodles

The Food for All program is an opportunity for St. Paul to partner with the Winfield RIV school district and wider community to make a difference in the lives of our youngest and most vulnerable members. Please consider donating.

The Stewardship Committee

September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Scouts 7:00 pm	9 Worship Committee 5:00pm	10 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	11	12	13
14	15 Scouts 7:00 pm	16	17 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	18	19	20
21	22 Council Meeting 5:15 pm Scouts 7:00 pm	23	24 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	25	26	27
28	29 Scouts 7:00 pm	30				

St. Paul United Church of Christ

903 Meier Road, Old Monroe, MO 63369

Pastor.....Rev. James Oleson

Church Phone.....636-665-5329

Email.....stpauluccom@gmail.com

Website.....stpauluccom.com



Administrative Assistant/Editor.....Joann Jungermann

Sunday

Book/Bible Study (Sept. thru May).....9:15am

Worship.....10:30am

Coffee and Fellowship.....11:30am

Church Council Members

President.....Jerry Gifford..... 636-668-8869

Vice President.... Glenda Keeteman.....636-661-5507

Secretary.....Jennifer Schulte.....636-566-8985

Member.....Chris Dickmeyer.....636-376-7043

Member.....Karol Keeteman.....636-667-5144

Treasurer.....Joann Jungermann.....636-665-5329
(Non-member)

