

May 8, 2022

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. Assisted listening devices and Bluetooth hearing aid guides are in the Narthex.

PRELUDE Mama's Pearl

The Jackson 5

St. Arbucks Quartet

text adapted by Kris Hansen

You get me goin' where I need to be.
I'm runnin' late won't you cover me, oh mama!
Yeah my mama told me not to be a fool,
Cuz I don't wanna kiss her back after school.

Mom's a pearl. She made my world.

And she helped my heart unfurl, now what was I missin'?

Mama you know that you're the girl, that made my world.

And you helped my heart unfurl, you always listen.

Even when I go: Bum-buh, bum-buh, bum-buh, bum-bum...

Now I never said I was a perfect child.

It's not news to you I can drive you wild, oh mama! (Oh, mama!)

But today I wanna thank you from my heart!

For being there for me right from the start.

Mom's a pearl ...

INTROIT

God Bless Our Homes Chancel Choir

David Evans

CHIMES

WELCOME Molly McGrath

* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

All: Beautiful also are all of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the mind of God!

All: Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the heart of God!

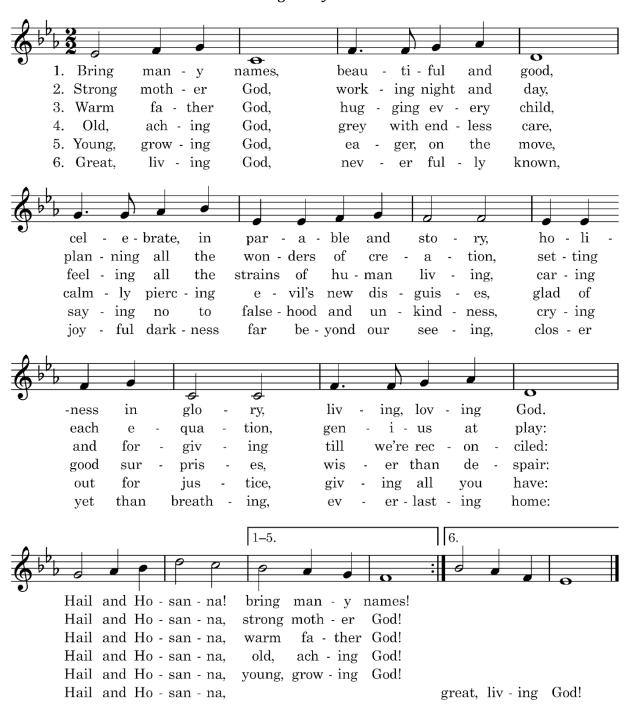
All: Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!

One: God made the heavens and the earth!

All: To God be the glory for the things God has done.

st Please stand if you are able to do so.

Bring Many Names



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Matt Fitzgerald

Lord our God,
You are great, high and holy over us and all people.
And you are more than almighty.
Disfigured on the cross, joyful in resurrection,
You wept for your friends and raged at injustice.
All of this, and still
you have not forgotten us.

You have not rejected us.

You have accepted us.

So, let us give you more than praise.

Let us give you our sorrows, our rebellion, our misplaced cares. Let us give you our bitterness, our divided hearts, our mistakes, our regret, our sin, anything and everything that haunts us.

We place all of this in Christ's outstretched hands. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Children are now invited to go to Sunday School.

Teachers will lead them to their classrooms. If you would like to walk your children to class, you are welcome to go and come back.

SCRIPTURE Karen Lyons

Hosea 3:3-4

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.
But the more they were called, the more they went away from me.
They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images.
It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them.
I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love.
To them I was like one who lifts a little child to the cheek, and I bent down to feed them.

* 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)

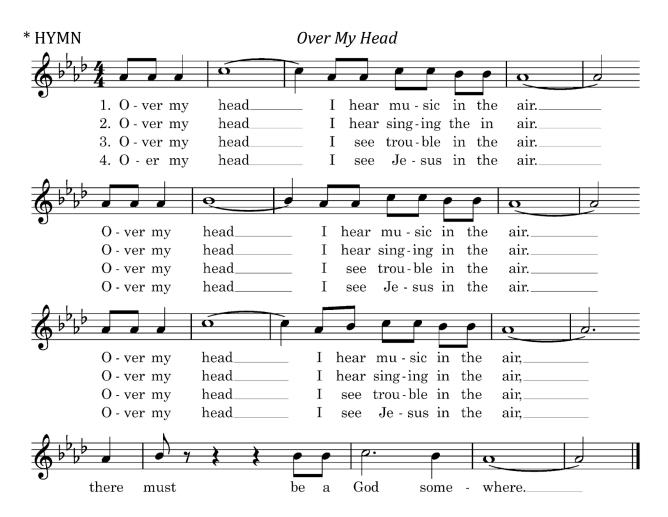
God Whose Steadfast Love See previous hymn

vv. 3 & 4

SERMON

"More than Almighty"

Matt Fitzgerald



MISSION MOMENT

Bible Off Broadway

Kecia Waldschmidt

OFFERTORY

Let the People Praise Thee, O God Chancel Choir William Mathias

Let the people praise thee, O God: yea, let all the people praise thee,

O let the nations rejoice and be glad: for thou shalt judge the folk righteously, and govern the nations upon earth.

Let the people praise thee, O God:
yea, let all the people praise thee.
Then shall the earth bring forth her increase:
and God, even our own God, shall give us his blessing.
God shall bless us: and all the ends of the world shall fear him.

God be merciful unto us, and bless us: and shew us the light of his countenance, and be merciful unto us. That thy way may be known upon earth: thy saving health among all nations.

Let all the people praise thee, 0 God: ... *Psalm 67*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end, Amen.

You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:

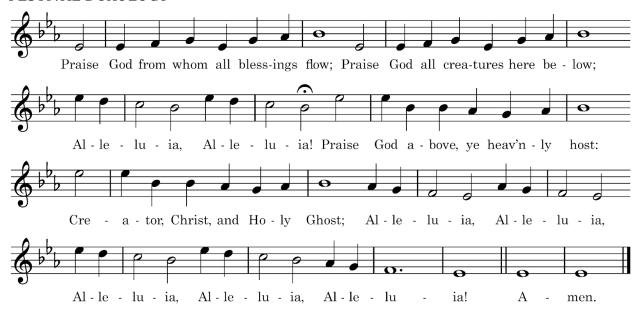
Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,

At spucc.churchcenter.com/giving,

Or through Zelle to giving@spucc.org.



* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Marcia Knudson

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.

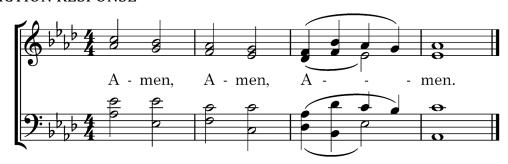
Amen.

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens



* BENEDICTION

* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE Recessional W. Mathias Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

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

Following Worship, all are invited for coffee and snacks downstairs in the Social Hall.

TODAY'S MUSIC

God Bless Our Homes was written by Frank van Christiensen (1990-1996). He was born in Finland but was brought to the United States as a child. He became a minister in the Presbyterian Church and wrote more than 30 hymn texts. The tune, CHARTERHOUSE, was composed in 1927 by David Evans (1874-1948). He was born in Wales and became an important leader in Welsh church music.

The text for *Bring Many Names* was written by Brian A. Wren (b. 1936). He is a major British contributor to contemporary hymn writing and was a pastor of a Congregational Church in Essex. WESTCHASE was composed in 1989 by Carlton R. Young (b.1926). He served in World War II and became a teacher, editor, composer and conductor. He edited two editions of the *United Methodist Hymnal*.

James L. Haddix (b. 1946) wrote the text for *O God Whose Steadfast Love* in 1986 and revised it in 1994. The tune, RHOSYMEDRE, was composed in 1840 by John David Edwards (1806-1885). He was an Anglican priest and the tune name is taken from one of the parishes he served in Wales.

Over My Head is another text and melody from the great wealth of spirituals. Its current version was arranged in 1981 by Verolga Nix (1933-2014), a world class pianist and graduate of Oberlin Conservatory; and J. Jefferson Cleveland (1937-1986), one of the most important scholars of African American spirituals. Cleveland and Nix collaborated on a seminal work about African American music, *Songs of Zion*. This is actually a shortened version, including only the very catchy refrain of a longer song.

Let the People Praise Thee, O God op.87 was composed on a commission for the wedding of Prince Charles and Princess Diana in 1981. William Mathias (1934-1992) was born in Wales and was a child prodigy on piano. He was deeply affected by the strong choral tradition in Wales and is of the same generation of the large and productive English school of composers of our time that also includes John Rutter.

Recessional was also composed in 1964 by William Mathias.

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Clergy: Matt Fitzgerald, 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: Karen Lyons

Lay Liturgical Administrator: Kevin O'Brien

Head Usher: Beatrice Jaji

Ushers: Mary Ann Brown, Fred Pearson

Head Greeter: Greg Mooney **Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

Chuck Kent

Custodian: Ramiro Gonzalez

BORN THIS WEEK IN MAY

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.

- May 8 Doug Clark, Francois Millard, Joel Grachan
- May 9 Adam McElhinney, David Verduin, Jill Wachholz, Lydia Murray, Leigh Hamp, John Balevic
- May 10 James Grunst, Steve Singles
- May 11 James Hamp, Marcus Ball
- May 12 Doug Dobmeyer, Kelly Erdman, Alec Riportella, Matt Heffernan
- May 13 Helen Gregg, Sarah Richmond, Om Bienvenu
- May 14 Ben Krumrei, Polina Svetlitskaya

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS

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

SUMMER CAMP 2022

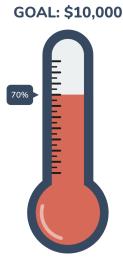
Registration for camp at St. Pauls is open! We will have structured fun inside our classrooms, in the gym, and outside in the sun.

Children ages 6-12 can register here for a half or full day week of camp, June 20-24: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1273864

Children ages 2-5 can register here for half-day camp options, July 5-28: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1250759

PLEASE DONATE TO THE YOUTH MISSION TRIP!

Support St. Pauls youth fundraising efforts for their service trip to repair homes and serve others in Appalachia this June. We need to raise \$10,000! Your donation helps fund the tools and supplies, their van and gas, and other expenses for their week away. St. Pauls has a history of working with Appalachia Service Project and greatly trusts the integrity of their organization. Please help support our emerging congregational leaders, who have spent the last crucial years of their adolescence altered by covid-19. Donate here: spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/2022-youth-mission-trip-donations-appalachia-service-project.



CREATION CORNER - provided by Green Team

Small Electronics Recycling Made Easy - For a helpful how-to on recycling small electronics, check out this link (<u>tinyurl.com/nmn2z3yu</u>). You can drop off certain electronics at Best Buy stores (more than two billion tons already collected) and receive a gift card for some. Look for signage at store entrances directing you to the drop-off counter. Check this link (<u>tinyurl.com/yc6x2esi</u>) for what is accepted. You'll be amazed at the number of items!

JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC

Take Action to Protect Black Maternal Health – Around the world, maternal mortality rates have been steadily decreasing for most countries. In the United States, however, the rates of pregnancy-related death and injury are actually increasing with the most severe consequences for Black women, who are dying at rates 3-4 times higher as compared to their White counterparts, due to racial stress and healthcare disparities rather than genetics or socioeconomic status. Learn more here (tinyurl.com/422vyxxn). Please join us here (tinyurl.com/4hh5c7jf) in urging Congress to pass the Black Maternal Health Momnibus Act of 2021.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

See our full event calendar online at <u>spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar</u> Evening meetings enter through the courtyard door

MAY 11 - BIBLE STUDY - 12 p.m., Zoom

We're in the Gospel of Luke, home to some of the best stories in scripture, such as the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan. Newcomers are always welcome! Contact Pastor Jeff for the Zoom link, icarlson@spucc.org.

MAY 12 - PHOTO EXHIBIT & DISCUSSION ON HOMELESSNESS - 6-9 p.m., Chicago Temple. Join the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and the Justice and Witness Ministry of the Chicago Metropolitan Association of the Illinois Conference of the UCC for a photo exhibit, dinner and panel discussion on homelessness. Hear from faith leaders about the scope and nature of the problem, their faith's perspective on the issue, and about solutions you can support. Learn more and register at bit.ly/chifaith.

MAY 13 - JOURNEYS WITH WINDY CITY WINDS - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary Join Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," for their spring concert, *Journeys*. Enjoy the world premiere of *Journey to Eagle Peak* by composer Joon Park, inspired by Yosemite National Park, along with *Homecoming* by female composer Alex Shapiro, and concluding with *Armenian Dances* (Parts 1 and 2) by Alfred Reed. The band will be conducted by music directors Mark Mosley and Sarah Good Mosley. The concert will take place at St. Pauls and will also be streamed over the internet. Learn more at windycitywinds.org.

MAY 14 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL BIRD WATCHING - 7-9 a.m., Montrose Point Join David Baker and St. Pauls Social to observe the spring bird migration at Montrose Point. David has been birding the lakefront for 30 years and welcomes both beginners and avid birders for this two-hour experience. May is the best time to see migrating warblers, the tiny jewels of this annual exhibition of nature's wonders. Dress in layers, wear good walking shoes and bring binoculars. To get to Montrose Point, exit DuSable Lake Shore Drive at Montrose and drive east to a "T," turn south by the green bait shop on the right, and park along the street. You now have to feed the parking kiosks. David will meet you at the entrance on the east side of the street. RSVP here: spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1259498.

MAY 14 - LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION CONNECT TO CARE - 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Are you a person interested in being in community with and an accomplice to Black LGBTQ+ people? Join a community committed to building a Chicagoland where all people – including those most marginalized – thrive! CARE works alongside Lighthouse Foundation's other branch, the Black Queer Caucus, to further their work for Black Queer Chicagoans, and this month, they are hosting a free brunch for current CARE members and those interested in learning more. Register here.

MAY 14, 28 - CEP SUPPER - 10 a.m.-12 p.m., St. Pauls Kitchen
We are seeking 4-6 volunteers to prepare lunch for the Community Engagement
Project (CEP). A team leader will plan a meal, assign shopping lists, and volunteers
will cook a meal together for 35 in the St. Pauls kitchen, which we will bring to the
Lincoln Park Community Services shelter at 600 W. Fullerton location to serve at
12:30 p.m. Volunteers for CEP suppers must be fully vaccinated to participate in
meal preparation and serving and may not volunteer with COVID-19 symptoms.
Volunteers must wear masks at all times while on-site and wear gloves while
handling food. Proof of vaccination is required to serve at the 600 W. Fullerton LPCS
facility. Register here for any upcoming meal dates:
spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/category/48250

MAY 15 - DEDICATION OF OUR TWO NEW MUSIC WINDOWS - Join us for the Sunday morning service. During worship, we will dedicate our two new music windows honoring the historic contributions of Mahalia Jackson and Thomas A. Dorsey to music history, Chicago's part in the birth of gospel music, and music beloved by our congregation. We will be joined by Pastor Jamie Frazier, the congregation of Lighthouse UCC, and their musicians, The Voices of Light. We will also be joined by members of the Dorsey family and guests from both Chicago home churches of our dedicatees.

MAY 22 - ST. PAULS SOCIAL MENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR - 11:15 a.m., Oscar Mayer Room. Join St. Pauls Social and Nancy Curotto, clinical psychologist, for a discussion about reentering life following a pandemic and ways to cope with stress. Nancy will discuss how stressors can manifest in one's body and demonstrate ways to cope with unforeseen stress, persistent stress and frustrations.

OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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 Jen 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 – You may follow this link for additional information on this form developed by the Connectors: 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.

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 2022. 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, jearlson@spucc.org.

PICKLEBALL – Enjoy pickleball? Join the group if you are interested in a regular pickleball game at Saint Pauls! Think you can beat your pastor? Game Times: Tuesdays: 5-6 p.m. and 6-8:30 p.m; Fridays: 2-3 p.m. spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball

SAINT PAULS SOCIAL – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerssen at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to the distribution list at jenluerssen@yahoo.com. Subscribe to 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

SPARC (St. Pauls Anti-Racism Cluster) meets monthly to discern how we as a congregation can answer the call to live our faith in an age of injustice. We invite you to join us in identifying the educational opportunities, resources, and actions to take on our journey toward racial justice. To participate or share your ideas, contact Cindy Ball at cindyzinn11@gmail.com.

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL – Please register your children for Sunday School. This is a one-time registration for the year 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 <u>icarlson@spucc.org</u> 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 Wednesday. 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.

- Marilyn, Doug Clark's mom, undergoing therapy at a rehabilitation center following a stroke.
- Jeanne Heard, Shannon Castle's mother, for swift and full recovery from health issues.
- A friend of the Combs family who has suffered a serious fall.
- Ken Travers, recuperating from a broken hip and surgery.
- Two friends facing cancer surgery: Jeff on April 9 and Rob on April 18.
- Annie Johnson's mother, Jean, at home in hospice care.
- Sharon Phillips, undergoing a stem cell treatment for bone marrow cancer following five months of treatment. Prayers for a healthy and successful transplant and recovery.
- Micki Fayhee and her mother, Linda, who has begun cancer treatment.
- Angi Miller's friend, Rachelle, being treated for cancer.
- Phill, brother of Bob Ball, who has leukemia and has been diagnosed with covid-related pneumonia.
- 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
Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry, <a href="mailto:jemailto:jemailto:general-align:

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

St. Pauls United Church of Christ 2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614 (773) 348-3829 <u>www.spucc.org</u>

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



WELCOME TO SAINT PAULS UCC!

Welcome to those whose hearts are on fire with faith, and to those who bring their doubt inside our doors.

Welcome to our first time guests and our longtime members.

Welcome to single people, tiny children, grandparents and families of all configurations.

Welcome to those who rejoice and to those who grieve.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

We are an Open and Affirming church.

We welcome all.

We are blessed by your presence and we are glad you are here.