

**From our Priest**

During covidtime, a bishop of the Episcopal Church said, "The church has left the building," which was true. You may already know that the Greek word for "church" does not refer to a brick-and-mortar building, even though that is our contemporary understanding. Back in the day when St. Paul was writing his letters to the early followers of Jesus scattered around the Roman Empire, the word "church" (ekklesia) meant a gathering of people summoned. The first communities of faith gathered in the homes of the faithful, who then would invite their neighbors for a meal and a message. As Christianity grew, the faithful built structures for a common gathering place to worship and celebrate Holy Communion. Church buildings evolved from simple spaces to the beautiful structures we have today. As we do now, the people summoned for prayer in the early days of Christianity took pride in their buildings. Also, way before the idea of community centers, church buildings were such places for education, Christian formation, the arts, and meeting space for the community.

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St. Paul's and other faith communities in the Dioceses of Indianapolis and Northern Indiana are going through training and exercises to recapture the ethos that churches, both the physical building, and Christians, care about their community and want to be a center and resource to their community. This process is more than just clever marketing techniques for promoting St. Paul's. It's about all of us reaching out to the community and building the necessary partnership relationships. This understanding brings us back to that bishop's statement, "The church has left the building."

Faith communities no longer have to adopt an attitude of hope and wait for new people to participate in the mission and ministries of St. Paul's. We can proactively seek and invite friends and colleagues to join us, meaning the church has to leave the building to bring people into St. Paul's. Also, we can invite outside organizations that align with our values to consider

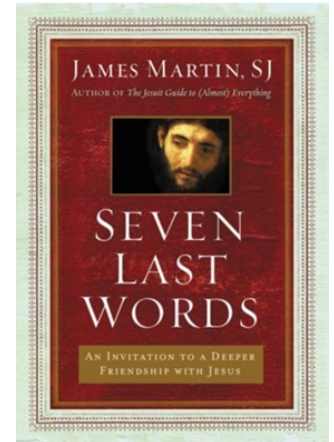
St. Paul's for space/rental usage to build community engagement and awareness. Again, this also means that the church needs to leave the building to bring outside organizations to St. Paul's. Mahatma Gandhi wrote, "Be the change you wish to see in the world." I will write, "Be the change you wish to see at St. Paul's." Together we can do all this and more with God as our helper.



In Love & Service Bound, Ælred+

## Formation

Ash Wednesday is behind us and we are in the season of Lent. This year as part of our Lenten journey, we will have a soup, salad, and bread supper at 5:00 p.m. each Wednesday from March 1 until Easter. During the meal, there will be a discussion from the book, *The Seven Last Words: An Invitation to a Deeper Friendship with Jesus*. The Eucharist will be celebrated after the meal. There will be a Zoom link for parishioners who want to be part of the study group but cannot attend face-to-face. If you have any questions, reach out to Bro. Ælred.



## Parish Life

### Upcoming Coffee Hour & Forum: March 12th

Plan to stay after worship on Sunday, March 12th for coffee hour and an important forum. The topic will be funeral planning and Living Wills. Bro. Ælred will lead discussion and help participants make some choices about their funeral plans. Those plans will be filed in the church office for the future (the far off, distant future we hope!)

Advanced directive documents will be covered as well. They are important for each of us, regardless of our age or physical condition. These documents are a way to legally declare what our wishes are for medical decisions and life choices, before those decisions are needed. This is especially important if we become incapacitated through illness or age. In those instances these wishes are recorded for our family to carry out. It relieves them of the emotional burden of making hard choices, or making those choices without knowledge of what we want.

We will have booklets available to guide you through the process. These booklets are terrific—written in an easy to understand format providing examples to help us see what choices we have and to think through what our own preferences are.

In order to have enough booklets for each participant, please RSVP by email to the church office, or sign the sheet on the bulletin board in the parish hall. If you have any questions, please speak with Bro. Ælred.

**FIVE WISHES**  
MY WISH FOR:

The Person I Want to Make Care Decisions for Me When I Can't

The Kind of Medical Treatment I Want or Don't Want

How Comfortable I Want to Be

How I Want People to Treat Me

What I Want My Loved Ones to Know

Print Your Name

Birthdate

### Men's Lunch

The men of St. Paul's host a lunch on the fourth Thursday of the month at El Nopal Mexican Restaurant (near the new car wash, in the former Sirloin Stockade building). This is a casual gathering with no agenda other than good food and fellowship. If you have any questions, please contact Lalith Parnavitana (812-447-8875) or Andrew Goldsmid (812-390-9588). The next gathering is March 23rd — hope to see you there!



## Buildings and Grounds

### Ring Doorbell

As we reported in the last Venite, our mailbox was the target of thieves at the end of last year. A new, locking mailbox was installed up on the building and is working well. As an added measure of security, we are looking at installing a Ring Doorbell. This will give us some video surveillance of the area near the office doors. Many of our parishioners have these on their homes and we look forward to being able to protect our building with this technology.

### New HVAC for Sanctuary

The fundraising for a new HVAC unit in the sanctuary kicked off last month and donations are coming in—thank you to those who have made this a priority and pledged to support it financially! The Buildings and Grounds team is meeting with a few local providers and collecting estimates. There are a couple of options for what type of unit we could install and the B&G members are investigating to see which is the best for our needs now, and in the future. This is a big expenditure and we appreciate their diligence! If you have any questions, please contact the Buildings and Grounds Commission chair: Don Wools (dmwool23@gmail.com or 812-350-0583).

## Outreach

### BREAKING NEWS!

At the February Ecumenical Board Meeting, the members of the board voted unanimously to sign a contract with the 4-H Fair Board to run the former St. Peter's food building at this summer's fair as a fundraiser.

Love Chapel will see food and drinks for 9 days (27 meal session). Love Chapel will need 8-10 volunteers per meal in addition to volunteer leaders. (FYI— The building and the equipment is owned and maintained by the fair board.) Love Chapel will also need to do some menu planning. The firm commitment is only for one year, but the intention is 3-5 years.

This year's 4-H Fair will be held June 23 to July 1. Mark your calendars NOW and plan to join with your St. Paul's family as we take on a shift (or two). The fair is ALWAYS a good time!! *Questions?* Ask Barb Parker, Laura Wenzler, or Bro. Ælfred.



### Parish Life

#### Pancake Supper

After a three year hiatus, St. Paul's Annual Pancake Supper made an In-person return! Bravo to the members of the Parish Life Committee for organizing the dinner which included all you can eat pancakes, sausage, apple sauce, and drinks. Despite the deliberate attempt to keep this a Low-Key event, we were still able to glean almost \$300 which will be used toward Waycross Camp Scholarships for our youth.



**Outreach**

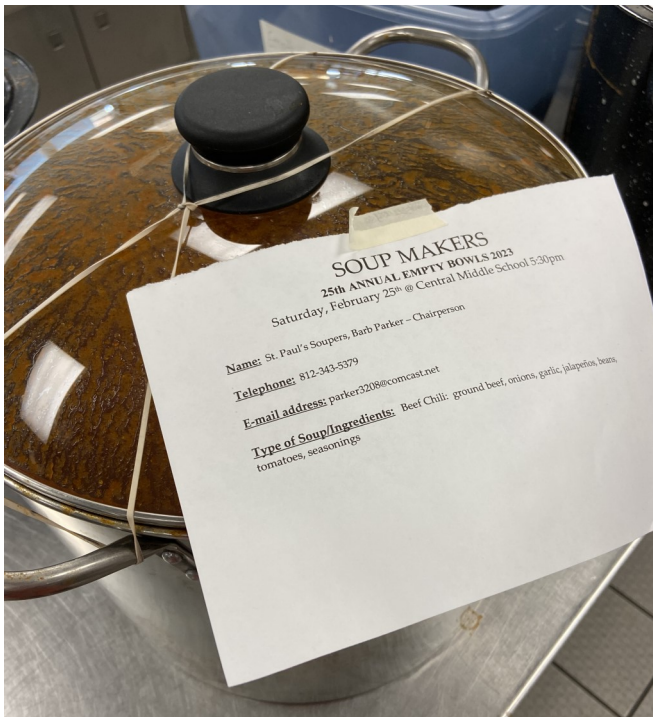
**Empty Bowls Returned — In-Person!**

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Empty Bowls fundraiser hosted an estimated crowd of 340 people at Central Middle School cafeteria on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. Organizers stated that approximately \$18,000 was raised, but donations are still coming in. That was slightly shy of a goal of 500 people and \$20,000.

Once again, St. Paul's Soupers rose to the occasion, stirring up 8 gallons of Beef Chili to contribute. Our thanks go out to: Brother Ælred Dean, Deborah Elliott, Cindy Overmyer, Lou Wenzler, Kathi Whipker and Melis zur Loye.

This year the fundraiser returned to an In-Person event. Brother Ælred , Stephen Talbert and Barb Parker assisted in the kitchen.

100% of the proceeds from Empty Bowls goes directly to 6 local pantries and shelters: Love Chapel, Turning Point, the Salvation Army, the Community Center of Hope, Thrive Alliance, and Horizon House. Representatives from all 6 agencies were present at the event with information to share.



**Next Up for Outreach:** March 23rd Family Night at Schmitt. We have four volunteers who will assist the Sixth Grade students as they serve a meal to raise funds for their end of the year trip. To show their thanks, those Sixth Grade students will, in turn, come to St. Paul's do some cleaning around our church and grounds.

## Vestry & Finance

### Financial Summary

**Financial Summary** January YTD Actual Revenue is \$17,200 as compared to the budget of \$12,550 for a favorable budget difference of \$4,650. YTD Actual Revenue is \$17,200 as compared to the previous year of \$13,213 for a favorable difference of \$3,987. YTD Actual Expenditures are \$17,565 as compared to the budget of \$18,421 for a favorable difference of (\$856).

### Vestry Minutes from February 14, 2023

**Present:** Rev. Bro. Ælred Dean, Nancy Ardizone, Andrew Goldsmid, Nancy McKinney, and Barb Parker.

Attending on Zoom: Steve Talbert and Don Wools.

Absent: Julia Abedian, Frank Guthrie, and Kelli Thompson.

The meeting began at 5 pm with a prayer by Bro. Æered.

### Procedural Business

There was a quorum. Barb moved to accept the January minutes, seconded by Andrew, approved. The next meeting will be March 14.

Ælred announced the appointment of Barb Parker as Senior Warden.

Don Wools was nominated as Junior Warden, Barb moved to close nominations and accept Don as Junior Warden, Nancy A. seconded, approved.

The appointment of Commission Officers followed: Buildings & Grounds—Don Wools, Outreach—Barb Parker, Parish Life—Nancy Ardizone, Worship—Bro. Ælred Dean & Kelli Thompson, Formation—Andrew Goldsmid, Finance—Frank Guthrie, Marketing—Steve Talbert, Communications—Julia Abedian, Welcoming—Nancy McKinney

### Reports:

#### **Financial**

Barb reported that finances look good for starting out the new year. Pledge receipts are favorable. A \$25,000 CD was purchased. It was noted that the Parish Administrator was given an increase but that action needed a vestry approval. Nancy M. moved to okay that raise, Andrew seconded, approved.

#### **Buildings & Grounds**

Andrew reported that the limestone steps had been fixed by Repp & Mundt and the price had come in under quote. The next step will be recaulking the base of columns. Vestry approved going ahead on the project; Andrew made motion, Nancy A. seconded. Andrew noted that memorial funds had paid for the expense of fixing columns. ACTION: It was decided to have the Finance Committee determine funding of next step.

Andrew noted that good progress was being made on HVAC expenses. A second quote may be sought with Nading Mechanical for 3 heat pumps. Action: An internal meeting should be set up to prepare a list of questions for bidders before any further action would be taken,

Andrew has asked Ken Erickson to report back on the Ring doorbell; Steve suggested putting it on a SSID apart from the office WiFi. That should resolve the hacking vulnerability concern.

Andrew reported that the new lockable mailbox has been mounted on the church wall.

(continued on page 7)

**VESTRY****Minutes from February 14, 2023**

(continued from page 6)

**Parish Life**

Ælred noted that Safe Church Training will be done at the Vestry Retreat, March 4, at the Cole starting at 9 AM in the Media Lounge.

Also at the Retreat Julia will report on CBCP.

**Worship & Welcoming**

Nancy M. read a list of upcoming events including: Feb. 19, Burying the Alleluia; Feb. 21, Fat Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5-7 PM; Feb. 22, Ash Wednesday services noon & 5pm; Mar. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 (Wednesdays of Lent) Soup/Bread with service; Apr. 2, Palm Sunday, processing with palms; Apr. 6, Maundy Thursday Agape Meal with Foot washing, service & stripping of the Altar; Apr. 7, Good Friday, 5 PM; Apr. 8, Holy Saturday, church open 9-noon, No scheduled events; Apr. 9, Easter 10:15, flowered cross, Alleluia; Easter breakfast or To Go following service

Ælred noted he will be doing Ashes To Go on Ash Wednesday, downtown and possibly Walmart parking lot.

Nancy also noted that incense will be used at Easter, and that Rite 1 will be used once a month.

Ælred recounted an LED-lighted Easter Egg Hunt held at his previous church on the Saturday night before Easter for the community, with 500 eggs filled with candy and LED lights. ACTION: Outreach will discuss having a similar egg hunt here.

**Formation**

Ælred noted that the Lenten Soup/Salad/Bread events will study *Seven Last Words of Christ*.

ACTION: Sign up sheets are needed.

Ælred announced that he is starting Theology UnCorked at the Cole starting March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Final Business**

Motion to Accept reports made by Don, seconded by Nancy A., approved.

**For the Good of the Order**

Ælred proposed Formation and Visioning during Vestry meetings.

Ælred recounted that he and Julia had led a session on CBCP last Sunday during coffee hour where participants discussed various assets of our church and our community. They used Post-Its which are on the Parish Hall wall.

A discussion was held regarding re-imagining use of Sanctuary Space. ACTION: A meeting with wardens to discuss ways to make space more communal will be scheduled.

Motion to adjourn was made by Barb, seconded by Andrew, approved.

The meeting was closed with prayer led by Æered.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy McKinney, Clerk

## 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) and 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**, has returned to class and will now be in the office Thursday and Friday from 8am—3pm. She can be reached in the office during those hours (812-372-7869 or email: stpaulscolumbus@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.

# MARCH BIRTHDAYS



- 2 David Anderson
- Nancy McKinney
- 7 Tom Woods
- 9 Ken Erickson
- 10 Marilyn Firestone
- 19 Dick Weaver
- Wendy Manley
- 21 Bill Monette
- 26 Cheryl Paronavitana
- 28 Elizabeth Monette
- 31 Karen Hunsberger
- Randy Doll



# March 2023 Service Schedule

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

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Acolyte</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Greeter/ Usher</b>	<b>Teller</b>	<b>LEV</b>	<b>Live Stream</b>
<b>Mar. 5</b> 10:15 am	Nancy Morris	Andrew Goldsmid Dorcas Miller	Andrew Goldsmid Ken Erickson	Andrew Goldsmid Ken Erickson	Nancy Morris	Steve Talbert
<b>Mar. 12</b> 10:15 am	Chuck Boddie	Cheryl Paronavitana Nick Firestone	Frank Guthrie Dick Weaver	Frank Guthrie Dick Weaver	Cindy Overmyer	Lalith Paronavitana
<b>Mar. 19</b> 10:15 am	David Thompson	Nancy McKinney David Thompson	Chuck & Tina Boddie	Frank Guthrie Nancy Morris	Roxie Garber	Kelli Thompson
<b>Mar. 26</b> 10:15 am <i>Rite 1</i>	Nancy Morris	Dorcas Miller John DeLap	Nick Firestone Rita Lynch	Nick Firestone Bill Garber	Nancy Morris	Steve Talbert
<b>Apr. 2</b> 10:15 am	Sarah DeLap	Melissa zur Loye Ken Erickson	Ken Erickson Lalith Paronavitana	Nancy Morris Ken Erickson	Roxie Garber	Lalith Paronavitana

# March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Feb. 26</b> Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9am — AA	<b>Mar. 1</b> 5 pm Lenten Soup Supper and Discussion	<b>2</b> 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	<b>3</b> 9am — AA	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 9am — AA	<b>8</b> 5 pm Lenten Soup Supper and Discus- sion 5:30 pm — Finance	<b>9</b> 10am Bible Study 1pm Bridge Group	<b>10</b> 9 am — AA	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream Coffee Hour & Forum	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9 am — AA 6:30 pm Vestry	<b>15</b> 5 pm Lenten Soup Supper and Discussion	<b>16</b> 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	<b>17</b> 9am — AA	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite II In Person & Livestream	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9am — AA	<b>22</b> 5 pm Lenten Soup Supper and Discussion	<b>23</b> 10am Bible Study Noon — Men's Lunch 1pm—Bridge Group 5 pm Family Night @ Schmitt Elem.	<b>24</b> 9am — AA	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> Holy Eucharist 10:15 Rite I In Person & Livestream	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9 am— AA	<b>29</b> 5 pm Lenten Soup Supper and Discussion	<b>30</b> 10am Bible Study 1pm—Bridge Group	<b>31</b> 9am — AA	<b>Apr. 1</b>

Sunday services can be accessed on our website ([stpaulscolumbus.org](http://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, Mar. 8, 5:30 pm

**Vestry**  
Tuesday, Mar. 14, 6:30 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	Buildings & Grounds



"Lent is not something we do for God – Lent is something we do *with* God."

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](mailto: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

2651 California Street  
Columbus, IN 47201  
Phone: 812-372-7869  
stpaulscolumbusin@gmail.com  
stpaulscolumbus.org

*In case of pastoral emergency please call:*

**The Rev. Bro. Ælred Dean,**

*office: 812-372-7869*

*Email: stpaulscolumbuspriest@gmail.com*