

★ Happy
2026
New Year ★

Cheers to new beginnings
and brighter days ahead.



Our St. Paul
January 2026

YOUR St. Paul Team

Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager

Sherry Wilhelm, Office Manager

Kathy Buehler, Bookkeeper

Dr. Tristan Frampton, Director of Music

Cynthia Johnson, Organist

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
stpaulucc.org

Anniversaries & Birthdays

January Wedding Anniversaries

1/3-Roger & Susan Relfe

1/30-Judith & Cecil Crites

January Birthdays

1/1-Rick Haar

1/3-Judith Schuessler

1/7-Paul Sutherland

1/8-Janet Hentze

1/12-Kathy Birkner

1/13-Judith Crites

1/14-Carrie Naylor

1/16-Gloria Strohm

1/16-EJ Sporleder

1/17-Roger Henke

1/18-Osceola Mueller

1/19-JoAnn Elmore

1/21-Cal Guthrie

1/24-Lou Ann Niemann

1/28-Betty Eckert

100 years old!

1/29-Roger Harris

1/31-Andrew Elser

OUR ST. PAUL is published monthly.

Material for inclusion may be sent to the church noted for ***Our St. Paul.*** swilhelm@stpaulucc.org

Next issue: February - **Deadline to submit information: January 20.**

Happy New Year, St. Paul!

The final week of the year is so full of celebrations, before we can turn around, the new year is upon us. The twelve days of Christmas culminate with Epiphany on January 5 or 6, depending on how you count. This season that precedes Lent (which will be here before we know it), invites us to realize exactly what it means that Jesus came into the world at Christmas and grew in wisdom prior to beginning his ministry to the people. This season allows us to again ponder some essential questions of our faith. What does it mean that Jesus came into the world? What does it mean for us to be followers of his Way?

A poem that was later set to music reminds us that after the hustle and bustle of Christmas is over, the work of Christmas is just beginning. The song goes like this:

I am the Light of the World

You people come and follow me.

If you follow and love, You'll learn the mystery

Of what you were meant to do and be.

When the song of the angels is stilled.

When the star in the sky is gone.

When the kings and the shepherds have found their way home.

The work of Christmas is begun!

To find the lost and lonely one,

To heal that broken soul with love,

To feed the hungry children with warmth and good food,

To feel the earth below the sky above!

To free the prisoner from his chains,

To make the powerful care,

To rebuild the nations with strength and goodwill,

To call people your siblings everywhere.

To bring hope to every task you do,

To dance at a baby's new birth,

To make music in an old person's heart,

And sing to the colors of the earth!

Well, friends, we have work to do. What a blessing, though, to be doing it together. As we enter into 2026, remember that all the celebrations should enliven and color our individual daily living, but just as importantly, our covenantal life together, building a more blessed community of faith. Let's roll up our sleeves and do the work of Christmas—together.

Peace and blessings!



SERVE

Ministry Opportunities

Consider joining one of our teams to serve on a Sunday morning in 2026! New Ushers, Greeters, and Coffee Hour Hosts are always welcome to help provide the hospitality we want others to experience at St. Paul. Please call the church office (233-3303 or email Sherry (swilhelm@stpaulucc.org) if interested!

MATS FOR COMMUNITY COMFORT

Please join us!

We could use your help to make mats from plastic bags for people in need!

3rd Tuesday of every month from 1-3pm!

St. Paul UCC

115 W. B. St.

Belleville, IL 62220

618-233-3303 ~ stpaulucc.org



Follow us on ...



VISITING CLERGY

January 4 - Rev. Dr. Chance Beeler

January 11 - Rev. Joan Mier

January 18 - Craig Bielke

January 25 - Rev. Joan Mier

TRÉS CHAMBER MUSIC TRIO
SAT JAN 17 3PM

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
115 W B STREET | BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS



WITH GUEST MIGUEL ZENÓN

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

The 11th Day of Christmas,
January 4th



Celebrate the
Light of the
World

Worship @ 9 AM

Come HOME for
Christmas

In case of inclement weather, please check KMOV channel 4 closings, St. Paul's Facebook page or your email for closing info.



MONDAY FUN-DAY!

4th Monday of every month!

Chair Yoga 6-6:30pm

Yoga 6:30-7pm

Pickleball 6-8pm



St. Paul UCC

115 W. B. Street, Belleville

Enter on 2nd St. at the Activity Center door!

No cost - just a free will offering!

618-233-3303



All are welcome!



Sun	Mon	Tue
		
4 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts Epiphany Sunday 	5	6 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner
11 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts 10am-Mission Meeting 10am-Fine Arts Meeting	12	13 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner
18 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day! St. Paul UCC Closed	20 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 1pm-Mats for Community 5pm-Community Dinner
25 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts	26 6pm-Monday Funday 6:30pm-Griefworks Mtg 	27 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 NEW YEARS DAY! 	2 St. Paul UCC Closed 	3 
7 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir	8 7pm-Personnel Meeting	9	10 
14 Lifeline Screening Event 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir	15 6pm-Council Meeting	16	17 
21 1pm-Women's Guild 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir	22 6pm-Food Pantry Meeting	23	24 
28 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir	29	30	31 



Seekers Adult Bible Study!

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m.
Genesis Room

We are studying Acts chapters 1-6 of the Listen Up series.

We will begin Jan 6, 10:00 a.m.

Each booklet is \$4.95 plus tax.

You can download it as a PDF.

<https://thepilgrimpress.com/products/listen-up-bible-studies>



St. Paul UCC - 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL

www.stpaulucc.org

618-233-3303



GRIEFWORKS

An LGBTQIA+
Grief Support Group

A peer support group for anyone in the LGBTQIA+ community
who has experienced loss and is struggling with grief.

MEETINGS HELD

4TH MONDAY

EVERY MONTH

6:30-8:00 pm

St. Paul UCC

115 W. B Street

Belleville, IL 62220

griefworks2025@gmail.com



**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS!**

WE COULDN'T
DO ALL OF THIS
WITHOUT YOU!





You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

St Paul United Church of Christ
115 West B Street
Belleville, IL 62220

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk Screenings**.

Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone over the age of 40

Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call 888-814-0466 and use
promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA



 **Scan here**

Text the word "circle"
to 216-279-1607

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

IMO Marilee Black

Kent Black

IMO Helen Whicher

Larry Walton

IMO Judith Beisiegel

Diane Drake

Mona Scheibel

Jerry Sauerwein Sr. & Family

Louann Forrlar

Jane Peter

Laura & Ed Cockrell

Dean & Janet Wisely

Sharron Wilson

IMO Clarence Wolf

Dolly Kirsch

Larry Walton

IMO Gus Kuether

Dolly Kirsch

Janet Spencer

Jane Bonaldi

Peggy & Scott Burke

Larry Walton

Ann Wilson

Alec Zaber

Judith Schmidt

Rev Ralph Shultz

Donna Thomas

Al & Nancy Scharf

Dick & Ruth Ann Erdmann

Al & Karen Keuss

Janice Friedrich

Kevin & Donna Wendel

Mona Scheibel

Norma Borgmann

Marlene Mueller

Gloria Strohm

Laura Strohm

Marianne Schmitz

Diane Drake

Beverly Brightwell & Dana

Rosenzweig

Fred & Betty Robinson

Lori & John Schultz

Marlene Lindauer

Carolyn Hazelip

Archie & Amy Garces

IMO Vera Juenger

Donna Davis

George Renner

Terry & Synthia Kalinowski

Tammy Fix

IMO Lynn Bradley

Debbie Lippert (FA)

For Your Prayers

Carol Hotz & Fred Hotz

Tim Ritter

Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter

Lou Ann Niemann

Ralph Eckart, brother in-law of

Marlene Mueller

Mike Llamas, brother in law of Mimi

Llamas

Jennifer Wick, daughter of

Stephenie Bauza

Gene Buxton

Al Stahl

Audrey Krummrich

Rosie Keller

Laura Sadler

Janie Bloomer

Jerry Pierce-Heisler

Mike Foppe

Jerry Messick

Bob Stone, brother of Kathy Birkner

Alec Zaber



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.

REVENUE	2025 Final Budget	2025 Nov Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
130100 - Congregational Offerings	\$351,017.89	\$28,629.00	\$339,336.09	96.67%
130104 - Fund Raising Events*	\$3,000.00	\$2,605.00	\$6,764.54	225.48%
130105 - Rental Income-205 W B St.	\$14,400.00	\$1,260.00	\$13,560.00	94.17%
130500 - Building Fund	\$10,000.00	\$492.00	\$11,276.00	112.76%
130741-BASSC Utilities	\$6,600.00	\$524.60	\$6,372.58	96.55%
1302xx - Outreach (Various Missions #)	\$0.00	\$750.00	\$11,384.00	N/A
130323 - Bank/Paypal Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$593.61	#DIV/0!
131100 - Memorials	\$6,000.00	\$1,940.00	\$15,034.00	250.57%
131200 - Bequests	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$108,500.00	N/A
131300 - Building Income	\$11,000.00	\$1,260.00	\$5,252.00	47.75%
131400 - Pastoral Honorarium	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$800.00	66.67%
131499 - Pastoral Expense Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
131500 - Investment Income /Michelson Income	\$28,400.00	\$0.00	\$29,110.00	102.50%
131600 - Distribution from Endowment (Per Guidelines)	\$131,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
131650 - Distribution from Endowment (Cap. Exp.)	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	100.00%
131800 - Distribution from Endowment (Roof Project)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$182,000.00	#DIV/0!
131900 - Other Income	\$25.00	\$225.67	\$63,378.68	253514.72%
Total Operating Revenues	\$572,642.89	\$37,686.27	\$803,361.50	140.29%
Team Revenues	\$4,360.00	\$2,448.75	\$5,979.76	
Capital Expenses				
Grand Total	\$577,002.89	\$40,135.02	\$809,341.26	140.27%
EXPENSES				
Personnel Expenses	(\$315,884.75)	(\$25,455.97)	(\$282,673.87)	89.49%
Administrative Support (formerly Operating Expenses)	(\$42,220.28)	(\$2,995.87)	(\$41,632.40)	98.61%
Outreach (formerly Mission board)	(\$10,325.00)	(\$13.53)	(\$5,410.09)	52.40%
Education	(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00	(\$426.67)	28.44%
Stewardship	(\$1,350.00)	(\$148.87)	(\$1,438.16)	106.53%
Property	(\$189,897.86)	(\$10,917.15)	(\$528,697.39)	278.41%
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Board)	(\$15,825.00)	(\$1,242.87)	(\$10,550.07)	66.67%
General Fund	-	-	(\$6,000.00)	N/A
Total Operating Expense	(\$577,002.89)	(\$40,774.26)	(\$876,828.65)	151.96%
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	\$0.00	(\$639.24)	(\$67,487.39)	

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Nov-25 9am	442 + Online	Nov-24 9am	469 + Online
Nov-25 All Gifts:	\$40,915.02	Nov-24 All Gifts:	\$42,469.00

St. Paul United Church of Christ
115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220

please join us!



In person on Sundays!

Worship Service - 9am

Coffee & Doughnuts - 10am

Join us live on Facebook

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Go to stpaulucc.org

For videos of services, sermons,
archives, events and much more!!

Sign up for the online weekly
eNews newsletter and
Our St. Paul monthly newsletter!

St. Paul United Church of Christ
115 W. B. Street
Belleville, IL 62220
618-233-3303

Event Rental Space Available!

Label Here