

September

Worship Leaders

September 6 - Rev. Joan H. Mier

September 13 - Rev. Joan H. Mier

September 20 - Craig Bielke

September 27 - Craig Bielke

SEPTEMBER

Coffee Hour Host Schedule:

September 6 - Pam Nicholson

September 13 - Donna Davis

September 20 - Zoey Davenport

September 27 - Mona Scheibel

Please consider being a coffee hour host !

It takes about 15-20 min to set up. Have coffee ready by 10:00 a.m. Last coffee call 11:00 a.m. Printed instructions & assistance are always available.

Contact the office or Donna D. to sign up!

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This worship service is live streamed and recorded.



YouTube



For Your Prayers

Carol Hotz & Fred Hotz
The Ritter family, Tim, Sandy & Tim Jr.
Lou Ann Niemann

Al Stahl

Laura Sadler

Alec Zaber

Jane Bonaldi

Paul Sutherland

Our Pastor Search Committee
Cathy Blaies and family (Mike's sister)
Sylvia, sister of Luci Bradley
Rich Wilburn and his family,
son-in-law of Stephenie Bauza

Gay Eckert

Larry Walton

Jane Peters, sister of Jerry Pierce

Bette Ettling

The Gentry family

Wes Krummrich

Dorothy Maiworm

Daniel Holtzclaw, friend of the Birkners

The loved ones of David Elmore

Please call the office for prayer requests. 618-233-3303

Weekly Offerings 9/5/2026

Operating \$ 4,875.00

Building Fund \$ 5.00

\$ 4,880.00

Giving YTD \$ 259,182.43

Weekly Budget \$ 6,974.00

Budget to Date \$ 244,090.00

Total Budget \$ 362,648.00

Weekly Attendance - 9AM Service

August 30, 2026 69 + Online Participants

August 31, 2025 88 + Online Participants

St. Paul UCC

"No matter who you are,
No matter where you
are on life's journey,
You are welcome here."



stpaulucc.org

Welcome

Sunday, September 13, 2026 ~ 9am
16th Sunday after Pentecost



TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Supply Pastor **Rev. Joan H. Mier**
Director of Music **Dr. Tristan Frampton**
Organist **Cynthia Johnson**
Liturgist **Karen Keuss**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Meditation
by Flor Peeters

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in this place that is like “dry land,” a place where we can walk firmly towards the altar of our God.

People: This place of worship is a solid footing on our faith walk; a place where we can share the love of God together, and the joys and sorrows of life.

Leader: How blessed we are to have a Savior who guides us on the right path, leading us toward eternal life with our God.

People: How grateful we are to have Jesus in our lives, inviting us to follow in his footsteps, leading us to the solid sacred spaces that God provides for us.

ALL: Thanks be to our awesome Lord, a guide and a light on our faith journeys.
Amen

*INVOCATION (Unison)

Guide us O’ Lord our God to the places that are part of the firm foundation of our faith. As we walk a little closer to you, direct our feet on the pathway that you have set for us. Let your Spirit coax us and direct us to the “dry land,” the solid ground we are called to stand on. Let us, now, stand ever closer to you, we pray in your holy name. **Amen**

PASSING THE PEACE

peace
BE WITH YOU

Crafty Mania

Saturday, September 26, 2026 - 9am-8pm

Join us for a full day of crafting fun! Bring your favorite projects, share ideas with other crafters, and enjoy hours of creativity, inspiration, and handmade creations.



Raffle Baskets and 50/50



NEW: A SWAP (share with another person) table will be available for craft items you would like to trade!

Cost: \$45 for the day : lunch is included.

Dinner will be available for an additional \$10.

St. Paul UCC - 115 W. B. St., Belleville, IL 62220

(Enter on C. St. through the Activity Center)

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

Proceeds to benefit organizations outside our church in the greater Belleville area.

Name & address: _____

Phone & email: _____

I want to sit by: _____

Call for questions or more information: 618-233-3303

Reservations and payment are due by : September 21st!

St. Paul UCC Fine Arts Presents
A Piano Recital by
Dr. Stephen Mager
Friday, Sept. 25, 2026, at 7:30 p.m.

The concert is free and open to the public.
A free will offering will be received.

St. Paul United Church of Christ
115 West B Street, Belleville, Illinois 62220
618-233-3303 stpaulucc.org

St. Paul Women's Guild

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

**Our September 16th
Meeting is at
Tavern on Main
1pm**



Refreshments ~ Fellowship ~ Fun

save THE Date!

FRIDAY, OCT. 23RD @ 6 PM



**BIG PAPA G'S
MUSIC TRIVIA
@ ST. PAUL UCC**

- **ROUND SPONSORS NEEDED - \$100!**
- **AUCTION BASKET RAFFLE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**
- **ROUND JUDGE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

115 W. B. St. Belleville, IL 62220 (618) 233-3303 www.stpaulucc.org

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 405

1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than Je - sus' blood and
 2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I rest on his un -
 3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood, sup - port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, O may I then in

right - eous - ness; I dare not trust the sweet - est frame, but
 chang - ing grace; in ev - ery high and storm - y gale, my
 whelm - ing flood; when all a - round my soul gives way, he
 him be found: dressed in his right - eous - ness a - lone, fault -

whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 an - chor holds with - in the veil. On Christ, the sol - id Rock, I stand: all
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be - fore the throne.

oth - er ground is sink - ing sand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

WORDS: Edward Mote (1797-1874)
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury (1816-1868)

OPENING HYMN

411 How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,
 4 "When through fier - y tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 5 "The soul that on Je - sus still leans for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in his ex - cel - lent Word!
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;
 the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;
 I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can he say than to you he has said,
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 for I will be with you in trou - ble to bless,
 the flame shall not hurt you, I on - ly de - sign
 that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.
 your dross to con - sume, and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

WORDS: Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787, alt.; vss. 2-5 para. Isaiah 43:1-5
 MUSIC: Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832

PRAYER FOR REFLECTION AND RECONCILIATION

Pastor: When we earnestly speak to the Lord, it is like walking a little closer to him, walking so close that we can feel his sacred breath upon us. Take time now to speak to Jesus. Breathe in his forgiving Spirit, exhale the iniquities of your life. Allow yourself to feel wrapped in a blanket of love and forgiveness. As I cannot put words into your mouth in regard to what you need to say to God, I can only welcome you into this sacred moment and then, afterward, I am blessed to offer the Words of Grace.

Silent Confession and Reconciliation

WORDS OF GRACE

Allow yourself to be humbled by the amazing grace and forgiveness of our God. In our humanness, it is easy to stumble into “quicksand,” sinking deep in the mire of sin, but our merciful Lord reaches for us and lifts us up out of the traps in which we easily fall. Thanks be to our merciful, loving and forgiving Savior. **Amen**

ANTHEM *With a voice of singing*
by Martin Shaw
Sanctuary Choir

SCRIPTURES	Exodus 14:19-31	Karen Keuss
	Romans 14:1-12	Karen Keuss
	Matthew 18:21-35	Rev. Joan H. Mier

SERMON	Quick Sand or Dry Land	Rev. Joan H. Mier
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PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.

REFLECTION ON GIVING
Through our gifts that we freely give in the name of Jesus, we can offer others who are struggling to walk on “dry land,” a solid foundation with Jesus as the cornerstone. Let us give generously in his blessed name. **Amen.**

RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS AND OFFERTORY MUSIC
Simple Gifts
Traditional Shaker Melody
arr. Mark Hayes

***DOXOLOGY** (Tune: Old Hundreth)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ in who God’s grace we know
Praise Spirit, with us evermore
One God, true, whom we adore. Amen

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Unison)
Blessed Lord, our hope is in you. When the path seems dim and scary, we know that we can turn to you and seek your guidance. Let your footsteps be our guide in helping others to walk toward you. Let these love gifts, blessed by you, lead all of us toward our beautiful home with our God. Let it be so. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN	<i>My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less</i>	(see page 6)
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***COMMISSIONING**
Go forth, beloved in Christ, and always seek to walk upon the “dry land,” the firm foundation that the Lord has placed before you. Invite others to walk on this sacred journey with you, side-by-side, followers of Christ together, for we are stronger in our faith when we walk together. **Amen**

***BENEDICTION**
May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you to guide you and direct you on the path he has chosen for you, and may you feel him watching over each step that you take, today and every day. **Amen**

POSTLUDE *Finale in D minor*
by Eric H. Thiman

