

September 12, 2021
Kickoff Sunday

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

Children are asked to go to Sunday School before worship begins.
Bibles for use during worship are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary.
Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.
Please silence cell phones.

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"In resurrection there is simple affirmation."

Hilda Dolittle

PRELUDE

Oh, Happy Day!
St. Arbucks Quartet

Edwin Hawkins

INTROIT

Lift Every Voice and Sing
Chancel Choir

J. Rosamond Johnson

Lift every voice and sing,
'Til earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty,
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies,
Let it resound, loud as the rolling sea. Amen.

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: If you long for joy, sing to the Lord!

All: Let the whole earth sing!

One: Take a deep breath. Fill your lungs with life!

All: Let all creation sing!

Animals, birds, flowers and trees!

One: Christ is alive and we live in God's world.

All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

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

* HYMN

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1. A might - y for - tress is___ our God, A bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our_ own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un -
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a -



fail - ing; Our help - er he___ a - mid_ the flood Of
 los - ing, Were not the right man on___ our side, The
 - do___ us, We will not fear, for God_ hath willed His
 - bid - eth; The Spir - it and_ the gifts_ are ours Through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe Doth
 man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ
 truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim, We
 him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, This



seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, And
 Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his name. From
 trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en - dure, For
 mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.
 age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.
 lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell___ him.
 truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God,
help us see that
faith is not a risk,
or a trick, or a dodge;
faith is a relief.
We feel better when
we lay our burdens down.
So we give you our cares,
that you may care for us;
our fears, that you may quiet them;
our thoughts, that you may cleanse them;
our disbelief, that you might transform it,
all this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian African American Spiritual
Chancel Choir

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

SCRIPTURE

Todd Coe

Psalm 116:1-9

I love the Lord, for he heard my voice;
he heard my cry for mercy.
Because he turned his ear to me,
I will call on him as long as I live.
The cords of death entangled me,
the anguish of the grave came over me;
I was overcome by distress and sorrow.
Then I called on the name of the Lord:
"Lord, save me!"
The Lord is gracious and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.
The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
Return to your rest, my soul,
for the Lord has been good to you.

* 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

Be Thou My Vision

vs. 1 & 2



1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,
4. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



Nought be all else to me save that thou art,
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
My I reach heav'n's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!



Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;
Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

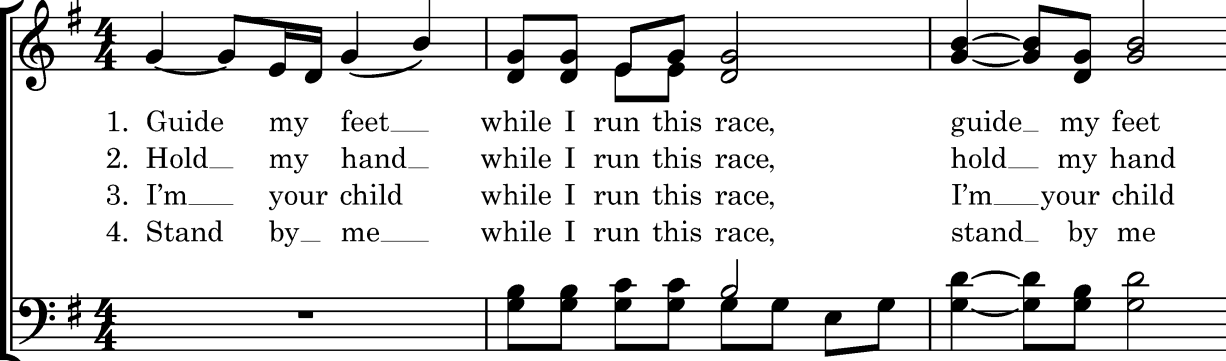
SERMON

"Keep It Simple, Simple"

Matt Fitzgerald


* HYMN

Guide My Feet



1. Guide my feet___ while I run this race, guide_ my feet
2. Hold_ my hand_ while I run this race, hold_ my hand
3. I'm___ your child while I run this race, I'm___your child
4. Stand by_ me___ while I run this race, stand_ by me

Yes, my God.



while I run this race, guide_ my feet___ while I run this race,
while I run this race, hold_ my hand_ while I run this race,
while I run this race, I'm___ your child_ while I run this race,
while I run this race, stand_ by_ me___ while I run this race,

Yes, my God.



For I don't want_____ to_ run this race in vain.

OFFERTORY

Sim Shalom

Max Janowski

(Sung in Hebrew)

Kurt R. Hansen, tenor

Chancel Choir

Grant us peace, goodness and blessing,

Grace, kindness and mercy,

To us and all your people Israel.

Bless us our Father, all of us as one

Through the light of your presence.

Truly through the light of your presence,

Adonai our God.

You gave us a Torah of life – love of kindness,

Justice, blessing, mercy, life, and peace.

May you see fit to bless your people Israel

At all times, at every hour, with your peace.

Praised are you Adonai,

Who blesses your people Israel with peace.

from the High Holy Days liturgy

You can give to St. Pauls by:

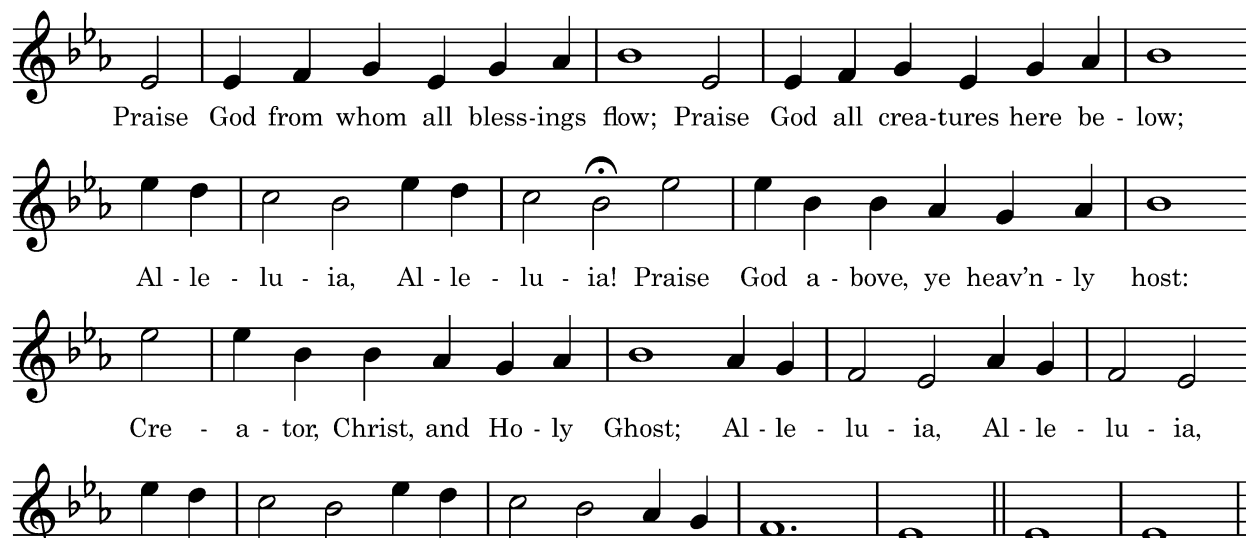
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes. The lyrics are: "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."

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

Benny VanDerburgh

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

What a Covenant

1. What a cov - e - nant, what a joy di - vine, lean - ing
2. Oh, how sweet to walk in this pil - grim way, lean - ing
3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean - ing

on the ev - er - last - ing arms. What a bless - ed - ness,
on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Oh, how bright the path
on the ev - er - last - ing arms? I have bless - ed peace

what a peace is mine, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
grows from day to day, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.
with my Sav - ior near, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

Lean - ing, lean - ing, safe and se - cure from all a - larms;

lean - ing, lean - ing, lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

Final from Symphony No 1 in D minor, Op. 14
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Louis Vierne

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 outside in the Courtyard, weather permitting.

ALTAR CLOTHS AND PARAMENTS

Our altar cloths and paraments change colors when the seasons of the church year shift and were made by members of Saint Pauls.

Purple is for the seasons of Advent and Lent, made by Deborah Rose.

White is for the seasons of Christmas and Easter, made by Lynn Dykstra Davis.

Red is for special Sundays and symbolizes the Holy Spirit (Pentecost, Reformation Sunday, Ordinations), made by Deborah Rose.

Green is for ordinary time, made by Deborah Rose.

TODAY'S MUSIC

O Happy Day was composed by Edwin Hawkins (1943 - 2018). He was an artist of wide ranging talents: gospel musician, singer, pianist, composer, arranger, and choir master. He was born in Oakland, CA and was already playing keyboards at age 7 for his family's gospel group. *O Happy Day* is his most performed and remembered work.

The Introit, ***Lift Every Voice and Sing***, is the joyous refrain of a longer hymn that is the unofficial anthem of Black churches and the Civil Rights Movement. J. Rosamond Johnson (1873-1954), the composer, and James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938), the poet, were brothers who crafted this wonderful hymn together. They also wrote Broadway musicals and edited song collections as a team.

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God is arguably the greatest Martin Luther (1483 - 1546) hymn and encapsulated the theology of the Lutheran Church. The original version is almost dance-like in rhythm. The processional hymn presents a more majestic march.

This arrangement of ***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*** was composed in 1995 by Moses Hogan (1957-2003). In his all too brief life, Moses Hogan continued and amplified the great tradition of spiritual arrangement that William Dawson is part of. He recorded a number of compact disks and provided solo arrangements for singers like Kathleen Battle. He was commissioned by St. Pauls to write an anthem, *I Got a Home In-a That Rock*, in honor of Ron McCowan's 25 years of service to this congregation. Mr. Hogan invited Ron and our Chancel Choir to sing that anthem with his professional choir when they sang in Chicago.

Be Thou My Vision is an Irish folk tune, SLANE. The translation was made in 1905 from the original Gaelic by Mary E. Byrne (1880 - 1931), who was born in Ireland.

Guide My Feet is another uplifting spiritual from the African American tradition. It is one of the many songs that was sung during marches in the Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s. The believer asks God to guide them on the path of life.

Sim shalom (Grant us peace) was composed in 1952 by Max Janowski (1912-1991). He was Cantor and Director of Music at KAM-Isaiah Israel Congregation in Chicago for 50 years. Kurt and Terry Hansen sang with him for his last 17 years. Kurt was recently appointed to the board of the Janowski Foundation. Mr. Janowski was truly one of the "great lights" of Jewish music of the 20th century. *Sim shalom* is one of his most performed works and is a prayer for peace made on Rosh Hashanah. At the 20th anniversary of 9/11, the words of this anthem couldn't be more appropriate.,

What a Covenant is also known as *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*. The text is by Eisha Hoffman (1879 - 1939). He was educated at Union Seminary and served a

number of Congregational churches. The tune, SHOWALTER, takes the name of its composer A. J. Showalter (1858 - 1924). He composed more than 100 hymns. He was deeply influenced by the American shaped-note tradition.

The ***Final*** from Symphony No. 1 in D minor, Op 14 was composed by Louis Vierne (1870 - 1937) from 1888 to 1889. Along with Charles-Marie Widor, Vierne was one of the great Romantic symphonists for organ. He was born blind. He composed six symphonies for the organ. He was also the organist of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris from 1900 until his death. In fact, Vierne, collapsed and died at the console at Notre Dame at the close of a recital there. Maurice Duruflé was at his side as an assistant that day.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: David Baker, Brian Hafner, Fred Pearson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Camera Operator: Brian Hafner

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

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given by Kelli and Matt Fitzgerald in memory of Kelli's mom, Delcie White.

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 12 Eric Moulton, Lucas Banks, Matt Raterman

Sept 13 Sharon Collins, Henry Weil, Ryan Castle

Sept 14 Hannah Bryant, Stephen White

Sept 15 Kirk Chernansky, Linda Nitzsche

Sept 16 Anne Forman, Melinda Stinnett, Sylvia Pine

Sept 17 Brett Jaussi, Jeff Johnson

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPDATES

Benny VanDerburgh is back! Last year, Benny was our pastoral intern. This year, in his last year at University of Chicago Divinity School, Benny joins the pastoral staff, working 15 hours a week as our pastoral associate.

Pastor Jeff is in New York with his partner Joe for the interment of Joe's mother's ashes. We hold Joe, Jeff, and family in our prayers.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School begins today! If you plan to have your child participate in Sunday School this year, we ask that you please register them. Scan the QR code or get the link on the website. This is not a weekly registration. This is a one-time registration to let us know that you intend to have your child participate so we can prepare the correct staffing and activities. Sunday school is open to children 2 years old up to high school. Due to Covid safety concerns, we are not offering Sunday School or childcare for children under the age of 2 at this time.



CONFIRMATION

On September 19, following worship in the Sanctuary, we will have an information session for students and their parents. This meeting is for families starting the Confirmation program this year. Usually Confirmation would be for 7th graders and it still is, but if you have an older student who missed Confirmation because of the pandemic (or any other reason) they are welcome to join now.

SPUCC/THOMAS & COLLEEN HENRY SCHOLARSHIP FUND RECIPIENT

Will Otis Cobb, Jr. As a quality assurance specialist, Will was an unlikely candidate for seminary, but his passion for helping people suffering from mental health issues, HIV, homelessness, and substance abuse drew him closer to the work of the church. Earning a degree from Chicago Theological Seminary seemed like his next best step. Will hopes to continue providing his expertise in a public health setting while enhancing his consulting and research skills with a theological understanding of people and different cultures. "Your generosity and investment in my education will serve underserved communities locally and abroad," said Will. "I am eternally grateful, and will continue to serve those who are most hurting and need to understand that God loves and values them."

WE'RE SPONSORING A REFUGEE FAMILY! We hope to be ready to co-sponsor a refugee family with Refugee One within three months or less. As we've done in the past, co-sponsorship will involve financial assistance; furnishing an apartment with all the essentials; stocking the pantry; meeting the family when they arrive; mentoring and accompanying the family after they arrive. There are many ways to get involved. If you're interested in being a part of this project, please contact Pastor Jeff for updates. We're getting started soon! jcarlson@spucc.org.

HELP FOR HAITI

Church World Service and the United Church of Christ are both collecting funds for immediate relief and longer-term recovery for thousands of Haitians reeling from the one-two punch of the deadly destructive 7.2 earthquake August 14 in western Haiti followed by Tropical Storm Grace. If you'd like to contribute, you may do so at: cwsglobal.org/donate/haiti-2021 or, ucc.org/ucc-haiti-appeal

CREATION CORNER

St. Pauls "Green Team - Caring for Creation" needs and wants the help of every member of the congregation. There are so many ways to offer your support:

- Pray
- Read your emails/bulletins and initiate appropriate action
- Eagerly and actively support changes made at church as ways to care for God's creation
- Make these same changes at home and work if possible
- Involve all members of your family
- Please share additional ideas you may have and help you would like to give by contacting St. Pauls

SHARING OUR HARVESTS

The Green Team of St. Pauls and Ramiro are hosting a table at Coffee Hour over the next few Sundays for extra bounty from members of our congregation's gardens. Please drop off your extra vegetables in the kitchen before worship and stop by to pick up anything you'd like after church.

SARAH'S SIBS are back and gather every Wednesday morning to make and distribute 40 bag lunches to our homeless neighbors. You are most welcome to come to the church kitchen at 9:30 a.m. and lend a hand.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SEPT 15 - BIBLE STUDY: WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FREE? 1 CORINTHIANS 10

- 12-12:45 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a local church only about 7 years old. They were new Christians struggling to build a community around the good news of Jesus. For Paul, Christian faith can only be lived in community and in this letter he addresses the questions and struggles of a group of early Christians that remain surprisingly similar to our own. 1 Corinthians is a timely book to read as we reenter our in-person life together. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPT 20 - DISCUSSION: *THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO* - 7 p.m.

The Count of Monte Cristo is next up in this year's Long, Classic Novel Reading Group. Alexandre Dumas' epic tale of suffering and retribution, inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment, was a huge popular success when it was first serialized in the 1840s. We'll be reading it over six months, with the first of two discussions on September 20 at 7 p.m. RSVP: Pastor Jeff, jcarlson@spucc.org.

SEPT 21 - UCAN HEALING GARDEN DEDICATION & RECEPTION - 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., UCAN

You're invited to the dedication of UCAN's healing garden, Petria's Place, located on their North Lawndale campus. Join in for prayer, music, refreshments, and tours of UCAN's campus. RSVP at www.ucangarden.org. For questions, please contact Rebecca Sandoval at rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org.

OPPORTUNITIES

ALTAR FLOWERS – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way of celebrating a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers! Sign up at spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/874446.

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM (CEP) – We are seeking **CEP Laundry volunteers on Saturday mornings**. One volunteer is needed each week to greet street-based guests and launder their clothes on site at St. Pauls from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you have any interest in **cooking in-person** meals for homeless neighbors in the coming months, please contact Jennifer Kew at CEPsupper@gmail.com. If you are not interested in in-person activities, we continue to have opportunities to drop off meals for LPCS.

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.

EMAIL SIGN-UP – Are you new to St. Pauls and want to get more connected? You can go to spucc.org to fill out our virtual fellowship card to begin receiving our weekly email and special congregational emails, introduce yourself and receive a call from a pastor, request more information about Children and Youth Programming, and more! If you're already a member of St. Pauls and have missed signing up for our email list, you can sign up at the bottom of our website, spucc.org.

FAITH & 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 for information about meetings.

GIFTS, PASSIONS, SKILLS – If you have not already completed our GPS Survey, please go to forms.gle/jK54YezLs8Ea27uW8 to fill it out. This is an important component of our overall member engagement initiative. If you prefer to complete a paper document, please contact the office, info@spucc.org. Thank you in advance for your participation.

GREEN TEAM – Help us as a congregation live out what we say in our Statement of Faith: God calls us to care for creation. The Green Team welcomes your input, participation and ideas. Joe Womack and Jan Fraccaro are co-chairs. If interested or to offer suggestions, email Jan at jan.fraccaro@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 2021. Check out www.littlelightslp.org. Email Little Lights Director Erin Fitzgerald at littlelights@spucc.org.

MEALS FOR LPCS – Lincoln Park Community Services is a St. Pauls founded organization that provides comprehensive social services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness. LPCS is looking for volunteers to provide meals during this time. Please contact Sally Fletcher to sign up at sfletcher1443@gmail.com, or (312) 848-5400. Needed are 35 lunches, including three vegetarian, at the 600 W. Fullerton location.

NEW OR EXPECTING PARENTS – If you have a new baby or are expecting a baby, please let Joanne Tong know so that we can find ways to support you (meals, prayer, etc.). Email Joanne at jctong@yahoo.com.

OUTREACH & BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE – Do you have a passion for reaching out to others? The St. Pauls O&B Committee 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.

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.

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

SAINT PAULS TOGETHER – Our Facebook Group, “Saint Pauls Together,” is for St. Pauls Members and Friends to connect and share uplifting thoughts and stories. Check out our Facebook Page to request an invitation if you’re a member or friend!

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 at: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/686988.

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).

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY – Meeting every Wednesday at noon via Zoom. Newcomers are always welcome. Increase your faith and your knowledge of the Bible. RSVP: Pastor Jeff at jcarlson@spucc.org to get the Zoom link.

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.

ZOOM MEETINGS – The St. Pauls Zoom account is available to start or continue groups. Email Claire Higgins at chiggins@spucc.org to schedule your meeting.

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 Tuesday.

Verbal announcements are due by Wednesdays at noon.

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.

- Cheryl and Bill Kennedy at the death of their beloved brother-in-law.
- Diane Massie's nephew, deployed to Kuwait.
- Kelli Fitzgerald and family at the death of her mother, Delcie.
- Friends and family of Marilyn Parsons at her death.
- For Stacie B., sister of Mark P., as she deals with a setback in her health.
- Family and friends of Carole Knuti at her passing.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- Carrie Bruggers at the death of her mother, Phyllis.
- Ken Traverse and his family at the death of his younger brother, Ray Traverse, from a brain tumor.
- Karaçan Thomas' grandmother in the hospital.
- Joe JaQuay at the death of his mother, Noor.
- Sue Finkle's friend Sue Edmunds' family and friends after per passing.
- Yvette, friend of Jenny Benefield, struggling greatly with severe chronic depression.
- The many who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine, to get it before it's too late. May we all find our role in helping this happen.
- The family and friends of the Mora family, and other victims of the Surfside Condo collapse.
- Janice, cousin of Darlene Braun, asking for prayers.
- Angi Miller's friend, Rachelle, fighting cancer.
- Friends of the Ashley family who are in times of crisis - Walt and Heidi, Sven and Bitten.
- Al Cerkam, recovering from major back surgery.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources

Even when you walk through the valley of shadows, God is with you. If you or someone you love is feeling completely alone or like life doesn't matter, reach out for help. 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 177 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 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614
(773) 348-3829 www.spucc.org

Matt Fitzgerald, *Senior Pastor*, mfitzgerald@spucc.org
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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.