



Our St. Paul

December 2022

## **YOUR St. Paul Team**

Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor  
Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager  
Tristan Frampton, Director of Music  
Sherry Wilhelm, Office Coordinator  
Kathy Buehler, Bookkeeper  
Evan Wilhelm, Support Staff  
Ian Hipkins, Technology Coordinator  
Mary Blaies, Support Staff

## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Thursday**

8:30am-4pm

**Friday**

9am-12pm

## **Church Office Contact**

**Information:**

**618-233-3303**

[stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)



## **Welcome Mary Blaies!**

As she continues her position with the St. Clair County Office on Aging, she will also work part time as support staff at St. Paul.

A note from Mary:

I grew up in Belleville and have lived in the village of Freeburg for the past 30 years with my husband Mike. We have three adult children and three grandchildren in the local area. I am excited to join this team and contribute any way I can. I enjoy music and spending time with family and friends.

## **Congregational Meeting**

To discuss the 2023 Budget and nominations to council.  
Sunday, December 11th  
immediately following worship service.

**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**.

**ISSUE**  
January

**DEADLINE**  
December 22

**MAIL DATE**  
December 30th

## Pastor's Message - Less Is More

When I was a teen back in the 1980's, everything was big and sparkly. Unlike the muted colors of the early to mid 1970's, neon colors were plastered all over the landscape as seen in the fashion and furnishings. Popular jewelry consisted of chunky earrings, multiple bracelets, and layered necklaces. Women wore shoulder pads, and sneakers had "high tops." We aimed to get our bangs as big as possible and almost killed the ozone layer because of it. Remember the quote attributed to millionaire Malcolm Forbes: "He who dies with the most toys wins"? People aimed to get bigger houses, fancier cars, and more toys.

The world today may have less neon than 1987, but sometimes our palate still craves the taste of better electronics and other fancier toys. Instead of "less is more," "bigger and better" often becomes our goal.

One hundred years ago, in the years between World War I and the Great Depression, the world was simpler than it is now. No internet, television, comments hurled towards one another. Granted, the internet and television has brought the world together in healthy ways as well as unhealthy ways. But sometimes we forget about the simpler things in life and end up relying on the busy life to fill our souls.

The beauty of our devotional this Advent - "A 'Less Is More' Christmas Devotional" - refocuses us on the simple. Instead of rushing around frantically to have everything finished for Christmas, this devotional asks us to take time for meditation, prayer, reading scriptures, listing the people for whom we are grateful, and spending time with loved ones. This devotional helps us to reset after a busy Thanksgiving weekend and asks us to adopt a slower-paced Advent.

When we read the birth story in the book of Luke, Jesus came into the world in a stable with animals and shepherds surrounding him. This wasn't a king begging for riches but one who would bring a more-humble realm into our world.

We all have so much to do during this time of December. But I hope you have the chance to breathe, reflect on the peace of God, invest in your loved ones through your time, fill this world with peaceful words, and create moments of joy for others. Instead of brightness coming from fancy possessions, "big" things, and neon colors, may we find simpler ways to bring the light of Christ into the world. Such experiences do not necessarily take lots of money or require us to "keep up with the Joneses." Instead, we find ways to be authentic in our faith and inspire kindness by loving our neighbors as best we can.

May your season of Advent instill peace into your souls. May your season of Christmas bring joy into your hearts. And may our New Year fill us with hope through the dreams bestowed upon us by the Spirit of God!

*Blessings, Pastor Michelle*



Hoyleton Youth and Family Services is asking for your support with their Hope for the Holidays giving campaign. They have several options to make it easy for you to donate as described on their website:

<https://hoyleton.org/events/hope-for-the-holidays-campaign/>

IT'S TIME TO ORDER  
**POINSETTIA'S**  
IN HONOR/MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES

---

COST IS | \$ 10

CALL OR EMAIL THE OFFICE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER.  
618-233-3303 OR  
SWILHELM@STPAULUCC.ORG

# Franklin Neighborhood Association

is accepting monetary donations to purchase food for Thanksgiving dinners. Please consider donating and help others have a blessed holiday.



Give through the  
St. Paul UCC office.



## CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

at  
St. Paul United Church of Christ



Coming Soon

### Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022

St. Paul UCC Sanctuary  
4:30pm & 7pm

### Christmas Day

December 25, 2022

St. Paul Heritage Hall  
9am

### Blue Christmas

December 20, 2022

St. Paul UCC Sanctuary  
7pm

for friends struggling during  
the holidays

All services streamed at  
[StPaulUCC.org](http://StPaulUCC.org)

# Crafty Mania

Proceeds to benefit: Youth group & missions of the church

Are you a Scrapbooker, Card Maker, Jewelry maker or like to Sew/Knit?

Whatever your craft, join us!

Spend the day doing what YOU like!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!  
**Saturday Jan 21st 2023**



9:00am-4:00pm

Cost: \$35.00

Includes: Lunch, snacks, crafting space, attendance prizes,  
and vendors in the afternoon. Tickets for raffle items will also be available for purchase!

**What:** ALL DAY CRAFTING

**Where:** St. Paul UCC

115 West B Street (Enter on C Street), Belleville, IL 62220

Register by sending a check with your information below to St. Paul UCC

Call with questions: 618-233-3303

For your convenience, pay online at:

**<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/st-paul-ucc-56807225373>**

A service fee of \$3.77 will be charged when you register online.

**Reservation and Payment is due by Jan 7th. Reservation will only be held with payment.**

.....  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



Email \_\_\_\_\_

My craft is \_\_\_\_\_ I require electricity Y N



PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COZY

# Christmas

IN HERITAGE HALL

DECEMBER 25TH  
9AM

HOT COCOA & COOKIES  
WILL BE SERVED



## SHUFFLER'S CLUB

Please join us on the  
2nd Tuesday of every  
month @ 1pm  
in the Library at  
St. Paul UCC





## Culinaire's BREAKFAST

St. Paul UCC  
This Sunday after worship  
Dec. 18th

Suggested Donation \$5.00



  
  
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R**  


Sun	Mon	Tue
		
<p>4</p> <p>9am Worship 10am Coffee &amp; Doughnuts</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9am-Pickle Ball 10:30-Yoga Gold 2pm-PRC</p>	<p>6 St. Nicholas Day</p> <p>10am-Bible Study 1pm-Shufflers-Library 2pm-Visioning 5pm-Community Dinner 6pm-Advent Study 6pm-Mission at Eckerts</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9am Worship—Youth Service <b>10am-Congregational Meeting</b> 10am Coffee &amp; Doughnuts <b>Fine Arts presents:</b> <b>Metro East Chorale Concert</b> <b>3-5pm</b></p>	<p>12</p> <p>9am-Pickle Ball 10:30-Yoga Gold 7pm-Executive Council</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Poinsettia Day</i></p>	<p>13</p> <p>9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 1pm-Mats for Community 5pm-Community Dinner 6pm-Advent Study</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9am Worship 10am Culinares' Breakfast</p> <p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Hanukkah Begins</i> </p>	<p>19</p> <p>9am-Pickle Ball 10:30-Yoga Gold</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9am-Quilters 5pm-Community Dinner</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Blue Christmas Service</b>   <b>7pm</b>  </p>
<p>25</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CHRISTMAS DAY!</b></p> <p>9am Worship in Heritage Hall</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>	<p>26</p> <p style="text-align: center;">   <i>Kwanzaa Begins</i> </p>	<p>27</p> <p>9am-Quilters 5pm-Community Dinner</p> <p style="text-align: center;">   <i>National Fruitcake Day</i> </p>



**Wed**

**Thu**

**Fri**

**Sat**




1  
10am-Visioning

2  
9:15 am-Pickle Ball  
  
*Special Education Day*

3  
**Fine Arts presents:  
No-Name Chorale Concert  
7pm**

7  
9am-Pickle Ball  
4:30pm-Glory Ringers  
6pm-Chancel Choir  
  
*National Pearl Harbor  
Remembrance Day*

8  
11am-PEO  
2pm-Worship Meeting  
6pm-Building/Safety Meeting  
7pm-Personnel Meeting

9  
9:15 am-Pickle Ball  
  
  
*Christmas Card Day*

10  
10am-Centering Prayer  
  
*Human Rights Day*

14  
9am-Pickle Ball  
1pm-Women's Guild  
5pm-Glory Ringers  
7:15pm-Chancel Choir

15  
6pm-Council Meeting

16  
4:30pm-Hoyleton Youth &  
Family Services party  
  
  
*National Ugly Christmas*

17  
  
  
*National Wreaths Across  
America Day*

21 First Day of Winter  
9am-Pickle Ball  
1pm-Women's Guild  
5pm-Glory Ringers  
7:15pm-Chancel Choir  
*Winter Solstice*

22  
  



23  
9:15 am-Pickle Ball

24  
10am-Centering Prayer  
**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**  
**4:30 pm**  
**7:00 pm**

28  
9:15 am-Pickle Ball  
  
*National Chocolate  
Candy Day*

29

30  
9:15 am-Pickle Ball

31  
**NEW YEARS EVE!**  
  




# Star Tree



The Star Tree will be happening again this year! We will have stars beginning the first week of Advent - Sunday, November 27th. Gifts to be returned by Dec 15th.



If you are unable to come to church, you may send in a monetary donation. \$25 per child is recommended and our Elves will do the shopping.



**St Paul United Church of Christ**



## Senior Pickle Ball

Pickle ball is a combination of tablet tennis, badminton and tennis. This sport is played on an indoor badminton court with a racquet and whiffle ball.

A low impact/ low risk activity:

Mondays & Wednesdays @ 9-11am,  
Fridays 9:15-11:15

**St Paul UCC ACTIVITY CENTER**  
115 W B Street  
Belleville, IL 62220

For more information call St. Clair County Office on Aging: 618-234-4410 ext.



# YOGA GOLD

Mondays at St Paul's UCC 10:30 am-11:30  
115 W B Street  
Beginning October 31, 2022  
Belleville, IL

Bring a mat and Water and Wear cozy cloths

Drop in fee is \$10.00 Punch cards available.

Call Mary Blaies with St Clair County Office on Aging  
234-4410 ext. 7034

Jessica 618-920-0293



St. Clair County Office on Aging

# MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

The following memorials and gifts have been received by St. Paul Church:

## TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

### IMO Michael Eckert

Lynn Koehler  
Jane Bonaldi  
Bobby Lee & Sandra Frerking  
Gail Taylor  
Kyle Biermann  
Howard & Sandy Ritter  
Patricia Pitra  
Gary & Lynn Schwoebel  
T & J Bauer  
Deborah Lippert  
Krista Eckert  
Dean & Linda Juenger  
Theresa Ward  
Jay & Cheryl Vogt  
David & Sheryl Votrian  
Terrence & Danelle Delaney  
Nancy Viehman  
Stephen & Barbar Taylor  
Susan & Craig Anderson  
BTHSW class of 1967  
David & Sandra Martinson  
Raffi Ovia  
Stephenie & Jeffrey Eckert  
Kristine & Lynwood Mueller  
Judith Saeger  
Linda & Tom Fields  
Michael & Mary Guest  
Dr Sandra Highsmith  
Judith Koch  
William Enyart & Annette A Eckert  
Hank's Excavating & Landscaping Inc  
Linda Herrmann  
James & Mary Ann Rafferty  
Mark Kern  
Alec Zaber

### IMO Jack Olsen

Great Southwestern IL Assoc.  
Alison Baltz  
Barney Landry  
Frederic Baltz

### IMO Marilee Black

Kent Black

### IMO Bob Niemeyer

Gay Eckert

### IMO Sandy Pfingsten

Lynn & Luci Bradley



Revenues	2022 Final Budget	2022 October Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
Congregational Offerings	379,198	45,511	314,183	82.85%
MDO Tuition/Other Income	55,110	0	20,601	37.38%
MDO Fundraiser / Memorials	0	0	2,019	N/A
Special Stewardship Events	5,000	0	710	14.20%
Rental Income - 205 W B Street	10,500	850	8,500	80.95%
Building Fund	21,000	1,242	17,651	84.05%
Outreach / Various Missions	0	4,031	31,058	N/A
Memorials	11,000	2,128	10,308	93.70%
Bequests	0	0	0	N/A
Building Income	2,500	100	1,730	69.20%
Pastoral Honorarium	1,200	0	1,050	87.50%
Pastoral Expense Revenue	0	0	(6)	N/A
Investment Income / Michelson Income	14,000	0	26,625	190.18%
Endowment Distribution (per guidelines)	98,500	0	0	N/A
Endowment Distribution (Cap. Exp.)	15,000	0	39,035	260.23%
Other Income	1,200	0	2,032	169.32%
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>614,209</b>	<b>53,862</b>	<b>475,496</b>	<b>77.42%</b>
Team Revenues	6,000	682	7,597	126.61%
Capital Expenses			0	N/A
HH Window Repair & Paint			0	N/A
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>620,209</b>	<b>54,543</b>	<b>483,092</b>	<b>77.89%</b>
Expenses				
Personnel	(301,950)	(21,729)	(212,102)	70.24%
Administrative Support (formerly Operating Expenses)	(53,350)	(2,991)	(42,162)	79.03%
Outreach (formerly Mission Board)	(13,970)	(126)	(17,673)	126.51%
Education (MDO listed separately)	(2,900)	(293)	(2,238)	77.16%
Stewardship	(1,675)	0	(877)	52.35%
Property	(191,043)	(11,706)	(150,686)	78.88%
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Bd)	(18,245)	(261)	(5,059)	27.73%
MDO	(55,110)	0	(28,456)	51.63%
General Fund	0	0	0	N/A
Total Operating Expense	<b>(620,209)</b>	<b>(37,106)</b>	<b>(459,252)</b>	<b>74.05%</b>
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	<b>0</b>	<b>17,437</b>	<b>23,840</b>	



# Anniversaries & Birthdays



## December Wedding Anniversaries

12/14-Richard & Ruth Ann Erdmann

12/15-Bob & Bev Vokes

12/27-Scott & Peggy Burke

## December Birthdays

12/1-Linda Hermann

12/2-Michael Wagner

12/3-Debbie Lippert

12/3-Judith Saeger

12/4-Donna Thomas

12/5-Nancy Scharf

12/6-Robert Yung

12/8-Thomas Mentzer

12/11-Jerilyn Hausmann

12/13-Kathy Buehler

12/14-Walter Beaty

12/15-Carolyn Hazelip

12/16-Bruce Elser

12/16-Lou James

12/19-Patricia Oberholtzer

12/21-Doug Bush

12/27-Carol Hotz

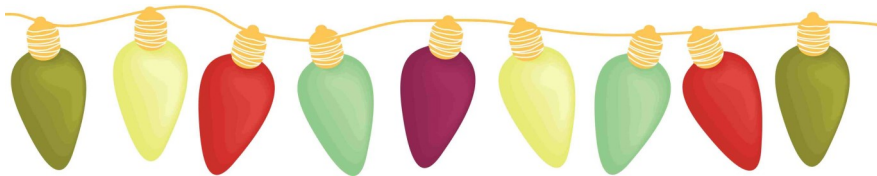
12/30-Linda Minton

12/31-Elvera Juenger

12/31-Dolly Kirsch

12/31-Larry Reeble

12/31-Rose Hoy



### ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

September 2022 Attendance: 9am 304 + Online September 2021 9am: 298 + Online

September 2022 All Gifts: \$32,026.58

September 2021 All Gifts: \$67,207.68

Gifts exclude MDO revenue and endowment distributions, but does include investment income.

# For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman

Carol Hotz

Shirley Martin

Marilyn Dinkelmann

Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline Worms

Scott Schmidt, brother of Steve Schmidt

Brian Sample, nephew of Kathy Birkner

Christopher Mitchell

Steve Schmidt

Darwin Bretsch

Otto Christopher Kennedy, great nephew of  
Scott Lana Gentry

Laura Howie, daughter of Jeanette & Elgee  
Phillips

Betty Rieso

Ethel Klasing, aunt of Jerry Pierce-Heisler

Alec Zaber

Vicky Decker, daughter of Ron Dill

Lynwood Mueller

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to: [pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org](mailto:pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org) or call 618-233-3303.



**Fine Arts presents**

**NoName Chorale Christmas Concert**  
**Dec. 3rd @ 7pm**

**Metro East Community Chorale Christmas Concert**  
**Dec. 11 @ 3pm**

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ST. PAUL UCC - SANCTUARY  
115 W. B ST. BELLEVILLE, IL

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115 WEST "B" STREET, BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618-233-3303

MAIL DATE: **November 30, 2022**

Non Profit  
Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BELLEVILLE, IL  
PERMIT #17

Return Service Requested



Labels Here

### Weekly events

Sundays 9am Worship  
10am Coffee Hour  
Culinaires' Breakfast 3rd  
Sunday of the month.



Watch videos on YouTube:  
<https://www.youtube.com/>



Like us on Facebook  
*St Paul United Church of Christ,  
Belleville, Illinois*

Here is how to stay in touch with St. Paul

1) **Watch the services and check for event updates on FACBOOK -**

Like us at *St. Paul United Church of Christ Belleville, IL*

2) **Go to [stpaulucc.org](http://stpaulucc.org)**

-and you will find: videos of services, sermons, archives, and much more!!

3) **Listen to the radio! 690am**

9am Live Sundays & repeat at 9pm

4) **Sign up for the eNews (Newsletter)!**

### **Flowers, music and bulletin sponsorships**

are a lovely way to honor the memory, birthday or achievement of your loved one. To sign up, you can call the church office. Cost is \$35.00.

Please Let Us Know! Due to a change in Memorial Hospital's record system, we currently are not able to find out who is in their Belleville or Shiloh locations when we call the Belleville-area hospitals each day. Please have someone (you, your family member, or a chaplain at the hospital) let us know when you are at any of the hospitals on either side of the river. Thank you!