

November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent

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

There is no Sunday School this week. Children are invited to stay in worship.

The Nursery is open for children ages 0 to 2.

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

"The beginning shall remind us of the end. And the first coming of the second coming."

T.S. Eliot

PRELUDE

Veni Emmanuel—Canon Meditation, Choral
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Wolfgang Rübsam

INTROIT

God Moves in a Mysterious Way
Chancel Choir

William Cowper

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE - The Candle of Hope

WELCOME

Matt Fitzgerald

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Do not fear!

All: Behold I bring you good news of great joy!

One: A child shall be born unto us!

All: Christ, the light of the world!

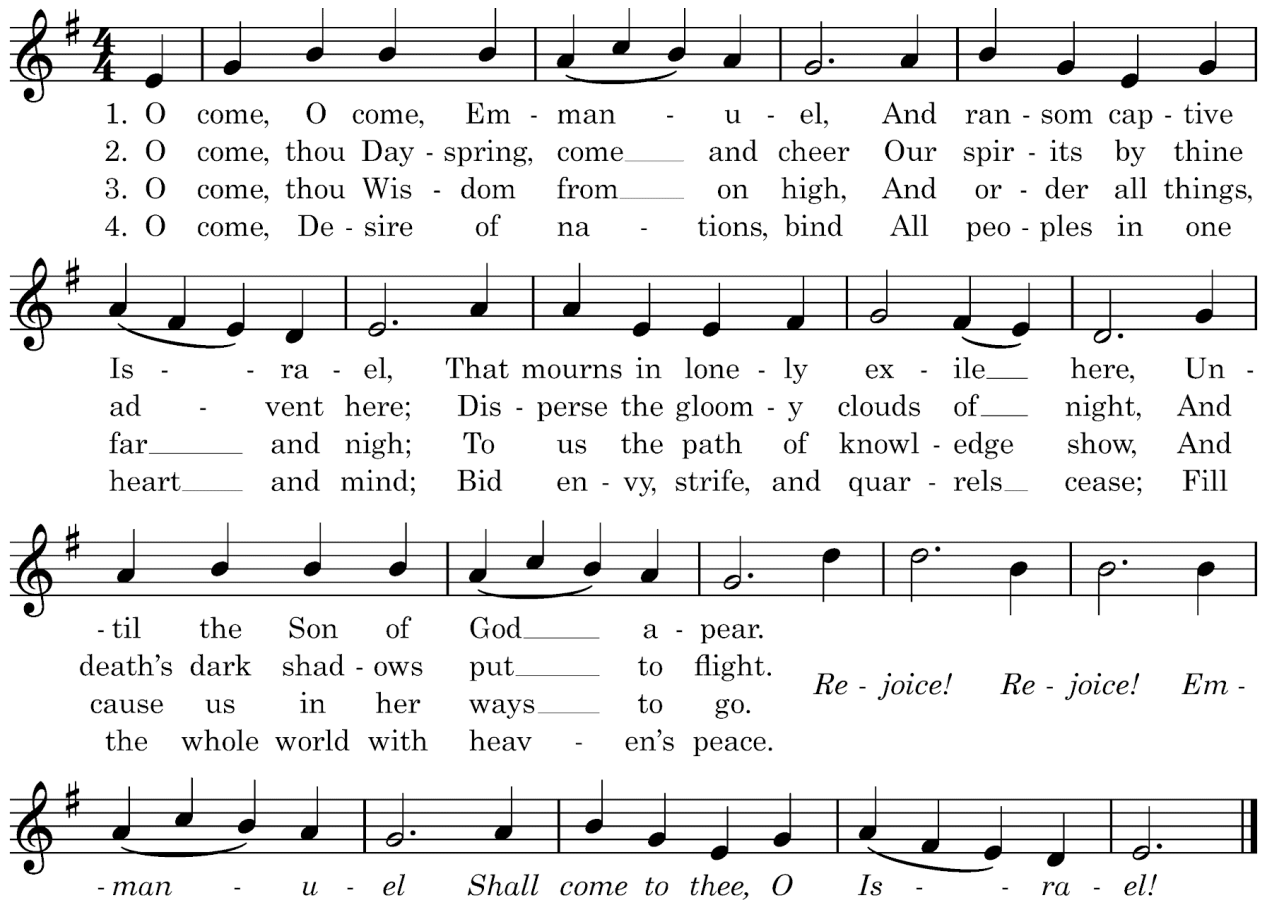
One: Now is the time to watch and wait together.

All: It is time to wake up. Wake up!

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

* HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by thine
 3. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der all things,
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind All peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, Un -
 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And
 far and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show, And
 heart and mind; Bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; Fill

- til the Son of God a - pear.
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight.
 cause us in her ways to go. *Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -*
 the whole world with heav - en's peace.

- man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Benny VanDenburgh

**God, if we're being honest
 in Advent; honest as we ready
 ourselves for your arrival,
 honest, not just sentimental -
 Honestly, we've enjoyed your absence.
 We've enjoyed playing
 with the bigness of our littleness.
 First we scheme, then we despair.
 Lies reign, indifference grows.
 The poor get stepped on.
 We need you so badly.
 Come to us! Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
St. Arbucks Quartet

arr. Brendan Henry

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 24 selections

The Arrival of the Son of Man isn't something you go to see. He comes like swift lightning to you! Many will come in my name saying, "I am the Messiah!" And they will lead many astray. Whenever you see crowds gathering, think of carrion vultures circling, moving in, hovering over a rotting carcass. You can be quite sure that it's not the living Son of Man pulling in those crowds.

"Following those hard times,
Sun will fade out,
moon cloud over,
Stars fall out of the sky,
cosmic powers tremble."

Then, the Arrival of the Son of Man! It will fill the skies—no one will miss it. All the tribes of the earth will mourn as they watch the Son of Man blazing out of heaven. When you see all these things, you'll know he's at the door.

Stay awake, alert. You have no idea what day your Master will show up. But you do know this: if the homeowner had known what time of night the burglar would arrive, he would have been there with his dogs to prevent the break-in. Be vigilant just like that. You have no idea when the Son of Man is going to show up.

* 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

Could We O Savior Worthy Be!

1. Could we O Sav - ior wor - thy be!

Thou Sov - 'reign, Lord and King— As to re - ceive and

well - come thee. Who dost sal - va - tion bring.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score is divided into three systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: '1. Could we O Sav - ior wor - thy be!', 'Thou Sov - 'reign, Lord and King— As to re - ceive and', and 'well - come thee. Who dost sal - va - tion bring.' The piano accompaniment consists of simple chords and moving lines in the left hand.

SERMON

"Who Forgot to Set the Alarm?"

Matt Fitzgerald

* HYMN

Could We O Savior Worthy Be!



2. All na - tions for they com - ing wait
3. Then did'st thou, might - y Sav - iour come,

And wish to know thee near; Let Zi - on o - pen
To set us pris - 'ners free! To ran - some us, to

eve - ry gate, Till thou O God, ap - pear!
take us home, To be and dwell with thee.

OFFERTORY

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come
Chancel Choir

Paul Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him, who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.
Sing holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon!
Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!
from Revelation 22

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

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Benny VanDenburgh

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

God Is Working His Purpose Out



1. God is work - ing his pur - pose out As year suc -
2. From ut - most east to ut - most west, Wher - e'er man's
3. March we forth in the strength of God With the ban - ner of
4. All we can do is noth - ing worth Un - less God



- ceeds to year; God is work - ing his pur - pose out, And the
foot hath trod, By the mouth of man - y mes - sen - gers Goes
Christ un - furled, That the light of the glo - rious gos - pel of truth May
bless - es the deed; Vain - ly we hope for the har - vest - tide Till



time is draw - ing near; Near - er and near - er draws the time, The
forth the voice of God; Give ear to me, ye con - ti - nents, Ye
shine through - out the world; Fight we the fight with sorrow and sin To
God gives life to the seed; Yet near - er and near - er draws the time, The

time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the
 isles, give ear to me, That the earth may be filled with the
 set their cap - tives free, That the earth may be filled with the
 time that shall sure - ly be, When the earth shall be filled with the

1-3. 4.

glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.
 glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.

* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
 Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

POSTLUDE

Go Tell It on the Mountain
 St. Arbucks Quartet

Black American Spiritual
 arr. Brendan Henry with
 Muzette Morgan

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 a Social Hour time of fellowship in the gym. At this time, we will not be serving coffee so everyone remains masked while indoors.

TODAY'S MUSIC

It is thoroughly appropriate for the First Sunday in Advent to be full of settings of ***O Come, O Come Emmanuel***. It is thought of as a Christmas carol, but its text definitely references the anticipation of Advent. The original Latin, VENI EMMANUEL, was translated in 1851 by J. M. Neale (1818-1866). He was a member of the British clergy, and struggled with ill health his entire life. Neale also composed the texts for many other hymns including *All Glory Laud and Honor* and translated many other Latin texts like *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*. Our Prelude is a setting by Wolfgang RübSam (b. 1946), a German American organist that taught at Northwestern University for many years and was actually Kevin Dzierzawski's professor for his master's degree. The Response after the Words of Assurance is a haunting and serene jazz arrangement by our own Brendan Henry.

God Moves in a Mysterious Way utilizes a text by William Cowper (1731-1800), pronounced "Cooper." It may have been written as an affirmation after his suicide attempt. He was regarded in England as one of the best early Romantic poets. The tune, DUNDEE, is from the same 1685 "Book of Psalms of David" collection as the response following our Statement of Faith.

The hymn, ***Could We O Savior Worthy Be***, NEW LONDON, is a relatively new tune for us. It was used as the closing hymn in the Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) cantata *Saint Nicolas*, which we sang in worship during Advent in 2018. The hymn dates from 1685 in the "Book of Psalms of David."

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come was composed by Paul Manz (1919-2009) in 1953. He composed this anthem while in a hospital waiting room awaiting results of the surgery on his child, after being injured in an automobile accident. His son survived. It has been performed widely, including for "Lessons and Carols" at King's College Cambridge in England. He was a graduate of Concordia College in River Forest and Northwestern University.

God Is Working His Purpose Out is a favorite hymn of Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry. The text was written by Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841-1919) in 1894. The text demanded a muscular tune, which Martin Shaw (1916-1999) provided in 1915.

Go Tell It on the Mountain is not attributed to any composer; however, John W. Work (1872-1925) "curated" this and many other Black American spirituals and folk songs. Work was a graduate of the Historically Black College, Fisk University in Nashville. He returned to his alma mater to direct the world famous Fisk Jubilee Singers. This arrangement was inspired and sung for many years by St. Pauls member and Chancel Choir alto section leader, Muzette Morgan.

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

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson, Benny VanDerburgh

Music Director: Kurt R. Hansen

Organist: Kevin Dzierzawski

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

Scripture Reader: Kirsten Simonton

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Brown, Doug Clark

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney

Gatekeeper: Dodd Brown

Streaming Service Team: Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Jose Cruz, Brian Hafner, Chuck Kent

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

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.

Nov 28 Barbara Arsenault, Lisa Patterson Raterman, Michael VanSomeran

Nov 29 Lily Mooney

Nov 30 David Bradley

Dec 1 Brooke Walvoord, Dodd Brown, John Reed, Leo Lawrence, Rex Lawrence

Dec 2 Bill Kennedy, Frank Mynard, Richard Wu, Matthew Wallace

Dec 3 Jack Knight, Mehgan Keeley, Olivia Nach

Dec 4 Katherine Schuller, Laura Van Zeyl, Linhard Stepf, Mark Smith

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. PAULS

TUE, DEC 1, 7, 21 TUESDAY EVENING ADVENT PRAYER

8 p.m. Join members, friends, and a pastor for a time of prayer
RSVP here for the Zoom link:

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1093556

SAT, DEC 4 CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. pickup (delivery available)

Order and pay ahead online:

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268

SUN, DEC 5 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF PEACE

10 a.m. Worship & Communion, Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Alarming Advent Poems, Pastor Matt, Oscar Mayer Room

WED, DEC 8 LITTLE LIGHTS CHRISTMAS SHOW - 5 p.m., Sanctuary

SAT, DEC 11 ST. PAULS AND LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTMAS PARTY - Time TBD, Parlor
Party with the two best churches in Chicago!

For vaccinated members and friends

SUN, DEC 12 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY

10 a.m. Worship, Readings & Carols, St. Pauls Brass, Sanctuary

11:30 a.m. Advent Market, Gym

TUE, DEC 14 SUFJAN'S CHRISTMAS(ES)

7 p.m. Join Benny in contemplative enjoyment of these classic
Christmas song covers, Sanctuary

SUN, DEC 19 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE

10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

FRI, DEC 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

5 p.m. Family Service, Sanctuary

9 p.m. Candlelight Service, Sanctuary

Christmas story, carols, candles, and choir

SUN, DEC 26 WORSHIP - 10 a.m., Sanctuary

SUN, JAN 16 POLAR PEACE MARCH

10 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. March to support UCAN's work for non-violence, and honor
the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

You can decorate your home this year and the proceeds will support St. Pauls outreach and benevolence efforts. Due to a national Christmas tree shortage, we will only have 24" or 36" wreaths available this year. Each wreath is made of fresh boughs pulled from the Christmas tree fields mounted on a metal ring for easy hanging. The 24" wreath is the typical "door sized" option. Order and pay ahead online and pick up your wreath in our church parking lot on December 4 from 11:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m., or order for delivery within Chicago.

spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078268

SANCTUARY CHRISMON TREE SETUP

We will be assembling and decorating our sanctuary Chrismon tree on Friday, December 3 starting at 8 a.m. We know from years past that it takes roughly six hours to fully assemble the tree, so your participation is both welcome and appreciated! Please contact Lorne Frank at lornefrank@lornefrank.com if you plan to join in the holiday fun.

ADVENT MARKET ITEMS NEEDED

The Advent Market on Sunday, December 12 will help fund the cost of the Polar Peace March. We need new or gently used regiffable items such as jewelry, candles, frames, handmade items, Christmas decorations, toys, etc. Please, no clothing unless it is holiday specific. The drop-off dates are **December 4th:** 9am-12pm, **5th:** 9am - 12:30pm, **10th:** 10am - 3pm, and **11th:** 10am - 1pm. Questions, please text or email Kristin Lane Mack at (773) 322-7727 or klanemack@gmail.com or Carrie Bruggers at (773) 294-4446, crbruggs@gmail.com.

ALL ABOARD THE UCAN GIFT TRAIN!

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide gifts to young people in need this holiday season. Gift cards are due at church by Sunday, December 5. For a virtual option, visit ucanchicago.org/gift-train. Reach out to Rebecca Sandoval with any questions, rebecca.sandoval@ucanchicago.org.

REFUGEE FAMILY UPDATE

We've assembled the mentoring team and they'll be going through training in early January. We could still use a couple more people on the apartment team (i.e., moving the furniture from St. Pauls to the new apartment). That team will be having a get-to-know-you and organizational meeting the week of December 6th. If you're interested, please email Mark Pellegrino, jjmarkp@yahoo.com. Thank you for your tremendous support in the preparations for our refugee family!

2022 ALTAR FLOWER & SCRIPTURE READER SIGN-UPS

Sign-ups for next year's altar flowers and scripture readers are now available!

Sign up for flowers here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1078968

Sign up for reading here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1079008

CREATION CORNER

See UCC.org, specifically Environmental Justice Ministries. Excerpts:

Think about the essentials of life such as air, water, and food. One could say these divine gifts of creation are taken for granted as they are so abused by our society, especially to the detriment of low income communities of color. Churches can do much to challenge this disconnection from God, our neighbors, and the surrounding world. We can find renewal and new life through the power of a conscious appreciation of the connections that sustain us. If the environment is so fundamental to our lives, then shouldn't our faith reflect this continually?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DEC 1 - BIBLE STUDY: 1 CORINTHIANS 15 - THE HOPE OF THE RESURRECTION-
12 p.m., Zoom

St. Paul's famous words about love were written to a 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. Meets weekly on Zoom. RSVP: jcarlson@spucc.org.

DEC 2 - READING WITH ST. AUGUSTINE - 5 p.m., Cloud Room

We will gather bi-weekly on Thursday evenings in witness to Augustine of Hippo's *Confessions*, one of the first Christian autobiographies. Participation requires little to no outside reading. We will experience the text together in a contemplative gathering that will include periods of prayer and silence. This series will bridge other studies focused on the Biblical period and early church movement to take us to the early days of the Latin church, that period of global growth and imagination. To join in or for more information, please email Benny at bvanderburgh@spucc.org.

DEC 9 - INTERFAITH ROUNDTABLE ON HOMELESSNESS - 6:30-8 p.m., Zoom

How can YOU make a difference in the problem of homelessness? Join an interfaith roundtable on homelessness in Chicago to learn about the Bring Home Chicago Coalition's ballot initiative to generate revenue for housing solutions. Chicago Metropolitan Association UCC Associate Minister Rev. Dr. Terrill Murff is a featured speaker. Register today at bit.ly/BCHbringinghome.

DEC 9 - LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION BLACK QUEER EQUITY INDEX UPDATE

EVENT - 6:00 p.m., Zoom

Since last spring, Lighthouse Foundation has worked meticulously to establish indicators of equity for Black Queer folks in the workplace. The Black Queer Equity Index (BQEI) surveys the top LGBTQ+ serving organizations in Chicago to ensure that Black LGBTQ+ employees and board members are treated justly. During this event, you will hear an update on the BQEI, including their evaluation findings thus far and plans for the project's future. For more info and to RSVP: bit.ly/BQEIEvent

DEC 13 - COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, PART 2, DISCUSSION - 7 p.m.

The Long, Classic Novels Reading Group will discuss part two of Alexandre Dumas' page-turner adventure novel. Fast readers have time to catch up! RSVP: Jeff Carlson, jcarlson@spucc.org. Feel free to email Jeff with your nominees for next year's reading list.

DEC 14 - AN EVENING WITH SUFJAN'S CHRISTMAS(ES) - 7 p.m., Sanctuary

Did you know that Sufjan Stevens has released 101 Christmas songs? He has released three versions of *Angels We Have Heard on High* alone. Many Christians and non-Christian music lovers alike have rested in his strange and sincere covers as a way to make it through this season faithfully. Join Pastoral Associate Benny for this special listening event in the Sanctuary on Tuesday, December 14 at 7 p.m. We'll quietly enjoy Sufjan's work and contemplate our own belonging in the vast tradition of preparing for the Christ child. RSVP at bvanderburgh@spucc.org – and if you have requests for what we listen to, send titles his way!

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/1078968

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.

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 request more information about our programs!

EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS – The Emergency Contact Form developed by the Connectors has been updated. You may follow this link for additional information and to consider whether this form could be useful for you: spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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!

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.

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

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).

SUNDAY SCHOOL – If you plan to have your child participate in Sunday School this year, we ask that you please register them. 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, spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/985445

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.

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.

- Rejoicing the birth of Ruth Lydia Bryant to parents Hannah and Caleb Bryant.
- Ken Travers and family at the loss of his younger brother, Leroy.
- Marty, sister of Jan Bail, as she faces another cancer diagnosis.
- Dean, friend of Nathan Streeter, at the loss of his 18-month-old son, and his mother and grandmother in the last six months.
- Sister-in-law of Nathan Streeter, with complications from a breakthru of Covid.
- Jana O'Brien, recovering from surgery.
- Loved ones of Ann, mother-in-law of Erin Fitzgerald, at her passing.
- Bob Kuba as he is challenged by some significant health issues.
- Peter Doerr's mother, Annette, recovering from injuries from a car accident.
- Mary Frances Winking's parents facing health and quality of life obstacles.
- Michelle Rodriguez, on the death of her aunt.
- Adé, a young Chicago artist and bicyclist who was struck by a car and is in a coma in critical condition. Prayers are needed for him, his family and ICU caregivers.
- Friends and family of Steve Stack at his death. For service details, see stevestack.org.
- Wes Salsbury and Marcia Knudson as Wes continues to develop strength after a months-long hospitalization and rehab stay occasioned by a fall.
- Bruce and Betty Voice are now living with her son Raymond. Cards are welcome at 2763 Peach Orchard Road, Anderson, MO 64831.
- 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.
- Al Cerkar, 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 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
Pastoral Associate Benny VanDerburgh, bvanderburgh@spucc.org
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For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership
Please visit spucc.org/contact

St. Pauls United Church of Christ
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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.