

St. Paul UCC



Old Monroe, Missouri



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

*“God is able to provide you with every blessing, so that
having all sufficiency in all things at all times,
you may abound in every good work.”
(2 Corinthians 9:8)*

LISTING INFORMATION

Church name: St. Paul United Church of Christ

Street address: 903 Meier Road, Old Monroe, Mo 63369

Supplemental web links: stpauluccom.com, Facebook

Conference: Missouri MidSouth conference

Association: Eastern Association of Missouri MidSouth Conference

UCC Conference or Association Staff Contact Person:

Rev. Damien Lake

Associate Conference Minister

Cell: 616-723-5468 Office: 314-918-2605

damien@mmsucc.org

Summary Ministry Description:

St. Paul is a church with a strong, Bible-based Christian worship service, which provides a warm and caring faith community for our members, while seeking to bring people from outside the church into the Christian faith. We want to incorporate technology into our worship services and outreach, revitalize our church missions, enhance our music ministries including the return of our choir, and make better use of our facilities for the benefit of the community.



**What we value about living in our area:**

St. Paul is located in a peaceful, rural setting, halfway between the small towns of Old Monroe and Winfield, yet with easy access to larger urban and suburban cities. Our membership is seventy-two with an average weekly attendance of twenty.

Position Title:

Pastor

Position Duration:

St. Paul is seeking a settled, part-time UCC Pastor. We are prepared to negotiate a flexible compensation package that meets Conference guidelines.

SCOPE OF WORK

The pastor called to this position will prepare and lead Sunday and special worship services to include scripture study, crafting of liturgy and bulletin, sermon preparation, guiding and sometimes finding liturgists, planning of music in coordination with musical volunteers, preaching and offering of prayers.

They will assist in faith formation and vitality through prayer, Bible study, service, identifying helpful resources and opportunities and helping lay persons take advantage of them. In collaboration with lay people, provide pastoral care to those who are sick, elderly, or grieving. As time permits, participate in wider church activities such as Conference and Association meetings. Engage in study and prayer to increase faith and to improve skills so as to lead, teach and preach better, energize, and deepen spiritual connections and faith understandings in all they do.

Core Competencies:

St. Paul is looking for a minister who is articulate and inspirational, empathetic, and compassionate, caring and encouraging.

COMPENSATION AND SUPPORT

Benefits:

Salary plus Benefits

St. Paul is willing to offer \$30,000 to \$40,000 per year, based on experience, for a half-time pastor. There is a parsonage available on the church grounds. We are also open to discussing other living arrangements.

Possible benefits that we are willing to negotiate include flexible scheduling, dental insurance, vision insurance, equity fund if parsonage is used, continuing education funds, sick days (number based on UCC guidelines) and 2 weeks of vacation per year. We are willing to negotiate the terms of a sabbatical.

In addition to nearby Eden Seminary, Eastern Association has a clergy support group and a Tuesday morning conference group. St. Paul will support a candidate's bi-vocational employment.

WHO IS GOD CALLING TO MINISTER WITH US?

Describe the ministry goals you envision your next minister co-collaborating with the congregation to achieve.

We envision the new minister providing leadership and vision, helping expand the congregation, build outreach ministries, and spread the word about our ministries to the community at large.

Describe how your vision of the minister you are now seeking will assist the congregation in making an impact beyond its walls.

Our minister is encouraged to be active within the community and develop relationships with other Churches in the area.

Specify language requirements or culturally specific capacities preferred in a next ministerial leader, and why those matter to the congregation's sense of calling.

N/A

Based on what you have learned about who your church is, who your church's neighbor is, and who God is calling the church to become, describe four areas of excellence from *The Marks of Faithful & Effective Authorized Ministry* that your next minister will display to further equip the congregation's ministry in these areas.

1. Exhibit a spiritual foundation and ongoing spiritual practice.
2. Build transformational leadership skills.
3. Engage sacred stories and traditions.
4. Strengthen inter- and intra- personal assets.
5. Nurture UCC identity.

WHO IS GOD CALLING US TO BECOME?

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."
(Matthew 22:37 NRSV)

Who is God calling you to become as a congregation?

We strive to become a Church where people feel comfortable coming as they are to receive the Word of God and develop a personal relationship with God.

Describe how God is calling you to reach out to address the emerging challenges and opportunities of your community and congregation.

We fully embrace our Church motto "The Church that Dares to Care." Within the past year we have changed our food pantry hours to better accommodate those in the community who work and need food. We continue to research other food pantries for more ideas. Our outreach to the community includes a food pantry, supporting the Asbury United Methodist Church camping program, local schools' Bright Futures program, monthly stewardship offerings, Camp MoVal participation, taking care of members in need, and participating in support of disaster relief.

WHO ARE WE NOW?

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

CONGREGATIONAL REFLECTIONS

Describe your congregation's life of faith.

The avowed purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this Church Universal; to render loving service toward all people; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

Describe several strengths or positive qualities of your congregation.

St. Paul has a strong community outreach and is a known presence in the community. We have many long-term members who are talented and care about each other. Our physical structure consists of a sanctuary, fellowship hall, and education building that is connected by an atrium. In addition, there is a free-standing parsonage, a storage barn, and a historic schoolhouse.

Describe what worship is like when your congregation gathers.

We worship in the sanctuary. Our services are centered on scripture and the lectionary and are very traditional.

Describe the educational program/faith formation vision of your church.

There is an adult study group that has discussed the book “Bread of Angels” by Barbara Brown Taylor. When needed, Confirmation class is provided, and Vacation Bible School is held.

Describe how your congregation is organized for ministry and mission.

St. Paul has a governing Council and various committees responsible for the activities of the Church. The committees report to the Council via a liaison. Information is communicated through a monthly Newsletter, “The Messenger,” weekly email, Sunday bulletin, announcements before service, and a prayer chain.

- **When it comes to decision-making, how many hours are spent in meetings per month?**

The council meets monthly, with each meeting lasting about one hour. The committees meet as needed to support the Church calendar.

- **Think of a time when action had to be taken quickly, for example when a crisis or disaster occurred. How was that accomplished?**

When action needs to be taken, the council will meet via phone or in person. Any decision or information is passed to the congregation via the prayer chain.

- **Can you provide the next minister with a copy of an organization structure, bylaws and/or annual report to further explain the patterns of the church’s activity and governance?**

A copy of the Church constitution, committee structure, and annual report can be provided upon request.

11-YEAR REPORT

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST ELEVEN YEAR CHURCH PROFILE BASED ON DATA REPORTED IN UCC YEARBOOKS



Church#: 381080

Assoc: 436

Schedule: 0

Saint Paul UCC

Old Monroe

MO

63369

YEAR	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	CONFIRMATION	CONFESSION	TRANSFER OR REAFFIRM	DEATHS OR TRANS OUT	OTHER LOSSES	NET MEMBS ADDS-REMOVED
2012	106	53	22	2	9	2	2	4	7
2013	101	49	16	3	1	0	1	8	-5
2014	94	48	27	0	0	0	2	5	-7
2015	90	44	13	0	3	0	2	5	-4
2016	92	42	10	1	0	2	0	1	2
2017	95	41	16	1	2	2	0	2	3
2018	93	38	11	1	1	0	1	3	-2
2019	85	38	9	0	0	0	2	6	-8
2020	79	27	9	0	0	0	6	0	-6
2021	76	22	4	1	0	0	4	0	-3
2022	72	23	6	0	0	0	4	0	-4

YEAR	CURRENT EXPENSES	CAPITAL PAYMENTS	BASIC SUPPORT	TOT OTHER UCC GIVING	TOTAL OCWM	OTHER GIFTS	WIDER MISSION	BASIC SUPP% CURR LOCAL	TOTAL EXPEND	PLEDGES AND OFFERINGS
2012	\$127,272	\$0	\$389	\$520	\$909	\$635	\$1,544	0.31	\$128,816	\$99,055
2013	\$141,789	\$0	\$180	\$2,172	\$2,352	\$3,112	\$5,464	0.13	\$147,253	\$106,910
2014	\$122,167	\$0	\$335	\$3,142	\$3,477	\$2,564	\$6,041	0.27	\$128,208	\$90,883
2015	\$154,301	\$0	\$131	\$2,492	\$2,623	\$2,317	\$4,940	0.08	\$159,241	\$95,257
2016	\$150,412	\$0	\$105	\$1,925	\$2,030	\$5,656	\$7,686	0.07	\$158,098	\$91,648
2017	\$137,122	\$134,120	\$134	\$741	\$875	\$2,269	\$3,144	0.10	\$140,266	\$96,984
2018	\$139,333	\$58,925	\$186	\$1,664	\$1,850	\$4,535	\$6,385	0.13	\$145,718	\$101,911
2019	\$139,333	\$0	\$173	\$605	\$778	\$0	\$778	0.12	\$140,111	\$0
2020	\$134,425	\$0	\$100	\$2,542	\$2,642	\$3,230	\$5,872	0.07	\$140,297	\$10,332
2021	\$134,530	\$0	\$125	\$2,720	\$2,845	\$5,424	\$8,269	0.09	\$142,799	\$92,800
2022	\$116,321	\$0	\$100	\$1,367	\$1,467	\$5,110	\$6,577	0.09	\$122,898	\$72,998

% CHANGE	MEMBERS	AVG WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	CHR ED/ FAITH FORM	TOTAL ADDITIONS	TOTAL REMOVALS	CURR LOCAL EXPENSES	TOTAL OCWM	TOTAL EXPENDITURE
2017-2022	-24.21	-43.90	-62.50	-100.00	100.00	-15.17	67.66	-12.38
2012-2022	-32.08	-56.60	-72.73	-100.00	-33.33	-8.60	61.39	-4.59

CONGREGATIONAL DEMOGRAPHICS

Describe those who participate in your church.

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
Number of active members:	72	X
Number of active non-members:	3	X
Total of church participants (sum of the numbers above):	75	X

Number of total participants who have been in the church:

		Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)
More than 10 years:	69	X
Less than 10, more than 5 years:	4	X
Less than 5 years:	2	X

Number of total participants by age:

0-11	12-17	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	<i>Are these numbers an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
	1	4	7	4	6	13	23	16	X

Number of adults in various household types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Single adults under 35:	7	X
Households with minors:	6	X
Single adults age 35-65:	7	X
Joint households with no minors:	22	X
Single adults over 65:	11	X

Education level of adult participants by percentage:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
High school:	100	X
College:	20	X
Graduate School:	5	X
Specialty Training:	10	X
Other (please specify):		

Number of adults in various employment types:

		<i>Is this number an estimate? (check if yes)</i>
Adults who are employed:	30	X
Adults who are retired:	39	X
Adults who are not fully employed:	0	X

Describe the range of occupations of working adults in the congregation:

The range of occupations within the congregation are farmers, paraprofessional, county government, IT Support, retired, volunteers, construction, service, teachers, white collar, and manufacturing.

Describe the mix of ethnic heritages in your congregation, and the overall racial make-up. Most UCC congregations tend to describe themselves as “diverse.” Yet, the vast majority of UCC congregations are mono-cultural. What does diversity mean in your context?

The ethnic heritage is primarily German. The diversity comes in through work background and family environment.

Has your congregation recently had a conversation about welcoming diversity, or do you plan to hold one in the near future (perhaps using, for example, the Welcoming Diversity Inventory)?

Please note the date. Comment after the exercise:

Not at this time.

PARTICIPATION AND STAFFING

Ways of Gathering	Estimated number of people involved in attendance	Who plans each of the listed gatherings? <i>(list any and all worship planners, such as various lay leaders, pastors, musicians, other staff)</i>
Adult Groups or Classes	8	Pastor
Baptisms <i>(number last year)</i>	0	Pastor
Children’s Groups or Classes	0	Christian Education Committee
Christmas Eve and Easter Worship	25	Pastor and Worship Committee
Church-wide Meals	20 - 30	Various Committees
Choirs and Music Groups	4	Choir Director
Church-based Bible Study	0	Pastor
Communion <i>(served how often?)</i>	20 - monthly	Pastor and Worship Committee
Community Meals	1	Members of the congregation
Confirmation <i>(number confirmed last year)</i>	0	Pastor
Drama or Dance Program	1	Christian Education
Funerals <i>(number last year)</i>	3	Pastor with family
Intergenerational Groups	1	Members of the Congregation
Outdoor Worship	0	Pastor and Worship Committee
Prayer or Meditation Groups	0	Members of the Congregation

Public Advocacy Work	0	N/A
Retreats	0	N/A
Theology or Bible Programs in the Community	0	N/A
Weddings (<i>number last year</i>)	0	Pastor
Worship (time slot: 10:30 AM)	22	Pastor and Worship Committee
Worship (time slot: _____)		N/A
Young Adult Groups or Classes	0	Members of the Congregation
Youth Groups or Classes	0	Christian Education
Other (VBS)	0	Christian Education

List all current staff, including ministers. Exclude the position you are seeking to fill. Indicate which staff person serves as head of staff.

Staff Position	Head of Staff?	Compensation (full time, part time, volunteer)	Supervised by	Length of Tenure for current person in this position
Administrative Assistant	Pastor & Council	Part Time	Pastor & Council	16 Years
Organists	Pastor & Council	Part Time	Pastor & Council	Various years

REFLECTION

After reviewing the congregational demographics and activities above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's overall ministry?

We do a lot with very few people!

CHURCH FINANCES

Current annual income (dollars used during most recent fiscal year)

Source	Amount
Annual Offerings and Pledged Giving	\$72,997.71

Endowment Proceeds (<i>as permitted within spending policy, such as a cap of typically 4.5%-5% on total return</i>)	\$0
Endowment Draw (<i>beyond what is permitted by spending policy, "drawing down the principal"</i>)	\$0
Fundraising Events	\$0
Gifts Designated for a Specific Purpose	\$0
Grants	\$0
Rentals of Church Building (Farm Ground)	\$3010
Rentals of Church Parsonage	\$7375
Support from Related Organizations	\$0
Transfers from Special Accounts (Bank stock Dividends)	\$4620
Other (specify): (Bancshares Tax Distribution)	\$1680
Other (specify): (One time Banc Stock Payment)	\$37503.51
TOTAL	\$127,186.22

Current annual expenses (dollars budgeted for most recent fiscal year):

\$114,446.00. Will provide a copy of the budget upon request.

Considering total budgeted expenses for the year, compare total ministerial support. What is the percentage?

55%

Has the church ever failed to pay its financial obligations to a minister of the church?

No

Is your church 5-for-5, i.e., does it include each of the following contributions during the church year?

- ☒ Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM – Basic Support)
- ☒ One Great Hour of Sharing
- ☒ Strengthen the Church
- ☒ Neighbors in Need
- ☒ Christmas Fund

In what way is OCWM (Basic Support) gathered? If calculated as a percentage of operating budget, what is that percentage?

Voluntary donations.

What is the church's current indebtedness?

Total amount of loan debt:

\$0

Does your church have an endowment?

Yes

What is the market value of the assets?

\$38,135.11

Are funds drawn as needed, regularly, or under certain circumstances?

The interest earned is withdrawn yearly to support missions.

What is the percentage rate of draw (last year, compared to 5 years ago)?

N/A

Describe draw on endowment, if any, to meet operating budget expenses for the most recent year and the past five years:

N/A

At the current rate of draw, how long might the endowment last?

N/A

Please comment on the above calculations or estimates:

The above information is based on a Policy for Undesignated Wills. This policy is under review.

Other Assets

Reserves (savings):

\$0.00

Investments (other than endowment):

\$754261.03

Does your church have a parsonage?

Yes



Church Parsonage

Fair market rental value of the parsonage: \$1400

How is the parsonage used? Currently rented

Street / City / State / Zip: 897 Meier Road, Old Monroe, Mo 63369

Finished square footage: 1848 sq. ft. (approximately)

Number of Bedrooms, Number of Bathrooms: 3 bedrooms, 1 ½ bathrooms

Assessed real estate value: @ \$300,000

Available for minister residence: Yes

Expected minister residence: Negotiable

Condition of structure, systems, and appliances:

1950s ranch structurally sound and working appliances.

Entity in the church responsible for review and needed repairs:

Grounds committee.

Describe all buildings owned by the church:

The church was built in 1881 and is an all-brick structure that is heated and air conditioned. A Fellowship Hall built in 1950, heated and air conditioned with a fully functioning kitchen and one restroom.

An Education Building built in 1975, heated and air conditioned, with a fully functioning kitchen. The church offices, food pantry, library, and classrooms, are located here. There are four restrooms in this building.

All three buildings are connected by an atrium that has two restrooms and is used as a social gathering space.

There is a pavilion that is used for outside gatherings.

There is a barn that is used as a storage space.

Also, there is a historic schoolhouse that is used by a local Boy Scout Troop.



Historic Schoolhouse

Describe non-owned buildings or space used or rented by the church:

N/A

Which spaces are accessible to wheelchairs?

The sanctuary, fellowship hall, education building, and atrium are wheelchair accessible. The pulpit, parsonage, barn, and schoolhouse are not.

Reflection: After reviewing the church's finances and assets described above, what does this information reflect about your congregation's mission and ministry?

We exercise fiscal responsibility while using our resources to make our Church welcoming, more accessible and a place for people to gather.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Name one to three significant happenings in the history of your church that have shaped the identity of your congregation. Add the most important event in the life of your church in the past 10 years.

Significant happenings that have shaped the church are as follows:

- In 1920, the church began offering one service a month in English, prior to that the services were done in German.
- The merging of the four denominations into the United Church of Christ.
- The floods of 1973, 1993, 2008, and 2019.
- COVID

Describe a specific change your church has managed in the recent past.

The aging of the congregation and resulting loss of members.

Every church has conflict, some minor, some larger. "Where two or three are gathered, there will be disagreement...." Describe your congregation's values and practices when it comes to conflict.

We do not have a formal procedure for resolving conflicts. If the minister is involved, the Pastor-Parish Relations Committee is involved. If there is a conflict among members, the Church Council helps to resolve.

Ministerial History (include all previous ministerial staff for the past 30 years)

Staff member's name	Years of service	UCC Standing (Y/N)
Rev. Michael Kasevich	2008 - 2022	Y
Rev Jeanne Lischer	2000 – 2005	Y
Rev. Grant Groves-Speece	1997 – 1999	Y
Rev. Jimmie Watson	1994 – 1996	Y
Rev. Gary Schulte	1982 – 1993	Y

Comment on what your church has learned about itself and its relationship with persons who provided ministerial leadership:

St. Paul has come out of a long-term ministry that provided a consistent style of leadership during some difficult times. We have learned that we are a very different congregation than we were in the past. St. Paul, today, needs a leader who can relate well with a congregation that needs assistance to set and achieve goals in accordance to who we want to be.

Has any past leader left under pressure or by involuntary termination?

Yes

Has your church been involved in a Situational Support Consultation?

No

Has a past pastor been the subject of a Fitness Review while at your church?

No

WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” (Matthew 22:39 NRSV)

COMMUNITY VISION

How do the relationships and activities of your congregation extend outward in service and advocacy?

In recent years, our ministers have been a member of Southeast Lincoln County and Troy Ministerial Alliance, and St. Charles United Ministries. The church currently has a food pantry, supports the Bright Futures program at the local schools, supports Camp MoVal, and has a Being A Neighbor fund. In the past, we have hosted an ecumenical Vacation Bible School, had a Soup Kitchen, and a youth group participated in the St. Charles United Ministries Youth Group.



St. Paul UCC Food Pantry

Describe your congregation's participation in meetings, relationships and activities connecting the wider United Church of Christ (association / conference / national setting).

- Delegates to the Eastern Missouri Association and Missouri MidSouth Conference meetings
- Counselors at Camp MoVal
- Rural Church Ecumenical Conference

- Boundary training

Many local churches love to tell the story of what they are doing in the community to transform lives. Some have identified certain aspects of their witness into the wider community using language shared with other UCC congregations. (Find more information as desired at ucc.org.) Check any statements below that apply to your UCC faith community.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accessible to All (A2A) | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Mission Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creation Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> Open and Affirming (ONA) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economic Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> WISE Congregation for Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faithful and Welcoming | <input type="checkbox"/> Other UCC designations: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> God Is Still Speaking (GISS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Designations from other denominations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Border and Immigrant Justice | <input type="checkbox"/> None |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-cultural/Multi-racial (I'M) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Just Peace | |

Reflect on what the above statement(s) mean(s) to your community. Is your congregation interested in working toward any of the above statements of witness in the near future?

The congregation would like to remain a visible presence in the local community.

Describe your congregation's participation in ecumenical and interfaith activities (with other denominations and religious groups, local and regional).

In recent years, our ministers have been a member of southeast Lincoln County and Troy Ministerial Alliance, and St. Charles United Ministries. The church currently has a food pantry, supports the Bright Futures program at the local schools, supports Camp MoVal, and has a Being A Neighbor fund. In the past, we have hosted an ecumenical Vacation Bible School, had a Soup Kitchen, and a youth group participated in the St. Charles United Ministries Youth Group.

If your congregation has a mission statement, how does that mission statement compare to the actual time spent engaging in different activities? Think of the range of activities from time spent gathering, to governance, to time spent going out.

Mission statement: The avowed purpose of this church shall be to worship God, to preach and teach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to celebrate the Sacraments; to realize Christian fellowship and unity within this church and the Church Universal; to render loving service toward all people; and to strive for righteousness, justice, and peace.

We worship, we preach and teach, committees meet various amounts of time to achieve our mission statement.

Reflect on the scope of work assigned to your pastor(s). How is their community ministry and their ministry in and on behalf of the wider church accounted for in the congregation's expectations on their time?

The pastor will be expected to report to the Church Council their community and wider church involvement. We recognize a part time minister will be limited in this type of involvement.

How do your congregation's internal demographics compare or contrast to a) the neighborhoods adjacent to your church, and b) other neighborhoods with which your church connects?

We are an older congregation within an area that has seen an influx of younger families.

How are the demographics of the community currently shaping ministry, or not?

We anticipate an increased use of our food pantry and are researching ideas for improvement.

What do you hear when you talk to community leaders and ask them what your church is known for?

The local school leaders and county Health Department say we are a church that responds to emergency needs within the community.

What do new people in the church say when asked what got them involved?

We do a lot of community outreach, there is a sense of fellowship within the congregation, and we have a traditional worship service.

REFERENCES

REFERENCE 1

Jane Kelley / Position / Setting
(636-295-5043/ Pulpit Supply)

Friday, April 7, 2023

To Whom it May Concern:

Good Morning! My name is Pastor Jane Kelley and I have been granted Standing as a Retired Commissioned minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) by the Mid-America Region. I am authorized to perform all duties which normally pertain to the Christian Ministry.

I am a congregant, an elder and Pastor Emerita at the Troy First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Troy, Missouri.

I have served in the pulpit of the St.Paul United Church of Christ in Old Monroe, Missouri for many years; serving as a Pulpit Supply by request of the church when their pastor was on vacation, sabbatical, in illness, etc.

It is my honor to speak to the beauty of this congregation and the church that stands in the country, surrounded by fields and attended by a flock who truly follows their shepherd. The people's one foundation is Jesus Christ, the Lord. The Mission is worthy as they work together to feed the hungry and be God's hands and feet in the community. They desire to offer more. They love children and work towards Bible School Adventure and Sunday School with hopes to build a better world through Jesus Christ. They pursue families and have a heart for meaningful hymns, worship, prayer and fellowship. They fully embrace the special holy events throughout the year; Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week events, Easter, Pentecost, The Trinity, And Thanksgiving.

They offer devotion books and encourage individuals to worship daily and grow in a personal relationship with hopes that confirmation and baptism will be celebrated with much joy and love.

Finding a Pastor to serve and help them pursue their heart's desires is currently relevant to continuing the work of St.Paul UCC. I, personally write this reference on Good Friday and look forward to Pentecost!

*"Lord, I Pray that there is a candidate that You will provide through the Holy Spirit and I pray that this church, St.Paul U.C.C. in Old Monroe, Missouri, will encounter fresh winds of the Spirit as God provides! Re-create the church, as you did on the day of Pentecost. Help the congregation to open to the new possibilities you offer through the servant you send to them. Come Holy Spirit to reform the church. May Thy Will be done, Lord. It is, in Jesus Name, that I Pray " **Amen.***

Respectfully Your Sister in Christ,

Pastor Jane Kelley

217 Bluffview Ct.
Troy, Missouri, 63379
Ph. 636-295-5943

REFERENCE 2

Susan Shumway/ Position / Setting

(636-544-6183/ Email / Relationship to the Congregation)

St Paul Recommendation Letter

Rev. Susan Shumway, Interim Pastor @ St Paul UCC - Old Monroe

uccsss@yahoo.com Cell 636-544-6183

I have been a member of the Eastern Association of the Missouri-Mid South Conference for over 17 years and had many interactions with St Paul. Some of these interactions included providing Pulpit Supply. The congregation was always welcoming and friendly. When I heard they were searching for an Interim Pastor I jumped at the opportunity, and appropriately looked forward to joining them in ministry.

St. Paul is located on the Eastern side of Lincoln County in the beautiful rural countryside. It has a rich history of being there for the community around it and adopted the motto "The Church that Dares to Care." Today this daring is witnessed in the Food Pantry. A recent recipient of the Food Pantry stated that it is her favorite as it's the only one she doesn't leave feeling shamed.

Like all mainline Protestant churches, St Paul is struggling to find it's way in the new church landscape and has had a decline in membership. There is an understanding that things need to change, and they are processing how they want the change to appear.

I would recommend St Paul as a good ministry setting for a prospective pastor.

REFERENCE 3

Randy Keeteman/

(314-960-9910/ No Email / Friend of the Congregation)

My name is Randy Keeteman. My wife and I live in Winfield, MO. This letter is in reference to St. Paul UCC church in Old Monroe, MO.

I have known this church all my life. I was born and raised in this church. My mom and dad went there, my grandparents went there. My dad, brother sister and I were all confirmed there. My wife and I were married there 54 years ago in April. Although my wife and I don't attend there anymore, we attend where our son is associate pastor, we still visit from time to time and have fond memories of St. Paul.

Some of the strengths of this church is its tremendous friendliness to anyone who walks thru its door. Many times, my wife and I have received get well cards or hospital visits or food brought to our house when we have had sickness. Some other great attributes is the way they serve the community. They conduct a food pantry for people in need, before COVID they had a soup kitchen, and they are always there to help in any way they can when parts of our community are affected by a flood.

The only thing I can think of [referencing area for improvement] might be a children's and youth ministry. Young people and youth are the future of our churches and our nation. Without the youth our churches (Christianity) is dying in America. This community needs evangelism.

Sincerely,

Randy Keeteman

57 Pieper Rd.

Winfield, MO 63389

314-960-9910

CLOSING PRAYER

1 Corinthians, Chapter 12, Vs. 12 – 31

12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ 13. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body-whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free-and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.....26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with *it*; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.....

STATEMENT OF CONSENT

The covenantal relationship between a church and those called by that church to serve as pastors and teachers and in other ministerial positions is strengthened when vital information is openly shared by covenantal partners. To that end, we attest that, to the best of our abilities, we have provided information in this profile that accurately represents our church. We have not knowingly withheld any information that would be helpful to candidates.

As the committee charged with the responsibility for identifying and recommending suitable new minister for our church, we have been authorized to share the information herein with potential candidates. We understand that a candidate may wish to secure further knowledge, information, and opinions about our church. We encourage a candidate to do so, recognizing that an open exchange of relevant information builds the foundation for continuing and healthy relationships between calling bodies and persons seeking a ministry position.

1. Which individuals and groups in the church contributed to the contents of this Local Church Profile?

The contents of this profile were gathered from surveying the congregation, input from the Church Council, church administrative assistant and the Search Committee.

2. Additional comments for interpreting the profile:

Data for the profile was obtained from various sources, historical church documents, discussions with Conference personnel, surveys and polling of the congregation, and conversations with the congregation. The Search Committee collected the information to prepare the final document. The Profile was reviewed by the Church Council and the congregation before being posted.

Signed:

Jane Windish

Search Committee Chair

Dated: 9-19-23

VALIDATION BY CONFERENCE/ASSOCIATION

The congregation is currently in good standing with the association / conference named.

Staff Comment: True

To the best of my knowledge, ministerial history information is complete.

Staff Comment: True

To the best of my knowledge, available church financial information is presented thoroughly.

Staff Comment: True

My signature below attests to the above three items.

Signature:



Name / Title: Rev. Damien Lake/Associate Conference Minister

Email: damien@mmsucc.org

Phone: 314-918-2605

Date: 9-19-23

This document is created
Church's Wider Mission
possible through the
all settings of the United

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



through support to Our
(OCWM) and is only
covenantal relationships of
Church of Christ.

“Jesus answered them, ‘Have faith in God!’” – Mark 11:22