

From our Priest

Happy New Year! Where did 2023 go? The Latin phrase *tempus fugit* or time flies is absolutely true, but none so more as when you're having fun. This past year has been fun getting to know our St. Paul family and Columbus. It's been a year full of wonder and joy. Every day, I thank Almighty God that you called me to journey with you in following Jesus in the way of love. With the help of the vestry, St. Paul's is making incremental and significant changes that help us to be good neighbors as we share the good news of God in Christ. We can continue to pray for St. Paul's mission and ministry, growth, and spiritual commitment to love and serve.

We must be spiritually fed through our service and have strength for the journey. We start Wednesday, January 10, at 5 p.m. with a Celtic Worship Service in the Prayer Room/Chapel at the back of the nave. A Celtic Eucharist is both contemporary and ancient as it reflects the liturgy of the Celi De community that dates back to the ninth century. A Celtic Eucharist seeks to provide a worship experience that resonates with the deep spiritual and cultural roots of Celtic Christianity, fostering a sense of connection to both the divine and the natural world.

This worship service is a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend, family member, or acquaintance to join you. Also, a Celtic Eucharist can be a gateway for non-Episcopalians and the unchurched, who may have an allergic reaction to liturgical worship or organized religion, to experience God and fellowship in a quiet setting. I pray this opportunity will add to the fullness of worship at St. Paul's for ourselves and others.

Let us pray:



In your wisdom, O Lord our God, you have made all things, and have allotted to each of us the days of our life: Grant that we may live in your presence, be guided by your Holy Spirit, and offer all our works to your honor and glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In Love & Service, Ælred+

**FYI: Br. Ælred has a new phone number and can receive calls and texts—make a note:
812-657-4011**

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Parish Life

Christmas Goodie Baskets

Saturday, December 16th was our annual goodie basket assembling and delivery day. It was a fun morning, but the smiles and visits with our parishioners later in the afternoon were the best part!



Christmas Party

Andrew & Sian Goldsmid opened their home to the parish for a Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 13th. It was a lovely evening to gather and enjoy each other's company. Thank you to the Goldsmids for being gracious hosts!



Christmas Eve Services

Parishioners were joined by family at two services on Christmas Eve. It was a joyous celebration and so lovely to welcome home many of those who grew up in our congregation!



Outreach

Wheelchair Available

Did you know that St. Paul's has a wheelchair? It's normally parked at the back of the worship area and was donated to the church by the Frede family after Jane passed away. Available for the family and friends of St. Paul's, it was recently loaned to Ambika Tatnis and used by her mother Aperna while visiting Columbus.

As you can see from the photos below, the wheelchair was well used and allowed the family to do so much more! No worries about walking to an event or shopping at the mall: if you are tired the wheelchair can be used to take you back to the car or on to your destination. The family loved the added mobility, and it made Ambika's mother's visit that much better.

So, if your family has a need for a wheelchair, please contact the church office.
~ St. Paul's Outreach Commission



Livestream is Back! We are on YouTube



After some technical difficulties, we are streaming again! To watch our Sunday services just pop over to the website and click the "Watch Now" button. The weekly bulletin is available online as well, look for the "Access the bulletin here" link. Thank you to everyone who worked behind the scenes to solve this issue and get us back up and running.

Various & Sundry

Kroger Community Rewards Program

St. Paul's is now participating in this program and it's very simple. If you already have a Kroger Rewards card, visit Kroger.com and log into your account. From there scroll down to "Community Rewards" and click. It will ask you to find a community organization, use our code "CX845" and that should bring up St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Click the "Enroll" box and you should be all set. If you don't have a Rewards card yet, you can sign up for one the next time you are shopping there.

Outreach

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Matthew 6:21

UTO – Our final number almost matched last year's record contribution for St. Paul's. We sent \$701 to the United Thank Offering coffers.

Love Chapel's Christmas Feast Give-away (formerly known as the Christmas Pantry) was held over a 4-week period (November 27 – December 22). 1,635 pantry guests picked up their Christmas basket at the pantry. This number exceeded the 1,500 that Love Chapel had anticipated. St. Paul's once again provided the cans of green beans for the baskets.

Blue Christmas - Friday, December 1st at 7:00, Love Chapel held a Blue Christmas service at the Commons. This Annual service was to help people who have experienced a loss of a loved one, or a job, or a relationship, or their peace of mind. We had 30 in attendance. A small number, yet SO comforting to those who attended.



St. Paul's Christmas Concert – On Sunday, December 10th, our church was overflowing with people as just shy of 200 attendees listened to glorious Christmas music from a combined choir which included St. Paul's, St. Agnes, and Sandy Hook Methodist churches. Also sharing in the musical magic was the children's choir of Schmitt Elementary; Michelle Farnsworth and her talented family, and other community members. The rendition of *O Holy Night* sung by Noel Przybyla brought tears to the eyes of listeners. It was truly a wonderful afternoon of delightful Christmas music emceed by our own Nancy Morris. We were able to collect \$3,024.64 and 62 pounds of food for Love Chapel. Please join us as we extend a HUGE thank you to Michelle Farnsworth for organizing this annual event.



Outreach

Nurse-Family Partnership

I have a vision for St. Paul's, which is not new, as it draws from the past as churches rediscover ancient wisdom and translate that insight into our contemporary context. That vision is where faith communities become community centers of worship, spirituality, education, health and well-being, and advocacy while being a good neighbor.



Nurse-Family Partnership

Helping First-Time Parents Succeed®

This past year, the vestry has been creatively thinking outside the box in utilizing the space for our Columbus community. We've been in conversation with Nurse-Family Partnership, a program of specially educated nurses who visit first-time moms and support that begins from early pregnancy to the child's second birthday. Peer-reviewed research reveals the efficacy of Nurse-Family Partnership with measurable, positive long-term outcomes for the whole family. The Vestry and I are pleased to announce that NFP will be renting space from St. Paul's as their base of operations, as they serve, like us, our community. NFP's origins began in a church, and their leadership feels they are returning to their roots by coming home to serve this community out of St. Paul's.

Please welcome and pray for their mission and ministry in serving Columbus and beyond.

Formation

Advent Film Series

Several parishioners enjoyed a film series as part of their Advent journey. Br. Ælred led the discussion and it was a great experience.



Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is fast approaching! To learn more about the annual meeting and why it is important to the life of our church, please come to a Forum session on January 14th, at 9:15am in the Parish Hall. Br. Ælred, Vestry members, and the treasurer will be on hand to answer questions and provide more information.



Annual Meeting

Mark your calendar for Sunday, January 21st and plan to stay after morning service for a pitch-in meal. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Once the meal has ended we will hold the annual church business meeting. The three candidates for the Vestry will be announced and voted on along with the delegates for convention. This is an important time in the life of our church and we hope that many parishioners will be in attendance. If you have any questions, please speak with Br. Ælred (812-657-4011) or Sr. Warden Barb Parker (812-343-5379)

Vestry Minutes—December 12, 2023

The December Meeting was held in the basement of the Goldsmid's home prior to the Annual Christmas Open House. We thank Andrew & Sian for opening their beautiful home to our Parish Family.

Present: Barb Parker (Sr Warden), Don Wools (Jr Warden), Steve Talbert, Kelli Thompson, Nancy Ardizone, Frank Guthrie, Andrew Goldsmid, Julie Abedian, Br. Aelred Dean

Not Present or Excused: Nancy McKinney

Convene Meeting opened at 5:30 PM with prayer led by Br. Aelred.

Procedural Business

A quorum was present. November minutes were approved (Frank moved, Kelli seconded).

Reports

Finance Report - Budget – Treasurer Cindy Overmyer was present to discuss Finance Committee's budget draft.

St. Paul's should end up favorable to the 2023 Budget. The 2024 Budget shows increased funds due to higher pledges and monies coming in from organizations renting space. Don Wools discussed the 2024 salary & housing allowance with Aelred.

The following Resolution was discussed and approved.

Housing Allowance Resolution for Vestry 12/12/23

The Vestry on December 12, 2023, after discussing the amount to be paid to the Rev. Br. Aelred Bernard Dean as Housing Allowance, on motion duly made and seconded, adopted the following resolution:

Whereas, the Rev. Br. Aelred Bernard Dean is employed as a minister of the gospel of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Columbus, Indiana, which does not provide a residence for him, the Vestry resolves that of the total cash salary compensation of \$70,700 to be paid to the Rev. Br. Aelred Bernard Dean during 2024, that \$16,900 be designated as parsonage allowance (Housing Allowance) within the meaning of that term as used in Section 107 of the IRS Code of 1986; and the Vestry also resolves that \$16,900 be designated as parsonage allowance (Housing Allowance) for all future years, unless otherwise provided.

Like the present budget, a deficit is planned and it is funded from reserves. Reasons were communicated during last year's stewardship campaign. Finance and Vestry will continue to work toward keeping expenses under budget while seeing that ministry is sufficiently funded.

See attached reports from Our Clergy, Outreach, Parish Life, Worship

Action Items

Candidates for Vestry Class 2024 – Three vestry members are rotating-out in 2024. The Nomination Committee members will be seeking candidates. This Committee comprises of the out-going candidates: Julia Abedian, Barb Parker, and Kelli Thompson as per the By-laws. Possible candidates were discussed and Aelred will reach out to those individuals.

Discussion Items

Furnace

Loesch HVAC Company was called regarding one of the units which heats the corner offices. They were able to provide a temporary fix, but that unit will need to be replaced and Loesch gave an estimate. Frank moved to pay the \$5,077 bill, and Barb seconded the motion. Approved. Don will contact them to set the repair in motion.

B. Mobile Phones

The two Google Pixel Mobile phones arrived, however one is needing the SIM card in Aelred's current phone. Stephen will see to that ASAP. After the office phone is moved from the Comcast account to the mobile phone, Stephen will move internet service to the more affordable contract.

The phones will have the added benefit of synchronizing contact lists and sharing documents with the Google accounts that staff and priest use.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded at 6:45 Aelred led the closing prayer.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Parker

From your priest:

November and December are busy seasons in the church, starting with Thanksgiving and moving through the new year to Epiphany. In the first part of November, I was away on a much-needed vacation, which was extremely restful. However, I was glad to return to Columbus and Saint Paul and be with the parish in its ministry work. The Thanksgiving Eucharist was held in the prayer room set up as a Chapel, and that space was appreciated by everyone for its intimacy in prayer and worship. I also received positive feedback on the two instructed Eucharist services in November. I still want to keep the prayer room and use it as a Chapel for midweek services. Starting in January, I will have a weekly Celtic Eucharist in the prayer room/chapel at 5:00 p.m.

December has been a busy but good month. A few vestry members informed me that this was the best Christmas concert benefiting Love Chapel that they had experienced. I'm grateful for the work and ministry of Michelle, as she did an outstanding job for that event. As people left, I only heard good things about our annual Christmas concert. Also, in December, I visited another person in the county jail to turn off her pastoral counseling, and the Lieutenant has asked me to be available for others who may need pastoral support. To that end, I am grateful!

On Sunday, January 14th, there will be a forum to discuss the annual parish meeting, and then on

Sunday, January 21st, is the event with a potluck; I mean, pitch in! One of the main works of the new vestry is to set a calendar of events that need to happen throughout 2024.

I'm looking forward to 2024 and the ministry and mission of Saint Paul's in Columbus. I am also working with the diocese on pop-up churches and faith communities that are an extension of Saint Paul's but in locations in the community where people gather. The younger generations, especially the nones, seem to have an allergic reaction to churches and organized religion. Having a pop-up church extension of Saint Paul's is a way to be in the world and share the good news of God in Christ with others. Once I know more about it from the diocese, I will keep you informed.

Respectfully submitted, Aelred Bernard Dean, BSG

Outreach

The Annual Christmas Concert was held on Sunday, December 10th. We had just under 200 attendees to hear the glorious music and raised almost \$3,000 to benefit Love Chapel. We also gathered 62 lbs of canned goods. Thanks go out to Michelle Farnsworth for organizing this wonderful tradition.

Respectfully submitted, Barb Parker

Parish Life

Parish Life hosted a cookie exchange on Sunday during the coffee hour after the service. There was a wonderful variety of cookies to be exchanged. This Saturday, Dec. 16, the committee will assemble Christmas Baskets for our shut-ins. We will share a pizza lunch with any and all who wish to join us.

Below is a list of Parish Life events that were discussed and being planned:

2024 Parish Life Activities

1. January: Lunch & Learn (Tina): Lunch at an Indian restaurant. Tour of the Hindu Temple (arrange the date and time with the temple administrators for a tour and then schedule the restaurant). 2.) February: Shrove Tuesday Pancakes and Crepes. Aelred to talk to Andrew about contacting the Robinsons. Ticket Sales? 3.)March: March Madness (Aelred). Talk with Charlie Parson for ideas. 4.) April (Shelly): Craft Show 5.)May: Derby Day (Parish Life): Saturday, May 4 6.) June: Pizza Party; Movie Night: Make personal Pizzas! Movie TBA 7.) July: No events planned (Summer Vacation) 8.) August (Parish Life; Andrew) Ice Cream Social. Rivalry attendance. 9.) September: Lunch; Learn (Aelred) Islamic Center 10.) October (Parish Life): Parish Picnic 11.) November (Parish Life): Pasta Sauce Contest 12.) December (Parish Life and Michelle Farnsworth): Christmas Basket; Concert.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Ardizone

Worship

The mini greening for Advent has been done in preparation for the choir concert. The final portion of the greening will take place before the services on the 24th. The Altar Guild met on December 2nd for lunch and a review of the processes to prepare for services and care for the linens and vessels. We were glad to have Aelred join us and share his expertise with us.

Respectfully submitted, Kelli Thompson

Employee Schedules

Priest-in-Charge, The Rev. Bro. Ælred Dean, will be available in the church office Tuesday through Saturday each week. He can be reached by email (stpaulscolumbuspriest@gmail.com) or phone /text (812-657-4011). Ælred plans to be out of the office on pastoral visits twice a week. Bro. Ælred will keep a sabbath on Mondays – taking the day off and stepping away from email/phone.

Kathi Whipker, Parish Administrator, is starting her Practicum (like student-teaching, but student-interpreting) this month. She will be in the office on Fridays from 8am to 3pm. Kathi will have a second day in the office each week but it is fluid, depending on the practicum opportunities each week. She can be reached in the office on Fridays (812-372-7869 or email: stpaulscolumbusin@gmail.com), or on her cell any other time (812-603-5028).

Michelle Farnsworth, Interim Music Director, welcomes voices to the choir. Rehearsals will be every Wednesday from 5:30—6:30pm and the choir will sing on one Sunday each month. She can be contacted on her cell: 248-921-5314 if you have questions or need more information.

Financial Summary

November: YTD Actual Revenue is \$158,412 as compared to the budget of \$138,050 for a favorable budget difference of \$20,362. YTD Actual Revenue is \$158,412 as compared to the previous year of \$137,119 for a favorable year-over-year difference of \$21,293. YTD Actual Expenditures are \$168,414 as compared to the budget of \$181,449 for a favorable budget difference of (\$13,035).

January

Birthdays

- 6 Gertie Woods
- 19 Ryan Fisher
- 21 Nick Firestone
- 31 Corin Fisher



Anniversary

January 6 Tom & Gertie Woods

January 2024 Service Schedule

If you are unable to serve as assigned, please find a substitute & let Kathi know.

Date & Time	Acolyte	Lector	Greeter/ Usher	Teller	LEV	Live Stream
Dec. 31 10:15 am	Chuck Boddie	Nick Firestone Chuck Boddie	Andrew Goldsmid Nick Firestone	Andrew Goldsmid Bill Garber	Roxie Garber	Andrew Goldsmid
Jan. 7 10:15 am	David Thompson	Dorcas Miller David Thompson	Dick Weaver Nick Firestone	Dick Weaver Nick Firestone	Cindy Overmyer	Steve Talbert
Jan. 14 10:15 am	Sarah DeLap Chalice: Nancy Morris	Andrew Goldsmid Ken Erickson	Andrew Goldsmid Ken Erickson	Andrew Goldsmid Ken Erickson	Nancy Morris	Andrew Goldsmid
Jan. 21 10:15 am Annual Meeting	Nancy Morris	Melis zur Loye Chuck Boddie	Chuck & Tina Boddie	Nancy Morris Ken Erickson	Roxie Garber	Steve Talbert
Jan. 28 10:15 am	Chuck Boddie	Andrew Goldsmid Nancy McKinney	Andrew Goldmsid Nick Firestone	Andrew Goldsmid Bill Garber	Cindy Overmyer	Andrew Goldsmid



January 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Dec. 31 Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream	1  New Year's Day	2 9am — AA	3 5:30 pm Finance 6pm Choir	4 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	5 9 am — AA Noon — Ladies' lunch at Sophea's	6
7 Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream	8	9 9 am — AA 5:30 pm — Vestry	10 NO choir practice tonight 5pm—Celtic Eucharist	11 10am Bible Study 1pm Bridge Group 6pm IN Action	12 9am — AA	13
14 9:15 Forum Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II 11:30 Coffee Hr. In Person & Livestream	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day 	16 9am — AA	17 5pm—Celtic Eucharist 6 pm Choir	18 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	19 9am — AA	20
21 Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream 11:30 Pitch-in followed by Annual Meeting	22	23 9am — AA	24 5pm—Celtic Eucharist 6 pm Choir	25 10am Bible Study Noon—Men's lunch @ El Nopal 1pm—Bridge Group	26 9am — AA	27 11am— 6pm IN Action
28 Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite I In Person & Livestream	29	30 9 am— AA	31 5pm—Celtic Eucharist 6 pm Choir	Feb. 1 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	2 9am — AA	3

Sunday services can be accessed on our website (stpaulscolumbus.org)—click the Facebook icon.
 Zoom meetings use Meeting ID 291 212 0372 Password: church

OUR MISSION:

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH IS A CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY.

WE BELIEVE IN GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL THE WORLD.

THAT BELIEF IMPELS US TO MIRROR GOD'S LOVE WITH GENEROSITY AND KINDNESS, ALWAYS RESPECTING THE DIGNITY OF EVERY HUMAN BEING, AND TO STRIVE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE AMONG ALL PEOPLE.

Meetings

Finance Committee
Wednesday, Jan. 3, 5:30 pm

Vestry
Tuesday, Jan. 9, 5:30 pm

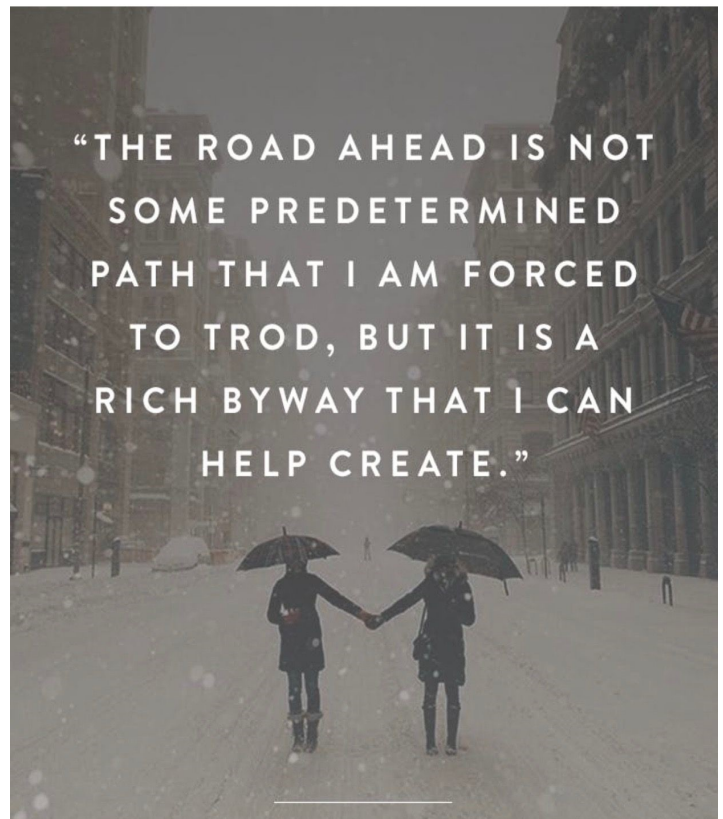
Vestry Officers

Senior Warden	Barb Parker
Junior Warden	Don Wools
Treasurer	Cindy Overmyer

Vestry Members

Commission Liaison

Julie Abedian '23	Communications
Nancy Ardizzone '25	Parish Life
Andrew Goldsmid '24	Formation
Frank Guthrie '24	Finance
Nancy McKinney '24	Welcoming
Barb Parker '23	Senior Warden, Outreach
Steve Talbert '25	Marketing
Kelli Thompson '23	Worship
Don Wools '25	Jr. Warden, and Buildings & Grounds



Office Notes: The deadline for Venite information and articles is the 15th of the month. If you wish, you may leave a message concerning schedules to serve, etc. in the gray book outside the office, call the office (812-372-7869), or send an email to: stpaulscolumbusin@gmail.com. Thank you!

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
2651 CALIFORNIA ST.
COLUMBUS, IN 47201



The Rt. Rev. Jennifer Baskerville-Burrows, Bishop

The Rev. Bro. Ælred Dean, Priest

Senior Warden, Barb Parker

Junior Warden, Don Wools

Kathi Whipker, Parish Administrator
Michelle Farnsworth, Interim Music Director

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