

Second Sunday in Lent  
Communion Sunday  
March 5, 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.  
The Nursery and Toddler Room is open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

"We dance around a ring and suppose,  
But the Secret sits in the middle and knows."

Robert Frost

PRELUDE

*Lord Don't Move The Mountain*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Doris Akers  
arr. Brendan Henry

Now Lord don't move my mountain  
But give me the strength to climb  
And Lord, don't take away my stumbling blocks  
But lead me all around

But oh Jesus  
You don't have to move my mountain . . .

CHIMES

INTROIT

*To My Humble Supplication*  
Chancel Choir

Genevan Psalter

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalms 121*

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills-- from where will my help come?

**All: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.**

One: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

**All: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

One: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

**All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

One: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**All: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.**

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

\* HYMN

*Sing Praise to God*

1. Sing praise to God, who has shaped and sus - tains all cre -  
 2. Praise God, our guard - ian, who lov - ing - ly of - fers cor -  
 3. Sing praise to God, with sin - cere thanks for all your suc -  
 4. Sing praise, my soul, the great name of your high God com -

- a - tion! Sing praise, my soul, in pro - found and com -  
 - rec - tion, Who, as on ea - gle's wings, saves us from  
 - cess - es. Mer - ci - ful God ev - er loves to en -  
 - mend - ing. All that have life and breath join you, their

- plete ad - o - ra - tion! Glad - some re - joice— or - gan and  
 sin - ful de - jec - tion. Have you ob - served, how we are  
 - cour - age and bless us. On - ly con - ceive, what god - ly  
 notes sweet - ly blend - ing. God is your light! Soul, ev - er

trum - pet and voice— join - ing God's great con - gre - ga - tion.  
 al - ways pre - served by God's pa - ren - tal af - fec - tion?  
 strength can a - chieve: strength that would touch and car - ess us.  
 keep this in sight: a - men, a - men nev - er end - ing.

## CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Your appearance startles us, God.  
We wish you were *reasonable*.  
We prefer you as a spirit,  
but you come to us as a God who bleeds.  
We long for you. You startle us.  
How odd, to be rattled  
by your nearness.  
How wonderful, to be healed  
by your presence  
here at this table. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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.**

SERVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

*Please come forward for communion.  
Take the bread and eat it. Then take the cup and drink.  
Deposit the cups in the baskets on the way back to your seat.  
The outer ring of cups contains grape juice. The inner rings contain wine.  
A gluten-free bread option is wrapped and available on a separate tray.  
Return to your seat by the side aisles.  
All are welcome to take part in communion.*

\* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**Oh God, in Christ you come to us humbly, joyfully. We respond in kind,  
humbled by your love, joyful to be with you!**

*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.*

**\* COMMUNION HYMN**

*What A Covenant*

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

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

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

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

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

SCRIPTURE

Karen E. Johnson

*Genesis 12:1-4*

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old. He took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot with him.

\* RESPONSE

*O Love that Will Not Let Me Go*

v. 1

1. O Love that will not let me go, \_\_\_\_\_  
2. O Light that fol - lows all my way, \_\_\_\_\_  
3. O Joy that seeks me through my pain, \_\_\_\_\_  
4. O Cross that rais - es up my head, \_\_\_\_\_

I rest my wea - ry soul in you; \_\_\_\_\_  
to you I yield my flick - ering flame; \_\_\_\_\_  
to you I can - not close my heart; \_\_\_\_\_  
from you I dare not seek to flee; \_\_\_\_\_

I give you back the life I owe, \_\_\_\_\_ that  
Re - new my spir - it's fee - ble ray, \_\_\_\_\_ that  
I trace the rain - bow through the rain, \_\_\_\_\_ and  
Life's glo - ries with - er and are dead, \_\_\_\_\_ but

in your o - cean depths its flow may swell with ar - dor true.  
from your bril - liant sun - lit day it may new bright - ness claim.  
know the prom - ise is not vain that you will ne'er de - part.  
from the ground there blos - soms red, life that shall end - less be.



SERMON

"We Dance Around in a Ring and Suppose"

Matt Fitzgerald

\* HYMN

*O Love that Will not Let Me Go*  
See Previous Hymn

vv. 2-4

OFFERTORY

*Pie Jesu*  
from Requiem  
(Sung in Latin)  
Alexandra "Lexi" Mokowiecki, soprano  
Chancel Choir

John Rutter

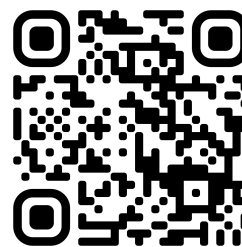
Blessed Jesus, Lord,  
Grant them eternal rest.

*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

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, featuring four staves of music with lyrics underneath.

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.

\* HYMN

*How Firm a Foundation*



1. How\_ firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2. "Fear not, I am with thee, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3. "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4. "The\_ soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,



Is\_ laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent word!  
For\_ I am thy God, and will still give thee aid.  
The\_ riv - ers of woe shall not thee o - ver - flow;  
I\_ will not, I will not de - sert to his foes,



What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
For I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,  
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



To\_ you who for re - fuge to Je - sus have fled?  
Up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
And\_ sanc - ti - fy to thee thy deep - est dis - tress.  
I'll\_ nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er for - sake!"

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

*Prelude and Fugue in e minor, BWV 555*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

J. S. Bach

***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.***

### **Lent Soup Suppers:**

**The God of Television: Leaning Toward the Light with Joe Pera - RSVP today**  
[spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309)

Can we find God on television? March 7, 14 and 21, join your pastors on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 for a bowl of soup, and a lively conversation about faith and tv.

Each Tuesday we will watch and discuss a fifteen minute episode of the sit-com "Joe Pera Talks with You." Our Lent TV "study" will conclude with a Taize service on March 28th. Don't miss this fun and meaningful opportunity.



"A restrained masterpiece. As far as off-beat television comedies go, this is one of the best ... beautiful and deep." -*Collider*

## TODAY'S MUSIC

We are pleased to welcome **Alexandra “Lexi” Makowiecki**, our soloist for the Offertory Anthem. We also welcome Lexi’s parents Maria and Bartek Makowiecki. Lexi is a sophomore at Lake Forest High School and studies voice privately with Kurt R. Hansen.

We also welcome a return visit from **Joel Kelsey**, who was the first bass player in the St. Arbucks Quartet. We are so happy to have him for the Sunday he is in town to fill in for Alex Austin.

**Lord, Don't Move That Mountain** lyrics and music were written by Doris Mae. Akers (1923-1995), a famous African-American gospel composer, arranger, and singer. This is another gospel song that Mahallia Jackson sang, and this arrangement is by Brendan Henry.

**To My Humble Supplication** is a text composed in 1620 by Joseph Bryan (dates unknown). The tune, GENEVAN 86, derives its name from a famous psalter published in Geneva, Switzerland in 1551. Each psalm setting was assigned its number corresponding to the same number in the Book of Psalms. Among other tunes we still sing from the *Genevan Psalter* is *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*.

**Sing Praise to God** is another great hymn from our German heritage. The tune, LOBE DEN HERRN, is the first line of the first stanza of the German text. The composer is unknown and it was first published in a hymnal in 1668. The original text was written by Joachim Neander (1650-1680). Although he was reported to have had a “riotous youth,” he became the first important hymn writer of the German Reform Church. This updated translation was made in 1993 for our *New Century Hymnal* by Madeleine Forell Marshall (b. 1946).

E.A. Hoffman (1839-1929) wrote the text for **What A Covenant**, that many of us learned as *What a Fellowship*, in 1877. He was an ordained minister and wrote over 2,000 gospel songs in his lifetime. The tune bears two names, LEANING, which is the first word of the refrain, and SHOWALTER in honor of the composer, A. J. Showalter (1858-1924). He actually began teach shape-note singing at age 14. He attended a number of private Christian music programs to learn his craft.

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go** is a text written in 1882 by Scottish minister George Matheson (1842-1906). He lost his sight as a child, and had a brilliant career as a lecturer, author, and minister. The tune, ST. MARGARET, was composed in 1884 by Albert L. Peace (1844-1912). He was born in Yorkshire England, began as a gifted self-taught musician, went on to earn a doctorate in music from Oxford, served as the organist at the Glasgow Cathedral, and a prominent recitalist.

The **Pie Jesu** is from Requiem by John Rutter (b. 1945). His Requiem was completed in 1985 and is dedicated to the memory of his father, who died in 1984. He chose texts in Latin from *Missa pro defunctis* (Mass for the Dead), in the Liber Usualis. The inclusion of this text is somewhat unusual in requiem mass settings. It was first included by Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924) in his beautiful setting composed in 1890. Rutter was not only a champion of Fauré's music, he also edited the critical edition of Fauré's original version of the Requiem score. Rutter's inclusion and setting of the *Pie Jesu* is an obvious homage to Fauré. We will hear another great setting of this text in two weeks on March 19, when our Chancel Choir sings the Requiem by Maurice Duruflé with organ and chamber orchestra in worship.

**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."

### **BORN THIS WEEK IN MARCH**

*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.*

- Mar 5 Winona Koldyke, Arlo Brinkoetter
- Mar 6 Marcia Gulbrandsen, Jameson Beck
- Mar 7 Amy Barton, Rick Peterson
- Mar 9 Beth Wiser, Greg Basil, Kimberly Carter, Sean Banjavcic
- Mar 10 Tiffany Jozwiak
- Mar 11 Nancy Pifer, Lennon Fangman

## TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

**Clergy:** Liz Nickerson, Matt Fitzgerald

**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 E. Johnson

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

**Communion Coordinator:** Jana O'Brien

**Communion Servers:** Annie Johnson, Jeff Johnson

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Mary Brown

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

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

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Communion bread baked by Marcia Knudson.*

## LENT & EASTER AT ST. PAULS

TUES,  
MAR 7, 14, 21      THE GOD OF TELEVISION: *LEANING TOWARD THE LIGHT* - 6:30 p.m.  
Soup, TV, conversation, please RSVP

TUES, MAR 28      LENTEN TAIZÉ - 7 p.m.  
Service of meditation and prayer

SUN, APRIL 2      PALM SUNDAY - 10 a.m.  
Palm branches, songs

THU, APRIL 6      MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7 p.m.  
Dinner Church, please RSVP

FRI, APRIL 7      GOOD FRIDAY - 7:30 p.m.  
Communion, Tenebrae with choir

SUN, APRIL 9      EASTER SUNDAY - 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
Communion, choir, brass

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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

**TODAY - 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 8 - 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).

**MAR 7, 14, 21, 28 - THE GOD OF TELEVISION: *LEANING TOWARD THE LIGHT*** - 6:30 p.m., Oscar Mayer Room. Beginning March 7, join your pastors on Tuesday evenings for a bowl of soup, a 15-minute sitcom episode starring God, and a lively conversation. Our Lent TV "study" will conclude with a Taizé service on March 28. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1644309).

**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](https://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.

**MAR 21 - RETIREMENT GROUP - 10 a.m., Parlor\***

The Retirement Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month. Think retirement is all grandkids and travel? It's not all Hallmark. Please join us to discuss our transition paths, ways we found ourselves here, what's meaningful, what's next with or without planned health, funds or companionship. For more info contact Marcia Knudson at (773) 480-4189 or [marciaknudson@gmail.com](mailto:marciaknudson@gmail.com).

*\* The Parlor is currently not wheelchair accessible. If this inhibits your participation, please contact Marcia.*

**MAR 26, APR 16 - EXPAND OUR OPENNESS INFO MEETINGS - 11 a.m., Sanctuary**

The Church Council is pleased to announce the formation of the Building Accessibility Task Force with the purpose of solidifying the extraordinary progress of the Expanding our Openness and Accessibility work over the last several years. COVID disrupted this project and with the time that has passed, it has become necessary to review the overall timeline and building needs. Two informational sessions will be held with this task force on Sundays, March 26 and April 16. Please plan to join if you have questions about the next steps as we prayerfully discern Phase II of this critical project to ensure that SPUCC remains a welcoming church to all who worship and lean into God's call for each of us in our beloved space.

**MAR 31 - BE A KID AGAIN GAME NIGHT - 7 p.m., Parlor\***

Ever wonder what it would be like to play hide and seek at St. Pauls? Join St. Pauls Social and hosts Jen Luerssen and Wendy Love for a Be a Kid Again Game Night. Games include Hide and Seek, Sardines and others. Playing the games will be fun, but it's not mandatory for those looking to have a more low-key evening of fellowship. Bring a snack and drink to share.

*\* The Parlor is currently not wheelchair accessible. If this inhibits your participation, please contact Jen, [jenluerssen@yahoo.com](mailto:jenluerssen@yahoo.com).*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ST. PAULS SOFTBALL**

Join St. Pauls Young Adults and friends for our 10th season of Sunday 16" softball in Oz Park - just a short walk from St. Pauls! Games are Sunday afternoons from April 16 to June 25, starting between 1 and 3 pm. For more information, contact Todd Coe at [toddsingstenor@gmail.com](mailto:toddsingstenor@gmail.com). **Signup deadline is March 19.**



### **EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS**

Celebrate or remember a loved one by ordering a flowering plant for the Easter Festival Altar. Flowers may be picked up after the 11 a.m. Easter Sunday service. Remaining flowers will be donated to our senior members and neighbors. Registrations must be completed **by April 3** for inclusion in the Easter Bulletin. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1648145), or, fill out and return the paper form at the end of the bulletin.

### **LUTHER IN A YEAR**

Join Pastor Matt to go back in time more than 500 years for "Luther in a Year." We will read Martin Luther's most important works, and the work of his best modern critics. At the year's end, you will understand the beliefs Saint Paul's stands upon, you will be changed by thrilling ideas and great conversation, Christ's importance will be underlined, you will know one of history's most outrageous characters, and your faith will be strengthened. You might also be surprised by what a filthy vocabulary Martin Luther had. We will meet on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. via Zoom, **beginning April 12**. Reading list will be shared upon registration. Register here: [spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1656138](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1656138).

### **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](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1617569)

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

**The United Church of Christ has made a historic choice for our future.** The UCC Board's Search Committee will be recommending Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson to the UCCB this week as nominee for General Minister and President. If elected, she would be the first woman, and the first woman of African descent, to lead the denomination. Read more about her qualifications here, [tinyurl.com/hv7kdafi](https://tinyurl.com/hv7kdafi).

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

### **RE-EDUCATE: BOOKS FOR TEENS**

Recommended by the National Audubon Society:

5 new climate books to empower teens and help turn anxiety into action

*The Story of More: How We Got to Climate Change and Where to Go From Here*, By Hope Jahren

*When the World Runs Dry: Earth's Water Crisis*, By Nancy Castaldo

*A Bigger Picture: My Fight to Bring a New African Voice to the Climate Crisis*, By Vanessa Nakate

*How to Change Everything: The Young Human's Guide to Protecting the Planet and Each Other*, By Naomi Klein

*A Hot Mess: How the Climate Crisis is Changing our World*, By Jeff Fleischer

Additionally:

*No One is Too Small to Make a Difference*, By Greta Thunberg

## **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 2023/24 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 a.m.-12:00 p.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 Luerssen 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 [cindyball11@gmail.com](mailto:cindyball11@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.*

- Cheryl Kuba's friend Nancy in a second journey through cancer.
- Comfort, strength & peace to those dealing with death of loved ones.
- Family and friends of Dolores Pifer at her death.
- 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 Darlene Braun at her death. An informal service to remember and give thanks for her life will be held after worship today.
- 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.
- 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.

## EASTER ALTAR FLOWERS ORDER FORM

Celebrate or remember a loved one by ordering a flowering plant for the Easter Festival Altar. Flowers may be picked up after the 11 a.m. Easter Sunday service. Remaining flowers will be donated to our senior members and neighbors. Please enclose \$30 or more per plant with this order form.

**Please print legibly.**

**In Celebration of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**In Memory of** *(print name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**From** *(your name(s) as you wish to appear):*

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**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tear out this form and drop it in the offering plate with your payment, or mail it to:  
St. Pauls UCC  
Attn: Easter Flowers  
2335 N. Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614

Completed orders must arrive **by April 3** to appear in the Easter Bulletin.

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

St. 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.