

FIRST ST. CHARLES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH // ISSUE 1 // VOLUME 55

THE SPIRE

January 14, 2026



WELCOME TO OUR TEAM



MEET *Ellie*

Youth Coordinator

Hi everyone! My name is Ellie, and I'm so excited to introduce myself as your new Youth Coordinator. I'm really grateful for the chance to join this community and begin getting to know you and your youth.

I come with over a decade of various ministry experience working with youth and young adults, and I'm currently pursuing a Master of Divinity at Phillips Theological Seminary. I am deeply relational, and I love walking alongside young people as they ask big questions, explore faith, and figure out who they are in this complicated world. I believe the church should be a place where curiosity is welcomed, doubt is allowed, and everyone knows they belong.



As a queer woman and proud lesbian, inclusive and affirming ministry is very personal to me. I care deeply about creating youth spaces where every young person feels safe, affirmed, and loved exactly as they are. I'm especially passionate about trauma-informed ministry and helping the church be a place of healing, honesty, and hope.

I'm also a mom to two little boys, which has shaped both who I am and how I show up in ministry. When I'm not working or studying, you'll usually find me spending time with friends or family, exploring a new restaurant or coffee shop, knitting or crocheting, or curled up with a good book.

I'm really looking forward to meeting you, learning this community's story, and partnering together to support and nurture our youth. Please feel free to say hi.



Merle Nichols

100th

Birthday



Lift Up in Prayer

MERGIE ADAMS, WIFE OF
MAX ADAMS, PASSED AWAY
DECEMBER 18, 2025

**WORSHIP
with us**



IN-PERSON [AT] 9 & 11

ANY TIME ON



FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

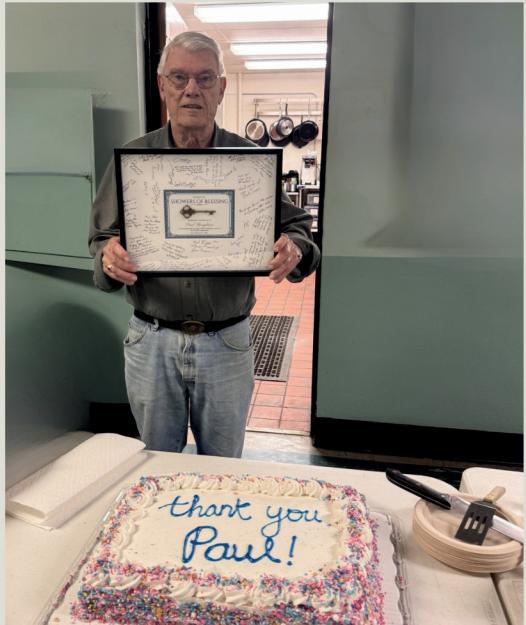
Meet the Staff

Rev. Kim Mitchell
Rev. Debby Bartley
Rev. Steve Williams
Patti Adams
Karla Curry
Stacey Davis
Eric Heien
Marsha Hunt
Kerri Johnson
Beth Kelley
Jack McCormick
Jim Nichols
Olivia Osterhage
Meredith Ramsey
Katie Roam
NEW Ellie Stahr

Pecan *sale*

 **LAST CALL!**

\$12/BAG



thank you

Paul Boughton

retired after



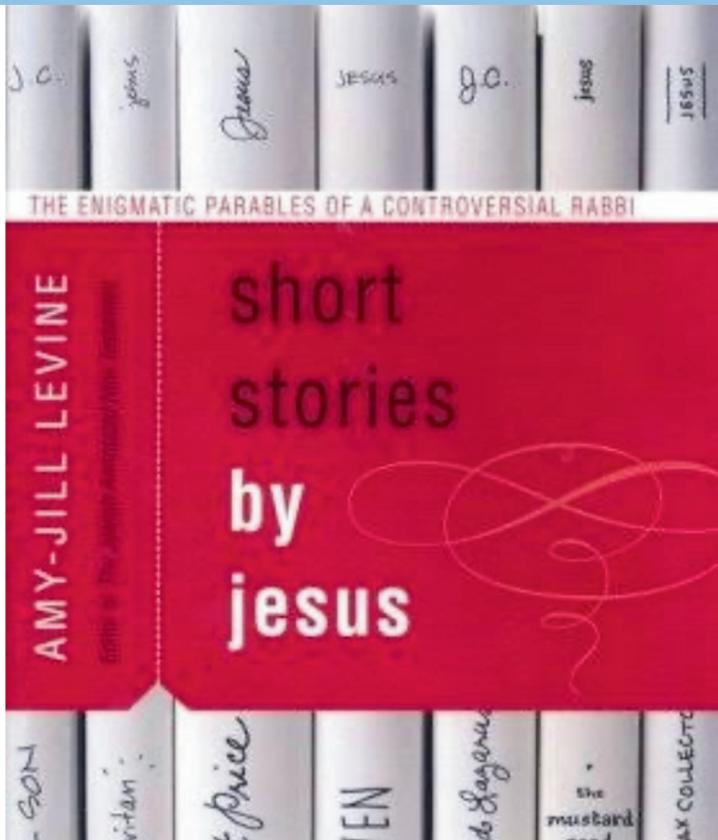
of faithful service to the
Showers of Blessing ministry.



FIRST KIDS PRESCHOOLERS PERFORMED TEN SONGS AT THEIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT.



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



Adult Study

Sundays at 10am

Jan 4th – Feb 8th

Room 162 (Red Room)

KATIE ROAM LEADS A NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS!

Caregiver Support Group

*Third Tuesday of the month
6:30-7:30 pm in room 301*

QUESTIONS? CONTACT NICKI REYNOLDS:
NREYNOLDS6@CHARTER.NET



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

WALKING GROUP



JANUARY 22ND
AT 7:30AM



LGBTQ+ SMALL GROUP

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER AND
ENJOY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

JANUARY 20TH
CATHERINE COLLIER ROOM
@ FIRST ST. CHARLES
6:00 PM

FISH PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED:

TUNA HELPER, MUSTARD, KETCHUP,
SHAMPOO, TEA, WOMEN'S DEODORANT,
ADULT TOOTHPASTE, BODY WASH,
DISH SOAP, CHILDREN'S TOOTHBRUSHES



Little Food Pantry

ITEMS NEEDED:

mac n cheese cups - fruit cups - tuna packs -
individual peanut butter cups - ritz crackers - chili -
canned pasta (spaghetti o's/ravioli) - granola bars -
pudding cups - oatmeal packages - peanut butter
crackers



All canned items need to have pull-tab tops

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Showers of Blessing

January

DONATIONS
NEEDED:

SHOWERS
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

HOT HANDS

MEN'S JEANS → SIZES 30, 32, 34

WASHCLOTHS

TRAVEL-SIZE DEODORANT

TRAVEL-SIZE BODY WIPES



**HELLO
MY NAME IS**

Welcome Team
Member

Join our
Welcome Team!
It's the best way
to meet members
& guests on
Sunday mornings!

For more info, contact **Olivia Osterhage**:
oosterhage@firststcharlesumc.org

THIS Sunday PIZZA WITH THE PASTORS

JANUARY 18TH AT 12PM

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR
MINISTRIES, SMALL GROUPS & WAYS TO SERVE

PLEASE RSVP TO MARSHA:
MHUNT@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

who is this for?

- ◆ IF YOU'RE NEW TO FIRST ST. CHARLES & WANT ALL THE INFO!
- ◆ YOU'RE NEW-ish AND WANT TO LEARN MORE OR GET CONNECTED
- ◆ YOU'VE BEEN AROUND AWHILE & ARE LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO SERVE
- ◆ IF YOU WANT TO MEET SOME AMAZING STAFF & LAY LEADERS
- ◆ ANYONE WHO WANTS A TOUR OF THE BUILDING

PLEASE RSVP TO MARSHA IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING!
MHUNT@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

WORSHIP



ASH WEDNESDAY

FEB 18

DRIVE THRU ASHES **7AM-4:30PM**
WORSHIP SERVICE **7PM**



We'll be offering
Drive Thru Ashes
again this year in our
atrium circle drive
from 7 am - 4:30 pm



FIRST ST. CHARLES UMC

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, January 28th
8:30am-12:30pm in the atrium



THIS
friday

Paint Night

January 16th at 6:30 pm

Ages 5 and up are invited to paint along with an
instructional video.

We will provide all the painting materials.



OUTREACH

SIGN UP
TODAY

WARMING CENTER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Jan. 11th-17th Feb. 8th-14th
Jan. 25th-31st Feb. 22nd-28th

For more info email: mhunt@firststcharlesumc.org

When temperatures drop below 20 degrees, we open our doors so those who are vulnerable have a warm place to sleep. We need volunteers to help during the nights Warming Center is activated.

We are on-call for the weeks listed above, but will not actually activate and open unless the temperatures are forecast to drop below 20° during our week. You will receive an email and/or text if we activate, so no need to worry about keeping up with the weather. You can get the sign up link from the office!

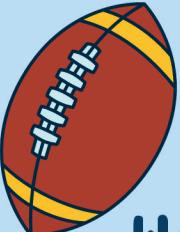
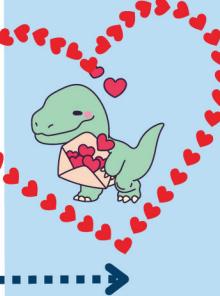
It takes a small army to provide this life-saving service, so we're grateful to each of you for your willingness to serve our neighbors in this way!



January

WARMING CENTER

February

			14	Thursday 15	Friday 16	Saturday 17
			SPIRE CHOIR 		 PAINT NIGHT	
Sunday 18	Monday 19	Tuesday 20	Wednesday 21	Thursday 22	Friday 23	Saturday 24
 PIZZA WITH PASTORS	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED		 CHOIR	 WALKING GROUP!	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
Sunday 25	Monday 26	Tuesday 27	Wednesday 28	Thursday 29	Friday 30	Saturday 31
WARMING CENTER			SPIRE  CHOIR		 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
Sunday 1	Monday 2	Tuesday 3	Wednesday 4	Thursday 5	Friday 6	Saturday 7
FEBRUARY			 CHOIR		 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
Sunday 8	Monday 9	Tuesday 10	Wednesday 11	Thursday 12	Friday 13	Saturday 14
 WARMING CENTER			SPIRE  CHOIR	 WALKING GROUP!	 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	 LOVE DINOSAUR

“

**LIFE'S MOST
PERSISTENT
AND URGENT
QUESTION IS,
‘WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
FOR OTHERS?’**

”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.