

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Evanston presents

An Evening of Music

Monday, November 24, 2025, 7:00 P.M.

Belle Plaine Chamber Players

Musicians

Judith Zunamon Lewis, oboe

Heather Wittels, violin

Diane Mues, viola

Judy Stone, cello

Welcome

Dr. Kurt Westerberg, Director of Music, St. Paul's

Program

Quartet in B-flat Major Johann Christian Bach (1735-1782)

-Allegro

-Rondo

The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba..... George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)
from the Oratorio "Solomon" (arranged by Daniel Kelley)

Flower Duet Leo Delibes (1836-1891)
from Lakmé (arranged by Daniel Kelley)

The Laughing SongJohann Strauss, Jr. (1825-1899)
from Die Fledermaus (arranged by Daniel Kelly)

Syrinx Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Serenade in D Major, opus 8 Ludwig von Beethoven (1770-1827)
I. Marcia -Allegro
II. Adagio
V. Allegretto alla Polacca
VI. Thema con Variazioni-Andante quasi Allegretto
VII. Marcia-Allegro

The program will be played without intermission. Following the performance, join us for refreshments and discussions with the musicians.

The Belle Plaine Chamber Players

JUDITH ZUNAMON LEWIS is Assistant Principal Oboe and English Horn of the Lyric Opera of Chicago where she has been a member since 2002. Before joining the orchestra, she appeared frequently as soloist, chamber musician, and orchestral performer with the Chicago, Boston, Honolulu, and Milwaukee Symphony Orchestras. She has also performed with the orchestras of the Joffrey, Kirov, Bolshoi, and American Ballet Theatres, and was a former member of Music of the Baroque. An active festival musician, Judith has participated in Ravinia, Grant Park, Bach Week, Bay Chamber Concerts, Midsummer's Music, and the Bach Aria Festival. She has held teaching positions at DePaul and Northern Illinois Universities, and performed chamber music with the Vermeer Quartet and the Chicago Chamber Musicians. In 1995, she was a finalist in the Lucarelli International Solo Oboe Competition. Judith earned both her B.A. and M.A. degrees with honors from Northwestern University, where she was named a Tanglewood Fellow. Her woodwind quintet won first prize at the Coleman Chamber Music Competition.

HEATHER WITTELS is a member of the Lyric Opera of Chicago Orchestra first violin section, the Director of Chamber Music at the University of Chicago, and Artist Faculty at Roosevelt University's Chicago College of Performing Arts. Since 2022, Heather spends her summers serving as concertmaster of the AIMS Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria. Prior to that she was the associate concertmaster of the Glimmerglass Opera Festival Orchestra in Cooperstown, NY. She performs as a principal player/concertmaster with the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago, the Chicago Philharmonic Orchestra, and the Chicago Opera Theater, and is a regular substitute violinist with both The Cleveland Orchestra and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Heather graduated cum laude from Yale University with a Bachelor of Science in chemistry, with distinction. Subsequently, she earned a Masters in Music and Graduate Diploma in violin performance in the studio of Malcolm Lowe at the New England Conservatory, as beneficiary of the 2007 Tourjée Alumni Award for graduate study. She was a Fellow of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, FL and a three-time Tanglewood Music Center Fellow. A native of Brookline, MA, Heather began the violin at age three.

DIANE MUES has been a member of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra since 1987 when she was invited to the viola section by Sir Georg Solti. Prior to that, she was assistant principal viola in the Lyric Opera of Chicago. A native of the Chicago suburb of Addison, Diane began playing viola at age nine, was principal viola of the Youth Symphony Orchestra of Greater Chicago, the Chicago Civic Orchestra, and participated in the Tanglewood Music Festival. Diane studied with Milton Preves at DePaul University where she received a bachelor's degree. Diane has been active as a chamber musician in the Chicago Symphony's member chamber series and educational concerts in Chicago schools and public centers. She has performed in live concerts on WFMT, most recently on the Rush Hour Concert series.

A member of the Orion Ensemble since 1995, cellist **JUDY STONE** performs regularly with Music of the Baroque, where she has also been a featured soloist. She also performs with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Philharmonic and Chicago Opera Theater. Ms. Stone has appeared as soloist with orchestras throughout the United States, including the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She has been recognized in national and international competitions, such as the prestigious Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow, where she was awarded a Performers Certificate. A Chicago native, Ms. Stone received her music education at the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan, and graduated with honors from Chicago Musical College of Roosevelt University, where she earned bachelor and Master of Music degrees under the tutelage of cellist Karl Fruh. Ms. Stone is a very sought after chamber musician, and maintains a private teaching studio.

A Note on the Evanston Natural Habitat Restoration Program – this evening’s Free Will Donation recipient

This evening’s Free Will Donation is going to support the Channel Habitat Fund (Twiggs Park) at Natural Habitat Evanston. The Fund works to restore native habitat for wildlife and people on the Northshore Channel, a blue green corridor two miles from Lake Michigan on Evanston’s west side, that include Twiggs Park, The Ladd Arboreum and Harbert Payne Park. According to Natural Habitat Evanston, the work at Twiggs Park is just getting going and needs immense help, so it is great to focus the donations for Twiggs Park. Twiggs Park is a large park on the edge of the Fifth Ward of Evanston, a historically underserved and redlined neighborhood. Habitat restoration efforts are focused near the Channel, removing invasive buckthorn and replacing it with native trees and shrubs, such as dogwood, blackhaw and nannyberry viburnum, hazelnut, ninebark and wafer ash.

This evening’s donations will pay for native trees, shrubs and wildflowers at Twiggs Park, and depending on the amount of funds raised, equipment and signage. Research shows that urban areas can play a crucial role in helping insects and birds survive and thrive by creating a connected patch work of restored natural lands. Evanston has won certification from the National Wildlife Federation for being a Community Wildlife Habitat, an honor renewed annually since 2019.

Natural Habitat Evanston (“NHE”), a program of the nonprofit Climate Action Evanston, is an all-volunteer community group of about 1,500 members, restoring habitat for insects, birds, and other wildlife and for people. It aims to change the culture of lawns. NHE gives away and plants about 200 native trees annually at schools, parks and the 2nd and 5th wards of Evanston and holds about 30 events annually.

Thank you for your support and generous donation.

HOW TO DONATE:

Use the Will Free Donation offering basket, or use the office@stpaulevanston.org Zelle QR code. In the memo field, please include the words, “**Twiggs Habitat Restoration**”

