



St. Paul's UCC of Monee

5323 W. Margaret Street
PO Box 10
Monee, IL 60449
708-534-8471

Rev. Peggy Johnson

May 1, 2021

Dear Friends of St Paul's Cemetery,

A sincere and heartfelt thank you for your generous support of St. Paul's Historic Cemetery.

Last year was a tough year for St Paul's, just like it was for everyone. In spite of obstacles, we continued to make positive changes to our beloved cemetery. The decision was made shortly after the pandemic began to suspend the annual fundraising appeal because so many people were struggling, and instead we put our efforts towards using some "sweat equity" to upgrade and improve the grounds.

Over a dozen new benches were added to provide places throughout the cemetery to rest and reflect. Two new hand wrought iron arches were added at the entrance to the Memorial Garden and along Margaret Street to denote St. Paul's Cemetery. New handrails were added at the Garden's stairs. We were blessed with many volunteers who weeded, planted and generally improved the grounds. Cleaning and restoration work began on many of the monuments and we will continue this work throughout 2021. The on-line maps were improved, and every grave has been GPS registered on the Find-A-Grave App. You can download the App. to your smartphone so that a loved one or ancestor can be easily located when you visit the cemetery.

We ask for your continuing support as we kick off our third annual fund-raising appeal.

The 2021 goal for the fundraising drive is \$15,000. These funds will be used to continue to improve and maintain the cemetery, as well as to build a reserve in the perpetual care fund. We are anticipating a significant increase in our lawn care costs in 2022, because Monty Cann will be retiring at the end of the 2021 season. Monty and his crew have given excellent service and also significantly reduced fees as a gesture of support and goodwill. They will be hard to replace.

We anticipate that \$15,000. will cover the costs of the 2021 lawncare season, as well as allow us to make additional improvements and build up a reserve for 2022. Projects for 2021 include:

1. Improvements to the Memorial Garden (Brick Memorial wall, Columbarium, Veteran's Memorial)
2. Grading and gravel on the roads within the cemetery
3. Improve drainage on the east side of the cemetery

St Paul's Cemetery has always been a place to be proud of; well-maintained and full of trees and flowers, peaceful and serene. Your donations make this possible.

TO MAKE A DONATION

Send your check payable to: St. Paul's UCC of Monee / Cemetery PO Box 10, Monee IL 60449

You will receive an acknowledgement for your tax-deductible donation at the end of the year.

Please consider remembering St Paul's Cemetery with a bequest in your estate planning.

Visit the church's website for cemetery information or contact us at cemetery@stpaulsmonee.org.

Thank you again for your prayerful consideration and generous support.

Sincerely,

St. Paul's Cemetery Board