



The Scribe

St. Paul UCC

144 E Palatine Road, Palatine IL 60067

(847) 358-0399 www.stpaul-ucc.org

February 2016 Edition

Monthly
Newsletter

Pastor's Pen...

A special request: Please hold on to your January 2016 *Scribe* and keep it on hand for easy reference – especially as it pertains to my “Pastor’s Pen” on the first page. I am asking this of you not because I think that my letters are anything special, but because this particular one I would rather not have to keep rewriting. It is a timeless explanation of what I believe about the church. Since I have been asked to spell that out, there it is in black and white.

As I sit here and write this one, the congregation of St. Paul is engaged in a series of cottage meetings where they have a forum to lay out what they believe about church; what the church is and what it should be doing. At some point in the near future, all of that input will be collected and brought to the table for discernment.

In whatever direction our collective visioning takes us, I am hoping that the cause of Christ will be the driving motive behind it. Desiring to know Christ and to make Christ known is the overall basic purpose of the church, and it has remained unchanged for over two thousand years.

There are a lot of different things that we can be doing. There is no one, single blue print for how a local church may engage with the world around it. It’s no accident, therefore, that a local church has on its roster a wide array of personalities, passions, and particulars! (Peculiarities, too!)

I’ve always said that Christianity is kind of like Baskin Robbins: It comes in many different colors and flavors, but underneath the substance is still the same. Our common denominator is Christ crucified and risen. Our numerators, though, are as numerous as we are.

Now...besides all of that, want to know something else? God loves us all!

Pastor David

John 3:16
For GOD so loved the
world, that he gave his only
begotten SON, that whosoever
believeth in him should
not perish, but have
everlasting
LIFE.

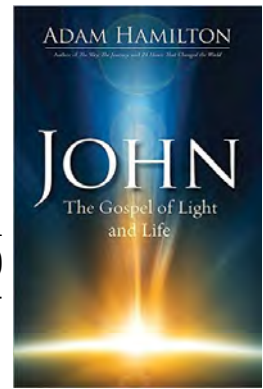


St. Paul UCC Executive Board Members: Bernadette Chvoy, Randy Everett (Admin. Board Rep.), Kim Ferris, David Freeman, Arlene Kraus (Spiritual Life Board Rep.), David Mercer (Staff Rep), and Chuck Oberly (Admin. Board Rep).

**NEW ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SERIES
BEGINNING ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 15TH**

"John: The Gospel of Light and Life."

Have you ever wanted to read your way through an entire book of the Bible but lacked access to a group to do that with? Here is your chance! On six consecutive Mondays (February 15, 22, and 29. March 7, 14, and 21) we will meet for reading out of the Gospel of John, a short DVD presentation featuring Methodist Pastor Adam Hamilton, and discussion among group participants. To get the most out of this, participants are encouraged to read from John's Gospel at home between sessions. Don't worry, though -- there won't be any tests or quizzes! This isn't a confirmation class. It's just a way for some adults to get together and drink from the always fresh waters of Scripture! This is a BYOB event -- bring your own Bible. (*Bibles will be on hand in case you forget yours.*) You have a choice of the morning session 10:00-11:00am, or the evening session 7:00-8:00pm. RSVP is appreciated, but not absolutely necessary. Just come...and bring a friend if you'd like.



Monday February 15th -- "The Word Made Flesh" 10-11am & 7-8pm
Monday February 22nd -- "The Miraculous Signs of Jesus" 10-11am & 7-8pm
Monday February 29th -- "The I AM Sayings of Jesus" 10-11am & 7-8pm
Monday March 7th -- "The Farewell Discourse" 10-11am & 7-8pm
Monday March 14th -- "The Arrest, Trial, and Crucifixion of the King" 10-11am & 7-8pm
Monday March 21st -- "Eternal Life" 10-11am & 7-8pm



Pastoral visitation is available to those who are hospitalized, temporarily laid up at home, or going through rehab at a facility. Because hospitals and other institutions do not notify the church when a patient is admitted, we need for you or your family member to notify us. We will be more than happy to accommodate your request for pastoral care. Please note also that the pastor may be reached for emergencies at [\(847\) -963-6114](tel:847-963-6114) (home) or [\(847\) -445-7248](tel:847-445-7248) (cell phone).

Pastor David's procedure in visiting St. Paul's shut-ins, as well as, those members who have a difficult time getting to church is to offer support, bring Holy Communion (their option) and to let them know we journey together in worship. Pastor David understands that scheduling may depend on frequency of doctor's appointments or the church member's schedule. Visitation is always available, however, as the shut-in member's health and life situation may change and more extensive pastoral care is needed. Any church member or their family member desiring more frequent pastoral visitation, or to be placed on the visitation list in the first place should contact the church office at [\(847\)-358-0399](tel:847-358-0399) to make arrangements.

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14)



FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENT

St. Paul has reserved 20 spots in a packing event on Saturday March 5th at the FMSC location in Schaumburg. Please contact Greg Mayer or the church office if you would like to participate. There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall.

When: Saturday, March 5th

Where: 1072 National Parkway, Schaumburg, IL.

Time: 4:30 – 6:30 PM

BRING A FRIEND!



Chili and Dessert Cook Off

The annual mission trip Chili and Dessert Cook Off is being held on Saturday, February 6th at the Lutheran Church of Martha and Mary located at 60056 W Golf Rd, Mt Prospect from 5:00 to 8:00 pm.

The team will be returning to Haiti this February to provide medical care, Bible worship activities and other highly needed support services. Please consider supporting the team by submitting a chili and/or dessert as a contending winner and attending this fun fundraising event. The team would also appreciate any donations suitable for silent auction and /or a raffle. Items would have to be new, unused items. Please see Debbie Everett for further information or questions if needed.



Ladies, are you looking for a relaxing weekend away? Then join us for our annual Women's Retreat April 8,9,10 on the shores of Lake Michigan at Tower Hill Camp. Watch for more information in the March Scribe and upcoming announcements, but mark your calendars now!

Happy February Birthdays!



2 Gene Morgan
5 Justin Everett
6 Courtney Conrad
6 Brandon Doktor
11 Marty Kennelly Jr
11 Megan Martin
14 Tim Doktor
14 Ellen Magee

19 Karl Bethke
19 Shirley Kolze
19 Lynn Arnold
23 Lyman Walter
24 Donna Bochat
25 Nancy Perry
26 Lois Roesner
27 Brad Gillette
27 Erik Bethke

If there is anyone I missed, please call the church office,



Beverly Enockson in memory of Joe Enockson

"Thank you, everyone, for your thoughtfulness and well-wishes on the occasion of my 99th birthday! The cards, telephone calls, flowers, and cake were all so very nice & made me feel loved!"

-- Ethel Baumann





OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

St. Paul is a member of the PFA (Palatine Faith in Action) which is a group of Palatine churches determined to make a difference right here in Palatine, particularly in the areas of Youth and Hunger. We have identified a number of opportunities where you can put your faith in to action.

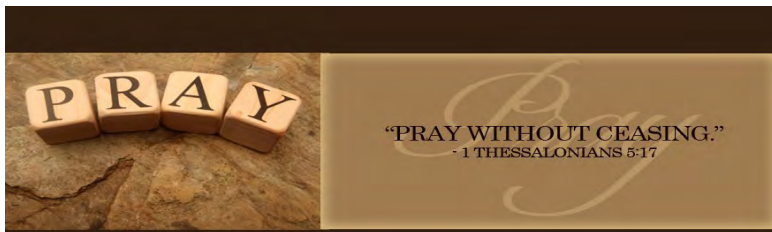
Volunteers are needed to participate in the 'Blessings in a Backpack' program at both Jane Adams and Virginia Lake schools. This program provides food for students to take home on the weekend if they do not have a stable food source. Shifts are from 2:45 pm to 4:15 pm on Thursday afternoons at each of these two schools. Volunteers rotate shifts, so you don't have to volunteer every week. If interested, contact Annette Bonneville at 847-989-5064.

Winston Community School Volunteers. Palatine District 15 and Palatine Opportunity Center are starting a Community School Program Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at Winston Jr. High to benefit students and parents. They are looking for volunteers with skills and passions in any of the following areas: math tutoring, computer lab, piano, art, science, sports, game systems and English conversation. Math tutors are needed from 2:30-5:30pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. All other volunteers are needed 4:30-6:30 pm Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Volunteer any day and frequency that works for you! Please contact Kathy Millin at 847-776-900 if you are interested.

Please get involved if you are able!!!

*Thank you to all who donated food
for the Confirmation Class's
Cooking for Pads event!*





PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Dr. Sean Benham
 Charlie Betzhold
 Donna Bochat
 Jim & Flo Dailey, friends of Charlotte Mally
 Marta Davy, friend of Greg & Claudia Mayer
 Lindsey Demos
 Joe Enockson
 Gehlin Family, friends of the Drost Family
 Laura and Bob Giltzow
 Francisco Gomez, friend of Bob & Pat Kolze
 Austin Hayford, grandson of Ralph & Linda Hayford
 Rudy Hempel
 Carol Hennings, sister of Pat Kolze
 Larry Herron
 Jeff Johnson
 Charles Leseberg, brother of Mary Ann Leseberg
 Christopher Macahon, friend of the Faust Family
 Dorothy Mende, sister of Charlotte Mally
 Tom O'Malley Family, friends of Ralph & Linda Hayford
 Caelen Peshek, friend of Kris Freeman
 Dorothy Regan Drake, friend of Bob & Pat Kolze
 Sherry Stephens, sister of Shirley Ann Kolze
 Riley Stencel, great-niece of Greg Mayer
 Trish Vanderploeg, friend of Kim Cichon
 Fran Werner, sister-in-law of Sharon Florey
 Jan Foster Weston & Jim Weston, sister & brother-in-law of
 Sue Gould

SERVING CHRIST IN WORSHIP

Greeters for February:

7: Mary Ann Leseberg
14: Dee Langguth
21: Arlene Kraus
28: Gloria Helms

February Usher Captain:

Chuck Oberly

February Lectionary:

7: Ex 34:29-35; Psalm 99; 2 Cor 3:12-4:2; Luke 9:28-43.
10: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Isa 58:1-12; Psalm 51:1-17; 2 cor 5:20b-6:10; Matt 6:1-6,16-21.
14: Deut 26:1-11; Psalm 91:1-16; Rom 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13.
21: Gen 15:1-12,17-18; Psalm 27; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35; Luke 9:28-43a.
28: Isa 55:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8; 1 Cor 10:1-13; Luke 13:1-9.



Donating blood

In the United States, someone needs donor blood every two seconds. That's what makes donating blood so important! While 38 percent of Americans are eligible to donate blood, only 5 percent do so.

During the winter months, the available blood supply drops. Donors often have difficulty getting to blood centers due to illness, travel or weather conditions. Unfortunately, sick and injured people can't wait for the roads to clear or the temperature to rise before they need transfusions. Donors of all blood types are needed throughout the year.

Here are some facts about donor blood types from the Red Cross:

The most common blood type is Type O Positive. It is also the most common type requested by hospitals.

Type O Negative is a rare blood type: Only nine percent of the population has it. It is also the "universal donor" and can be transfused into anyone.

Type AB Positive plasma can likewise be transfused into anyone.

Here are some ways faith communities can promote blood donations:

Host a blood drive: The American Red Cross and Life Source work with organizations to organize on-site blood drives.

Carpool: If there are people in your congregation who want to donate blood but don't like to drive in bad weather, organize a carpool to the local blood center.

Volunteer: Congregants who can't donate blood due to medical or other issues can still volunteer at blood centers and blood drives.

Announce the need: Many people may not be aware that there is a great need for blood donations in the winter months. You can announce this need in bulletins, newsletters and group meetings.

Winter sports and brain injuries

Winter sports such as ice skating and skiing are a great way to keep active during the colder months. But these sports can also put you and your family at risk of traumatic brain injuries (TBI). In fact, the American Academy of Neurology states that 20,000 of the 300,000 brain injuries that occur each year happen while the sufferer is participating in winter sports. TBIs can occur when someone falls and hits his/her head or is struck in the head by an object.

Head injuries should never be ignored, and children and adults who suffer a head injury should seek medical attention immediately. TBIs can have a long-lasting impact on a person's health and, in serious cases, can lead to permanent impairment or death.

Special care should be taken when participating in winter sports. Both children and adults should wear a protective helmet, and, if it is damaged during an accident, they should replace it with a new one. People who exercise outside should also be careful: Sidewalks and streets are slippery, increasing the chance of falls for walkers, runners and cyclists.

There are several things that faith communities can do to help prevent TBIs. These include:

Require head protection for participants in sports and activities.

Contact medical professionals immediately when someone at a congregational activity suffers a head injury.

Take care of the community's property to reduce the risk of falls.

Clear and salt sidewalks and steps during the winter.

If snow or ice is present, establish a volunteer group to assist those needing help walking to and from their cars safely.

Both clergy and lay leaders can educate themselves about traumatic brain injury and its effects on individuals and families. For both, living with TBI is a challenge. Congregations can provide a strong support system and an inclusive community for these individuals.

Sanctuary 77 Fundraiser



The Administrative Board invites you to participate in the final fundraiser for the Sanctuary Improvement Fund.

Starting Sunday, February 28th we will have a board set up in Fellowship Hall labeled Sanctuary 77. Envelopes labeled 1 through 77 will be attached to the board. Each number represents the donation amount. You can pick any number or quantity that you'd like, whether it be a lucky number, a number that fits you well financially, or a number that may have special meaning to you. \$3,003.00 will be raised if all the envelopes are chosen!

To participate, simply remove the envelope/s from the board and return it to the church office.

This fundraiser will begin on February 28th and run through Easter Sunday, March 27th. For added fun, five random envelopes contain \$10.00 Dairy Queen gift cards, purchased through our Wachs Scrip program.

Please consider taking a number and possibly winning a delicious treat at the same time. In the long run, we all win, as we will be able to complete the paint and carpet project to beautify and update our sanctuary. Thank you!

Women's Fellowship Saturday, February 13th at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall

All St. Paul women are invited to gather with us on Saturday morning, February 13th at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. We are a fun, friendly group of multi-generational women sharing fellowship, laughter and a love of learning and exploring new venues and topics. Think "New Year's Resolutions" and bring something that "needs finishing" in your lives. We all have some sort of project that we keep looking at (or maybe it is tucked away so you don't see it regularly) and meaning to work on and eventually complete. Saturday, February 13th will provide an opportunity to do just that, whatever the medium--scrapbooking, knitting, sorting, sewing, drawing, crocheting, any form of handwork or other project. We will look forward to seeing what project YOU want to make some progress on! Plan to bring an unfinished project of any sort and work on it and enjoy the fellowship of other St. Paul women as they cheer on your efforts. Bring your own lunch.

On March 12th, Sandy Gumm will be leading us in making a beautiful basket. She showed us samples this fall. We will need to know if you intend to make a basket so we can order supplies. Please plan to sign up by February 6th in Fellowship Hall. You need to indicate which of two baskets you would like to make when you sign up. There will be a materials cost for the basket-making supplies. If you have done this before, you know you will leave with a beautiful hand-crafted basket. If you have not made a basket under Sandy's guidance, please join us! You will be astounded at what you can do with a bit of reed!





The Community Outreach Committee will be collecting filled EAST-ER BASKETS for local children whose families struggle to assist the Easter Bunny and \$25 GROCERY STORE GIFT CARDS for each of these families to help pay for their Easter dinner.

You may sign up in Fellowship Hall after worship **February 14th and 21st** to donate an Easter Basket OR a \$25 Grocery Store Gift Card for this Palatine Township program.

If you would like to donate a grocery store gift card, please consider purchasing this gift card (along with any others for yourself for retailers where you shop or dine) from the Scrip Program February 14th. A percentage of all Scrip purchases you make go to the Wachs Fund here at St. Paul. The Scrip Program is a simple way to make sure your everyday and gift purchases benefit many others just by doing your regular shopping using the prepaid cards. It is nice to know that every time you purchase groceries, gas, services, clothing, meals out, toys and other personal items that a percentage of what you spend goes directly to help others in our church family and Palatine community through St. Paul's Wachs Fund at no additional cost to you. Please consider taking a look at the Scrip Vendor List. We are sure you will realize just how many of the grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations, specialty retailers, and services on the list that YOU purchase items, meals or gas from each and every month. If more of St. Paul's members made the purchases they make every month by using Scrip, we could easily contribute over \$1000 a month to the Wachs Fund without spending an extra dime.



The Blessings of God Bloom on Easter Morning

It is so nice to adorn our Sanctuary on Easter morning with flowers. If you wish to order a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please fill out the order form below and return it to the church office along with your check, made payable to St. Paul UCC. (There are also forms available in the Narthex.) Any questions, please contact the church office at 847-358-0399. Thank you!

___ Lily (\$15.50) ___ Hyacinth (\$11.50) ___ Tulips (\$11.00)

DEADLINE FOR ALL ORDERS : SUNDAY, March 13th

Given by: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

No. of plants ordered: _____ Total Amount: _____

You may take your flowers with you after the Easter worship service.

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL WACHS LOVE SUNDAY

February 14, 2016



We have celebrated **Wachs Love Sunday** for 27 years on the Sunday closest to Valentine's Day at St. Paul. Valentine's Day is a special day set aside each year to make a point of telling special people in our lives that we love and care about them. Daniel Wachs, a long-time St. Paul member, spent much of his adult life making a point of showing people that he cared about them. He was forever finding ways to help others in one way or another—here at church, within our congregation and within our community. He was the chairman of the Building Committee in 1955 when the St. Paul education wing was built and dedicated so we would have a place to teach our children of God's love. You can check out the old newspaper article downstairs on the bulletin board. After his death in 1989, his family created the Wachs Love Fund here at St. Paul to honor his life, and his love of helping others. The Community Outreach Committee receives many Wachs Fund requests throughout the year from Palatine residents experiencing hardship in our challenging economic times. The Wachs Love Fund provided \$4800.00 in assistance in 2014 with utility bills and living assistance for rent, mortgage, transportation, temporary housing, gasoline and groceries.

The Wachs Love Fund at St. Paul is funded in two ways:

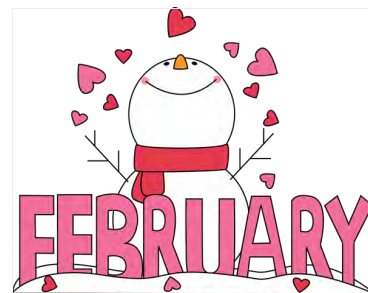
Through participation in the **Scrip Program** that you read about each month in the bulletin and the Scribe. We encourage you to try purchasing Scrip for a couple of months, for some of the shopping you do each month—for groceries, prescriptions, clothing, gasoline, dining out or other entertainment—as well as for gifts you are going to purchase, or give the gift card itself. You may place your order on the second Sunday of each month, and pick it up on the third Sunday. A percentage (1.5% to 25% depending on the vendor) of those purchases you make through the Scrip program come right back to the Wachs Love Fund, and you get the full dollar amount that you order. In 2015, 9 families participated regularly in the program, generating a profit of \$1,913.62—around \$200 in profit per family on average.

Imagine what that profit could be for the Wachs Fund if more families participated and did some of their shopping or gift giving through the Scrip program. Consider using Scrip for one thing you purchase regularly—gas, groceries, clothing, dining out, medicine/prescriptions, or gifts in order to support the Wachs Fund throughout the year without spending a dime more than you will anyway. We all eat, put gas in our vehicles, purchase clothing and other necessities and not-so-essential items, dine out, and need to purchase home care/repair items. Do you know you will need to make a large furniture or appliance purchase? Check to see if the place you will purchase it from is a Scrip vendor. If the vendor you want to use is *not* on the list, check with Darlene Vogt to see if the vendor participates in the Scrip program. We do not have room to list all vendors on one sheet of paper.

And, the second way the Wachs Love Fund is funded is through your generosity on **Sunday, February 14, which is designated as Wachs Love Sunday**. There are envelopes at the end of each pew during February, or you can designate your gift on your regular offering envelope. We ask you to consider giving generously to the Wachs Love Fund if you are able. The monies collected for the Wachs Love Offering will provide assistance to those in our St. Paul community and in the greater Palatine community who are struggling to survive financially, have experienced a medical, family or job crisis, or have fallen through the cracks of other forms of assistance—the stories are sometimes unimaginable. Please consider giving generously to the Wachs Love Fund so St. Paul can continue to provide this outreach ministry to God's children, just as it has for the last 25 years. Thank you.

Your Community Outreach Committee, Greg Mayer, Melissa Gumm, Jill Dekrell, Holly Petersen, Darlene Vogt, and Karen Wagner

FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH



Reminder from the Health Committee:

This is the start of a new year and a good time to review your health status. Take a few minutes to review your food choices and exercise program. Check to see if your medications, physicals, etc. are up to date. It's never too late to make some changes. We have prepared a short list of healthy snacks that might be helpful:

Crunchy:

- Carrot and celery sticks
- Apples and breadsticks
- Green pepper sticks
- Zucchini circles
- Radishes
- Broccoli spears
- Cauliflower
- Unsalted rice cakes

Munchy:

- Unsalted sunflower seeds
- Whole-grain breads or toast
- Cherry or grape tomatoes
- Low-fat or fat-free cheese
- Plain, low-fat or fat-free yogurt
- Bagels
- Unsalted almonds, walnuts and other nuts

Thirst Quenchers:

- Fat-free milk
- Unsweetened juices
- Low-sodium tomato or mixed vegetable juice
- Water

Sweet:

- Unsweetened canned fruit
- Thin slice of angel food cake
- Baked apple
- Raisins
- Dried fruit gelatin gems
- Frozen bananas
- Frozen grapes
- Fresh fruit
- Low-fat or fat-free unsweetened fruit yogurt

American Heart Association