

Our St. Paul

January 2022

YOUR St. Paul Team

Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor
Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager
Sherry Wilhelm, Office Coordinator
Stephenie Bauza, Accountant
Donna Young, Receptionist/Secretary
Evan Wilhelm, Support Staff
Danii Green, Director of
Media & Technology

MDO Staff

Sue Hoffmann, Interim Coordinator of Mother's Day Out (MDO) Deneshia Brock, MDO Teacher Lindsey Davis, MDO Teacher Amy LeGrand, MDO Teacher Nicole McCullough, MDO Teacher Laura Osborn, MDO Teacher Carol Thorn, MDO Teacher

2022 OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 8:30am-4pm

Friday 9am-12pm

Masks Required

Church Office Contact Information: 618-233-3303 stpaulucc.org





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 DEADLINE MAIL DATE
February January 24 January 30

Pastor's Message - Adventures in 2022

I began to write this article about my upcoming surgery. Originally, it was planned for January 19, 2022. I am going to have a hysterectomy as I have had problems with endometriosis for at least 20 years. It was time for me to have this surgery which, if planned, would take care of this health issue for good (or close enough).

As the date of the surgery got closer, our county's Covid positivity rates climbed—10.9% positivity... then 16.7%... then 18.3%... then 22.4%... then 25.4%...

And then I got a call from the surgery scheduler. "All elective (non urgent) surgeries are being canceled. We are going to need to reschedule it."

UGH!

As much as I was NOT looking forward to surgery this month, I was looking forward to having this issue resolved. I planned it beautifully between Epiphany and Lent, filling in the Sundays with preachers and other tasks with our lay leaders; per my doctor, I would be out for four weeks recovering. And yet, when it comes down to it, controlling when this surgery is going to happen is still pretty much out of my hands.

So instead, I'm going to look at this as an adventure. Maybe not the type of adventure we all anticipate like vacations. But knowing that God is bringing me together at the right time with my surgeon, anesthesiologist, nurses, and others. My trust is in God's crafting the healthiest intentions for my life... and maybe creating a lesson in patience along the way.

As James 4, says "you do not know what tomorrow will bring." None of us do—not on surgery days or a super-ordinary Tuesday afternoons. We've adapted well with the unknown during our months of Covid's unchartered territories. We believe that even when we take that step back like we had to do this month, our regression is only temporary. Our hope in God continues to lead us forward with both optimism and realism, and God's light continues to guide us on this unique adventure we never expected in our lives.

I pray that I can have this surgery in the middle of February and that all goes well. And I know that God is with us in the midst of Covid times, surgical adventures, and on superordinary Tuesday afternoons.

May you each have a blessed and healthy 2022!

Blessings, Pastor Michelle

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2021 brought many changes and challenges. The church was able to reopen to in person worship and meetings. The choir was again able to actively participate in worship. We were able to restart coffee and donuts in the post worship fellowship time as well as the monthly breakfast provided by the Culinary Group. Unfortunately, current spikes in Covid infections have put a temporary hold on some events and activities.

The congregation approved the technology improvements for the sanctuary. All improvements have been completed, though there is still some fine tuning in process. The bells are once again ringing regularly. Sound improvements are still pending in Heritage hall as we wait for items on back order to arrive.

The visioning team has selected a leader and the congregation has approved the budgeting and process for boldly going forward as the Church where the guidance of the Holy Spirit leads us.

St. Paul has survived and thrived in spite of the challenges presented. As a congregation we should have pride in our accomplishments, while remembering that without God and the presence of the Holy Spirit, we cannot achieve anything. The challenges that we continue to face can make us stronger as we move forward into 2022 and ask Jesus and God's spirit to continue to guide and shape St. Paul UCC in downtown Belleville.

Steve Schmidt

Annual Reports are due by January 31st!

Please email Sherry.

SWilhelm@stpaulucc.org

Thank you!

Drivers Needed!

We have members in search of a ride to Sunday Worship.
Please contact the office for more information.

618-233-3306 swilhelm@stpaulucc.org

A Covid-19 Guidelines Update for St. Paul United Church of Christ Updated January 3, 2022

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic, the St. Paul United Church of Christ leadership has taken this virus seriously and has followed local, state, and federal guidelines as well as listened to the science informing the public on the need for mitigations.

Due to increasing cases and the Omicron variant, we have made some adjustments to our guidelines.

First of all, we will be canceling all Sunday coffee hours throughout January and February, and the Culinaires' Breakfast will also be canceled on January 16 and February 20.

Secondly, previously scheduled events such as the Trivia Night and Valentine's Day Dinner (both in February) have been canceled for the time being. Our choir and bells will not practice during the month of January and February. Christian Education for all ages will not be held in January. All team meetings in January will be held on Zoom.

Third, we will be reinstituting physical distancing in the sanctuary for worship and wherever possible in our building. We ask that our congregants be seated every-other pew where the blue cushions have been placed.

Masks are mandated at all times while in the St. Paul UCC building (per state guidelines). If you are unable to wear masks over both your nose and mouth, you can watch our service online on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>YouTube</u>, or on <u>our website (stpaulucc.org)</u>. Sunday morning services are also broadcast live on Jubilee 690AM.

It is important that we can continue to have worship in person if possible. By instituting these practices, we believe we can continue to do so safely.

Thank you for your help in keeping the St. Paul United Church of Christ community safe in this new year!

Blessings, Dr. Steve Schmidt, Council President Mimi Llamas, Safety Team Dave Hoffmann, Safety Team Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager & Safety Coordinator



Sun	Mon	Tue
*	HA	PPY
2 9am Worship	National Chocolate Covered Cherry Day	4 9am MDO 9:30am-Quilters 2pm-PRC National Spaghetti Day
9 9am Worship	10 7pm Executive Council	11 9am MDO 9:30am-Quilters
	National Clean Off Your Desk Day	
16 9am Worship	16 OFFICE CLOSED Martin Luther King Day i kayea heam!	18 9am-MDO 9:30am-Quilters
23 9am Worship	24 National Compliment Day	25 9am-MDO 9:30am-Quilters
30 9am Worship	31	
National Croissant Day	National Inspire Your Heart With Art Day	National Hot Tea Month

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NEW	/ YEA	R	2022
5 9am MDO 1pm-St. Paul With You 6pm-Mission	6 9am MDO	7	National Bubble Bath Day
12 9am MDO	13 9am MDO 6pm–Personnel Meeting	14 National Dress Your Pet Up Day	15
19 9am-MDO <i>National Popcorn Day</i>	20 9am MDO 6pm Council Meeting National Cheese Lover's Day	21 National Hugging Day	22
26 9am-MDO	27 9am-MDO	National Have Fun at Work Day	29
***	National Human Trafficking Prevention Month	National Blood Donor Month	

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 Caroline Busse

Stephenie Bauza Gary Buckrod

Bruce & Pam Elser

Dolly Kirsch

Ruth Klingel

Lynn Koehler

Mona Scheibel

Betty Eckert

Dorothy & Gordon Maiworm

Women's Guild

Jane Bonaldi

IMO Joy Horn

Gloria Strohm Ruth Klingel

Jane Bonaldi

IMO Marilee Black

Kent Black

IMO Norma Ulrich

Janet Noble

IHO Pat Kinney & his work

Sheila Kronenberger



Anniversaries & Birthdays



January Anniversaries

1/3 - Roger & Susan Relfe

1/30 - Cecil & Judith Crites



JanuaryBirthdays

1/1-Rick Haar 1/7-Paul Sutherland

1/8-Janet Hentze

1/9-Carson Hopper 1/10-Michael Eckert

1/12-Kathy Birkner

1/13-Judy Crites 1/14-Carrie Naylor

1/14-Robert O'Hara

1/16-Gloria Strohm

1/16 EJ Sporleder

1/17-Roger Henke

1/18-Osceola Mueller

1/19-JoAnn Elmore

1/19-Jack Stokes

1/21-Bernadine Limper

1/21-Cal Guthrie

1/24-Lou Ann Niemann

1/24-David Steen

1/27-Shirley Boeschen

1/29-Roger Harris

1/29-Raymond Keplar

1/30-Deneshia Brock

1/31-McKenna Loving

1/31-Andrew Elser

Revenues	2021 Final Budget	2021 Nov Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
Congregational Offerings	\$400,256.18	\$29,219.01	\$333,472.02	83.31%
MDO Tuition/Other Income	\$81,450.00	5,874.00	48,600.50	59.67%
MDO Fundraiser / Memorials	\$0.00	(375.00)	1,959.00	N/A
Special Stewardship Events	\$3,000.00	765.00	6,467.38	215.58%
Rental Income - 205 W B Street	\$9,900.00	0.00	8,375.00	84.60%
Building Fund	\$20,000.00	1,295.00	19,286.00	96.43%
Outreach / Various Missions	\$0.00	520.00	20,441.27	N/A
Memorials	\$11,000.00	240.00	10,619.40	96.54%
Bequests	\$0.00	0.00	30,000.00	N/A
Building Income	\$0.00	0.00	(198.73)	N/A
Pastoral Honorarium	\$1,200.00	360.00	1,735.00	144.58%
Pastoral Expense Revenue	\$0.00	0.00	5.00	N/A
Investment Income / Michelson Income	\$11,000.00	0.00	29,465.00	267.86%
Endowment Distribution (per guidelines)	\$72,750.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	20.62%
Endowment Distribution (Cap. Exp.)	\$25,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00%
Other Income	\$4,500.00	(28.63)	654.29	14.54%
Total Operating Revenues	\$640,056.18	\$52,869.38	\$525,881.13	82.16%
Team Revenues	\$10,000.00	966.20	7,723.67	
Capital Expenses			\$0.00	
HH Window Repair & Paint			\$0.00	
Grand Total	\$650,056.18	\$53,835.58	\$533,604.80	82.09%
Expenses				
Personnel	(\$319,711.18)	(\$20,526.13)	(\$249,483.80)	78.03%
Administrative Support (formerly Operating Expenses)	(39,400.00)	(2,284.20)	(33,340.58)	84.62%
Outreach (formerly Mission Board)	(14,425.00)	(2,333.71)	(18,751.00)	129.99%
Education (MDO listed separately)	(3,275.00)	100.00	(680.31)	20.77%
Stewardship	(1,425.00)	(160.02)	(2,296.83)	161.18%
Property	(179,215.00)	(9,415.31)	(163,964.35)	93.58%
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Bd)	(15,155.00)	(541.63)	(10,567.99)	69.73%
MDO	(81,450.00)	(4,077.72)	(54,724.31)	67.19%
General Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
Total Operating Expense	(650,056.18)	(39,238.72)	(533,809.17)	82.12%
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	9	\$14,596.86	(\$204.37)	

ST PAUL UCC MOTHER'S DAY OUT PROGRAM ENROLL NOW FOR CLASSES STARTING JANUARY 4TH!

"WE OFFER A CARING AND ENRICHED ENVIRONMENT FOR CHILDREN TO GROW SOCIALLY, EMOTIONALLY, INTELLECTUALLY & PHYSICALLY"

We have openings for School Year 2021- 2022 (midterm) for children ages 3 & 4. Class Times: Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thurday 9:10-12:30



CONTACT OUR MDO COORDINATOR FOR A TOUR AT: (618)233-3303
EMAIL:SUEHOFFMANNMDO@STPAULUCC.ORG



Attn: Grandparents!

If you are taking care of your grandchildren and are in need of some time for yourselves...we are here for you!

St. Paul UCC Prayer List

Gus Kuether Bev Juenger Lori Coleman Karen Zaber

Al Stahl Audrey Krummrich

Carol Hotz Joyce Maurer
Shirley Martin Wayne Caughman
Scott Schmidt, brother of Steve Schmidt
The family of Norma Boyd (Sandy Ritter's

mother)

The family of Rev. Lev Reynolds (Rev. Linda Reynolds' husband)



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please send prayer requests to Pastor Michelle at pastormichelle@stpaulucc.org or call 233-3303

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!

Has your phone #, email or mailing address changed? We will be working on the 2022 Guide Book soon and would like to hear from you with any changes. Please email swilhelm@stpaulucc.org or call the office @ 618-233-3303 to let us know. Thank you!



ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

November 2021 Attendance: 9am 352+ Online 6pm No Late Service

November 2020 9am: All Virtual 6pm: All Virtual

November 2021 All Gifts: \$45,329.57 November 2020 All Gifts: \$54,313.6987 Gifts exclude MDO revenue and endowment distributions, but does include investment income.

115 WEST "B" STREET, BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618-233-3303

MAIL DATE: January 3, 2021

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

Labels Here

Weekly events

Sundays 9am Worship 10am Coffee Hour Culinaire's Breakfast are ON HOLD

We want to know
YOU are here!
Please make sure to sign in on
the pew pad in your pew.

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
- -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)!





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













