

New Member Sunday  
February 12, 2023

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.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"Speech is a gift, something with which we are filled and by means of which we  
participate in a truth that is not our own." Paul Griffiths

PRELUDE *Adagio in D Flat Major* Franz Liszt  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

INTROIT *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*  
Chancel Choir

CHIMES

WELCOME Liz Nickerson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *based on John 1*

One: In the beginning was the Word.

**All: And the Word was God.**

One: The word became flesh, full of grace and truth.

**All: All things came into being through him.**

One: Without him not one thing came into being.

**All: What came into being in him is *life*,  
the light of all people!**

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

\* HYMN

*I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

1. I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise,  
2. I sing the good - ness of our God that filled the earth with food;  
3. On earth there's not a plant or flower but makes your glo - ry known,

That spread the flow - ing seas a - broad, and built the loft - y skies.  
God formed the crea - tures with a word, and then pro - nounced them good.  
The clouds a - rise and spread their showers by or - der from your throne.

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule the day;  
Oh, how your won - ders are dis - played, wher - e'er I turn my eye:  
All life is but a gift from you and ev - er in your care;

The moon shines full at God's com - mand, and all the stars o - bey.  
If I sur - vey the ground I tread, or gaze up - on the sky!  
Wher - ev - er peo - ple gath - er, you, O God, are pres - ent there.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, our God,  
We confess to misusing the truth.  
We bend it. We cut it in half.  
We mislead and deceive.  
We omit facts.  
We make facts up.  
We take pleasure in slander.  
Mistaking your glow for a glare,  
we recoil at the light of your truth.  
But only your true Word can save us.  
Let it shine through us.  
Amen.**

#### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

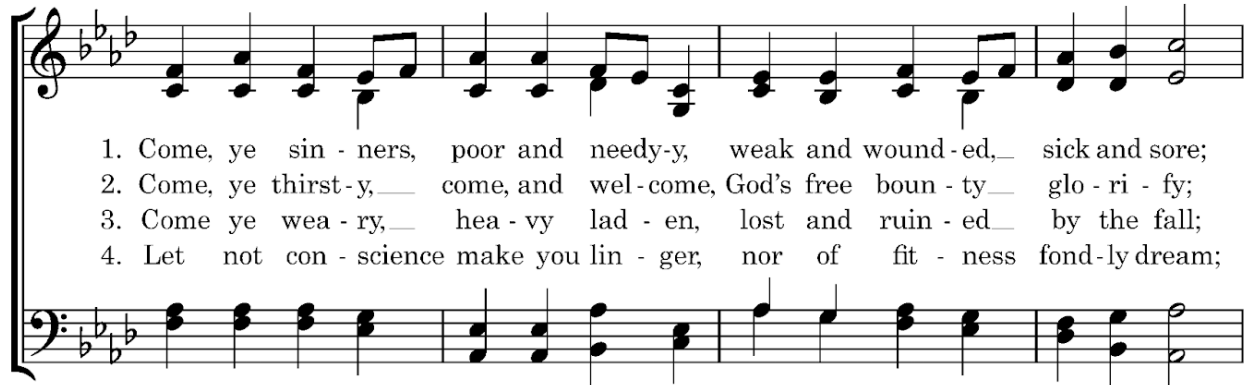
#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Sunday School students are invited to go to their classrooms.  
If you would like to accompany your child(ren),  
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

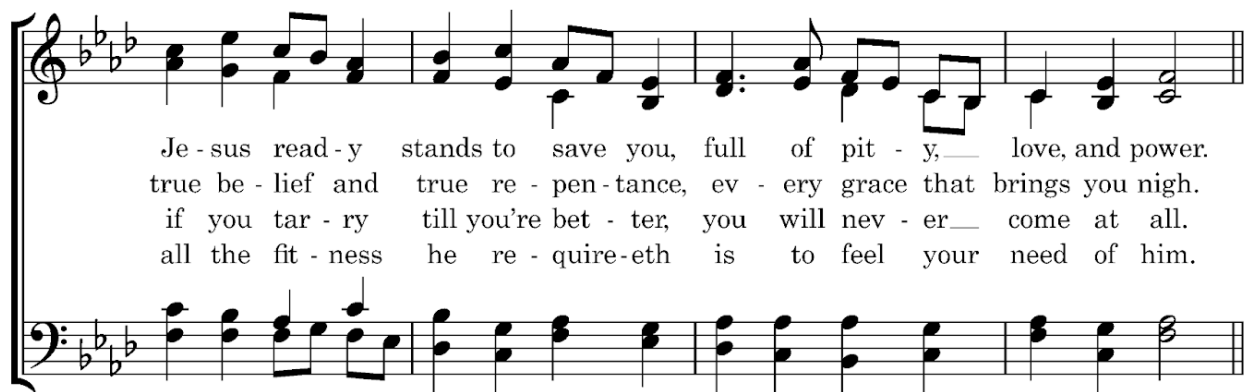
## RESPONSE

*Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

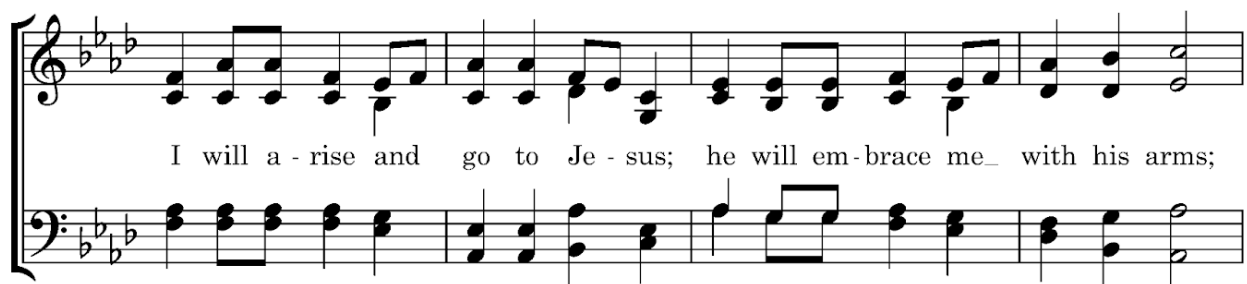
v. 1



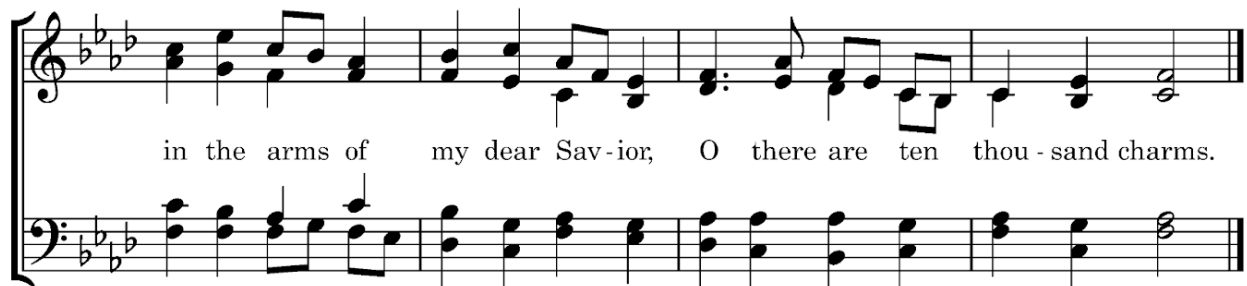
1. Come, ye sin - ners, poor and needy-y, weak and wound-ed, sick and sore;  
2. Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel-come, God's free boun - ty glo - ri - fy;  
3. Come ye wea - ry, hea - vy lad - en, lost and ruin - ed by the fall;  
4. Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness fond-ly dream;



Je - sus read-y stands to save you, full of pit - y, love, and power.  
true be - lief and true re - pen-tance, ev - ery grace that brings you nigh.  
if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter, you will nev - er come at all.  
all the fit - ness he re - quire-eth is to feel your need of him.



I will a - rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me with his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav-ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

SCRIPTURE

Carrie Bruggers

*Matthew 5:33-37*

“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord’, but I say to you, don’t use an oath at all. Don’t swear by Heaven - it is God’s throne. Don’t swear by the earth - it is God’s footstool. Don’t swear by Jerusalem - it is the city of a great King. You don’t make your words true by making your speech sound more religious; you make them *less* true. Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes,’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this has a taint of evil.”

\* RESPONSE

*Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

vv. 2, 3, & 4

See previous hymn

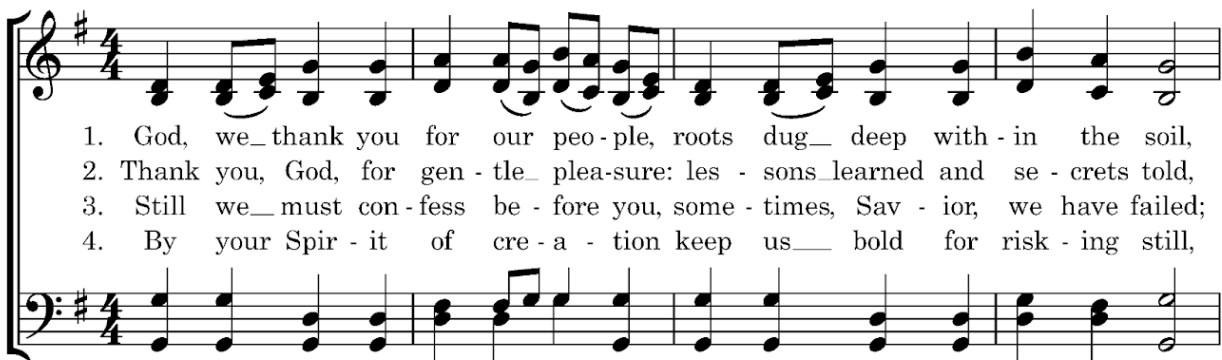
SERMON

“The Girls at Camp Take God *Seriously*”

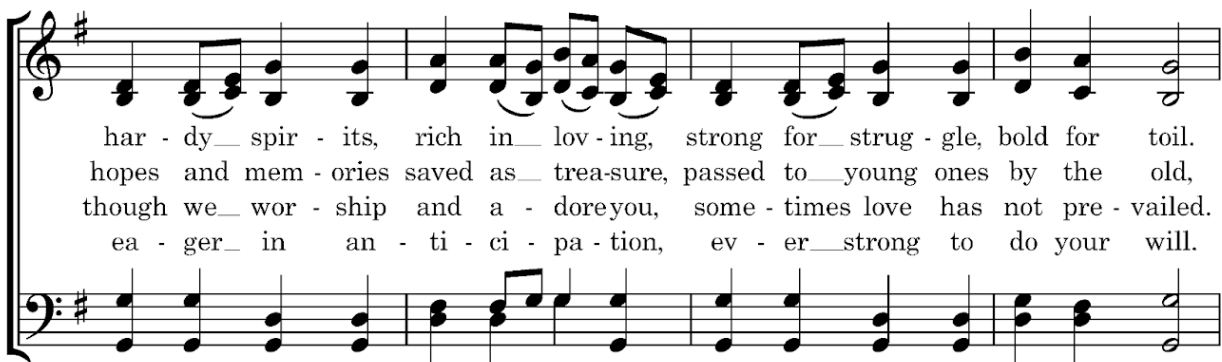
Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

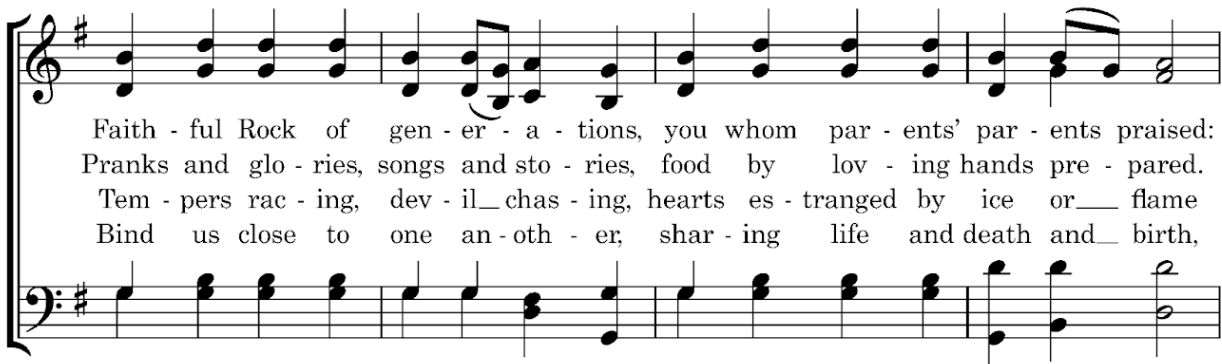
*God, We Thank You for Our People*



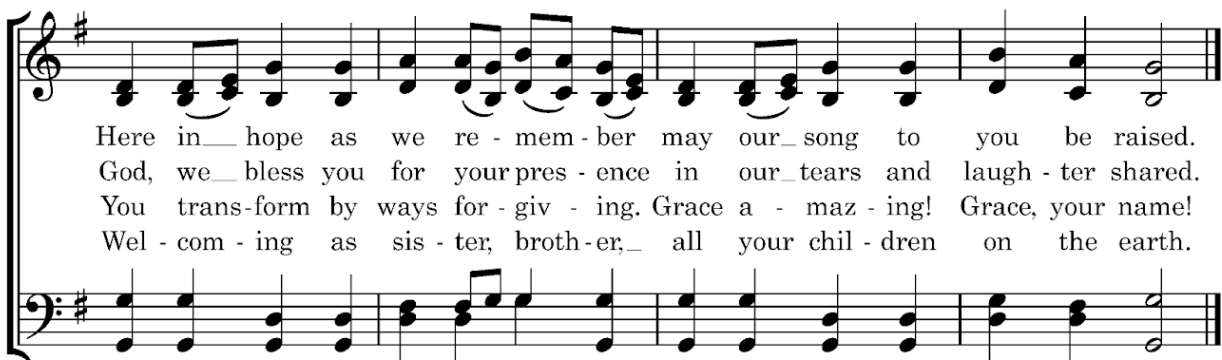
1. God, we thank you for our peo-ple, roots dug deep with-in the soil,  
2. Thank you, God, for gen-tle plea-sure: les-sons learned and se-crets told,  
3. Still we must con-fess be-fore you, some-times, Sav-ior, we have failed;  
4. By your Spir-it of cre-a-tion keep us bold for risk-ing still,



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



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



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

OFFERTORY

*How Excellent Thy Name*  
Alex Hansen, electronics and voice  
Chancel Choir

Howard Hanson  
remix-Alex Hansen

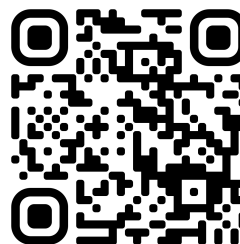
O Lord our Lord, how excellent Thy name in all the earth,  
Who hast set Thy glory above the heavens.  
When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers,  
The moon and stars, which Thou hast ordained;  
What is man that Thou art mindful of him?  
And the son of man, that Thou visitest him?  
For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, Alleluia!  
And has crowned him with glory and honor.  
Thou madest him to have dominion over the work of Thy hands;  
Thou hast put all things under his feet, Alleluia!  
Lord our Lord, How excellent Thy name in all the earth, Alleluia!  
*Psalm 8: 1. 3-6*

*You can give to St. Pauls electronically by:*

*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),*

*Or through Zelle or PayPal to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

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.



## RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

## A Dialogue on our Statement of Faith

Pastor: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive these new members into our church.

**Congregation: We believe in God who has created and is creating.**

President: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: We trust God. God calls us to be the church.**

Pastor: Will you promise to support this congregation with your time, talent and resources, participating regularly in the worship of Saint Pauls United Church of Christ and contributing to our life and ministry in the city?

New Members: We do promise. With you, we will celebrate God's presence, love and serve others, care for creation, seek justice and resist evil.

Pastor: With your love, God will love. With your hands, God will touch the city. With your lives, God will bring justice and compassion to the world.

**Congregation: We promise you our love, support and care.**

**All: Together we will 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!**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Jeff Carlson

## 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


*How Firm a Foundation*



1. How firm a foun - da - tion for you has been laid,  
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,  
 3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 by God in the Word, in the sac - ri - fice paid!  
 for I am your God, I will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of woe shall not o - ver you flow;  
 What more can God say than to you has been said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand  
 For I will be with you, your trou - bles to bless,  
 to you, who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my gra - cious, om - ni - po - tent hand."  
 de - liv - er - ing you from your deep - est dis - tress."

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



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

POSTLUDE

*I Saw the Light*  
 St. Arbucks Quartet

Hank Williams

***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 in the Social Hall, directly below the Sanctuary.***

### **TODAY'S MUSIC**

Franz Liszt (1811-1886) composed the ***Adagio in D Flat Major S. 172, No. 4*** as part of his set of piano pieces, *Six Consolations*, between 1844 and 1850. It has been transcribed for organ by a number of organists, and Liszt transcribed many works of other composers for the piano and also the organ. Liszt could be called a phenom in terms of his prodigious technique, sense of drama, and effect on audiences. There are reports of people weeping and fainting during his concerts.

The text of ***Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*** was written in 1852 by Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895). She was born in Ireland and as a child began to write poetry. In 1850 she married an Anglican priest, who later became the Bishop of Ireland. With her sister, she founded a school for the deaf and spent her life working for the disadvantaged and downtrodden. The tune, GALILEE, was composed in 1887 by William Herbert Jude (1851-1922). He was born in Suffolk, England and by age 8 was composing music for school plays. In addition to composing, he also became a famous organist, playing dedicatory recitals over more than 1,000 new instruments.

***I Sing the Mighty Power of God*** is a text by Isaac Watts (1674-1848), the eminent English poet, who set the entire books of Psalms as poetry, which included Psalm 90, *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*. His poetry has inspired many composers. BETHLEHEM was composed by Joseph Barnaby (1838-1896). He was a renowned British choral director who introduced Bach's *Matthew and John Passions* in English translations to English audiences. He was knighted by Queen Victoria.

***Come Ye Sinners Poor and Needy***, to the tune RESTORATION, is mined from the wonderful early 19th century American shape-note hymnals including *Southern Harmony*. Its composer and lyricist are unknown, but it was first published in 1835. The melody is characterized by a folk-like swing.

The text for ***God, We Thank You for Our People*** was written in 1986 by Ruth Duck (b. 1947). She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and has written four volumes of hymn texts. HOLY MANNA is an unattributed melody from the great American series of shaped-note hymnals from the early 19th century including *The Sacred Harp*.

Howard Hanson (1896-1981), the composer of ***How Excellent Thy Name***, was a native of Wahoo, Nebraska. For many years he was Dean of Eastman Conservatory of Music in Rochester, New York. He wrote a full range of compositions from symphonies to chamber music.

### **Remix by Alex Hansen**

Alex Hansen (b. 1999), son of Kurt and Terry Hansen, was born into the family of faith that is St. Pauls UCC and was baptized and confirmed here. He graduated from Elmhurst University in May 2022 majoring in Music Theory and Composition. He is making his mark as a music producer and recording engineer of his own works, his duo with Diana Perez, ***diial***, and other artists.

**What is a Remix?** In contemporary terms, a remix involves taking the recording of a song or instrumental and redoing balances and perhaps adding other voices or instruments. This is a tool often used by DJs. The Chancel Choir sang at “How Sweet the Sound” a “rearrangement” or remix of Handel’s *Hallelujah Chorus* in a Gospel style. Our National Anthem, the Star Spangled Banner, is “remixed” regularly by the artists singing it at nationally televised events. A remix does NOT replace the original, rather it gives us another way to experience it musically and enhancing the impact of the text.

***How Firm a Foundation***, although of anonymous origin, is a true American hymn first published in Funk’s *Genuine Church Music* in 1832. That hymnal is part of what is often referred to as the Sacred Harp, or shape-note hymnal, tradition in our country which began in the early 19th century. These treasures gained a rebirth during the bicentennial celebrations in 1976. Did you know that before the revival of this tune, FOUNDATION, this text was most often sung to the tune *Adeste Fideles* (*O Come, All Ye Faithful*)? The text is also unattributed, but first discovered by John Rippon (1751–1836), who was an English Baptist clergy. He noted the author as “K.”

***I Saw the Light*** was composed and recorded in 1952 by Hank Williams (1923-1953). He was a beloved country music singer and composer. In his all-too-short life, he recorded 35 singles and 11 of those reached No. 1 on the country & western charts.

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Liz Nickerson, Matt fitzgerald, Jeff Carlson

**Music Director:** Kurt R. Hansen

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

**Organist:** Kevin Dzierzawski

**Lay Liturgical Administrator:** Kevin O'Brien

**Scripture Reader:** Carrie Bruggers

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Juanita Barlow

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are from Gloria Joseph in memory of her husband, Nial.

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN FEBRUARY**

*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.*

Feb 12 Bobbi Gannello, Jim Brandt, Ilse Wiebe, Linda Loving

Feb 13 Dana Peterson Harrits, Nathan Bertsch

Feb 14 Harrison Rodriguez, Natalie Cramb, Peter Bertsch

Feb 15 Michelle Drew Rodriguez

Feb 16 Brian Hafner, Graham Hicks

Feb 17 Pam Vanderlinde, Alex Doty

Feb 18 Wayne Parman, Ryan Holzricher

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



My name is **Caleb Bryant**. I'm originally from Elgin, Illinois, currently live in the North Mayfair neighborhood with my wife Hannah, daughter Ruth, and our dog Lily, and I'm excited to become a member of Saint Pauls after attending for several years. Many of my most important life events as an adult have occurred at Saint Pauls, including my wedding and the baptism of Ruth, and I look forward to building many new memories at this welcoming church. Professionally, I work as a consumer insights analyst within the food and beverage industry and love to talk about all things food and drink. Personally, I enjoy music, running and cooking.



We are **Madelyn and Jim Jansma**. We moved to Chicago four years ago and it's nice to connect to a fun church! We moved after spending a lifetime in the Washington state suburbs and are now enjoying city living. Our kids are young adults ("off the payroll," Jim says) and great to hang out with. Jim works in cybersecurity and Madelyn in online education. We love to get away from our computer screens and explore this terrific city!



Hi! We're **Blair Brettschneider and Derek De Haan** and we live in Avondale. Derek is a high school history teacher originally from California's Central Valley, and Blair grew up in metro Detroit and does digital strategy for nonprofits and advocacy organizations. Some of our favorite pursuits include kayaking on the Chicago River, movies old and new, checking out new restaurants, cooking, live music, and otherwise enjoying the city.



We are **Craig Wilbanks and Monty Kehl**. We are happy to be back in Chicago (we lived here 2010-2017) and are transferring from Gloria Dei Lutheran in Iowa City, Iowa. Monty is originally from western Nebraska and Craig is from upstate South Carolina. We met playing volleyball in Dallas, Texas in 1999, and we are looking forward to playing pickleball at St. Pauls. We are both retired and spend much of our time with our two dogs, ages 6 and 16.

Monty is learning guitar and volunteering at the Field Museum; Craig enjoys gardening and spends a good deal of time in South Carolina helping his parents. We live downtown and love to explore the city's neighborhoods.



We are **Greg Clemons** (*pictured*) and **Jeffrey Whitridge**. Greg grew up in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, and we currently reside in the South Loop. We are avid world travelers as well as food enthusiasts. We recently moved to Chicago from Asheville, North Carolina, where we resided for nearly 20 years. For fun Greg enjoys travel, reading, movies, cooking, progressive political causes, and running. One day we hope to have two Welsh terriers!



My name is **Joe Harrington**. I grew up in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and currently live in Chicago just a few blocks from Wrigley Field. I work for BMO as a Compliance Officer and love the work I do. You can find me playing basketball here at St. Pauls or riding a bike around the city looking for new coffee to try. I'm excited to get connected at St. Pauls and look forward to meeting more of you!





My name is **Liz Nickerson** and I am honored to serve St. Pauls as a new associate pastor and to officially join the church as a member! I live in East Lakeview with my husband Matt and teenage children, John and Julia. I grew up in Flossmoor, a southern suburb of Chicago. Before going into ministry, I worked as an architect working for Carol Ross Barney Architects on libraries, community centers and schools. I believe the world needs the church. I am committed to growing in my relationship with God and helping all people grow in their relationship with God. God loves each and every one of us and calls each one of us to build the kingdom of God, right here and right now. Let's build together!



My name is **Clark Baurer**. I grew up in Princeville, a small town in central Illinois. After six years at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, I moved to and have since lived in Chicago, save for two years in Versailles, France, and eight years in Beijing, China, where my wife, Irica, and I met! I have worked and taught as both an architect and structural engineer, and since 2014, have my own structural engineering practice. My wife, Irica, our children, Amelia and Simon, and I live in Logan Square. For fun I/we make and listen to music, read, travel, bike, run and walk/hike (with and without dogs).



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

See our full event calendar online at [spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/calendar).

### **FEB 15 - WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY *PHILIPPIANS* - 12 p.m., Zoom**

The Apostle Paul wrote this letter while chained in a foul Roman prison, yet it is surprisingly full of joy. Written to a church that was founded and led mostly by women, *Philippians* gives us a glimpse of how the early Christians were forming a counter-cultural community grounded in the compassion and justice of Jesus in the heart of the Roman Empire. Meets weekly. RSVP to Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org).

### **FEB 17 - MUSICAL POTLUCK PARTY - 6:30-9 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room**

Join St. Pauls Social and host Breanna Coe for a potluck and evening of music. Please bring a dish and drink to share. In the tradition of a French salon, attendees are invited to prepare a musical number or dramatic reading to share with everyone, but it is not required. There will also be a show tunes sing-along portion of the evening. Please RSVP to Breanna at [breannacoe@gmail.com](mailto:breannacoe@gmail.com) and let her know if you are planning to perform a number and what dish you are bringing. Join us for a night of gaiety, friends, music, and great food!

### **FEB 26 - AED TRAINING - 11:15 a.m., East End of the Social Hall**

**Sponsored by the Connectors** (will repeat periodically based on interest)

Do you know what an AED is? Do you know where AEDs are located in your church? Most important, could you use one rapidly to possibly save a life? Come to the Social Hall following worship and learn.

Sudden cardiac arrest is a medical emergency that occurs when a sudden electrical malfunction causes the heart to stop beating. Immediate recognition and response using an AED to deliver a shock to the heart, if advised, greatly improves chances of survival. For each minute of delay, the odds of survival are reduced approximately 10%. SECONDS COUNT! LEARN NOW! Join us February 26!

### **FEB 28 - *JESUS AND THE DISINHERITED* BOOK DISCUSSION - 7 p.m., Zoom**

Famously known as the text that Martin Luther King Jr. sought inspiration from in the days leading up to the Montgomery bus boycott, Howard Thurman's *Jesus and the Disinherited* helped shape the civil rights movement and changed our nation's history forever. In this classic theological treatise, the acclaimed theologian and religious leader Howard Thurman (1900-1981) demonstrates how the gospel may be read as a manual of resistance for the poor and disenfranchised. Jesus is a partner in the pain of the oppressed and the example of His life offers a solution to ending the descent into moral nihilism. Hatred does not empower--it decays. Only through self-love and love of one another can God's justice prevail. Join Pastor Jeff for a discussion over Zoom. Register for the Zoom link here: [tinyurl.com/yckb53cb](https://tinyurl.com/yckb53cb).

**MAR 3 - WINDY CITY WINDS "AN EVENING WITH JIM STEPHENSON" - 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary**

Acclaimed composer James Stephenson will guest conduct Windy City Winds in four of his works in concert on Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. Bands and orchestras worldwide perform Stephenson's music, including the Chicago Symphony, St. Louis Symphony, and the U.S. Marine Band. The Lake Forest Symphony's recording of his *Symphony #3* was nominated for three Grammys. Learn more about Jim at [composerjim.com](http://composerjim.com). There will also be an audience raffle during the concert and a reception after so audience members can meet Jim. Admission is free and it will be live streamed at [spucc.org/streaming](http://spucc.org/streaming). Learn more about WCW and this concert at [windycitywinds.org](http://windycitywinds.org).

**MAR 5 - BUDGET REVIEW MEETING - 11 a.m., East End of the Social Hall**

For those who want a more in-depth review of our budget before the Annual Meeting on March 12, St. Pauls Treasurer Sally Fletcher will present a preview of the 2023 budget on Sunday, March 5, following the 10 a.m. worship service.

**MAR 5 - ORGAN TOUR - After Worship, Sanctuary**

We are blessed with an exceptional organist, Kevin Dzierzawski, and an equally wonderful instrument. With more than 5,000 pipes, 98 ranks and four manuals and pedals, our Aeolian-Skinner Pipe Organ imbues worship with a sense of wonder. Join Kevin after worship for a behind-the-scenes look at how our organ works, including a visit to the pipes and the blower. Due to space constraints, the tour is limited to the first ten participants. If spots have filled up or you'd be available another date, please register for the waitlist to be notified about future tours. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1625229](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1625229).

**MAR 12 - ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - 11:15 a.m., Sanctuary**

Please plan to attend the Annual Meeting of the Congregation of St. Pauls after worship on Sunday, March 12. We will vote on the 2023 budget, new members of the Church Council, and learn about the activities of 2022 and plans going into 2023. It is an important event in the life of St. Pauls. Members have voice and vote; Friends have voice. You can attend the meeting and vote in-person or via Zoom Webinar. Keep an eye on the meeting page for Zoom info and more details to come: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1559452](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1559452).

**MAR 19 - REMEMBER - Duruflé *Requiem* in worship, 10 a.m.**

Our Chancel Choir will be joined by a chamber orchestra and Kevin Dzierzawski on organ to share this deeply moving way to remember those we grieve, those we have lost most recently, and those that we lost during the pandemic and were unable to mourn. Please join us for this time of remembrance and reflection.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CHICAGO ELECTION WATCH 2023**

**Police District Councils.** After decades of discussion, a coalition of community, labor, and faith-based organizations proposed, and the City Council in 2021 passed, an ordinance that empowers local communities to elect people to represent them in each of Chicago's 22 police districts. There are 122 candidates vying for 66 vacancies. Three members of each Police District Council will be elected. Each Police District Council is charged with building stronger connections between the police and the community at the local level; collaborating in the development and implementation of community policing initiatives; holding regular public meetings and working with the community to get input on police department policies and practices; working to develop and expand restorative justice and other similar programs; and nominating members to serve on the city-wide Community Commission for Public Safety and Accountability (Commission). The Commission has "a central role" in selecting and removing the Police Superintendent and in setting police department policy. NOTE: While Police Districts are geographical areas, they are not the same areas as the city wards that elect Aldermen. You can find your Police District at <https://operations.chicagopolice.org/FindMyDistrict>.

### **TURKEY AND SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**

The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria and the UCC is issuing an appeal to help recovery efforts. All donations will be deposited into the International Emergency fund designated for "Turkey and Syria Earthquake Response." Your generous financial support will be used by UCC partners in the areas of greatest need for relief and long-term recovery. You can mail a check payable to the United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957, Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note "Turkey and Syria" on your check in the memo section. Or, you can give online by texting UCCDISASTER to 41444.

### **JOIN OUR ORCHESTRA**

For the first time since 2020, the St. Pauls Intergenerational Orchestra will again perform in worship on Sunday, March 12 with an all-Brahms program. Orchestra members include pre-teens, teenagers and adults of all ages and abilities! Rehearsals are immediately after worship for about an hour in the Oscar Mayer Room, **today, 2/26 and 3/5**. If you are interested, please contact our conductor Mark Mosley at (773) 732-0625 or [mwmosley@gmail.com](mailto:mwmosley@gmail.com). If you play an orchestral string, woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument, please join us as together we "Make a Joyful Sound in the City!"

## **LIGHTHOUSE NEWS**

This month our siblings at Lighthouse Church of Chicago are having a sermon series: "Black Presence in the Bible." They meet in the Chapel at 11:30 a.m. on Sundays. If you've never joined Lighthouse for worship before, this would be a great time to do so! Lighthouse Church also streams online every week via Facebook Live.

## **ENROLL TODAY FOR ST. PAULS COMPASSION CAMP FOR KIDS!**

**Compassion Camp: What Every Living Thing Needs.** Kids will explore what all living things need to live – shelter, food, water, air, and community. Using Psalm 104 as our guide, kids will learn compassion for each other and the earth. We will have group activities, play games, sing songs, and spend quality time outside.

Days: Monday-Thursday in two 2-week sessions:

**Session 1:** July 10-13 & July 17-20 **Session 2:** July 24-27 & July 31-August 3

Preschoolers age 2-4: 9 a.m. -12 p.m.

Elementary school age 5-12: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**\*Register by March 15 to lock in Early Bird Pricing\***

[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569)

## **2023 YOUTH MISSION TRIP - BE THE NEIGHBOR IN TUCSON!**

Youth who this year are in 8-12 grades are invited to a Tucson Immigration and Welcome Week, June 10-17. We'll spend the week in education, collaboration, cultural exchange, and hands-on service. We'll learn about immigration in our borderlands. We'll learn to put our faith into service through desert walks, humanitarian aid, preparing and serving meals, building projects, learning about the immigration process, activism and advocacy. Our hope is that this trip will help us apply what we learn in new ways with immigrants when we return home. Cost is \$500, plus we'll do fundraising for the extra expenses and airfare. You can find out more and sign up here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508128).

## **JOIN THE MOVEMENT - provided by SPARC**

**Today is Racial Justice Sunday.** Founded by British Christian churches in 1995, it is celebrated on the second Sunday in February. UCC Join the Movement invites us to participate with resources to engage all ages in working for racial justice, and shares this prayer: "Loving God, who is the pattern for our lives, we give you thanks for future embodied in our midst every time a community joins the movement toward racial justice. Make us vessels of healing in our divided world, bridge-builders who understand that we need each other to survive. As we pray, so would we live. Amen."

## **CREATION CORNER - provided by the Green Team**

### **REASSESS FOOD CHOICES/USE**

- Grow and share vegetables.
- Planting organic seeds is a simple way to start your garden on an eco-friendly footing.
- If the idea of growing an entire organic garden is a little too much to bite off all at once, get your feet wet by trying organic gardening methods in a container garden first.
- Sign up for Community-Supported Agriculture

### **PROVIDE FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR**

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 here, [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246), or call the office at (773) 348-3829. Most 2023 dates are still available!

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – Providing flowers for the altar is an excellent way to celebrate a special event in your life: an anniversary, a birthday, a holiday, or just because you like flowers. There are still many dates available this year! Sign up for 2023 dates at [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1517246).

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

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

**CONNECTORS** reach out providing networking and support for members and friends of St. Pauls. Membership is open to all who have the time and the inclination to help. Contact Marcia Volk at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com).

**EMERGENCY CONTACT FORM & CARDS** – Follow this link for additional information: [spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/people/forms/178271).

**GREEN TEAM** – As people of faith, members of St. Pauls are called to “Care for Creation.” To that end, the Green Team is seeking new members, particularly young adults and youth, as we become a Creation Justice church, recognized by the UCC. We would love to have you! If you are interested, please contact either of the new interim Green Team co-chairs, Ninon Freeman at [nlanda05@yahoo.com](mailto:nlanda05@yahoo.com) or Rick Peterson at [rnpeterson2017@gmail.com](mailto:rnpeterson2017@gmail.com).

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

**PICKLEBALL** – Have you tried the growing sport of Pickleball yet? We hold pick-up games in the St. Pauls gym every week. Sign up at the ChurchCenter link below and show up at one of the allotted times! We have spare paddles and balls. All skill levels are invited. If you have questions, call or text Steve Garrett at (312) 208-0636. Game Times: Tuesdays: 5:30-8:30 p.m; Fridays: 2-3 p.m.  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/pickleball)

**POLO STAY & PLAY** – This is a friendly group for parents and caregivers with babies and small children (ages 0-4) and expectant parents, to meet together and enjoy playtime with your children. Our group will meet in the nursery downstairs by the Social Hall on Fridays from 10-11:30 a.m. *Please note, this is not a drop-off event.* Adult supervision is required.

**SCRIPTURE READER VOLUNTEERS** – 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/1508612](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1508612).

**ST. PAULS SOCIAL** – Get better acquainted with other adults at St. Pauls. If you are interested in hosting, please contact Jen Luerksen at [stpaulssocial@spucc.org](mailto:stpaulssocial@spucc.org). Subscribe to the distribution list below, or look out for future events in the bulletin calendar: [spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/groups/saint-pauls-groups/st-pauls-social)

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

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION** – Please register your kids for the 2022-23 Sunday School year at the link below. Sunday School is open to children 2-years-old to high school. Our Nursery is open for children under age 2. Email questions to Children's Program Coordinator Danielle Mayfield at [danielle.mayfield@spucc.org](mailto:danielle.mayfield@spucc.org). Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1306755)

**THURSDAY BASKETBALL** – Join us for a weekly pickup game! All skill levels are welcome. Email Pastor Matt to get on the updates list, [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@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](mailto:youngadults@spucc.org).

#### **YOUTH & FAMILY NEWSLETTER**

Make sure you stay in the know with youth events! A weekly email is sent to parents to share activities, including Sunday School lessons and other useful news. Please contact Erin Fitzgerald at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org) to be added to the list.

**YOUTH CHOIRS** – If your child has any interest in music, please join us! Kecia Waldschmidt is leading Paul's People for 4th-8th graders. Breanna Coe and Karen Johnson are leading the Children's Choir for kids K-3rd grade. Rehearsals are at 9:30 on Sunday mornings. We can't wait to hear our youth choirs singing again!

#### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**Please limit announcements to 100 words.** Thank you!

### SAINT PAULS PRAYS

*Please clip this page and pray for those who are named below. To have your prayer request included, simply ask a pastor in person, on the phone or by email.*

*Our practice is to run each prayer request for four weeks and then remove it. If you would like to continue a prayer request after four weeks, let a pastor know.*

- Pat Ruch, Ashley and Heather Cerkar, and friends of Al Cerkar at his death.
- Family and friends of Sonja Rae at her death.
- Family and friends of Dolores Pifer at her death. A memorial service is being planned for February 19 at 11:30 a.m.
- Family and friends of Darlene Braun at her death. An informal service to remember and give thanks for her life will be held after worship on February 26.
- Friends of the Van Zeyls, Sarah, Timmy, and their daughter Grace, as their older daughter Hannah recovers from open heart surgery.
- Winnie Kearn's mother, Patti, for healing of a wound.
- Justin Hartanov and family at the death of his mother, Betsy.
- For the safety of Steve Schwartzberg's friend, Anthony.
- David, a 28-year-old recovering from an emergency operation.
- Gary and Petrine Ashley for improved strength.
- Kompare family, displaced from their home after a fire in their building.
- Michael Toomin, as he recovers from a back injury and is undergoing physical therapy.
- Carole Crowley, recovering from a stroke.

### **Prayer, Support, Mental Health Resources**

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



ABOUT ST. PAULS  
*Making a Joyful Sound in the City!*

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

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

Most important, over the past 179 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](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Jeff Carlson, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org)  
Associate Pastor Liz Nickerson, [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org)

For a complete list of St. Pauls Staff, Governance, and Lay Leadership  
Please visit [www.spucc.org/contact](http://www.spucc.org/contact)

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N Orchard St. | Chicago, IL 60614**  
**(773) 348-3829    [www.spucc.org](http://www.spucc.org)**

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.