

January 12, 2020  
Baptism of Christ

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.*

PRELUDE	<i>Top of My Head</i> St. Arbucks Trio	Roy Hargrove
INTROIT	<i>Take Me to the Water</i> Chancel Choir	African-American Spiritual
WELCOME		Sarah Garcia

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: What amazing love God gives to us –  
We are called children of God!

All: **This is the message God gave from the beginning:  
“Love one another.”**

One: Let us love one another, because love comes from God.

All: **Everyone who loves is a child of God and knows God,  
For God is love.**

One: This is how we know God loves us:  
God sent Christ into the world.

All: **What amazing love God gives to us –  
We are called children of God!**

\* Please stand if you are able to do so

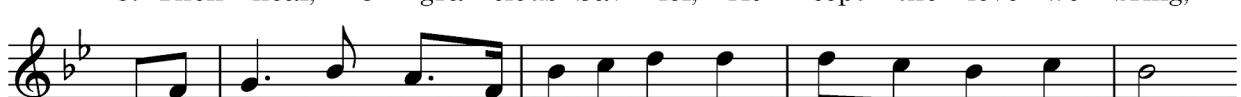
\* HYMN

*O God, Beyond All Praising*



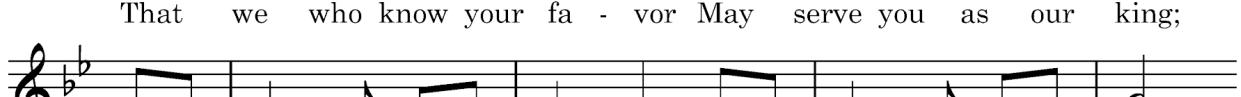
2. The flower of earth - ly splen-dor, In time must sure - ly die,

3. Then hear, O gra - cious Sav - ior, Ac - cept the love we bring,



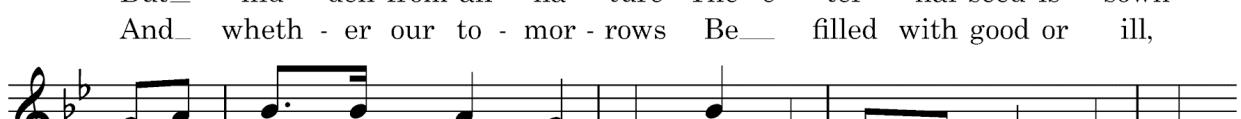
Its fra - gile bloom sur - ren - der To you, the Lord most high;

That we who know your fa - vor May serve you as our king;



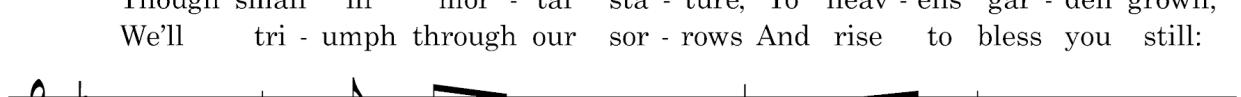
But hid - den from all na - ture The e - ter - nal seed is sown

And wheth - er our to - mor - rows Be filled with good or ill,



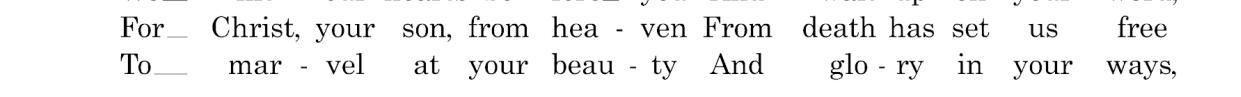
Though small in mor - tal sta - ture, To heav - ens gar - den grown;

We'll tri - umph through our sor - rows And rise to bless you still:



For Christ, your son, from hea - ven From death has set us free

To mar - vel at your beau - ty And glo - ry in your ways,



And through him you have giv - en The fi - nal vic - to - ry!

And make a joy - ful du - ty Our sac - ri - fice of praise.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins:  
    To find the lost,  
    To heal the broken,  
    To release the prisoner,  
    To rebuild the nations,  
    To bring peace.**

**When we neglect this work you've called us to,  
God forgive us.**

**Let the light of Christ shine through us.**

**Amen.**

(based on *Now the Work of Christmas Begins* by Howard Thurman)

## MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\* RESPONSE

*Beautiful Savior*

vs. 1 & 2

The musical score consists of three staves of music in common time, key signature of one flat. The top staff uses soprano C-clef, the middle staff alto F-clef, and the bottom staff bass G-clef. The lyrics are integrated with the music, appearing below each staff.

1. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,  
2. Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands,  
3. Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light,  
4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of man! Tru - ly I'd love thee,  
Robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er,  
Bright the spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er,  
Son of God and Son of man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Tru - ly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
Je - sus is pur - er, He makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.  
Je - sus shines pur - er, Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be thine.

*During this time, Sunday School students are invited to go to the Social Hall for Bible Off Broadway rehearsal. If you would like to accompany your child, you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

## THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Kirsten Simonton

### *Matthew 3:13–17*

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.”

Then John consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

### *Isaiah 42:1–9*

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
    my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
    he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
    or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,  
    and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not quit or give up,  
    until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord,  
    who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
    who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
    who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
    I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
    I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
    a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind,  
    to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
    from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord, that is my name;  
    my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare;  
    before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

\* 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

*Beautiful Savior*

vs. 3 & 4

*See previous insert.*

SERMON

"Trampled Grass and Dim Wicks"

Jeff Carlson

\* HYMN

*Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?*

The musical score consists of three staves of music in common time (indicated by '4') and a key signature of one flat (indicated by 'b'). The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff uses a bass clef, and the bottom staff uses a bass clef. The lyrics are integrated into the music, appearing below the notes. The first section of lyrics (measures 1 & 6) includes:

1. & 6. Won't you let me be your servant, let me  
2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are  
3. I will hold the Christ - light for you in the  
4. I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you  
5. When we sing to God in heav - en we shall

The second section of lyrics (measures 7-12) continues:

be as Christ to you? Pray that I may  
trav - elers on the road; We are here to  
shad - ow of your fear; I will hold my  
laugh, I'll laugh with you. I will share your  
find such har - mo - ny, Born of all we've

The third section of lyrics (measures 13-18) concludes:

have the grace to let you be my ser - vant, too.  
help each oth - er go the mile and bear the load.  
hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.  
known to - geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.

UCAN MISSION MOMENT

Zack Schrantz  
UCAN President and CEO

**OFFERTORY**

*There Shall a Star from Jacob*  
from Christus Op. 97  
Chancel Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

There shall a star come out of Jacob,  
and a sceptre shall rise out of Israel;  
With might destroying princes and nations!  
As bright the star of morning gleams,  
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams  
Of light and consolation.  
Thy word, o Lord,  
Radiance darting, truth imparting,  
Gives salvation;  
Thine be praise and adoration!

*Text based on Numbers 24:17*

**\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be - low;

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host:

Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Matt Fitzgerald

## 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*

*Refrain*

Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness,  
call - ing and free, Spir - it, spir - it of rest - less - ness,  
stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.

1. You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,  
2. You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,  
3. You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,  
4. You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes,



then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of  
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a  
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was  
from the bond - age of sor - row the cap - tives dream



sleep; And o - ver the e - ons you\_ called to each  
land; When they were con - found - ed by their i - dols and  
still; And down in the cit - y you\_ called once a -  
dreams; Our wom - en see vi - sions, our\_ men clear their



thing, "A - wake from your slum - - bers  
lies, then you spoke through your proph - - ets  
- gain, when you blew through your peo - - ple  
eyes. With bold new de - ci - - sions



and rise on your wings."  
to o - pen their eyes.  
on the rush of the wind.  
your\_ peo - ple a - rise.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

The musical notation consists of two staves of music in G major (indicated by a C-clef) and common time (indicated by a '4'). The first staff has notes: quarter note, eighth note, quarter note, quarter note, eighth note, quarter note. The lyrics below it are: 'Id - e - o - o - o,' followed by another 'Id - e - o - o - o,'. The second staff continues with: quarter note, eighth note, quarter note, eighth note, quarter note, eighth note, quarter note. The lyrics below it are: 'Id - e - o glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!'

POSTLUDE

*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

J. Pachelbel

Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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

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

**PRAY FOR PEACE** - After worship, ushers will be at each door with prayer cards. We encourage you to take one as a reminder to pray for peace in Chicago and our world, for those who work for peace, and to ask God to make you an instrument of peace as we prepare for the Polar Peace March next week. Also, please take one - or several - green ribbons as you leave to tie to the courtyard fence. We are tying 15,000 green ribbons to symbolize our hope for the 15,000 youth that UCAN serves each year.

TODAY'S MUSIC - Our Offertory Anthem is by Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847), who like Mozart before him, had a very short and artistically productive life. He was born in Germany, but a great source of his popularity was outside his home country. He was especially beloved in England. Amongst his greatest accomplishments was the revival of the works of J. S. Bach, and the first “modern” performance of Bach’s *St. Matthew Passion* since his Bach’s death. Mendelssohn’s *Elijah* is performed in England almost as often as *Messiah*, which is, of course, by another “adopted” German, Handel.

*O God Beyond All Praising* is by Gustav Holst (1874–1934). The tune is called “Thaxted” which is the main theme of the Jupiter movement from Holst’s *The Planets*. It is truly a majestic hymn. Thaxted is the village where Holst grew up. It was Ralph Vaughan Williams that adapted “Thaxted” as a hymn. The author of our text is Michael A. Perry (1942–1996). He began studies as a physicist and changed to theology.

*Beautiful Savior* was originally a German hymn, *Schönster Herr Jesu*, first found and attributed in a 17th century hymnal. The English tune name is “Crusader’s Hymn.” The translation was provided by Joseph Augustus Seiss, who was a Lutheran pastor in this country in the mid-1800’s. *Beautiful Savior* also became the *alma mater* of St. Olaf College, and is sung at the close of every concert and important events at St. Olaf and other colleges.

*Won’t You Let Me Be Your Servant*, tune title “The Servant Song,” is a relatively new hymn composed in 1977 by Richard Gillard (b. 1953). Gillard was born in England, but moved to New Zealand when he was only 3 years old. He is a self-trained musician.

*Spirit Of Gentleness*, tune title “Spirit,” is another relatively new hymn composed in 1975 by James K. Manley (b. 1940), who became a UCC pastor in California. Our “New Century Hymnal” was the first to publish it in congregational hymn form.

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** Brian Hafner, David Baker, Lauren Vega, Layne Lebahn, Benny VanDerburgh, Tracy Taylor

**Head Greeter:** Greg Mooney

**Greeters:** Sheryl Mooney, Jenny Benefield

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**St. Arbucks Quartet:** Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** were donated by Andrea and Ron Koepke.

## BORN THIS WEEK IN JANUARY

### **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.*

Jan 12 Serena Garcia Knotts, Petrine Ashley, Susan Rodriguez, Lauren Fangman, Charlie Coe

Jan 13 Phil Canfield, Ginger Hecht, Sune Millard, Molly McGrath

Jan 14 Katie Huber

Jan 15 Jonah Schloerb, Larry Simpson

Jan 16 Kristin Lane Mack, Alan Cramb, Rachel Adams

Jan 17 Mark Weglarz, Angela Adefioye

Jan 18 Brian Nach, Jacob Peterson, Anne Holland, Cara Hotz, Boris Tong

## **2020 POLAR PEACE MARCH**

**January 19 is our 6th Annual Polar Peace March!  
Join us at 11 a.m., after worship, in the Church Courtyard.**

Our streets are all connected in our beloved city. Join your friends, neighbors and staff of UCAN to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. and to raise awareness of UCAN's violence prevention programs. Each dollar donated will be matched 3-1 by an anonymous family foundation - tripling your impact and helping to reduce this systemic violence. The march will begin immediately after our 10 a.m. service and conclude in the Gym, where we will share soup and cookies with our fellow marchers. There is also a mini-march for our little ones. Even if you cannot join us, you may still register and donate at [polarpeacemarch.org](http://polarpeacemarch.org).

Joining us in worship will be our siblings at Lighthouse Church UCC, friends from UCAN, and our preacher will be UCAN's new chaplain, William E. Hall.

Volunteers Needed! Please help us make this event a wonderful success by contributing your time and talent! For more information or to volunteer, call Andrea Koepke at (312) 448-3883.

### **HERE'S HOW THE MONEY WE'VE RAISED IS MAKING AN IMPACT:**

- Over the last three years, shootings and homicides in North Lawndale have declined considerably - down 52% since 2017
- UCAN's Violence Intervention and Prevention programming has grown to serve close to 450 youth - up 30% since 2017
- With increased funds, UCAN has made progress to expand engagement with city officials to strengthen awareness of the effects of exposure to complex trauma

In fiscal year 2020, 211 youth completed quarterly evaluations with the following results:

- 83% reported having a consistent connection to a caring adult
- 76% reported being enrolled in school and/or employed
- 99% of those who completed the participant satisfaction survey agreed that the services provided met their needs

## TODAY

**THE ACCIDENTAL THEOLOGY OF OLIVER SACKS** - 11:30 - 12:30, Oscar Mayer Room

Bill Borden will lead a conversation about neurologist and literary figure Oliver Sacks and the sense of wonder, reverence, and gratitude found in his writings. Contact Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org), to receive the short essays, *Sabbath* and *My Own Life*, which will help guide our discussion. A few printed copies are available in the office.

**CONFIRMAND BAKE SALE** - Please come support Meg Canfield and her sponsor Jan Bail's confirmation bake sale in the Gym during Social Hour. All proceeds will support the Chicago Foundation for Education.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**2020 CHURCH COUNCIL** - St. Pauls Nominating Task Force is currently working to identify and nominate members of St. Pauls who wish to serve on our Church Council. Open 2020 Council positions include: Vice President (2-year term), Treasurer (2-year term), Worship, Formation and Education Ministry (3-year term), Care and Connection Ministry (3-year term), and two At-large Member positions (3-year term). If you are interested in serving on St. Pauls Church Council, or have questions regarding the responsibilities related to certain Council positions, please contact one of the following Nominating Task Force members: Sheryl Mooney, Lois Basil, Mary Brown, Nathan Chamberlin and Emma Peterson. You may also contact current Council President, Karen Johnson, or Pastor Matt Fitzgerald. Contact information is available in the church office member directory, or by calling (773) 348-3829.

**BIBLE OFF BROADWAY** - Our annual tradition of taking this month to explore and use our creative talents continues with our Bible Off Broadway Musical Revue (formerly Bible Story Theatre). Sunday School students from JK to high school all participate, and any adults who would like to be involved are encouraged to join in. Rehearsals will be Sunday mornings on January 12, 19 and 26 from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Even if you cannot make it to all the rehearsals, you can still be in the performance on February 2 at 10 a.m. To get involved, please contact Pastor Sarah at [sgarcia@spucc.org](mailto:sgarcia@spucc.org).

**JOIN OUR ORCHESTRA** - The St. Pauls Intergenerational Orchestra will perform in worship on Sunday, March 1. This year, we celebrate our church's German heritage with an all-Beethoven program. Orchestra members include teens and adults of all ages and abilities. We rehearse immediately after church in the Oscar Mayer Room on February 9, 16 and 23. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or [mwmosley@gmail.com](mailto:mwmosley@gmail.com). If you play a string, woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument, please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

**GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS** - If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, we still need to hear from you. Please go to [forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8](https://forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8) to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative, as mentioned in the November 10, 2019 congregational meeting. If you prefer to complete a paper document, they are available on the front counter of the office next to the labeled return box. Thank you in advance for your participation.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**JAN 19 - 6TH ANNUAL POLAR PEACE MARCH** - 11 a.m., Courtyard, Gym  
See the previous page's announcement for details on this year's Polar Peace March.

**JAN 25 - YOUNG ADULTS GAME NIGHT** - 6 p.m., Dice Dojo 5550 N. Broadway  
Join the St. Pauls Young Adults for a board game night at the Dice Dojo! The Dice Dojo is located just off of the Bryn Mawr Red Line with some residential parking in the neighborhood. All games are free to play and outside food and drink is welcome! RSVP to the Punchbowl evite and Jim Alrutz at [jimalrutz@gmail.com](mailto:jimalrutz@gmail.com) with any questions.

**JAN 26 & FEB 9 - NEW MEMBER CLASSES** - 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room  
Come after worship to these meetings and talk with pastors and members about faith and the community here at St. Pauls. Lunch and childcare are provided. Joining Sunday is February 23. Contact Pastor Matt for more information or to RSVP at [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

**JAN 26 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL BRUNCH** - Jan and Joe Womack are hosting a brunch in their home in Bucktown, adjacent to the 606, on Sunday, January 26 after the 11 a.m. service. Food and beverages will be provided. Bring a willingness to get to know other St. Pauls members. Reservations are limited to the first 20 people who respond. RSVP to Jan at [womack.jan@gmail.com](mailto:womack.jan@gmail.com) or (405) 202-7704.

**FEB 13-20 - 2020 HAITI ADULT MISSION TRIP** - Greg Mooney has reserved this week for an adult mission trip to volunteer at Three Angels orphanage and school with the hope that current tensions will have subsided to make it safe for travel. The need in Haiti is great. If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Greg at [ggreg-mooney@msn.com](mailto:ggreg-mooney@msn.com), or look for him greeting in the Narthex.

**FEB 3 - NEW! YOUNG ADULTS SPIRITED DISCUSSION** - 7:30 p.m., at a TBD bar  
The St. Pauls Young Adults Group is starting a new quarterly event combining theological discussions with social connection. If you are a 20-30-something looking to meet other young adults at church and connect with Pastor Jeff, this is a great way to do so! At our kickoff event, we will discuss our personal theological journeys and what brought us to St. Pauls. Save the date to make some new friends and learn something. More details to come.

**FEB 14 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL POTLUCK DINNER** - Join Saint Pauls Social and collector Susann Craig on Friday, February 14, 6-9 p.m. at her Logan Square loft designed by world famous architect Jeanne Gang. This potluck dinner is limited to the first 25 people who register by calling her at (312) 399-8843. Each guest should bring a dish or drink.

**FEB 15 - LOVELY WINE AND CHOCOLATE TASTING PARTY** - 7:30 p.m. at Hannah and Caleb Bryant's home in Edgewater. Join the Young Adults Group for a wine tasting party! In honor of Valentine's Day, bring a favorite bar of chocolate along with a bottle of wine to share. Toast Hannah's final Young Adults Group event she's planning as she transitions her role. People single, partnered and everywhere in between are welcome. RSVP to the forthcoming Punchbowl evite. Space is limited to the first 20 people who RSVP.

### **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 email Claire Higgins to check open Sundays, [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto:chiggins@spucc.org). There are many Sundays available, but be sure to sign up early so you can bring flowers on your preferred date!

**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 info or to volunteer, contact Linda Patton, [lpattton21@yahoo.com](mailto:lpattton21@yahoo.com).

**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](mailto: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](mailto:mvgrunst@gmail.com).

**FAITH IN ACTION** - Some people call it showing up for a protest. Others call it public witness for the values inherent in our faith. Most of us appreciate being able to do both with like-minded congregational members. We are continually building a Faith-in-Action list of people who wish to receive notice of such protests and gatherings – frequently on short notice due to swift governmental action. Please join this email list by contacting Claire Higgins at [chiggins@spucc.org](mailto:chiggins@spucc.org).

**FAITH AND PUBLIC ISSUES** - Help us connect our faith to critical public issues. Do you wish you knew more from a faith perspective about current issues that are important to our public life? Racism, climate change, immigration, to name a few. FPI programs provide opportunities to ask questions, help us understand issues in depth, and discuss possible action. The FPI Task Force plans these programs and we could use your ideas. Contact Toby Rogers at [toby@rogers-home.com](mailto:toby@rogers-home.com) for information about meetings.

**FEED THE HUNGRY** - Volunteers needed February 16 and February 23. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner as part of the Community Engagement Program (CEP). Teams of 4-6 volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To sign up, contact Jennifer Kew at [CEPsupper@gmail.com](mailto:CEPsupper@gmail.com).

**LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS**

To sign up: [volunteer@lpcsonline.org](mailto: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](http://www.littlelightslp.org). Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at [littlelights@spucc.org](mailto:littlelights@spucc.org).

**LONG CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP** - To join the group and receive updates, email Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**NEW MEMBER CLASSES** - We have new member classes throughout the year. Come after worship to these meetings – announced in the calendar section – and talk with pastors and members about faith and the community here at St. Pauls. Contact Pastor Matt for more information at [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

**NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS** - If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Corie Gallemore know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Corie at [corie.gallemore@gmail.com](mailto:corie.gallemore@gmail.com).

**OUTREACH AND BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE** - Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee would love to have you join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information contact Pauline Taylor, [paulinetaylor933@gmail.com](mailto:paulinetaylor933@gmail.com), or Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

**PARENTS OF LITTLE ONES - POLO** has play dates, Moms night out, Dads night out, family pizza parties, prayer groups, and more activities to support families with little ones between the ages of 0 and 5. If you have young children and would like to get involved, please contact Joanne Tong at [jctong@yahoo.com](mailto:jctong@yahoo.com).

**SARAH'S SIBS** 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** - 7 p.m. Wednesdays  
Our weekly pick-up games are co-ed. Ages range widely and skill levels go from enthusiastic to "I think she played in college." All are welcome!  
[mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

**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.

**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. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto: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](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)), Marti Pechnyo ([mpechnyo@gmail.com](mailto:mpechnyo@gmail.com)), or Barb Kaiser ([bkaiser2213@gmail.com](mailto:bkaiser2213@gmail.com)).

**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](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org).

**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**Please limit announcements to 100 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.*

- Jenny, who lost both her daughter (who leaves behind three children) and her brother in the days before Christmas.
- Jenny Benefield, grieving her mother's death.
- Nancy Bingaman's niece, Julia, continuing to have a difficult recovery from serious liver surgery.
- Husband of Carmen, Pat Kirby's caretaker, who is in critical condition.
- Gary Ashley and family at the death of his mother, Frances.
- Stephen Anderson at the death of his wife, Sally.
- John Schloerb at the death of his father, Robert.
- Nina Whitsel, recovering from surgery.
- Lisa, sister-in-law of Libby Braband and aunt of Emma, as she battles breast cancer.
- Dan and Linda Nitzsche and their family following the death of Dan's father, Earl Nitzsche.
- Jim Brandt and family at the death of his beloved wife, Nancy. A memorial service will take place on January 25.
- Diane Biegert at the death of her father, Rev. John Biegert.
- Dr. Calvin Brown, dear friend of Tom Murray, who lost his battle with pancreatic cancer and passed away on December 1.
- David's granddaughter, Evangeline, born six weeks premature.
- Cindy Zinn Ball and family at the death of her mother, Laini.
- Jan Exworthy at the death of her mother, Lucille.
- Karen, aunt of Layne Lebahn, who is going through cancer treatment.
- Carol B., sister-in-law of Mark P., as she undergoes treatment for cancer.
- Mary Train, recovering from her second knee surgery.
- Mike, friend of Rob and Shannon Castle, in treatment for cancer.
- Pastor Sarah's sister-in-law, Tina, diagnosed with skin cancer.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.
- Veterans and those in wars.

**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

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**ASY  
TO GIVE  
TO S.T. PAULS  
AND SUPPORT OUR 2020 VISION**

Make an annual pledge to St. Pauls, of money, time and talent, and you'll bring our 2020 vision into sharp focus. New ways to give make the process quick and easy. Watch for a pledge card in the mail, look for one in the pews, or get details on our website.

**[spucc.org/2020](http://spucc.org/2020)**

**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 important, over the past 176 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

**Jeff Carlson, Associate Pastor,** jcarlson@spucc.org

**Sarah Garcia, Associate Pastor for Children and Youth,** sgarcia@spucc.org

**Karen E. Johnson, President of the Congregation,** kejpiano@aol.com

**Maddy Lockhart, Director of Operations,** mlockhart@spucc.org

**Tom Henry, Pastor Emeritus,** emeritushenry@gmail.com

**Kurt R. Hansen, Music Director,** kurtsingsbach@gmail.com

**Kevin Dzierzawski, Organist,** kdzierza@att.net

**Brendan Henry, Pianist,** breandanhenry@hotmail.com

**Nancy Voigts, Children's Choir Director,** nvoigtsgod@att.net

**Kecia Waldschmidt, Youth Choir Director,** keciagerman@hotmail.com

**Mark Mosley, Intergenerational Orchestra Director,** mwmosley@gmail.com

**Kevin O'Brien, Lay Liturgical Administrator,** kkobrien48@hotmail.com

Free Parking is available Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2300 block of North Lincoln Ave. – Parking validation is available in the Narthex.



## 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.