

ST. PAUL'S UCC NEWSLETTER



JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2026

103 South Second Street
Marthasville, MO 63357
(636) 433-2482
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www.stpaulsuccmo.org



A Loving Church, Making a Difference in the World



Letter from our Pastor Emeritus

“And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ also forgave you.” (Ephesians 4:32)

Ash Wednesday is February 18th this year. We will be entering the Season of Lent, a time when we think about Jesus’ journey to the cross. His journey is our journey as well, for he tells us repeatedly to take up our cross and follow him. Once he reaches Jerusalem, Jesus is put to death that we might be forgiven of our sins.

During the Sunday mornings of Lent, I will have a sermon series on “Experiencing the Forgiveness of Jesus.” The series will culminate with the message of what we should leave at the cross—our bad moments, our mad moments, our anxious moments, and then our final moments.

There is nothing more powerful in life than the grace and forgiveness of God. This Season of Lent will help us experience that power of grace and forgiveness. Make a special effort to worship during Lent and invite others you know to join us as well.

Don Decker
Pastor Emeritus



Letter from the Editor

My apologies for not getting a newsletter out in January. As some of you know, I sustained an injury that landed me in a four week stay in the hospital/Physical Therapy. I fell in November, breaking my femur, having to have surgery—an extensive recovery period, of which I am still recuperating. This is why this newsletter is January/February—I am trying to include the information from both months to recognize those that contributed to sponsoring flowers, acknowledging birthdays, anniversaries, etc. from both months, as well as noting any other topics worth mentioning.

Again, my apologies. I hope this finds all of you well, that you had a wonderful holiday season, and are staying safe and warm as this winter is here.

Wishing you a very happy and prosperous new year,
Robbin DeVore
Church Secretary and Newsletter Editor

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February Extra Step - Washington Overseas Mission

A growing group of volunteer Medical, Dental and Construction teams from Washington, Missouri, dedicated to the service of Hondurans since 1992.



St. Paul's UCC Staff

Pastors by Supply.....	
Robbin DeVore (stpaulsuccmo.org@gmail.com).....	Secretary
Sally Rohe.....	Organist
Sally & Tony Rohe	Custodians
Debbie Garbs.....	Choir Director
Cathie Schoppenhorst, Gene Ahmann, Brenda Daniels, Amy Lange	Projection Technicians
Robbin DeVore	Newsletter Editor

Church Council

Jim Buescher.....	President
Wilma Zeh.....	Vice President, Pastoral Relations Committee Rep.
Bonnie Borgmann	Treasurer
Cathie Schoppenhorst	Financial Secretary, Missions Committee Rep., Historical Committee Rep.
Terri Ogle.....	Recording Secretary, Altar Guild Rep.
Jacob DeVore.....	Buildings & Grounds Committee Rep.
Jodi Lange.....	Social Media Rep., Christian Ed. Committee Rep., Membership Care Committee Rep.

How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

According to a Wall Street Journal article, New York State wildlife expert Richard Thomas found that a woodchuck could chuck around 35 cubic feet of dirt in the process of digging a burrow. Thomas reasoned that if a woodchuck could chuck wood, he would chuck an amount equal to 700 pounds.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:—

Annual Church Fundraising Dinners:

- ❖ **Chicken Dinner—September 20, 2026**
- ❖ **Sausage & Sauerkraut Dinner—February 28, 2027**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!



Thanks to Bob Aholt and John Buhr for serving on the council as their terms end, and to Jacob DeVore and Wilma Zeh as they begin their terms.

Also, many thanks to all our worship leaders for your continued dedication and participation as ushers, greeters, acolytes, readers, Sunday School teachers, sound techs, morning fellowship volunteers, choir members & leader, and committee members. Also, thanks to all who tend to those “behind the scenes” duties such as preparing meals for the sick, decorating, filling the soda machine, quilting, sending cards, donating items, and so much more.

*St. Paul's UCC is blessed that you are a part of our church family.
St. Paul's UCC Church Council*

*****NOTICE*****

Cancelling Worship / Church Activities **due to inclement weather:**

In the event that worship, or other events must be cancelled, postponed, or the start time be delayed due to inclement weather, communication of such will be relayed through postings on the following TV Stations:

Channel 2, Channel 4, Channel 5, Channel 11, Channel 30

A decision as to whether church services will be cancelled will be made by 8am on any given Sunday.

****Also, be advised that you should always use good judgment before taking unnecessary risks under any inclement weather conditions.****



Church Council & Committee Members 2026

Church Council:

Jim Buescher – President
Wilma Zeh – Vice President/Pastoral Relations Committee Rep.
Terri Ogle – Recording Secretary/Altar Guild Rep.
Bonnie Borgmann – Treasurer
Cathie Schoppenhorst – Financial Secretary/Missions Comm. Rep./Hist. Comm. Rep.
Jacob DeVore – Building & Grounds Committee Rep.
Jodi Lange – Christian Education Comm. Rep./Membership Care Comm. Rep./Social Media Rep.

Pastor: (By Supply)



Christian Education Committee:

Jodi Lange – Council Rep.
Terri Ogle
Cathie Schoppenhorst
Cheryl Swartz
Megan Zeh
Jodi Lange



Pastoral Relations Committee:

Wilma Zeh – Council Rep.
Diane Freese
David Lange
Ann Jenkins
Doris Bunge



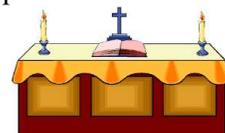
Sunday School Teachers:

Megan Zeh
Jodi Lange
Terri Ogle
Cathie Schoppenhorst
Sub – Cheryl Swartz
Helpers – Teagan Zeh/ Kersten Mayer/
Kennady Mayer/Colsie Lange



Altar Guild:

Terri Ogle – Council Rep.
Terri Ogle
Karen Dohrer
Debbie Garbs
Brenda Daniels



Social Media:

Jodi Lange – Council Rep.

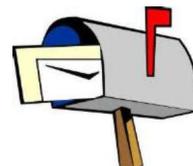
Missions Committee:

Cathie Schoppenhorst – Council Rep.
Gene Ahmann
Sandy Rohe
Cathie Schoppenhorst
Susie Thierbach
Sarah Gehlert



Membership Care Committee:

Jodi Lange – Council Rep.
Cindy Buescher
Debbie Garbs
Marge Jones
Marigene Kersten
Kay Buhr



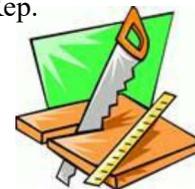
Historical Committee:

Cathie Schoppenhorst – Council Rep.
Amy Lange
Gene Ahmann
Ann Jenkins
Jeanette Stegner
Cathie Schoppenhorst



Buildings and Grounds:

Jacob DeVore – Council Rep.
Bob Aholt
Jim Buescher
Russell Kersten
Don Buescher
Nick Rohe
Nick Lange



Cemetery Board:

Lulu Hasenjaeger
Bob Aholt
Jim Buescher
Russell Kersten



Kitchen Renovation:

Bob Aholt Cindy Buescher
Terri Ogle Nick Lange
Grover Hilgedick Brenda Daniels

Many thanks to all our dedicated members who so willingly serve on the church's committees! We are truly blessed. Again, thank you.

Sunday Morning Fellowship

We need *volunteers* to assist with coffee, lemonade, and donuts.



The sign-up sheet is in the lobby.

See Marigene Kersten with questions or inquiries.

Thanks for your participation.



Quilting

**Mondays
10am-4pm**

Contact Audrey Meyer with questions or inquiries.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

February 8th and 22nd

even with the Sausage & Sauerkraut Dinner.



WOMEN'S GUILD

WED., FEB. 4TH—2PM



Women's Guild

Would like to thank all who donated blood at the January drive.

Many thanks to all who made refreshments and worked.

14 units of blood were collected.

The Guild will sponsor another

Blood Drive

Tues., March 24th

Mark your calendars now.

Please donate blood. It saves lives!



MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

MON., FEB. 16TH—6PM

ADULT SOCIAL CONNECTION

"Valentine's Dinner"

—FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH—6PM



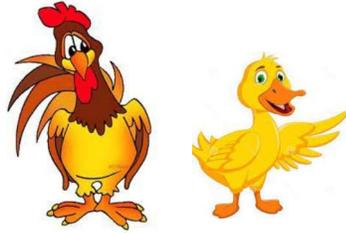
Meat & drinks will be provided. Please bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert to help complete the meal. Please use the sign-up sheet in the lobby to indicate the dish you will bring by Tuesday, February 10th.

YOU NEED NOT BE A COUPLE TO ATTEND — ALL ARE WELCOME!

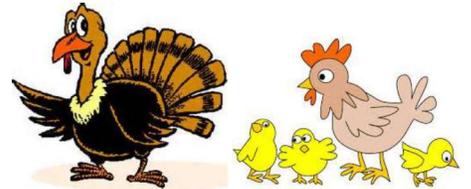
Vacation Bible School



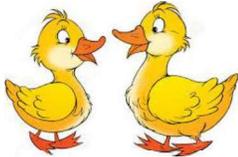
Monday – Friday
July 20-24, 2026



9am-12N



Mark Your
Calendars Now!





Suggested Scripture Readings for February

Feb. 1st — Micah 6:1-8 and Psalm 15 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
Matthew 5:1-12

Feb. 8th — Isaiah 58:1-9a,(9b-12) and Psalm 112:1-9,(10)
1 Corinthians 2:1-12,(13-16) Matthew 5:13-20

Feb. 15th — Exodus 24:12-18 and Psalm 2 or Psalm 99 2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Feb. 22nd — Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7 and Psalm 32 Romans 5:12-19
Matthew 4:1-11



WHOLE HOG PORK SAUSAGE & SAUERKRAUT DINNER

ST. PAUL'S UCC

103 South Second St.
Marthasville, MO

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026
11AM-5PM**

**CAFETERIA-STYLE DINING &
CARRY-OUTS**

**ADULTS & CARRY-OUTS \$18
CHILDREN AGES 6-12 \$8
AGES 5 AND UNDER FREE**

Homemade Desserts of Pies and Cakes!!

**Pork Sausage, Ribs and Bones
FOR SALE**

Country Store

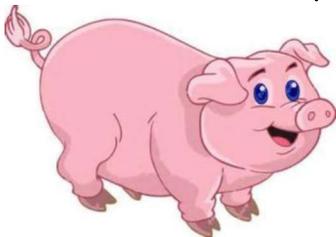


Quilt Raffle:

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes

DON'T MISS OUT!

St. Paul's Facebook Page: stpaulsuccmo.org



Sign-up sheets for working the **Sausage & Sauerkraut Dinner are in the lobby. Sign-up **NOW** for the area and shift you prefer!**

QUILT RAFFLE



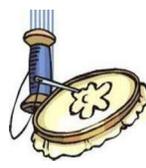
Help with selling quilt raffle tickets would be appreciated if anyone is interested.

Tickets for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes will be drawn at the Sausage Dinner.

Sunday, February 22, 2026



Contact Terri Ogle, Audrey Meyer, or Karen Dohrer with questions or inquiries.



Donations for The Country Store



Items for the country store are in very limited supply. It's cold, cold, cold outside, so we tend to stay in where it's warm and cozy; why not use this time by putting your talents into making some handmade and/or homemade items to donate to this effort? People LOVE handmade items such as crocheted, knitted, embroidered, or other forms of stitched doilies, afghans, pillow cases, scarves, etc. Other craft projects are also welcome, as are all types of baked goods. These things always sell.

Thank you in advance for your time, talents, and generosity.



World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 6th

More information to come.

ALL LADIES ARE WELCOME!

Church Council Meeting:

Monday, February 9th — 6 pm



SOUPER BOWL!

Sunday, February 8th

The Heritage Cluster

invites you to bring your cans of soup, broth, and/or canned pasta to benefit the local food pantry.

See flier in the lobby.



February 2026

Feb. 1— Don Deeker

Feb. 8— Don Deeker

Feb. 15— Don Deeker

Feb. 22— Don Deeker

Groundhog Day Trivia and Fun Facts



Sudoku Solving Directions: To solve, place a number into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square within the larger diagram (there are 9 of these) will contain every number from 1 through 9. No number can appear more than once in any row, column or 9-box square.

								2
			4		2			3
				3	9	7		
	4			5		1	6	
		6	8		4	5		
	3	1		2				4
		3	7	6				
	7		1		8			
4								



(Answers on pg. 13)

❖ Punxsutawney Phil, Seer of Seers, Sage of Sages, Prognosticator of Prognosticators and Weather Prophet Extraordinaire is a fat old groundhog from Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. This is where he makes his weather prediction every Groundhog Day (February 2nd).

- ❖ On February 2nd, Phil comes out of his burrow on Gobbler's Knob, in front of thousands of faithful followers from all over the world, to predict the weather for the rest of the winter.
- ❖ According to legend, if Punxsutawney Phil sees his shadow, there will be six more weeks of winter weather. If he does not see his shadow, there will be an early spring.
- ❖ The celebration of Groundhog Day began with the Germans, Pennsylvania's earliest settlers. They brought with them the legend of Candlemas Day, which states "For as the sun shines on Candlemas day, so far will the snow swirl in May...". The settlers found that groundhogs were plentiful and were the most intelligent and sensible animal to carry on the legend of Candlemas Day.
- ❖ Punxsutawney held its first Groundhog Day in the 1800's. The first official trek to Gobbler's Knob was made on February 2nd, 1887.
- ❖ So, the story goes, Punxsutawney Phil was named after King Phillip. Prior to being called Phil, he was called Br'er Groundhog.





- Groundhogs, also called woodchucks, are large rodents. They are the largest members of the squirrel family.
- A full-grown groundhog is 18-24 in. long and weighs about 13 lbs.
- During the summer months, a groundhog's incisors grow about 1/16 of an inch each week to keep up with their frenzied eating schedule.
- Groundhogs are found in the U.S. and Canada. They make their homes in burrows at the edge of woodland areas that border open spaces. They build their burrows up to 6 ft. deep and 20 ft. wide with 2 to 12 entrances. They hibernate in the winter and nap and bask in the sun in the summer.

- Groundhogs are herbivores. They eat fruit, plants, bark, and grasses, but do not eat during hibernation.
- A groundhog can whistle when it is alarmed. Groundhogs also whistle in the spring when they begin courting.
- In February, they come out of hibernation to mate. Females give birth to 2 to 6 young after a gestation period of 32 days.
- Babies mature in about 3 months and leave their mother to make their own homes. Groundhogs live 3 to 6 years.



ALTAR FLOWERS (DECEMBER):



Dec. 7: in honor of Sue Berg's birthday (December 9th), by Robbin, Jacob, & Isaiah DeVore.

Extra arrangement in honor of December birthdays: Jason & Jacie, by Jim & Cindy Buescher.

Dec. 14: in loving memory of Cornelius Berg, who passed away 19 years ago on December 15, 2006, given by family.

Dec. 21: to the honor and glory of God, by the Women's Guild.

Extra arrangement in loving memory of Don Garbs, by Debbie Garbs.

Dec. 28: in celebration of Walean Bunge's birthday, by Tina Rekate.

Extra arrangement in honor of December birthdays, by Tina Rekate.



ALTAR FLOWERS (JANUARY):



Jan. 4: in memory of Carrie Deeker, given by the St. Paul's UCC.

Jan. 11: to the honor and glory of God, by the Women's Guild.

Jan. 18: in loving memory of Cornelius Berg, whose birthday was January 22, 1917, by Sue Berg.

Jan. 25: to the honor and glory of God, by the Women's Guild.

NOTE: Consider sponsoring the altar flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, a special date, or just because... Sign-up sheets for altar flowers are in the lobby. The flowers are yours to take with you after the service of worship.



Poinsettias were given by:



❖ *Sandy Rohe, in memory of Orville Rohe*

❖ *Don Deeker, in memory of loved ones & Carrie*

❖ *Lulu Hasenjaeger, in memory of Delvin Hasenjaeger*

❖ *Gene & Ann Jenkins, in memory of Ralph & Marge Pruitt and Mark Pruitt*

❖ *Otto & Susie Thierbach, in memory of Ed & La Verda Thierbach*

❖ *John & Kay Buhr, in memory of Dick & Jenny Buescher*

❖ *Jodi Lange, in memory of Carla Lange*

❖ *Nick & Kendall Lange, in memory of Bill Rainwater,
and Rueben & Violet Smith*

❖ *Colsie, Cohen & Colby Lange, in memory of Mama Carla Lange*





Mission Moment - Pregnancy Assistance Center

Because of your generosity, local needy families received help at Christmas through the Pregnancy Assistance Center. **Many thanks** to all who participated in the Christmas drive. **All gift ornaments were sponsored.**



ST. PAUL'S UCC CAR & BIKE SHOW



The figures from the 2025 car & bike show were not yet in at the time of this mailing. They will be relayed as they become available.



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

On January 18, 2026, we welcomed Justin Carter and Jeffrey Beck into our church family.

Anyone who is interested in joining St. Paul's UCC should contact a council member or the church office.



With Deepest Gratitude

We would like to thank **THE MANY SUPPLY PASTORS** for their service to St. Paul's UCC during these months we have been without a settled pastor.

Many thanks to **REV. DON DEEKER, PASTOR EMERITUS**, for always being there for us—for keeping us under his wing. We very much appreciate his willingness to be our constant supply and cover pastoral care for St. Paul's during this time of transition.

Thanks also to **ALL** who have kept us in your thoughts and prayers, and the many kind and thoughtful gestures you have shown during this period of adjustment. May you all remain safe, healthy, and vigilant throughout these troubled times.

In His name,
St. Paul's UCC Church Council and Congregation



Services of Worship

9:30am

Pastor by Supply



February	2nd	9th	16th	23rd
Ushers	Jim Buescher (lead) Karen Dohrer Cathie Schoppenhorst Lulu Hasenjaeger Cindy Buescher	Cathie Schoppenhorst (lead) Gene Ahmann Karla Aholt Marigene Kersten Ann Jenkins	Jodi Lange (lead) Audrey Meyer Terri Ogle John Presser Nancy Presser	Terri Ogle (lead) Tony Rohe Curt Rohe Robbin DeVore Kylie Rohe
Acolytes	Kersten Mayer	Kennady Mayer	Addy Engelage	Colsie Lange
Readers	Cathie Schoppenhorst	Karla Aholt	Terri Ogle	Curt Rohe
Greeters	Cindy Buescher Cathie Schoppenhorst	Gene Ahmann Karla Aholt	Audrey Meyer John & Nancy Presser	Tony Rohe Curt Rohe
Fellowship	Wayne & Wilma Zeh	NEED VOLUNTEER	NEED VOLUNTEER	_____

Worship Attendance:

12-7-2025---50

12-14-2025---61

12-21-2025---45

12-24-2025---83
(Christmas Eve)

12-28-2025---36

1-4-2026---43

1-11-2026---60

1-18-2026---59

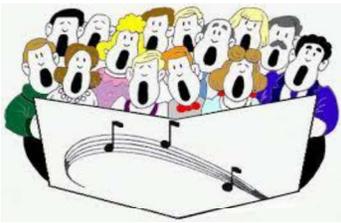
1-25-2026---0
(Inclement weather)

The Adult Choir

Come join us in song! The choir will sing on Sunday, February 15th this month. Practice will be on Wednesday, February 11th at 6pm.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

Contact Debbie Garbs or Sally Rohe with inquiries.




St. Paul's UCC
Marthasville, MO
Lenten/Easter Services



There will be no Wednesday evening Lenten Services.

Fri., April 3, 2026—Good Friday—Service at 7pm.



Sun., April 5, 2026—
Easter Sunday
Service at 9:30am.



JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1st: Norbert Shacklette
Wesley Thierbach
- 2nd: Brayden Mayer
- 5th: Kelly Meyer
- 7th: Jace Walde
- 8th: Jordyn Elder
- 9th: Celeste Mueller
- 11th: Rhonda Juntti
- 13th: Janna Chambers
Robbin DeVore
- 19th: Cindy Niemeyer
- 21st: Avery Walde
- 22nd: Ellen Engelage
Wade Swartz
Jake Rodgers
- 23rd: Drayke Elder
Draysin Elder
- 28th: Phyllis Sontag
- 30th: Phil Mittler
Reese Rodgers



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 1st: Jeff & Britni Beck
- 2nd: John & Nancy Presser-1965



Let It Snow! Let It
Let It Snow!



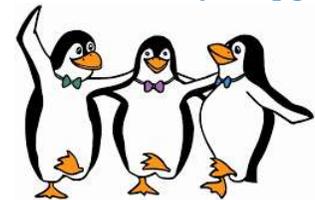
ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

- 17th: Caleb Richardson



3	6	9	5	7	1	4	8	2
1	5	7	4	8	2	9	3	6
8	2	4	6	3	9	7	5	1
2	4	8	3	5	7	1	6	9
7	9	6	8	1	4	5	2	3
5	3	1	9	2	6	8	4	7
9	8	3	7	6	5	2	1	4
6	7	2	1	4	8	3	9	5
4	1	5	2	9	3	6	7	8

(Sudoku answer from pg.9)



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1st: Kirk Engelage
- 5th: Ben Zeh
- 6th: Roy Wilson
- 7th: Linda Hasenjaeger
- 9th: Saul Anderson
- 10th: Colsie Lange
- 11th: Bryce Mayer
- 18th: Don Sida
- 19th: Wilma Zeh
- 20th: John Presser
- 22nd: Darrell Hasenjaeger
Carl Krampe
Marge Jones
- 25th: Donald Lange
Cheryl Swartz



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 6th: Murrill & Bev Wohler—1965
- 7th: Paul & Diane Freese
- 19th: Russell & Marigene Kersten



ANNIVERSARIES OF BAPTISM

none this month

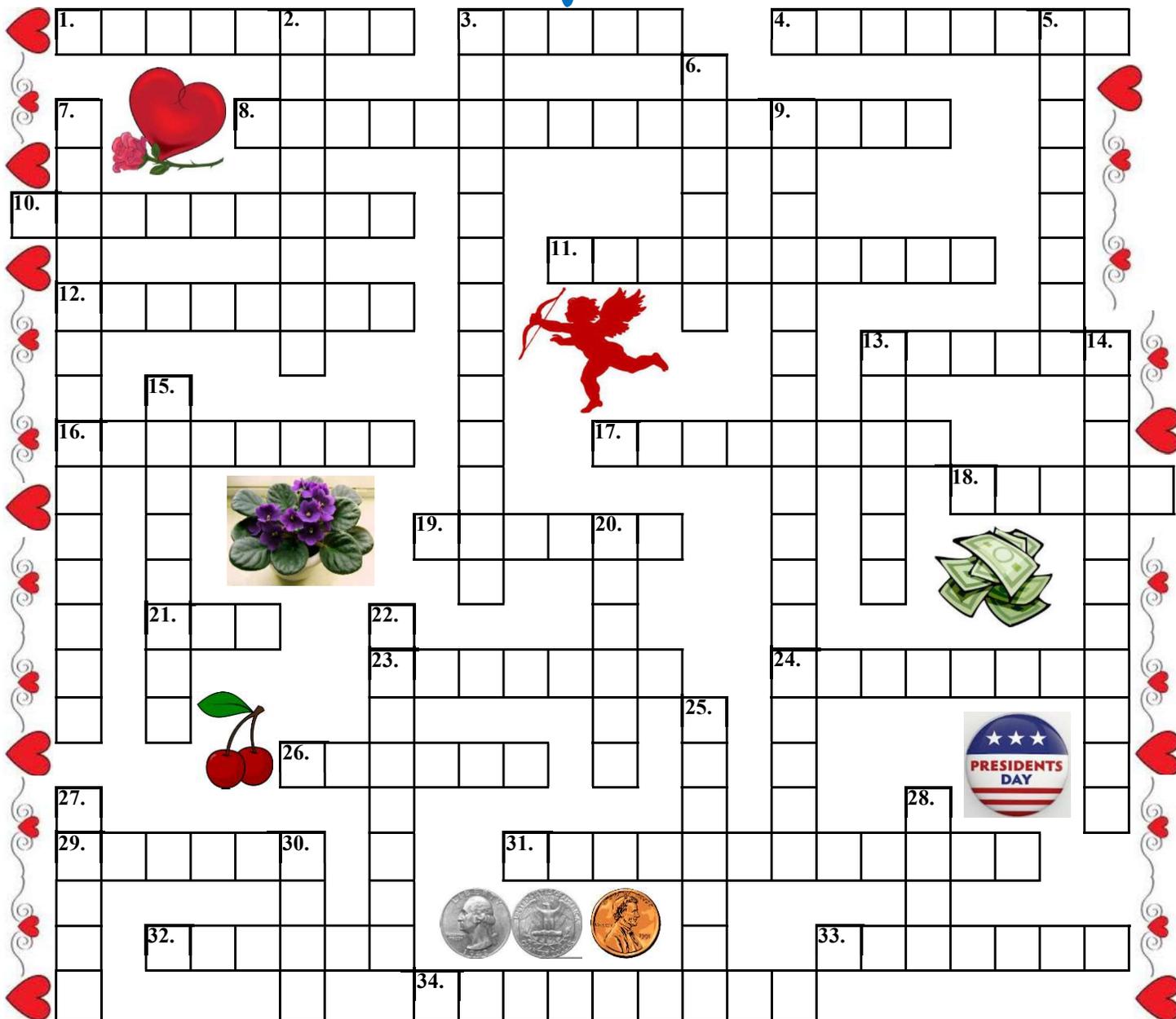


To My Valentine In Heaven

I have a 'Special Valentine,'
Who waits in Heaven above...
Tho I can no longer send a special card,
I still send my eternal love...
They never are forgotten,
Especially on this date...
I know in life I was so, so blessed,
To have found my 'True Soulmate'...

Author Unknown

February Crossword



ACROSS:

(answers on pg. 18)

1. The second month of the year.
3. Abraham Lincoln appears on this coin of U.S. currency.
4. The four faces on Mount Rushmore: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and _____ Roosevelt.
8. The first President of the United States. (first & last name)
10. Every February 2nd, we wait for this furry animal to come out of his burrow to see (or not see) his shadow, predicting the next six weeks of weather.
11. February 14th is _____ Day.
12. The ninth President of the United States. (last name)
13. Another name for sanctuary.
16. Occurring every four years, when February has a 29th day. (two words)



17. George Washington was said to have worn wooden _____.
18. The cherub-like boy who shoots his arrow of love and affection.
19. George Washington's wife's first name.
21. George Washington's face appears on the _____ dollar bill of U.S. currency.
23. George Washington appears on this coin of U.S. currency.
24. The donkey is the symbol representing this political party.
26. This 40th President of the United States was a former actor. (last name)
29. A tax or duty to be paid on a particular class of imports or exports.
31. George Washington's birthday is February _____ - _____.
32. The Emancipation Proclamation freed the _____ in the Confederate States.
33. Abraham Lincoln's birthday is February _____.
34. The third President of the United States. (last name)



DOWN:

2. February birthstone.
3. The federal holiday observed on the third Monday of the month of February. (two words)
5. The National Memorial Monument in South Dakota that bears the faces of four U.S. Presidents is Mount _____.
6. February's flower.
7. The sixteenth President of the United States. (first & last name)
9. The speech President Abraham Lincoln gave during the American Civil War at the dedication of the "Soldiers' National Cemetery" in Pennsylvania. (two words)
13. As a young boy, George Washington was known to have chopped down his father's _____ tree.
14. The three branches of government are: Executive, _____, and Judicial.
15. Abraham Lincoln's wife's name. (two words)
20. Abraham Lincoln's nick-name was "_____ Abe."
22. The two zodiac signs of February are Pisces and _____.
25. Republican and Democrat are the two major U.S. political _____.
27. The United States flag is also known as "_____ and Stripes."
28. In the 1997 film, "Titanic", the characters Rose (played by Kate Winslet) and Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio) fell in _____.
30. Abraham Lincoln's face appears on the _____ dollar bill of U.S. currency.



NOTABLE QUOTES BY U.S. PRESIDENTS

- "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."* Franklin D. Roosevelt
- "It is much better to go down fighting for what is right than to compromise your principles."* Harry S. Truman
- "My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."* John F. Kennedy
- "Strength and wisdom are not opposing values."* Bill Clinton
- "Human kindness has never weakened the stamina or softened the fiber of a free people."* Franklin D. Roosevelt
- "When we accept tough jobs as a challenge and wade into them with joy and enthusiasm, miracles can happen."* Harry S. Truman
- "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them."* John F. Kennedy
- "Christmas is not a time or a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas."* Calvin Coolidge



SNOWBIRDS



B	E	H	C	T	A	H	T	U	N	D	E	T	S	A	E	R	B	D	E	R	N	E	H	A	T	L
T	R	H	C	P	E	N	G	U	I	N	S	N	O	W	B	U	N	T	I	N	G	O	S	N	O	L
W	E	C	O	N	W	Y	C	O	M	M	O	N	R	E	D	P	O	L	L	O	A	H	M	A	M	I
H	K	H	N	E	I	L	E	D	A	T	O	L	L	I	B	S	S	O	R	C	D	E	R	E	B	
I	C	I	E	T	C	F	O	L	S	D	G	C	L	E	A	N	A	U	Y	T	M	E	A	E	L	H
T	E	N	N	B	U	O	Y	N	G	O	S	H	A	W	K	M	R	R	A	H	A	S	R	D	L	T
E	P	S	I	N	G	F	O	E	R	A	S	S	S	S	E	S	E	H	G	E	C	O	C	B	I	A
W	D	T	L	F	I	W	T	E	S	A	S	N	S	R	S	D	T	A	W	R	A	O	T	E	U	E
I	O	R	A	I	Y	T	I	E	U	O	O	O	I	N	P	U	H	G	I	N	R	G	I	L	G	H
N	O	A	T	O	S	E	C	K	D	W	R	C	O	O	N	S	A	T	T	C	O	A	C	L	S	S
G	W	P	W	O	T	U	S	R	G	T	A	D	L	D	L	N	L	T	O	A	N	D	T	I	H	Y
E	Y	L	G	R	B	N	Y	O	A	N	I	L	E	A	E	E	N	S	R	I	A	E	E	C	W	
D	N	N	O	W	W	A	O	B	R	B	I	T	I	P	R	R	D	S	N	D	I	N	R	D	I	O
C	W	N	G	O	J	S	L	O	S	D	S	R	M	T	P	T	A	R	M	I	G	A	N	W	N	N
R	O	S	R	E	E	A	B	D	E	A	E	O	E	O	L	A	N	G	H	N	F	C	E	O	N	S
O	D	B	U	A	L	I	W	E	E	P	A	P	Y	E	U	O	C	S	S	A	I	F	N	O	U	P
S	G	L	S	S	N	P	D	R	M	A	E	A	P	K	M	S	N	N	S	L	T	O	U	D	R	O
S	B	M	E	O	F	A	B	I	F	L	G	O	W	A	E	P	E	G	W	R	S	W	I	P	B	L
B	L	L	B	L	K	E	L	P	G	U	L	L	O	O	C	M	O	A	S	O	G	A	I	E	O	A
I	N	A	R	C	T	I	C	S	K	U	A	I	E	N	S	Y	P	R	R	P	R	I	N	C	O	R
L	G	S	I	I	N	G	N	I	W	X	A	W	N	A	I	M	E	H	O	B	U	B	O	K	T	S
L	W	H	H	C	N	I	F	Y	E	S	O	R	K	C	A	L	B	R	B	R	I	R	R	E	N	K
D	C	W	H	C	N	I	F	D	L	O	G	M	O	U	R	N	I	N	G	D	O	V	E	R	E	U
D	K	E	Y	E	D	J	U	N	C	O	C	N	U	J	D	E	Y	E	W	O	L	L	E	Y	G	A

- ALBATROSS
- AMERICAN ROBIN
- ARCTIC SKUA
- ARCTIC TERN
- BALD EAGLE
- BOHEMIAN WAXWING
- BLACK ROSEY FINCH
- BLUE JAY
- BROWN-CAPPED ROSEY FINCH
- BROWN SKUA
- BRUNNICH'S GUILLEMOT
- CANADA GOOSE
- CHICKADEE
- COMMON REDPOLL
- DK.-EYED JUNCO
- DOWNY WOODPECKER

- GOLDFINCH
- GREY-CAPPED ROSEY FINCH
- HOARY REDPOLL
- IMPERIAL SHAG
- KELP GULL
- LONGSPUR
- MOURNING DOVE
- NORTHERN CARDINAL
- N. GOSHAWK
- PENGUINS—
- ADELIE
- CHINSTRAP
- EMPOROR
- GENTOO
- MACARONI
- PETREL

- PTARMIGAN
- PUFFIN
- RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER
- RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH
- RED CROSSBILL
- ROSS'S GOOSE
- SNOW BUNTING
- SNOW GOOSE
- SNOWY OWL
- SNOWY SHEATHBILL
- S. POLAR SKUA
- TUFTED TITMOUSE
- WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH
- WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL
- YELLOW-EYED JUNCO

Find the words in the puzzle above. Then use all the unused letters to solve the quote below.

“ _____ this _____ and _____
 The _____ for _____
 _____ . The _____ the
 _____ and _____
 _____ that _____...”

(answer on pg. 18)

*******COLD WEATHER FRIENDS FUN FACTS:*******



- Polar bears are the largest land carnivores, and live in the Arctic, the U.S., Canada, Russia, Denmark (Greenland), and Norway. In the Arctic, winter temperatures plunge below -30°F!
- The polar bear's fur appears white, but is actually transparent. The hollow hair shafts reflect light much like ice does, making it appear white or yellow. Their fur is oily and water repellent.

- Beneath their thick coats, there is a 4-inch layer of dense fat. Beneath that, they have black skin that better absorbs the sun's warmth.
- The bears spend about half their time hunting for food. Their diet consists primarily of seals. Only about 2% of their hunts are successful, so they must be persistent. They depend on their sense of smell to determine location of their prey. They can smell a seal up to two miles away.
- Polar bears can swim up to six miles per hour and reach speeds of 25 mph on land and often travel several hundreds of miles to find food.



- Polar bears have 42 teeth.
- Male polar bears are 8 to 11 feet long and weigh up to 1500 pounds. Females measure 6 to 8 feet long and weigh up to 700 pounds.
- The average age of a polar bear in the wild lives to be about 17.
- Female bears start having babies around the age of 4 or 5 and typically have two cubs. They have these cubs in a cave they've dug in a larger snow drift. They stay there over winter and come out in the spring with the babies. Only pregnant female polar bears hibernate.



- Babies are about the size of a rat and weigh little more than a pound, but can grow to full size in a year.
- Baby polar bears often starve; 70% do not live to their third birthday. Sometimes seals are hard to find, especially in the summer when the ice has melted.



- The International Union for the Conservation of Nature estimates the worldwide polar bear population is between 22,000 and 31,000. Their population is on the decline and they are considered a "vulnerable" species.
- Humans are the polar bear's only predator. Countries have either banned hunting or established rules for how many bears could be hunted within its own boundaries.
- Manmade pollution is also a cause of death. At each stage of the food chain, pollutions get more concentrated. By the end, when the polar bear eats the seal, it could be lethal.
- Global warming is also a cause of death and decline in numbers: as the sea ice melts, they have no platform for hunting, and they must swim farther to find food, their food supply is limited.
- Protecting polar bears, as is any vulnerable or endangered species is important. The polar bear's body is very different than most mammals—they are able to process large amounts of fat (seal blubber) and are able to lose and gain large amounts of weight throughout the year without causing stress health problems. Scientists are studying them to see if they can provide a key to human diseases like diabetes and heart disease.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

The family of Carrie Deeker who passed away on 12/29/25; the family of James Heady (uncle of Robbin DeVore and Trudy Heady) who passed away on 12/21/25; Jeanette Stegner—hospitalized after a fall; Lulu Hasenjaeger—released from hospital following a broken hip; Robbin DeVore—recovering from a broken femur; the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Palestine, and of those who are in harm’s way trying to protect them; those affected by armed violence in this country and in the world; those affected by the recent natural disasters; all those recovering from surgery and other health issues, those fighting cancer, and those homebound/shut-in/in-care facilities.



Those Battling Cancer: Bonnie Borgmann, Rev. Jeff Mueller, Brenda Napier, Caiden Thies, Mildred Hinnah, Eric Moritz, Marcia Rekate, Brenda Gratza, Marigene Kersten, Glennon Hepperman, Ted Lepper, Dave Pruitt, Rev. Jeffrey Willey, Teresa Wheeler, Marsha Meyer, Kurt Gildehaus, Kristi Warnecke, Isaac Mercer.

Those serving in the Military: Nick Sullentrup, Tyler Buescher, Luke Bronstrup, Caleb & Sarah Murphy, & others seeking to faithfully serve God & Country

Please remember those who are not always able to worship with us at St. Paul’s UCC. Remember them in prayer, with a visit, card, or a phone call:

Ellen Engelage
Union Care Center
1080 Marie Lane
Union, MO 63084



Mary Mittler
Homestead at Hickory View
1481 Marbach Dr., Room 211
Washington, MO 63090

—Meals on Wheels—

If anyone needs or knows of anyone who needs home-delivered meals from the Warren County Senior Center, please contact the center at 636-456-3379. **Volunteers are also needed** to deliver meals.

Answer to Word Search: (from pg. 16)

“Beneath this snowy mantle cold and clean the unborn grass lies waiting for its coat to turn to green. The snowbird sings the song he always sings and speaks to me of flowers that will bloom again in Spring...”
~ **“Snowbird” by Gene MacLellan**

February Crossword Answers (from pg. 14)

ACROSS:

- 1. February
- 3. Penny
- 4. Theodore
- 8. George Washington
- 10. Groundhog
- 11. Valentine’s
- 12. Harrison
- 13. Chapel

- 16. Leap Year
- 17. Dentures
- 18. Cupid
- 19. Martha
- 21. One
- 23. Quarter
- 24. Democrat
- 26. Reagan

- 29. Tariff
- 31. Twenty-second
- 32. Slaves
- 33. Twelfth
- 34. Jefferson

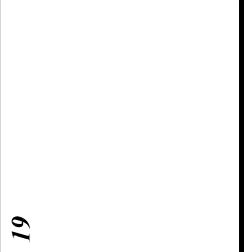
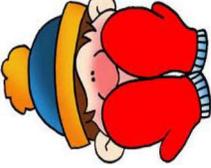
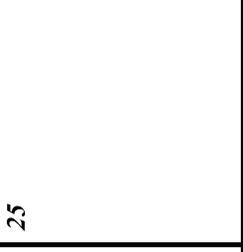
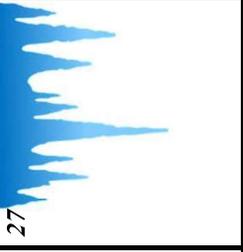
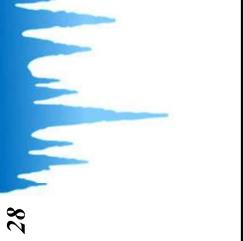
DOWN:

- 2. Amethyst
- 3. Presidents Day
- 5. Rushmore
- 6. Violet
- 7. Abraham Lincoln
- 9. Gettysburg Address
- 13. Cherry
- 14. Legislative
- 15. Mary Todd
- 20. Honest
- 22. Aquarius
- 25. Parties
- 27. Stars
- 28. Love
- 30. Five

***All puzzles in this publication were created by Robbin DeVore; they are originals.**
—Any historical or trivia information is collected from various public online sources.—*



St. Paul's UCC Church Calendar—February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Bring A Meal Sunday 9:30am Worship w/ Holy Communion NO Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship	2 10am-4pm Quilting 	3 	4  2pm Women's Guild	5 	6 	7 
8 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship <i>Heritage Cluster</i> FOOD PANTRY BOWL 	9 10am-4pm Quilting  6pm Church Council	10 6:30pm-7:30pm Food Pantry @ CBC	11  7pm Adult Choir Practice	12  Lincoln's Birthday	13 VALENTINES DINNER  9pm Adult Social Connection	14 HAPPY VALENTINES 
15 9:30am Worship NO Sunday School 10:30am AM Fellowship	16 10am-4pm Quilting  6PM MEN'S FELLOWSHIP 	17 <i>The Season of Lent</i> 	18 ASH WEDNESDAY (No service of worship)	19 	20  Prep for Sausage Dinner: 8AM for Committee, 11am for all other help	21 11am-12N Food Pantry @ CBC
22 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sun. School NO AM Fellowship 11am-5pm Sausage Dinner & Country Store Washington's Birthday 	23 10am-4pm Quilting 	24 	25 	26 	27 	28 

"May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance." (II Thessalonians 3:5 NIV)



St. Paul's United Church of Christ
103 South Second Street
Marthasville, MO 63357