



The Scribe

St. Paul UCC

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

January 2016 Edition

Monthly
Newsletter

Pastor's Pen...

On December 3rd we had a joint meeting of the three boards that administer the affairs of St. Paul UCC. A major piece of that meeting was discussion about our vision for the future and what we see as our purpose as a local church. Because I am the pastor, I have had more than a couple of people ask me what my own vision is for St. Paul and how I see us going forward. So in the very limited space of this newsletter, I'll try to succinctly state what my own convictions are about church.

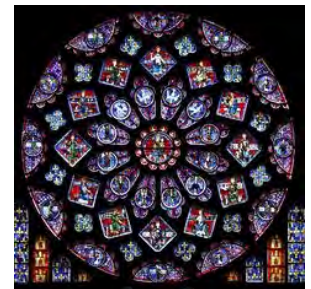
I see the church as a kaleidoscope, of sorts. It is the coming together of a wide array of colors and shapes, each joining together to form one glorious picture! I do not hold to a view of a homogeneous church. Our overall purpose, I believe, is singular – to follow Christ and to teach others to follow Christ. A commonly used word for that is “discipleship.” However, our sameness begins and ends there. While we are all called to be Christ-followers, I do not believe that we are all called to follow Christ in the same way. Romans 12:3-8 and First Corinthians 12:4-31 both speak of the variety of gifts and passions that exist in one church.

Here at St. Paul, we have music people doing music. We have education people doing education. We have pious people praying. We have merciful people making visits. We have social justice people doing social justice. We have administrative people serving on boards. We have encouraging people going around and picking the rest of us up off of the floor. We have technology people doing tech stuff. We have handy people taking care of our facilities....it goes on and on. (Personally, I'm hoping for a few artists to come in and glorify God in their art!)

I don't believe that we all have to have the same opinion, or follow the same passion, or work on the same project. I believe that we just need to follow the same Lord and Savior, and there's room here for everybody.

We are to be Christ's witnesses, and we each have unique ways of living that out. That is what I see us as, going forward; a Christ-centered kaleidoscope in Palatine. Loving God, loving our neighbor, loving one another – and making our differences work together for beauty rather than dividing for ugliness.

Pastor David



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).

OUR GRANDCHILDREN'S WATER
A Two-Session Adult Study on the Ethics of Water
January 22 and February 5
Friday evenings at 7:00

Water. Essential to life, unequally distributed, ancient, irreplaceable, precious. Water is a complex subject, scientifically, ecologically, legally and ethically. All faiths know that. That's why they all seem to refer to water in some way. Our liturgies use water to express the presence of the holy, to initiate and to bless. Our bodies are made up mostly of water, and the Earth is mostly water, too.

Please join us to begin to rethink how we think about water, to consider the ethical implications of something precious, unequally distributed and necessary for life. It is our hope that you will learn things you didn't know, think about things you hadn't thought about, and be inspired to care for water differently.

We will be using portions of a curriculum prepared by Rev. Dr. Clare Butterfield, Executive Director of Faith in Place* with the assistance of an advisory team who came together and shared their expertise. Please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or by calling the office. Bring an appetizer and beverage of your choice to share.

Reflecting on water is a good way to understand the seen and unseen presence of the divine in our lives. Water is all around us, it is in us—it is everywhere. All the water we drink is the same water that anything has ever drunk—and the same water that any living thing will ever drink in the future. How are you using your grandchildren's water?

Your Water Team, Holly Petersen, Janet Bethke, Mary Doktor and Kim Ferris

*Faith in Place inspires religious people of diverse faiths to care for the Earth through education, connection, and advocacy. Since 1999, Faith in Place has worked with over 1,000 houses of worship throughout Illinois to protect our common land, water, and air. With outreach staff working across the state and offices located in Chicago, Lake County, and Central Illinois, Faith in Place inspires faithful people to care for the Earth through our four program areas: Energy & Climate Change, Sustainable Food & Land Use, Water Preservation, and Advocacy. You may learn more at faithinplace.org.

Water: God's Gift for Life





SOUPER BOWL OF CARING CHANGES THE GAME

The idea for the Souper Bowl of Caring is a gift from God. Hunger and poverty have a negative impact on individuals and the communities in which they live, yet there is joy in serving and giving to those in need.

Help score a touchdown for the Palatine Township Food Pantry. Please bring in your donations of dry soup, canned soup, crackers and canned meats the two Sundays leading up to the Big Game (January 31 & February 7). Together we can change the nations largest weekend of football in to the largest weekend of caring.

JANUARY SCRIP PROGRAM

January Scrip Orders are due in the Scrip Mailbox (on shelf across from the office door) by 11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Sunday – January 10th and will be ready to pickup on the following Sunday – January 17th! Ordering through our Scrip Program is an EASY way to donate to our Wachs Fund all year round, with no additional cost to you – just for prepaying for the shopping you do anyway. These profits stay in our account to be transferred to the Wachs Fund in February on Wachs Love Sunday. The 2015 profits were \$1,913.62 from 104 orders. This fund is used to provide short term/one time monetary assistance to residents of Palatine and the St. Paul Community who are experiencing a financial hardship. Please consider and try this way to help someone less fortunate than you. Maybe buy a Walgreen, Target or Walmart gift card to use doing your shopping. Thanks to those of you who are regulars in our Scrip Program. If you have any questions, contact St. Paul Scrip Program Coordinator, Darlene Vogt, at 847/359-0839 or online at dvogt122@aol.com. This program is sponsored by the Community Outreach Committee of The Spiritual Life Board.



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 (home) or (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 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)

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

All St. Paul women are invited to gather with us on Saturday morning, January 9th at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall. We are a fun, friendly group of women sharing fellowship, laughter and a love of learning and exploring something new. We will be led in extending our creativity (no matter whether your creativity is large or small to begin with) by long-time St. Paul member and friend, Laurie Gunder Houldsworth. Come enjoy the good company of other St. Paul women, some laughter and good fellowship. Laurie has an apron-making business and creates whimsical, gorgeous aprons that she sells. She will be teaching and assisting us to make a charming apron. You need NOT have sewing skills. There are enough of us that do know how to sew that can provide all of the assistance you will need. If you have a sewing machine that is portable, please bring it on January 9th. Bring your own lunch and the supplies listed below and we will eat together following extending our creative streaks. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know how many to expect.

The apron you will be making will be the style pictured below on Carolynn (yes, that is Laurie's daughter many of us knew as a cute, little blonde girl) and on the middle of the clothesline with pink binding. The list of supplies you will need to bring are: 1 5/8 yard of 100% cotton fabric (look in the quilting section of the fabric store), 3 packages of 1/2" wide double fold bias tape, thread to match, sewing shears, pins and safety pins if you have them. If you wish to use a contrasting fabric for the pockets, bring 1/4 yard of the 100% cotton contrasting fabric as well as the 1 5/8 yard of the main fabric (like the red pocket trim on the apron on the left). If you wish to make the outside bodice panels and the pockets in a contrasting fabric, bring an additional 5/8 yard of 100% cotton contrasting fabric in addition to the 1 5/8 yards of the main fabric. Feel free to bring any other embellishments you may want to use, as well. Questions? Call or email Holly.



Happy



Birthdays!

5 Joyce Mah	14 Katie Gregor
5 Michael Wagner	17 Jean Kolze
6 Mike Drost	20 Evan Gregor
7 Karen Connor	23 Mark Faust Sr.
7 Sharon Gilette	26 Mark Faust Jr.
7 Ethel Baumann	28 Gloria Helms
7 Holly Chvoy	28 Helen Chvoy
13 Earl Mah	30 Bernice Johnson

***If there is anyone I missed, please call the church office,
so we can update our records. Thank you!***



Dorothy Scheer, Sheila Berlin, Jackie Berlin and Bob & Pat
Kolze In memory of Margaret Gintz.

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In thinking of Christmas past, you probably know that our St. Paul UCC celebrated with two new Christmas trees this year. One was the beautiful sanctuary tree. The other was the six-foot Douglas fir planted in October on the east lawn and decorated for Christmas. That evergreen was purchased with Memorial Funds given in memory of Evelyn Buenzow, a longtime active member of St. Paul. It will be a living gift, representing Evie's spirit living on at our church. A brass nameplate inscribed with her name and her donated gift of "the east lawn pine tree" is listed on the Memorial Fund Recognition Plaque located outside Fellowship Hall. -St. Paul Memorial Committee



To My St. Paul Church Family, My heartfelt thanks for all your get well cards of encouragement. Your prayers are helping me get thru this most difficult time. My prayers are with you also, Jim Schimka

Thank you!

Dear St. Paul Family, Thank you so much for your prayers, lovely cards, and get well wishes after my recent surgery! It was deeply appreciated and most thoughtful of you. Please continue to keep the O'Malley family in your prayers. Our dear friend Tom was struck by a car while leaving a scout meeting. Tim will be dearly missed by all. Thank you so much. Blessings and Love, Linda Hayford

*I was deeply moved by St Paul's care and kindness with emails and cards during my husband and my recent illness. Although (thank God) it was not serious, it sure did "kick us off our feet" for awhile. Knowing that a caring church community was thinking of us and praying for us was truly comforting. Thank you again and may God bless you all.
Terry Schrader*



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.

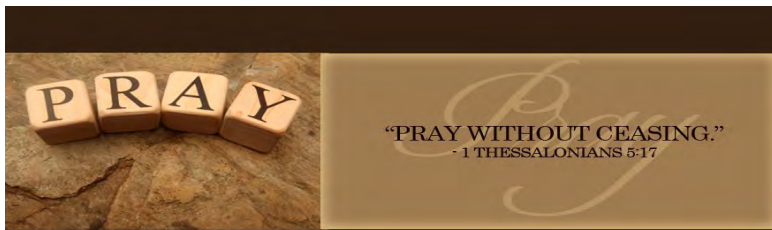
Winston Community School Volunteers. Palatine District 15 and Palatine Opportunity Center are starting a Community School Program Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays at Winston Jr. High to benefit students and parents. They are looking for volunteers with skills and passions in any of the following areas: 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!!!

Also...

If you are interested in becoming a Wedding Coordinator
For the church, please contact Greg Mayer, Chairman of
Spiritual Life Board. Thank you!





PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Dr. Sean Benham
 Charlie Betzhold
 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
 Barbara & Bruce Kerlin, parents of Bruce Kerlin
 Charles Leseberg, brother of Mary Ann Leseberg
 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
 Barb Slone, friend of Mary Faust
 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 January:

3: Bill Davenport & Sherri Leach
10: Jim & Kathi Wotal
17: John & Marla Beresheim
24: Jackie Schultz
31: Mark & Mary Faust

January Usher Captain:

Doug Petersen

January Lectionary:

3: Jer 31:7-14; Sir 24:1-12; Psalm 147:12-20; Wis od Sol 10:15-21; Eph 1:3-14; John 1:1-18.
6: Isa 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-7,10-14; Eph 3:12-12; Matt 2:1-12.
10: Isa 43:1-7; Psalm 29; Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.
17: Isa 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Cor 12:1-11; John 2:1-11.
24: Neh 8:1-10; Psalm 19; 1 Cor 12:12-31a; Luke 4:14-21.
31: Jer 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6; 1 Cor 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30.



Selecting gifts for children with special needs

Buying a gift for a child with a disability is in many ways the same as choosing a gift for any other child: You'll want to select a gift that the child will find fun and interesting. The challenge often rests in selecting a toy that is safe and appropriate to the child's abilities.

Here are some things to consider when choosing gifts:

Age group information on product packaging or in advertising may not be useful if choosing a gift for a child with a developmental disability. *Also think about specific skills a child needs in order to enjoy a particular toy.* Ask the child's parents for suggestions so that you can select a toy or game that he or she can safely enjoy.

Children who have developmental delays may benefit from brightly colored, textured toys that provide sensory stimulation.

Kids who have motor control issues may find it easier to play with larger toys, such as large size blocks or Duplo Legos®.

Think through clothing purchases. Children with autism or sensory integration issues may find clothing tags and some fabrics irritating to their skin. Look for soft, natural fibers, and, if possible, choose apparel that have size and fabric care information printed directly on the inside of the garment. Children who have limited use of their hands or limited motor skills issues may find buttons, snaps and zippers difficult to manipulate. Look for pull-on garments for these kids.

Some retailers specialize in toys for children with special needs. Their salespeople are often good resources for identifying appropriate gifts.

If you're a friend or relative who is planning to buy a gift for a child with special needs, it's a good practice to double-check with a parent before making a purchase. Then you're far more likely to choose something the child will enjoy and use.

*Dear God, thank you for the gift of children in my life.
Keep them – and their parents – healthy and safe. Amen*





WORD SEARCH



BLACK ICE BLIZZARD BOOTS COLD EGG NOG FIREPLACE
 FIREWOOD FOG FREEZE FROST GLOVES HIBERNATION HOCKEY
 HOLIDAYS ICE FISHING ICICLES KNIT CAP LONG UNDERWEAR MITTENS
 PARKA SCARF SEASON SKATES SKI PANTS SKIING SLED SLEET
 SLIPPERY SNOW CASTLE SNOW PLOW SNOW SHOVEL SNOWBALL
 SNOWBOARD SNOWFLAKE SNOWSHOES SOLSTICE SOUP STORM SWEATSHIRT
 TOBOGGAN VACATION WIND CHILL WOOL SOCKS

Thank You!



*Thank you to all who donated gift cards for the abandoned youth in Palatine.
The amazing pictures below shows all the gift bags made and gift cards
collected by the PFA churches, with a a total of \$13,881.00!
Again, thank you!*

