

THE SPIRE

October 8, 2025



You know, October is seriously the best! There's plenty of football and baseball season is heading towards the World Series. The leaves are changing, and the air feels cooler, crisper, and refreshing. The squirrels outside my window seem to be getting ready for winter, either moving or stocking up on food. Plus, it's harvest time, so the farmers are busy getting the land ready for the cold months ahead.

Seriously, it's like God's just showing off with all the beauty around us! And who doesn't love those cozy sweaters and hoodies as we sit by the firepit warm drink in hand? Oh, and of course, Halloween is a big deal this month too, with kids in cute (and sometimes scary) costumes and permission to eat the candy because you have it.

October is also the time in church when we start thinking about being good stewards and planning our giving for the next year.

Did you know that giving is a form of worship? It's a real way to show God love and respect and to thank God for all the blessings he has given us. When we give a part of what we earn, it helps us be content with what we have, keeps us from getting too caught up in material things, and helps us keep our focus on God's plan. Plus, it's a good reminder that everything we have really belongs to God, and we're just taking care of it for him.

The Bible tells us to give with a happy heart, not because we have to, but because we want to! Remember what it says in 2 Corinthians 9:7: "Everyone should give whatever they have decided in their heart. They shouldn't give with hesitation or because of pressure. God loves a cheerful giver." Paul was encouraging the church in Corinth to give to his collection, so there would be help for those in Jerusalem who didn't have enough.

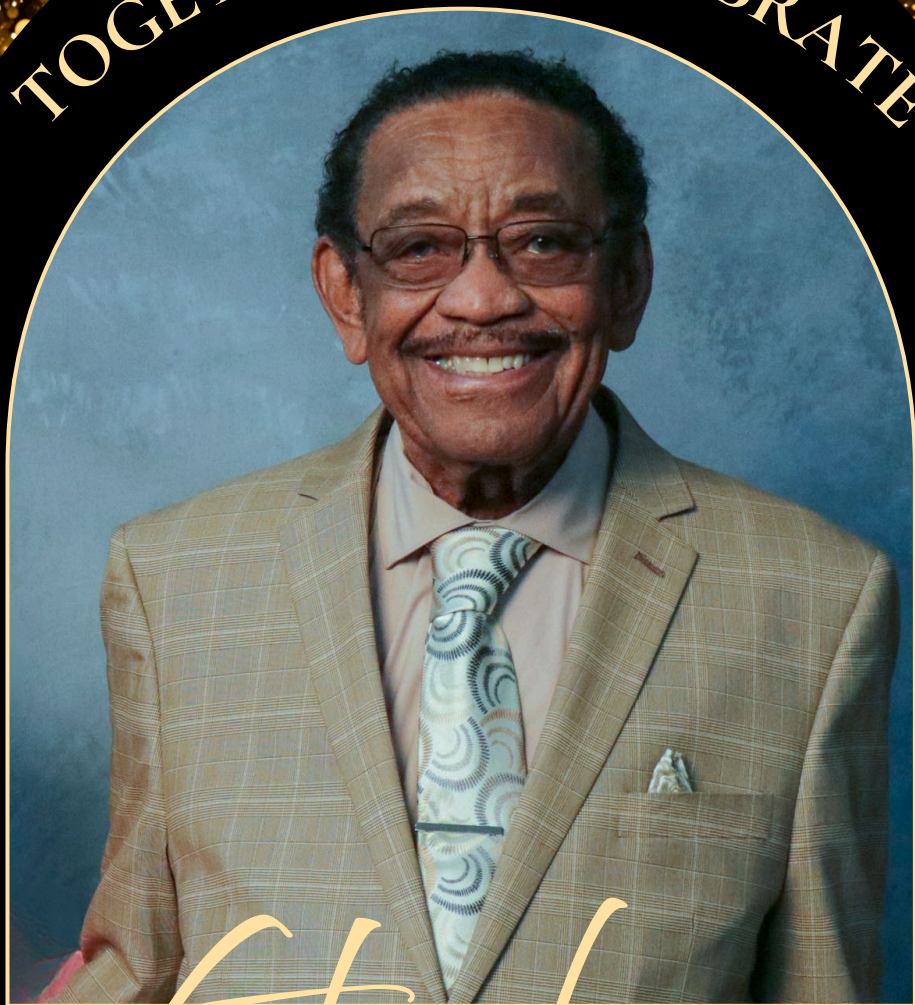
A "cheerful giver" is someone who gives with a joyful and willing spirit. It's about giving with a happy attitude because you genuinely want to be generous and help others. And the awesome part is knowing that our giving helps create ministry in our community.

Keep an eye on your mailboxes this week because the pledge cards for next year are coming! I want to encourage you to pray about what you will give for 2026 and how we can all work together to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Pledge Sunday is coming up on October 26th.

Thanks for all the love you show our church, our ministries, and our community.

**In Christ's love and grace,
Pastor Kim Mitchell**

TOGETHER WE CELEBRATE



Tom Stephenson's

100TH

BIRTHDAY

LOOK

AT THESE FAMILIAR FACES, CRUSHING IT IN OUR COMMUNITY!



DISTINGUISHED PIRATE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Carol Owens

Class of 1970 - Teacher/Supporter

SCSD EMPLOYEE - 32 YEARS
MUSIC TEACHER - HARDIN MIDDLE SCHOOL &
ST. CHARLES HIGH SCHOOL

RING OF EXCELLENCE AWARD - ST. CHARLES
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MINISTER OF MUSIC - UMC - 12 YEARS
CURRENT FHSD BOARD MEMBER

St. Charles High School



Distinguished Pirate Hall of Fame Inductee

THOMAS STEPHENSON

Franklin High School

Army Veteran

1st Black letter carrier in SCC

34 years of service at McDonnell
Douglas

Commander of Post 457 - Kiwanis Club
LG & President

1st United Methodist Church usher &
President of Methodist Men

A poster for Children's Sunday School with a pink grid background. The title 'Children's Sunday School' is in pink, blue, and yellow. A yellow crayon with a face is at the top right. Two circular photos show a boy and a girl. Text boxes specify the schedule and locations for different grade levels.

Children's Sunday School

Sundays at 10am
Beginning Sept. 7th!

Kindergarten-2nd grade
upstairs in the gym

3rd-5th grade
upstairs in clownfish room

A poster for Youth Sundae School with a pink background and confetti. It features an illustration of a sundae with a cherry. The title is in large, stylized letters. Text boxes provide details for 6th-12th grade students.

“youth sundae” school

6TH-12TH GRADE

Sundays at 10am downstairs
in the blue youth room
beginning Sept. 7th

EARN
Ice Cream

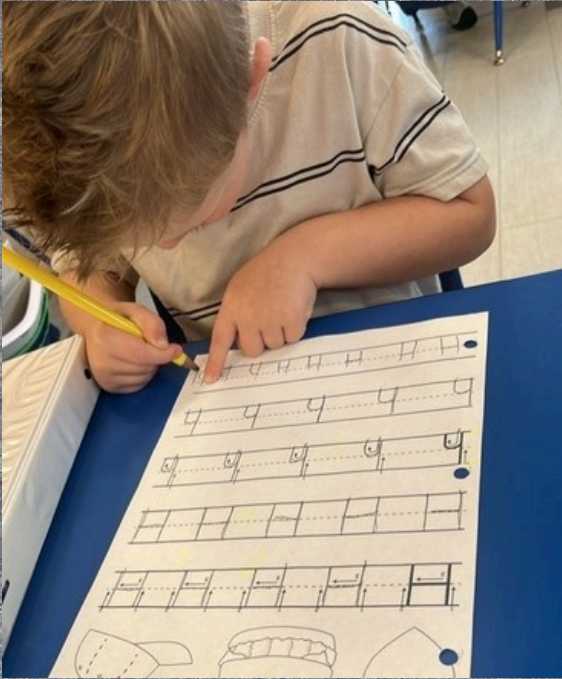
A poster for Youth Group with a dark blue background and colorful abstract patterns. The title 'YOUTH GROUP' is in large yellow and white letters. A yellow circle highlights the grade levels, and the meeting time is at the bottom.

YOUTH GROUP

Grades 6th-12th

Sundays at 5pm

OUR PRE-KINDERGARTEN CLASS IS BUSY PREPPING FOR KINDERGARTEN!



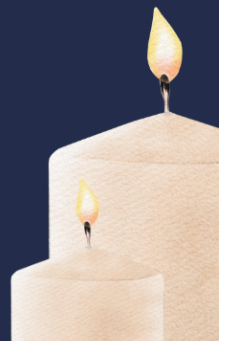
All Saints' Day

A day to remember all those saints who have passed

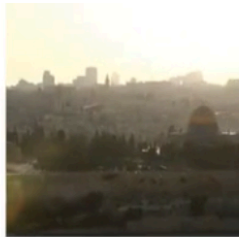
November 2nd

If you would like to honor a special person who is no longer with us, register for a bell of remembrance.

Stop by the table in the atrium, call 636-947-0066 or visit our website: firststcharlesumc.org



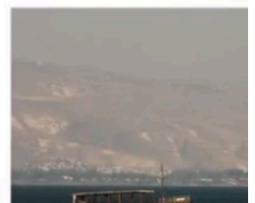
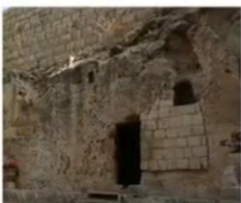
SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



THE NEW TESTAMENT YOU NEVER KNEW

**TAUGHT BY
KATIE ROAM!**

AN 8-WEEK ADULT STUDY
SUNDAYS @ 10 AM IN ROOM 105 (CHOIR WING)



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES



GRIEF SHARE®

A 13-week group designed to offer healing, hope,
and support on your journey of grief.

Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 pm beginning August 18th

If interested contact Rev. Debby: dbartley@firststcharlesumc.org

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

LGBTQ+ SMALL GROUP

BRING YOUR OWN DINNER AND
ENJOY A TIME OF FELLOWSHIP!

OCTOBER 21ST
CATHERINE COLLIER ROOM
@ FIRST ST. CHARLES
6:00 PM

TINY TOT TIME

10/19 [AT] 4PM 🍁
paint pumpkins at church

11/16 [AT] 4PM 🍰
friendsgiving at church

12/10 [AT] 5:45PM 
hayride through O'Fallon lights



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

WALKING GROUP

OCTOBER 9TH & 23RD
[AT] 7:30AM

A person is walking on a concrete pier or walkway. In the background, there is a body of water and a city skyline with several tall buildings. The sky is clear and blue.

MEET IN THE ATRIUM

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Renew and reaffirm your confirmation into the
Christian tradition in a seven-week series led by
Pastor Kim

THURSDAY NIGHTS AT 6:30PM BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 18TH



SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

Showers of Blessing

OCTOBER



SHOWERS
VOLUNTEER SIGN UP

- 🦇 TOOTHBRUSHES
- 🦇 MEN'S JEANS → SIZES 30, 32, 34
- 🦇 MEN'S & WOMEN'S BELTS
- 🦇 HOT HANDS
- 🦇 HAND SANITIZER



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



October 55+ LUNCH

October 14th at 11:30am

Menu: Sheet pan Smoked Sausage and Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Cornbread, Desserts, and Drinks.

Speaker: Author Valerie Kienzie will present her book "Lost St. Louis" which explores the forgotten landmarks and historical sites of St. Louis.

Cost: \$18/per person.



Looking for a Quilting Group?

A Quilt in Time

is a new quilting group that meets at church Tuesdays from 12:30-3:30pm

They make individual and group quilts for a variety of charities and would love to have new faces join them!

SMALL GROUPS & MINISTRIES

FISH PANTRY

ITEMS NEEDED:

CAN PUMPKIN, CAN POTATOES, CAN PASTA, OATMEAL, CAN CHILI, SPAGHETTI SAUCE, SPAGHETTI NOODLES, HAMBURGER HELPER, STUFFING



Little Food Pantry

ITEMS NEEDED:

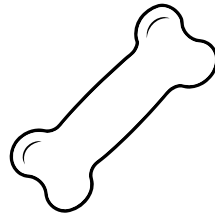
mac n cheese cups - fruit cups - tuna packs - individual peanut butter cups - ritz crackers - chili - canned pasta (spaghetti o's/ravioli) - granola bars - pudding cups - oatmeal packages - peanut butter crackers



All canned items need to have pull-tab tops

All creatures big & small were given special blessings at our annual Blessing of the Animals service.





FIRST ST. CHARLES
YOUTH PRESENT:

HALLOWEEN TRIVIA NIGHT

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24TH

DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

TRIVIA STARTS AT 7 PM

\$25/person
\$200/table

PROCEEDS BENEFIT NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

WE NEED:



VOLUNTEERS



AUCTION ITEMS



YOU!



BRING:

BEST COSTUME

YOUR FRIENDS

**YOUR TRIVIA
KNOWLEDGE!**

**CONTACT BETH TO PURCHASE
YOUR TICKET/TABLE!**

BKELLEY@FIRSTSTCHARLESUMC.ORG

October & November

			8 SPIRE CHOIR	9 thursday WALKING GROUP! ADULT CONFIRM	10 friday CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	11 saturday
12 sunday	13 monday GRIEFSHARE	14 tuesday 55+ GRIEFSHARE	15 wednesday CHOIR	16 thursday ADULT CONFIRM	17 friday CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	18 saturday
19 sunday TINY TOT TIME	20 monday GRIEFSHARE	21 tuesday COMMUNITY CARE LGBTQ+ CAREGIVERS	22 wednesday SPIRE CHOIR	23 thursday WALKING GROUP! ADULT CONFIRM	24 friday TRIVIA NIGHT!!!	25 saturday
26 sunday	27 monday GRIEFSHARE	28 tuesday	29 wednesday CHOIR	30 thursday ADULT CONFIRM	31 friday CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	1 saturday
2 sunday ALL SAINT'S DAY	3 monday GRIEFSHARE	4 tuesday	5 wednesday CHOIR	6 thursday	7 friday CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8 saturday



*Lord, our Lord,
how majestic is your
name throughout the earth!*

PSALM 8:1a (CEB)