

*Amazing Archives*  
*The future of our past is ever present*

Beginning with the September 2017 OSP, Amazing Archives will showcase an item of interest from your archive and/or church. Many Archivists believe items located in an archive should be seen but not touched for preservation purposes. Roger Henke and I don't believe the backbone of St. Paul should be kept in storage and away from its members. We understand and cherish the fact that most of the items placed in our care for the preservation of the church history are one of a kind and historically valuable.

The history of St. Paul exists because of members such as yourselves and the members who pioneered St. Paul. This is YOUR history and should be appreciated as such. Roger and I want you to become acquainted or re-aquainted with our history. We are going to display items every other month in the Welcome Center. Please touch them if you want. History becomes real when you feel it. Because they are partly yours, we know you will respect them and keep them safe and undamaged so future members may appreciate them also.

Some things we have already done is displayed the original bell on a stand Kenan is making, displayed the pulpit from the Chapel and Reverend Otto Pessel's robe from the 1860s. Watch for coming attractions including the Oak Credenza taken from the altar of the first church, St. Paul's Pastor Wall of Honor, a book containing all of Alice Jerome's *In The Beginning* articles and more. Roger is digitalizing our members' birth, baptisms, confirmations, marriages and deaths as well as many other documents pertaining to the history of the church. Any information about St. Paul, be it the first, the second or third church, its members, clubs, artifacts or community events you have and wish to donate to the archive will be greatly appreciated. Copies will be made when possible.

In Service To God,  
Jo Ann Elmore, Archivist