

St. Paul's

September
2023



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October 11th
All articles are
due in by 10/6

September
2023

Words from Wang

ST. PAUL'S UCC



Words From Wang – Musical Connections

"All nature sings and 'round me rings, the music of the spheres." This line in a song has stuck with me since the first time I sang it from a high place at Camp Templd Hills; the sacred place and experience that helped to shape my faith as a child. A musical connection.

O sing to the LORD A NEW SONG; SING TO THE LORD, ALL THE EARTH. SINGING HYMNS AT MY HOME CHURCH; THE PLACE WHERE I LEARNED OF THE STORIES OF FAITH, OF BIBLICAL STORIES, AND WHERE I MADE MANY FRIENDS WHILE SINGING IN THE CHOIR. A MUSICAL CONNECTION.

Jesus Christ, Superstar; who are you what have you sacrificed? Listening to the 1970's rock opera and later performing in several live productions; the work that taught me the essence of the passion story. A musical connection.

I could go on and so could many of you; sharing those significant moments in your life's journey where music played an important role in shaping you into the person that you are; and thus, the reason why music is so central to corporate and personal worship. And it's always been about the people singing.

Scholars agree that the principal direction of congregational singing is **to the Lord** (Ps. 96:1). Worship music is made first of all to the Lord and only secondarily to each other. Music should communicate and express a sense of awe and wonder in the presence of God; it should lead our thoughts toward God rather than toward ourselves. "The Christian church sings. It is not a choral society. Its singing is not a concert. But from inner, material necessity - it sings. Singing is the highest form of human expression."

Through congregational singing, Christian faith is not only expressed but to a very real degree it is formed. Since people tend to remember the theology in a song, sometimes even more than what is drawn from the spoken word, a congregation's repertoire of hymnody is of critical importance in shaping the faith of its people. However, it is the meaning of the text that is of primary importance. It is through the sense of the words that God's people learn of the nature and character of God and of the Christian life.

The congregation is always the primary choir. The role of professional or volunteer choirs and musicians is to aid the whole people of God in their worship. While anthems or vocal and instrumental solos or by groups may be offered, they do not have to be. Congregational singing, however, is essential. While it is possible to be actively engaged in worship and in prayer while listening to an anthem or solo, a diet of worship should include ample opportunity for all the members of the congregation to join in song.

Christian hymnody (old and new) contains some of the most concise doctrinal and devotional thought of the church. Through congregational song, God's people learn their language about God; God's people learn how to speak with God. Songs of worship shape faith. It is, therefore, very important that a congregation have a rich "vocabulary of praise."

And so, we ask the questions. Does the music in worship encourage congregational singing or is it designed for the solo artist; or does it come across as entertainment (often inviting applause)? Are soloists, ensembles, or choirs effectively leading and supporting the congregation in its worship or are they merely displaying their virtuosity? Do the hymns and choruses we sing express the faith of the gathered community or do they tend toward individual and private expressions of faith?

To sum it all up - God can be glorified by beautiful sounds and spirits may be uplifted by a pleasing melody, but it is primarily the joining of the tune to a text that gives meaning to Christian songs. Not only should both text and tune glorify God and be consistent with each other, but the tune must serve the text. Music is always the servant of the Word. The great reformer John Calvin cautioned that "we should be very careful that our ears be not more attentive to the melody than our minds to the spiritual meaning of the words." Musical connections.

See ya' in church. Pastor Bob

Words from Wang

ST. PAUL'S UCC



September 10th - October 1st
Worship Opportunities

Worship Opportunities

September 10: Rally Day Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 149:1-5, Psalm 150

Sermon Theme: *Let's Make Some Noise!*

September 17: The 16th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Romans 14:1-12

Sermon Theme: *Food for Thought*

September 24: American Indian Ministry Sunday

Scripture: Exodus 16:2-15

Sermon Theme: *It's What's for Dinner*

October 1: The 18th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Exodus 17:1-17

Sermon Theme: *Is the Lord Among Us or Not?*

Note: The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be served

485 Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL

Phone: 815-459-5096

E-mail: info@stpaulsucccl.org

Website: www.stpaulsucc-cl.org

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

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



September , 2023

As I sit here writing this message, I notice that the trees are showing signs of autumn. I can't help but think of how fast these past few months have gone by.

But now it's time to think of the months ahead. We are facing the immediate challenge of selecting council members for the upcoming year. We will be losing members this year to an already minimal council. With the challenges of the months ahead and the work of establishing a church-wide search committee for a settled pastor, it is essential that we have a strong and active Church Council.

The Council currently meets once a month via ZOOM. These meetings focus on financial issues, committee updates, personnel issues, and other issues as they arise.

Prayerfully consider being a part of this dynamic group. The only requirement is a strong desire to guide St. Paul's to a bright future. Please contact myself, any current Council member, or the church office to express interest.

In God's service,

Wendy Manser

Church Council President

Let's Celebrate Birthdays



James Ticknor	10/1	Emily Butler	10/16
Lynn Virzi	10/3	Claire Needham	10/16
Lisa Sadlik	10/4	Ginny Deuerling	10/21
Rebecca Johnson	10/7	Samuel Reckamp	10/21
Julie Moore	10/7	Pastor Bob Wang	10/21
Joan Bourdage	10/10	Caitlin Monahan	10/23
Ken Hansen	10/11	Abby Pagnotta	10/24
David Patterson	10/12	Jan Rickard	10/25
Nancy Lutz	10/14	Bria Riley	10/25
Mary Benz	10/15	Myla Riley	10/25
John Whetham	10/15	Donna Reber	10/26
Dolores Broker	10/16		



Ann Kummerow	11/3	Faith Lotesto	11/17
Todd Fredrick	11/6	Glenn Berg	11/17
Bill Deuerling	11/9	Dan Pagnotta	11/21
Nolan Van Hoorn	11/9	Timothy Monahan	11/21
Michael Czosnyka	11/9	Jill Albertsen	11/23
Barbie Fredrick	11/10	Kevin Kruse	11/24
Joan Lloyd-Gohl	11/13	Dennis Radet	11/24
John Gulino	11/13	Gary Voss	11/25
George Heck	11/15	Kevin Lang	11/28
Elizabeth Speros	11/15		

Church News



Mary Circle would like to invite all women of St. Paul's to our annual Salad Supper. We will be meeting on Thursday, September 21st, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Following dinner, Wendy Manser will be presenting a program detailing her adventures in Africa. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

We hope you are able to join us for this fun evening of food and fellowship.

Mary Circle



Church News

McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk 2023, 2 p.m., Sunday, October 1 at Cary UMC

The McHenry County Planning Team oversees the **Church World Service** CROP Hunger Walk for our county. Representatives from nine churches have been working on this community-led interfaith event to raise funds to end hunger locally AND around the world. This nationwide walk impacts more than 500 communities in 35 countries. Our county goal is to raise \$30,000.

Church World Service's vision is a world where all have food, a voice, and a safe place to call home.

The 2022 Annual report for CWS states that "the Russian invasion of its neighbor, Ukraine, triggered the largest refugee crisis in Europe since World War II and one of the largest in modern history. It pushed the world past a horrific milestone: more than 100 million people worldwide have been forced to flee their homes. It has also begun to accelerate famine and hunger across the globe. In response, CWS volunteers, donors, partners, and advocates have unreservedly wrapped our global community with welcome and love."

St. Paul's supported CWS in 2022 in the Hygiene Kits and CROP Hunger programs. Thank you to all the DONORS!

In 2022, our McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk raised \$17,557. St. Paul's raised \$3,145 with 16 walkers. As of this Beacon publication, we have five walkers. Seven of last year's walkers are unable to walk and raise funds this year. This has quite an impact, both in terms of St. Paul's representation and the possible money raised.

Would you consider joining the 2023 Walk Team ?

***WALK * GIVE* SUPPORT ***

- ◆ WALK by registering on line or at church see Linda Ticknor after service.
- ◆ GIVE donate to a St. Paul's walker online or individually to walker at church.
- ◆ SUPPORT pray for the Hunger Walk participants and Recipients
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/team/st-pauls-united-church-of-christ>

In 2023, we're supporting the following local food pantries: Crystal Lake Food Pantry, Algonquin Lake In The Hills Interfaith Food Pantry, Grafton Food Pantry, and Cary Grove Food Pantry. On Walk Day, walkers can choose a 1-mile or 3-mile route. Wagons, strollers, and leashed dogs are welcome. We will also be packing Easy Eats meal kits during registration and the walk. All kits are donated to McHenry County food pantries.

Scheduled day of walk: October 1, 2023, at Cary UMC

1:30 "registration" (turn in fundraising envelopes) and team photos

1:50 Welcome and announcements

2:00 Blessing and Step-Off for the Walk (or stay and pack Easy Eats)

When you return from your walk, you are invited to relax and enjoy refreshments.

Faith in action,
Linda Ticknor
Committee member of McHenry County Planning team



Church News

Dear Friends,

A welcoming Montessori classroom environment is designed to facilitate the development of children's independence, confidence, and innate curiosity. It should be aesthetically pleasing, calm, and have a natural feel, with open spaces for movement, soft lighting, and a peaceful ambiance. Finally, it should help make the children feel at ease, comfortable, and nurtured to ensure that they embrace a loving, learning experience.

My staff and I have had the pleasure of designing the classrooms here at St. Paul's Guiding Light Preschool, but YOU, Church, provided the environment of warmth, love, safety, and encouragement. This congregation continues to give generously of their time, talents, and resources and we cannot thank you enough. We feel your love and prayers. Our Preschool prays over the members of St. Paul's UCC daily and we are proud to be a ministry of this amazing church.

Our new year started after Labor Day and we are already beginning to see new friendships form, learning connections click, and kindness being offered. We are focusing on separating from home, learning the Montessori work cycle, and sharing with our students *God's Love of All Things Great and Small*.

We look forward to giving you peeks into our classroom and our Christian Montessori Early Education Program as the year progresses. Blessings!

*Your Sister in Christ,
Rebecca Lynn Berghorn*



Church News



Rally Day Potluck/Kids Konnect Update

We had close to 50 people attend the Rally Day Potluck on Sunday! There was an abundance of food to satisfy everyone's hunger, and good fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Thank you again to Wendy and Eric Domanico for their generous donation of boneless pork chops and hot dogs from their butcher shop, Ascot Prime Meats. Also, a big thanks to Steve Tobin for setting up and grilling for us, along with Gary Gee and Justin, and to everyone who helped with set-up and clean-up.

The Church Life Committee

Rally Day was a beautiful event where we all came together! The kids enjoyed some outdoor play after a delicious luncheon. We had soccer, t-ball, and our favorite activity, volleyball!

Parents joined in on the fun and made the event more fun and competitive! Extra special thank you to Justin for his helping hands!

Jasmine Becker
Youth Program Director



Church News

SAVE THE DATE

Trunk or Treat
October 28th

St. Paul's UCC is busy creating our next TRUNK or TREAT event!

We need 20 trunkers. If you would like to volunteer or donate for this event, please contact Jasmine Becker at jasmine.ydstpauls@gmail.com. Also, please visit the Youth Group Facebook page by scanning the QR code below with your camera phone.

I'm looking forward to this next event. As always, please feel free to email me if you'd like to volunteer, donate, or suggest an idea for a youth event.

Jasmine Becker

Youth Program Director



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
485 W. Woodstock St.
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

TRUNK OR TREAT

FREE EVENT

SATURDAY, OCT 28TH
6PM TO 8PM

SAFE TRUNK OR TREATING
KIDS OUTDOOR MOVIE
BACKDROP FOR PHOTOS
VOTE FOR BEST TRUNK
SANDIE DOGS FOOD TRUCK
HOT DOGS & BBQ FOR PURCHASE

Church News

VOLUNTEER
you can make a difference!



Be Part of Something Special St. Paul's UCC Needs You!

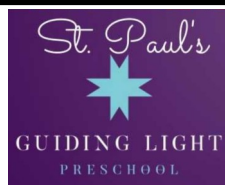
Can you donate one Sunday a month to help our children? Kids Konnect is in need of volunteers to serve as teachers and teacher assistants. No special training is required, just your time.

This year, students will start the hour in the sanctuary so they can hear the message for Young Christians. Then they will break into two different age groups and go to their classrooms. The curriculum is well planned, and materials will be supplied. If teachers need suggestions, there are people who can help. To meet our safe student requirement, two adults will be assigned to each group. One teacher and a teacher assistant.

Please prayerfully consider stepping up and being part of this special program. The goal is to have enough volunteers so that there can be a rotational schedule, with each volunteer committing to one Sunday a month.

Trust that you will be part of something rewarding.

If you would like to volunteer, please call **Jan Rickard at 815-459-2287**.



St. Paul's Preschool Board is also looking for new members to serve for 2024. All officer positions will be available for the new year. Please prayerfully consider supporting our preschool and working together with others to support a wonderful youth ministry!

Contact Janis Braun at 815-575-1997 or email me. eliotness62@gmail.com

Usher Schedule

September
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

September 3rd

Rob Revak - Captain
Laurie Revak & Linda Ticknor
Greeter: Wendy Domanico
Reader: Sue Phillips

September 10th

Sheryl Gee - Captain
Gary Gee & Ann Lingner
Greeter: Arlene Jezierski
Reader: Kevin Kruse

September 17th

Gary Voss - Captain
Carla Voss & Wendy Manser
Greeter: Susan Phillips
Reader: Jane Dawson

September 24th

John Whetham - Captain
Gene & Lynn Virzi
Greeters: Nancy Schmitz
Reader: Linda Ticknor

Revised 9/8/23

October
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.

USHERS

October 1st

Ken Hansen - Captain
Karen Hansen & Jane Dawson
Greeter: Nancy Kendall
Reader: TBD

October 8th

Ken Thrun- Captain
Kevin Kruse & Nancy Bellis
Greeter: Jennifer Good
Reader: TBD

October 15th

Gary Voss - Captain
Carla Voss & Bill Eich
Greeter: Marlene Kuhlman
Reader: TBD

October 22nd

John Whetham - Captain
Ken & Karen Hansen
Greeters: Ken & Barb Thrun
Reader: TBD

October 29th

Rob Revak - Captain
Laurie Revak & Steve Tobin
Greeters: Jan Czosnyka
Reader: TBD

Revised 9/12

St. Paul's Prayer List



St. Paul's Members

Jennifer Good

St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Arlene Kopsell, Barb Biscomb

Deceased Members and Friends

Barbara Roxworthy

Friends

Blenann Gee, Deanna Hansen

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

Pastor Bob Wang

815-459-5096 - pastor@stpaulsucccl.org

Office Manager, Lena Vocalino

815-459-5096 - info@stpaulsucccl.org

Preschool Director, Becky Berghorn

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 June 8th, 2023

Amazon	5 @ \$25
Best Buy	1 @ \$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	2 @ \$25
Chipotle	3 @ \$10
Darden	4 @ \$25
Dunkin'	6 @ \$10
Fannie May	5 @ \$10
Home Depot	2 @ \$100
IHOP	1 @ \$25
Jewel	3 @ \$25/ 7 @ \$100
LL Bean	1 @ \$100
Mariano's	3 @ \$50
Menards	1 @ \$100
Panera	6 @ \$10
Shell	4 @ \$50
Speedway	4 @ \$25/ 1 @ \$100
Synergy (Mobil)	3 @ \$50
Steinmart	1 @ \$25
Subway	3 @ \$10
Target	3 @ \$25
TJ Maxx (Sierra,HomeGoods, Marshall)	2 @ \$100
Walmart	3 @ \$100/ 2 @ \$250

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!