



Come join us for an enjoyable jazz-filled Worship service at St. Paul UCC Sunday, Feb. 26!

St. Paul United Church of Christ of Pekin, Rev Dr Brian Byrne - Senior Pastor, will celebrate the coming of Lent with a church service designed to explore the roots of jazz celebrating traditional New Orleans music with trumpeter John Cooper and the Lamoine River Ramblers. Dr. John Cooper, Director of Jazz Studies at Western Illinois University states "Jazz found its way into all aspects of life early on in New Orleans. Musicians celebrated at parties and cried in funeral processions throughout the city as this music formed a new uniquely American style. New Orleans musicians celebrated church with all the passion and energy musically in those early days as they did playing in clubs for patrons on Saturday night."

Members of the group include: John Cooper, trumpet; Peter Hannen, clarinet; John Hardesty, trombone; Gayle Cooper, piano; Matt Hughes, bass; and Kevin Nichols, Drums. Special guest conductor Sharon Samuels Reed, Artistic Director of the Peoria Heritage Ensemble and former Pekin Community High School Cultural Studies Chair, will lead the congregational singing and choir. Selections arranged by Dr. Cooper include Bourbon St Parade, Down by the Riverside, Swing Low Sweet Chariot, This Little Light of Mine, Just A Closer Walk With Thee, and closing with Oh When the Saints Go Marching In. This New Orleans style service will be presented on February 26, 2016 at **St. Paul United Church of Christ, 101 N. 8th Street, Pekin, IL** at 9:30 am.