



“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
Culinaires meal and fellowship
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.....Dick Erdmann
Nursery Care.....Lisa Smith and Norma Franke
Radio.....Brett White
Sound / Control RoomRick Haar & Dana Rosenzweig
Ushering Team.....Al & Nancy Scharf, Wayne Caughman, Joyce Maurer, Paul & Sue Sutherland
Welcome Center.....Sandy Ritter, Fred & Carol Hotz
Director of Christian Education / Sunday School Teacher.....Tyler Kohrs
Music Ministry.....Chancel Choir
Director of Music MinistryDan Fry
Senior Pastor.....Rev. Michelle Torigian

*St. Paul
United Church of Christ*

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018 9:00 am

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

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Prepare the Royal Highway* Wilbur Held

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The joy of the season is upon us.
The time is almost here.

All: We have come to praise the Lord!

One: We are here to sing praises to God,
the Holy One in whom we place our trust.

All: God opens our eyes and lifts us up.

All: Let us praise God who reigns forever.

INVOCATION (Unison)

We gather, O God, in this worship space mindful of your presence. We are here to rejoice as we wait to see your glory. Help us proclaim the joy you promise. In this hour of worship we ask that you bless us through the inspiration of your Holy Spirit and through the stories of Christ's ministry among us. Amen.

+OPENING HYMN *There's a Voice in the Wilderness*



1. There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a _____
2. O _____ Zi - on, who of - fers good tid - ings, to the
3. But the word of our God is for - ev - er, our De -



call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a high-way a
height of the moun-tains dare! Lift your voice to the cit - ies of Ju - dah: "Be-
fend - er's _____ will is strong; God _____ stands in the midst _____ of na-tions, to



high-way for _____ our God! The _____ val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
hold your God!" de - clare. Like the flowers of the field we per - ish, our
ren - der right _____ the wrong. Then _____ God shall be as a shep-herd, the



loft - y _____ hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
hu - man _____ works de - cay, the power and the pomp _____ of
lambs gath-ered to God's breast; and pas - tures of peace _____ shall



pla - ces where Em - man - u - el _____ may go!
na - tions shall _____ pass like a dream _____ a - way.
greet _____ them, to _____ give to the wea - ry rest.

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Joy is Coming! Service Prayers for the 3rd Sunday of Advent was written by Henrietta Stith Andrews, a retired UCC Pastor who served as Associate Conference Minister in Michigan. Rev. Andrews is a certified Spiritual Director and presently residing in Powderfield, Georgia. Advent candle lighting prayer by Rev. Michelle L. Torigian

+UNISON PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

One: Here we are, Most Patient God,
in the third week of our Advent journey.
You alone know how that journey is going.
Did we, at the beginning of the season
promise to make this Advent different?
Did we promise in our heart of hearts
to prepare ourselves spiritually
to receive the gift of your Son?

**All: We confess, O God, that we, so easily,
have given into the expectations of
people and situations around us.
We allowed the times of quiet
promised for you to slip away.
Forgive us in our distractions.
Help us renew our preparations for your coming.
We look forward to your promise to change things -
To bring life, and strength, and courage to us.
Continue to be with us, Source of Joy,
as we learn to wait with you. Amen.**

+ASSURANCE OF GRACE

One: We come to you confessing what is on our hearts and minds.
We do so trusting that you want to hear our petitions
and that you have already forgiven what needs to be forgiven.
With joy, we celebrate the hope that grows in our hearts and the
peace which builds our relationships!

All: Amen! 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

Emmanuel Shall Come
Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:39-45, Isaiah 12:2-6, Zephaniah 3:14-20

SERMON

The Joy of Mary and Buddy

+HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of four systems of two staves each (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are: "I This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine, this lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine, This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine. (let it shine.)". The melody is simple and repetitive, with a consistent bass line accompaniment.

- 2 Ev-ery-where I go, I'm gon-na let it shine . . .
- 3 All--through the night, I'm gon-na let it shine . . .

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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

One: The scriptures tell us that God will turn things around;
there will be new life in the dry places;
there will a strengthening in those of us with fearful hearts.
There will be joy.
We have the opportunity to participate with God
in turning things around in this world.
The effort to do so requires a sharing
of the gifts God has placed in our hands.
Consider now what part you wish
to play in the work of creation.

OFFERTORY *Once He Came in Blessing* Michael Burkhardt

+DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ in whom God's grace we know
Praise Spirit, with us evermore;
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.

+UNISON DEDICATION PRAYER

**We present to you, O God, our gifts.
May they be used to make a difference
in the lives of people where hope is scarce.
May our gifts be a reminder, to those who receive them,
of your love. Amen.**

+HYMN *Rejoice, You Pure In Heart*

1 Re - joice, you pure in heart; lift prais - es to the sky;
 2 Bright youth and sea - soned age, strong souls and spir - its meek,
 3 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as you go,
 5 Praise God who rules all worlds, the ris - en Christ a - dore,

Your fes - tal ban - ner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!
 Raise high your free, ex - ult - ing song, God's won - drous prais - es speak.
 Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of an - cient days.
 From youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe:
 Praise God the Spir - it, Ho - ly Fire, one God for ev - er - more!

Refrain

Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks and sing.
 Re - joice Re - joice

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+BENEDICTION

One: Prepare yourselves to leave this place. Return to your waiting with patient hope for the events of God's promise of salvation to unfold. Find your bliss hidden in the hustle, and strengthen your hearts-for the coming of the Lord is near! Amen!

All: Amen!

+POSTLUDE

Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Wilbur Held



NEWS & NOTES

Dec 16, 2018



There is no SUNDAY SCHOOL today, please enjoy this time together

St. Paul UCC Holiday Schedule



Sunday, December 16 ~ 9am & 11am services in Sanctuary
Culinaires special meal and fellowship time ~ 10am

Wednesday, December 19 ~ 6pm in Heritage Hall

Blue Christmas Service

The Blue Christmas service is an opportunity for people facing a difficult Christmas due to a variety of issues including the loss of a loved one, unhappy Christmas memories, seasonal depression, trauma, health issues or other transition.

Sunday, December 23 ~ 9am & 11am services in Sanctuary

Monday, December 24 ~ 4:30pm & 7pm

Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 30

New Year's Weekend

9am Single Service with Guest Craig Bielke

The Culinaires will be cooking!!

Join us today after 9am service for a wonderful meal prepared by the Culinaires.





Women's Guild Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 18th at 7pm

We will celebrate Christmas with the Christmas Story & Carols. Bring cookies to share and 1 dozen for exchanging plus a \$5.00 Christmas Exchange Gift. And of course we'll have Lots of Appetizers. Come join in the fun!!

Help those in need with Christmas Basket donations:

Christmas is fast approaching and the Mission Board would like to assist those less fortunate in the Franklin Neighborhood area. Monetary donations in any amount will enable us to provide a Christmas basket for these families. Donations may be mailed to the St. Paul Church office or placed in the offering plate. Please clearly mark your donation as "Christmas Basket Donation". Thank you for your help.



Threads of Hope

has baby quilts for sale for the holidays or for any occasion. The quilts are all handmade with love by our quilters and the profits go to St. Paul UCC. There are many to choose from—for boys, girls and neutral colors. If you are interested, please contact Sonja at 530-3897.



Teddy Bear



Little Girls



Choo-Choo

BLESSING BAGS ITEMS

We are looking to collect items for "Blessing Bags" for those who are less fortunate. *Can you help?*

Items that are helpful and needed:

Clean blankets, clean coats, small containers of wipes, small bottles of sanitizer, individual heat packs, socks, gloves, hats, scarves, chapstick, combs, brushes, small packages of tissues, small first aid kits, deodorant, razor and shaving cream, toothbrush and paste, and personal notes of encouragement. Please place in designated box or bring to church office. *Thank you!!*

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 Sunday, Dec 16th 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 _____



**VALENTINE DINNER THEATER
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

Treat your Valentine to our very first St. Paul Fine Arts dinner theater on Saturday, February 9. Our Culinaires will be serving dinner at 6:30 p.m. as the mystery begins to evolve. Tickets will be available for purchase every Sunday in January in the Welcome & Activity Centers and through February 4 from the church office. The cost of the dinner is \$18. Sweet Treat booths will also be offering goodies for purchase. This promises to be an intriguing evening of delicious food and “whodunit” fun!

2019 Adult Mission Trip

The adult mission team has chosen to help with recovery efforts in Hattiesburg, MS the week of June 2 - 8. The city was devastated by a 2016 flood and a 2017 tornado. The recovery effort will build 400 new homes and rehab 1500 existing homes. If you are interested in the trip or would like more information, please contact Roger Harris (618.277.3805 / roger.harris@bankofamerica.com). Reservation deadline is March 31, 2019.



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

Speaker Panel Includes:

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

Join us for FREE presentations / discussion about Alzheimer's!

St. Paul UCC 'With You'
is offering classes to learn more about Alzheimer's
and its affects. Come to one or all of the classes
All are welcome.

Where: St. Paul UCC

115 West B Street, Belleville
(enter off C Street parking lot)
In the Church Library

Time: 1pm Noon - 1:30pm

Dates:

Sunday, January 20, 2019

"Alzheimer's and Dementia:
A broad overview vs normal aging"

Sunday, February 17, 2019

"10 Warning Signs for Alzheimer's"

Sunday, March 17, 2019

"Healthy Living for your Body & Brain"

Sunday, April 28, 2019

"Effective Communication Strategies"

Sunday, May 19, 2019

"Understanding & Responding to Dementia Related Behavior"

Questions: stpaulucc.org or 233-3303

Matthew 28:20

And Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.





On behalf of the Director of Christian Education and the Christian Education Board, we want to thank EVERYONE who volunteered and/or made cookies for this incredible outreach event. We had 114 people in attendance on Saturday, December 8, 2018 and it was an amazing morning of community, fellowship, and of course COOKIES!!! *Can't wait til next year!!!*

Sunday School Today is Cancelled. Our youth will be meeting with Dan Fry, Tyler Kohrs, and other members of the choir in the Choir Room to practice for their performance on Sunday, December 23, 2018. So for those who have attended practices in the past or want to hop in, come on up to the choir room after Traditional service. ALSO, there will be NO Sunday School on Sunday, December 30, 2018!



Winter Weekend 2019 January 19-21 (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 info. tkohrs@stpaulucc.org / 233-3303



We hear that gift cards are so "last year" ... This Christmas, gift a Kids Club account. **This Christmas, help youth learn to save, share, and spend smarter.**

With [Cornerstone Fund Kids Club Flexible Demand and Term Note accounts](#), youth

(ages 0-18) begin to learn the value of socially responsible investing--and earn highly competitive interest. Like all other Cornerstone Fund investments, Kids Club investments are used to help local UCC congregations and ministries and other non-profit organizations make an even greater impact on their communities. **Accounts can be opened for as little as \$25.**

Open any Kids Club account by December 31st, and receive FREE gifts, including a Christmas stocking, Kids Club stuffed animal, Christmas coloring book, crayons, starter savings wallet, AND candy treats!

Cornerstonefund.org

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!!!

What: All Day Crafting
When: Saturday –January 26, 2019*
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 per person (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 16th

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: _____

Phone _____ E-mail (print clearly) _____

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 – 4pm
- 2 \$35.00 with lunch & dinner/ \$30.00 no meals 9am – 10:00pm

Thank you!!!



For Our Prayers

Marsha McCoy - Bill Whicher - Dee Zopp

For Our Thoughts

— This week at — St. Paul UCC
 Please see stpaulucc.org for full calendar of events!

- Sun, Dec 16 **9am Traditional Service**
Culinaires
11am Celebration Service
6pm Fireside
- Mon, Dec 17 10am exercise class
4:30 Girl Scouts
6pm Volleyball
- Tues, Dec 18 9am Quilters
4pm Band practice-sanctuary
5pm Comm Dinner
6:30 Council at Wagner's
7pm Women's Guild
- Wed, Dec 19 **6pm Blue Christmas Service**
Bells / Choir
- Thurs, Dec 20 10am Conference Gathering Meeting—Genesis Rm
Noon MDO Christmas Concert (T-TH families)
- Fri, Dec 21 Noon MDO Christmas Concert (MWF families)
Wedding Rehearsal
- Sat, Dec 22 Wedding



The Genealogy Group decided at our Nov meeting that we will have **NO DEC MTG.** Our next meeting will be on the 3rd Wed in Jan: **JAN 16-10AM.** Our usual meeting room-*Genesis Room on the lower level.* For members and friends of St. Paul church who received a DNA testing kit over the holidays we will discuss "*What do I do with my DNA test results?*"

stpaulucc.org

Weekly Attendance	
9am /Celebration	<u>Dec 2, 2018</u> <u>Dec 3, 2017</u>
	160/24 143/14

