



July 27, 2025  
Baptism Sunday

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 are open for children ages 0-5, from 10 to 11 a.m.*

#### THOUGHT FOR PREPARATION

PRELUDE	<i>That's the Way God Planned It</i>	Billy Preston
	St. Arbucks Quartet	

#### CHIMES

WELCOME	Jeff Carlson
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\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that God has made;

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it !**

One: Let us worship and sing our praise to God!

**All: Let us give thanks to God, our maker!**

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

\* HYMN

*God Is Working His Purpose Out*

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

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

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

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

1-3. 4.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.  
glo - ry of God As the wa - ters cov - er the sea.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Here we are O God,  
each one of us with our sins,  
both great and small,  
which only you can forgive;  
each one with our sorrow,  
which only you can turn into joy;  
each one with our regret,  
which only you can heal.**

**Here we are O God,  
each one of us with our own secret hope;  
that you will prove to be our almighty and merciful God!  
Not against us, but for us.  
Not above us, but with us.  
Not occasionally,  
but forevermore!  
Amen.**

#### MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

RESPONSE

*This Is the Day*

v. 1



1. This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our  
 2. This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, Je - sus  
 3. This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came, when the



God has made; we will re - joice, we will re - joice and be  
 rose a - gain; we will re - joice, we will re - joice and be  
 Spir - it came; we will re - joice, we will re - joice and be



glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day that our  
 glad in it, and be glad in it This is the day Je - sus  
 glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day when the



God has\_\_ made, we will re - joice and be glad in\_\_ it;  
 rose a - gain, we will re - joice and be glad in\_\_ it;  
 Spir - it\_\_ came, we will re - joice and be glad in\_\_ it;



This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.  
 This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain.  
 This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came.

## THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM OF

Colin Michael McGinnis, Simon Thomas Baurer

Pastor: Colin/Simon, receive now the Light of Christ. May you walk always as a child of light. May your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God. Colin/Simon is now received into the love and care of the church. See what love God has given us that we should be called children of God.

**All: Almighty God, giver of life, you have called us by name and pledged to each of us your faithful love. We pray for your child, Colin/Simon. Inspire his life. May he sing many songs, know many joys, heal many wounds, and embrace many people in your name. We pray for his parents, that they may be guided by your love so that they may know your presence. May we walk together with this family as witnesses to your gospel, as those for whom you have lived and died and live again. Amen.**

Pastor: Colin/Simon, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you always.

**All: Amen**

\*RESPONSE

*This Is the Day*

vv. 2 & 3

See previous hymn

## SCRIPTURE

Liz Kurman

### *Genesis 18:20-32*

The LORD said to Abraham, “The cries of the victims in Sodom and Gomorrah are deafening; the sin of those cities is immense. I’m going down to see for myself, see if what they’re doing is as bad as it sounds. Then I’ll know.”

The men set out for Sodom, but Abraham stood in God’s path, blocking his way.

Abraham confronted him, “Are you serious? Are you planning on getting rid of the good people right along with the bad? What if there are fifty decent people left in the city; will you lump the good with the bad and get rid of the lot?

Wouldn’t you spare the city for the sake of those fifty innocents? I can’t believe you’d do that, kill off the good and the bad alike as if there were no difference between them. Doesn’t the Judge of all the Earth judge with justice?”

God said, “If I find fifty decent people in the city of Sodom, I’ll spare the place just for them.” Abraham came back, “Do I, a mere mortal made from a handful of dirt, dare open my mouth again to my Master? What if the fifty fall short by five—would you destroy the city because of those missing five?”

He said, “I won’t destroy it if there are forty-five.” Abraham spoke up again, “What if you only find forty?” “Neither will I destroy it if for forty.” He said, “Master, don’t be irritated with me, but what if only thirty are found?” “No, I won’t do it if I find thirty.” He pushed on, “I know I’m trying your patience, Master, but how about for twenty?” “I won’t destroy it for twenty.”

He wouldn’t quit, “Don’t get angry, Master—this is the last time. What if you only come up with ten?” “For the sake of only ten, I won’t destroy the city.”

When God finished talking with Abraham, he left. And Abraham went home.

**\* 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)*

**ANTHEM**

*Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007*

**J.S. Bach**

*Prelude*

Hannah Barton, viola

**SERMON**

**"Haggle, Rock"**

**Matt Fitzgerald**



\* HYMN

*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.

The first system of the hymn features a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The melody is in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

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.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

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,

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

there must be a God some - where.

The fourth system concludes the hymn with the final line of the lyrics. The melody and accompaniment end with a double bar line.

OFFERTORY

*Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007*

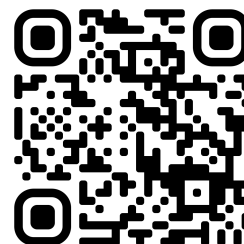
J.S. Bach

*Sarabande and Minuet*

Hannah Barton, viola

*ELECTRONIC OFFERING OPTIONS*

*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,  
Church Center at [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](http://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),  
PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](http://spucc.org/paypal), or Zelle to [giving@spucc.org](mailto:giving@spucc.org).*



*WELCOME CARD*

*If you are a visitor, welcome! Thank you for  
worshiping with us today!  
If you would like to learn more about the church, please  
scan the QR code.*



\* FESTIVAL DOXOLOGY

Musical notation for the Festival Doxology, consisting of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below each staff.

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 CHURCH

Liz Nickerson

## 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

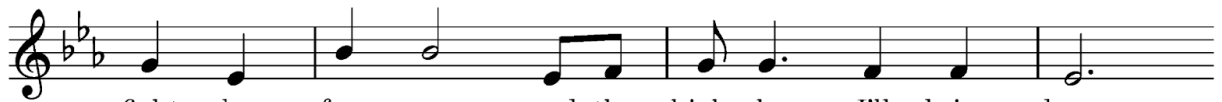
### *I Will Lift the Cloud of Night*



1. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, what is  
2. With an ev - er - last - ing love I'll love you, though with  
3. Al - though Sa - tan in a rage would tear you, and with  
4. I will lift the cloud of night be - fore you, I will



wrong I'll make it right be - fore you, all your bat - tles I will  
tri - als I will test and prove you, still there's noth - ing that can  
ev - ery win - ing art would snare you, yet from youth to your old  
make the crook - ed straight be - fore you, I will spread my wings pro -



fight be - fore you, and the high place I'll bring down.  
hurt or move you; and the high place I'll bring down.  
age I'll bear you and the high place I'll bring down.  
-tect - ing o'er you; and the high place I'll bring down.

#### *Refrain*



When you walk and lose the way I'll lead you; on the



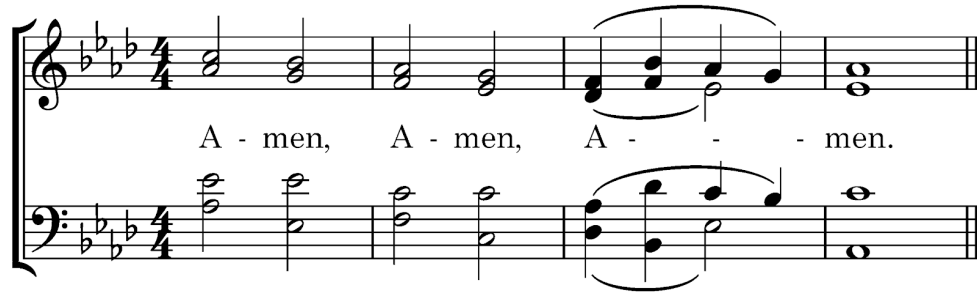
pro - duce of the land I'll feed you; And a home with - in my heart I'll



deed you; and the high place I'll bring down.

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

*Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007*

J.S. Bach

*Gigue*

Hannah Barton, viola

***Kevin Dzierzawski is on a well deserved vacation and will return on August 10.***

***We welcome St. Pauls member Hannah Barton, who has a distinguished performing career and is also a deeply committed teacher of young string players.***

***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. If you're visiting, be sure to stop by the Welcome Table so we can greet you and you can find out more about St. Pauls!***

## **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

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

**Music Director:** Kurt R. Hansen

**Violist:** Hannah Barton

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

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

**Scripture Reader:** Liz Kurman

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** John Balevic, David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

**Gatekeeper:** Dodd Brown

**Camera Operators:** Nana Addadzi-Koom, Jim Alrutz, Marie Ankenman,  
Bob Ball, Brian Hafner, Trevor Hafner

**Custodian:** Ramiro Gonzalez

*Would you like to donate altar flowers? Sign up here: [tinyurl.com/4w6fu5js](https://tinyurl.com/4w6fu5js).*

## **BORN THIS WEEK IN JULY/AUGUST**

*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.*

July 27 Andy Davis, Paul Malley

July 28 Eliza Johnson, Philip Smedley, Toby Smedley

July 29 Gerald Wilk, José Flores, Lauro Ferroni

July 30 Diane Biegert, Emma Braband, Waylon Leaf

August 1 Becky Burton, Cheryl Kennedy, Jack Anderson

August 2 Chris Montague, Shannon Banjavcic

## **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.*

- Michelle Drew Rodriguez at the death of her father.
- Loved ones of Evert Martin at his death.
- Those grieving the loss of their loved ones in the Texas flood.
- Layton Olson on the death of his wife, Annette Robinson.
- Sarah Good at the death of her brother, David.
- Walter Crowley and his family on the loss of his wife, Carole Crowley.
- Harrison, Mackenzie, and Cameron Rogers on the death of their father, Toby.
- Maddie Lockhart's mother, recovering from surgery.
- Bob Ball at the death of his older brother Phill, and for Phill's wife Jane and daughters Stephanie, Allison and Cherilyn.
- 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.
- Julie Chambers is in the hospital.
- Joe Harrington's mother on a recent diagnosis.
- Matthew Wallace, recently diagnosed with epilepsy.
- Dianne Witkowski, as she deals with cancer chemotherapy.
- 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.
- Wayne Bradley, pursuing ongoing treatment.
- Craig Wilbanks' mother and father, each of whom are 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

### **JULY 30 – WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY** - Noon, Zoom

Join for summer school in 1, 2 & 3 John. These early Christian letters take off where the Gospel of John leaves off, encouraging lives of life, light and love. Led by Pastor Jeff, we meet once a week for about a half hour to 45 minutes over Zoom through August 20. Sign up on Church Center here: [tinyurl.com/25rkpeky](https://tinyurl.com/25rkpeky).

### **JULY 30 – COOKIES FOR A CAUSE BAKING** - 5:30 p.m., Kitchen

Join in an evening of baking cookies and sharing dinner in community at St. Pauls. Cookies are donated to A Just Harvest and LPCS. This is an excellent opportunity to volunteer your time and take part in a very enjoyable evening of fellowship. For more information on this activity contact Marcia Volk at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com) or Gloria Joseph at: [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com).

### **AUGUST 1 – ST. SABINA PEACE WALK** - 7 p.m.

Join a group from St. Pauls as we join St. Sabina for their annual summer peace walks through the Auburn-Gresham neighborhoods. Thousands of people will gather for these powerful walks! Contact Louise Gram at (773) 870-6311 for additional information and RSVP on Church Center at [tinyurl.com/55x9dj9x](https://tinyurl.com/55x9dj9x) to coordinate carpools with other attendees.

### **AUGUST 3 – FILL THE SILLS**

Let's line our window sills with donations of whole grains, pasta and dried beans to help Common Pantry's efforts to address the challenges that result from economic instability. Please bring what you *can* to church on August 3rd!

### **AUGUST 8 – MOMS' NIGHT IN - WINE AND CHOCOLATE SOCIAL** - 7:30-9:30 p.m.

You're invited to a special evening just for the moms of St. Pauls! Join us for a cozy night of laughter, good company, and well-deserved relaxation. Bring your favorite wine or chocolate to share, and let's toast to a night of connection and fun. We can't wait to see you there! RSVP at [tinyurl.com/5n93wubj](https://tinyurl.com/5n93wubj)

### **AUGUST 10 – PRAYGROUND CHURCH** - During worship

Kids start in worship with their families and then are released together to learn a specific type of prayer using the acronym P.R.A.Y.: praise, repent, ask, and yield. Then they will head to the park across the street or to the gym to create a prayer and play! Register here: [tinyurl.com/54429p95](https://tinyurl.com/54429p95).

**AUGUST 10 – LUNCH MAKING FOR GUESTS AT LPCS - 11:20 a.m. -12 p.m.**

Right after church, come to the kitchen across from the gym and help make sack lunches for the residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. We provide the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$20 each to help cover food costs for the lunches. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: [tinyurl.com/y46tn3pp](https://tinyurl.com/y46tn3pp).

**AUGUST 10 – DINNER MAKING FOR GUESTS AT LPCS - 4-7 p.m.**

Make a difference by helping prepare and deliver dinner for residents of the Lincoln Park Community Shelter. We'll meet at St. Pauls at 4 p.m. and deliver the meal to LPCS (600 W. Fullerton) around 6 p.m. We provide the needed food, but volunteers are asked to contribute \$30 each to help cover food costs for the dinner. Donations can be made via cash, Venmo, or Zelle. If you're interested, please use Church Center to sign-up: [tinyurl.com/msyti254](https://tinyurl.com/msyti254). Email Evie Kling at [eviekling@gmail.com](mailto:eviekling@gmail.com) with questions.

**AUGUST 12 – JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP - 7 p.m., Zoom**

December 16, 2025, is the 250th anniversary of Jane Austen's birth. We're reading her six complete novels, one a month, from July 8 - December 16. Monthly discussions will be over Zoom the second Tuesday of the month, except for December when we'll meet on her birthday. Sign up to participate here: [tinyurl.com/yez6ejw6](https://tinyurl.com/yez6ejw6).

Contact: Pastor Jeff. August 12 - *Pride and Prejudice*; September 9 - *Mansfield Park*; October 14 - *Emma*; November 11 - *Northanger Abbey*; December 16 - *Persuasion*.

**AUGUST 16-17 – WOMEN'S FARM WEEKEND AT MARCIA VOLK'S FARM**

Join us at Marcia Volk's farm for a weekend getaway! Come for Saturday only, or stay overnight. Enjoy hiking at Starved Rock, farm trails, wildflowers, 4-wheeler rides, and a zip line—or just relax. BYO lunch for Saturday. Potluck dinner and bonfire that night. Sunday includes optional church in Lacon, plus breakfast and lunch at the farm. \$10 suggested for expenses. First 12 to respond get beds (stairs required). Contact Gloria at [glrjoseph@yahoo.com](mailto:glrjoseph@yahoo.com) or Marcia at [marcia@volkonline.com](mailto:marcia@volkonline.com), (773) 307-6866.

**OCTOBER 5 – SAVE THE DATE: FIESTA FOR FUNDS**

Mark your calendars for October 5 during Social Hour! Join the Activism and Advocacy Ministry for "Fiesta for Funds," a silent auction to raise funds for our Migrant Legal Fund. This designated fund will help defray the remaining costs of guiding our sponsored families through the immigration process. More information will be available in early August for those who wish to donate lots for the silent auction.

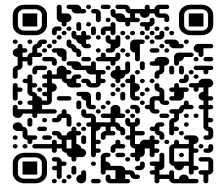


**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE MIGRANT HOUSING PROJECT LEGAL FUND! THE JUNE FAITH-FAMILY NIGHT FUNDRAISER RAISED \$2,651.57 TOWARDS OUR GOAL! STAY TUNED FOR FUTURE FUNDRAISING EVENTS.**

## **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!



**REFUGEEONE:** Their Back to School drive is underway! There is an Amazon gift registry that has the items RefugeeOne is looking for: [tinyurl.com/2p8ybm4z](https://tinyurl.com/2p8ybm4z). If you're interested in participating, please use this list and have the items shipped directly to RefugeeOne by selecting the *RefugeeOne (Back2School)'s Gift Registry Address* when you checkout. Please order your items by Saturday, August 9, so that RefugeeOne will receive them in time to distribute them. Thank you!



### **SHARE YOUR HARVEST!**

The Green Team will be setting up a table during Social Hour where any extra produce, herbs, and garden plants can be shared with the rest of the congregation. This table will be set up every week until late fall.

### **CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS**

We have a variety of different ways you can serve as a volunteer with the children and youth ministry. This is a fun way to make a difference! Volunteers are needed to assist at events, with Sunday school, and in the nursery. All volunteers are required to complete a criminal background check, which we will pay for. Volunteers always serve in pairs of two, following our child safety policy. Please contact Pastor Liz if you would like to learn more at [lnickerson@spucc.org](mailto:lnickerson@spucc.org).

### **NEW! BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT FORM**

We've updated the process! As of June 1, please use our new bulletin announcement form to submit St. Pauls-sponsored events for inclusion in the Friday newsletter and Sunday worship bulletin. **Submissions are due by 10 a.m. on Wednesdays and should be no more than 100 words.** Ready to share information about your event? Fill out the form here: [tinyurl.com/5dtmhpra](https://tinyurl.com/5dtmhpra).

### **HELP US EXTEND CHRISTIAN HOSPITALITY!**

The Care and Connection Ministry invites you to serve as a host during Social Hour. Hosts are asked to circulate and introduce themselves to those they don't know and engage with those who may not be involved. As you welcome visitors, new members and perhaps those re-engaging, you help make St. Pauls a welcoming church. If you would like to serve as a host, register here: [tinyurl.com/3f384fcm](https://tinyurl.com/3f384fcm).

### **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).

### **ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT POLITICAL POLARIZATION?**

*Want to Talk? Communication Tools for Divided Times* is an eight-session small group program that guides you in deepening your relationships while staying true to your values. This program draws upon the wisdom of experts in nonviolent communication, civil dialogue, and grassroots organizing, providing practical tools for navigating the political polarization of our time, as well as tough conversations with our loved ones. To find out more, visit [tinyurl.com/yzj4cvan](https://tinyurl.com/yzj4cvan). Ready to sign up now? You can do so here: [tinyurl.com/3n4jehnn](https://tinyurl.com/3n4jehnn)

### **NEW MEMBER CLASS - SEPTEMBER 21**

Join pastors, members and others curious about St. Pauls for our 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. Next class: September 21 at 11 a.m. See other upcoming dates here: [spucc.org/new\\_member\\_classes](https://spucc.org/new_member_classes).

### **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: [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving).

### **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 [nickerson@spucc.org](mailto:nickerson@spucc.org).

### **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).

### **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 and crafts, enjoy music and 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: [tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx](https://tinyurl.com/2nt8zsvx).

### **LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 2025-2026**

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).

### **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: [tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp](https://tinyurl.com/2j5dy6fp).

### **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 interest. 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](http://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.

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

Hotter than average temperatures are expected for the rest of this summer and early fall according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Heat is dangerous, particularly to young children and the elderly.

There are steps that can be taken to mitigate heat stress:

- Keep out of the sun between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- Drink plenty of fluids and avoid alcohol and caffeine as they are diuretics.
- Eat foods with a high water content: lettuce, watermelon, cucumber, soup, etc.
- Eat hot and spicy foods, as they make one sweat and therefore cool off.

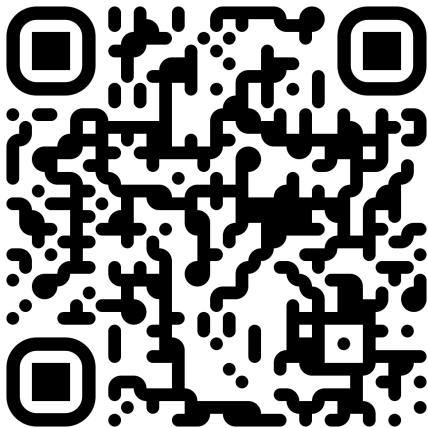
### **STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS**

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.

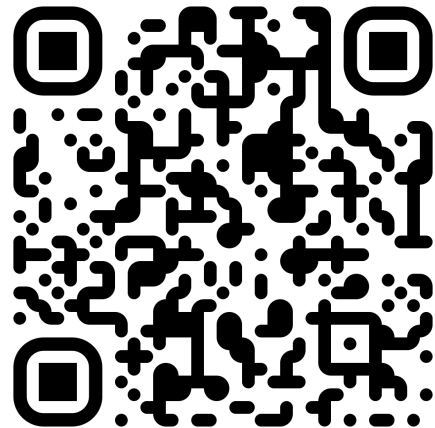
## **WANT TO GET INVOLVED?**

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

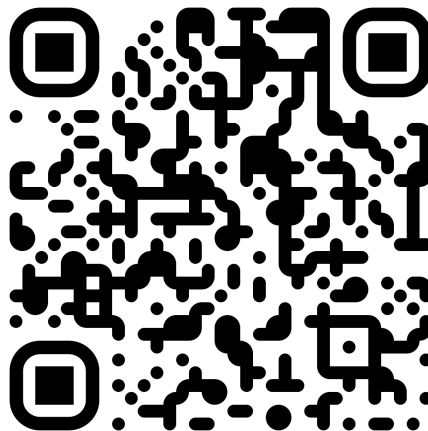
### **JOIN A GROUP**



### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**



### **SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT**



### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

For St. Pauls sponsored events, please fill out the new form **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!

## TODAY'S MUSIC

***That's the Way God Planned It*** was composed in 1969 by Billy Preston (1946-2006). He was a keyboardist, singer and songwriter and also a lifelong Christian raised in a gospel church in Houston. In addition to funk, R & B, and soul, he sang and worked in the music of his faith. Among the artists for whom he played were The Beatles, with George Harrison becoming a lifelong friend. He also played at the White House in 1974.

Today's Anthem, Offertory, and Postlude are all movements from the ***Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major BWV 1007*** composed by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Bach composed two cello suites, this being the first, between 1717 and 1723 when he was *Kapellmeister* in Köthen. These suites are so brilliant that they have been transcribed for other instruments including guitar, lute and viola. Bach composed these suites as challenging *études* (studies) and also exquisite Baroque. This suite has six movements and we will hear four of those movements this morning: ***Prelude***, as the Anthem; the ***Sarabande*** and ***Minuet***, as the Offertory; and the ***Gigue*** as the Postlude. All movements are based on Baroque dance forms.

***God Is Working His Purpose Out*** is a favorite hymn of our deceased Pastor Emeritus Tom Henry. The text was written by Arthur Campbell Ainger (1841–1919) in 1894. The text demanded a muscular tune, which Martin Shaw (1916–1999) provided in 1951.

***This Is the Day*** uses a folk melody and unattributed words from Fiji. It was first published in 1967 in an Australian hymnal. It lends itself to being sung in a call and response style.

***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*. It is actually a shortened version including only the very catchy refrain of a longer song.

***I Will Lift the Cloud of Night*** was composed and text written by Charles P. Jones (1865–1949) in 1910. The tune is the composer's last name, JONES. The Reverend Jones was African American and founder of the Church of Christ. He composed more than 1,000 gospel hymns, both music and texts.

## **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 182 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)**

Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.

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 main office.



## **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.