

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



## Welcome to Worship

Welcome to St. Paul Church. We are glad you are here!

9 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary 11am Celebration Service in Heritage Hall

#### Information for our friends ~

•Our **9am Traditional Service** is inspired with hymns, scripture and a theological based sermon. And our **11am Celebration Service** has a relaxed family-friendly message with contemporary Christian music. *Please feel free to try one or both styles of worship*.

•The Nursery is open during 9 am service (first classroom in the hallway off the sanctuary) If the small person gets wiggly, there are toys & books to enjoy.

•Hearing devices, large print bulletins, and large Bibles (in church library) are available, please see your ushers if you have any questions.

•Our Worship Service is broadcast on KSTL-690 AM radio &

streamed on Jubilee690.com at 9am Sundays and repeated at 9pm.

•We want to know you!! Please sign the Pew Pad today. If you are new to St. Paul,

want your information updated or with us every week– let us know you are here!! Please fill in your contact information and we will happily contact you as you wish.

•When you or a loved one is admitted to a hospital, please ask the hospital to notify

the church office. If you have a new addition to your family, if your address or

phone changes, please contact the church office so we can keep our records current.

#### LEADING THIS TIME OF WORSHIP

Advent Candle Lighters		
Lay Reader		
Nursery Care	Carmen Shepard & Julie Nollette	
Radio		
Sound / Control Room	Rick Haar	
Ushering TeamDana Rosenzweig, Donna & Jim Beverly Brightwell, C		
Welcome CenterJeanine Guthrie, Rose Hoy, Sandy Kramer, Debbie Lippert, Scott Gentry		
Sunday School Leaders	Sandy Ritter and Donna Nettleton	
Director of Christian Education / Sunday School Teacher	Tyler Kohrs	
Music MinistryCha	ncel Choir and Anne Von Brecht, flute	
Director of Music Ministry	Dan Fry	
Senior Pastor		

## St. Paul United Church of Christ

*First Sunday of Advent* December 2, 2018 9:00 am

**OT** = Old Testament **NT** = New Testament **†** Please stand if able

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

#### PRELUDE

#### O Come, O Come Emmanuel

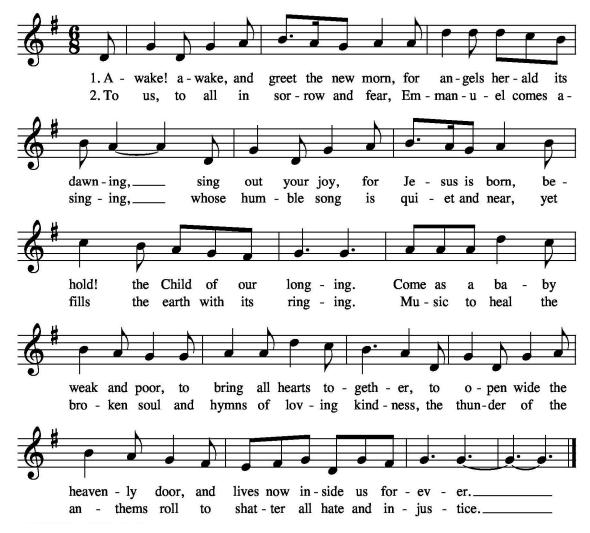
Paul Manz

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

- One: We come into God's presence in hopeful anticipation, We await the coming of the Son of God.
- All: The sun may be dimmed; the moon may lose its light, The stars may fall from the sky...
- One: Still, the Divine Spirit is with us.
- All: God sends angels from the four winds, From the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
- All: We hear Jesus' words, "Keep awake! Be alert!"

#### **INVOCATION (Unison)**

God of the four winds, blow your Spirit through this space. From north and south, east and west, we gather to worship your holy name; we belong to you; we are clay in your hands. Open our ears to the sound of your voice echoing through the spheres. Open our eyes to the brilliance of your presence shining in each new day. Open our hearts to the new reign of Jesus Christ come now to earth. Amen. **+OPENING HYMN** 



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#### +UNISON PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

At various points of our lives, we push aside hope. We believe that new beginnings are a myth and that grace is not possible in our lives. We forget new possibilities may come along tomorrow or two hours from now. Open our wounded souls to hope. May the glow of this season draw us into God's holy hope. Amen.

#### +ASSURANCE OF GRACE

- One: Hope is a gift that God gives freely. May we allow our wounded souls to heal, and may we clothes ourselves in faith once again!
- All: Thanks be to God!

#### **+PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share a sign of the peace with one another.

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT with Pastor Michelle

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

ANTHEM	People, Look East Chancel Choir Anne von Brecht, flute	Zebulon Highben
SCRIPTURE	Jeremiah 33:14-16 & Isaiah 40:1-11	
SERMON	The Gospel According to It's a Wonderful Life	

+HYMN

Hope for the World

6 0 1 Hope of the world, Christ of great com - pas sion, 2 Hope of the world, God's gift of our re - demp tion, 3 Hope the world, who by of the cross did save us 4 Hope the world, 0 of Christ, o'er death vic - to rious, 8: 00 hearts by speak to our fear ful con flict torn. bring ing to hun souls the of life, gry bread from death and sad de spair, from sin and guilt, who by this sign did con - quer grief and pain, 6 9 10. Save your peo us ple from con - sum - ing pas sion, Still let your Spir it un - to us be giv en We ren - der back the love your mer - cy gave us; Wc would be faith ful to your gos - pel glo rious; 6 0 10 0 from false pur - suits through which our lives are worn. to heal earth's wounds and end its bit strife. ter take back our lives and use them as will, you Sov - creign who our for ev 2 er more shall reign! • 0 П 0 © 2003, ABC Music Co., All rights reserved. OneLicense.net License #A-715913

#### **PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE with 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.

#### **RECEIVING OUR MORNING GIFTS AND OFFERINGS**

In good times and bad times, God is faithful to us. We bring forth our offerings – our tithes, our treasures, our smallest coins – to demonstrate our faithfulness to God. Today we bring these offerings in the name of the Ruler of Peace, God's only Son, Jesus Christ. Come, let us live into God's holy hope.

# **OFFERTORY***The King Shall Come*Charles Callahan+DOXOLOGY*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*<br/>Praise God from whom all blessings flow;<br/>Praise Christ in whom God's grace we know<br/>Praise Spirit, with us evermore;<br/>One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.

#### **+UNISON DEDICATION PRAYER**

God, whose faithfulness exceeds the limits of the earth, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ's hope in our hearts. Amen.

#### **SERVICE OF COMMUNION**

#### Invitation

- One: Come, follow the light that shines for you and leads you to a stable with a manger and child.
- All: Lord, we have followed the light.
- One: Come, listen for the voice that calls you to find new life in the broken corners of the world.
- All: Lord, we have heard the voice.
- One: Come, rich and poor, neighbor or stranger, gather round and share a celebration with the Prince of Peace.

#### All: Lord, we have gathered to meet with you.

- One: Come, like wealthy kings with priceless gifts or poor shepherds with only themselves to bring, for the Spirit has led you to this place where you are offered the promise of new life.
- All: Lord, fill us with new life.

#### **Narrative and Preparation**

One: From being a child in a manger dependent on his mother's milk for food Jesus grew to be the Living Word made Flesh offering everyone the bread of life.

#### All: May we see the guiding light, May we find you in a stable, May we follow you to the cross, May we find new life through you, As we gather round the table to celebrate the beginning of a journey, From the manger to the cross and back to life again.

One: Jesus took the bread, broke it and blessed it, and asked his disciples to remember.

#### All: We remember the life-changing path of Jesus, from the manger to the cross to new life.

One: In the same way, after eating he took the cup and blessed it and asked his disciples to remember.

#### All: We remember the loving journey of Christ, from the manger to the cross to new life.

One: O Lord, open our minds to a new understanding of your wonderful Word which is such a mystery but is the root of our faith. Open our eyes so that we can see the Spirit guiding us. Open our hearts to share the Christ within us as we continue the journey of faith. We thank you for all that has gone and the future to come:

...For the faith of parents through history and the children who followed them

- ...For the visions of prophets and disciples who shared your Word and all who believed them.
- ...For the faithful dedication of Mary and Joseph who answered your call to serve as parents of Jesus.

Thank you for the journey of Jesus the Christ, from Advent through Easter and beyond.

Holy Spirit, come among us and bless this bread and cup. Remain among us as we remember Christ's unending love.

Eat and drink in honor of the Christ in your midst. Take him into your hearts by faith with thanksgiving. The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready!

#### **Distribution of Elements**

Christ welcomes to the table all who seek his presence. The single outer circle of cups contains grape juice; All inner circles contain wine. Please hold the bread and cup until all have been served, so we may commune together.

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Thank you, loving God, for bread and wine through which we have remembered your life, love, and all you taught. May we now be inspired by your Living Word. Amen.

+HYMN

Come O Long-Expected Jesus



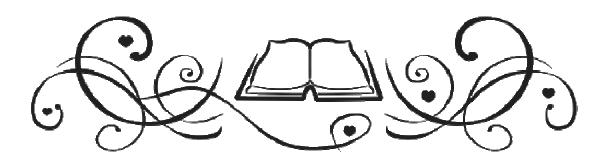
#### +BENEDICTION

- One: Go from this place alert and awake with God's holy hope in our hearts.
- All: We scatter now as people of the four winds: To the north and south, east and west.
- One: Go from this place alert and awake in the spirit of God's peace.
- All: We go as faithful servants to spread God's love to the ends of the earth.
- All: Amen.

**+POSTLUDE** 

Voluntary in A

18th century, anonymous



Elements of this worship service from **From the Four Winds**, Service Prayers for the **First Sunday of Advent**, written by the Rev. Penny L. Lowes, an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and a free lance writer.

Communion liturgy based on Follow the Light to Your Stable... A Communion Celebration for the Advent Season and Christmas by Richard Becher found in *Shine on*, *Star of Bethlehem*.

Prayer of Reconciliation and Assurance of Grace written by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian





#### SPECIAL THANK YOU's

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in making Pastor Michelle's installation such a special day. I know that a great deal of effort went into creating a day that was enjoyed by all. Thank you, also, for the beautiful corsage. It was indeed unexpected and very much appreciated! Blessings,

Laureen Torigian (Pastor Michelle's mother)

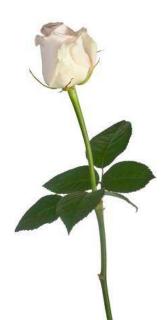
#### Dear St. Paul UCC,

Thank you all for contributing your time, talent, and treasures to making my Installation a beautiful service and wonderful day. Thank you to those who participated in the service, who prepared food, who donated funds, and who gave me gifts. Thank you to our staff and volunteers who planned the event with me and who took care of the small and large details. My family and friends appreciated the hospitality and were blessed by the day! I am truly blessed to be at St. Paul UCC!

Pastor Michelle

## **Totenfest Names 2017 - 2018**

Gary Rotert Jerry L. Baum Annalee Sauerwein James Means Sue Ann Northern Benjamin Sutter Doris McCarkel Evelyn Raab Donna Stepp Mary Anne Walton John "Bob" Myland Lorna Wolf Ruth Davis Susan Lilley Lillian Ryseff



Marilee Black Margie Schuchardt **Thyllis Buehler** Barbara Schempp **Dolores Straub** Lucille Borsch Sue Loewe Frank Brestal **Richard Goers** Verna Votrian Faul Bauza Henry Bohnemeier Malinda Mulligan Cleo Baldwin Geneva Rehg Margaret Birkner

## **CONGEGATIONAL MEETING** Sunday, December 9th immediately following the 9am service

# The Star Tree

benefiting families in the Franklin Neighborhood (Trying something new! Please read!)

- You can choose a "Family Wreath of Stars" or a "Single Star"
- Sign your name, contact info & the Star #(s) in the Star Tree Book,
- Buy age appropriate gifts,
  (please make sure gifts for families are of equal value,
  go in with a friend or a group for a large family)
- Wrap them and attach the "Star" on the front of the gift,
- \* Return it to the tree no later than Tuesday, December 11th.
- Santa's elves from The Women's Guild



#### THE CHRISTMAS FUND for the VETERANS OF THE CROSS Will be received on Sunday, December 16

For 115 years, **the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund** has been a tangible expression of God's love and light in the world. Year after year, UCC congregations have reached out in kindness, compassion and gratitude to those who have faithfully shepherded our Church in the past and who now find themselves facing unexpected financial needs.

The theme of this year's Christmas Fund Offering is *The Light is Surely Coming*. Our goal is to raise \$1.7 million to help support these ministries of light and love. The recipients of your gifts are persons who have faithfully served the church for many years. And now, in their time of need, you can be the church to them. We invited and encourage you to join thousands of UCC members who will support this year's appeal and trust the light is surely coming.

On behalf of the hundreds of clergy, lay employees and their families whose lives were touched by your support of the Christmas Fund Offering, we offer sincere thanks for your generosity! Your St. Paul Stewardship Board

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS & MEMORIALS

Help decorate our sanctuary for Christmas this year!

We are planning a special display of assorted colors of poinsettias on Christmas Eve, December 24th. Please order through the church on the form below.

\*\*The poinsettias will not be personalized with tags; however, all will be recognized in the bulletin. There will be a variety of different colors of poinsettias and you are invited to choose one after the late service on Christmas Eve or later that week. We thank you for your understanding.

You may also choose to give a cash gift in memory, in honor,

or in celebration of a special person or event.

Please fill out the form below and include a check in the *amount of \$10.00 for each plant*.

\*\*Please note: We must have your poinsettia/memorial information no later than Friday, December 15th

in order for your information to appear in our Christmas Eve bulletins - no exceptions.

Poinsettias may be picked up after the last Christmas Eve Service of Worship

or later that week (office/church closed December 25 and 26).

The information you include below will appear in the Christmas Eve bulletins.

Detach below -----

\_\_\_\_\_ I will order a poinsettia through Church. \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to give a loving gift.

(If by check, please make payable to St. Paul Church)

IN MEMORY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_

or

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_

or

IN CELEBRATION FOR\_\_\_\_\_

GIVEN BY



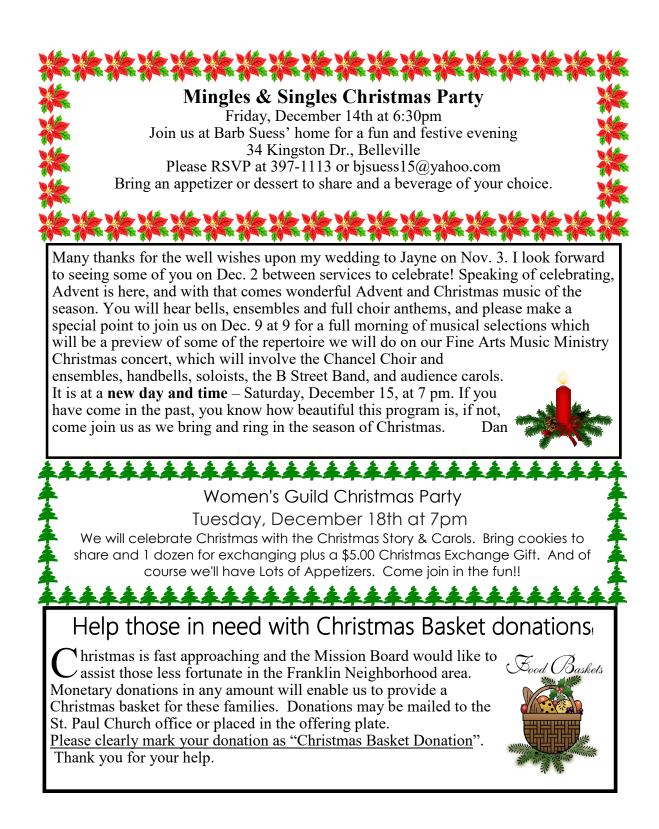
Hi to all of the cookie bakers that have committed to supplying the cookies for the youth on December 8th for the Cookies with Santa Event. If you can please have your cookies at church no later than 9 o'clock on the 8th, that gives us time to place them on trays. Please mark your cookies Santa event so no one else uses them. They can be brought in anytime that week for your convenience. Anyone is welcome to bring cookies whether you told us or not. They will not go to waste. In advance, a big thank you for supporting our youth events. Any questions please call Sandy Ritter-222-1123 one of Santa's helpers.

# Cookies with Santa Saturday, Dec 8th 10am-Noon St. Paul UCC

115 West B Street- enter off C Street

Christmas Themed Games, Hot Chocolate Bar, Storytime with Mrs. Claus (at 11:00am), Family Photo Booth with Santa Claus and his Elf, And of course Christmas Cookies!

stpauluce.org



Dan Fry will be interviewed on the air by Kathy Lawton Brown on the Radio Arts Foundation station on Dec. 11 at 11am about our upcoming concert. http://www.rafstl.org/ 107.3FM and 96.3 HD2



### **Undie Sundays**

Please support the Mission Board in collecting <u>new</u> underwear, socks, pajamas, hats, and gloves for the children of our community. Help us ensure no child goes without basic needs this winter. Our goal is to provide each child at KinderCottage with the items listed above they need. Sizes 2 – 16 are requested. If we exceed our goal, thanks to your generosity, the items are distributed to other organizations within our community. If you are unable to shop, we will kindly accept cash donations. Collection box will be available for the next couple of weeks. If you miss collection at service, feel free to drop off at the church office. We appreciate your support!



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 AN INVITATION TO CELEBRATE THE MARRIAGE OF MR. & MRS. DAN and JAYNE FRY



Our St. Paul Traditional Music Ministry extends an invitation to the Congregation to please join us for an informal, congratulatory reception celebrating the recent marriage of Dan and Jayne Fry. We will meet in the Activity Center on Sunday, December 2, immediately following the early service to enjoy sweet refreshments and share best wishes with Dan and Jayne as well as several of their family members. Plan to join us and share their joy as they begin this wonderful journey of marriage!

#### Winter Weekend 2019 is scheduled for January 19-21, 2019 (over the Martin Luther King Jr weekend).

The event will take place at DuBois Center and the theme is "Speak Your Truth". The keynote speaker is Rev. Trayce Potter who is the Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement for the UCC. The cost remains the same as last year at \$150 (early bird rate) or \$165 (late registrations) which includes lodging and meals. We plan to have the information and registration packet go out to the churches & youth leaders within the week, so watch your emails! We hope you will start to encourage your youth to attend this faith-filled and relationship-building event! Contact Tyler Kohrs about early registration.

If you are interested on sponsoring a youth for the Winter Weekend, please contact Tyler Kohrs for more information. tkohrs@stpaulucc.org / 233-3303 Adult Confirmation Class Information COMING SOON!! Contact Tyler Kohrs if interested....





## CRAFTY MANIA

Proceeds to Benefit: A Mission of the Church

Are you a Scrapbooker, Card Maker, Jewelry Maker, or like to Sew? What ever your craft, join us!! Spend the day doing what you like!!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!

All Day Crafting What: Saturday –January 26, 2019\* When: 8:30am - 4:00pm \*(if the event gets cancelled due to snow or low attendance, the new date would be March 23rd)\* Where: St. Paul UCC 115 West B Street (enter on C Street), Belleville, IL Adults: \$30.00 with lunch / \$25 no lunch Includes: snacks, vendors, reserved space, attendance prizes, Extended Hours Available! 9am-10:00pm \$35.00 perperson (meals served) / NO meals \$30 Contact Person: Diana Haar - dmhaar@charter.net or Tina at St. Paul Church - (618) 233-3303 \*\*ENTER RAFFLE TO WIN A CRICUT ACCESSORIES & other raffle items-Raffle tickets available for purchase at Crafty event! \* \* \* Early bird registration due January 2nd (to be entered in special drawing) Reservation Deadline is January 16<sup>th</sup> \*Please remember IF the minimum is not met by the deadline, the event will be CANCELLED!! Make checks payable to: St. Paul UCC Mail payment & reservation to: St. Paul UCC 115 West B Street, Belleville, IL 62220 Attn: Crafty Mania \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Name: E-mail(print clearly) Phone I would like to sit by My craft is Enclosed is my payment of (please circle ONE below) 1 \$30.00 with lunch / \$25.00 no lunch 9am - 4pm2.\$35.00 with lunch & dinner/\$30.00 no meals 9am - 10:00pm

Thank you!!!

#### SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE



UCC RESOURCES

DAY OF DISCIPLESHIP Saturday, Feb 23 9am-2pm at St. Paul UCC <u>Speaker Panel Includes</u>: Rev. Shana Johnson, ISC Heather Kimmel, UCC General Council Andy DeBraber, UCC Office of Phil, Tech, ID & Comm Holly Miller Shank, MESA Rep from the Pension Board

Are you interested in being a member of St. Paul UCC? Please contact Pastor Michelle or the church office.



If you have cards that you don't need thank you, bday, get well– bring to the church office - we can put them to good use!



#### Online Directory / Mobile App & Phone Directory

Online Directory Coming Soon! Need to contact a member of this congregation, but you don't have your Guide Book & Directory with you? New this year, we are working with Guide Book Publishing to launch a highly secure Online Directory & Mobile App!

Key Features:

- Easy to use search features
- $\cdot$  One touch calling / texting / emailing / directions
- The ability to upload your own photos
- · Bank level password encryption

This product will serve as an interactive pictorial directory without the commercial photography (no portrait session to attend, no pictures to buy). It is a safe, secure directory that can only be accessed by our congregation through our website or mobile app.

This is in addition to our printed Guide Book & Directory.

#### Please make sure the church office has your correct contact information! PHONE NUMBERS! ADDRESS! EMAILS!

However, should you choose to not want to be a part of the Online Directory or printed Guide Book & Directory, please contact the church office, so we can

remove your information from the list before uploading the information.

If you have a company that is interested in advertising in this new product and the printed Guide Book & Directory please contact the office. It is through the support of advertisers in our community that these services continue to be provided to us at no cost. *Thank you!!!* 





#### For Our Prayers

Marsha McCoy - Barb Seuss - Bill Whicher

#### For Our Thoughts

"The way get started is to quit talking and begin doing." - Walt Disney

"You learn more from failure than from success. Don't let it stop you. Failure builds character." - *Unknown* "It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up." - *Vince Lombardi* 

"If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed. The vision pulls you." - *Steve Jobs* 

