

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

March 2024 Newsletter



MARCH AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY WORSHIP

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

Wednesdays 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM (see page 8)

LENTEN ADULT FORUM on ZOOM

Wednesday evenings at 7:00PM through March 20th (see page 6)

BELLS FOR BEGINNERS

Sunday, March 3RD - 9:10AM practice time. (see page 8)

RACIAL HEALING, JUSTICE, AND RECONCILIATION MINISTRY NETWORK'S WITNESS STONES DISCUSSION on ZOOM (see page 7)

Saturday, March 9, 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM

THE PHILADELPHIA ELEVEN MOVIE SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION (see page 7)

Sunday, March 10, 4:00 PM

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Starts Sunday, March 10

VESTRY MEETING

Tuesday March 12 – 7:00 PM

CEREAL SUNDAY

Sunday March 17 (see page 10)

LENTEN EVENING PRAYER WALK AT FERGUSON WOODS

Sunday March 17 – 4:00 PM (see page 6)

PALM CROSS MAKING

Friday, March 22, 10:00 AM to approximately noon (see page 11)

STORY WALK AT MARCUS COOKE PARK

Sunday March 25^h at 8:30 a.m. (see page 8)

DEADLINE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER IS TUESDAY, MARCH 19 by NOON

With more on-site events taking place in the church building again, just a gentle reminder to please be in touch with the parish office to advise and request dates and times for any activity or meeting that will be taking place at St. Paul's. It is important to make sure events are on the calendar to avoid any potential overlapping dates! Thank you in advance for your help with this important task!

HOLY WEEK & EASTER AT ST. PAUL'S

March 24th - March 31st

Sunday, March 24th – 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

† Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday

Wednesday, March 27th – 7:00 PM

† Service of Tenebrae.

Thursday, March 28th 7:00 PM

† Maundy Thursday, Stripping of the Altar

† 8:30 PM Maundy Thursday – 7:30 AM Good Friday: Night Watch Prayer Vigil. A powerful invitation to “keep watch” with Jesus on the night he was betrayed. Sign up on easel at back of the church or call or email the parish office to reserve a time.

Friday, March 29th – 7:00 PM

† Good Friday Liturgy with reading of the Passion

Sunday, March 31st, 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM

† Sunday of the Resurrection: Easter Day

With Easter Egg Hunt following the 9:30 AM service.



Vestry Update

At the end of January we held our Annual Meeting and had a nice turnout for our single 9:30 service, potluck brunch, and meeting. Here are some highlights:

- We are following the advice of ECCT to keep our Vestry intact for a year as we continue our search for a priest-in-charge. The one exception was that we elected Kristin Liu to finish out the term for Hope McGrath who needed to step down. We appreciate all Hope has brought to the Vestry and welcome Kristin!
- We are in much better financial shape than in many years due to our decisions last year to restructure the Sacred Trust bylaws and to move to part-time clergy. We do still have a \$20,000 deficit and will continue to seek ways to increase our revenue. One way to help address the deficit is for those who have not yet pledged to do so. You can pledge online or using hard copy forms found at the church. If you have not pledged before and have questions, don't hesitate to ask us, Sharon Turlis, or any member of the Vestry.
- We read and heard reports from many ministries of the church, showing us that we continue to thrive even in this time of transition.
- We are still looking for a new chair of the Memorial Garden Committee. Rob Page is stepping down from this role and has created a helpful list of responsibilities for the chair, so if you feel called to this ministry and would like to explore it further, please talk with Rob or either of us.
- We shared that Rev. Dr. Linda Spiers has agreed to stay on as our supply priest until we welcome a priest-in-charge. We are incredibly grateful for all Rev. Spiers has brought and continues to bring to St. Paul's.

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The February Vestry meeting was held virtually due to the snowstorm on Shrove Tuesday. We addressed a number of ongoing and new items but no votes were taken. Regarding the search for a priest-in-charge, we did have a conversation about the concept of sharing a part-time priest with another parish. This idea was raised by parishioners at the January meeting with Rev. Tim Hodapp as well as at the Annual Meeting. We are not jumping to pursue this option, but we do plan to explore further with Rev. Hodapp how such an arrangement is arrived at and what it might look like. We want to keep all options open at this point. We ask your continued prayers for St. Paul's and for the search process.

Amy Foster, Senior Warden
Tammy Napoli, Junior Warden
On behalf of the Vestry



Columbus House Update

This year Columbus House has reopened the Wallingford Emergency Shelter on a limited basis, and various faith communities are stepping in to provide meals throughout the 10 weeks. St. Paul's partnered with First Baptist Church and First Congregational Church to cover the week of Feb. 12 - 18. St. Paul's brought and served dinner on the 12th and provided breakfast and lunch items for the following day. On February 18 we dropped off a hot lunch, and later in the day a group of parishioners cooked a cozy Sunday dinner at the shelter. Thank you to Kara Boettger for helping organize the menus and the cooking and to volunteers Shelley Cruz, Marie Mumaugh, Diane Simpson, Hope McGrath, Joseph Ransohoff, Wanda Pizzonia, Kit Hensler, and Sam Martinez who provided food and/or helped cook and serve. Thank you to the Vestry for providing financial support for this crucial ministry for our neighbors in need.

Treasurer's Report

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Treasurer's Report December 2023 Annual Totals

Wallingford, CT

	This month	Budget	Difference vs Budget	Last Year	Difference vs Last Year
<u>Income</u>					
Pledges	200,388	185,000	15,388	186,967	13,421
Other Donations	16,841	14,000	2,841	15,131	1,710
Other operating income	24,574	24,300	274	20,982	3,592
Group contributions	1,790	2,400	-610	2,220	-430
Investment income	89,258	89,246	12	33,548	55,710
Total Income	332,851	314,946	17,905	258,848	74,004
<u>Expenditures</u>					
Salaries	130,090	171,586	-41,496	150,235	-20,145
Fringe Benefits	69,532	112,093	-42,560	119,143	-49,611
Property Expenses	47,018	49,353	-2,335	46,853	164
Utilities	16,822	16,920	-98	16,350	472
Other Expenses	27,614	32,110	-4,496	21,603	6,010
Common Mission Support to ECCT	37,671	37,671	0	36,685	986
Total Expenditures	328,747	419,733	-90,986	390,870	-62,123
Surplus/Deficit	4,104	-104,787	108,891	-132,023	136,127

last day of:

	Dec. '23	Nov. '23	Dec. '22
TD Bank checking account	35,759	23,601	31,019
Money market savings account	163,297	153,005	116,764
Joining Jesus Capital Campaign	48,783	50,583	8,967

Investment accounts:

--Sacred Trust	1,329,344	1,271,889	1,230,526
--Special Gifts	316,679	302,994	293,171
--General Fund	204,861	196,316	192,804
Total Investments:	1,850,883	1,771,199	1,716,501
Gain from last year:	134,382		



St. Paul's Lenten Program: Exploring Episcopal Beliefs and *The Book of Common Prayer*

Join us for the remaining Wednesday sessions, 7-8 p.m., on Zoom. You'll need a copy of *The Book of Common Prayer*. If you don't have one at home, borrow one from St. Paul's. Nathan and Linda+ will tag team leading the discussions. All are welcomed! Here's the Zoom link which will also be in Sunday's bulletins. Watch for news that one session may be in person.

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84046492740?pwd=eWlWZ0tuZGVZeJm5Rng1ekZvV0hSZz09>.

Session III – March 6

Basic Beliefs: The Creeds, the Bible, Salvation and Grace, Prayer

Session IV – March 13

The Church: That wonderful and sacred mystery, Structure and Governance, The Communion of Saints, Vocation

Session V – March 20

A Trinitarian Life: God the Father and Creation Care, God the Son and Incarnation, God the Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts

Lenten Evening Prayer Walk

Please join Helen Stowe for a Lenten Prayer walk. We will walk the trails at Ferguson Woods, stopping to read portions of an evening prayer service.

When: Sunday March 17 - 4 p.m. (March 24 - rain/snow date)

Where: Ferguson Woods. Parking at the end of Dibble Edge Road.

Venue may change so it's important to let me know if you're planning on joining me!

Helen Stowe

203-848-7113

asclepiashs@hotmail.com



Some Upcoming ECCT events

On March 9, 11 am to 1 pm, join the Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation Ministry Network for a discussion about Witness Stones on Zoom. Two churches that received grants will share how their Witness Stones projects were created along with Witness Stones Project Executive Director Dennis Culliton. St. Paul's also did a deep and profound Witness Stones project. Come and join the conversation.

You'll need to register, and here is the registration link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/828774184897?aff=oddtcreator>

On March 10, 4 pm, in celebration of Women's History Month, come to Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford, for a viewing of the film *The Philadelphia Eleven* followed by a panel discussion with Women Leaders of ECCT. The film documents the eleven women, who in an act of disobedience, became Episcopal priests in 1974 at Philadelphia's Church of the Advocate. The women were harassed, threatened and banned from stepping on church property. In the film you'll meet the women that made a significant difference in the life of our Episcopal Church. The panel includes The Rt. Rev. Laura Ahrens, ECCT Bishop Suffragan; The Very Rev. Lina Howell, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral; The Rev. Ellendale Hoffman, ordained in 1977 and one of the first women to be ordained; The Rev. Rebekah Hatch, ECCT's Dean of Formation. Register by clicking on this link:

[The Philadelphia Eleven Movie Screening & Panel Discussion Registration, Sun, Mar 10, 2024 at 4:00 PM | Eventbrite](#)

CHURCH SCHOOL



Church School continues in March with a combination of regular programming and some special events for kids and families. Please mark the following dates below:

March 3rd—Bells for Beginners

On the first Sunday of March, Bells for Beginners will once again be playing during the 9:30 worship service! Children of all ages and all musical abilities are welcome. Rehearsal will take place at 9:10 in the Purple Room, before regularly scheduled Church School at 9:30. Please be on time.

March 17th—Children's Sunday

On March 17th, the Sunday worship service will be led by St. Paul's children. Just as we did in Advent, children will be able to take a variety of leadership roles, including ushering, reading scripture, acolyting, and participating in a shared homily. Whether or not you have kids, we hope you will come give your support! More details about participation will come in the following weeks.

March 24th—Story Walk/Palm Sunday

On March 24th, we'll kick off Holy Week with a Story Walk at 8:30 at Marcus Cooke Park. After the Story Walk, children are invited to participate in the 9:30 worship service. If your child wants to help out by reading scripture or serving as an usher or an acolyte, please let me know!

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March 31st—Easter

To celebrate the culmination of Holy Week, the children are invited to be in church for the 9:30 worship service on Easter Morning, where they will once again have opportunities to be involved in leading the service. After the service there will be an Easter Egg Hunt. We hope you'll join us!

That's all for now! Please keep an eye on your inboxes for further updates as the month goes on.

Yours in Christ,

Nathan Leach

Director of Religious Education

christianeducation@stpaulswallingford.org

“Souper Bowl” a Success.



At the beginning of February we started our "souper bowl" collection for Master's Manna. Last year we collected 208 cans of soup and we hoped to top that number this year. Master's Manna contacted us and said their cereal shelves were bare and they were in

great need of sauce and mac and cheese. Was there anything we could do? St. Paul's once again came through. The area in back of the church and the hallway by the office was filled with boxes and bags of food. By "Souper" Bowl Sunday we collected 409 cans of soup (double what we collected last year), 48 boxes of cereal, and a vast quantity of other food items. Art Sousa, Sharon Rogalski, Chuck Maynard and Sharon Turlis helped get the food into cars and off we went to Master's Manna. The volunteers weighed us in — a total of 640 lbs of food. Thank you to everyone who was so generous.

Cereal Sunday



We won't be out in the parking lot collecting food until April, but to help Master's Manna fill their shelves we will hold a special "Cereal Sunday" on March 17th. Please take advantage of the cereal sales in the grocery stores over the next couple of weeks and pick up a few boxes of cereal to fill the boxes in the back of the church and by the office. And on March 17th, wear your green and come down to Wilkinson Hall for a special Irish coffee hour to celebrate.



Easter Memorials: It's time to THINK SPRING! Easter comes early this year, and even though we may still have snow, crocuses are starting to peak out of the ground. And that means spring flowers will adorn our church during this Easter season in memory of our loved ones. If you would like to make

a donation for Easter Memorials, please submit the names of those you would like remembered along with your check **payable to St. Paul's Flower Fund in the amount of \$25.00**. Forms are located at the entrances. You can drop the form and check in the collection baskets on Sunday or send it to the church office. **The deadline is Tuesday, March 19th**. Please be sure to include your name, address and phone number on the form. If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Rogalski at 203-678-4824 or srogal156@comcast.net.



Palm Cross Making
Friday March 22, 2024
10:00 am - approximately 12:00 noon

St. Paul's continues the tradition of making palm crosses for Palm Sunday - We will meet in Wilkinson Hall. No experience necessary. We will train! Come join our altar guild friends, have fun and possibly learn a new skill!

- St. Paul's Altar Guild



Coffee Hour!

Please consider hosting a coffee hour. A sign-up sheet has been posted on the easel in the back of the church with available dates.



Thank you for pledging!

We appreciate your faithful giving.

You may give online by going to stpaulswallingford.org and clicking the red “Donate Now” button, mail your gifts into the parish office or place your offering the in the basket during Sunday worship. It’s all good! Thank you.



*The Church will be open Wednesdays
from 10:00 am to 1:00pm
for prayer & reflection.*

*A member of the Healing Prayer Team
will be available from noon
on to offer prayers
and blessings-to-go, upon request.*

The Parish Office Hours

The parish office is open to the public on
Wednesdays and Fridays from 11AM-2:00PM.

Please email or call the office at (203) 269-5050 to arrange
any additional times to meet during the week.

Calls, emails and other matters will generally be addressed
during business hours of 9:00-3:00 Tuesday-Friday.

Please advise us of

- change of address or telephone numbers
- illness, hospitalizations, deaths
- requests for baptisms, weddings, etc

Times for St. Paul's Sunday Service
Comcast Cable Channel 18
Frontier Channel 99
www.WPAA.TV - WPAA on the Internet
Sunday - 5:00 PM
Monday – 12:30 AM, 1:00 PM, and 11:00 PM

[Click here to sign up for email blasts and text messages.](#)

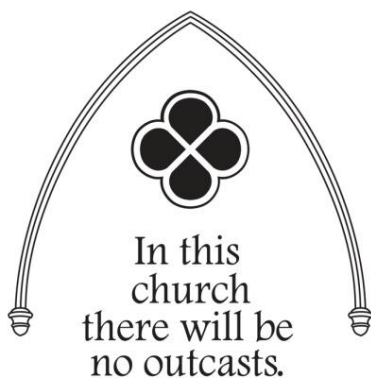
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St. Paul's Episcopal Church Wallingford, CT



St. Paul's Episcopal Church

The parish office can be reached at (203) 269-5050.

E-mail – office@stpaulswallingford.org

Fax – (203) 269-3813

Web Site – www.stpaulswallingford.org

If we are not in the office, please leave a message.

VESTRY

Senior Warden, Amy Foster
Junior Warden, Tammy Napoli
Clerk, Ben Henry
Treasurer, Ted Hartsoe
David Adams
Kristin Liu
Sharon Turlis

Wendy Oestreicher
Nathalie Szilagyi
Carole Ireland
Patricia Cullen
Art Sousa
Larry Stowe



St. Paul's
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