

History of the First United Methodist Church of Kennett

1998–2000 (Brief History)

This particular scrapbook album is filled with photographs showcasing both the youth and adult members of our church who were active—and continue to be active—in civic affairs and community life.

In the political arena, Judy Vavak was re-elected as Circuit Court Judge, and church member Dan Crawford was sworn in as Associate Judge. On the state level, Paul T. Combs was appointed President of the University of Missouri Board of Curators, reflecting the continued leadership and influence of our members beyond the local level.

Among the youth, Jennifer Bell—who would later become a Methodist minister—was honored with selection to the Missouri Scholars Academy. Our tradition of leadership in education continued as Ralph Hemann was named Educator of the Year. Notably, this was not the first time that a member of our church had received this honor, further demonstrating our deep involvement in the field of education.

Our youth were also active participants in Missouri Girls State and in the annual Homecoming festivities, continuing their pattern of service and engagement.

The church celebrated the retirement of one of our long-time members, Gerald Granger, who turned in his key after 24 years of service at Parker-Hannifin. His dedication was honored and remembered with gratitude and joy.

This brief snapshot of 1998 to 2000 reflects a period of continued joy, achievement, and meaningful participation in both church and community life.