

May 20, 2018  
Pentecost  
Baptism Sunday

No matter who you are,  
No matter where you are  
On life's journey,  
You are welcome here.

***Please silence cell phones.***

*Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION “The ultimate meaning of Christmas, Good Friday, Easter and the Ascension is Pentecost. Pentecost is the goal of Christ's history, not just an appendix.” Jürgen Moltmann

PRELUDE *Kids Are Pretty People* Thad Jones  
St. Arbucks Trio

INTROIT *Come Down, O Love Divine* Ralph Vaughan Williams  
Chancel Choir

WELCOME Matt Fitzgerald

\*WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: When the day of Pentecost had come,  
they were all gathered together in one place.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: Suddenly from heaven, there came a sound  
like the rush of a violent wind.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: And it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: And all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit!

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

**Fill this place and fill our lives!**

*\*Please stand if you are able to do so.*

\*HYMN

*Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*

Black Hymnal No. 459

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,  
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,  
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.  
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Giver of life,**

**For apathy,**

**For meanness,**

**For boredom,**

**For pride,**

**For judgment,**

**For dismissal:**

**For all those ways we quench the life within each other and in ourselves,  
forgive us.**

**Baptize us afresh with the life of your Spirit. Amen**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM of Olivia Louise Block

Pastor: Olivia, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Olivia is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

**All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Olivia. Inspire her life. May she sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for her parents, that they may be guided by your love so that Olivia may know your presence. May we walk together with her family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

**All: Amen**

*Children are invited to go to their Sunday School classes during the response. Parents are welcome to bring their kids to class and then come back for worship.*

\*RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 325, v. 1-3

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;  
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!  
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits, into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure, God's you are from God you came.  
Back to God we humbly give you; live as one who bears Christ's name.

Acts 2, selections

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their native language. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear them speaking, each of us, in our own native language about God's deeds of power?" All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my servants, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.'

"Listen to what I have to say: You crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law Jesus of Nazareth. But God raised him up, having freed him from death; and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Save yourselves

from this crooked generation” So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

**\*A STATEMENT OF FAITH**

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,  
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,  
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,  
to celebrate God’s presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to care for creation,  
to seek justice and to resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

*(adapted from the United Church of Canada)*

**\*RESPONSE**

Black Hymnal No. 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.  
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

**SERMON**

“Breath of Life”

Jeff Carlson

**\*HYMN**

Black Hymnal No. 292, verses 1, 3 & 4

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew  
That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one desire:  
That every earthly part of me may glow with holy fire.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I never die,  
But live with you the perfect life of your eternity.

## ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

OFFERTORY

*Let The People Praise Thee, O God*  
Chancel Choir

William Mathias

Let the people praise thee, O God:  
yea, let all the people praise thee,  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad:  
for thou shalt judge the folk righteously,  
and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God:  
yea, let all the people praise thee.  
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase:  
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.  
God shall bless us: and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

God be merciful unto us, and bless us:  
and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us.  
That thy way may be known upon earth:  
thy saving health among all nations.

Let all the people praise thee, O God:  
yea, let all the people praise thee.  
O let the nations rejoice and be glad.

*from Psalm 67*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be:  
world without end, Amen.

\*FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts,  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Sarah Garcia

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

\*HYMN                      *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*                      Black Hymnal No. 286, v. 1, 3 & 4

*Refrain:*

*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,  
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
Then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
And over the eons you called to each thing,  
"Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." *Refrain*

You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
Then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
And down in the city you called once again,  
When you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. *Refrain*

You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
From the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams;  
Our women see visions, our men clear their eyes.  
With bold new decisions your people arise. *Refrain*



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Fred Peterson, Lauren Vega, Layne Lebahn, Juanita Barlow

**Head Greeter:** Greg Mooney

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Consider the Lilies:** Maureen Grunst

**Acolyte:** Kimberlee Schmahl

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are in celebration of Gustav and Christine Schmidt's 51st wedding anniversary. They were married on May 20, 1967 at St. Pauls.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING** Today we're collecting the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response.

BORN THIS WEEK IN MAY

**Donations to the Birthday Fund support A Just Harvest**

*We celebrate and give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate and help St. Pauls: give one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund.*

May 20 Ryan Braun

May 21 Nate Combs, Scott Moehrke

May 22 Julian Chaiken, Leslie Chamberlain

May 23 David Mosley, Julia Walker

May 25 Carlos Cata, Karen Rieck, Rebecca Fayhee

May 26 Karen Brach, Mary Kay Campbell, Ryan Gillmore

## TODAY

**MAY 20** - THE WORD OF THE DAY, meets for the last time of the season today at 9 a.m. in the Conference Room.

**MAY 20** - NEW MOMS BRUNCH, 11 a.m. Parlor. Moms with kids under the age of one are invited to be the honored guests at this lovely brunch hosted by the Parents of Little Ones. We want to connect moms with new babies and surround them with love and support. All moms welcome. Hope you join us!

**MAY 20** - YOUNG ADULT MONTHLY BRUNCH, 11 a.m. Join the Young Adults Group for brunch after worship, and if you're able, come over to Oz Park to cheer on the Dirt Disciples for our 1 p.m. game afterwards. We will gather during Social Hour and walk to Nighthawk AM, 2273 N. Lincoln. If the weather is nice we will take our food to go and eat at Oz Park.

**MAY 20** - CONFIRMATION PRESENTATIONS, 11:15 a.m. Social Hall. Join us to hear our Confirmation students share about the service projects they have undertaken and the important things they have learned from putting their faith in action.

**MAY 20** - FAREWELL SERVICE, 3 p.m. Westchester Community Church. Attend service and reception for the Rev. Dr. Jorge Morales as he retires after eight years as Conference Minister of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ. For more information, contact Rick Peterson at [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnpeterson2017@gmail.com).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL** is June 10. On that day the fourth graders will receive Bibles, students will receive attendance awards, and Sunday School teachers will be honored for their year of service.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED FOR NEXT YEAR** - If you enjoy being with children and are interested and willing to explore the Christian faith with them, then you should consider being a Sunday School teacher. In particular, we need teachers for Kindergarten, third and fourth grade, and Confirmation. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Sarah [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org).

**ALL CHURCH RETREAT** - Sign up now to join us for a weekend of relaxation, fellowship and growing in faith at the Lakeside Inn in beautiful Lakeside, MI. July 27 to 29. All church members are encouraged to come! Cost is \$300 per room and

includes breakfasts and dinners. Some financial assistance available. Email Pastor Sarah [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org) if you would like to sign up.

**BOOK NOOK** - Please help yourself to any of the books on the bookcase in the Social Hall. There is no need to return the book after reading - simply pass it on to someone else. If you want to donate a book in the next two weeks, place it on the top shelves labeled "new arrivals." General fiction, broad interest nonfiction, youth and children books are ideal. If you have any questions or comments, contact Tilly Wilhoite at [tilly1017@gmail.com](mailto:tilly1017@gmail.com).

**FEED THE HUNGRY** - Open dates in June and July for Community Engagement Program (CEP) meals. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner. Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To find available dates and to sign up, contact Brent Carstensen at [bcarsten959@yahoo.com](mailto:bcarsten959@yahoo.com).

**ST. PAULS SUMMER CAMP FOR KIDS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN -**

July 5 - August 3. We're offering half-day camp for 2 and 3-year-olds and full day camp for 4 to 12 year-olds. Also, we're offering before and after-care. Campers play in the local parks, go to the zoo, beach, museums, pool, and have tons of fun! Email Sarah Garcia at [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org) for more information.

**MAY 26 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY**, 10 a.m. The Gospel of John - This month we dig into Jesus' last words to his disciples and to us as we wrap up our study of this Gospel. Newcomers are welcome. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**MAY 26 - SAINT PAULS SOCIAL**, 6 p.m. Join Saint Pauls Social and collector Susann Craig at her Logan Square loft designed by world famous architect Jeanne Gang. This potluck dinner is limited to the first 25 people that register by calling her at 312-399-8843. Each guest brings a dish or drink.

**MAY 30 - EPIC BURGER MISSION TRIP FUNDRAISER DINNER** at the North & Sheffield Commons (1000 W. North Ave), 4-6 p.m. Mention SPUCS when you order and Epic Burger will donate 20% of your order to our Puerto Rico mission trip.

**JUNE 3 - CONFIRMATION AND COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**JUNE 4 - CHRISTIANITY 101**, 7:30 p.m., Parlor. Join Pastor Jeff and young adults for a lively discussion of the real-life questions we face in our daily lives. There is no need to prepare in advance. Please contact Hannah Basil at [youngadults@spucc.org](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org) with questions and to RSVP.

**JUNE 9 - MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR STEVE WARSH** 10 a.m. A service of memorial and celebration for the life of Steve Warsh, who passed away in January, will be held at St. Pauls. If you plan to attend, please let Pastor Jeff know in order to help Steve's family plan for the day: [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**JUNE 12 & JULY 10 - HAITIAN HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION**

Laurent Dubois' book, "Haiti: The Aftershocks of History," chronicles the history of Haiti directly relevant to our contemporary attempts to struggle with issues of race, economic development, political dysfunction, and the complicated traumas of the past. Steve Peterson and Steve Schwartzberg will lead two sessions on this book - Tuesday, June 12 at 7 p.m. at Steve Peterson's house and Tuesday, July 10 at 7 p.m. at Steve Patton's house. Email [sspeterson01@gmail.com](mailto:sspeterson01@gmail.com) for more info and addresses.

**JUNE 17 - "BUY A BED, GIVE A BED" MATTRESS SALE EVENT**, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Gym. St. Pauls will host a mattress sale in the gymnasium benefitting Lincoln Park Community Shelter. Try out mattresses from Tempur-Pedic, Beautyrest, Serta, Simmons, and Sealy. Prices will be up to 50% lower than at local retail stores. For every bed purchased, LPCS receives a new mattress to help furnish its new facility.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

**ST. PAULS SOCIAL** - Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at [jenluerssen@yahoo.com](mailto:jenluerssen@yahoo.com) and stay tuned for future events.

**FAITH IN ACTION** - Saint Pauls' Strategic Plan calls us to be "Increasingly bold and active as we try to live out our faith in an age of rising injustice." If you would like to receive advance notice of protests and actions that call for our faithful witness, join the Faith in Action email list by contacting Anna Sardar at [asardar@spucc.org](mailto:asardar@spucc.org).

**ALTAR FLOWER SIGN UP** - Providing flowers for the altar is a great way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or honor someone special in your life. You can sign up in the Social Hall or online at <http://tinyurl.com/h55pl82>. There are many Sundays available, but be sure to sign up early so you can bring flowers on your preferred date. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

**AMAZON SMILE** - Support St. Pauls when buying Amazon products, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible purchases to St. Pauls. <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/2179808>.

**COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER - Tutors Needed**

This program at Lincoln Park High School was initiated by St. Pauls and developed in connection with the English and Social Studies Departments. Tutors volunteer once a week, Monday through Thursday. Training and mentoring are available. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Nancy Brandt, nhbrandt@sbcglobal.net.

**CONNECTORS** reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at marcia@volkonline.com.

**CONSIDER THE LILIES** - Deliver our Sunday altar flowers to members and friends who need to know St. Pauls is thinking of them. If you would like to be part of this initiative, please contact Maureen Grunst at mvgrunst@aol.com. Join us!

**FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES** - Whether you're interested in supporting women or LGBTQ persons or immigrants and refugees, or interested in planning programs on critical issues, you can find St. Pauls people involved and join them now. Contact Toby Rogers at toby@rogers-home.com for more information.

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** - Visit our Food for Thought blog  
<http://www.spucc.org/blogs/food-for-thought>.

**GET YOUR NEW NAME TAG!** - Email Virgie at vberry@spucc.org.

**LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS**

- To sign up: volunteer@lpcsonline.org or call 773-549-6111.

**LITTLE LIGHTS** is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4 year olds. We are now accepting applications for 2018-2019. Check out [www.littlelightslp.org](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Virgie Berry at vberry@spucc.org.

**LONG, CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP** Read and discuss George Eliot's "Middlemarch" this spring. Next discussion is June 19. "Les Miserables" is coming in Fall 2018. RSVP jcarlson@spucc.org.

**NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS** - If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.) and so that we can inform you of opportunities in our Parents of Little Ones (POLO) group. Also, let her know if you have small children and are new to the church. Contact Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

**SARAH'S SISTERS** gather every Wednesday morning to make 40 bag lunches to be distributed to homeless people. Come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS** - If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo [mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Diana Laskaris [dianaminlead@gmail.com](mailto:dianaminlead@gmail.com).

**SAINT PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS** - 7 p.m. Our weekly pickup game is co-ed. Ages range from young and fast to old and not as fast. Skill levels range from enthusiastic to "I think she played in college, you guard her." All are welcome! Contact [pastormatt@spucc.org](mailto:pastormatt@spucc.org).

**ST. PAULS PLAYGROUP** for children from birth to 3 years old in the church Nursery. Drop in anytime from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Wednesdays. Corie Gallemore at [corie.gallemore@gmail.com](mailto:corie.gallemore@gmail.com).

**UCC DAILY DEVOTIONAL** - To register: [http://www.ucc.org/daily\\_devotional](http://www.ucc.org/daily_devotional)

**WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR?** - Sign up to bring it at <http://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=w.ProcessDateWindow>.

**YOUNG ADULTS** - A group for fun and fellowship for folks in their twenties and thirties. All are welcome! Volunteers needed! Any ideas for future events? Email [youngadults@spucc.org](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org).

**YOUTH GROUP** for kids in 4th-8th grade. Meets each Tuesday from 4-6 p.m. in the gym. Pizza dinner, fun, and Christian fellowship. Contact Pastor Sarah for more details at [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org).

### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's Friday email to [announcements@spucc.org](mailto:announcements@spucc.org) no later than 10 a.m. on Tuesday. Please limit announcements to 70 words. Thank you.

## SAINT PAULS PRAYS

*Please clip this page, take it home and pray for those who are named below. We only print requests we receive. To make a request, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email. Our new practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it. If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.*

- Don Vossburg, former St. Pauls member.
- Paula Kearns, mother of Larry Kearns, who is battling lung cancer in Miami.
- Darlene Braun's cousin, who is recovering from surgery and doing well.
- Natasha, a friend of Terry and Kurt Hansen, enduring difficult times.
- Maryn, 6-year-old friend of the Ashley family, with a rare brain tumor.
- Betty Voice, recovering from knee surgery.
- Marti Pechnyo's friend, Jane, being treated for ovarian cancer.
- Dorothy, in hospice care.
- Jeff Elko
- The Howells' daughter-in-law, Meredith, awaiting a stem-cell transplant.
- For real change to dramatically reduce gun violence.
- Steve Stack, recovering from another stroke.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Jack Hogan, in treatment for cancer.
- Rob Castle's mother, Kathie, in hospice care for Alzheimer's disease.
- Rodney Higginbotham's father following a seizure and possible stroke.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- All those struggling to conceive.
- All those struggling with eating disorders.
- Grieving family of Jim, who died at age 43.

NEARLY 1 IN 5 ADULTS STRUGGLE WITH A MENTAL HEALTH ISSUE. Contact one of the pastors today for information about mental health care advocacy and resources that can help you and your loved ones. Contact information for the pastors is at the back of this Bulletin.

## St. Pauls UCC 20/20 Vision Implementation

### Introduction

This is the first brief update for the Congregation of the many actions underway to implement St. Pauls 20/20 vision. Much has happened since the Congregation approved the plan in November 2017. We will continue to provide these updates as our committees and task forces address the many initiatives called forth by the plan. The implementation actions are organized under each of the Six Callings, either "completed/ongoing" or "in progress."

David Baker, Chair, 20/20 Vision Committee

### Completed/Ongoing

*God is calling us to grow toward each other...*

- New "Lectio Divina" prayer groups led by St. Pauls Worship Committee and clergy.
- Revising membership process involving longtime members as "Shepherds."
- Planning for Puerto Rico mission trip.

*God is calling us to grow toward God together...*

- Dinner church.
- Pancake Church.
- Prayer groups.
- Continue Youth Education Opportunities and ways to fold youth into church life.

*Increasing diversity in our partnerships and congregation...*

- Ensure Sunday School curriculum and materials are diverse.
- Ensure hiring process is diverse.
- Expand church youth population.

*Tending our finances faithfully...*

- Presented a 2018 budget that reduced the deficit by 32% over 2017.

## In Progress

### *Increasing diversity in our partnerships and congregation...*

- Invite partner ministries to regularly worship at St. Pauls.

### *Living our faith in an age of injustice...*

- Social justice table.
- Social justice in sermons.
- Broaden visibility of existing social justice opportunities.

### *Using our building for service and mission...*

- Begin a capital campaign to address costs.

### *Tending our finances faithfully...*

- Increase percentage of new and current member households/gift amount and number of households involved.
- Educate and encourage major gifts.
- Develop plan for timeline and initiatives to achieve a balanced budget.
- Educate new members on financial health of the church.
- Hold three finance church meetings per year.

ABOUT ST. PAULS  
*Making a joyful sound in the city*

Saint Pauls UCC has a vibrant history in the city of Chicago. Founded in 1843, we are one of the city's oldest churches. In 1989 we became one of America's first congregations to declare ourselves "Open to and Affirming of" LGBT women and men.

From founding Chicago's largest provider of social services to at-risk children to starting a home for the elderly, from housing protestors at the 1968 Democratic Convention to hosting Lincoln Park's first MLK day march against violence on Chicago's streets we are proud to make a joyful sound in the city.

Most importantly, over the past 174 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 North Orchard Street Chicago, Illinois 60614**  
**(773) 348-3829 FAX (773) 348-3858**  
**[www.spucc.org](http://www.spucc.org)**

**Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)**

**Jeff Carlson, *Associate Pastor*, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)**

**Sarah Garcia, *Associate Pastor for Children and Youth*, [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org)**

**Karen E. Johnson, *President of the Congregation*, [kejplano@aol.com](mailto:kejplano@aol.com)**

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**Kecia Waldschmidt, *Youth Choir Director*, [keciagerman@hotmail.com](mailto:keciagerman@hotmail.com)**

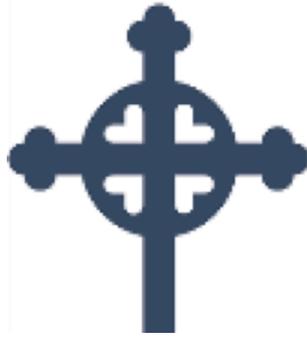
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Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9am-1pm at Children's Memorial Hospital  
2300 Block of North Lincoln Ave. – Vouchers Not Needed



## WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith,  
and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and  
our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children,  
grandparents and families of all  
configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who  
grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and  
we are glad you are here.