

Pancake Church  
April 27, 2025

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

***Please silence cell phones.***

*If you have special dietary needs, sugar-free, gluten-free, vegetarian, and vegan items are available on a separate table by the door closest to the kitchen.*

*The Nursery and Toddler Room are open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.  
There is no Sunday School today.*

*We will remain seated throughout worship today  
because we are eating together at the table.*

THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

“It is the heart which perceives God, not reason.”

Blaise Pascal

PRELUDE

*For the Beauty of the Earth*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Craig Curry

INTROIT

*Arise, Beloved*  
Kalamazoo College Singers  
Christopher J. Ludwa, Music Director

Rosephanye Powell

Arise! Arise, my love.  
Arise, beloved, fair one, come away.  
For lo, the winter is past.  
Arise, beloved .....  
Come, the rain has gone,  
The flowers appear.  
The birds are singing.  
Come, your hand is mine.  
We'll taste of the grape vines,  
And hear the turtledove.  
Their voices sing of joy and love.  
Hush! Do not awaken love.  
Do not arouse 'til it pleases.  
As the gazelles and does of the field,  
So is my beloved.  
Arise, beloved .....  
Arise!

WELCOME

Jeff Carlson

WELCOMING EACH OTHER

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord, you give life to all who live!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Your joy fills the earth! Your resurrection brings new birth!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: You make the bruised and broken whole!!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: You are the song the whole earth sings, the promise resurrection brings!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Let the Victor's people sing!

**All: Alleluia!**

## HYMN

*God, We Thank You for Our Pancakes*

1. God, we\_ thank you for our pan - cakes, made of\_ wheat from your own soil  
 2. Thank you\_ God for all the hands that har - vest - ed the feast we share  
 3. For when we take time to\_ thank you, our own faith is mul - ti - plied  
 4. By your Spir - it keep us\_ grate - ful\_ for each per - son here to - day

Eggs, wa - ter and laugh - ter\_ mix - ing\_ in - to\_ bat - ter with some oil  
 Good church peo - ple who woke ear - ly, food by\_ lov - ing hands pre - pared  
 Grate - ful\_ hearts can see the\_ Giv - er, grate - ful hearts lead to clear eyes  
 Friend and\_ stran - ger, sis - ter, broth - er, each be - lov - ed by Yah - weh

Don't for - get the ma - ple tree whose sug - ar makes our break - fast sweet  
 Thank you for the sac - ri - fic - es be - hind all our joy - ous meals  
 So we thank you for our pan - cakes, and for ve - gan ba - con\_ too,  
 An - cient God but al - so\_ liv - ing, youth - ful Christ you love us\_ all

Sau - sage, too, for in Chi - ca - go, with - out\_ pork, no meal's com - plete.  
 Let our\_ grat - i - tude be\_ more than emp - ty\_ words, let it be real.  
 Flow - er\_ blos - soms, jeans and T - shirts, budd - ing leaves all come from You.  
 So we\_ thank you for our pan - cakes, for each oth - er, for Saint Pauls!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Risen living Christ,  
we confess that our grief  
seems too great to fade.  
We confess that death defeats hope.  
Forgive our lack of trust.  
Receive our doubt as a desperate prayer.  
Surprise us with your presence.  
Walk into our lives!  
Make our jaws drop!  
Our Lord and our God.  
Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

ANTHEM

*Ain-a That Good News*  
Chancel Choir

Spiritual  
arr. William L. Dawson

I got a crown up ina the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I got a crown up ina the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I'm goin' to lay down this worl'  
Goin'a shoulder up-uh my cross,  
Goin'a take it home-a to my Jesus,  
Ain'a that good news, good news.  
I got a harp up ina the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I got a harp up in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I'm a-goin' to lay down this worl'.....,  
I got a robe up in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I got a robe up in'a the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I'm going to lay down this worl'.....,  
I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news,  
I got a Saviour in-a the Kingdom,  
Ain'a that good news!  
I'm a goin' to lay down this worl'.....,

PANCAKE PROCESSIONAL

*Over My Head*



1. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing the in air. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
4. O - er my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air. \_\_\_\_\_



O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air. \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air. \_\_\_\_\_



O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear mu - sic in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I hear sing - ing in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see trou - ble in the air, \_\_\_\_\_  
O - ver my head \_\_\_\_\_ I see Je - sus in the air, \_\_\_\_\_



there must be a God some - where. \_\_\_\_\_

PANCAKE QUESTIONS:

*As you eat, we invite you to enjoy each other's company!  
Be sure to introduce yourself to new friends at your table.  
If you'd like, please discuss this question:  
Is there a person in your life that helped your faith grow?*

## SCRIPTURE

David Faulkner

*John 20:19-31*

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them.

Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said,

"Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

## A STATEMENT OF FAITH

**We believe in God who has created and is creating,  
who has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new,  
who works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.**

**We trust God. God calls us to be the Church,  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to care for creation,  
to seek justice and to resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God!**

*(adapted from the United Church of Canada)*

SERMON

“Only When We Know Little  
Do We Know Anything”

Matt Fitzgerald

OFFERTORY

*Unclouded Day*  
Kalamazoo College Singers

Traditional  
arr. Shawn Kirchner

O they tell me of a home far beyond the skies,  
O they tell me of a home far away;  
O they tell me of a home where no storm clouds rise;  
O they tell me of an uncloudy day.

Refrain:

O the land of cloudless day,  
O the land of an uncloudy day.  
O they tell me of a home where no storm-clouds rise,  
O they tell me of an uncloudy day.

O they tell me of a home where my friends have gone,  
O they tell me of that land far away,  
Where the tree of life in eternal bloom  
Sheds its fragrance thro' the uncloudy day.

O they tell me of a King in His beauty there,  
And they tell me that mine eyes shall behold  
Where He sits on the throne that is whiter than snow,  
In the city that is made of gold.

O they tell me that He smiles on His children there,  
And His smile drives their sorrows all away;  
And they tell me that no tears ever come again,  
In that lovely land of uncloudy day.

*Today's open offering goes to support our youth mission trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, joining youth and young adults from the Wilkinsburg church in a weeklong effort called "Project Peace."*

*You can donate to their trip electronically by:*

*Scanning this code with your cell phone camera,*

*At [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/youth-mission-trip-donations](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving/to/youth-mission-trip-donations),*

*Or through Zelle or PayPal to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org), memo: Youth Mission Trip*





*Welcome to St. Pauls, and thank you for worshiping with us today! If you're a guest and would like to learn more, scan the QR code.*



## 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.

## PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

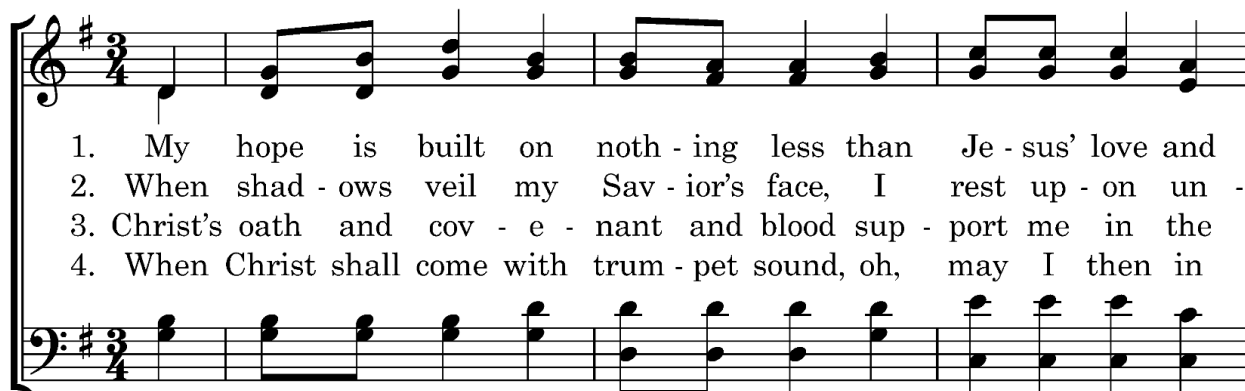
### PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

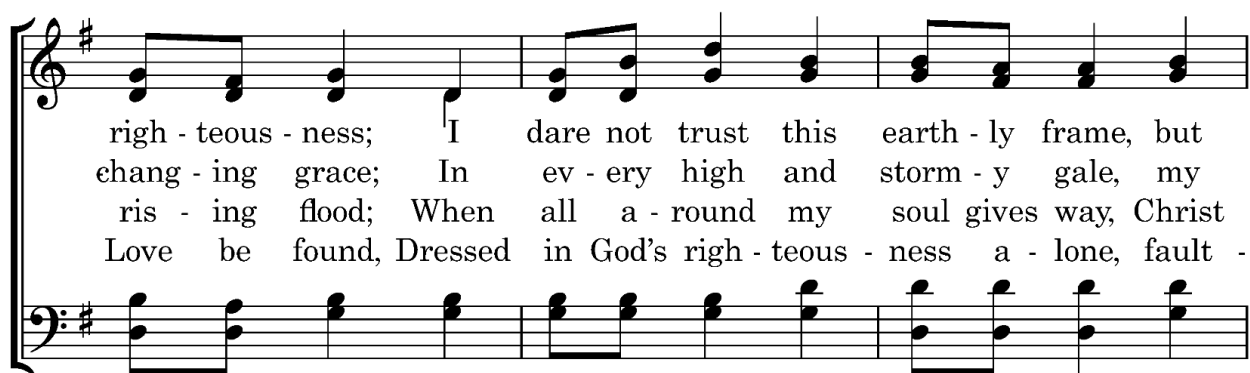
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.  
Amen.**

## HYMN

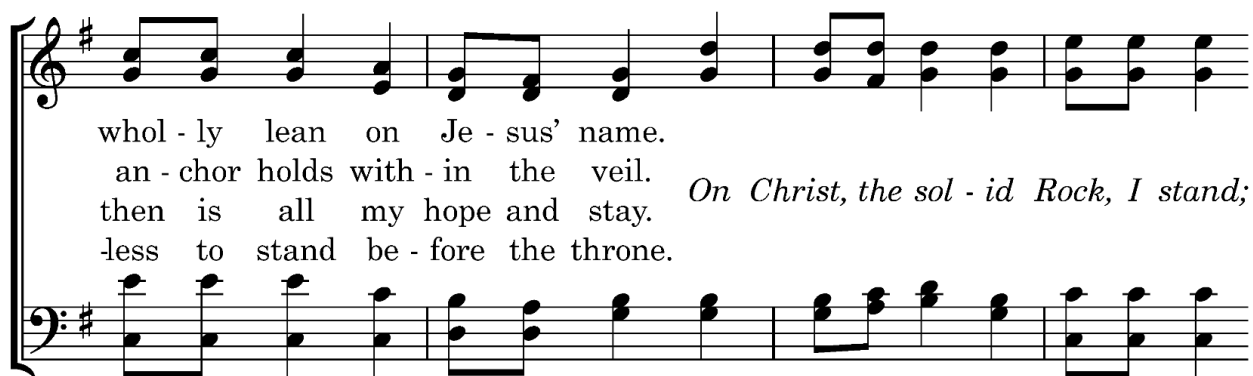
## My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



1. My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' love and  
 2. When shad - ows veil my Sav - ior's face, I rest up - on un -  
 3. Christ's oath and cov - e - nant and blood sup - port me in the  
 4. When Christ shall come with trum - pet sound, oh, may I then in



righteous - ness; I dare not trust this earth - ly frame, but  
 chang - ing grace; In ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my  
 ris - ing flood; When all a - round my soul gives way, Christ  
 Love be found, Dressed in God's right - teous - ness a - lone, fault -



whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.  
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. *On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand;*  
 then is all my hope and stay.  
 less to stand be - fore the throne.



*all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

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

POSTLUDE

*Down by the Riverside*  
Kalamazoo College Singers

Spiritual  
arr. Stacey V. Gibbs

I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,

I'm gonna study war no more .....

Well, I'm gonna put on my long white robe, down by the riverside  
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside  
I'm gonna study war no more .....

Well, I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, down by the riverside  
I'm gonna study war no more

I ain't a gonna study war no more .....

It is a joy to welcome our guests to share our pancakes, the **Kalamazoo College Singers** and their Music Director, Christopher J. Ludwa. We are the fortunate beneficiaries of a canceled performance in our area and their desire to sing for us this morning.

**SAVE THE DATE & NOTE THE TIME**  
**Joint Worship with Lighthouse UCC, JUNE 8 at 10:30 a.m.**

**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Clergy:** Jeff Carlson, 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

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

**Scripture Reader:** David Faulkner

**Head Ushers:**, Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, Doug Clark, David Faulkner

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Camera Operators:** Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman, Bob Ball, Brian Hafner, Trevor Hafner, Maurice Wallace

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

**BORN THIS WEEK IN APRIL/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.*

April 27 Elizabeth Clarke, Jackson Cava

April 28 Charlie Johnson, Nancy Barnett, Sullivan McGrath

April 29 Braden Van Zeyl

April 30 Ethan Fitzgerald, Kelly Sensenbrenner, Maggie Arden, Tommy Schmit

May 1 Karen Fisher, Kris Hansen, Sherrie Kobak, Tom Clancy

## ST. 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.*

- Nancy Barnett in the hospital.
- Dr. Rod Sippy, as he faces a long recuperation, as well as Erica Barbosa as she heals from a long illness.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Mike Stensaas, complications from Parkinson's and a stroke.
- Joe Harrington's mother on a recent diagnosis.
- Matthew Wallace, recently diagnosed with epilepsy.
- Dianne Witkowski, as she deals with cancer chemotherapy.
- Friends and loved ones of Marcia Knudson at her death.
- That we each find our role, our voice, in bringing peace forward.
- Students, workers, and communities at risk of family separation, loss of homes and businesses due to government overreach.
- Karen L. Johnson, recovering from a fall.
- Sally Acker, recovering from a fall.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.
- Pastor Liz's Aunt Donna Gentry, on the death of her husband Mike.
- Bob Ball's brother, Phill, being treated for complications associated with leukemia, and Jane, who is Phill's primary caregiver.
- Craig Wilbanks mother and father each facing serious health challenges.

### **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.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **MAY 3 – “WALK AS ONE AT 1” FOR PEACE ON WORLD LABYRINTH DAY**

Next Saturday, May 3, 2025, people around the globe will participate in the 17th annual World Labyrinth Day as a moving meditation for peace and celebration of the labyrinth experience. This creates a rolling wave of peaceful energy passing from one time zone to the next. This international event is held on the first Saturday of each May and is sponsored by The Labyrinth Society and partner organizations. St. Pauls will sponsor a walk in our gymnasium from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. We will use our labyrinth walk and handheld finger labyrinths. A short introduction will be available if needed. All in our community are welcome. Invite someone to join you.

### **MAY 4 – NEW MEMBER CLASS – 11 a.m., Room 211**

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for the next New Member Class. Together we'll talk about faith and our community, and we'd love for you to be part of the conversation! We'll meet after worship and childcare will be provided as needed. See other upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new\\_member\\_classes](http://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

### **MAY 9 - LPCS METAMORPHOSIS GALA**

You are invited to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Lincoln Park Community Services at their upcoming Metamorphosis gala! The gala will be on Friday evening, May 9, at Sarabande, located at 2726 West Roscoe Street in Chicago. LPCS serves adults who are experiencing homelessness in Chicago through two shelters, a Drop-In program, and a Street Outreach program. St. Pauls was one of the founding churches of LPCS in 1985 and has been an instrumental part of its growth ever since. LPCS will be recognizing us with their Cornerstone Legacy Award. Tickets are on sale now. To learn more, scan the QR code here or check LPCS's website at [LPCChicago.org](http://LPCChicago.org).



### **MAY 22 – MOMS’ GROUP - Thursdays., 9:15-10:15 a.m. & Sundays., 11:30-12:15 p.m., Room 028**

Pastor Liz is looking forward to a meaningful discussion with you! Our Moms’ group meets on Thursdays (9:15-10:15 a.m.) and Sundays (11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.) once per month. Upcoming Thursday, May 22, and Sunday, June 8. Come meet other moms, make new friends, learn from each other, get advice, pray, and get renewed! Each month has a relevant theme on an issue you face as a mom. Free professional childcare is available. Babies can stay with their moms. RSVP to [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org).

### **MAY 27 - FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP - 12-1:30 p.m., Social Hall**

Sponsored by St. Pauls Social. Adults of all ages are invited to make new friends and reconnect with old ones through lunch, fun and faith. Childcare provided.

**MAY 28 - COOKIES FOR A CAUSE (BAKE YOUR FAVORITE COOKIES AT HOME NOW!) - 5:30 p.m., Kitchen**

Join the St. Pauls cookie bakers for dinner, socializing and cookie making on Wednesday, May 28. Meet us in the kitchen at 5:30 p.m. or whenever you can make it. We eat around 6:30. Cookies go to A Just Harvest and the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. If you can't join us, but would like to participate, you may drop off cookies with your name on them and labeled MARCIA at the church on or before the 28th. Please get in touch with Marcia Volk to reserve a spot and she will let you know what dinner/baking supplies are still needed. Contact Marcia at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com) or (773) 307-6866. You may also contact Gloria Joseph at [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com)

**JUNE 15-21- YOUTH MISSION TRIP**

We are excited to invite our youth on the summer 2025 trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Youth will work with activists and church leaders from the Christian Church of Wilkinsburg, a dynamic interracial congregation in the heart of the community. We will stay at the church, joining youth and young adults from the Wilkinsburg church in a weeklong effort called "Project Peace." We will do carpentry, urban gardening, and other projects in the neighborhood. Lessons learned will be brought home and put to work at St. Pauls and in Chicago. If you are already planning to join the adventure, you can register here: [tinyurl.com/mrxmed3c](https://tinyurl.com/mrxmed3c).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEW! OPT-IN TO TEXTING FROM ST. PAULS**

Want to receive reminders and announcements via text?  
Simply scan the QR code and fill out the form!

**WINDY CITY WINDS-SPRING CONCERT**

Windy City Winds, "Chicago's Community Band," will present its Spring Concert "Looking Back" on Friday, May 16, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Pauls UCC, featuring favorite music from their first three seasons with guest conductor Dr. Kimberly Fleming, Assistant Director of Bands at the University of Illinois, and guest vocalist William Powers, acclaimed bass-baritone of the Metropolitan Opera of New York. Powers will perform *The Man in the Arena* by Chicago area composer Ronald Hill, based on a speech by Theodore Roosevelt. Admission is free and the concert will also be live-streamed at [spucc.org/streaming](https://spucc.org/streaming). Don't miss it!

**DRIVERS NEEDED - SUNDAYS AND WEEKDAYS**

We need members to drive older members to church on Sundays and to occasional doctors' appointments. Please email Pastor Liz for details at [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org).

## **ST. PAULS MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT LEGAL FUND**

St. Pauls housed five Venezuelan migrant families in our building over the past two years. Today, nearly every single member of these families has achieved legal status, helping to safeguard their presence in Chicago for the time being and allowing them to work. Such legal aid is costly and ongoing. In a time of wild anxiety and uncertainty for these new friends, you can help make a difference for our migrant families by supporting our legal aid fund. If you'd like to make a donation, please choose "Migrant Housing Project - Legal Fund" from the drop-down menu on our giving page: <https://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving>

## **HAVE SOME ODD JOBS? WE'VE GOT SOME WILLING WORKERS!**

As they continue to work at supporting themselves financially, members of our migrant family friends would love to work for you. They are available for things like house cleaning, handyman repairs, moving items, painting, deck-staining, demolition & clean-up, and carpentry on things like deck and dry-wall. We have been assigning work at a rate of \$25/hour and ask that the jobs be a minimum of 3-4 hours. You can find out more by contacting our Migrant Housing Project Coordinator David Brown at [dbrown@harrington-brown.com](mailto:dbrown@harrington-brown.com).

## **YOUNG ADULT RUN CLUB AND BEACH VOLLEYBALL**

The Young Adult Group is thinking of starting a weekly Running Club this June. It would be an easy 5K on a weeknight evening. No need to be an avid runner; all paces are welcome! We also may form a beach volleyball team to join the summer leagues at North Avenue Beach (which will have a fee). If you're interested in joining us for either activity, we'd love to have you! RSVP to [Brnunobilehome@gmail.com](mailto:Brnunobilehome@gmail.com).

## **BUILDING UPDATE - ROOM NUMBERS AT ST. PAULS**

St. Pauls is in the process of converting from room names to numbers. When construction is completed, formal signage will replace the temporary signage. Major locations, i.e., Sanctuary (115), Social Hall (015), Kitchen (010), Gym (009) will commonly use those titles, but their numbers are posted. Numbering begins at the Fullerton entrance (largely inaccessible during construction) and rises to the Kemper Place doorway: Main Level (100s), Upper Level (200s), Lower Level (000s). Yes many rooms have cycled through many names, and we'd love to catalogue the ones you remember using. Thank you for your flexibility.

## **NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Our nursery is looking for caring and compassionate volunteers to support our staff and provide extra attention to our little ones. If you love playing, reading, and nurturing young children, we'd love to have you join us! Whether you can help for a few hours a month or on a regular basis, your time and kindness will make a meaningful impact. Sign up for a Sunday slot here: <https://tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp>.



### **LITTLE LIGHTS SUMMER CAMP**

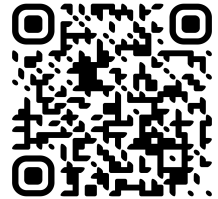
Registration is open for summer fun! Our part-time summer program is geared toward ages 3+ and runs from June through August, Monday-Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Camp combines play and structured fun inside our classrooms, in the gym and outside in the sun. We create arts & crafts, enjoy music & games, making friends and memories along the way! There is a 10% sibling discount and 20% Church Member discount (contact Erin for the code at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org)). Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx>.

### **LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 25-26**

We are accepting applications for the fall! We model and facilitate problem-solving strategies, build empathy and develop self-regulation skills. Through hands-on learning and play, children will benefit from structured socialization and gain a greater sense of themselves within our St. Pauls community. If you are interested in learning more about early education classes for your child, visit our website at [www.littlelightslp.org](http://www.littlelightslp.org) or contact Erin Fitzgerald at [erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:erin.fitzgerald@spucc.org).

### **CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Please register your K-6<sup>th</sup> Sunday School students, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Confirmation students, and high school class members by scanning this QR code.



### **LOSS AND GRIEVING DISCUSSION GROUP**

We've all lost someone we loved. Whether you lost someone you loved last month, last year, or five years ago, you can still grieve that loss. Grief changes, but it never goes away. Would you be interested in sharing stories with others who are in similar situations? We're not therapists, just your friends and neighbors who are also grieving and would like to share our ideas and learn how others are coping. We're planning to start a grief support group at St. Pauls, but we need to make sure there's an interest in this. Please contact Pam Woll at [pamelawoll3333@gmail.com](mailto:pamelawoll3333@gmail.com) if you think this might benefit you.

### **"HEALING HEARTS" PET SUPPORT GROUP: ST. PAULS PET LOSS COMMUNITY**

Are you struggling with losing a beloved furry friend/companion/animal assistant? Losing a pet can be one of the most heart-wrenching experiences in life. At St. Pauls, we understand the deep bond you shared with your beloved pet/family member and we're here to offer support, understanding and a virtual shoulder to lean on. To join, visit [tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support](https://tinyurl.com/healing-hearts-support). We meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7-8 p.m. Age 18+ only, 30 participants maximum.

## **PALESTINE STUDY GROUP**

Broaden your understanding of the Israel-Palestine conflict in this thoughtful and supportive group. All are welcome. Contact David Burnett at [burnett.db@gmail.com](mailto:burnett.db@gmail.com).

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

“Our Power, Our Planet”

Tuesday, April 22, was Earth Day, kicking off the theme “Our Power, Our Planet” and a push to triple the use of clean energy by 2030.

In the United States, President Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 encompassed the largest federal climate investment in American history. President Trump is currently freezing or trying to stop disbursed funds, putting many solar and wind programs in jeopardy. These funds were appropriated by Congress, yet they are being nixed through executive orders.

Earth Day demonstrations were held throughout the United States to express anger at the severe cutbacks, particularly within the Environmental Protection Agency. These protests are slated to continue through April 30, while the environmental movement itself is well represented among organizations planning civic action.

## **STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS**

Our Stephen Ministers are here for you if you are going through a tough time.

Extensively trained in compassionate Christian caregiving, Stephen Ministers are matched confidentially with someone in our congregation who is going through a crisis, such as the death of a loved one, a diagnosis, a divorce, a job loss, etc. They meet with you once a week for an hour to offer support through listening, companionship and prayer. If you wonder whether having a Stephen Minister might be helpful for you, please speak with Pastor Jeff, [jcarlson@spucc.org](mailto:jcarlson@spucc.org). Every one of us could benefit from a Stephen Minister at some point in our lives.

## **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For St. Pauls sponsored events, send to [info@spucc.org](mailto:info@spucc.org) **by 10 a.m. on Wednesdays for publication in the Friday email and next Sunday bulletin**. Share personal announcements/ events on our Facebook group page, St. Pauls Together. **Please limit announcements to 100 words**. Thank you!

**WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

Scan the QR codes to discover ways to connect with others.

**JOIN A GROUP**



**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



## TODAY'S MUSIC

Craig Curry, who arranged this great hymn tune, ***For the Beauty of the Earth***, is a graduate of Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and the University of Miami. He is an active composer whose arrangements and compositions have been widely performed. In 1838, Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) composed the original tune, DIX. He composed 25 German hymns, among them, *Praise to the Lord the Almighty*.

***Arise, Beloved*** was composed in 2013 by Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962). It employs a text inspired by Song of Solomon 2: 7-13. Dr. Powell is recognised as one of the premier living composers of choral music. Drawing her inspiration from the wide variety of African American styles, she is equally influenced by works of Bach, Handel, Mozart, and William Grant Still, to mention a few. She is currently Professor of Voice at Auburn University.

The text for ***God We Thank You for Our Pancakes*** is a respectful and lighthearted adaptation by Pastor Matt Fitzgerald of a text by Ruth Duck (b. 1947), *God We Thank You for Our People*. HOLY MANNA is an unattributed melody from the great American series of shaped-note hymnals from the early 19th century, including *The Sacred Harp*.

***Ain-a That Good News*** is a great spiritual from the Black American tradition. The arranger, William L. Dawson (1898-1990), was choral director for many years at the Tuskegee Institute of Alabama. He was responsible, along with others of his generation, such as Hall Johnson, for making beautiful arrangements of spirituals that spread the performance and popularity of that music within and beyond the African American community. The Tuskegee Choir gained international stature under Dr. Dawson's leadership.

***Over My Head*** is another text and melody from the great wealth of spirituals. Its present 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.

***Unclouded Day*** is originally a hymn from 1885 with both the words and music composed by Rev. J.K. Atwood (1828-1909). Atwood spent most of his career riding a circuit of churches in the Ohio Valley. He also organised many revival meetings. Shawn Kirchner (b. 1970) penned this arrangement in 2010. Based in Los Angeles, he is a tenor in the Los Angeles Master Chorale. Born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, his compositions and arrangements have been sung around the world. He did his undergraduate studies

at Manchester University and earned his Master's in Choral Conducting at the University of Iowa.

The text for ***My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*** was written in 1834 by Edward Mote (1797-1874). British born Mote wrote a number of hymn texts after a spiritual awakening resulting from the preaching of an evangelical preacher. He also authored a number of Christian pamphlets. SOLID ROCK was composed in 1863 by the prolific hymn writer, William Bradbury (1816-1868). Raised on his father's farm in Maine, he developed a love for music as a child and by age 15 began playing the organ in church. Among the best known of his hymns is the children's hymn *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know*.

***Down by the Riverside*** is another great anti-war song from the African American tradition. Both the tune and text are unattributed. Its first printed appearance was in hymnals published in the first decade of the 20th century. One of its peaks of popularity was in the 1930s before World War II and it was also popular during the antiwar movement of the 1960s. The arranger, Stacey V. Gibbs (b. 1962), is well known both as a singer and composer-arranger. He has more than 200 published works and has received commissions from groups as varied as The King's Singers, The USAF Singing Sergeants, and numerous choral programs in education institutions.

# Special Music Theme for 2024-2025

## HEAR Ye! + Bach

Enjoy another year of special music during worship services.

**H**- Hebrew

**E** - English

**A** - Austrian

**R** - Russian

**November 3, 2024 - Reformation Sunday - *Lobet den Herrn* - Bach**

**December 8, 2024 - Christmas Cantata (Hebrew & English)**

*Nachamu, nachamu ami* - Max Janowski (*Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*)

*Fantasia on Christmas Carols* - Ralph Vaughan Williams

with guest artist William Buchman, from the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

**February 16, 2025 - Northwestern University Chapel Choir – Guest choir in worship**

**March 9, 2025 - *Komm, Jesu, komm* - Bach**

**April 6, 2025 - (Austria) - *Requiem* - Mozart**

**May 18, 2025 - (Russian) - *Symphony of Psalms* - Stravinsky/Shostakovich**

Mark these dates in your calendar!

## 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, during the past 180 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 the Lincoln Common Parking Garage, 2316 N. 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 LGBTQ+ people.

Welcome to each and to everyone.

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