

From the Senior Warden

This year the holiday season has arrived early at St. Paul's. Those of you that rigorously read the November Venite probably anticipated the 'Good News' announcement but that does not take away from the fact that after 3 years our search for a new priest is over with the Reverend Aelred Bernard Dean joining St. Paul's on December 27th, 2022, as our Priest-in-Charge.

For the past few days, I've been humming the Frank Sinatra theme from 'New York, New York' which starts with the line 'Start Spreading the News' so let's do that and encourage our friends and family to check out St. Paul's and listen to the Good News of Jesus Christ. Be sure to let them know about our Christmas Concert for Love Chapel on Dec 4th and our Christmas Eve services at 4:00 and 7:30pm.

As we enter the season of advent and prepare for the joy of Christ's birth we remember the wonderful Christmas gift we have received in our new priest the Reverend Brother Aelred Dean. His introductory letter appears on the next page, so be sure to read it if you haven't already done so. St. Luke reminds us that 'To whom much is given, much will be required' a line of wisdom which encourages us to remember the gifts we have been given and celebrate them by 'giving back' to our Church and Community.

Peace and Blessings this Holiday Season, Andrew Goldsmid

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From our Priest-in-Charge

Dear Friends in Christ,

I wish to begin this introductory letter with a quote from my namesake, Aelred of Rievlaux, "Here we are, you and I, and I hope that Christ makes a third with us. No one can interrupt us now, no one can spoil our friendly conversation; no one's voice or noise will break in upon this pleasant solitude of ours. So come now, dearest friend, reveal your heart and speak your mind. You have a friendly audience; say whatever you wish. And let us not be ungrateful for this time or opportunity."

Jim and I want to first express our gratitude to the Search Committee and Vestry at St. Paul's for offering me your hand of friendship to partner with you as your new priest, pastor, and teacher. I deliberately use the word "partner" because we are the people of God who is revealed in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, and empowered by the Holy Spirit towards a common goal. That common goal is the mission of the Church, which is to restore all people to unity with God and each other. That unity reminds me of the following Christian folk song, "We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and they'll know we Christians by our love."

I arrive in Columbus on December 27 to begin the new year and new ministry partnership with the St. Paul's family. I'm looking forward to getting to know you and listening to your hopes and dreams for St. Paul's and yourselves. I look forward to learning from you about the rich culture and traditions you love and cherish at St. Paul's and the larger community of Columbus.

Across our nation, church attendance is dropping. For some, it's an alarm signal that something, whatever that something is, has gone wrong and the Church is on the wrong path. I do not share that pessimistic view; however, I see this post-covid era as a time when we follow the Holy Spirit's lead to love God and our neighbor as we love ourselves. Saint Aelred of Rievlaux wrote, "Those who do not love their own soul will in no way be capable of loving the soul of another." Or, to put his wisdom in other words, those who love themselves as God loves them are capable of loving everyone.

I pray that we walk together in God's love and become a beacon of hope for all people, welcoming everyone as Christ has embraced us. Together, we can have the audacity and daring to be the change desperately needed by sharing the Good News.

Once again, on behalf of Jim and myself, thank you.

In Love & Service Bound,



Aelred B. Dean, BSG





Christmas Concert

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

2651 California Street, Columbus, IN 47201

3 pm Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022

There is no admission charge for this concert, but donations (monetary or food) will gladly be accepted for the Love Chapel Food pantry

The concert will feature secular and sacred Christmas music performed by local musicians, and a combined choir from St. Paul's Episcopal, St. Agnes Catholic, and Sandy Hook United Methodist Churches and our special guests this year—the Schmitt Elementary School Choir!

St. Paul's members are asked to park in the back lot, off Union Street. We are expecting a large crowd due to the Schmitt students' participation and would like to keep spaces available in our main parking lot.

Nominations for 2023 Vestry

With the arrival of Brother Aelred, our new Priest-in-Charge, 2023 will be an exciting time in the life of our parish! If you've ever considered being on the Vestry, NOW is the time!!

Vestry is the governing body of each Episcopal parish. Along with the rector they are responsible for seeing that the mission of the church is carried out. Each year, at the annual meeting of the Parish membership, an election is held to fill the open seats of Vestry.

New members are recruited in two ways. The nominating committee consisting of the outgoing members invites people to run for Vestry, or a person wishing to be considered can submit their own name to one of the members of the nominating committee.

This year's nominating committee members are Shelly Bell, Bill Garber, and Vicki Gust.

At the Annual Meeting in January, three members will rotate off of the Vestry and three new members will be elected for three year terms.

The Canons of the Episcopal Church state the following qualifications for Vestry members. To be on Vestry a person:

- 1. Must be a baptized or confirmed Communicant member of the Parish. A Communicant member is a person who has received Holy Communion at least three times during the preceding year.
- 2. Must be a Qualified Voter of the parish. A Qualified Voter is a communicant member who is 16 years or older and whose name appears on the records of the parish Treasurer as a regular contributor to the support of the parish for three months preceding the Annual Meeting (held in January).
- 3. Must have attended the services of the Parish for the three months preceding the election.

Vestry members serve for three years. For more information about Vestry, how to apply to be a Vestry member or how to nominate someone for Vestry, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee, or Senior Warden Andrew Goldsmid.

Vestry

NOMINATIONS

Are you called to serve?



Outreach Opportunities

As we end 2022, Outreach has a few loose ends to tie up.

UTO - As a way of nurturing the habit of giving daily thanks to God, the United Thank Offering (UTO) promotes making thank offerings to support mission and ministry throughout the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion in the developing world. If you meant to bring in your donation, but didn't get the chance, please do so ASAP. Barb is ready to send that check.



Love Chapel's Christmas Feast Give-away (formerly known as the Christmas Pantry) is very different this year. Pantry guests will pick up their Christmas basket at the pantry over a 4-week period (which began November 28 and goes through December 22). St. Paul's once again provided the cans of green beans for the baskets.

ERD – Episcopal Relief & Development partnered with the Episcopal Diocese of Central Florida to provide food relief to people affected by Hurricane Ian, which caused extensive damage in Florida at the end of September. Hurricane Ian, a Category 4 storm, killed 109 people and caused an estimated \$60 billion in property damage. Two million people were displaced by the hurricane and the widespread flooding and damage made it difficult for people to access basic needs like clean water and food. The Diocese of Central Florida, with Episcopal Relief & Development's support, is meeting the need for increased demand for food among people displaced by the hurricane. In addition, they are also working with their neighboring dioceses to store and distribute supplies as needed. Thanks to the generosity of our St. Paul's parishioners, we gathered \$805 to go toward the Hurricane Ian Relief in Florida. St. Paul's rounded that up to an even \$1000, then a generous donor matched those funds through the Indianapolis Diocese to make it a \$2000 donation. It takes all of us. Bravo!

Blue Christmas - Friday, December 9th at 7:00 pm, Love Chapel will hold a Blue Christmas service at the Commons. This service is meant to help people who have experienced a loss of a loved one, or a job, or a relationship, or your peace of mind. The idea is that you will bring this loss with you and leave with some hope.



Parish Life

Christmas Baskets for Our Shut-ins

Parishioners will gather in the Parish Hall on Saturday, December 10th at 11am to assemble goodie baskets for our shut-ins. After a break for lunch, the baskets will be delivered. This is a fun afternoon and our shut-ins enjoy the visit as much as the treats. Everyone is welcome and invited to come help out! Questions? Talk with Shelly Bell (812-371-9231).



Coffee Hour



Don't forget, our next Coffee Hour is scheduled for the second Sunday of December: the 11th. Plan to stay after service for some treats and a time of fellowship.

Congratulations!

Parents David and Susan DeBolt, grandparents Don and Marilyn Wools, and Godparents Paul and Deborah Elliott proudly announce the impending December 17 graduation of Megan DeBolt with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Southern Indiana University. Megan has accepted a position with Riley Children's Hospital where she will work in the operating room setting

Greening of the Church

Mark your calendar and plan to join the fun Saturday, December 3rd at 1pm as we decorate the church for the Christmas season. Many hands make light work and this is a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit, just in time for the concert the next day!



Christmas Service Times:

Christmas Eve, December 24th—4pm and 7:30 pm

Rite II services with the Christmas Lectionary

Christmas Day, Sunday December 25th—10:15 am

This will be a Morning Prayer service, **on ZOOM only**

The church will not be open.



PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Search Committee

To everything there is a Season, and Advent is the Season of Reflection and Expectation. A time to acknowledge those who have given their time and talent to the task of bringing a long awaited Priest-in-Charge to St. Paul's. These people were not "just" on the Search Committee, they were also dedicated Vestry members AND the chairs of each of various committees. They were "All in".

Please take a moment to thank Julia Abedian, Shelly Bell, Bill Garber, Vicki Gust, Nancy Morris, Barb Parker, John Settle, Kelli Thompson, and Melissa zur Loye. This year they had help from the incoming Vestry members: Andrew Goldsmid, Frank Guthrie, and Nancy McKinney. These people, together with all of you, have been very busy with the day-to-day management of St. Paul's.

Some of the results of this "busyness" are tangible and we can look upon those things with a certain amount of pride. We cut down some very sick trees, nurtured some others, and are planting new ones. We developed a beautiful new web site and have an active presence on Facebook.

Much of our undertakings centered on the people among us. We welcomed Reverend Kathy. She was with us longer than anyone had anticipated, and we eventually had to bid her farewell so she could enjoy her well-deserved retirement. We greeted new members into our midst and dispatched others to new communities. We buried beloved members of our congregation. Some of us were baptized. Some of us served at the altar and visited Shut-ins. All of us were involved.

We nurtured each other and in doing so learned much about ourselves. We looked at our procedures; how we welcome newcomers, how we manage the monies given in memorials, how we manage the upkeep of our building. We developed a Parish Profile and called a new Priest-in-Charge.

Other activities went beyond the walls of our building. We took our talents and shared them with others. We fed the poor at Hot Meals and gathered food for the coffers at Love Chapel. We treated the Schmitt students and parents to ice cream, and the high school band students to popsicles.

With the arrival of Brother Aelred, it would be easy to step back and thank our lucky stars that we have a Priest-in-Charge to lead us. While we are beyond fortunate to have Aelred, please don't make the mistake of stepping aside from the work that we do. We are the church. We are all leaders of our church. We could not have done as much as we did these past three years without everyone finding a spot where they could use their God given talents and gifts. Aelred and Jim can only enhance what we already have. They are entering into a dynamic congregation, and we are beyond excited to have them join us.



VESTRY**Minutes from November 8, 2022**

Present: Shelly Bell, Bill Garber, Andrew Goldsmid, Frank Guthrie, Nancy McKinney, and Kelli Thompson.

Attending on Zoom: Vicki Gust and Barb Parker.

The meeting began at 6:30 pm with a prayer by Andrew.

Procedural Business

We had a quorum. October minutes were approved, motion by Bill, seconded by Frank.

The date for the next meeting will be Dec. 13. Kelli asked about changing the time of vestry meetings, but it was decided to wait until Aelred could offer input.

Andrew and Sian will be hosting the Christmas Party/ Open House for the parish on Dec. 14th from 6-9 PM at 5240 Bramblewood Court Columbus. Attendees are invited to bring a dish to share.

Andrew asked retiring vestry members (Vicki, Shelly, Bill) to recruit vestry candidates for election at AGM.

ACTION: Invitation for new members to be put in bulletin.

The date for the St. Paul's Annual General Meeting is Jan. 22 after the service.

Reports:**Search Committee**

Barb declared the committee's work to be finished. Andrew echoed everyone's Thank You for a job well done.

Financial

Frank reported that revenues were down, but expenses were in line; all okay.

Andrew read the Pledge letter written by Frank. After discussion, Shelly offered one change in wording, and the letter was approved, motion by Andrew, seconded by Bill. **ACTION:** Frank will send letter to Kathi, and she will mail it out, with pledge cards, on Thursday.

Buildings and Grounds

Regarding cleaning issues, Bill reported that he had met with the cleaners, and items requiring attention were fixed. However, several new concerns have been raised.

Nick and Andrew are working on the Sacristy painting and blinds.

Andrew updated information on trees, including planting of five Betty Magnolias scheduled for December. He noted a need to decide where the trees are to go, and input is welcome. He also said that the Pin Oaks will be pruned in the winter.

Andrew noted that there is a new thermostat in the choir-room with same control logic as the thermostats in the Sanctuary. The old thermostat from the choir room replaced the thermostat in the office area which was no longer working in the heat mode. Forster Lighting replaced the All On switch for the Sanctuary lighting which had failed.

Repp and Mundt have fixed the spalling on the resurfaced office steps. At Andrew's request they also submitted a proposal to caulk and seal the deteriorated joints between the limestone blocks. The \$'s quoted was a not to exceed number, with St. Paul's being billed for the actual time and material. The numbers were high, and we could perhaps do the caulking ourselves? **ACTION:** Andrew will invite Repp and Mundt to visit St. Paul's for a discussion of the quote and the condition of the limestone before any decisions are made.

Andrew reported that although the Sanctuary HVAC is working, it is a very old system dating back to the 1960's, and we need to consider replacing it. **ACTION:** Andrew will contact Loesch and others for quotes which will be very high. The option of a capital fund drive was mentioned.

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No action was made on the basement inventory and clean up.

Julie and Andrew are following up on meetings regarding CBCP Church Building use. ACTION: Invitation to be put in bulletin for participation.

It was decided to wait for Aelred before we hold the next meeting on California Street signage.

Marketing

Kelli reported that all was okay with the website.

Andrew noted a need to update advertising info in the newspaper. He suggested having a sign on California street noting Christmas service times.

Andrew reported that the outside copper cross had been cleaned, under warranty.

Outreach

Barb noted that Outreach Committee members are discussing the disbursement of remaining outreach monies for the Year End Reconciliation.

Barb reminded that UTO Ingathering is Nov. 20, and the Christmas Benefit Concert for Love Chapel is Dec. 4.

Parish Life

Shelly noted the Nov. 2nd Sunday Coffee Hour will be Nov. 13 and will feature a Q&A with the search committee and the vestry available to answer questions.

Christmas Baskets are to be made Dec. 10th @ 11 AM in the Parish Hall.

Shelly explained about Safeguard Training that was brought up at Convention. ACTION: Shelly and Kathi will check to see who is currently up to date and possibly set up group sessions to facilitate the training.

Regarding the Welcoming of Aelred, several ideas were discussed. Andrew thought Aelred's first Sunday, Jan. 1, should be low key. Shelly suggested an Open House, from noon to 2 PM, Jan. 15, with the community invited. Vicki suggested that Aelred needs to have a time to introduce himself. Possibly a Forum at the Jan. 8 Coffee Hour would be the best opportunity. It was decided to wait and ask Aelred.

Worship and Welcoming

Kelli gave an Altar Guild update, noting a jump in prices for materials, especially candles.

Kelli set Dec. 3 as Greening Day, as the sanctuary needs to be decorated before the Christmas Concert.

Planning and officiating worship is all scheduled and set for November and December.

Andrew reported that the Christmas Eve service at 4 PM will include a baptism. The second Christmas Eve service will be at 7:30 PM. Rev. Kathy Thomas will officiate at both.

Christmas Day will be 10:15 AM Morning Prayer on Zoom. We will find a St. Paul's presider to lead the service. The church will not be open.

Vestry members were reminded to read Invite, Welcome, Connect as homework.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Andrew.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy McKinney, Clerk

Employee Schedules

For December we welcome the Rev. Tim Hallett on the 4th and 18th. The Rev. Joan Smoke will celebrate on the 11th and our worship team will lead Morning Prayer on Christmas Morning. We are excited that our former Interim Rector, The Rev. Kathy Thomas, will be joining us to celebrate on Christmas Eve this year for two services (4pm and 7:30pm).

Our new Priest-in-Charge, Aelred Dean, will begin his ministry here on Tuesday, December 27th, and celebrate his first Eucharist with us on Sunday, January 1st. His office hours will be announced in January's Venite and we look forward to welcoming him to St. Paul's!

Kathi Whipker, Parish Administrator, is almost done with classes for the semester, and her schedule will change to Monday-Friday from 8am to 11am starting December 12th. She can be reached in the office during those hours, or on her cell any other time (812-603-5028).

Michelle Farnsworth, Interim Music Director, is looking for cantors and song leaders to begin singing on Sunday mornings. She can be contacted on her cell: 248-921-5314 if you are interested in volunteering for this.

Financial Summary

October 2022: YTD Actual Revenue is \$120,415 as compared to the budget of \$121,667 for an unfavorable difference of (\$1,252). YTD Actual Revenue is \$120,415 as compared to the previous year of \$119,078 for a favorable difference of \$1,337. YTD Actual Expenditures are \$117,904 as compared to the budget of \$134,584 for a favorable difference of (\$16,680). Budget and actual do not include investment income or rector search, which have not been used so far in 2022, except for \$939 rector search expense.

December Birthdays & Anniversary

- 1 Steve Talbert
- 3 Ben Thompson
- 11 Sam Parker
- 18 Bryce Mueller
- 19 Nick Neeley
- 20 Eris Johnson
- 21 Ravi Varma
- 27 Andrew Goldsmid
- 28 Win Morris
- 28 Michelle Farnsworth



Dec. 28 McClain & Jill Clotfelter

December 2022 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. 4 10:15 am | David Thompson | Cheryl Paranavitana Ken Erickson | Frank Guthrie Lalith Paranavitana | Frank Guthrie Ken Erickson | Nancy Morris | Kelli Thompson |
| Dec. 11 10:15 am | Nancy Morris | Nancy McKinney Nick Firestone | Chuck & Tina Boddie | Andrew Goldsmid Nick Firestone | Cindy Overmyer | Andrew Goldsmid |
| Dec. 18 10:15 am | Chuck Boddie | Frank Guthrie Dorcas Miller | Andrew Goldsmid Dick Weaver | Frank Guthrie Dick Weaver | Roxie Garber | Steve Talbert |
| Dec. 24 4 pm --- 7:30 pm | Chuck Boddie _____ David Thompson | Cheryl Paranavitana Dorcas Miller _____ Ken Erickson David Thompson | Nick Firestone Tina Boddie _____ Ken Erickson | | | Lalith Paranavitana _____ Kelli Thompson |
| Dec. 25 10:15 am <i>Morning Prayer ZOOM</i> | <i>Leading Morning Prayer:</i> Andrew Goldsmid & Cindy Overmyer | Melissa zur Loye | | | Roxie Garber | |

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

December



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------|--|--|---|--|---|
| Nov. 27 1 ADVENT Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II Rev. Don Jones In Person & Livestream | 28 | 29 9am — AA | 30 | Dec. 1 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group | 2 9am — AA | 3 1pm Greening of the Church  |
| 4 2 ADVENT Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II Rev. Tim Hallett In Person & Livestream 3pm Concert | 5 | 6 9am — AA | 7 5:30 pm — Finance | 8 10am Bible Study 1pm Bridge Group | 9 9 am — AA 7 pm — Blue Christmas service @ The Commons | 10  11 am Assembling & Delivering Baskets to Shut-Ins |
| 11 3 ADVENT Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II Rev. Joan Smoke In Person & Livestream 11:15 Coffee Hour | 12 | 13 9 am — AA 6:30 pm Vestry | 14  All day— Flu & Covid Boosters 6pm Christmas Party | 15 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group | 16 9am — AA | 17 |
| 18 4 ADVENT Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II Rev. Tim Hallett In Person & Livestream | 19 | 20 9am — AA | 21 | 22 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group | 23 9am — AA | 24 Holy Eucharist 4 pm Rite II 7:30 pm Rite II Rev. Kathy Thomas In Person & Livestream |
| 25  Morning Prayer 10:15 On Zoom ONLY | 26 | 27 9am — AA | 28 | 29 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group | 30 9am — AA | 31 |

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, Dec. 7, 5:30 pm

Vestry
Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:30 pm

Vestry Officers

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Senior Warden | Andrew Goldsmid |
| Junior Warden | Shelly Bell |
| Treasurer | Cindy Overmyer |

Vestry Members

Commission Liaison

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Julie Abedian '23 | Communications/ Marketing |
| Shelly Bell '22 | Jr. Warden & Parish Life |
| Bill Garber '22 | Buildings & Grounds |
| Andrew Goldsmid '24 | Sr. Warden & Outreach |
| Vicki Gust '22 | Worship & Formation Liaison |
| Frank Guthrie '24 | Finance |
| Nancy McKinney '24 | Clerk & Newcomers |
| Barb Parker '23 | Asst. Treasurer & Outreach |
| Kelli Thompson '23 | Communications/ Marketing |



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
Andrew Goldsmid, Senior Warden
Shelly Bell, Junior Warden
Kathi Whipker, Parish Administrator
Michelle Farnsworth, Interim Music Director

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*In case of pastoral emergency
please call:*

Andrew Goldsmid

Cell: 812-390-9588