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Dear Friends,

We begin the season of Lent. Historically, the Church has used this season to embrace its limitations. It has encouraged its members to consider their needs, faults, shortcomings, struggles, points of growth, and their mortality. In response to the message, "You are enough.", the Church has said "We are not enough." In reply to the statement "Find yourself and follow your dream.", the Church has replied, "We seek to follow Jesus Christ." In answer to the idea, "Thinking about death is morbid.", The Church has observed, "We remember life is fragile gift."

Lent is the season, when the Church intentionally reminds itself (in case it has forgotten) that it needs a Savior. It celebrates this as good news. The Church recognizes it cannot live or love on its own power. It cannot generate its own energy. It cannot go it alone. This is a freeing recognition! And it is glorious, good news that the Church not only needs a Savior but it has one! Lent deepens our appreciation and gratitude to God for the salvation God has granted us through Jesus Christ and God's ongoing presence through the Holy Spirit.

This is the season of Lent.

Peace,

Pastor Greg

485 Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL
Rev. Gregory Lucas, Pastor

Phone: 815-459-5096

E-mail: info@stpaulsucccl.org

Website: www.stpaulsucc-cl.org

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: [stpauls_ucc_cl](https://www.facebook.com/stpauls_ucc_cl)

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.

Via Facebook Live or streaming on website.

Church Office Hours

8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

February 2023



Dear Church Family,

2023 looks to be an exciting and busy year. We are facing significant changes and opportunities in the months ahead. I am confident that the new Church Council along with the congregation, with all its varying perspectives and insights will be able to move St Paul's in a positive and blessed direction. Be assured that we will do our very best to provide transparency and feedback on all matters brought forward.

A few issues that are currently underway:

- * A volunteer has stepped forward to begin the process of removing the invasive buckthorn on the edge of our property line. This will allow beneficial plant growth to flourish.
- * Additional lounge furniture has been ordered and should be delivered in a few weeks.
- * Connection is being made with the Illinois UCC Conference and requirements and parameters are being established for an interim pastor, as well as the continued support for Pastor Greg and Joyce as they move closer to retirement. On a personal note, I wish to thank everyone for the support and well wishes given to me and all Council members as we move forward in this challenging and exciting year.

Gods Peace.

Wendy Manser
Church Council President

Let's Celebrate Birthdays



Sharon Dieball	3/1
Erik Ogle	3/1
Luke Eckhardt	3/2
Rosanne Zickus	3/3
David Kranz	3/8
Barb Kriegel	3/9
Abigail Wikman	3/9
Ron Jacobson	3/9
Meg Reckamp	3/11
Layla Lawson	3/12
Halo Gregory	3/13

Cathy Schmidt	3/13
Lisa MacKenzie	3/13
John Arvidson	3/17
Regina Lombardo	3/19
Deborah Sroka	3/20
Joe Rickard	3/23
Riley MacKenzie	3/24
Donald Roxworthy	3/25
Ken Thrun	3/27
Mary Katenhusen	3/28
Noah Virzi	3/29
Janice Bordignon	3/31



Nolan Lotesto	4/3
Harper Lang	4/4
Nancy Kramer	4/8
Charlie Lang	4/8
Terri Deuerling	4/8
Jamie Szabo	4/10
Greg Lucas	4/10
Evelyn Winter	4/11

Ryder Engel	4/11
Jane Dawson	4/12
Peter Singer Sr.	4/17
Jeremiah Wikman	4/18
Janet Henneman	4/19
Eva Ticknor	4/21
Brian Butler	4/22
Ursula Kriegel	4/30

CHURCH NEWS

Altar Guild Lily Sale

The sun has been shining and the temperatures have teased us with spring. Lent will be here soon and Easter preparations will start. The Altar Guild will again be selling lilies to decorate the church for our joyous Easter service. While the final price of the lilies is unknown, we do know that the flowers will go up in price. The guild wanted to give you notice of this price increase, so you can plan accordingly. Thank you for your support in decorating the church and enhancing our worship together.

Please look for your friendly Altar Guild representatives in the narthex. The ladies will be taking orders in the next few weeks. More information will be coming about cost and ordering dates.

Warmly,
The Altar Guild



CHURCH NEWS

Mark your calendar for a ladies' night out!

ASPIRE

Saturday, April 22: 6- 9 p.m.
Springbrook Community Church, Huntley
(Across the road from Tom's Market)

Aspire Women's Events returns for the first time post-COVID
One night – three hours just for Women
An evening full of laughter, learning, stories and music
Sponsored by Extreme Faith Production

A small group of St. Paul's ladies attended their last event in 2019, and were looking forward to attending the next one! COVID delays happened, and the next one is now scheduled! This is an inspirational and entertaining evening not to be missed! Regular tickets are \$25, but if we can get a group of 10 or more the price drops to \$20 each.

Please reach out to Cathy Schmidt for more information and get your name on the list. We will be organizing carpools and providing financial assistance for anyone who wants to attend and needs a ticket. Let's send a group of at least 10 St. Paul's ladies!

Cathy Schmidt
815.459.7948
Schmdt5@sbcglobal.net



Aspire

Author & Bible Teacher
DEBBIE ALSDORF

Comedy by
MICHELLE MILLER

Music by
JAIME JAMGOCHIAN

*1 night – 3 hours
Just for Women
An evening full of laughter,
learning, stories & music*

**SATURDAY
APRIL 22, 2023
SPRINGBROOK
COMMUNITY CHURCH
10115 W. ALGONQUIN RD.
HUNTLEY, IL 60142**

6:00PM SHOW
5:30PM GA DOORS OPEN
5:00PM VIP DOORS OPEN

ADVANCE TICKETS
\$25 Gen Admission | \$35 VIP
\$20 Groups of 10 or more.
Group sales call 480-812-1100

VIP tickets includes early entry for preferred seating and Q-n-A session with all the speakers and artists.

Purchase tickets at **480-812-1100**
or online at:
ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com

  



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who joined us and participated in the card making at our Valentines Day event on February. 12th. It was absolutely beautiful to work with Church Life on this event. The decorations were beautiful! It was also wonderful to see the youth participating in this event. I know this will be a memory of St. Paul's that they will take with them and cherish. Please share with your families that we met our goal of 70 cards for the Senior Citizens at Valley Hi Nursing Home! They were touched to receive our cards! I truly look forward to working more with Church Life in the future, as it helps bring our congregation closer together.

I would like to give a special thanks to Ann Lingner for her energy and positive spirit throughout the event. She can really create momentum, which adds great value!

I would also like to thank Mary Katenhusen for creating the colorful hearts we used in creating our Valentines' Day Cards! They really punched up the cards to look even more beautiful and put them together! Jen Good also brought in mini Valentine's Day cards with CUTE animals with sentimental words, that also made the cards extra special.

The last note of appreciation is for Tristan Monahan. I truly appreciated your help with setting up the card making supplies! Your ideas and energy always make things extra fun!

It was an honor to celebrate Valentine's Day together, and I look forward to many more events!

Jasmine Becker
Youth Director



February 13, 2023

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
485 W. Woodstock Street
Crystal Lake IL 60014

Dear Youth Group of St. Paul's

We would like to thank you for your recent donation to the residents of Valley Hi Nursing and Rehabilitation. Your generous donation of Valentine's Day cards is greatly appreciated and always welcomed. Thank you again for your thoughts and generosity. If there is anything that we may be of assistance to you, please feel free to contact us at 815-338-0312.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tara Polte', written over a horizontal line.

Tara Polte
Assistant Administrator

TRP/



YOUTH GROUP/CHURCH LIFE

VALENTINE'S DAY CARDS

to: *Valley Hi Seniors*

date: *February 12th*



Community !!



Boys say Cheese



Making Cards !!



With Love !



Cheese ! ♡



Sending Big Love



♡♡♡



Just for you!



Hugs! ♡



Making Cards! ♡



Sending You Love



Sending you love



Sending xoxo



making Card

Usher Schedule

March
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

March 5th

Jim Henneman Jr. - Captain
Lauren Henneman
Jane Dawson
Greeter: Linda Bichler
Reader: TBD

March 12th

Ken Thrun - Captain
Wendy Domanico
Rebecca Eckhart
Greeter: Jane Dawson
Reader: TBD

March 19th

John Whetham - Captain
Linda Ticknor
Jean Hautzinger
Greeter: Ann Lingner
Reader: TBD

March 26th

Gary Voss - Captain
Carla Voss
John Vogt
Greeter: Rick Davis
Reader: TBD

April
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

April 2nd

Ken Thrun - Captain
Linda Ticknor & John Vogt
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

April 9th EASTER

Ken Hansen - Captain
Karen Hansen & Ann Lingner
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

April 16th

Gary Voss - Captain
Carla Voss & Don Roxworthy
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

April 23rd

John Whetham - Captain
Rebecca Eckhart & Wendy Domanico
Greeters: TBD
Reader: TBD

April 30th

Jim Henneman - Captain
Lauren Henneman & Bill Eich
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

St. Paul's Prayer List



St. Paul's Members

Jan (Yerkey) Martin, Lisa Sadlik, Marianne Spencer,
Karen Christensen, Bill Berghorn

St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Arlene Kopsell, Barb Biscomb

Deceased Members and Friends

N/A

Friends

N/A

Military - Stateside

Todd Whetham

Sponsored Children

Alberly (Dominican Republic), Andrian (Indonesia), Daniel W. (Indonesia), Nicole V. (Bolivia), Nicole S. (USA), Tran Thi Chin (Vietnam), Breny (Columbia), Alfred (Tanzania), Isack S. (Tanzania), Maria, Jobenta M. (Haiti), Emyli (Guatemala)

St. Paul's Vision

Call to serve

Our

Neighbors' and Members'

Needs by

Engaging as

Christ's people

Through service and Love

Follow Us on Social Media!

Keep up with St. Paul's latest news, information, and connection. LIKE and share our on social media.



Church Staff

Reverend Gregory Lucas

815-459-5096 - info@stpaulsucccl.org

Office Manager, Lena Vocalino

815-459-5096 - info@stpaulsucccl.org

Preschool Director, Becky Lucking

815 - 479-9770 - guidinglightdirector@gmail.com

Youth Director, Jasmine Becker

847-561-9965 - Jasmine.ydstpauls@gmail.com

Church Council

Wendy Manser, Council President

815-245-0058 - wendy0506@att.net

Donna Butler, Council Vice President

815-451-1114 - butlersmail6@yahoo.com

Janis Braun, Secretary

815- 575-1997 - eliotness62@gmail.com

Fred Mullard, Treasurer

224-629-3755 - mullard@mc.net

Jennifer Good, Financial Secretary

815-245-3287- jennifer.a.good@gmail.com

Ruth Costello

815-354-0121- rev.ruth.costello@gmail.com

Nancy Schmitz

815-338 -2670 - nancyschmitz123@icloud.com

Joe Rickard

815-243-6294 - jrick4@sbcglobal.net

Give the Gift of SCRIP

IN STOCK SCRIP CARDS as of February 17th, 2023

Amazon	1 @ \$25
Best Buy	1 @ \$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	2 @ \$25
Chili's	2 @ \$25
Chipotle	3 @ \$10
Darden	2 @ \$25
Dunkin'	6 @ \$10
Home Depot	2 @ \$100
IHOP	1 @ \$25
Jewel	3 @ \$25/ 10 @ \$100
LL Bean	1 @ \$100
Mariano's	3 @ \$50
Panera	5 @ \$10
Shell	2 @ \$50
Speedway	12 @ \$25/1 @ \$100
Starbucks	1 @ \$25
Synergy (Mobil)	3 @ \$50
Steinmart	1 @ \$25
Subway	3 @ \$10
Target	3 @ \$25
TJ Maxx (Sierra,HomeGoods, Marshall)	2 @ \$100
Walmart	5 @ \$100

If you need any of the above cards, they can be dropped off at church for pick up. If you want to order any particular cards, please let me know. As always, checks are made payable to St. Paul's.

Karen Radovich nuknees@mc.net

EASY AND CONVENIENT

These products make it easy to earn on the go.

PrestoPay™

The secure online payment system for families that lets them pay for orders and receive e-gift cards and reload their cards immediately.

MyScripWallet™

Our mobile website where families can buy physical gift cards, reloads, and eGift cards. Directly onto their phones great for when you are in line at a store. you can reload or buy cards to go straight to your phone!