



Third Sunday of Advent
Service of Readings and Carols
December 16, 2018
10 a.m. Worship

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

"Remembrance is sufficient of the beauty we have seen." -Caroline Sergeant

PRELUDE

A Selection Of Old Carol Favorites

St. Pauls Brass

CHIMES

CHORAL INTROIT

The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

Irish Hymn

Chancel Choir

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice!

**All: Behold, I bring you good news of great joy
which shall be for all people.**

One: Good will visit us! Day will dawn upon us!

All: A child shall be born unto us!

One: Christ the Lord, the light of the world!

All: It is almost Christmas! The candle of joy has been lit!

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

* HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

Solo: Miles Davidson

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir:

He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly, lived on earth this Savior lowly.

All:

Jesus is our childhood's pattern, daily like us lived and grew,
Jesus, little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles and comfort knew.
Jesus feels our pain and sadness, and the joyous lift of gladness

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
And that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

ANTHEM

Away in a Manger
Kinderchapel Singers

Traditional Carol

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes
But little Lord Jesus no crying He makes
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my side 'til morning is nigh.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF
Lincoln Wilder Thomas

Pastor: Lincoln Wilder Thomas, 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. Lincoln 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, Lincoln. Inspire his life. May he sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for his parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this 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

RESPONSE

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was

expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.

ANTHEM *Mary Had A Baby* Spiritual
Children's Choir arr. Anna Laura Page
and Jean Anne Shafferman
Nancy Voigts, director; Karen Johnson, piano

Mary had a baby, yes Lord! Mary had a baby, yes my Lord!
Mary had a baby, yes Lord! Little tiny baby born in Bethlehem
What did she call him, yes Lord! What did she call him, yes my Lord!
She named him Jesus, yes Lord! Little tiny baby born in Bethlehem
Where did she lay him, yes Lord! Where did she lay him, yes my Lord!
Laid him in a manger, yes Lord! Little tiny Baby born in Bethlehem
Angels came a singing, yes Lord! Angels came a singing, yes, my Lord!
Angels came a singing, yes Lord! Angels came a singing down in Bethlehem
Hear the bells a ringing, yes Lord! Hear the bells a ringing, yes my Lord!
Hear the bells a ringing, yes Lord! Hear the bells a ringing down in Bethlehem
Little tiny baby born in Bethlehem

STORY

The Christmas Tree Ship

Jeff Carlson

* CAROL

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
How steadfast are your branches! (repeat)
Your boughs are green in summer's clime
And through the snows of wintertime.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
How steadfast are your branches!

O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson. (repeat)
That constant faith and hope sublime
Lend strength and comfort through all time.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your boughs can teach a lesson.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

CAROL

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful all ye nations rise; Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King.

ANTHEM

Go Tell It!

Spiritual

Pauls People

arr. Kecia Waldschmidt

Kecia Waldschmidt, director

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere.
Go tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.

STORY

Glaube, Hoffnung, Liebe

Sarah Garcia

CAROL

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

1. I heard the bells on Christ - mas day Their old fa -
 2. And in des - pair I bowed my head: "There is no
 3. Yet pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not

-mil - iar car - ols play, And wild and sweet the
 peace on earth," I said, "For hate is strong, and
 dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the

words re - peat Of peace on earth, good will to all.
 mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to all."
 right pre - vail, With peace on earth, good will to all."

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:15–20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

* CAROL

The First Nowell

The first Nowell, the angels did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

They look-ed up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell. Born is the King of Israel.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

CAROL

In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Angels and Archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But only His Mother in her maiden bliss
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a Shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise one I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

STORY

Christmas at Uhlich

Matt Fitzgerald

OFFERTORY

Suantraí ár Slánaitheora
(The Savior's Lullaby)
Sung in Gaelic
Maire O'Brien, soprano
Chancel Choir

Fiontán Ó Clearbhail

Seothó, seothuló.

Mo ghaol, mo ghrá 'gus m'éadáil thú!

Mo stóirin úr is m'fhéirin thú!

Mo mhacán áluinn scéimheach thú.

Chan fiú féin bheith id' dháil.

Cé gur leanbh díblí thú

Cinnt' is Rína Rithe thú,

An t-oighre dlítheach fíor is tú

Ar Ríocht Dé no ngrást.

Lullaby, so to sleep now.

You are my son, my love and my treasure!

My newborn gift, my darling little one!

My handsome little son.

I am not worthy to be with you.

You are just a helpless child,

Yet you are the King of Kings,

The true and rightful heir

To the graces of the Kingdom of God.

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

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice,
Give you heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, asleep within the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now you know of endless bliss;
Jesus Christ was born for this!
God has opened Heaven's door and you are blessed forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now you need not fear the grave.
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

* BENEDICTION

* CHORAL BENEDICTION

Joy to the world! The Lord is come.
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room;
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing.
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.

POSTLUDE
Sowash

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

arr. Bradley

St. Arbucks Trio and Kris Hansen

***If you would like someone to pray with you today, Stephen Ministers are present
after the postlude at the front right of the Sanctuary.***

***Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks
downstairs in the Gym.***

WE WELCOME ST. PAULS BRASS this morning. Jake Nitzsche & Kris Hansen, trumpets; Rick Peterson, French horn; Nancy Pifer, tenor horn; and Mark Swanson & Lorne Frank, trombones.

ADVENT WREATH- Each week during Advent we light another candle in our Advent wreath to anticipate the coming of Christ, the light of the world. These candles symbolize the gifts of hope, love, joy and peace that Christ's coming brings.

PINK CANDLE, WHY? - This is *Gaudete* (Rejoice) Sunday. Both Advent and Lent are considered penitential season, but the early church leaders decided that each of those seasons need an uplifting break. That is why Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent, the liturgical color changes from purple to pink or rose.

The Cultivation of Christmas Trees by T.S. Eliot

There are several attitudes towards Christmas,
Some of which we may disregard:
The social, the torpid, the patently commercial,
The rowdy (the pubs being open till midnight),
And the childish — which is not that of the child
For whom the candle is a star, and the gilded angel
Spreading its wings at the summit of the tree
Is not only a decoration, but an angel.

The child wonders at the Christmas Tree:
Let him continue in the spirit of wonder
At the Feast as an event not accepted as a pretext;
So that the glittering rapture, the amazement
Of the first-remembered Christmas Tree,
So that the surprises, delight in new possessions
(Each one with its peculiar and exciting smell),
The expectation of the goose or turkey
And the expected awe on its appearance,

So that the reverence and the gaiety
May not be forgotten in later experience,
In the bored habituation, the fatigue, the tedium,
The awareness of death, the consciousness of failure,
Or in the piety of the convert
Which may be tainted with a self-conceit
Displeasing to God and disrespectful to children
(And here I remember also with gratitude
St. Lucy, her carol, and her crown of fire):

So that before the end, the eightieth Christmas
(By “eightieth” meaning whichever is last)
The accumulated memories of annual emotion
May be concentrated into a great joy
Which shall be also a great fear, as on the occasion
When fear came upon every soul:
Because the beginning shall remind us of the end
And the first coming of the second coming.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Fred Pearson, Bruce Voice, Brian Hafner

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Acolyte Coordinator: Tiffany Jozwiak

Acolytes: Henry Weil, Jack Kahan

BORN THIS WEEK IN DECEMBER

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.

Dec 16 Carrie Bruggers

Dec 17 David Mussatt, Elizabeth Gilmore, Tiscia Eicher

Dec 18 Clark Tavas, Michelle Jarzebowski, Irene Beck, Susanne Baker, Joyce Groth

Dec 19 Nancy Brandt

Dec 20 Lydia Miller

Dec 21 Sara Nagy

Dec 22 Kristie Bergeron, Alexandra Patton

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST PAULS

- SUN, DEC 16 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY
-Worship - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Watch for the Light, session two - 11:30 a.m., Social Hall
- WED, DEC 19 LITTLE LIGHTS ART SHOW & CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 5:15 p.m.
- THURS, DEC 20 WINTER SOLSTICE & LABYRINTH WALK - 6 p.m.
-A service of song and reflecting on the longest night of the year
- FRI, DEC 21 CHRISTMAS PARTY - 6-8:30 p.m., Parlor
-Celebrate the season with your church friends.
Bring a side dish or dessert and beverage. Childcare will be available.
- SAT, DEC 22 THE CHRISTMAS STORIES - 10 a.m.
-This special Bible study will dig into the stories of the birth of Jesus that we hear on Christmas Eve
- SUN, DEC 23 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE
-Worship - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Luminary Workshop
- MON, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
-Family Service - 5 p.m., Sanctuary
-Candlelight Service - 9 p.m., Sanctuary
-Christmas story, carols, candles, sermon, and choir
- SUN, DEC 30 WORSHIP - 10 a.m., Sanctuary
-Watch for the Light, session three - 11:30 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
- SUN, JAN 20 POLAR PEACE MARCH - 11:15 a.m.
-March to support UCAN's work for non-violence, and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on this 1.5 mile walk. This family friendly event will start after the 10 a.m. worship service and conclude with soup in the Gym. Invite your friends and family to be a part of your team. YOU CAN be part of the solution to a more peaceful Chicago. Register now at PolarPeaceMarch.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY - MONTHLY BRUNCH - 11:30 a.m.

Join the Young Adults Group for brunch after worship. We will gather during Social Hour and walk somewhere close. Have a suggestion of where we should go? Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with your idea and RSVP.

THANK YOU! - Our December 9 Christmas Market and Bake Sale raised nearly \$1,200 for the Polar Peace March. Thank you to all our bringers, bakers and shoppers!

SPONSOR VIOLENCE PREVENTION - Does your employer make grants to charitable organizations doing good work in Chicago? We are looking for sponsors for our January 20, 2019 Polar Peace March that supports the violence prevention initiatives of UCAN. For more information contact Jan Bail, janbail@me.com.

CAN YOU SING, SEW, ACT OR DANCE? If so, we need your talents for the 175th Musical Revue (formerly Bible Story Theatre) taking place in January and culminating in a performance the first Sunday of February. We will be bringing significant historical moments in the life of Saint Pauls to the stage. Rehearsals will take place on Sundays Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27 from 10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. If you would like to get involved, please email Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org

GIVE THE VERY BEST - People are precious, and when they hurt or suffer, they deserve the best care and support we can offer. That's why St. Pauls has Stephen Ministers. Their training, commitment, and service help them give their best at providing care for our members. In January 2019, we'll be training a new class of Stephen Ministers. If you'd like to know more, your best move is to contact Pastor Jeff or Stephen Leader Marti Pechnyo, mpechnyo@gmail.com.

AMERICA TO ME - Would you like to watch and discuss "America to Me" in the New Year? This 10-part docuseries follows a year in the life of students, teachers, and administrators at Oak Park-River Forest High School as they search for answers around issues of race, equity and education. If you are interested, contact Kirk Chernansky at bchernansky@sbcglobal.net for more information.

DECEMBER 17 - LES MISERABLES BOOK DISCUSSION - 7 p.m., Parlor

The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group discusses the second half of Victor Hugo's epic tale of redemption. New members are always welcome. For more information or to RSVP: Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@spucc.org.

JANUARY 7 - CHRISTIANITY 101 - 7:30 p.m., Parlor

Join Pastor Jeff and fellow 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. Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with RSVP or questions.

JANUARY 13 - VIOLENCE INTERRUPTION AND PREVENTION: MENTORING AT RISK YOUTH - 11:30 a.m. Oscar Mayer Room.

Join St. Pauls member Steve Patton and Norman Kerr, VP for Violence Prevention at UCAN, for this special Faith Formation/Faith and Public Issues presentation and learn about the good work that our Polar Peace March is supporting.

OPPORTUNITIES

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/36-2179808>

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 two hours 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@gmail.com.

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 Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

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.

FEED THE HUNGRY - We need volunteers for February 17 and February 24. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To sign up, contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com

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

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 2019-2020. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Virgie Berry at vberry@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.

ST. PAULS BASKETBALL WEDNESDAYS - 7 p.m. Our weekly pick-up game is co-ed. Ages range widely and skill levels go from from enthusiastic to “I think she played in college, you guard her.” All are welcome! pastormatt@spucc.org

ST. PAULS PLAYGROUP - NOW ON FRIDAYS - For children from birth to 3 years old and their parent or caregiver in the church Nursery. Drop in anytime from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. on Friday mornings. Corie Gallemore at corie.gallemore@gmail.com.

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

SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY - One Saturday a month, 10-11:45 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible in this monthly study. Next meeting: December 22, when we'll dig into the Christmas story. RSVP: Pastor Jeff jcarlson@spucc.org.

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), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

WANT MORE VARIETY AT COFFEE HOUR? - Sign up to bring it by emailing Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org.

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 them at 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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's Friday email to 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 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 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.

- Marcus, shot multiple times on Chicago's West Side.
- Friends and family of Gordon Fishburn on his death Tuesday.
Services are to be determined.
- The thousands who lost homes and jobs due to the floods and fires this fall, and to those who gave them shelter.
- Liz Rein at the death of her sister, Becky.
- Jan Exworthy and her mother, Lucille, facing health challenges.
- Phyllis Grimm's mother facing health challenges.
- The family of Stacie B., sister of Mark P., at the death of her sister-in-law.
- Michael, nephew of Juanita Barlow, for his recuperation from surgery.
- Kathie Castle, in hospice care for Alzheimer's disease.
- Mary, a beloved friend of Stacy and Brent, and her doctors and children, as she recovers from a brain aneurysm and is still at great risk.
- Toby Knott's aunt, Diane Smith, fighting cancer
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.

You are beloved - to others, to the world you live in, and most important, to God. God knows your struggles and failures, as well as your joys and triumphs. Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love has lost hope, is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. 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.

NOTES

NOTES

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" LGBTQ 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 175 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.

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Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lincoln Avenue Parking Garage,
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.