

The Messerger

The newsletter of St. Paul United Church of Christ 903 Meier Road, Old Monroe, Missouri 63369

November 2025



www.stpauluccom.com

Greetings!

How quickly the year is passing – here we are almost in the month of November already.

Although I'm not too excited about the World Series this year, I remember fondly being in St. Louis for seminary in 2011 when the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Texas Rangers, and I am reflecting on how exciting it is to be on a winning team. There's always next year, right?

We recently met as a congregation to do some planning for the upcoming year, and it seems like they'll be lots of opportunities for all of us to be able to spend more time together as a church family. If you weren't able to attend, check out the activities posted at the rear of Fellowship Hall and see what we have in store for 2026.

Soon we will begin all the planning and preparation for Advent and Christmas. Of course, Advent is the beginning of the year on the Christian calendar. So, before we begin the New Year it is appropriate that we pause at the end of the current year to count our blessings. As the old song goes, "Count your blessings. Name them one by one. Count your many blessings, see what God has done." That hymn is not in our hymnal but it should be.

That is why we have a day called Thanksgiving Day near the end of November. Our United Church of Christ forebears, the Congregationalists of the Plymouth Colony, thought it was important to take the time to thank God who created all things and from whom all things come. An important part of the day was the sharing. The pilgrims shared with the Native Americans and the Native Americans shared with the pilgrims. Giving and sharing is an important part of our gratitude. It puts substance to our thankfulness. That is why it is appropriate that we think about stewardship in this month of Thanksgiving. It is a time when we remember all that God has given to us and done for us, and in that spirit of Thanksgiving, think prayerfully on how we will respond to God for those many blessings.

And I think one of those blessings, for me certainly, and for many of you as well, is being part of THIS winning team. The opportunity to gather together to worship in such a generous community is a tremendous blessing. We all have much to be thankful about for being on this winning team.

And so, as we come closer to Thanksgiving Day let's not forget that the God who provided for us in 2025 will provide for us in 2026. When we step out in faith God will not let us down.

May you be blessed with all the rich blessings of our God.

PastorJim

Our Church Family

Food Pantry News

During the month of September, 90 people visited the Food Pantry with a total of 275 people being helped.

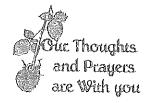
The Food Pantry needs the following items: fruit, pork & beans, soup, chili, pasta sauce, cereal, pancake mix, syrup & Hamburger Helper. Also, shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes & toilet paper.

PLEASE, NO: mac & cheese or diced tomatoes,

We really appreciate all those who have been donating to the pantry.



Please plan to attend the Congregational Budget meeting on Sunday, November 16th, immediately following worship.



We continue to keep in our prayers: Lauretta, Lynn and Ron D., Laurie S., Mike S., Brittney, Debbie & Tony, Bernadette, James C., Mike S., Carrie B., Ruth and Stephanie, the family of Bonnie, and the family of Zachary K.

We lift up in our prayers those who need prayers for their *long-term circumstances*: Carol Jean P.

TOTENFEST

Sunday, November 23rd is Totenfest. If you would like a candle lit for someone who has passed away in the last year, please give the name to the Church office by November 16th.

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

2025 Monthly Attendance Average

January: 21

February: 29

March: 23

April: 38

May: 21

June: 31

July: 19

August: 24

September: 28

October:

November:

December:

September Attendance:

September 28: 24

October Attendance:

October 5: 26

October 12: 25

October 19:

October 26

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

Our Guests

hand in hand!

Our giving in 2025...

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

G	ene	ral Fund	Ste	wardship
September 28	\$	210.00	\$	0.00
October 5 October 12 October 19 October 26	\$ \$ \$ \$	2,910.00 900.75	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$	545.00 50.00

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:	\$ 1,285.00
September Average:	\$ 1,015.00

October Average: November Average: December Average



<u>Ushers/Greeters</u>

Nov. 2	Bob Bothe& Jennifer Schulte
Nov. 9	Rick Warren & Mary Anne Lee
Nov. 16	Darryl & Phyllis Freese
Nov. 23	Joyce Noble & Linda Meier
Nov. 30	Christopher Dickmeyer & Bobby Roskowske

<u>Acolytes</u>

Nov. 2	Jennifer Schulte
Nov. 9	Marla Stewart
Nov. 16	Marla Stewart
Nov. 23	Joyce Noble
Nov. 30	Bobby Roskowske

Fellowship Hour Servers

Nov. 2	Food Pa	antry	
Nov. 9	PPR	Nov. 16	Stewardship
Nov. 23	Worship	ס	
Nov. 30	Christia	n Nurturer	



Marla Stewart	03
Eileen Tiesing	07
Ernie Meyer	11
Mike Tiesing	16
David Kendrick	24
Cory Hyde	25
Annalee Rolf	30



Food Pantry Schedule

ST. PAUL UCC COUNCIL MINUTES

September 22, 2025

<u>PRESENT:</u> Jerry Gifford, Glenda Keetemen, Jennifer Schulte, Chris Dickmeyer, Karol Keeteman, Rev. Jim Oleson, Joann Jungermann, Treasurer (non-member)

Opening Prayer - Karol

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

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

- Treasurers Report Chris made motion to accept as written, seconded by Karol. No discussion, motion passed.
- Secretary's Report Chris made motion to accept as written, seconded by Glenda. No discussion, motion passed.
- Pastor's Report Pastor Jim presented his report. No mileage to report. Jennifer made a motion to approve vacation day for October 26, seconded by Chris. No discussion, motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1. Worship Christopher discussed Toten Fest, Worldwide Communion Sunday, October 5th.
- 2. **Grounds Committee Jennifer** Security camera fix is in the works, needs to be cooler so they can get into the attic. Internet signals sometimes drop during service when watching the cameras.
- 3. Christian Nurture Jennifer trivia night on August 23rd, was attended by appx. 20 people and they raised \$46.00 for food pantry as well as donations. We met on 9/14, and we planned Truck or Treat which will be held on October 11th from 5-7; also on October 12th we are helping with the Planning Meeting and carry in dinner. We are hosting Holiday Bingo on Sunday December 7th, doors open at 4:30 and will start at 5pm.
- 4. **Stewardship Glenda** met and discussed what different offerings to do. Also talked about having Carol Jean come to visit.
- 5. **Finance Joann –** working on scheduling a meeting to set budget meeting to present to council next month.
- 6. **Boy Scouts Jerry** they are going to do the haunted house the day of the Truck or Treat on October 11th.
- 7. **Food Pantry Karol** food from Trivia and they have been receiving donations from County Market from time to time.
- 8. Bright Futures Glenda they are having a winter warmup on October 9th, which will be doing a coat collection. Also have Christmas in the Community on December 6th. They are in need of volunteers to help with preparing, assisting and clean up for the upcoming events. If you would like to be help, please see Glenda.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Signs Glenda is waiting for a proof to approve to finalize the sign. Glenda is checking on a metal frame for the church signs.
- Painting hallway in Christian Ed Building still in progress
- Lights still in progress
- Sanctuary Thermostat still working on this
- Sanctuary Flooring bid has been accepted & signed. Work will begin in 6-8 weeks once bid
- Church Insurance still in progress of new bids.

- Church Planning Meeting set for October 12th, with a carry in dinner. This is to plan upcoming activities for 2026.
- Painting Schoolhouse Glenda made motion to have Boy Scouts paint the outside of the schoolhouse. Chris seconded. No discussion, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Gift Acceptance Policies/Undesignated Fund
- Internet/Wi-Fi JoAnn is going to check with Gateway about our internet interruptions.
- Cameras Chris made motion to investigate BLINK (wireless camera system) for outside which can be saved to a USB. Second is by Karol. No discussion, motion passed.
- Electrical work we hired Menne Heating, Cooling & Electric to replace necessary electrical boxes for insurance purposes. Glenda made motion to hire Menne Heating, Cooling & Electric to replace electrical boxes. Second, by Chris. No discussion, motion passed.

NEXT MEETING:

- Date & Time October 20, 2025 @ 5:15pm
- Opening Prayer Glenda

ENTERTAIN MOTION TO CLOSE - Motion made by Chris, seconded by Glenda. Motion passed.

CLOSING PRAYER – Lord's Prayer

Respectively submitted, Jennifer Schulte, Council Secretary

Winfield Bright Futures has a couple events coming up.

December 6 - Christmas in the Community - Collecting gently used household items, sheets, lamps, small furniture, small appliances, toys, bikes, etc. for the annual event. There will be a box in the fellowship hall closer to the date for your donations.

Bright Futures is always looking for volunteers. If you'd like to be on the committee or even if you'd just like help with events, they can always use help. The Christmas event is a really big event and open to all community members. Volunteers are needed to help sort items, set up items on Friday evening and help with event and clean up on the 6th. Even a couple hours are helpful. Bright Futures assists families in the Winfield School District by providing some basic needs for children and their families. Children have a difficult time learning when their basic needs aren't met.

Please see Glenda for more information or if you are interested in helping or have questions.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 711 2025

DOORS OPEN A'T 4:30 PM START AT 5 PM



ST PAUL UCC - OLD MONROE. 903 MEIER ROAD, OLD MONROE



FOR FOOD PANTRY:

TOILE F PAPER, SRAMPOO/CONDITIONER, SOAP, SOUP, PB/JELLY, CEREAL, CANNED FRUIT, ANY OTHER NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS

PLEASE <u>NO</u>: MAC & CHEESE, DICED TOMATOES, CORN, OR GREEN BEARS!



November Stewardship

Bridge of Hope

This month, we will join with many organizations in Lincoln County to help provide for the Bridge of Hope. You may have heard of this place that helps people who are homeless. They do this by giving some people a short-term place to live while they find affordable housing. They also help people who are not staying there by connecting them with services, such as help with laundry, meals, internet access and finding a job.

Bridge of Hope states that "We believe all individuals should be treated with compassion and respect."

Housing in our county has become more expensive lately. Many of the people in need are mothers with young children. The work being done at Bridge of Hope will lead these families to a more stable life.

This is a good way for our church to join our community as we continue to be "The Church that dares to care".

- open-call Islandon	NOV	ember 2	2025		
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					All Saints Day
Scouts 7:00 pm	4	5 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	6	7	8
Scouts 7:00 pm	11	Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	13	14	15
Scouts 7:00 pm	18	Food Pantry 11:00am 1:00pm & 4-6pm	20	21	22
24 Scouts 7:00 pm	25	26 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
	Look	ing Ahead — Sunday,	Rock n Roll B December 7 th	ingo coming	
	3 Scouts 7:00 pm 10 Scouts 7:00 pm 17 Scouts 7:00 pm 24	Monday Tuesday	Monday Tuesday Wednesday 3 4 5 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm 10 pm 10 11 12 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm 1:00pm & 4-6pm 17 18 19 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm 1:00pm & 4-6pm Scouts 7:00 pm 24 25 26 Food Pantry 11:00am – 1:00pm & 4-6pm 1:00pm & 4-6pm Scouts 7:00 pm 1:00pm & 4-6pm 4-6pm	3	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday 3 4 5 6 7 Food Pantry 11:00am - 1:00pm 8 4-6pm 11 12 13 14 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 1:00pm 8 4-6pm 20 21 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 20 21 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 20 21 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 27 28 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 7 28 Food Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 7 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 7 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 8 4-6pm 7 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 8 7-00pm 7 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 8 7-00pm 7 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 9 8 7-00pm 8 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 9 8 7-00pm 8 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 9 8 7-00pm 8 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 9 7-00pm 8 7 Frood Pantry 11:00pm 9 7-00pm 8 7 Frood Pantry 11:00

St. Paul United Church of Christ

903 Meier Road, Old Monroe, MO 63369

PastorRev. James C Church Phone636-668	
Emailstpauluccom@gma	



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

PresidentJerry Giffor	rd 636-668-8869
Vice President Glenda Ke	eteman636-661-5507
SecretaryJennifer Sc	hulte636-566-8985
MemberChris Dickr	neyer636-376-7043
MemberKarol Keete	eman636-667-5144
TreasurerJoann Jung (Non-member)	germann636-665-5329



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