

Our St. Paul April 2024

YOUR St. Paul Team

Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor Rev. Tim Powers-Reed, Ministry Assistant Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager Dr. Tristan Frampton, Director of Music Kevin Chunko, Organist/Pianist Sherry Wilhelm, Office Coordinator Kathy Buehler, Bookkeeper Ian Hipkins, Technology Coordinator Evan Wilhelm, Support Staff Mary Blaies, Support Staff Church office hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30am-4pm Friday 9am-12pm

> Church Office Contact Information: 618-233-3303



OUR ST. PAUL is published monthly. It is edited by our pastor and produced by the office staff. Material for inclusion may be sent to the church noted for *Our St. Paul*.

NEXT ISSUE	DEADLINE	MAIL DATE
April	March 21	March 31

Pastor's Message - The World Awakes!

Ever since Punxsutawney Phil predicted the early arrival of spring, we've seen the beginnings of the new season... mostly. Through the ups and downs of temperatures—from the stormy almost-80 degree days to the mild 68 degree afternoons to the chilly 30-something degree mornings to snowy evenings, we've weathered the roller coaster of this February and March's climate.

So often, nature imitates what we are often feeling inside. We endure the winters of our lifetime. We relax during what appears to be summertime filled with youthful moments.

Even more so, our earth and our hearts are aching for springtime. As weather has been all over the place after a season of cloudy, chilly weather, we want the full sunny days of spring. As we notice the buds on the trees for the first time each year, we know that spring is around the corner. I notice that something in my heart changes, and I feel that, as Song of Solomon says "winter has passed," even if we do get five inches of snow the next week. Any of us who endure season affective disorder latch on to these signs of spring, knowing that the transition to a new season is ahead.

Everything in our world and our beings are aching for springtime. We want to leave behind the chills of winter with its ice and frigid temperatures and head right into spring.

And that's the beauty of Easter right around the time of Spring's birth. We've gone through the beauty of Holy Week, including the mournful, wintery Good Friday. And now we are ready for our earth and our spiritual season to come alive again.

Everything yearns for the renewal that we see in spring and at Easter. Flowers and temperatures are just a part of it. When it comes to Easter, we know that our faith comes alive too. We have wandered in an arid spiritual wilderness for the 40 days of Lent, and now we have arrived at the season of resurrection. As Easter is a full season from Easter Day until the day of Pentecost, we are given not just one Sunday or one week of Easter. We are given an entire season! We are reminded week after week for 50 days that resurrection is a reality. God has created us as beings who desire renewal when times are challenging and endings surround us.

Granted, there are times when it's tough to see resurrection. And maybe something does have to end for something new to begin, and that requires some grief. What this season gives us a renewed sense of hope of which we often lose track. Easter reminds us that the story doesn't end at Good Friday—and our story will find a new chapter in one way or another.

As we see the trees blossom and the plants bloom during Spring 2024, know that your soul is planning on the same. Hope ignites our hearts to find new beginnings. Awakening to new possibilities is Easter's gift. May we continue to seek the ways God's love is reviving our world and hearts again.

Easter Blessings, friends! Pastor Michelle

Sun	Mon	Tue
National Parkinson's Awareness Month National Month of Hope National Child Abuse Prevention Month	1 Easter Monday Office Closed	2 9am-Quilters 10am-Seekers Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner 7-9:30pm-Masterworks National Reconciliation Day
7 9am Worship 10am Coffee & Doughnuts 10am-Fine Arts Meeting National No Housework Day	8 9am-Pickle Ball 10:30am-Yoga Gold <i>vitional Zoo Lovers Day</i>	9 9am-Quilters 10am-Seekers Bible Study 12pm-Shufflers 5pm-Finance Meeting 5pm-Community Dinner 7-9:30pm-Masterworks
14 9am Worship 10am Coffee & Doughnuts 10 am Mission Meeting-Library National Gardening Day	15 9am-Pickle Ball 10:30am-Yoga Gold <i>International Tax Day</i>	16 9am-Quilters 10am-Seekers Bible Study 1pm-Mats for Community 5pm-Community Dinner 7-9:30pm-Masterworks
21 9am Worship 10am-Culinaires' Breakfast 3pm-Masterworks Children's Concert 2-3 & 4-5:30 Youth Joy Rally	22 9am-Pickle Ball 10:30am-Yoga Gold PASSOVER BEGINS Earth Day	23 9am-Quilters 10am-Seekers Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner 7-9:30pm-Masterworks
28 9am Worship 10am Coffee & Doughnuts National Superhero Day	29 9am-Pickle Ball 10:30am-Yoga Gold January National Shrimp Scampi Day	30 9am-Quilters 10am-Seekers Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner 7-9:30pm-Masterworks Passover Ends

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 7am-Hot Mess Express 9am-Pickle Ball 11:30 am-Beginner Pickleball 1pm-With You Meeting 6pm-Bells Rehearsal 7:15pm-Choir Rehearsal	4 10am Worship Meeting 10:30AM-Yoga <i>Second Librarian Day</i>	5 9:15 am-Pickle Ball National Deep Dish Pizza Day	6 HAND MADE National Handmade Day
10 9am-Pickle Ball 12-4pm-Rummage Set Up 1pm-With You Meeting 6pm-Bells Rehearsal 7:15pm-Choir Rehearsal <i>National Siblings Day</i>	11 9am-4pm-Rummage Set Up 7pm-Personnel Meeting National Pet Day	12 1pm-Website Meeting RUMMAGE SALE 4PM-7PM	13 RUMMAGE SALE 9AM-NOON
17 7am-Hot Mess Express 9am-Pickle Ball 11:30 am-Beginner Pickleball 1pm-Women's Guild	18 10:30am-Yoga Gold 6pm-Council Meeting Wational Exercise Day	19 9:15 am-Pickle Ball National Garlic Day	20 Crafty Mania 9-4 Volunteer Recognition Day
24 9am-Pickle Ball 11:30 am-Beginner Pickleball 6pm-Bells Rehearsal 7:15pm-Choir Rehearsal National Administrative Professionals Day	25 National Telephone Day	26 9:15 am-Pickle Ball National Pretzel Day	27 7 pm Fine Arts Concert Equinox Chamber Heritage Hall
National Pickleball Month		National Volunteer Appreciation Month	



St Paul Shufflers and Gamers

2ND Tuesday of the month! Lunch @ 12:30pm - games being @ 1:00pm

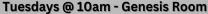
It's time to eat and have some fun. Bring your favorite game or join in with others. It can be a card game or board game. Or you can just be a kibbitzer and become a part of the party.

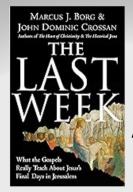
- Who: Members and friends are welcome to break bread and have fun and conversation.
- Where: Heritage Hall
- When: 12:30pm until you're tired of having fun and conversation
- What: A light lunch of soup or salad will be provided. Bring your own beverage and anything else you want with your soup or salad; i.e. crackers, bread, butter. Coffee can be provided.



ATTENTION SEEKERS:

We will be reading and discussing this book: The Last Week by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. It's a day-by-day account of Jesus's final week in Jerusalem. We have a couple of facilitators lined up.





Schedule of topics: Feb 27 Palm Sunday Mar 5 Monday Mar 12 Tuesday Mar 19 Thursday Mar 26 Friday (we are omitting Saturday) Apr 2 Easter Sunday Apr 9 Wednesday Apr 16 Marcus Borg video "Did Jesus Rise from the Dead?" from Marcus Borg Foundation

St. Paul UCC, 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220 ~ 618-233-3303



Join us on the 3rd Sunday of the month immediately following Sunday Worship Service.



A free will offering is happily accepted



FRIDAYS WITH THE FRIAR

Meet with Pastor Tim discuss theology & current events and enjoy a cup of coffee!

Every Friday from 10am to Noon!

@ Pour 322 in Belleville, Illinois!



MATS FOR COMMUNITY COMFORT

Please join us on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 1-3pm in the craft room. Please join us!



JOY RALLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 21 2 TO 3PM: PRE-K & KINDERGARTEN IST-5TH GRADES PLUS PARENT FELLOWSHIP TIME 4 TO 5:30PM: 6TH - 12TH GRADES

Hosted by St. Paul UCC Belleville

115 West B Street, Belleville 618.233.3303 stpaulucc.org





APRIL 3 AND APRIL 17 FROM 7-10AM

ST. PAUL UCC IN THE PARKING LOT ON THE CORNER OF 2ND STREET AND WEST C STREET

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StPaulUCC.org

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

Thank you from St. Paul Church. We appreciate your generosity! <u>TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF</u>:

IMO Marilee Black Kent Black

IMO Sue Reeble IMO Rick Reeble IMO Arthur Schmidt III <u>IMO Art Schmidt IV</u> Judy Schmidt

IMO Harold Yung Robert Yung

IMO Richard Fry

Music Ministry—Fine Arts

IMO Elgee Phillips

Dolly Kirsch Gordon & Dorothy Maiworm Donna Davis Rusty & Sandy Wagner Randall & Donna Trone Diane Drake Ruth Klingel Jane Bonaldi

IHO Jeanette & Elgee Phillips

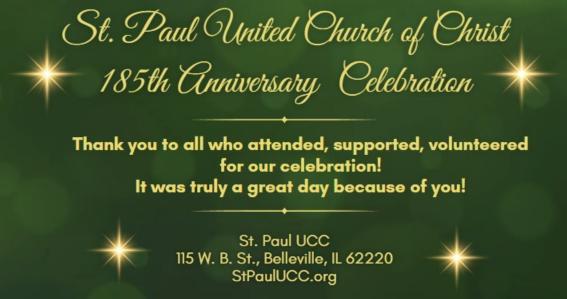
Stephenie Bauza Debra Price, Jan Wohlrab, Wayne Bryant, & Joe Bryant



Revenues	2024 Final Budget	2024 January Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budge
Congregational Offerings	378,200	20,031	20,031	5.30%
Stewardship (Fund Raising)Events	3,000	0	0	0.00>
Rental Income - 205 V B Street	11,790	915	915	7.76>
Utilities - BASSC	6,600	444		
Building Fund	19,000	595	595	3.135
Outreach / Various Missions	0	315	315	NKA
Memorials	12,500	150	150	1.20>
Bequests	0	0	0	NRA
Building Income	4,200	443	443	10.55%
Pastoral Honorarium	1,200	0	0	0.005
Pastoral Expense Revenue	0	0	0	N/A
Investment Income / Michelson Income	28,400	0	-	0.00%
Endowment Distribution (per guidelines)	135,000	0	0	NRA
Endowment Distribution (Cap. Exp.)	22,000	0	0	0.007
Other Income	50	13	13	26.465
Total Operating Revenues	646,640	22,907	22,463	3.47;
Team Revenues	3,900	239	239	6.125
Grand Total	650,540	23,145	22,701	3.492
Expenses				
Personnel	(381,018)	(27,845)	(27,845)	7.315
Administrative Support	(41,607)	(2,885)	(2,885)	6.937
(formerly Operating Expenses)	(1,001)			
Outreach (formerly Mission Board)	(13,500)	(78)	(78)	0.585
Education	(2,500)	0	0	0.005
Stewardship	(1,480)	(194)	(194)	13.115
Property	(196,185)	(14,754)	(14,754)	7.525
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Bd)	(14,250)	(142)	(142)	1.007
General Fund	0	0	0	NM
Total Operating Expense	(650,540)	(45,898)	(45,898)	7.065
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	0	(22,752)	(23,196)	

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

<u>January 2024</u>9am 390 + Online <u>January 2024</u>All Gifts: \$23,194.41 <u>January 2023</u> 9am: 415 + Online <u>January 2023</u> All Gifts: \$56,380.61



Cheek out the new information on our website!

Stpauluce.org

Your St. Paul website now features a segment on the windows of our current Sanctuary. Created by the Website Committee and Archives, all the beautiful panes are shown in color as well as black & white!

The message conveyed by their abstract design explains why we worship the Trinity. Read the artist's own words about his approach and discover the unique nature of his work.

The website storehouse of window information is extensive. Take your time, use the navigation tools, and enjoy the trip.

May this help expand your knowledge of the priceless artifacts of our third church.

If you are unable to go online, contact Archives for a copy.

St. Paul UCC 115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220 618-233-3303



April Anniversaries

4/3-Lonnie & Cindy Kettler4/4-Tom & Kathy Birkner4/14-Darwin & Mary Lu Bretsch

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman Carol Hotz Marilyn Dinkelmann Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline Worms Tim Ritter Laura (Phillips) Howie Alec Zaber Hector Rivera

Betty Rieso Linda Minton Larry Walton Wayne Caughman Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter Jerry Hough Lou Ann Niemann Cheryl Cooper Debbie Price

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to: pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org or call 618-233-3303.

April Birthdays

4/2-Melinda Bernal
4/4-Cheryl Cooper
4/7-Peggy Burke
4/8-Dennis Luehder
4/9-Pastor Michelle
4/12-Millie Wilson
4/12-Millie Wilson
4/14-Patrick Kinney
4/17-David Steen
4/17-Lisa Smith
4/18-Michael West
4/19-Sue Hoffmann
4/19-Duane Trickey
4/21-Rachel Dziaba
4/29-Dick Erdmann
4/29-Kevin Chunko





115 WEST "B" STREET, BELLEVILLE, IL 62220 PHONE: 618-233-3303 MAIL DATE: March 28, 2024

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