

St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

October 19, 2025

If you are visiting us for the first time, welcome! Thank you for joining us. We're happy you are here.

Please be sure to sign in at the Narthex and include your name and email so we can keep you updated on upcoming events and special worship services.

*Please stand if you are comfortable and able. The Congregation reads text in bold print.

In our liturgy, A: is All our voices. L: is the Liturgist's voice. LL: is the Lay Leader's voice.

Bringing Christ's Light into Worship

Youth Acolyte

and

Matthew Westermeyer, Senior Acolyte

Sharing of Joys and Concerns for Prayer

Michelle Daniels, Lay Leader

Live Stream Begins

Prelude Garrett Woods, Music Director

Welcome and Announcements

Michelle Daniels, Lay Leader

*Call to Worship Jim Hill, Liturgist

L: God promises to remove our hearts of stone

A: And give us hearts that are soft, open and alive

L: We come for transformation, not just tradition

A: We come for renewal, not just routine

L: Come Holy Spirit—make us new

A: We worship with hearts ready to change. AMEN.

*Hymn

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

No. 517

*Invocation

A: Dear Lord, We come before you with grateful hearts, acknowledging your great love and your many blessings. Be with us now as we worship you. Fill this place with your holy presence, and may your Word guide us in the way of love. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

*Call to Confession

L: God doesn't call us to a blind faith...but to a faith that is eye-opening and mind-expanding. But we often find it more beneficial for ourselves if we pretend that we cannot see or understand God's vision for creation. Please join me in the prayer of confession.

*Prayer of Confession

A: Holy and beloved God, you promise us your Spirit – a constant companion, a wise guide, a source of courage and peace. Yet we confess that we often close our hearts to your presence. We cling to control when you ask us to trust, and we choose comfort over calling. You lead us to those in need, but we hesitate to help. You open doors for justice, but we walk past them in awkward silence. You whisper truth, but we turn up the volume of living our lives. Forgive us, Spirit of Truth. Unclench our hands. Unblock our ears. Unbind our hearts. And wherever we are – wherever you send us – help us walk in your Way. Amen.

*Words of Assurance

LL: Praise be to our God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy, he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil, or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you.

*Gloria Patri (Glory be to the Father)

No. 35

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Please be seated.

A: Silent Prayer - LL: Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

A: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Through Song

"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

No. 306

Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; incline thine ear to us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.

The Holy Scriptures

Old Testament

Anthem

<u>Philippians 4:6</u> - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

"Here I Am Lord"

arr. By Jack Shrader

New Testament

2 Corinthians 4:6-18 - ⁶ For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. ⁸ We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; ¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. ¹¹ For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh. ¹² So then death worketh in us, but life in you. ¹³ We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak; ¹⁴ Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you. ¹⁵ For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God. ¹⁶ For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. ¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; ¹⁸ While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

Message "Always Pray and Never Lose Heart" Michelle Daniels, Lay Leader

*Affirmation of Faith -- "A New Creed," United Church of Canada, 1980.

A: We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Hymn "Seek Ye First" No. 354

*Invitation to the Offering

LL: God is the giver of all good things, the one who fashioned each of us with unique gifts, that together, make the Body of Christ whole.

*Doxology (Praise) No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* Prayer of Dedication

A: Bountiful God, all that we can offer you stems from your generosity. May the gifts that we return to you become a blessing for your whole community, enriching and empowering us for the work to which you call us. Amen.

*Hymn

"Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart"

No. 265

*Benediction

LL: Let us depart in thy peace, blessed Jesus. Send us to our homes with God's love in our hearts Let not the busy world claim our loyalties. Keep us ever mindful, dear Lord of thee.

*A: Benediction Response –

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again" – Elmhurst Hymnal (1921) God be with you till we meet again, by His counsels guide, uphold you,

With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.

Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet;

Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again. Amen.

Postlude

Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ!

3001 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45238 + 513-661-3745

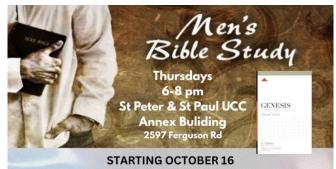
In case of pastoral care emergency, please call the office or Deb Boland.

spspuccoffice@gmail.com + www.spspucc.org All Hymns copied from Chalice Hymnal - Red Pew Edition © 1995 / Chalice Press Eleventh Printing, 2001. Used by Permission. / CCLI # 11439836 / CSPLI # CSPL1650 / One License M-401820

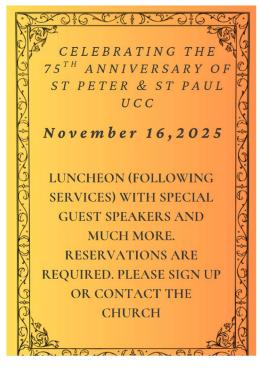
Our church will observe Totenfest during morning worship on Sunday, November 3. We will remember all of those of our church family who have passed away in the last year.

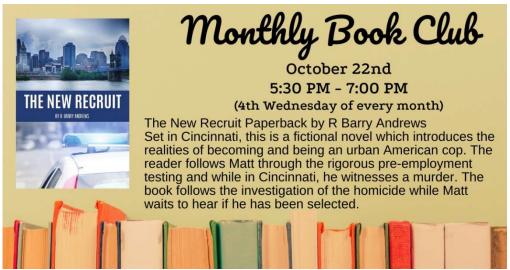
If you would like to add the name of a loved one or friend to our Totenfest list, please send that information to the church office (spspuccoffice@gmail.com) by Sunday, October 26.





This 13 week study discover how the book of Genesis lays the groundwork for the gospel and points us to Jesus. This men's Bible study explores the lives of key figures like Adam, Abraham, and Jacob, revealing God's unfolding plan to bless all nations. Through practical insights and honest reflection, we'll learn what it means to walk with God as men of faith today.





This month features a local quest author, R. Barry Andrews.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	2	3 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 pm - Annex	4
5 Communian	6 7 Church & Ministry - Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.		8 Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	6	10 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 pm - Annex	E
72	13	14 Property - 7pm - Par.	Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	91	17 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 pm - Annex	18 Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
6	20	21	Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM - Annex Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	23	24 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 pm - Annex	Trunk or Treat
26	27	Council - 7 pm - Rm. Ladies Bible Study 107	Ladies Bible Study - 3-5 pm F.H. Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	30	S1 Bits n Pieces 2.0 - 9 am - 11 pm - Annex	