

THE SPIRE

MAY 13, 2026

WE PACKED 10,000 MEALS
FOR KIDS AGAINST HUNGER!

ALL ARE safe,
welcome,
wanted.



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
Ellie Stahr



REMINDER

The Church Office
is closed on
Fridays

THE **GRADUATION EDITION** OF THE SPIRE WILL BE PUBLISHED
ON MAY 27TH.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR GRADUATE'S PHOTO AND BLURB TO:
[BKELLEY@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG](mailto:bkelly@firststcharlesumc.org) BY MAY 25TH.

PLEASE NOTE THAT SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE
WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE 5/27 SPIRE.



2026 Leadership Board



Kathy Avery



Donna Baeten



Rick Bahr



Tyler Brown



Greg DeKoster
Finance Chair

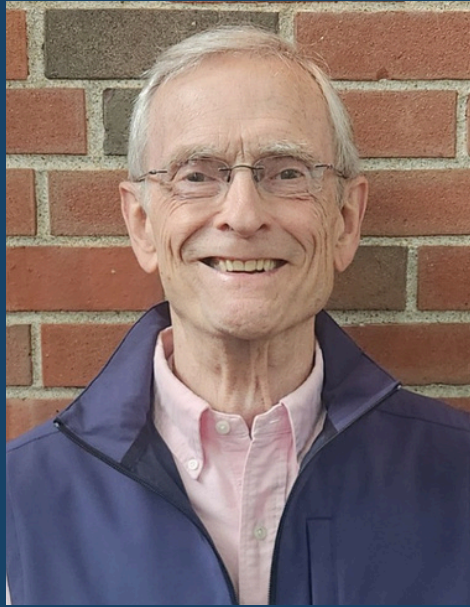


George Estopare-Ilse

2026 Leadership Board



Margaret Harper



John McClure
Chair



Michael Monahan



Tim Mosher
Lay Leader Liason



Jarred Ray
Trustee Chair



Carissa Sanders

If you have thoughtful inquiries or concerns, you may reach out to the Leadership Board in confidence at: ContactLeadership@firststcharlesumc.org

Join us on our Summer Mission Trip

July 19-25th

Thinking about a mission trip but feeling a little unsure? It's totally normal to have those "what ifs" creep in. You might be thinking, "I'm not handy, I don't know how to build or fix things, what good could I possibly be?" Honestly, that's a super common thought! So many of us feel that way before we go. But here's the cool part: when you decide to take the leap and say "yes," something amazing happens. Serving others and witnessing their genuine gratitude? That feeling? It's a blessing that sticks around way longer than the actual week you spent there. It truly is a gift that keeps on giving.

Last year, we had an incredible trip to Kentucky where we met the amazing Brenda. For years, she hadn't been able to enjoy her kitchen deck. Well, our team came in and not only rebuilt that deck but also transformed her front deck and installed new flooring in her living room. It was so rewarding to see Brenda step out onto her new deck for the first time in ages!



Now, we're gearing up for another mission adventure from July 19th to 25th! We're partnering with Appalachia Service Project again, this time heading to Buchanan County, Virginia. This trip is open to everyone, from 6th graders to adults.

Come join our team and help us make a real difference in someone's life – and get ready to be changed

yourself! The cost is \$375 per person for a week of serving and caring. It's a great deal for a fulfilling experience!



Seats on the bus may be limited, but we will absolutely hold space for you and your whole family! Don't delay any longer – take the leap and say "yes" to this opportunity today! If you have any questions or need more information before you commit, feel free to email Pastor Kim directly at kamitchell@firststcharlesumc.org. We can't wait to see you there!

YOUTH GROUP

Sundays at 5pm



We're Hiring!

Nursery Caregiver

- Sunday mornings 8:45am-11am
- Curriculum Provided
- Starting at \$15/per hour



Send your resume to contact@firststcharlesumc.org to apply!

First Kids Preschoolers celebrated the MOMS in their lives with a brunch bursting with love.



HAPPY
MOTHER'S
DAY

SUPER
MOM



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Children's Sunday School Presents: "True Story"

May 3rd - May 31st



A 5-Week Series from the Acts on the Early Church

Each week, kids will explore the amazing and true stories about Jesus that show us what it means to live for God.

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



55+ EVENT
MAY 19TH AT 11:30AM

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

WALKING GROUP

MAY 14TH [AT]
7:30AM

CONTACT OLIVIA IF YOU'RE
ATTENDING!



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

FISH PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED:

PEARS, CANNED POTATOES, PASTA SIDES, PANCAKE MIX, BBQ SAUCE, TOILET PAPER, HAIR CONDITIONER, BODY WASH, CHILDREN'S TOOTHBRUSHES



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

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



LGBTQ+ SMALL GROUP

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER AND
ENJOY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

MAY 19TH
CATHERINE COLLIER ROOM
@ FIRST ST. CHARLES
6:00 PM

Showers of Blessing

During the month of May we are collecting five kinds of cereal that are served to our Showers guests twice a week. You can drop off cereal in the church office.

We are cereal-ously grateful!



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

showers of blessing *meal guide*

50 SERVINGS

pro tips

- Our guests get a lot of the same foods over-and-over (*egg casserole*). They're grateful regardless, but they appreciate it when you think outside the box!
- Foods that are easy to hold and serve are great- think soups, casseroles, and other one-pot dishes.
- Some of our guests struggle with dental issues- so soft and easily digestible foods are preferred. Apples, crunchy granola, popcorn, and tough meats are often left behind.
- Freezer meals that can be brought ahead of time and reheated are ideal!
- Nutrient-dense and protein-rich meals help our folks stay healthy and warm.
- Your group can gather to cook together, or prepare individual components and assemble.
- If you or your group need space to prepare your meal, you can reserve our church kitchen by calling 636-947-0066.
- You can drop your meal off, or if you prefer, you can stay and serve your meal on the day-of.



Meal Sign-Up



Recipe Ideas



Quantities Guide

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

showers of blessing *meal guide*

50 SERVINGS

menu ideas

- Vegetable Beef Soup
- Broccoli Cheese Soup
- Tater Tot Casserole
- Chicken & Rice Casserole
- Chicken Ramen
- Minestrone
- Pot Pie
- Baked Pasta
- Pancakes & Sausage
- Breakfast Casserole
- Chicken & Cheese Enchiladas
- Pulled Pork/Chicken Sliders
- Loaded Hashbrown Casserole
- Meatball Subs
- Taco Bar
- Baked Potato Bar
- Chili
- Sheet-pan Fajitas
- Pizza
- Breakfast Burritos

quantities guide

- **Meat:**
 - 12-13lbs in soups/sauces
 - 15lbs as an entree
- **Rice/Grains:**
 - 10 lbs
- **Pasta:**
 - 10-12lbs
- **Bread:**
 - 2 loaves as side
 - 4 loaves for sandwiches
- **Pizza:**
 - 16 pizzas
- **Vegetables:**
 - Canned:
 - 2 #10 cans or 14 small cans
 - Fresh:
 - 1-1.5lbs salad mix
 - 15-20 lbs potatoes
 - Frozen:
 - 4 (40 oz) bags

Showers Spotlight

Priscilla Pope

Biggest need in
the laundry room:
**TIDE PODS WITH
OXY CLEAN**

What do you love about working in the laundry room at Showers?

Laundry is something I enjoy doing and it feels like something small that I can do that makes a huge difference.

What do you enjoy about serving at Showers?

The best part is how appreciative people are to have their laundry done. It makes them feel human and cared for and that's the whole point of the ministry.

What advice do you have for people thinking of volunteering at Showers?

You have to just jump in and try it! There are so many seasoned volunteers who will help you and make you feel comfortable!



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

DONATE YOUR USED
GLASSES, SUNGLASSES OR
READERS

DEPOSIT GLASSES
IN THE BLUE BIN
IN ATRIUM



SCAN TO REGISTER!

VBS 2026



FIRST ST. CHARLES
United Methodist Church

JUNE
24TH-26TH
5-7:45PM





✝ FIRST ST. CHARLES
United Methodist Church

June 24-26, 2026
4:45-8:00 p.m.

JOIN THE CREW



Youth Summit Squad

WHY?

- ❄ The Pro: Stack up service hours and resume gold
- ❄ The Icon: Be the Legend kids look up to
- ❄ The Vibe: Three days of high octane fun & FREE food



Youth Volunteer Training

9:00 a.m.
Sunday
School

May 17, 2026

5:00 p.m.
Youth
Group

↔ PICK ONE ↔

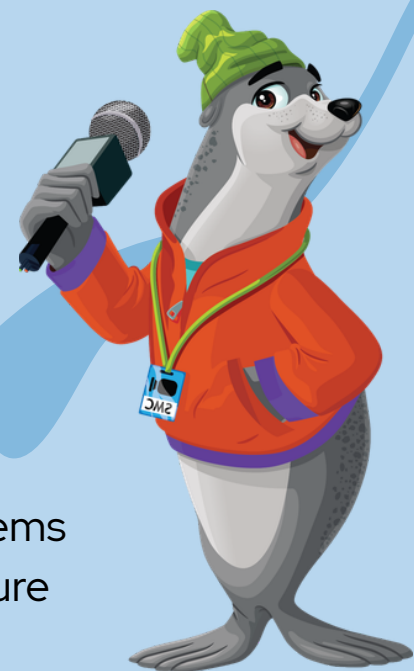


Mountain Gear Needed!

Help us transform our church into Snowball Mountain! We need to borrow all sorts of decorative equipment to make sure our climb is successful. All items will be returned after VBS.

- **Skis**
- **Snowboards**
- **Ski Poles**
- **Ski Boots**
- **Puffer/ski jackets**
- **Sleds of all types**
- **Snow tubes**
- **Ice Skates**
- **Hockey sticks**
- **Any other winter sports gear**
- **Chimineia**

Drop your items off at the office before June 14th. Mark items with your name (or we can label them) and we will make sure they are safely returned after VBS concludes!





SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH
7:30 - 9:30 PM

the
last splash
of summer

FREE DRINKS | FREE FOOD | FREE ENTRY
THE COVE @ ST. PETERS REC PLEX

✚
FIRST ST. CHARLES
United Methodist Church



**RED CROSS
BLOOD DRIVE**

WEDNESDAY,
JULY 22ND

8:30-12:30 IN THE ATRIUM



FIRST ST. CHARLES UMC

AURACAST™ IS HERE!

Auracast™ is a new type of Bluetooth technology that is changing how we experience sound in public spaces. Think of it like a private radio station for your ears, allowing those with compatible hearing aids or devices to stream our worship service audio directly to that device.

How it Works

Traditionally, Bluetooth connects one phone to one pair of headphones. Auracast™ is different—it allows one audio source (like our church sound system) to broadcast to everyone at once.

Why It's Helpful

- **Clarity:** It delivers crisp, clear sound directly into your ears, cutting out background noise or echoes in the room.
- **Accessibility:** It provides a modern way for those with hearing loss to engage fully with the service.
- **Ease of Use:** There is no need to borrow special headsets; you can use the devices you already own and find comfortable.

How to Use It

If you have compatible hearing aids or earbuds, along with a smartphone that supports Auracast™, you can "tune in" to our service's audio directly through your device. It's as simple as scanning a QR code when you enter the sanctuary. Look for these signs and scan the code with your smartphone camera:







If your hearing aid app is compatible, follow the prompts on your screen to connect to our First St. Charles stream. If you do not have a compatible app, you will see a message that says "no useable data found." See a staff member if you need assistance.

As this technology becomes more common in smartphones and hearing aids over the coming years, we are excited to offer it as a way to make our worship even more welcoming and accessible for everyone!





May & June

				13 <i>Thursday</i>	14 <i>Friday</i>	15 <i>Saturday</i>
				SPIRE CHOIR	WALKING GROUP	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
<i>Sunday</i> 17	<i>Monday</i> 18	<i>Tuesday</i> 19	<i>Wednesday</i> 20	<i>Thursday</i> 21	<i>Friday</i> 22	<i>Saturday</i> 23
 YOUTH VOL TRAINING YOUTH GROUP	GRIEFSHARE	 COMMUNITY CARE 55+ BINGO LGBTQ+	CHOIR		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
<i>Sunday</i> 24	<i>Monday</i> 25	<i>Tuesday</i> 26	<i>Wednesday</i> 27	<i>Thursday</i> 28	<i>Friday</i> 29	<i>Saturday</i> 30
YOUTH GROUP	MEMORIAL DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	CAREGIVERS LEADERSHIP BOARD MEETING [AT] 7PM	 SPIRE CHOIR	WALKING GROUP	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
<i>Sunday</i> 31	<i>Monday</i> 1	<i>Tuesday</i> 2	<i>Wednesday</i> 3	<i>Thursday</i> 4	<i>Friday</i> 5	<i>Saturday</i> 6
YOUTH GROUP	June GRIEFSHARE		CHOIR		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
<i>Sunday</i> 7	<i>Monday</i> 8	<i>Tuesday</i> 9	<i>Wednesday</i> 10	<i>Thursday</i> 11	<i>Friday</i> 12	<i>Saturday</i> 13
 YOUTH GROUP	GRIEFSHARE		SPIRE	WALKING GROUP	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	