



August 24, 2025

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

"If it please God, let less happen."

-Kay Ryan

PRELUDE

*I Expect to See Him*  
St. Arbucks Quartet

Jessy Dixon

CHIMES

WELCOME

Liz Nickerson

\* WELCOMING EACH OTHER

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: How tempting this morning to lounge about the house.

**All: How good it is to be here!**

One: How tempting to run an errand, or just drink more coffee.

**All: How good it is to be here!**

One: How tempting to be elsewhere.

**All: How grand to be here! How good to be the church today!**

**Together we glow with the love of God!**

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

\* HYMN

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*



1. A might - y for - tress is\_\_\_ our God, A bul - wark nev - er
2. Did we in our\_ own strength con - fide, Our striv - ing would be
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, Should threat - en to un -
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, No thanks to them, a -



fail - ing; Our help - er he\_\_\_ a - mid the flood Of  
los - ing, Were not the right man on\_\_\_ our side, The  
- do\_\_\_ us, We will not fear, for God hath willed His  
- bid - eth; The Spir - it and the gifts are ours Through



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe Doth  
man of God's own choos - ing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ  
truth to tri - umph through us. The prince of dark - ness grim, We  
him who with us sid - eth. Let goods and kin - dred go, This



seek to work us woe; His craft and power are great, And  
Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his name. From  
trem - ble not for him; His rage we can en - dure, For  
mor - tal life al - so; The bod - y they may kill; God's



armed with cru - el hate, On earth is not his e - qual.  
age to age the same, And he must win the bat - tle.  
lo, his doom is sure: One lit - tle word shall fell\_\_\_ him.  
truth a - bid - eth still, His king - dom is for - ev - er.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Carlson

**O God, whose Son is the light of the world,  
Christ's brilliance throws our own  
shadows into sharp relief. In his constant  
grace we see our delight in judging others;  
in his generous giving, our anxious grasping;  
in his inclusive love, our discomfort with  
difference,  
in his reliance on you, our insistence on  
going it alone, and in his pure sacrifice,  
our compromised lives.  
Yet, in his cross lies our  
forgiveness, and in his  
resurrection, our new  
lives. These we claim in  
penitence and faith,  
through Jesus Christ our friend  
and Savior. Amen.**

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

*Sunday School students are invited to participate in Prayground Sunday School.  
If you would like to accompany your child(ren) to the gym,  
you are welcome to drop them off and return to worship.*

ANTHEM

*Wanting Memories*  
The Sopranos of the Chancel Choir  
Kecia Waldschmidt, conductor

Ysaye M. Barnwell

I am sitting here wanting memories to teach me  
To see the beauty in the world  
Through my own eyes

You used to rock me in the cradle of your arms  
You said you'd hold me  
'Til the pains of life were gone  
You said you'd comfort me in times like these  
And now I need you  
Now I need you, and you are gone

I am sitting ...

Since you've gone and left me  
There's been so little beauty  
But I know I saw it clearly through your eyes

Now the world outside is such a cold and bitter place  
Here inside I have few things that will console  
And when I try to hear your voice  
Above the storms of life  
Then I remember  
All the things that I was told

I am sitting ...

## SCRIPTURE

Gay Kelly

*Luke 13: 10-17*

He was teaching in one of the meeting places on the Sabbath. There was a woman present, so twisted and bent over with arthritis that she couldn't even look up. She had been afflicted with this for eighteen years. When Jesus saw her, he called her over. "Woman, you're free!" He laid hands on her and suddenly she was standing straight and tall, giving glory to God.

The meeting-place president, furious because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "Six days have been defined as work days. Come on one of the six if you want to be healed, but not on the seventh, the Sabbath."

But Jesus shot back, "You frauds! Each Sabbath every one of you regularly unties your cow or donkey from its stall, leads it out for water, and thinks nothing of it. So why isn't it all right for me to untie this daughter of Abraham and lead her from the stall where Satan has had her tied these eighteen years?"

These words reduced his opponents to shame, but the crowd was thrilled at all the glorious things he did.

## \* 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.**

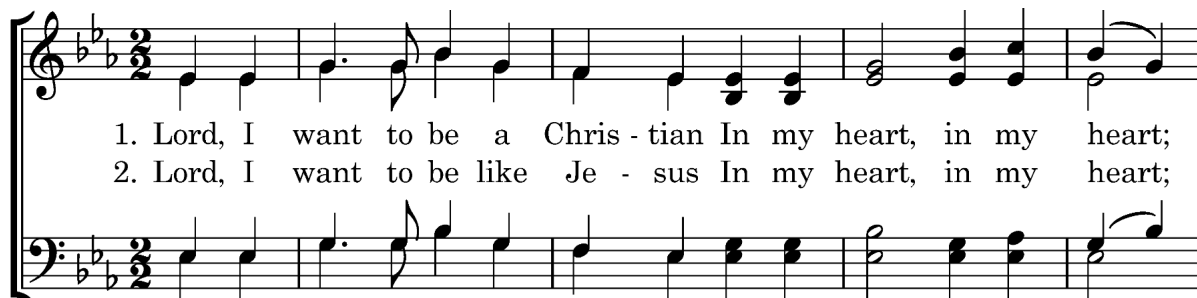
**In life and death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

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

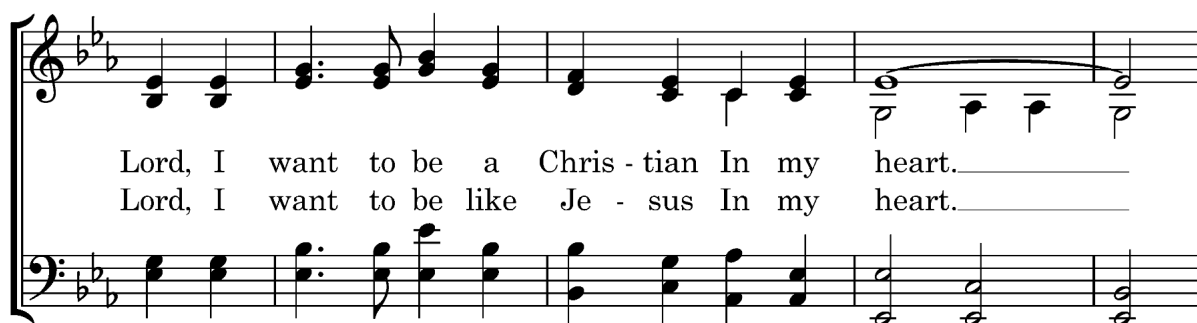
*(adapted from the United Church of Canada)*

\* RESPONSE

*Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*



1. Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart, in my heart;  
2. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart, in my heart;



Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart.\_\_\_\_\_  
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart.\_\_\_\_\_




In my heart, In my heart, In my heart,  
In my heart, In my heart, In my heart,



Lord, I want to be a Chris - tian In my heart.\_\_\_\_\_  
Lord, I want to be like Je - sus In my heart.\_\_\_\_\_

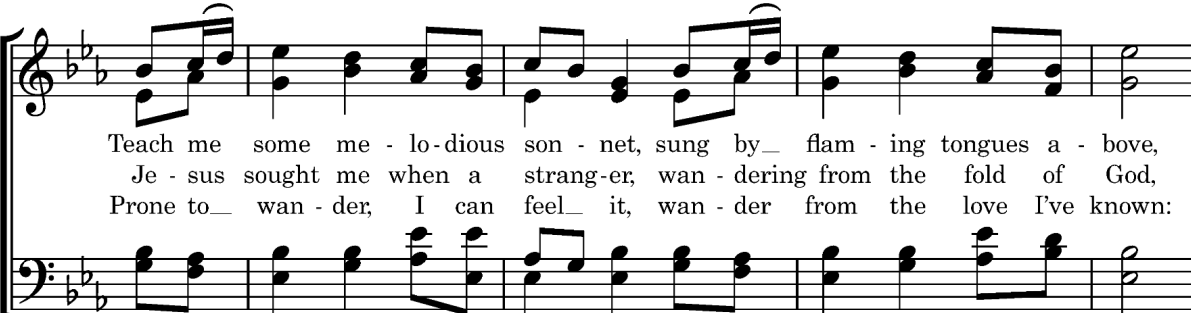
## \* HYMN

*Come O Fount of Every Blessing*

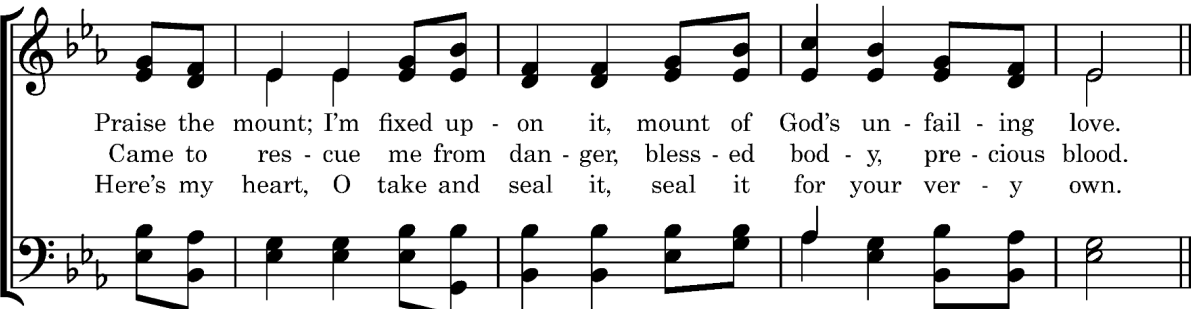
1. Come, O Fount of ev - ery bless - ing, tune my heart to sing your grace;  
2. Here I pause in my so - journ - ing, giv - ing thanks for hav - ing come,  
3. O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I am drawn a - new!



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of end - less praise.  
come to trust, at ev - ery turn - ing, God will guide me safe - ly home.  
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - dering heart to you.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by\_ flam - ing tongues a - bove,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan - dering from the fold of God,  
Prone to\_ wan - der, I can feel\_ it, wan - der from the love I've known:



Praise the mount; I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un - fail - ing love.  
Came to res - cue me from dan - ger, bless - ed bod - y, pre - cious blood.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your ver - y own.



OFFERTORY

*By Night*

Elaine Hagenberg

The Sopranos of the Chancel Choir  
Kecia Waldschmidt, conductor  
Kevin Dzierzawski, piano

Deep in the tarn the mountain  
A mighty phantom gleamed,

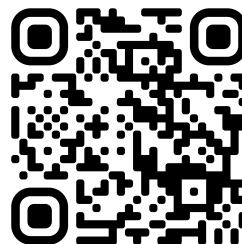
She leaned out into the midnight,  
And the summer wind went by,  
The scent of the rose  
on its silken wing  
And a song its sigh.

And, in depths below, the waters  
Answered some mystic height,  
As a star stooped out  
of the depths above  
With its lance of light.

And she thought, in the dark  
and the fragrance,  
How vast was the wonder wrought  
If the sweet world  
were but the beauty born  
In its Maker's thought.

### *ELECTRONIC OFFERING OPTIONS*

*Scan this code with your cell phone camera,  
Church Center at [spucc.churchcenter.com/giving](https://spucc.churchcenter.com/giving),  
PayPal at [spucc.org/paypal](https://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 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 notes are as follows:  
Staff 1: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (half).  
Staff 2: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (half).  
Staff 3: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (half).  
Staff 4: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (half).  
The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

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.

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.**

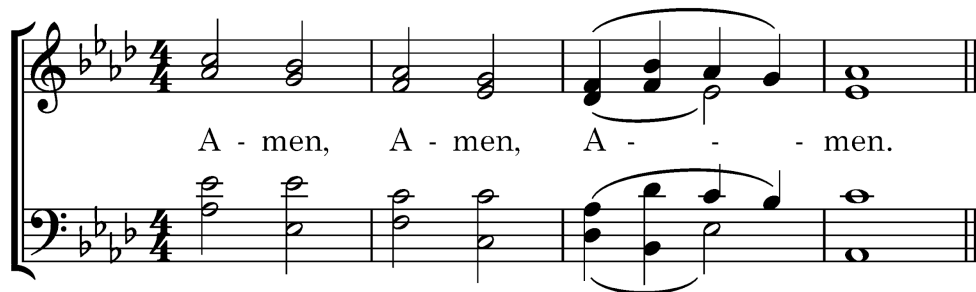
\* HYMN

*This Little Light of Mine*

*Refrain - This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3 times)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

\* BENEDICTION

\* BENEDICTION RESPONSE



POSTLUDE

*Fugue in C Major, BuxWV 174*  
Kevin Dzierzawski, organ

Dietrich Buxtehude

***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:** Liz Nickerson, 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:** Gay Kelly

**Head Usher:** Beatrice Jaji

**Ushers:** David Baker, David Faulkner, Fred Pearson

**Greeters:** Doug Dunham

**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 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.*

Aug. 24 Cres Roewer, Doug Heyboer, Paige Terborg

Aug. 25 Clark Baurer, Kurt Hansen, Maureen Reilly, Paul Berghoff

Aug. 26 Landon Roark

Aug. 27 Brooke Gentzen, Holden Lechtenberg, Maureen Grunst, Todd Smith

Aug. 28 Grace Ashley-McGraw, Katie Kobak, Nolan Dierks, Pat Mayer

Aug. 29 Karen Schmidt-Hein, Laura Nowack, Nathaniel Weldon, Steve Patton,  
Theresa Broderick

Aug. 30 Ashley Pensinger-Sok, Audrey Bettner, Ed Keller, Greg Clemons

## **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.*

- The family and friends of Mead Gifford at his death.
- Julian Jarzebowski and family at the death of his aunt, Danka.
- Michelle Drew Rodriguez at the death of her father.
- Loved ones of Evert Martin at his death.
- Liode, a former student of Deb Bayly, in need of stable housing and a job.
- Sue Derison recovering from her cardiac ablation on August 19.
- Pat Kirby, struggling with an infection at home.
- Those grieving the loss of their loved ones in the Texas flood.
- Donn Schimp and his family as Donn continues cancer treatment.
- Julie Chambers is in the hospital.
- 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

### **AUGUST 26 – FOOD FOR THE SOUL GROUP** - 12–1:30 p.m., Social Hall

“On the Path to Becoming Neighbors.” Discussion facilitated by Jenny Benefield. Bring your own lunch. 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.

### **AUGUST 29 – 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.

### **SEPTEMBER 5 – FAITH FAMILY FRIDAY** - 6–8 p.m., Social Hall & Gym

Faith Family Fridays are full of fun, fellowship, and food with your church family! Join us for a preview of Kickoff Sunday by meeting Sunday School teachers and peers. All ages welcome. Main entree provided by St. Pauls Youth Ministry. Feel free to bring your own beverage, side, or game to share. This event is free, but registration is required for food count. \$10/family suggested donation. Register here: [tinyurl.com/4zsmry6u](https://tinyurl.com/4zsmry6u)

### **SEPTEMBER 7 - KICKOFF SUNDAY**

Our church year kicks off on Sunday, September 7, and we can't wait to celebrate together! Church School begins, the Chancel Choir returns, and we'll gather for a joyful morning of worship and community. It's sure to be a powerful Sunday you won't want to miss. Be sure to register your children by scanning the QR code so they're ready to join us for an exciting new year of learning and growing in faith.



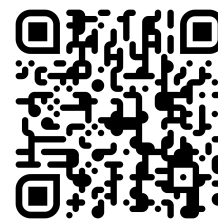
### **SEPTEMBER 9 – JANE AUSTEN 250 READING GROUP** - 7 p.m., Zoom

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. September 9 - *Mansfield Park*; October 14 - *Emma*; November 11 - *Northanger Abbey*; December 16 - *Persuasion*.

### **OCTOBER 5 – FIESTA FOR FUNDS**

Join us on October 5 after worship for “Fiesta for Funds,” a silent auction to raise funds for our Migrant Legal Fund, along with an all-church potluck. Funds raised will help defray the remaining costs of guiding our sponsored families through the immigration process. Visit [tinyurl.com/3tazsihc](https://tinyurl.com/3tazsihc) or scan the QR code to access the event registration and more information on donating items to the auction. We are seeking auction lots such as gift cards/vouchers, handmade items, event tickets, and more! We hope our whole congregation gets involved in this event!



### **OCTOBER 19 - VACCINATION CLINIC BY MARIANO'S PHARMACY- 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Gym**

Vaccinations will be provided by Mariano's pharmacy, including Covid boosters, shingles, pneumonia, and flu shots. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Please remember to bring your Covid vaccine card and your Medicare card or insurance card. Registration will be announced soon.

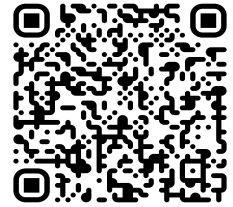
### **NOVEMBER 9 – PHASE II DEDICATION CELEBRATION**

**Save the date for Sunday, November 9**, when Saint Pauls will dedicate the completed Phase II capital construction project making our entire public church complex accessible and creating an open-air plaza for church services, events, and gatherings. The dedication will take place on the new plaza immediately after the worship service, to be followed by an "Oktoberfest in November" lunch in the gym featuring traditional brats, pretzels, cider, strudel, and (of course!) beer. Come celebrate the results of our congregation's vision and deep generosity—and invite your friends to the open house event to see the "new" Saint Pauls!

## 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!



### **NEW SMALL GROUPS! SHORT CIRCLES: REGISTER TODAY**

#### **Get Closer to God This Fall!**

Short Circles are six-session small groups for people who want to grow closer to God with others. In these circles we will connect to God and one another.

We will meet for 50-60 minutes once a week for six weeks, beginning the week of September 21 and concluding the week of November 2. Each week your Short Circle will focus on the scripture passage used in worship the coming Sunday, using the ancient method of "lectio divina" or "spiritual reading." The aim is for you to discover what God is calling you to do or to become. Short Circles offer a remarkable opportunity to grow in faith and bond with others. We will offer both in-person and Zoom groups. Register here: [tinyurl.com/un8esxmy](https://tinyurl.com/un8esxmy). Questions? Contact Pastor Matt at [mfitzgerald@spucc.org](mailto:mfitzgerald@spucc.org).

### **WILD MILE: MICROINVERTEBRATES WITH ELLIE W.**

The Green Team invites St. Pauls to join Ellie Wasilewski, microinvertebrate specialist of creepy-crawler creatures that are particularly important to aquatic ecosystems.

This activity is suitable for adults and children.

Date: Thursday, August 28

Time: 6-8 p.m.

Where: Wild Mile, Lincoln Park

905 West Eastman

RSVP [urbanrivers.org](http://urbanrivers.org)

Contact Ninon Freeman (312) 447-1330

### **SHARE THE HARVEST**

The Green Team will have a table set up during Social Hour through the fall where extra seeds, plants and herbs can be shared.

### **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).



### **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).

### **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, for which we will pay. 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).

### **VOLUNTEER AS A SOCIAL HOUR HOST**

If you're visiting a new church, going to Social Hour after worship and walking into a room where you don't know a soul can be really intimidating. We're looking for volunteers to be Social Hour hosts. What's the job description? Just be on the lookout for and then greet people you don't know. They may be new to St. Pauls. They may just be someone you haven't met yet. Either way, you'll make them feel welcome and make some new friends. Volunteer once a month, once a quarter, it's up to you. If you would like to serve as a host, you can sign up for an upcoming Sunday here: [tinyurl.com/3f384fcm](https://tinyurl.com/3f384fcm).

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

We've updated the process! 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).

### **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).

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

### **LITTLE LIGHTS ENROLLMENT 2025–2026**

We are accepting applications for the fall! Flexible class options and days available. 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).

### **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).

## **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 for 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](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**

The Modern Summer Kitchen: Those who grew up in the country remember the "summer kitchen"— a formal or improvised space, often outside on a porch with cross-breeze, or even deep in a cellar.

Here are some tips that will help keep the kitchen temperature down:

- Use small appliances;
- Use right-sized burners and pots;
- Grill in volume and freeze or refrigerate;
- Use fans to create a cross breeze rather than increasing the air conditioning;
- Avoid boiling larger pots of water, such as for corn and pasta, using alternative techniques to cook;

Above all, lighten and simplify the menu!

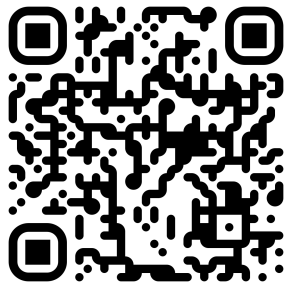
## **STEPHEN MINISTRY AT ST. PAULS**

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.

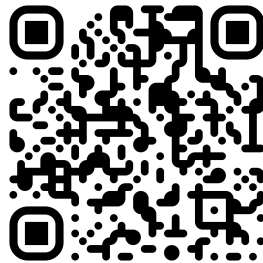
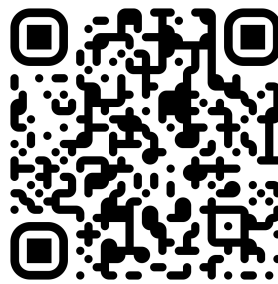
## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

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

### JOIN A GROUP



### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



### SUBMIT AN ANNOUNCEMENT

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

***A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*** is arguably the greatest Martin Luther (1483-1546) hymn and encapsulated the theology of the Lutheran Church. It is so good that it is worth singing more than once this month. ;-) The tune name, EIN FESTE BURG, are the first three words of the original German text. Luther's original version is almost dance-like in rhythm. The recessional hymn presents a more majestic march.

***I Expect to See Him*** is by Jessy Dixon (1938 - 2011), another gospel artist and composer with deep roots in Chicago. His music was beloved outside his own community and he received seven Grammy nominations in his career. He toured the world with Paul Simon after Mr. Simon heard him and the Jessy Dixon Singers at a concert at New York City's Radio City Music Hall. He also wrote music for artists as varied as Diana Ross and Cher.

***Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*** is another in a long line of great African American spirituals. Neither the tune nor text are attributed. The origin may go as far back as 1750. The first publication to include it was *Folk Songs of the American Negro* (1907), compiled by brothers Frederick (dates unknown) and John (1871-1925) Work. John Work was also music director of the famous Fisk Jubilee Singers.

***Come O Fount of Every Blessing***, to the tune NETTLETON, is from the rich American tradition of the Sacred Harp hymnals, specifically *Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music*. The text was written by Robert Robinson (1735-1790), who began his professional life as an apprentice to a hairdresser before committing himself to a religious life.

***Wanting Memories*** was composed in 1990 by Ysaÿe M. Barnwell (b. 1946). She also composed the poetry. Born and raised in Harlem, she was a member of the famous a cappella group Sweet Honey and the Rock for 34 years and composed many of the group's songs and arrangements. In addition to her work in music, she has a Ph.D. in speech pathology from the University of Pittsburgh. Her father was a professional violinist and taught his daughter starting at age 2. She is a passionate proponent of building community through singing.

***By Night*** was composed in 2022 by Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979). A 2002 Drake University graduate, she has received multiple commissions from universities, churches and community choirs and has gained a growing international reputation. The text is by Harriett Prescott Spofford (1835-1921). She was an American novelist, poet, and writer of detective stories. Speaking of this composition, Ms. Hagenberg says, "Because nature fills me with joy and peace equally, the contrasting

middle section invites listeners into a moment of meditation through the ‘beauty born in its Maker’s thought.’”

***This Little Light of Mine*** has been a St. Pauls favorite for more than 40 years. It has an uplifting and spiritually powerful message that celebrates the sharing of faith. This is another example from the deep well of spirituals from the African American tradition. The arrangement that we are used to singing was created by Dr. Sammie “Sam” Hill, who was the Director of Music and Organist at St. Pauls from 1971-1991. Sam, and our current Director of Music, Kurt R. Hansen, both studied with the same teacher at Northwestern University, Grigg Fountain.

The ***Fugue in C Major*** BuxWV 174, was composed by Dietrich Buxtehude (1637?-1707). Buxtehude’s music and his skill as an organist and composer had a profound effect on Bach. A true story is that Bach, at age 20, walked (!) nearly 250 miles from Arnstadt to Lübeck just to hear and work with Buxtehude. That would be like walking from St. Pauls to Toledo, Ohio.

## 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.