

Paradise United Methodist Church
THE GREETER
November 2025

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Here we go into November, the last month of the church's liturgical calendar. The first Sunday of Advent happens on the last Sunday of this month. On the first Saturday of this month, we met with several other UMCs in the Northwest District for our yearly Charge Conference. All of our paperwork had been submitted, and it was at this "cluster" Charge Conference where it was finalized and voted upon.

One of those votes established the leadership team at PUMC, known as the Church Council. In what is called the Simplified Administrative Structure, all members of the PUMC Council serve on the core committees of Pastor/Parish Relations, Finance, and Trustees with a designated chairperson for each committee. Each Council member serves for three years with new three-year classes chosen each year.

Here is your PUMC Council for 2026:

Missy Heilman—Council Chair

Tracy Hassenpflug—Treasurer

Dave Jacobs—Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Ken Holmer—Finance Chair & Administrative Assistant

Larry Quigley—Alternate Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

Tooti & Marty Roe—Co-Trustees Chair

Flint Howard—Member at Large

Annette Stevenson—Member at Large

Scott Lang—Member at Large

Angie Vanderpool—Lay Leader, Pastor/Parish Relations Chair & Safe Gatherings Admin.

Kirk Jessen—Ex Officio member (AMen representative)

Valerie Goodman—Ex Officio member (Paradise Rubies representative)

Those on the Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (NLDC) are:

Randy Heilman, Nancy Fansher, Shay East and Pam Dickerson. (The pastor is chair of this committee, and the Lay Leader is a de facto member.)

Many thanks to all who have agreed to serve on this new Council as we continue the work of the Kingdom. We would be remiss if we did not say a biggo "Thanky!" to those going off the Council this year. They are: Shay East and Bill Schwartz. And a hardy "Well done!" to Susan Jessen and Shaunna Britton as they go off the NLDC.

As we follow the Holy Spirit's lead into a brand-new year, we will continue to listen for discernment and watch for opportunities to be disciples who make disciples of Christ for the transformation of the world!

Blessings on your heads!

Pastor Rob

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Adult Sunday School group is working on a new study, "Parables From the Backside: Bible Stories with a Twist" by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Please join us on Sunday mornings at 0945 in the fellowship hall area.

HEROES HOLIDAY MARKET

Valor Ranch is hosting a holiday market on Saturday, November 22nd, from 9:00a.m. to 2:00p.m. at North Star Church, which is located at 11250 N. Eastern, KCMO. The benefits of the market will go towards Valor Ranch's efforts to help homeless veterans.

NOVEMBER POTLUCK & CHURCH DECORATING

Join us for two fun activities on Sunday, November 23rd, the next Potluck right after the worship service followed by decorating the church for Advent. We would love for you to help! Please bring a dish and a friend if you like, the more the merrier! We will make sure the Chiefs game is on as well!

ADVENT MUSIC

Advent runs from November 30th through December 24th and we're calling for all those with musical talent to fill our Sundays during Advent with a joyful noise! If you are interested in sharing your musical talent with us during worship, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the sanctuary. We have a lot of wonderful talent in our congregation and we would love to hear all of it as we celebrate Advent and make our way to Christmas!

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Flint and Tracy Howard are hosting a holiday open house on Saturday, December 13th, from approximately 5:00 to 7:00p.m. and everyone is invited to stop in at their leisure. Their address is 18515 Briar Lane, Holt, MO 64048.

OUTREACH/MISSIONS

Your continued support of our missions collections as well as things you do outside the church for others is so much appreciated.

October Collections

Smithville Food Pantry: Bathroom tissue - 201, 8 pasta sauce and 10 pastas

Plattsburg Pantry: Monetary \$125

PUMC Shut-Ins: Monetary \$300

Valor Ranch: \$50

Smithville Pantry: \$26.05

World Communion Sunday: \$160

November Collections:

Smithville School District lunch debt

Smithville Pantry- Canned Soup

Trimble Pantry - monetary plus coat - gently used mens winter coats

Hats/gloves/scarves for Fishes & Loaves

Unhoused Meals

We will be providing 1 more meal for the unhoused through the Fishes & Loaves Ministry that Darcy & Scott are involved with. We will be providing a meal December 6.

We will be making leftover Turkey Shepherd's Pie, Bread, Fruit Cups and Pumpkin Dessert - It'll be a dump recipe for the main dish, so you will sign up for ingredients and we will assemble it the morning of December 6. A sign up sheet is available.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

As we move closer to winter, please remember if the weather isn't good to check the local TV stations and Facebook to make sure Sunday School and/or worship hasn't been cancelled. Also make sure your cell phone number is in ChurchTrac (see Tooti) as we are getting set up to send text messages. If you would prefer us to call you, then please contact Angie to make those arrangements.

CHURCH CONNECT APP

ChurchTrac, our church management software, has a new app, Church Connect, available through the Google Play Store or Apple App Store or you can ask Tooti to share via a QR code that you scan with your phone's camera. You can manage your giving, look at your giving history, link on the "media" to go to the online service or Pastor Rob's podcast, look up addresses of members who've given their permission for the address to be visible to PUMC approved folks, keep up with events and sign up for events, view the bulletin every week, mark your attendance, create and share prayer requests with Pastor Rob and/or the prayer team as well as other handy things for reference.

MONTHLY REPORT

The monthly report for October 2025 is as follows:

Beginning Balance:	\$38,207.29
General Offerings:	+\$8,248.55
Capital Improvement:	+\$762.50
Expenses:	-\$5,978.58
Final Balance:	\$41,239.76