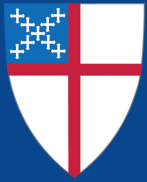


— March 2025 —



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Newsletter

Wherever you are in your journey of faith you are always welcome at St Paul's.



**MONICA BURKERT-BRIST,
RECTOR**

608-215-9232

revmbb.saint413paul@gmail.com

Office Hours—Guild Hall
Wed 1:30-3:30 p.m.



**JEN DEVERS,
PARISH ADMIN**

920-220-9143

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Office Hours
Wed 2:00-3:30 p.m.



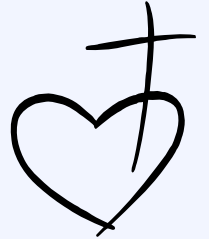
**DAVID & SARA DOW,
CHURCH MUSICIANS**

706- 987-0504

saint413paulmusicleader@gmail.com

Choir Practice
Thurs 6:30 p.m. & Sun 9 a.m.

MOTHER MONICA'S *Message*



It's Lent-- Let's Get Excited!

Dear St Paul's friends: This Wednesday, March 5, is Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the Christian Church's Lenten season. Too often people are tempted to dread Lent. It can seem on the surface to be a dreary time, both weather wise here where we live-- as well as spiritually. The church's focus on repentance can seem a heavy lift when we may feel overwhelmed already by challenges at home, work, or the community around us.

But Lent can also be an exciting time of spiritual renewal if we can be open to the challenge it places before us. We can treat Lent as a challenge of repenting and letting go of the past but also of accepting the gift of redemption and life offered to us through Jesus' death and resurrection. So this year I want us to strive to help us **get excited about Lent**. Instead of **enduring** Lent, I invite you to **embrace** Lent.

You can do this by making it a point to join our Sunday Eucharist, to pop into one of our Thursday bible studies on how to live the Beatitudes, giving something extra in time or money to a charitable need that speaks to your heart, or picking an individual spiritual discipline. The special services offered during Lent, especially those in Holy Week can be some of the most beautiful and spiritually meaningful of the entire year. See some more suggestions in this newsletter or speak to me about resources to help you chart your Lenten journey.

See you in church!



**March
9th**

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It's LENT! Check out these Opportunities to Pray and Learn

The Lenten Season, consisting of approximately 5 weeks and 40 days, presents a fine opportunity to add a discipline of prayer or study to your daily routine. Lent is traditionally considered a period of fasting, prayer, penitence and giving. While many folks like to "give up" something for Lent, adding something can be equally spiritually enriching. Here are some resources and opportunities for study, individually or in fellowship with others here at St Paul's.

Living Compass Guide: The Living Compass Spirituality and Wellness Initiative of the Episcopal Church offers a guide to spiritual, mental, and physical wellness during Lent. Copies are available at no charge on the table by the entrance to the nave.

Bible Study: St Paul's will continue its in person bible study focussing on how to live the Beatitudes every other Thursday evening in the Guild Hall. We meet at 5 pm for light supper followed by a one hour time of fellowship and discussion from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Upcoming Dates are March 13, March 27 and April 10. Come to one or all sessions.

Episcopal Relief and Development, our National Church's arm for justice and relief ministries around our country and world is sponsoring a daily meditation during Lent called "A Commonplace Lent". You can sign up for the free daily email here:

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/1/#search/lent/FMfcgzQZTVljkpLhmnMMPTqDpbFgScpr>

For more resources or to get suggestions on Lenten reading materials, ask Mother Monica for more info.

Our choir continues to uplift and inspire every Sunday with their beautiful anthems and hymns under the wonderful direction of David & Sara Dow. The music they create fills the space with a sense of peace and joy, making each service a truly special experience. We are also excited to see the choir growing, with new members joining and adding their voices to this already talented group. It's a wonderful time for music and community, and we can't wait to see how the choir continues to flourish!

If you are interested in joining the choir - all voices welcome - please speak to any choir member or to David & Sara!

ST. PAUL'S CHOIR



Bishop Gunter to Join Us for Special Holy Eucharist Service!



The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, our beloved Bishop, will be joining us for the Holy Eucharist Worship Service on **Sunday, March 16th** and will be confirming and receiving into the Episcopal church numerous members of our faith community! This will be a special occasion for our parish as we come together to celebrate the love, fellowship, and vibrant community that is St. Paul's.

The service will be a wonderful opportunity to show Bishop Gunter the warmth and spirit of our congregation. As we gather in worship, we will also have the chance to express the deep sense of family that makes St. Paul's such a unique and welcoming place.

Celebrating & Thanking the Dunlops!!

We will also be celebrating and thanking the wonderful ministry of Deacon Bill and Amy Dunlop at Coffee Hour on March 16th. Deacon Bill has left St. Paul's for the new position of Archdeacon at the Diocese of Wisconsin. Plan to attend to say Thank You!!

We invite everyone to participate in a heartfelt donation by contributing to a collection for the Dunlops.

How You Can Donate:

Donations of any kind are greatly appreciated, whether monetary (cash or check) given to Jen Devers or marked in the offering plate Memo: Gift for Dunlops or via Venmo @StPauls-EpiscopalChurch with a note as Gift for Dunlops.

The last Sunday to donate will be March 9th.



Appetizer Coffee Hour

We're excited to have an appetizer coffee hour! If you'd like to bring an appetizer or snack item to share, please sign up on the bulletin board or let Jen know.

Events Calendar - March

Date & Time	Details	Contact
March 2	Baptism of Grant Emery Tracy & Celebration Coffee Hour	Mother Monica
March 2 at 1 p.m.	Building a Welcoming Watertown - at the Library	Mother Moncia
March 2 at 5:30 p.m.	Whole Church Social Gathering - Oscar Party Join us for a fun Oscar Party hosted by Mother Monica and Jen Devers in the Guild Hall	Jen Devers/Mother Monica
March 5 at 9:45 a.m.	Mary's Room Diaper Delivery	Ellen Klaus
March 5 12n & 6 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Services at 12 noon & 6 p.m.	Mother Monica
March 9 at 9:50 a.m.	Youth Formation Sunday - Meet in the Youth Room downstairs	Vicki Wright/Jean Kalivoda
March 13 at 10:30 a.m.	St. Paul's packs Food to Go & Grow Bags at Christ United Methodist Church	TBD
March 13 at 5 p.m.	Supper at 5:00 p.m. & Bible Study starting at 5:30 p.m.	Mother Monica
March 16 at 10 a.m.	Bishop Gunter Visit - Confirmation & Receiving Members Service	Mother Monica
March 16 Coffee Hour	Celebration of Dcn Bill Dunlop's ministry at St. Paul's and the Watertown Community	Mother Monica
March 23 after Coffee Hour	Vestry Meeting In-Person	Mother Monica/Jen Devers
March 27 at 5 p.m.	Supper at 5:00 p.m. & Bible Study starting at 5:30 p.m.	Mother Monica
March 30 during Coffee Hr	Wellness Kit Assembly for Mary's Room	Ellen Klaus

MARCH HAPPY BIRTHDAY

David Byrne Callie Rogalski
Lee Tracy Shannon Main Sarah Ferry
Mother Monica Patrick Punzel



Youth Formation Sunday

We are excited to invite all youth and their families to Youth Formation on **Sunday, March 9th, at 9:50 a.m. in the Youth Room!**

Youth Formation Sunday is a special time set aside for young people to gather, grow, and engage in their faith in a fun and meaningful way.

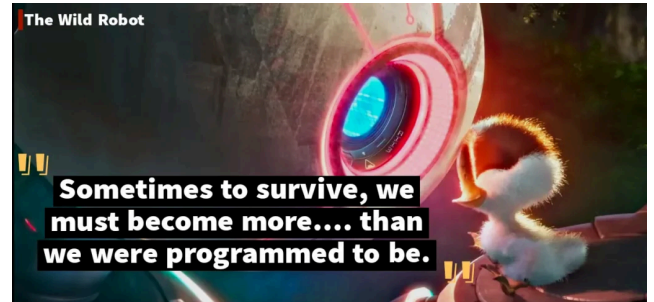
MEN'S

Gathering

Men - Watch for an email from Richard for an upcoming gathering!

LADIES Social GATHERING

Thank you to Cindy Krueger for hosting our February ladies gathering. The veggie chili was delicious and thank your hubby for the amazing key lime pie!! And the movie was beautiful!



We have the need for a few hostesses for the next upcoming Ladies Social Gatherings - April, May & June. If you are interested in any upcoming month, please let Jen know. Hosting can be at a location, in your home, or in the guild hall. Need ideas - talk to Jen.

WHOLE CHURCH FAMILY EVENT

March 2nd AT 5:30 p.m.

Get ready for a glamorous and exciting evening, St. Paul's! The whole family is invited to a fabulous Oscar Party, hosted by Mother Monica & Jen at the church on March 2nd starting at 5:30 p.m. It's the perfect chance to dress up (or come in comfy's), enjoy delicious appetizers, and celebrate the Oscars with great company. We'll have fun games, and, of course, the live viewing of the awards.

Don't miss out on this special night of glitz, glamour, and laughter. We can't wait to see you there!

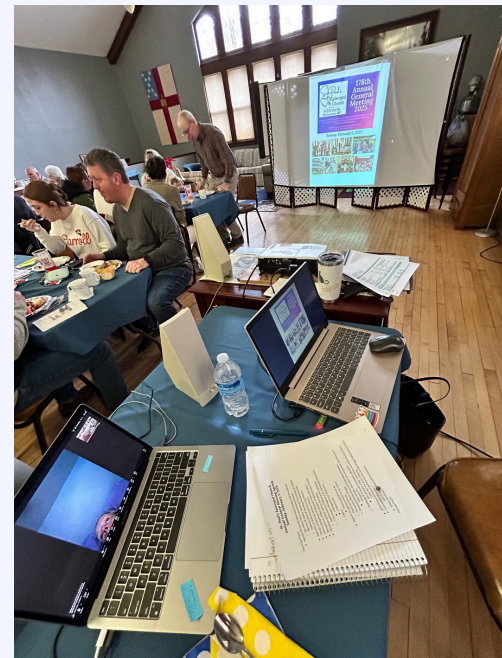




**Baby Grant's Blessing!!
Join us March 2nd
for Grant's Baptism!**



**Thank you all who attended the
178th Annual Meeting!! And thank
you for the delicious food!**



**Jen's crazy set-up to run
Zoom, the slideshow, and
take meeting notes! Shew!
Got it done!**





OUTREACH NEWS

A donation basket is at the back of the church for any donation drop offs. Monetary donations can be put in the offering plate.



BUILDING A WELCOMING WATERTOWN

Where We All Belong!



Building a Welcoming Watertown Gains Momentum

The Building a Welcoming Watertown organization, which began its journey just under two years ago, has gained significant growth and visibility in the last few months. After hosting a successful Housing Summit this past November, the group has turned its time and attention to four tasks, led by subcommittees: Housing Needs/Warming Shelter Project, Immigration and Citizenship Issues, Interaction with candidates for local office, and an Organizational Structure Project. All four committees have been very busy and will report on progress in each area at our next meeting, Sunday March 2 at 1 pm at the Public Library large meeting room. St Paul's is a founding member of this group. For more information contact Elizabeth Fritz, Georgia Irre, Ellen Klaus, Tom Cramer or Mother Monica.

WELLNESS KITS Assembly

Let's have some fun together: join us during coffee hour on March 30 to assemble more than 100 Wellness Kits, to be distributed to Mary's Room families during April. This is the second year these kits will be distributed – some will be full kits for new families and others will be re-stocking kits for families who received one last year.

Ellen, Mary's Room Coordinator

Mary's Room

Diaper Delivery



**March 5
at 9:45a**



LEND A HAND



Have a shout-out for a person
or group at St. Paul's?
Email Jen at
saint413paul@gmail.com

To All y'all (that's how they'd say it in the South): We miss you. We love you. And we pray for you always! from: Rev. Meredith and Carter Harmon

To Cathy Kerwin: Long time member Cathy Kerwin is always there to help. Doesn't matter what the job is she is willing assist. Coffee hour gatherings are sure to happen because she always makes sure they do!

To St. Paul's News Team: The newsletter has an impressionable communications effect. It is informative and representative. Keep sending the messages and recognitions.

To Dan Devers: Many thanks to Dan for taking care of snow removal and helping to resolve the sump pump/water infiltration problem!

To Dan Devers, Ken Krueger, Don Gottschalk and Mike Klaus: Shout out to everyone who helped work on the sump pump problems at church. From Mother Monica

To David and Sara Dow: For their tireless work with the choir and their infinite patience with everyone. from Cindy Krueger

To Ken Krueger: It seems every time I pop into the church to drop something off, I find evidence of Ken doing some project or another! I appreciate all that he does to keep this old building going! from Juliet Slavens

To Juliet Slavens: For all the miles she has put on her sewing machine over the years for St. Paul's. Face altar cloths and clergy vestments, masks, fleece hoodies, microwave cozies, stuffed animals, bags, just to name a few of the items she has sewn to make money for St. Paul's. from Vicki Wright

To Jen Devers: For her tireless work during February compiling our National Church's parochial report and all the documents required for the annual Diocesan report and review process.

Never underestimate the
power of a random
compliment!

Submit your April Shout-Outs to Jen
by March 20th

