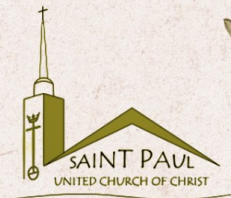


MARCH 2026

**OUR
ST. PAUL**



STPAULUCC.ORG

YOUR St. Paul Team

Patrick Kinney, Facility Manager
Sherry Wilhelm, Office Manager
Kathy Buehler, Bookkeeper
Dr. Tristan Frampton, Director of Music
Cynthia Johnson, Organist
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



March Birthdays

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

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: April - Deadline to submit information: March 20th.

We are in the early days of the season of Lent. The word “Lent” itself points toward the longer days and signs of life we see as winter winds down. Soon, we will feel it more often in the air and see all around us in nature. Life finds a way. Do you believe it?

Our congregational life is an example, too. We gathered for Pancakes and a comedic performance on Shrove Tuesday, and began Lent on Ash Wednesday. Each Sunday of Lent presents us an opportunity to pray, reflect, give, and go-out to serve. Our community needs us, the world needs us to be the church.

This church, our St. Paul, has a mission that has been steadfast—through times of war, of peace, of change, of beginnings, of endings. Here we are in the second quarter of the 21st Century. The state of the word is one that still needs the hope and community our distinct congregation has to offer. Our search for new pastoral leadership is underway. The church profile is being completed. A search committee has been selected. Conversations about the future will drive the process. In the meantime, we will enjoy the different styles of preaching and teaching provided by our rotation of visiting clergy. Our lay leadership will continue to take on more roles of ministry (see the With You update). This season of change is reflected in the season of Lent and where it leads.

Every year, we walk the path with Jesus that leads to his passion and ultimate victory. We travel that path once again. In the process, we will make decisions with hope for the future. The highs and lows of this Lenten season will remind us that just as our individual lives have beginnings, highs, lows, and endings, likewise, our life together as followers of Jesus has the same experiences. The Lenten season will take us to the depths of doubt, despair, and fear. Some of us feel that way as we make moves as a congregation, too. But, friends, the beauty of this is that we already know how the story ends—with Easter. That joy of remembering that life finds a way is the joy that lifts us as individuals and as a community of faith.

Let's take the journey together in the knowledge of how the story ultimately ends.



Our Team continues to be in touch with members who are not able to be with us in person often or at all. This is meaningful not only to those members of our congregation but also to their families as well. It is one of our primary callings as a community of Christ.

We have had the privilege of delivering Valentine greetings and Lenten devotionals to various members in a variety of settings. Know that those valentines made by folks during coffee hour have been received with love and gratitude. Thanks for your help in crafting those heartfelt greetings!

We continue to be responsive to the spiritual needs of all members. The most recent example of that is training just recently completed with our conference minister to deliver home communion to those who wish to receive it due to the inability to be with us in person. The elements will be prayed over and blessed in worship and delivered by members of our team who will celebrate the sacred meal with those who request. Those folks will literally share in the meal with us where they reside. Home communion can be requested from a member of the team or by contacting the church office. While it is always meaningful to share the meal in worship, this ministry will allow those who cannot be with us to still receive the sacrament.

Perhaps you are being called to serve others during the season of Lent. Please contact Susan Relfe (susanrelfe@outlook.com) if you would like to give to this ministry. Our next meeting is March 4 at 1 PM.

Peace for the journey that leads to resurrection!

Your partners in caring,

The With You Ministry Team

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

GOOD
FRIDAY
SERVICE
FRIDAY,
APRIL 3
@ 7:00 PM



115 W. B. ST, BELLEVILLE, IL

Celebrate Easter with us at
St. Paul UCC!

**Easter Sunday
SERVICE**

APRIL 5TH @ 9AM



115 W. B. ST, BELLEVILLE, IL

VISITING CLERGY

MARCH 1 - REV. DR. CHANCE BEELER

MARCH 8 - CRAIG BIELKE

MARCH 15 - REV. JOAN MIER

MARCH 22 - CRAIG BIELKE

MARCH 29 - REV. JOAN MIER



St. Paul Friends



St. Patrick's Day Party

March 13 at the home of Judy Koch & Al Stahl.
The fun begins at 6:30 p.m. at 2345 Slammer Drive.

Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share, your adult beverage of choice and \$10 for "we don't do fundraisers" basket.

Call or email Judy if you'll be there!

618-795-6449

judithkoch@att.net

Everyone is invited!



MAUNDY THURSDAY

A SHARED ECUMENICAL HOLY WEEK GATHERING

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Hosted by:

All Saints Ecumenical Catholic Church
at Trinity UCC Belleville, 47 North Douglas, Belleville
In partnership with: Concordia UCC & St. Paul UCC

5:30 pm - Potluck Dinner

We begin at the table, as Jesus did.
Trinity UCC - Main Course
St. Paul & Concordia - Sides
All Saints - Desserts

All are welcome to join
in fellowship and
abundance

7:00 pm - Worship

Led by Father Mike &
Rev. Tim Powers-Reed
Hand Washing
Holy Communion
Scripture and Prayer
Sacred Song

**A NIGHT OF HUMILITY.
A NIGHT OF UNITY.
A NIGHT TO REMEMBER
CHRIST'S COMMAND:
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**



ALL ARE WELCOME

Seekers Adult Bible Study!

Tuesdays @ 10:00 a.m. - Genesis Room

We are studying ACTS Part 2 of 3 parts
of the Listen Up series.

UPCOMING:

March 3-Acts 8: 26-40
March 10-Acts 9: 1-31
March 17-Acts 10: 1-48
March 24- Acts 12: 1-24
March 31-Acts 15: 1-41



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

St. Paul Women's Guild

Please join us at our next meeting
to see what we're all about!
All ladies are welcome!

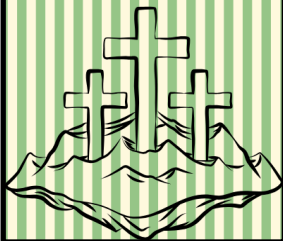
Refreshments ~ Fellowship ~ Fun



We help support
the community
and other missions
with proceeds
from our
Rummage and
Bake Sales!










Treat yourself to
an afternoon out
with old friends
& maybe make a
new friend. We'd
love to have you
join us!

M A R C H



Sun	Mon	Tue
<p>1 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner</p>
<p>8 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts 10am-Mission Meeting 2pm-Pastor Search mtg.</p> <p>Daylight Savings Time</p>	<p>9</p> 	<p>10 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 11:15-Stewardship Mtg 5pm-Community Dinner</p>
<p>15 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts</p>	<p>16</p> 	<p>17 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 1pm-Mats for Community 5pm-Community Dinner</p> <p>St. Patrick's Day!</p> 
<p>22 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm-Monday Funday 6:30pm-Griefworks</p>	<p>24 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner</p>
<p>29 Palm Sunday 9am-Worship 10am-Coffee & Doughnuts</p> 	<p>30</p>	<p>31 9am-Quilters 10am-Bible Study 5pm-Community Dinner</p>

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>4 1pm-With You 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> 
<p>11 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir</p>	<p>12 7pm-Personnel Meeting</p>	<p>13 St. Paul Friends St. Patrick's Day Party 6:30pm</p> 	<p>14</p>
<p>18 1pm-Women's Guild</p> 	<p>19 6pm-Council Meeting</p>	<p>20 First Day of Spring!</p> 	<p>21</p>
<p>25 6pm-Bells 7:15pm-Choir</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
			

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 5th.



Please mail or drop off your information by March 23rd.



The flowers will include a variety of lilies, daffodils, hyacinth & 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



Please consider being a coffee hour host !

It takes about 15-20 min to set up. Our guests arrive about 10:00. Better to have their coffee ready at that time. Last coffee call no later than 11:00, if not sooner. Takes about 20-25 min to clean up. Printed instructions are available. Assistance is always available.

Contact the office to sign up!



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!

Follow us on ...



MONDAY FUN-DAY!
4th Monday of every month!
Chair Yoga 6-6:30pm
Yoga 6:30-7pm
Pickleball 6-8pm




Puzzles and Board Games Available!

Bring your friends!

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

A free will offering is happily accepted.
Free! All are welcome!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE 2026 SOUPER-BOWL OF CARING!

292 POUNDS OF FOOD COLLECTED!



Community Interfaith
 Food Pantry




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




The Community Interfaith Food Pantry needs:
 Paper and plastic bags and egg cartons!
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
 Please call Lisa Riess
 618-973-4922.

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



GUIDEBOOK 2026

HAS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGED SINCE LAST YEAR? Please contact the office if your phone number, address or email has changed. Thank you!
618-233-3303 or swilhelm@stpaulucc.org

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 Judith Beisiegel

Jeanette Sporleder

IMO Nancy Viehman

Donna Davis

Jane Bonaldi

Betty Eckert

IMO Terry Hoefle

Donna Newlands

Claudette Graetz

The Graetz Family



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

Gene Buxton

Al Stahl

Audrey Krummrich

Rosie Keller

Laura Sadler

Mike Foppe

Alec Zaber

Lindsay Eversmeyer, niece of Pam
Nicholson

Jane Bonaldi



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	2026 Final Budget	2026 Jan Actuals	YTD Actuals	% of Budget
130100 - Congregational Offerings	\$352,648.00	\$33,788.00	\$33,788.00	9.58%
130104 - Fund Raising Events *	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
130105 - Rental Income-205 W B St.	\$15,120.00	\$1,260.00	\$1,260.00	8.33%
130500 - Building Fund	\$10,000.00	\$87.00	\$87.00	0.87%
130741-BASSC Utilities	\$6,900.00	\$511.16	\$511.16	7.41%
1302xx - Outreach (Various Missions #)	\$0.00	\$220.00	\$220.00	N/A
130323 - Bank/Paypal Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
131100 - Memorials	\$8,000.00	\$950.00	\$950.00	11.88%
131200 - Bequests	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
131300 - Building Income	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
131400 - Pastoral Honorarium	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
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)	\$171,710.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
131650 - Distribution from Endowment (Cap. Exp.)	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
131900 - Other Income	\$0.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	#DIV/0!
Total Operating Revenues	\$612,778.00	\$36,830.16	\$36,830.16	6.01%
Team Revenues	\$4,677.27	\$236.50	\$236.50	
Capital Expenses				
Grand Total	\$617,455.27	\$37,066.66	\$37,066.66	6.00%
EXPENSES				
Personnel Expenses	(\$357,080.60)	(\$16,482.10)	(\$16,482.10)	4.62%
Administrative Support (formerly Operating Expenses)	(\$36,643.47)	(\$2,901.89)	(\$2,901.89)	7.92%
Outreach (formerly Mission board)	(\$9,500.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Education	(\$1,500.00)	(\$4.96)	(\$4.96)	0.33%
Stewardship	(\$1,200.00)	(\$247.91)	(\$247.91)	20.66%
Property	(\$193,631.20)	(\$20,823.35)	(\$20,823.35)	10.75%
Congregational Care (formerly Worship Board)	(\$15,900.00)	(\$683.86)	(\$683.86)	4.30%
General Fund	(2,000.00)	-	\$0.00	N/A
Total Operating Expense	(\$617,455.27)	(\$41,144.07)	(\$41,144.07)	6.66%
Difference between Revenue & Expenses	\$0.00	(\$4,077.41)	(\$4,077.41)	

ATTENDANCE & OFFERINGS

Jan-26 9am 247 + Online Jan-25 9am 256 + Online

Jan-26 All Gifts: \$37,066.66 Jan-25 All Gifts: \$44,233.85

Please join us!



In person on Sundays!

Worship Service - 9am
Coffee & Doughnuts - 10am

Join us live on Facebook

St. Paul United Church of Christ

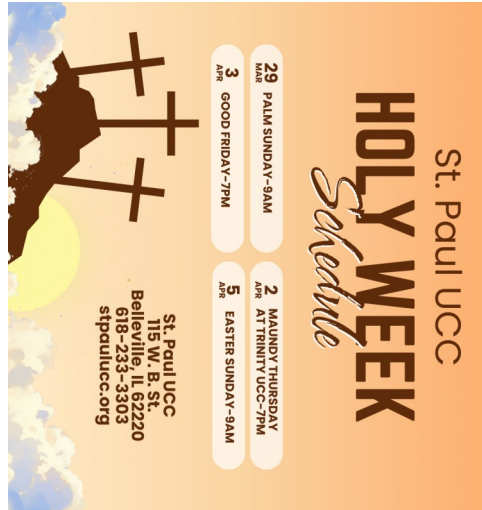
Go to stpaulucc.org

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

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115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220