

September 18, 2022

* HYMN

God, We Thank You for Your People

1. God, we thank you for our peo-ple, roots dug deep with-in the soil,
2. Thank you, God, for gen-tle plea-sure: les-sons learned and se-crets told,
3. Still we must con-fess be-fore you, some-times, Sav-ior, we have failed;
4. By your Spir-it of cre-a-tion keep us bold for risk-ing still,

har-dy spir-its, rich in lov-ing, strong for strug-gle, bold for toil.
hopes and mem-ories saved as trea-sure, passed to young ones by the old,
though we wor-ship and a-dore you, some-times love has not pre-vailed.
ea-ger in an-ti-ci-pa-tion, ev-er strong to do your will.

Faith-ful Rock of gen-er-a-tions, you whom par-ents' par-ents praised:
Pranks and glo-ries, songs and sto-ries, food by lov-ing hands pre-pared.
Tem-pers rac-ing, dev-il chas-ing, hearts es-tranged by ice or flame
Bind us close to one an-oth-er, shar-ing life and death and birth,

Here in hope as we re-mem-ber may our song to you be raised.
God, we bless you for your pres-ence in our tears and laugh-ter shared.
You trans-form by ways for-giv-ing. Grace a-maz-ing! Grace, your name!
Wel-com-ing as sis-ter, broth-er, all your chil-dren on the earth.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Psalm 139)

**O God, I am an open book to you;
you already know what I am thinking.
You know when I sit down and when I rise.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
you know it completely.
You know me inside and out,
better than I know myself.
Investigate my life, O God;
find out everything about me.
Cross-examine and test me,
get a clear picture of what I'm about;
See if there is any hurtful way in me,
then guide me on the road to life.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

At this time, Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms. We will send them off class by class to leave with their teachers. If you would like to accompany your child(ren), you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.

RESPONSE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

v. 1

1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, bur - dened with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to our God in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to our God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to our God in prayer!

All be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer.
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to our God in prayer!
 Je - sus' arms will take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

Hebrews 11-12, excerpts

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Consider him who endured such hostility against himself from sinners, so that you may not grow weary or lose heart.

* 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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
See previous hymn.

vv. 2 & 3

SERMON

"In the Clouds"

Jeff Carlson

* HYMN

Jerusalem, My Happy Home

1. Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home, when will you
2. There saints are crowned with glo - ry great; they see God
3. There Da - vid stands with harp in hand as mas - ter
4. There Mar - y sings Mag - ni - fi - cat with tune both
5. There Mag - da - len no more la - ments but joins the
6. Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - ru - sa - lem, God grant that

wel - come me? When shall my sor - rows
face to face; They tri - umph still, they
of the choir; Ten thou - sand times would
strong and sweet; And choirs of saints in
ris - ing sound; What tongue can tell or
I may see your end - less joy, and

have an end? Your joys, when shall I see?
will re - jice, de - light - ing in God's grace.
they be blessed that might such mu - ic hear.
har - mo - ny re - sound through ev - ery street.
heart con - ceive the joys that there are found!
of the same par - tak - er ev - er be!

OFFERTORY

Ain'-a That Good News

African American Spiritual

Lee Lichamer, soloist

arr. William Dawson

Chancel Choir

Mark Mosley, conductor

I got a crown up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I got a crown up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I'm goin' to lay down this worl'
Goin'a shoulder up-uh my cross,
Goin'a take it home-a to my Jesus,
Ain'a that good news, good news.

I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl' ...

I got a robe up in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I got a robe up in'a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

I'm going to lay down this worl' ...

I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news,

I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom,
Ain'a that good news!

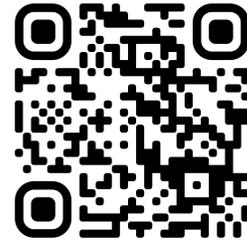
I'm a goin' to lay down this worl' ...

You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:

Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures 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.

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

For All the Saints



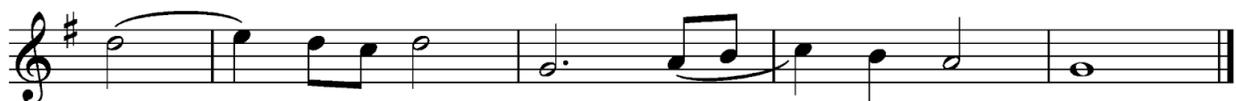
1. For all the saints who from their labors rest, Who
 2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:____
 3. O may thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,____
 4. O blest communion, fellowship divine!____
 5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,____



thee____ by faith before the world confessed, thy
 Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;____
 Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old, And
 We feeblely struggle, they in glory shine; Yet
 Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, And



name O____ Je - sus, be forever____ blest.
 Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
 win with____ them the victor's crown of gold.
 all are____ one in thee, for all are thine.
 hearts are____ brave a - gain, and arms are strong.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

A - men, A - men, A - - - men.

POSTLUDE

Rejoice!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Richard Smallwood

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 to Social Hour in the Gym.

TODAY'S MUSIC

The text for ***Morning Has Broken*** was written by Elinor Farjeon (1881-1965), who also wrote children's books. The tune we know so well, BUNESSAN, is a Gaelic melody.

Joseph Medicott Scriven (1819-1886) wrote the famous text for ***What a Friend We Have in Jesus*** in 1855. He was an Irish immigrant to Canada. His life was full of ill health and grief, which he worked out in Christian poetry. The tune, ERIE, is also known as CONVERSE and was composed in 1868 by John C. Converse (1832 - 1918), who grew up in Erie, Pennsylvania, which explains both tune names. He was an attorney who also composed "church songs." He studied both law and music in Leipzig before returning to this country.

Both the text and tune of ***Jerusalem, My Happy Home***, are of unknown authorship. The earliest version of the text dates from 1565. LAND OF REST is an American folk melody first published in 1832 in *The Christian Harp* hymnal.

Ain'-a That Good News is a great spiritual from the African American tradition. The arranger, William L. Dawson (1898-1990), was choral director for many years at the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. He was responsible along with others of his generation, such as Hall Johnson, for making beautiful arrangements of spirituals that spread the performance and popularity of that music within and beyond the African American community. The Tuskegee Choir gained international stature under Dr. Dawson's leadership.

The author of the text of ***For All the Saints*** was William Walsham How (1823-1897). He penned the poetry we love so much in 1864. How was an Oxford graduate and served many parishes in England throughout his life. Just to prove there can be a sense of humor even in hymn tune names, SINE NOMINE, means "no name" in Latin. The stirring music was written in 1906 by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). He is one of the greatest English composers of the post-Victorian era and composed music for nearly all genres of performance.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen, *returning September 25*

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

St. Arbucks Quartet: Brendan Henry, piano; Alex Austin, bass; Matt Plaskota, drums; Kris Hansen, trumpet & vocals

Scripture Reader: Todd Coe

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, John Balevic, Mary Brown, Doug Clark, Jen Luerssen, Fred Pearson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Camera Operators: Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in memory of Dorothy and Oscar Ekdahl and Armel and Melba Opp from Marcia Opp and Jon Ekdahl.

BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

We give thanks for your life at St. Pauls. A perfect way to celebrate is by giving one dollar for each year of your life to our Birthday Fund, which supports A Just Harvest.

Sept 18 Mead Gifford, Miles Van Denburg, Sean Patton, John Weldon

Sept 19 Chuck Kent

Sept 20 Steve Peterson, Cody Connolly, Ethan Ashley-Ferguson

Sept 21 Grace Stauskas, Julian Jarzebowski, Lindy McGuire

Sept 22 Brooke Roark, Nathan Bultemeier, Phillip Elkins, Annika Hull,
Charlie Rodriguez, Jonah Charlton

Sept 23 Beatrice Jaji, Cosette Millard, Lenore Ettinger, Stefan Millard, Seth Davis,
Sally Kinnamon

Sept 24 Donna Braden, Jennifer Saltarelli, Reannon Fanai Danesh, Robert Castle,
Johnny Busker, Colin Grosshans

WELCOME, ASSOCIATE PASTOR LIZ NICKERSON

We are excited to announce that **Pastor Liz Nickerson** has been hired as St. Pauls next Associate Pastor! Liz has deep roots in Chicago and comes to St. Pauls from Southminster Presbyterian Church in Arlington Heights, where she served as the Associate Pastor for Family Ministry.



Liz is organized, creative, thoughtful, and full of enthusiasm for St. Pauls. She is a gifted preacher, who won the award for pulpit excellence upon graduating from McCormick Theological Seminary. She knows how to plan and follow through, skills built in her time and training as an architect. She is collegially minded, and eager to join our team. She and her husband are raising their family in our neighborhood, and understand the challenge and promise of ministry in Lincoln Park. Her years of pastoral experience leave her with a thorough sense of what it takes to revitalize and lead our Sunday School.

Liz will join the St. Pauls staff full-time on October 3. Her collaborative leadership style will make her a wonderful addition to our staff.

ABOUT THE PROCESS

Hiring decisions for Associate Pastors at St. Pauls are made by the Executive Committee of the Church Council and the Senior Pastor. This effort began in January with a job description written by the Youth and Children's Ministry Revitalization Task Force. This description and our Local Church Profile were posted on the UCC's national job board.

We received interest from more than twenty pastors. Applications were reviewed and applicants were screened in three phases by Pastor Matt and our Interview Team. The Interview Team members were Nancy Curotto, Sharon Collins, Ben Emmrich, Renae Bradshaw, Justin Hartanov, and Pastor Matt.

After receiving enthusiastic feedback about Pastor Liz following the first two steps in this process, the Interview Team viewed several of her sermons and met with Liz for group interviews. These concluded with the Team's unanimous agreement that she would be an excellent Associate Pastor for St. Pauls. The Executive Committee shared the Interview Team's excitement and agreed, unanimously, to extend a call, inviting Rev. Liz Nickerson to serve as an Associate Pastor as the third member of St. Pauls pastoral staff.

Pick up a hard copy of the full announcement and letter from Pastor Liz in the Narthex, or see it online here: mailchi.mp/spucc/welcome_pastor_liz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ST. PAULS YOUTH CHOIRS

Kids' Choirs resume rehearsal today at 9:30 a.m. Kecia Waldschmidt will lead Paul's People for 4th to 8th graders. Breanna Coe and Karen Johnson will lead the Children's Choir for kids K to 3rd grade. Rehearsals are at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. If your child has any interest in music, please join us! We can't wait to finally get back to having youth choirs singing again!

REGISTER FOR (re)NEW SMALL GROUPS!

What part of your life needs a jumpstart? Bring those needs to church this fall and join a (re)NEW GROUP. These are small groups of church members who will meet weekly for eight weeks. Renew Groups will reintroduce you to a God who is making all things new, while introducing you to new friends and a renewed faith.

Sign up by September 24 to be placed in a group – you can note group affinity preferences in the sign-up. Groups will begin the week of October 2.

Questions? Please contact Pastor Matt, mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1425620

VOLUNTEER FOR OKTOBERFEST, Saturday, October 1, 3-9 p.m.

St. Pauls Oktoberfest block party returns this fall. How do we pour 600 beers, serve 500 brats/hot dogs, and run kids' activities for six hours? With the help of many volunteers! Can we count on you to be one of them? As a volunteer, you will work a 2-hour shift and receive a free food/drink ticket, as well as enjoy the chance to meet new friends, support St. Pauls neighborhood outreach efforts, and have fun! Please sign up here, spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1429089, or contact Lorne Frank at lornefrank@lornefrank.com. PROST!

RECYCLE CRAYONS, MARKERS, HIGHLIGHTERS, GLUE STICKS & MORE!

Sponsored By Green Team & Little Lights

Overconsumption and a throwaway culture have led to our global waste crisis. While waste piles up in landfills damaging our environment, virgin materials are used for new products. Crayons are one example of a petroleum product that takes years to biodegrade. Help divert these items from landfills or incineration. Collect these school, office, and art supplies and place them in designated boxes in the Narthex.

- All crayons - broken, used, new, wrapped or not (separate box than rest)
- All brands markers/caps, highlighters/caps, pens/caps, mechanical pencils, glue stick tubes/caps, watercolor paint trays, flexible packaging from these items

REGISTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!

If you plan to have your child or youth participate in Sunday School during the 2022-2023 school year, we ask that you please register them at the link below. This is a one-time registration for the school year. Please register each child who will be attending. Sunday School is open to children 2-years-old to high school. Our Nursery will be open for children under age 2. Email questions to Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield at danielle.mayfield@spucc.org.

Register here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755

ELECTION WATCH 2022: UCC's "Our Faith Our Vote"

Our denomination, the United Church of Christ, strongly supports involvement in voting, elections and policy making. It's part of our congregational DNA. The UCC's "Our Faith Our Vote" campaign is the UCC's ongoing commitment to equip churches and members with the tools for non-partisan, faithful engagement in our democratic process; it involves voter registration, issue education and voter empowerment. According to UCC General Minister and President Rev. John Dorhauer, "Politics is often taken to be a dirty word... For people of faith, public policy is never merely politics. It is a way of living out the commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves." Rev. Traci Blackmon, UCC Associate General Minister of Justice and Local Church Ministries, adds, "We are the church. We're not going to tell you who to vote for. But I am going to tell you to vote for yourself, for your principles, for what you say you live by." Be involved! www.ucc.org

LINCOLN PARK ZOO ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Recycle old cell phones, small electronic devices, and battery chargers at Lincoln Park Zoo Searle Visitor Center, **now through September 24**. Lincoln Park Zoo is partnering with institutions across the globe for Gorillas on the Line. Coltan (used to manufacture small electronics) is hand-mined in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a prime gorilla habitat. The deforestation of coltan mining displaces these critically endangered species. lpzoo.org/gorillas-on-the-line-will-you-answer-the-call

CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

REDUCE ELECTRICITY USAGE

- Take stock of your energy usage.
- Contact your utilities to see if they have an energy audit of your home. Usually they are free and helpful.
- Alternatively, you can examine your gas and electric bills, comparing several years of data. Then use the data on an online calculator such as Energy Use Calculator, energyusecalculator.com, or the Carbon Footprint Calculator from the Nature Conservancy, tinyurl.com/vs7dzexz.

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Does your home's deed contain racist language? While they are no longer enforceable, restrictive racial covenants exist in many deeds for older properties. In fact, Chicago, which has a long history of racial segregation in housing, played an outsized role in the spread of restrictive covenants. Learn more about their history and what they look like here: tinyurl.com/3v8k2pmm. Find out what you can do to remove this language here: tinyurl.com/2s4729a9.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

See our full event calendar online at spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar

Evening meetings enter through the courtyard door

TODAY - BACK TO (SUNDAY) SCHOOL & BAKE SALE - 11 a.m., Gym

We're holding a Back to (Sunday) School & Bake Sale for Saint Pauls families after worship today. Find gently used quality kids' clothes, toys, other items, and baked goods.

SEPT 21 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

Our last three sessions will be the last three chapters of the Gospel of Luke from the Last Supper to Easter. All are welcome! Get the Zoom link from Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPT 22 - ST. PAULS YOUNG ADULTS FALL KICK-OFF - 7-9 p.m., Pastor Jeff & Joe's, 130 S. Canal Street, Apt. 818. Get to know and reconnect with other young adults at the home of Pastor Jeff and Joe. Supper and beverages will be provided. Just bring yourself. Their home is convenient to CTA 'L' and bus routes and there is metered street parking or garage parking available in the area. Let us know you're coming here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1418743.

SEPT 25 - ST. PAULS MEDICAL FAIR - 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Gym

We will cover: 1. AED Demonstration, 2. Blood Pressure, 3. 5 Wishes, 4. Vaccinations, given by Aisha, Rph from Walgreens, no appointment needed. Covid, Shingles, Pneumonia, and Flu shots. Kids under 18 need to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Remember to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare card or insurance card for the pneumonia and shingles shots. See the event link for more details! spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar/event/109116485

SEPT 25 - NEW MEMBER CLASS - 11 a.m., Social Hall

Join pastors, members, and others curious about Saint Pauls for our Fall 2022 New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet in the Social Hall after worship and childcare will be provided as needed (please let us know in the sign-up). Register here, spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1406657, or contact Pastor Matt for more information at mfitzgerald@spucc.org.

OCT 15 - TOM HENRY MEMORIAL - 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

The memorial service honoring beloved St. Pauls Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry will be Saturday, October 15, at 10:30 a.m. A reception in the Social Hall will follow the service.

OCT 23 - THE BATTLE OF LINCOLN PARK BOOK DISCUSSION - 11:15 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room. In the years after WWII, a movement began to bring the middle class back from the Chicago suburbs to Lincoln Park, which was full of old, poorly maintained apartments. But as the old buildings came down, cheap studios were combined to create ever more spacious, luxurious homes. Property values rose and people were evicted and conflict developed: Who is this neighborhood for? And who gets to decide? We'll discuss the book by Daniel Kay Hertz. Discover what St. Pauls was up to during these years. Sign up to attend here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1445978.

OPPORTUNITIES

ACTIVISM & ADVOCACY MINISTRY – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls Activism & Advocacy Ministry would love you to join us in keeping our church engaged in community outreach. For more information, contact Jennifer Kew, JenniferLKew@gmail.com, or Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

ALTAR FLOWERS – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way to celebrate a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers. There are still many dates available this year! Sign up for 2022 dates at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968.

THE BOOK NOOK – Find your next good read or drop off books to share on the north side of the Social Hal. Donations are welcome – just add them to the shelf for “New Arrivals” or leave them on the floor next to the bookcase. We appreciate all genres, including books for kids. Questions or comments, contact Linda Nitzsche at lindanitz@yahoo.com.

CHURCH CENTER – spucc.churchcenter.com is our portal for the Saint Pauls community. See our calendar, register for events, update your information, join our photo directory, manage your online donations, see your giving history, and more!

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.

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS – You may follow this link for additional information on this form developed by the Connectors: spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271.

GREEN TEAM – Members of St. Pauls formed its Green Team several years ago because of their strong interest in environmental and ecological issues, and to sharpen the congregation’s awareness and actions on these issues.

Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro, the founding co-chairs of this group, are stepping down. They have truly nurtured and guided the Green Team with patience, devotion and knowledge through many challenges. We are immensely grateful for their service.

The recent UN climate report reads like a litany of planetary suffering. As people of faith, members of St. Pauls are called to “Care for Creation.” To that end, the Green Team is seeking new members, particularly young adults and youth, as we become a Creation Justice church, recognized by the UCC. We would love to have you! If you are interested, please contact either of the new interim Green Team co-chairs, Ninon Freeman at nlanda05@yahoo.com or Rick Peterson at rnpeterson2017@gmail.com.

LITTLE LIGHTS is a St. Pauls early childhood program with classes for 2, 3, and 4-year-olds. We are now accepting applications for the 2022/23 school year. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. If you would like to schedule a tour or have additional questions, contact Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

PICKLEBALL

Have you tried the growing sport of Pickleball yet? It's like a small court version of tennis and is gaining in popularity all over the U.S. We hold pick-up games in the St. Pauls gym every week. Sign up at the ChurchCenter link below and show up at one of the allotted times! We have spare paddles and balls. All skill levels are invited. If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636.

Game Times: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m; Fridays: 2-3 p.m.

spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball

SAINT PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list at eepurl.com/gQ4Eg1, or look out for future events announced in the bulletin calendar.

SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed for the 10 a.m. in-person worship service each week to read the scripture passage of the day. Learn more and sign up here:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008

SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources, and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at cindyinn11@gmail.com.

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).

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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please send any announcements you would like in the following week's bulletin or Friday email to chiggins@spucc.org no later than 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

Please limit announcements to 100 words. Thank you!

SAINT PAULS PRAYS

Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, 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.

- Kompare family, displaced from their home after a fire in their building.
- Pat Kirby, facing serious health issues that may lead to blindness.
- Mary Stainton, for her operation on 9/21.
- Deon Fayhee and family on the death of his grandfather, Raymond.
- Jennifer, sister-in-law of Sarah and Mark Mosley, as she continues her recovery from an aneurysm.
- The family and friends of Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry at his death.
- Annie Johnson at the death of her mother, Jean.
- Becky Blank, her husband, Hanns Kuttner, and their daughter Emily as Becky undergoes treatment for an aggressive form of cancer.
- Michael Toomin, as he recovers from a back injury and is undergoing physical therapy.
- Sergio, grandson of Ivy Sanz, who doctors are concerned might have leukemia.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. Help is available for every kind of issue. Contact one of the pastors today for support, referrals, and information that can help you and your loved ones.

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 and Affirming" of LGBTQ people.

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.

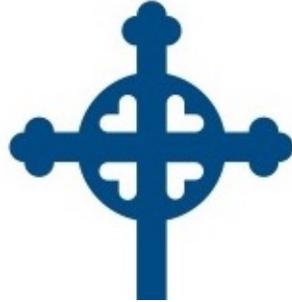
Most important, over the past 178 years we are glad to have introduced thousands of children and adults to the amazing, inclusive, life changing, uplifting love of God. We do so in worship that is traditional, but far from conventional.

Senior Pastor Matt Fitzgerald, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, *October 6, 1943 - August 27, 2022*

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
Please visit www.spucc.org/contact

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
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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.