



The Scribe

St. Paul UCC

144 E Palatine Road, Palatine IL 60067
(847) 358-0399 www.stpaul-ucc.org

March 2025

Pastor's Pen.....

With Ash Wednesday on March 5th, we will officially begin the annual six weeks of Lent. Some churches observe it, and some don't. Some get heavily into it with Wednesday worship services, while others give it more of a passing nod. Some churches are even adamantly opposed to it since Lent is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible. I've even heard that argument leveled before: *"If Lent is not in the Bible, then we shouldn't do it!"*

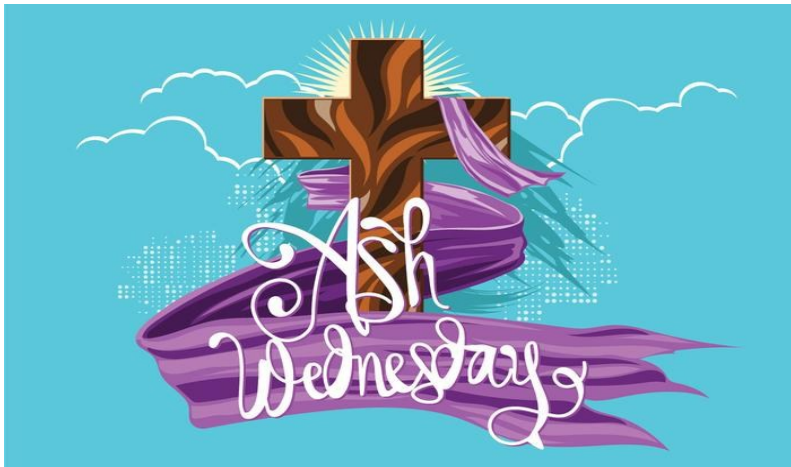
It's true that "Lent" is not mentioned in the Bible, per se.....but then neither is Jesus' birth in Bethlehem called "Christmas" and thereby decreed to be an annual festival. Yes, his birth is recorded in scripture, but not as the holiday that it's blossomed into. Further, the breathless announcement by Mary Magdalene *"I have seen the Lord!"* (John 20:18) is not some sort of pronouncement that the church shall have a blend of a special worship service and pancake breakfast each year. We do a lot of things that aren't necessarily spelled out in the text of scripture.

So, why do we do them? Because they help us to make sense of the Christian faith in ways that we can understand, and also because they highlight what God has done. Further, we also do them because it isn't a wrong thing to take some joy in how God interacts with the created order. Maybe they are human constructed dramas, but human beings actually need for some things to be visible and tangible. They help us to grasp truisms that would seem a lot more abstract, otherwise.

Lent commemorates the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness where he fasted, and prayed, and was tempted by the devil. And it begins this month. See you Sunday!

David

St. Paul UCC Executive Board Members: Sharon Altergott (Spiritual Life Board Rep.), Karen Connor (Spiritual Life Board Rep.), Tom Donat, Randy Everett (Admin. Board Rep.), Robert Kraft and David Mercer (Staff Rep).



**ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICE WILL BE AT
7:00PM**



"Simon Peter: Flawed But Faithful Disciple"

Join with Pastor David on six Thursday mornings during the Lenten season as we explore the Apostle Peter. Who was he? We know him as the impetuous Galilean fisherman who jumped out of the boat and tried to walk on the water toward Jesus. But, what else do we know?

All are invited to come as we look at this colorful disciple.
Basement classroom. RSVP to the church office.

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Thursday March 6th | 10:30-11:30am |
| Thursday March 13th | 10:30-11:30am |
| Thursday March 20th | 10:30-11:30am |
| Thursday March 27th | 10:30-11:30am |
| Thursday April 3rd | 10:30-11:30am |
| Thursday April 10th | 10:30-11:30am |



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 [\(224\) 386-6285](tel:2243866285) (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:8473580399) 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)

Pastoral
Relations
Committee

The Pastoral Relations Committee is Available To You

Do you have an idea, a question, a comment, or a concern that you would like for Pastor David to know about? You have a couple of options available to you.

First, you may speak directly with the pastor. Our pastor is here for ALL of St. Paul's members and he welcomes communication from ALL members. If you aren't comfortable in speaking directly with the pastor, however, then your second option is to go through the Pastoral Relations Committee.

Their purpose is to foster good relations between pastor and parish through open and thoughtful communication.

St. Paul's Pastoral Relations Committee members are:
Debbie Everett (Chair); Tom Donat, Jim Frost, and Bob Kolze.



March Birthdays

2 Ryan Kennelly
12 Nancy Finke

6 Steve Barr
16 Jim Frost

28 Bev Enockson

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

BOOK EXCHANGE SPECTACULAR!!



Sue Lech has donated a large number of movies for our exchange. Be sure to take a look. There is a very nice variety of topics from which to select. THANK YOU SUE!!



Have you signed up for Coffee Hour?
If not, now is your chance!
Bake or buy some goodies at the store!
Sign up in Fellowship Hall
We appreciate your help!!



A.A. is a fellowship of people who come together to solve their drinking problem using the Twelve Steps and Traditions. A.A. is open to anyone who wants to do something about their drinking problem and offers sobriety, hope and support.

There are AA meetings on Tuesday Evenings at 7:00pm in Fellowship Hall. If you know of anyone that would benefit from this group, please let them know.



Al-Anon is a worldwide fellowship that offers a program of recovery for the families and friends of alcoholics

If you know of anyone that would benefit from this group, they meet on Monday Mornings at 9:30 in Fellowship Hall.

THE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is a vital special mission offering of the United Church of Christ. It connects you to disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. By partnering with Global Ministries and international response networks, OGHS maximizes its impact. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

Community Outreach will be collecting contributions for One Great Hour of Sharing on March 30th. Envelopes will be provided beginning March 23rd.

Thank you.



Do you take medicines and wonder if there's anything that can be done other than just recycling the pill bottles? If you're like me, you already have pill bottles filled with different size nails and screws or other little things.

Well, I've found a ministry, Matthew 25 Ministries**, just outside of Cincinnati, in Blue Ash, Ohio, that accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies for their ministries. Their pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring for our environment.

Beginning immediately, I'll be collecting empty pill bottles to take to Matthew 25 Ministries on my next trip to Cincinnati later this spring. There are some requirements that need to be followed for the bottles to be accepted by M25M.

They accept the following types of bottles:

- Prescription and over-the-counter pill bottles
- Large and small pill bottles
- Pill Bottles with and without secure caps (child-resistant)

Pill bottle donations should adhere to the following guidelines:

- Bottles must have an all plastic lid.
- All labels should be removed, leaving no glue or residue.
- All bottles and lids should be washed with dish soap, rinsed, and dried.
- Caps should be placed back onto the clean, dried bottles.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Karen Connor

**Matthew 25 Ministries states they help the poorest of the poor and disaster victims throughout the United States and around the world. The mission of Matthew 25: Ministries is to fulfill Matthew 25:34-40 of the New Testament by providing nutritional food to the hungry, clean water to the thirsty, clothing to the naked, affordable shelter to the homeless, medical care to the ill, and humanitarian supplies to those in need.



Raise Right makes all your gift shopping easy. Birthdays, baby and wedding showers, house warming gifts or for just for your personal use.

There are so many choices of gift cards on www.raiseright.com and the website will show you how much the Community Outreach program will earn off of every card purchase.

You receive 100% of the gift card amount you purchase, and the VISA cards do not have an activation fee.

Place your order by March 9 and get your cards March 16.

If you have any questions, please see Sue Lech or email at s.lech@comcast.net

Below is the Raise Right (Scrip) form , print it off and fill it out. If you go to www.raiseright.com you can see all of the gift cards that are available.

There is no activation fee on the VISA gift cards

| St Paul United Church of Christ/Palatine, IL | | | Date | | |
|---|-----|-------|----------------|-----|-------|
| Name | | | email or phone | | |
| Check # | | | Order total | | |
| Common products | QTY | Total | Product | QTY | Total |
| Amazon \$10.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Amazon \$100.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Amazon \$25.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Dairy Queen \$10.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Jewel Osco \$100.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Jewel Osco \$50.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Mariano's (IL) \$100.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Mariano's (IL) \$50.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Starbucks \$25.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Walgreens \$100.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Walgreens \$25.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Walmart \$100.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Walmart \$25.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |
| Walmart \$50.00 | | \$ | | | \$ |



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU
everyone for supporting our Souper
Bowl campaign.
We appreciate your continued support!
Community Outreach

*Be Good
 Do Good
 Feel Good*

Highway hero

Driving home in a blizzard, I noticed a vehicle trailing close behind me.

Suddenly, my tire blew! I pulled off the road, and so did the other car. A man jumped out from behind the wheel and without hesitation changed the flat. "I was going to get off two miles back," he said. "But I didn't think that tire looked good." *Marilyn A.*

A family's food angel

While going through a divorce, my mother fretted over her new worries: no income, the same bills, and no way to afford groceries. It was around this time that she started finding boxes of food outside our door every morning.

This went on for months until she was able to land a job. We never did find out who left the groceries, but they truly saved our lives.
Jamie B

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**



Final Winter Get Together

If you have missed out on the fun, you have one more chance for Winter 2025!

Our last get together is scheduled for Thursday, March 20th at 5:30 p.m. at Annie's Restaurant.

The restaurant is located at 154 W. Northwest Hwy. in Palatine. Again, we will be in a separate room and order off the menu. Separate checks will be provided.

Sign up is due after service on Sunday, March 16th so that reservation count is correct. Sign up sheet is located in the East Entrance.

If you had a great time and enjoyed some laughs, we hope you will join us as we wrap up Winter 2025.

Spiritual Life



April 12th
Game Night
4:30-?



April 6th at 3:00pm

We need help with our activities, so if you would like to be part of a great afternoon with food, fun and fellowship please sign up in the East entrance

We will have a brief gathering to explain activities before the event.



April 26th

**Women's Fellowship Roaring
20's Tea Party
Ladies get your outfits ready!!**



Pray without ceasing.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF
FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Ed Bartelt, friend of Charlotte Mally
Doris Brztowski
Karen and Carol Douglas
Nick & Michael Drost
Ed, cousin of Jackie Schultze
Elena, daughter-in-law of Mary Carlisle
Jeff Florey
Bob Hasselmann, brother of Shirley Shimka
Matthew & Michael Hayford
Carol Hennings, sister of Pat Kolze
The Hernandez Family, neighbors of Melissa Gumm
Larry Ingram
Ashley Karr, friend of the Everetts
Bruce & Barb Kerlin, parents of Bruce Kerlin
Jay Kolze, nephew of Bob & Pat Kolze
Brian & Leeland, Altergott Family
Larry Layman, brother of Shirley Kolze
Russell Nebbia, father-in-law to Nicholas Drost
Holly Petersen
Kathy Schuett, sister of Sharon Giles Khan
Mary Schultz, neighbor of Nancy Perry
Sharon, neighbor of Bob & Pat Kolze
Bonnie Stallone, daughter of Jim & Shirley Schimka
Sherry Stephens, sister of Shirley Kolze
Beverly Young
Rosann friend of Sharon Khan
Cassandra Trost
Maceo & Dolores Ellison
Grace Hogaboom, friend of Pat Kolze
Mary Rickert- friend of Sharon Khan
Maverick, Sharon and Gary Altergott's Grandson

SERVING CHRIST IN WORSHIP

March Usher Captain:
Randy Everett

March Readers:

2: Tom Donat

5: Gary Altergott-Ash Wed.

9:

16: Kim Cichon

23: Janet Olsen

30:

March Greeters:

2: Jim and Shirley Shimka

9: NEED

16: Nancy Perry

23: NEED

30: Janet Olsen

Lectionary for March

2: Exodus 34:29-35;

2 Corinthians 3:12-14;

Luke 9:28-36

5: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; 2 Corinthians
5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

9: Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16;

Romans 10: 8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

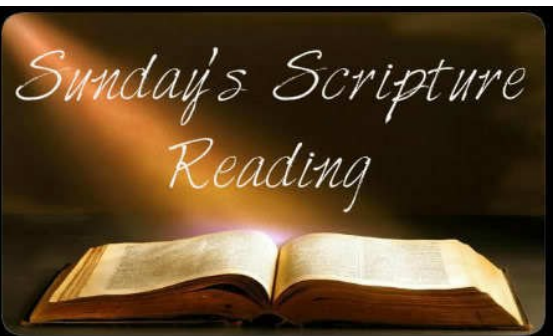
16: Psalm 27, Philippians 3:17-
41 Luke 13:31-35;

23: Psalm 63: 1-8,

1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Luke
13:1-9

30: Psalm 32, 2 Corinthians

5:16-21, Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



The awkward moment when you put something in a safe place so you don't lose it, then you forget where that safe place is.

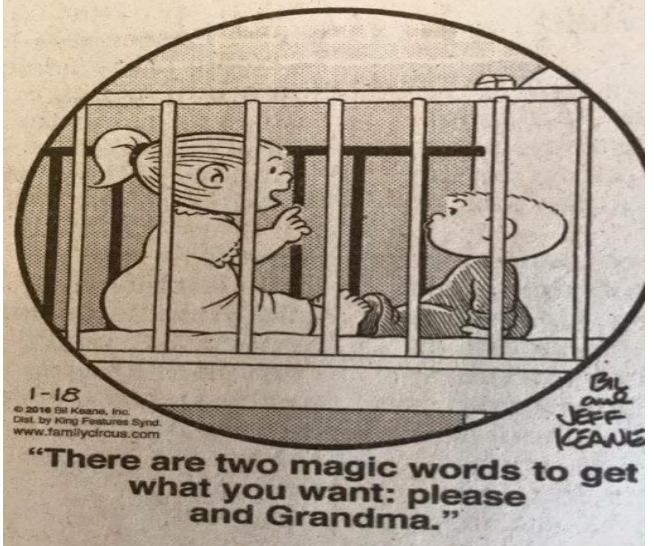


your e cards
someecards.com

How I feel about a lot of things these days



Family Circus



My emotional support dog after one day with me





ST. PATRICK'S DAY WORD SEARCH



c i r e l a n d s i p
j s w e u m a r c h t
p f p a c u h s d a r
f a o i k a c p s r a
a o t u y h e a h t i
l e p r r e c h a u n
u m a a i t r r m w b
i e r r o c e s r x o
r r a s d l k p o t w
i a d g g o l d c h n
s l e a r v l l k t d
h d s c h e s a i n t
k w e e r r e f r i e
h c g o h o l n t f k

Irish
Emerald
Clover
Lucky'
Ireland

Parade
Leprechaun
Patrick
Gold
Rainbow

Pot
Shamrock
Green
Saint
March