

St. Paul's

March
2023



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

THE BEACON



From the Pastors Desk

Pg. 2

Church Council

Pg. 3-4

April & May Birthdays

Pg. 5

Church News

Pg. 6-10

Thank You

Pg. 11

Usher Schedule

Pg. 12

St. Paul's Prayer List

Pg. 13

SCRIP

Pg. 14

NEXT BEACON

April 14th

All articles are due in by
April 6th



Dear Friends,

Two things I love are old books and Springtime. I love old books because, I enjoy holding in my hands something that has lasted for a long time and reading the thoughts and feelings of people who lived generations ago. In general, I love old things because they testify to history, perseverance and longevity. They remind me of faithfulness. I was recently reading a Bible commentary written one hundred years ago by a man born in 1861. I delighted in and was inspired by his eloquent and deep faith.

I love Springtime because I enjoy new things too - new buds on the trees, new plants in the ground. I love the fresh, clean feeling of Spring and how it hints at Easter and the celebration of our Lord's resurrection. I love the change in temperature and the gradually lengthening hours of daylight.

Our faith teaches us that God is old - God existed before time began. Yet, the Bible says God's love is ever new. In Lamentations we read, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22:23) In this I read that God is the perfect combination of old and new. How do you like that?

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

March 2023



Dear Church Family,

Time is passing so very quickly. Spring is just around the corner. Winter was relatively mild, but I for one, look forward to the earth renewing itself with growth and color.

A few issues that are currently underway:

- * Take some time to check out the lounge. Sit down and enjoy a good book...or better yet, enjoy reading "The Good Book". There are copies on the coffee table.
- * Please support Church Life as they host Game Day after church, March 26th.
- * Saturday, April 8th at 10:00 am is the Easter egg hunt. If you want to put a smile on your face and warmth in your heart—nothing beats watching overexcited little children as they look for plastic eggs.
- * The process continues as we move forward in search of an interim pastor. The call for an interim has been posted through the UCC (as well as other denominations) website. We prayerfully await responses.

On a personal note: I have learned, and continue to learn so much about St. Paul's and how it functions at so many levels. I highly encourage others to volunteer to be on committees and councils. The reward for service is immeasurable.

Gods Peace,

Wendy Manser
Church Council President

March 2023

Dear Church Family,

When I think of Pastor Greg retiring and, yes, leaving us all to keep “working” at St. Paul’s I get a little anxious. I think of all I have learned from him over the 20 years I have known him. I am grieving already. I learned through my husband’s illness that there is such a thing as “anticipatory grief”. (Anticipating a loss, you know is coming.) While this may seem a little dramatic to say, I understand it to be a real thing. It also makes me question. Why am I here? Not just on this earth, but rather, why am I a member of St. Paul’s? Why did I come here?

When I look back on why I came to this place I think of many things. First, I think back to when I was a young mother, and my sister-in-law begged me to help teach Sunday school. And how I simply said no, I wasn’t going to do that, or at least I thought I had said no, until one day I realized, I had been teaching various grades of Sunday school for over 20 years. Four children, each confirmed in this place by the same Pastor.

A Pastor who dedicated over 40 years to serving God, by serving us. Us, as in the people whose lives he touched through his preaching, teaching, ministering, and counseling through his gifts of compassion, depth and love. Why? Why did he do it? That is not for me to answer. It only guides me back to my own question. Why? Why am I here? Over many years, I heard my mom say the same thing over and over again. “You don’t go to church for the Pastor.”

While that may seem shocking, or not true for many of us, I think at this time, that is exactly what we should be reminding ourselves of. I am willing to bet that many of our members who have worshipped here 30, 40 years, or more (or less) may not remember Reverend Marvin Englesdorfer. (I am not positive of the correct spelling, but I do know it is pronounced that way.)

Reverend Englesdorfer was a stout, older man, with black rimmed glasses, a buzz haircut, and a smile that could light up a room. I remember him dedicating almost an entire children’s message on how to pronounce his name.

I will remind some, and enlighten others, that he was the interim Pastor of St. Paul’s when I became a member in 1990 or 91. While I certainly enjoyed, and perhaps was inspired by his sermons, again I ask, why did I become a member of St. Paul’s?

For me the answer to that question may be, in part, that I was a member of a church my entire life. But I think it is much deeper than that. Maybe the best way to answer this question is to answer why am I still a member here and what does it mean? If we look at our constitution when it was first adopted, being a member here requires some things on my part. I am to “be baptized, be confirmed or make a public confession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior”. I am also expected to “worship regularly, participate in communion, share in the life and work of the church, and contribute to the benevolences of the church,” among other things. While I can easily answer the how as it is stated in the constitution, the why is another matter.

I remember during Pastor Greg’s first sabbatical working on a “generations” project in which I interviewed members and asked this question. One member told me her husband said they could become members because the ladies made such good cookies. Another told me it was because they had no car and could walk there. Some say because they moved into the area and wanted to be a member of a UCC church, or they grew up here.

While I like cookies too, and I was raised to attend church regularly, at some point in my life my reason changed. I have, on occasion, been so moved by a message or testimony that I have felt such an overwhelming closeness to God it is difficult to describe using simple words. I also know that in this community I have been held up in prayer, prayed for others, given gifts of my time and treasure and received the same many times over. I come because I need it. I come because it provides a place for me to give back to God. I come because I need God’s word, love, and hope in my life.

While I know many of us will miss Pastor Greg and his family very deeply, my hope and prayers are that we continue to come here, to this place, to care for and love one another. To love, worship, and serve a God who gives us hope. I pray for us to be hopeful and energetic as we work through the process of finding a seated Pastor. I pray for Pastor Greg, Joyce, Alex and Dimitri as they transition into a new chapter in their lives. I also offer a prayer of thanks for the time we shared together.

In love and service,

Donna Butler

Let's Celebrate Birthdays



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
Edward Bourdage	4/18
Janet Henneman	4/19
Eva Ticknor	4/21
Brian Butler	4/22
Ursula Kriegel	4/30



Wendy Manser	5/6
Laurie Revak	5/7
Kamila Kay	5/8
Sheryl Gee	5/11
Steve Ticknor	5/11
Kailee Kruse	5/14
Jack Glauner	5/14
Sue Phillips	5/14
Laura Middaugh	5/17
Julia Zickus	5/17

Molly Schneeweiss	5/21
Kurt Albertsen	5/21
Jack Vogt	5/23
Gary Gee	5/24
Keith Chappell	5/25
Martha Hughes	5/28
Arlene Jezierski	5/29
Doug MacKenzie	5/29
Sandy MacMillan	5/30

Church News



EASTER LILIES

Order Dates: Week of March 12th & 19th

Deadline for Ordering:
Sunday, March 27th, 2023

_____ Easter Lilies at \$12.00 each

All plants will be available to take home after Easter Service on April 9th.

Please write your listing as you would like it to appear in the Easter bulletin. Thank you.

Memorial Listing

Honor Listing

Neither

Enclosed is my payment for \$ _____

Name: _____

Please print names clearly

**Place your order form and payment
and mail to:**

*St. Paul's Church 485 W. Woodstock St., Crystal Lake, IL
60014*



Don't forget Game Day is next Sunday, March 26, after service. It will be in Fellowship Hall from 11 am-1:00 pm.

A pulled pork sandwich lunch will be provided along with Bingo for the adults and trivia for the kids. Please bring a white elephant item which will be used as prizes for Bingo. See you next Sunday for food, fellowship and fun!!



485 W. Woodstock St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014



MARCH 26
SUNDAY | **11AM - 1PM**

FREE EVENT FOR FAMILIES AND YOUTH

LIGHT FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

ADULTS BRING A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT

PRIZES FOR KIDS WILL BE PROVIDED

AGES 9+
(YOUNGER AGES
WELCOME WITH
PARENT)

EVENT & PARKING IS IN BACK OF THE CHURCH

**PLEASE REGISTER
FOR EVENT**

**WALK-INS ARE
WELCOME!**

815-459-5096
jasmine.ydstpauls@gmail.com



CHURCH NEWS

To all St. Paul's family, the Mary Circle members will be once again putting together Hygiene Kits for CWS. If you would like to donate, now is a good time to start collecting personal grooming items.

The list of items needed will be on the desk outside the Sanctuary starting April 1st. All items need to fit inside a one-gallon plastic zipper closure bag.

Mary Circle

Personal Hygiene



shampoo



soap



conditioner



washcloth



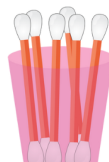
towel



comb



mirror



cotton buds



bathrobe



hair dryer



sponge



toilet paper



toothbrush



toothpaste



floss



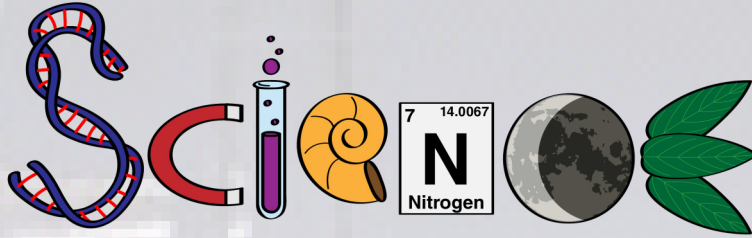
nail clipper



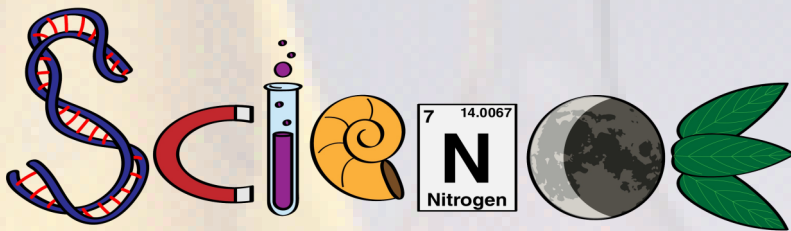
CHURCH NEWS

On Saturday, March 11, St. Paul's Guiding Light Preschool held their First Annual Science Fair in Fellowship Hall. We explored magnets, density, volcanos and chemical reactions, chromatography, and static electricity! Never underestimate the creativity and curiosity of children.

Proverbs 3:13 "Blessed are those who find wisdom, those who gain understanding."



CHURCH NEWS



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&A session with all the speakers and artists.

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



THANK YOU

Thank You



for your Kindness

Dear St. Paul's Family,

Our family is so blessed to have such special and caring friends. All the special cards, calls and kind get well wishes have surely helped my healing and recovery.

I am doing well and getting stronger each day. I miss all of you and look forward to returning to church soon. Please keep my pew warm!

Sending love and blessing to each of you!

Bill Berghorn



Usher Schedule

April
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

April 2nd

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

April 9th EASTER

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

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: Wendy Manser

April 30th

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

May
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

May 7th

John Whetham - Captain
Joe & Jan Rickard
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

May 14th Mother's Day

Ken Thrun - Captain
Ann Lingner
Rebecca Eckhart
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

May 21st

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

May 28th

Jim Henneman - Captain
Lauren Henneman
Linda Ticknor
Greeter: TBD
Reader: TBD

St. Paul's Prayer List



St. Paul's Members

Jennifer Good, Jan (Yerkey) Martin, Lisa Sadlik,
Marianne Spencer, Karen Christensen

St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Arlene Kopsell, Barb Biscomb

Deceased Members and Friends

Dave Patterson

Friends

Judy McFadden

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

Linda Ticknor—lindaticknor@gmail.com

815-382-8295

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](mailto:karenradovich@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, re-loads, 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!