

September 16, 2018
Baptism Sunday

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

Please silence cell phones.

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

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"If there is any lesson that the past teaches us, it is to be prepared for new events, because God loves to create afresh and do surprising things."

David F. Ford

PRELUDE

D'rum sing ich meine Liede Felix Mendelssohn
from Symphony No. 2 "Lobgesang" (Hymn of Praise) Op. 52
(Sung in German)
Elisse Albian, soprano; Kurt R. Hansen, tenor; and
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

So I will ever sing my song to your praise, O true God.
And thank you for all the good things which you have done for me!
And though I wander in the night and deep darkness,
And my enemies gather around me;
So I will call upon the Name of the Lord,
And He saves me of out of His graciousness.
So I will ever sing my song to your praise, O true God.
Wandering in the night, I call upon Your Name, eternal, true God!
from Psalms 28, 31, and 103

INTROIT

Nun danket alle Gott Johann Crüger
(Now Thank We All Our God)
Chancel Choir
Breanna Coe, conductor

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

*WELCOMING EACH OTHER

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that the Lord has made!

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: Enter this place with thanksgiving.

All: And fill this sanctuary with praise.

One: Come into God's presence, just as you are.

All: Come to be embraced by the loving arms of God!

* HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* Red Hymnal No. 274, vv. 1-2, 4

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
Fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy promised rest.
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**Please stand if you are able*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Love Divine, we confess that we take your love,
and all of your good gifts, for granted.**

**We live as if we were self-made men and women,
when all that we are and have comes from you.**

**We are preoccupied with our own self-interest,
and do not love our neighbors as ourselves.**

Open our eyes to the wonders of your love.

Captivate us with the beauty of Christ,

Renew us in the life of your Spirit. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 419, v.1

Now thank we all our God with heart and hand and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM of

Oliver Maxwell Schneir and Grady Randall Hartanov

Pastor: Oliver and Grady, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as children of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Oliver and Grady are 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 children Oliver and Grady. Inspire their lives. May they sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for their parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with these families 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

At this time Sunday School students will be 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, you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.

*RESPONSE Black Hymnal No. 325, v. 1, 3

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

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

ANTHEM

Et incarnatus est
from Mass in C Minor K. 427
(sung in Latin)

W. A. Mozart

Elisse Alban, soprano
Monty Adams, flute; Mark Mosley, oboe; Bill Buchman, bassoon;
and Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary
and was made human.

from the Nicene Creed in Ordinary of the Mass

THE BIBLICAL WORD FOR THIS DAY

Cindy Ball

Philippians 2:1-13 *The Message*

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you care— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a humble, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion.

Because of that, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father. What I'm getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you've done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I'm separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure.

*A STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

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

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

We are not alone. Thanks be to God!

(adapted from the United Church of Canada)

*RESPONSE

Black Hymnal No. 419, v. 3

All praise and thanks to God our Maker now be given,
To Christ, and Spirit, too, our help in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

SERMON

“Growing Toward God Together”

Jeff Carlson

*RESPONSE

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant Black Hymnal No. 539, vv. 1-4,

6

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are travelers on the road;
We are here to help each other go the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shadow of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Won't you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

MISSION MOMENT

Short Circles

Karin Magnuson

OFFERTORY

Avinu Malkeynu
(Sung in Hebrew)
Chancel Choir
Nancy Pifer, soprano

Max Janowski

Our Father, our King, hear our prayer.
Our Father, our King, we have sinned before Thee.
Our Father, our King, have mercy upon us and upon our children.
Our Father, our King, keep far from our country pestilence, war and famine.
Our Father, our King, cause all hate and oppression to vanish from the earth.
Our Father, our King, inscribe us for blessing in the book of life.
Our Father, our King, grant unto us a year of happiness.
from the liturgy for the High Holy Days

*FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

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

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 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Red Hymnal No. 309

Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns All music but its own;
Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife For those he came to save;
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring, And lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified;
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye At mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years, The potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, Ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail Throughout eternity.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Amen, amen, amen*

POSTLUDE *Rejoice!* Richard Smallwood
St. Arbucks Trio *with* Kris Hansen, trumpet

***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 Social Hall.***

TODAY'S ANTHEMS cover music from the Classical, Romantic, and Modern periods, and also represent music from the concert hall, church, and synagogue. We rarely have a sung Prelude, but how fitting in this 175th year that we should honor our German heritage with great music of praise in that language. The duet is preceded in Lobegesang by and is an answer to an extended chorale setting *Nun danket alle Gott* (Now Thank We All our God), which we will sing as an introit and as responses today. Mendelssohn viewed his Lobgesang as a "symphony cantata," bringing praise of God into the concert hall. Mozart's setting of the text *Et incarnatus est* in his Mass in C Minor is a sublime quartet for soprano, flute, oboe and bassoon. Notice the cadenza near the end when the soprano and instruments trade ever more beautiful and intertwining phrases. The Latin word receiving the most decoration is *factus*, which means created or made, and was made human, God creating Christ. The Janowski setting of the prayer *Avinu Malkeynu* is sung in nearly every synagogue in many countries. He wrote his setting in 1967 while sitting at the kitchen table of the rabbi of KAM-Isaiah Israel Congregation, Jacob Weinstein, in Hyde Park. The fervent prayer is part of the High Holy Days liturgy and is repeated on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Now Thank We All Our God was written during a very dark time, the Thirty Years' War. The poet, Martin Rinkart (1586-1649), was the son of a poor coppersmith and was a boy chorister at Thomaskirche in Leipzig, which would become Bach's church. He was ordained as a Lutheran pastor. With the exception of *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*, this is the most famous German hymn.

Among the musicians we welcome this morning are three guests and two regulars. Elisse Alban is beginning her junior year as a voice major at UCLA. She is a former student of her very proud teacher, Kurt Hansen. This is her third year returning to sing a duet with Kurt in our worship. She spent the summer singing in Italy. We also welcome her family. Monty Adams along with his wife, harpist Phyllis, has been a regular for many years at our Christmas Eve services. Bill Buchman is a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and also the husband of our bass section leader, Lee Lichamer. Mark Mosley is a long time member of St. Pauls. With his wife, Sarah Good Mosley, he formed and co-directs Windy City Winds, directs our own Intergenerational Orchestra, and often leads the St. Pauls Brass. Nancy Pifer is also a long time member of St. Pauls and the soprano section leader of our Chancel Choir. Recently she returned from England where she was playing in a brass band festival on the alto horn.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Gloria Joseph, Fred Pearson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Consider the Lilies: Jan Bail

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are in celebration of the birthdays of Ryan and Rob Castle.

A MEMORIAL GIFT to the Colleen Henry Hospitality Fund was made by Liz Raiman, in honor of Colleen Henry.

A MEMORIAL GIFT to the Sam Hill Music Fund was made by Juanita Barlow, in honor of Jack Hogan.

BORN THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

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.

Sep 16 Sylvia Pine

Sep 17 Chelsey Sylvester, Jeff Johnson

Sep 18 DJ Watson, Miles Van Denburg, Sean Patton

Sep 19 Avena Ward, Chuck Kent, Paquita Miller

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

Sep 21 Grace Stauskas, Julian Jarzebowski, Lindy McGuire

Sep 22 Annika Hull, Brooke Roark, Charlie Rodriguez, Jonathan Charlton, Nathan Bultemeier, Phillip Elkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER CLASS - Curious about Saint Pauls? Our next round of classes will be held October 14 and October 21. Contact Pastor Matt to register at mfitzgerald@spucc.org

GOD IS CALLING SAINT PAULS! - Our fall sermon series explores the six calls in our strategic plan. Each week we'll hear how God calls us to ...

Grow Toward Each Other 9/9

Grow Toward God Together 9/16

Use Our Building for Service and Mission 9/23

Live Our Faith in an Age of Injustice 10/7

Increase Our Diversity 10/14

Tend Our Finances Faithfully 10/21

SUNDAY SCHOOL - On Sunday mornings we offer Sunday school for children ages 2 to 18. Children come for the beginning of worship and then are invited to go to Sunday school for 45 minutes. We also offer nursery care for infants and toddlers. Please register all of your children for Sunday School at www.spucc.org/churchschool. Contact Pastor Sarah sgarcia@spucc.org if you have questions.

YOUTH CHOIRS START AGAIN - On Sunday September 16, our youth choirs will begin again for children 2 years old to high school. Please make sure to have your child sing joyfully with us this new year. For information and whom to contact see <http://www.spucc.org/worship-music/youth-choirs>

OKTOBERFEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - How do we pour 750 beers, serve 600 brats/hot dogs and run games for six hours? With the help of our awesome volunteers! Can we count on you to be one of them? St. Pauls' Oktoberfest will be Saturday, September 22, 3 - 9 p.m. 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 lots of fun! Please sign-up online at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094fa9ad29a20-stpauls> or contact Lorne Frank directly at lornefrank@lornefrank.com. Thank you!

NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE? - If so, come to coffee hour on September 23rd or 30th and Barb Arsenault, a deputy registrar, will register you. You will need to bring two pieces of ID, one with your current address, e.g., driver's license, state ID, utility bill or piece of mail. Additionally a credit card, student ID, library card, can be used for the second piece. Voting is one of our rights as U.S. citizens. Exercise that right!

SHORT CIRCLES - Do you want to experience growth in your spiritual life? Short Circles, our fall small prayer groups, are forming now. We meet weekly for six weeks beginning in late September, concluding in mid-November. Contact chiggins@spucc.org to register.

CHURCH GRANDPARENTS - We will pair Saint Pauls "grand members" with church families who have infants and young children. As these new friendships form, each will take its own shape. Activities could include praying for each other, reading stories, visiting, etc. Saint Pauls older members are incredible people! Saint Pauls young families are remarkable, as well. Let's get to know each other. You can still sign up by emailing Pastor Sarah at sgarcia@spucc.org.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES - If you have a daughter or son in college, please send Pastor Sarah their mailing address so the Connectors can send them a care package this fall. sgarcia@spucc.org

FEED THE HUNGRY - Additional volunteers needed on October 21 and October 28 for Community Engagement Program (CEP) meals. Each week St. Pauls welcomes homeless and hungry people to Sunday dinner. Volunteers prepare and serve dinner. To find available dates and to sign up, contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com

LINCOLN AVENUE PARKING GARAGE CONSTRUCTION - Starting Friday, August 17, the main north entrance of the Lincoln Avenue parking garage will be closed for construction for approximately three months. The parking lot will be accessible via the south entrance of the garage also located on Lincoln Avenue. Visit LincolnCommon.com for additional project details.

BEAN BAGS CHAIRS OR CHILL SACS - We are looking for large beanbag chairs or chill sacs for the Confirmation 2 classroom. If you have any or would be willing to purchase one for us please let Pastor Sarah know. sgarcia@spucc.org

SEPTEMBER 16 - CONFIRMATION BRUNCH - 11:15 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room
Confirmation 1 and Confirmation 2 students and families are invited to join us for brunch and the opportunity to learn about the plans for the coming year.

SEPTEMBER 16 - YOUNG ADULT MONTHLY BRUNCH - 11 a.m.
Join the Young Adults as we resume our monthly brunch after worship. We will gather during Social Hour and walk to Broken English Taco Pub, 2576 N. Lincoln. Email Hannah at youngadults@spucc.org with any questions and RSVP.

SEPTEMBER 17 - "LES MISERABLES" DISCUSSION - 7 p.m., Parlor
Come discuss the first half of Victor Hugo's classic, "Les Misérables" with the Long, Classic Novel Reading Group. New members are always welcome. For more information or to RSVP: Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPTEMBER 22 - SATURDAY BIBLE STUDY - 10-11:45 a.m., Parlor
How did the early Christians survive in the midst of a hostile empire? We'll explore that question in a two-part series on the early Christian document Colossians - an "explosive and subversive tract in the context of the Roman empire and in the imperial realities of our own time." Newcomers are always welcome.
RSVP: jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPTEMBER 22 - OKTOBERFEST - 3-9 p.m., Courtyard
Prost! It's Munich meets Chicago as St. Pauls hosts Oktoberfest in celebration of our German heritage. Tap into the excitement of this Bavarian tradition with an evening of authentic German food and beer, live music and dancing, a jumpy-house, corn-pit, and games for all ages. This year's live entertainment will feature everyone's favorite oompah band, *Die Musikmeisters*. It's open and free to all so invite your neighbors and friends. If it rains, the event will be held in the gymnasium. Stay tuned for fun volunteer opportunities!

SEPTEMBER 23 - JOY - 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Parlor
We will read together some of the poems collected by Christian Wiman in his recent book, "Joy: 100 Poems." Wiman writes, "The best way of thinking through any existential problem is with poetry, which does not 'think through' such a problem so much as undergo it ... What might that one word [joy], in these wild times mean?"
RSVP: Steve Peterson, sspeterson01@gmail.com.

SEPTEMBER 30 -

CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY PRESIDENT DR. STEPHEN RAY

On 9/30 we'll welcome Dr. Ray to our pulpit. A terrific preacher, Dr. Ray is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and Yale University, he also serves as the President of the Society of Black Religion. That same Sunday morning the ELMHURST COLLEGE CHAMBER SINGERS will join us in worship. They will sing a choral postlude, an anthem, and sing with our Chancel Choir for the Benediction Response. St. Pauls has a long association with UCC related Elmhurst College.

SEPTEMBER 30 - FAITH AND CITIZENSHIP - 11:30 a.m., Parlor

What is the role of progressive Christians in the current political climate? Is there a moral high ground for political leaders anymore? Was there ever? Please join Rev. Dr. Stephen Ray, new President of the Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS), in a Faith and Public Issues roundtable discussion of these questions following worship.

SEPTEMBER 30 - BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS - 9 a.m., Parlor

If you have a child that you want to have baptized, come to this 45-minute class. Infants are welcome to attend. Come learn how to schedule a baptism, how to get your child ready, what godparents actually are, and what it all means for you and your little one. Contact Pastor Matt to register at mfitzgerald@spucc.org

SEPTEMBER 30 - FLU AND PNEUMONIA SHOTS - 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Social Hall
Pharmacist Asiha from Walgreens on Clark Street will be providing flu and pneumonia shots. These shots are covered under Medicare Part B with a valid Medicare card. For those under 65, bring your insurance card. Without insurance, the flu shot costs \$31.99 and the double flu shot for those over 65 years old costs \$59. The Prevanar shot (which covers 13 strains of pneumonia) is \$229.99. Please bring your Medicare card or insurance card. You can pay by check or cash.

OCTOBER 1 - CHRISTIANITY 101 - 7:30 p.m., Parlor

Join Pastor Matt and fellow young adults in the parlor 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.

OCTOBER 3 - FIRST WEDNESDAY BINGO - 12-1:30 p.m. Parlor

Attention bingo lovers, we are going to host a lunch and BINGO for First Wednesday next month. There will be prizes. Cost is \$10. All are welcome! To RSVP, contact Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org or 773-348-3829 ext. 2046.

OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

COLLEEN HENRY WRITING CENTER - Tutors Needed

This program at Lincoln Park High School was initiated by St. Pauls and developed in connection with the English and Social Studies Departments. Tutors volunteer 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.

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

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

LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY SHELTER NEEDS OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS

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

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

LONG, CLASSIC NOVEL READING GROUP - Summer/Fall book is Victor Hugo's classic "Les Miserables." First half discussion: Sept. 17, 7 p.m., Parlor. New members are always welcome. For more information or to RSVP: Jeff Carlson at jcarlson@spucc.org.

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

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

STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS - If you're in need of support through a tough time and would like to be matched with someone who would support you with companionship and prayer, or you're feeling called to offer support, speak to Pastor Jeff Carlson (jcarlson@spucc.org), Marti Pechnyo (mpechnyo@gmail.com), or Barb Kaiser (bkaiser2213@gmail.com).

SAINT 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.

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

- Layne Lebahn's grandmother, Judy Lebahn, facing the final stages of leukemia.
- Dennis, recovering from surgery following an accident.
- Jessica Ashley and family as they prepare for her boyfriend Darren McGraw's one-year deployment with the Army National Guard.
- One of the tutors at the Colleen Henry Writing Center at Lincoln Park H.S., diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Libby, Dan and Emma Braband on the death of Libby's mother.
- Dale, who has cancer.
- Ashley and Heather Cerkan on the death of their grandfather, Ron.
- Pearlie struggling with health problems.
- Wade, who is in the final stages of terminal cancer.
- Sally and Janine Fletcher and family at the sudden death of their cousin, Scott.
- Sonja Rae and family at the death of her husband Jack Hogan.
- Don Vossburg, former St. Pauls member.
- Karl Wirsum, in rehabilitation for mini-strokes.
- The family and friends of Rachel Serber Duncan at her death. Rachel played trumpet for our Easter Brass for many years.
- Larry Howell undergoing chemo with complications.
- Dede Koldyke, beating cancer.
- Bobbi Gannello, diagnosed with lymphoma.
- Amy Newman's sister, Linda, being treated for cancer.

You are beloved - to others, to the world you live in, and most importantly, 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.

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ABOUT ST. PAULS
Making a joyful sound in the city

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

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

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

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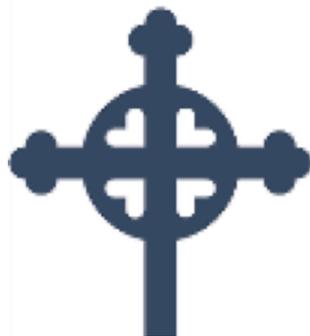
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Free Parking is available on Sundays from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Lincoln Avenue Parking Garage,
2300 block of North Lincoln Ave. - Vouchers Not Needed



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.