



Our St. Paul

March 2025

YOUR St. Paul Team

Rev. Michelle Torigian, Senior Pastor
Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager
Dr. Tristan Frampton, Director of Music
Cynthia Johnson, Organist
Sherry Wilhelm, Office Coordinator
Kathy Buehler, Bookkeeper
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



March Wedding Anniversaries



3/1-Cal & Jeanine Guthrie
3/18-David & Marsha Steen



March Birthdays

3/1-Carly Dahm	3/9-Marsha Steen	3/19-Jan Friedrich
3/1-Eric Gentry	3/12-Darwin Bretsch	3/19-Daniel Friedrich
3/3-Jennifer Mentzer	3/13-Sherry Davinroy	3/22-Bobby Lee Frerking
3/4-Jane Bonaldi	3/13-Donna Wooden	3/27-Connor Dziaba
3/4-Sherri Gericke	3/13-Janet Kniepkamp	3/27-Larry Walton
3/5-Carol Ford	3/15-Carolyn Ryseff	3/28-Donna Davis
3/5-Kathryn Trickey	3/15-Fred Hotz	3/28-Gordon Maiworm
3/5-Claudette Graetz	3/16-Ruth Ann Erdmann	3/31-Sue Sivewright

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**.
Next issue: April - **Deadline to submit information: March 19.**

Pastor's Message - Sabbath and Family

Over the next couple of months, I'll be talking more and more about my sabbatical. These special times of sabbath are recommended to all pastors some time around five to seven years. While St. Paul and I had arranged for this to happen at six years during my call agreement, I delayed by nearly one year as I will be celebrating seven years with St. Paul UCC on July 2. This time of sabbath which will be for approximately three months and one week, will be an opportunity for me to rest, find new ways of being creative, seek God in new spaces, and be reminded of what makes my heart and soul sing. You will have a number of voices preaching during this time, and our congregational lay leaders will be leading my ministerial duties during these months.

When I was working on initial plans for a sabbatical, one question that books and grant applications ask you to name is this: *What makes your heart sing?* Wow! It was this time that I was able to pin down some things that mattered most to me. First and foremost is spending time with the people who matter most to me. This includes my husband Aaron, my mom, members of my family, and friends who live around the country. Looking at family of origin, I realized didn't have too many opportunities to connect to our roots.

My mom's maternal grandparents originated from a place north of London called Leicester. Mom and I have always talked about going there as her mom or uncle never had the opportunity. Once her grandparents left, they never went back. (My great-grandfather did return to Europe when he served in WWI.) This time will give us an opportunity to see the region as well as meet up with at least one cousin who I have never met.

I will also have the time to connect with family when we return to the Niagara region of Ontario later in the sabbatical. Mom is from this area and immigrated when she and Dad got married in 1970. We would return to visit with my grandparents each summer for about a month and then every-other Christmas vacation. After my grandma died in 1994, I have only been back two times. I look forward to this time not only spending time with Mom and Aaron but also with cousins from both sides of the family who live up there. I'm looking forward to exploring the places that hold special memories for my mom and eating at some of my favorite places like the chicken restaurant Swiss Chalet and Avondale Ice Cream.

For all my times of sabbath - whether times of rest each day, a day removing myself from work each week, or a full sabbatical like this one, I am grateful. By changing daily duties and finding new spaces to see God, I look forward to the renewing of my mind, heart, and soul!

Blessings, Pastor Michelle



Pastor Michelle's March office hours

Monday-Thursday 10:30am-2pm

Fridays are my sabbath days.
While I am not in the office or attending
to administrative work, I am available for
pastoral emergencies.



Seekers Bible Study

Tuesdays @ 10am
St. Paul UCC Genesis Room
115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220



Contact Donna Davis for more information. 618-233-3303

MATS FOR COMMUNITY COMFORT

Please join us
on the 3rd Tuesday of
every month from 1-3pm
in the craft room.
Please join us!



ST. PAUL UCC RUMMAGE SALE

115 W. B Street
Belleville, IL
Activity Center (Gym)
(Across from Franklin School)
INSIDE RAIN OR SHINE!



Bake Sale!

Donations of
baked goods accepted!

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

**CONTACT SUSAN RELFE
IF YOU CAN HELP!**

SUSANRELF@OUTLOOK.COM



Donations are accepted **starting on March 17th.**
Drop off hours: Monday & Wednesday from 12-4pm!
or if you do not need help unloading, you can place your
items in the garage by the activity center door Mon-Thurs.
*****PLEASE CALL before you come!*** 618-233-3303**

EASTER GIFTS

There are two ways in which you can share in the Easter celebration. We will be decorating the altar area with assorted spring flowers. You may purchase a spring flower for \$10 each or make a memorial gift donation. All Easter gifts will be listed in the Easter bulletin on April 20th.

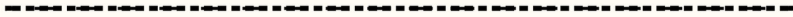


Please mail or drop off your information by April 6th.



The flowers will include a variety of lilies, daffodils, hyacinth, calla lilies & tulips. Flower choices are on a first come basis. You may take a flower home on Easter.

PLEASE INCLUDE THE INFORMATION BELOW WITH YOUR CASH OR CHECK:



In Memory or Honor of:



Given by:



Circle one: Flower or Memorial



St. Paul UCC Fine Arts
series presents



EQUINOX
Chamber Players

Sunday, March 16 @ 3pm
Heritage Hall
St. Paul UCC, 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL
A free will offering is greatly appreciated!



St. Paul UCC
MONDAY FUN-DAY

Our next Monday Fun-day is March 24th from 6-8pm!
We hope to see you!!! Everyone is welcome!

 Chair Yoga 6-6:30, Yoga 6:30-7pm - \$10

 Pickleball - \$5 (bring your own paddle & ball)

 Board Games (bring your own or play Uno!)

  **BRING FRIENDS!!!** 

115 W. B. St., Belleville  stpaulucc.org

Sun

Mon

Tue

M



*Red Cross Month
Women's History Month
MS Awareness Month
Endometriosis Awareness
National Kidney Month*

2 Transfiguration Sunday
9am-Worship
10am-Coffee & Doughnuts

3
10:30am-Yoga Gold

4 **Fat Tuesday**
9am-Quilters
10am-Seekers Bible Study
5pm-Community Dinner
6pm-Murder & Maple Syrup Dinner
National Pancake Day

A



National Anthem Day

9 First Sunday in Lent
9am-Worship
10am-Coffee & Doughnuts
10am-Mission Meeting
2pm-Easter Craft Making

10
10:30am-Yoga Gold

11
9am-Quilters
10am-Stewardship
10am-Seekers Bible Study
4:30pm-Finance Meeting
5pm-Community Dinner

R

Daylight Savings Time!



National Pack Your Lunch Day

16
9am-Worship
10am-Culinaires Breakfast
3pm-Fine Arts Concert
Equinox Chamber

17
10:30am-Yoga Gold



**St. Patrick's Day!
St. Paul UCC's
186th Anniversary!**

18
9am-Quilters
10am-Seekers Bible Study
5pm-Community Dinner

C

23
9am-Worship
10am-Coffee & Doughnuts

24
10:30am-Yoga Gold
6pm-Monday-Funday

25
9am-Quilters
10am-Seekers Bible Study
5pm-Community Dinner
6:30-St. Paul Progress



National Puppy Day



National Cocktail Day

Epilepsy Awareness Day

H

30
9am-Worship
10am-Coffee & Doughnuts

31
10:30am-Yoga Gold

One Great Hour of Sharing
(OGHS) Special Offering



National Crayon Day



Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

<p><i>Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month</i></p> <p><i>National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month</i></p>	<p>United Church of Christ's <i>Women's Week March 1-8</i></p> <p><i>Ramadan March 1-30</i></p>		<p>1</p>  <p>National Peanut Butter Lover's Day</p>
<p>5 Ash Wednesday!</p> <p>7pm-Ash Wednesday Service</p>  <p><i>Lent Begins</i></p>	<p>6</p> <p>10am-Worship Meeting</p> <p>10:30am-Yoga Gold</p>  <p>National Oreo Cookie Day</p>	<p>7</p> <p>PRAY MORE WORRY LESS</p> <p>World Day of Prayer</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>International Women's Day</p>
<p>12</p> <p>6pm-Bells</p> <p>7:15pm-Choir</p>  <p>National Girl Scout Day</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10:30am-Yoga Gold</p> <p>7pm-Personnel Meeting</p>  <p>National K9 Veterans Day</p>	<p>14</p>  <p>National PI Day</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>National Quilting Day</p>
<p>19</p> <p>1pm-Women's Guild</p> <p>6pm-Bells</p> <p>7:15pm-Choir</p>  <p>National Let's Laugh Day</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10:30am-Yoga Gold</p> <p>6pm-Council Meeting</p> <p>HELLO SPRING</p> <p>Spring Begins!</p>	<p>21</p>  <p>National Memory Day</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>National Goof Off Day</p>
<p>26</p> <p>6pm-Bells</p> <p>7:15pm-Choir</p>  <p>National Spinach Day</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:30am-Yoga Gold</p> <p>4-7pm Dine to Donate at Chicken Salad Chick in O'Fallon</p> <p>National Scribble Day</p>	<p>28</p>  <p>National Something on Stick Day</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Vacation</p> <p>National Virtual Vacation Day</p>
			



Please join our St Paul UCC With You Team on Wednesday, March 5th from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. in the Amazing room (big meeting room) for a presentation by Chris Fulton. **"Resources & Assistance; Answers on Aging"**

Some of the topics to be addressed: transportation, Meals on Wheels, senior dining programs, resident advocates in long-term care facilities, legal services and help for grandparents raising grandchildren. This agency serves 7 counties in Illinois.



St. Paul UCC, 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220
618-233-3303 stpaulucc.org

Thank you to all who participated in the 2025 Souper Bowl to benefit the Community Interfaith Food Pantry!

564 POUNDS OF FOOD COLLECTED!

Crafty Mania

Saturday, September 27, 2025
9am-9pm

ST. PAUL CHRISTIAN ED AND WITH YOU TEAM PRESENT . . .

EASTER CRAFT DAY!



SUNDAY, MARCH 9TH FROM 2-4PM!

PLEASE JOIN US IN MAKING CRAFTS FOR OTHERS TO CELEBRATE EASTER!
INTERGENERATIONAL - ALL ARE WELCOME!



Dine to Donate

1128 Merchant's Way, O'Fallon, IL
Thursday, March 27
4-7pm

Join us at Chicken Salad Chick for the restaurant's Dine to Donate. Proceeds will benefit St. Paul UCC.

This is an excellent way to join up with St. Paul friends and bring others along for some fellowship and good food!

When you purchase food, please let the cashier know that you are with St. Paul UCC's Dine to Donate.



Did you know that St. Paul has a vibrant group of laypeople who assist Pastor Michelle minister to members of our congregation who are in need of support during times of illness or transition? It is the With You Ministry Team. We assist by visiting, sending cards, and praying for St. Paul members and friends.

The With You Team meets in person each month for reporting and planning in order to better help those in need. We recently held our February meeting—the first of 2025 thanks to our wintery weather. Here is our report for the second month of the new year.

Five members of our congregation have died since the last meeting of 2024. The group discussed how we have been able to minister to each of these families and made note of one-year anniversaries of those who lost a loved one in the past year. One way that we have honored those who have passed is by taking flowers from their services to make bouquets that are delivered to our shut-ins. We are so grateful to be able to spread cheer in this way.

A group of crafters gathered recently to create 40 “Latte Valentines” on Feb. 2nd. Members of the St. Paul With You Team and Choir Members delivered them to our homebound congregants—again letting those who cannot make it out at all (or often) know that we are *with them*.

The group agreed at our February gathering to welcome **Chris Fulton from AgeSmart Community Resources to speak from 1:00 – 2:00 to our next meeting on Wednesday, March 5. Anyone in the congregation is invited to attend and the regular monthly meeting will follow.** The presentation will focus on the variety of resources available to caregivers. Five visitors were welcomed to our Sunday Services in the past month. Donna Davis greeted them and sent cards—maybe you have had the opportunity to welcome a visitor, too. We look forward to inviting them back and getting to know them better!

Currently, 15 members of our congregation are on our Prayers for Healing list; 13 members are currently on our Continued Support list; and 21 other members reside at Senior Living Communities. *Clearly*, there is ample opportunity to be a supportive presence to these folks and their families.

Your current With You Ministry Team includes Beverly Brightwell, Brett White, Debbie Lippert, Donna Davis, Gus Kuether, Jan Friedrich, Janet Spencer, JoAnn Elmore, Judy Koch, Kathy Liddy, Laureen Torigian, Lou Ryseff, Luci Bradley, Marlene Mueller, Mimi Llamas, Peggy Burke, Ruth Ann Erdmann, Sandy & Wes Krummrich, Sandy Ritter, Sandy Wagner, Stephenie Bauza, Susan Relfe, Terry Kalinowski, and Pastor Michelle Torigian. There is room (and need) for anyone who wants to show loving kindness. If you feel a calling to help care for our members (even if you cannot attend the monthly meetings), please email Susan Relfe at susanrelfe@outlook.com.

Look for our next update in your April OSP!

~ Your St. Paul With You Ministry Team

Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.
(Galatians 6:2)

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

Thank you from St. Paul Church. We appreciate your generosity!
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

IMO Marilee Black

Kent Black

IMO Betty Rieso

Sandy Loeffler
Marlene Lindauer
Diane Drake
Ruth Klingel
Diane & Jim Brierly
Jane Bonaldi

IMO Samuel Sivewright

Michael Caponegro
Rick & Donna Felemonski
Ken & Angie Nettleton

IMO Shirley Boeschen

Ken & Angie Nettleton

IHO Robert Mueller (B-Day)

Marlene Mueller

IMO Jerry Bennett

Luci Bradley
Janet Spencer
Bette Rotert Bennett
Manfred & Lind Driesner

IMO Raymond "Lynn" Bradley

Terry & Syndy Kalinowski
Bruce & Pam Elser
Ken & Angie Nettleton
Donna Davis

IHO Jan Spencer (B-Day)

Gloria Strohm

For Your Prayers

Lori Coleman
Carol Hotz
Marilyn Dinkelmann
Debbie McIntyre, daughter of Arline Worms
Tim Ritter
Wayne Caughman
Tim Ritter Jr., son of Sandy & Tim Ritter
Hector Rivera
Lou Ann Niemann
Cheryl Cooper
Debbie Price
Christopher Mitchell
Sue Sutherland
Audrey Krummrich
Ralph Eckart, brother in-law of Marlene Mueller
James Whitmarsh, nephew of Jan Friedrich
Mike Llamas, brother in law of Mimi Llamas
Norma Franke
Jennifer Wick, daughter of Stephenie Bauza
Jack Snyder
Venita Jane Rogers
Dorothy Maiworm
Jan Friedrich
Sue Kuether
Luci Bradley



The Quilters will be
selling raffle tickets and
Easter table runners in
the Welcome Center on
the following Sundays:
March 16, 23 & 30
April 6 & 13

REVENUE	2025 Final Budget	2025 Jan Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
130100 - Congregational Offerings	\$351,017.89	\$40,904.25	\$40,904.25	11.65%
130104 - Fund Raising Events*	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
130105 - Rental Income-205 W B St.	\$14,400.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	8.33%
130500 - Building Fund	\$10,000.00	\$952.00	\$952.00	9.52%
130741-BASSC Utilities	\$6,600.00	\$559.60	\$559.60	8.48%
1302xx - Outreach (Various Missions #)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
131100 - Memorials	\$6,000.00	\$2,164.00	\$2,164.00	36.07%
131200 - Bequests	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
131300 - Building Income	\$11,000.00	\$267.00	\$267.00	2.43%
131400 - Pastoral Honorarium	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
131499 - Pastoral Expense Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
131500 - Investment Income /Michelson Income	\$28,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
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	\$0.00	0.00%
131900 - Other Income	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Operating Revenues	\$572,642.89	\$46,046.85	\$46,046.85	8.04%
Team Revenues	\$4,360.00	\$322.00	\$322.00	
Capital Expenses				
Grand Total	\$577,002.89	\$46,368.85	\$46,368.85	8.04%
EXPENSES				
Personnel Expenses	(\$315,884.75)	(\$26,020.31)	(\$26,020.31)	8.24%
Administrative Support (formerly Operating Expenses)	(\$42,220.28)	(\$3,511.90)	(\$3,511.90)	8.32%
Outreach (formerly Mission board)	(\$10,325.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Education	(\$1,500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Stewardship	(\$1,350.00)	(\$240.98)	(\$240.98)	17.85%
Property	(\$189,897.86)	(\$16,696.49)	(\$16,696.49)	8.79%
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Board)	(\$15,825.00)	(\$568.09)	(\$568.09)	3.59%
General Fund	-		\$0.00	N/A
Total Operating Expense	(\$577,002.89)	(\$47,037.77)	(\$47,037.77)	8.15%
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	\$0.00	(\$668.92)	(\$668.92)	

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Jan-25 9am	256 +Online	Jan-24 9am	308 +Online
Jan-25 All Gifts:	\$44,233.85	Jan-24 All Gifts:	\$22,204.41

January 5, 2025 NO SERVICE DUE TO SNOW

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!

