



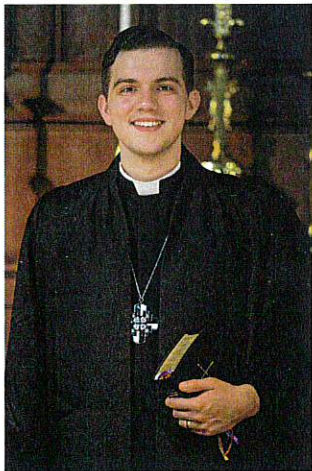
# THE ALTON ANGELUS

January 2026

The Reverend Garron C. Daniels, Rector XXI

*The Episcopal Parish of Alton*  
*Rooted in Tradition. Growing in Grace.*

## From Fr. Garron Daniels+



It's hard to believe that 2025 is already behind us and we are in the midst of 2026. This year has been incredible. I've taken moments of my day to just sit in amazement at all that has been accomplished this past year. We started 2025 with me being officially seated and recognized as your Rector. We've had countless feast days, confessions, daily office services, burials, one marriage, five baptisms, one reception, three confirmations, and countless anointings. We had so many incredible events that included our first trivia night, cinco de mayo puzzle palooza, the PBS famed Bread Monk, our second annual Dawgs 4 Paws event and so much more. We've had confirmation classes, a bible study on *Revelation* and a new study on *Luke*, and a deep dive into the history and theology of the Nicene Creed. We've welcomed a new recovery group, welcomed a partnership with Sacred Spaces of CARE, and continued our efforts with our 4 PAWS Pet Pantry. The year also saw the revitalization of our kid's ministry and a new Ecumenical Youth Group in partnership with Main Street Methodist.

The life of this Parish continues to bloom in a beautiful way. I have believed firmly that if we nurtured the body of the Church through worship and fellowship then we would grow by the grace of Christ. The growth that has occurred hasn't only been by new people in the pews, but by the inner growth and transformation that has occurred in each of us as Christ continues to shape and mold all of us into the Christians we have been called to be.

I am thankful for this community and I am excited about what this new year will bring. As we enter into the new year, we begin our 190th anniversary celebration and we will celebrate through many fun events that are being planned throughout the year. Be sure to stay tuned for more as you will not want to miss any of it!

Yours in Christ,

**Fr. Garron+**

Rector XXI



# From the Organ Loft

As I sit here at my computer writing my January newsletter article, it is still the season of Advent (Saturday, December 20th). Tomorrow is our service of Lessons and Carols. It is also the fourth Sunday of Advent.

I usually spend a good deal of time reflecting on the pieces of music that I choose for our worship services. Whether it be the congregational hymns or the voluntaries I play, I want the selections to fit with the Liturgy and the scriptures that are in the Lectionary for each Sunday. One of the hymns that is scheduled for Advent IV is #54 in the 1982 Hymnal... **'Savior of the Nations Come'**. This is the OLDEST Advent/Christmas hymn that is known to Christendom. I would like to share the story of this hymn with you, and how it evolved over a thousand years into the form we know today.

St. Ambrose of Milan (340-397) is credited with writing the hymn text **'Veni, Redemptor gentium'**. The provenance for his authorship is well-documented. No one knows how this text was sung or chanted for the first 700 years of its existence. There was no music notation of any substance until the first chant tune of the text appeared in plainsong form in the 12th century. The earliest manuscript of a tune for **'Veni, Redemptor gentium'** in recognizable form dates to around 1120.

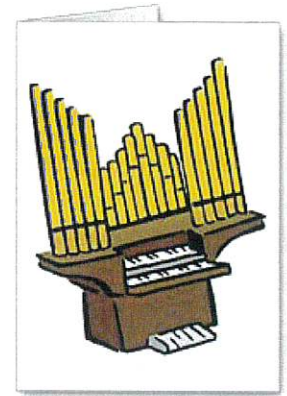
In 1524, Martin Luther translated the Latin text into German and simplified the chant melody into a Lutheran chorale (**'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland'**) that was more singable for parishioners. It was still only in melody form, as the chants at this time in history were sung unaccompanied with little, if any, harmony. This chant version can be found on page 55 of our 1982 Hymnal.

One hundred and fifty years later, J.S. Bach took the chant and reinvented it into several different organ pieces that can be found in his organ collections **'The Orgelbuchlein'** and the **'Great Eighteen Schubler Chorales'**. I am playing one of Bach's versions of **'Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland'** from the **'Great Eighteen'** for the Opening Voluntary (Advent IV).

Several English translations of the text appeared in the 1800s. The text on page 54 in our hymnal was translated by William Reynolds, a former Lutheran turned Episcopal minister. Reynolds translated a plethora of hymns and religious texts. He finished his career as Rector in Oak Park, Illinois, in the mid 1870s.

This is quite a history for this hymn, and a testament to the power of the text!

*Gay Anderson*



## Coffee Hour Presentation January 18th: Alton Mission with Peter Hough

Plan to join us on Sunday, January 18th, at St. Paul's during our Coffee Hour for a special presentation by Pastor Peter Hough from Alton Mission. Peter will talk about how Alton Mission started, what it is doing in our community, and how we can help support the work they are doing. You won't want to miss this presentation!



# Major Feast Days of the Episcopal Church To Be Celebrated in January

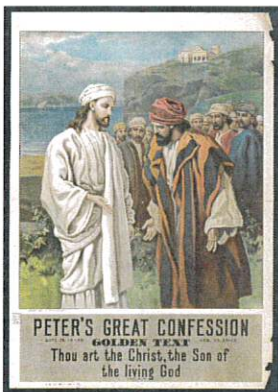
Fr. Garron will be celebrating all Principal Feasts and Major Feasts of the liturgical calendar as noted below. These feasts will be celebrated at **Trinity Chapel** with a Mass and fellowship to follow, unless otherwise stated. You will notice that if the feast day is during the week, the Mass is held at 5:30 p.m. (unless otherwise noted). If it is on Saturday or a holiday, Mass will be held at Noon.

## The Feast of the Holy Name - Thursday, January 1st

The celebration of the *Feast of the Holy Name* reflects the significance of the Holy Name of Jesus, and the emphasis of the *Gospel of Luke* on the naming of Jesus rather than his circumcision. The name “Jesus” is from the Hebrew Joshua, of Yehoshuah, “Yahweh is salvation” or “Yahweh will save”. Devotion to the Holy Name of Jesus is particularly derived from Phil 2:9-11, which states that God highly exalted Jesus “and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.”

## The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ- Tuesday, January 6th at 6:00 p.m.

The Magi, guided by a star, travelled from the East to pay homage to the newborn King. They brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, symbolizing Jesus’ kingship, divinity, and future suffering. This visit signified the recognition of Jesus as the Messiah by non-Jewish people, illustrating the universal nature of His mission.



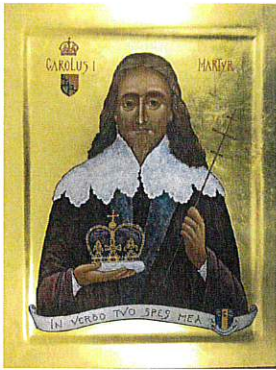
## The Confession of St. Peter—Monday, January 19th (transferred from January 18th)

The Confession of St. Peter the Apostle, observed on January 18, recalls Simon Peter’s bold declaration, “You are the Christ,” and Jesus’ response that Peter would be the rock upon which the Church would be built. Peter, the fisherman called with his brother Andrew, appears in the Gospels as impetuous, passionate, and often stumbling – walking on water only to sink, desiring to build booths at the Transfiguration, and denying Jesus three times before the crucifixion. He became a courageous leader, proclaiming the gospel and guiding the Church through its struggles over welcoming Gentiles.

## The Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul— Sunday, January 25th (transferred)

This feast day not only celebrates St. Paul, it specifically celebrates his conversion. The three days Saul spent in Damascus after encountering Jesus on the road changed his life. During those three days, he pondered Jesus’ words, fasted, prayed, listened, thought, and changed. Facing the truth within his soul might not have been easy, but he did it. From that time on, the zeal that he had poured into persecution became the zeal for the spreading of the Gospel.





## The Feast of King Charles the Martyr—Friday, January 30th

American Episcopalians and Anglicans ought to remember the anniversary of the execution of Charles I not simply as a quaint moment in ecclesial history but to study the sermons of pre-revolutionary America that date to that anniversary. These sermons reveal much about the politico-theological context in which the colonists came to terms with their situation under British Crown and Parliament.

## Annual Meeting to be Held in January

It's hard to believe, but the Annual Meeting is fast approaching! On Sunday, January 25, 2026, we will hold only one service at St. Paul's at 10:30 a.m. After the service, we will hold our Annual Meeting.

During the course of the Annual Meeting, reports from the various ministries are noted, the 2026 budget is presented, and several different addresses are made on the current state of the Parish and what the coming year will hopefully look like.

It's also the time when the Parish comes together and votes for several key leadership roles in the governance of the Parish. This year there will be elections for three Vestry positions. There will also be elections for two lay delegates to Diocesan Synod who also serve as the Darrow Deanery Representatives.

The Vestry helps in advising the Rector on the needs, interests, and concerns of the Parish members. They also take an active role in the Parish by chairing or being involved in one of our many Commissions, assisting in subcommittees, and any other work needed to be done to continue the work and mission of the Parish. The Vestry meets at minimum once a month with commissions meetings at least once a month as well. The work of the Vestry is hands-on and their work is vital to the life of the Parish. Those discerning to join the Vestry should pray before putting their name forward.

So, who's eligible to be a member of the Vestry or a Delegate? Those who wish to run for Vestry and for the Delegate positions must be Communicants in Good Standing as defined by the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Springfield, be eighteen years of age, and be a contributing member of the Parish.

Many wonder what it means to be a member of the Parish, especially a "communicant in good standing." To this question we turn to Canon 36 of the Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Springfield which reads:

### Of Members of the Church

#### Section 1.

All persons who have received the sacrament of Holy Baptism with water, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, whether in this Church or in another Christian Church, and whose Baptisms have been duly recorded in this Church, are members thereof.

#### Section 2.

All members of this Church who have received Holy Communion in this Church at least three times during the preceding year are to be considered communicants of this Church.



### Section 3.

All communicants of this Church who for the previous year have been faithful in corporate worship, unless for good cause prevented, and have been faithful in working, praying and giving for the spread of the Kingdom of God, are to be considered communicants in good standing.

### Section 4.

Communicants sixteen years of age or older are to be considered adult communicants.

As we draw closer to the Annual Meeting, take time to pray and discern whether you feel the call to be a member of the Vestry or a Delegate. If you wish to run for office, please have another communicant in good standing nominate you and send an email to [episcopallaton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopallaton@gmail.com) who will record the nomination and notify Fr. Garron. Nominations can be made on the floor of the Annual Meeting, but we strongly encourage you to **send nominations in before Monday, January 12th**, so that we have time to verify and announce our slate of candidates.

For any questions about Vestry or the Delegate positions, please reach out to any of our Vestry members, past Delegates members, or Fr. Garron!



## EPA Goes to Sewanee!

Eleven parishioners and I went to Sewanee, TN, the week before Thanksgiving for a weeklong retreat. This was a time of prayer, rest, exploration, and education on what happens at Sewanee. We learned about the seminary, the Episcopal nuns at the Community of St. Mary, and the history of All Saints' Chapel on the University of the South's campus. This was a special time for our parishioners and it was a joy to show people why I love Sewanee and show them the place that made me who I am!

If you are sad that you missed out, do not worry! We hope to make annual retreats part of the life of this Parish. 2026 will be a different location, but we hope that in 2027 we will head back to Sewanee!

*Fr. Garron+*

## Second Saturdays: Healthy Living for a Holy Life

Please join us for a refreshing and relaxing stretching-focused class on Saturday, January 10th, at 10:00 a.m. in Heneghan Hall at St. Paul's. You will want to wear loose, comfortable clothing in which you are able to move freely. Also, wear supportive shoes, as we will be warming up with some light cardio so our muscles are warm and ready to stretch!

For more information, please contact Nathalia at [baumnathalia1@gmail.com](mailto:baumnathalia1@gmail.com).



## Save the date: Commissioning a New Verger

Please save the date for the commissioning of our very newly appointed Verger, Robbie Cupp. **Robbie will be recognized and tasked with the duties of the Verger during our 10:30 a.m. service at St. Paul's on Sunday, February 15th.** We will celebrate Robbie and this new ministry he is taking on at the EPA!

The date for the next **Pet Food Pantry** is **January 4th**. The Pet Food Pantry is open one hour monthly, on the first Sunday of the month, from 12:30-1:30 p.m. People may enter St. Paul's through the Market Street entrance.

Baskets for donations of pet food are located near the entrance at both Trinity and St. Paul's.



We are grateful for six local businesses who keep a donation jar on their counter. Please support these businesses and thank them for helping us provide pet food for families in need:

Farm Fresh, Roxana;  
Daniel-Randall Veterinary Clinic, Godfrey;  
Great Rivers Animal Hospital;  
St. Peter's Hardware, Alton;  
Mississippi Mud Pottery, Alton; and  
The Bethalto Animal Clinic

*Evangelism and Outreach Commission*

## Episcopal Church Women Notes

All women of the Parish are welcome to come to the first meeting of the year on Sunday, February 8th, at 12:00 p.m. **Grab a coffee after church at St. Paul's and join us (meeting location to be determined).** At this planning meeting we will discuss what we would like to accomplish in 2026. Bring your ideas or email them to me prior to the meeting. Our bylaws review should be completed by the time of our meeting and we will have an opportunity to review them as a group.

*Irene McLaughlin*

## Capital Campaign Luncheon and Launch Date: Saturday, February 14th

**Save the date for the "Legacy of Faith" Capital Campaign set to launch on Saturday, February 14th!** We will have a luncheon at the Church and a special presentation by Marcus White, the son of the late Rt. Rev. Roger J. White, who will tell us why this Campaign matters to him and should matter to our wider community. More details to come soon!

*Fr. Garron+*



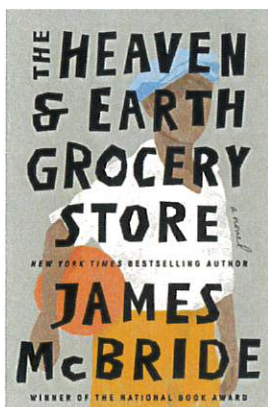
## Book Club News

The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, January 28th, at 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Chapel. We will be discussing *Gone before Goodbye* by Reese Witherspoon and Harlan Coban with fellowship and refreshments!

*Maggie McCabe is teetering on the brink. A highly skilled and renowned Army combat surgeon, she has always lived life at the edge, where she could make the most impact. And it was all going to plan...until it wasn't. Upside down after a devastating series of tragedies leads to her medical license being revoked, Maggie has lost her purpose, but not her nerve or her passion. At her lowest point, she is thrown a lifeline by a former colleague, an elite plastic surgeon whose anonymous clientele demand the best care money can buy, as well as absolute discretion.*



*Halfway across the globe, sequestered in the lap of luxury and cutting-edge technology, one of the world's most mysterious men requires unconventional medical assistance. Desperate, and one of the few surgeons in the world skilled enough to take this job, Maggie enters his realm of unspeakable opulence and fulfills her end of the agreement. But when the patient suddenly disappears while still under her care, Maggie must become a fugitive herself – or she will be the next one who is...Gone Before Goodbye.*



The February book selection is *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride. We're looking forward to meeting for our discussion on Wednesday, February 25th, at 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Chapel.

The scheduled books for 2026 are:

March – *The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray* by Joe Siple

April – *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi

May – *Broken Country* by Clare Leslie Hall

June – *The Lost Quilt* by Jennifer Chiaverini

*Mimi Almonroeder*

## Confirmation Classes begin in February

On Sunday, February 1st, Father Garron will lead a short presentation explaining baptism, confirmation, and reception in the Episcopal Church. The presentation is meant for those inquiring into joining the Christian Faith and/or officially joining the Episcopal Church. The presentation will be held in the conference room at 12:15 p.m. at St. Paul's.

On Sunday, February 8th, Confirmation classes will begin for those who discern that they would like to officially become members of our Church! Classes, unless otherwise decided, will occur on Sundays at 12:15 p.m. in the St. Paul's conference room. Reading is required with the use of *Walk in Love: Episcopal Beliefs & Practices* as our main text. Books will be free for those seeking to be confirmed or received!

Should you have any questions about joining the Church, please be sure to reach out to Fr Garron!

*Fr. Garron+*

## The Episcopal Community

**An invitation for women of the Parish:** How do we translate our Sunday morning worship into a daily walk with God? Join us for the inaugural meeting of The Episcopal Community where we will explore our mission of living out our Baptismal vows through the Benedictine tradition.

Come to our first gathering on Thursday, February 5th, at 6:30 p.m. at St. Paul's, when we will be laying the foundation for our shared journey and discussing the practices of Lectio (holy reading) and Ora et Labora (pray and work). Whether you are seeking a more structured prayer life or a supportive sisterhood, there is a place for you here.

## Notes from Episcopal Church Men (ECM)

The ECM met Saturday evening, November 15th, at Johnson's Corner to discuss final plans for the ECM Christmas party as well as begin planning for projects and activities for 2026. The Christmas party, held December 11th, was a wonderful evening with 32 people attending.

**The ECM will hold its first meeting of 2026 on Saturday, January 17th at 9:00 a.m. at Trinity Chapel!**

*Episcopal Church Men*



## Brotherhood of St. Andrew Chapter

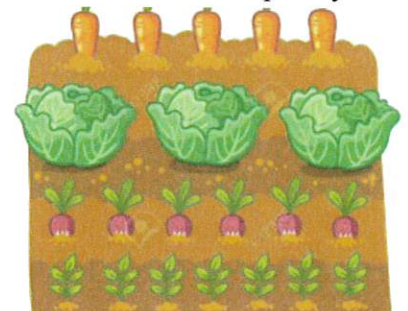
**Our next Brotherhood of St. Andrew meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Friday, January 9th, at Trinity Chapel (1901 State St).** The Brotherhood meets for a time of fellowship and theological/scriptural discussion. Meetings are open to all men of the Parish. Feel free to bring something to eat and drink to share! We hope to see you there!

*Tim Thrush, Director*

## New St. Benedict's Garden at Trinity Chapel

We are excited to announce the approval of St. Benedict's Garden which will be located on the grassy plot next to Trinity Chapel! This garden will be an expression of the Episcopal Parish of Alton's continued mission for hospitality and outreach that we have established with our work through both Crisis Food Center and Saturday Cafe.

St. Benedict's Garden will not only provide fresh vegetables for these missions, but will also be a location for education, gathering, and prayer. Here we will plant the principle of Ora et Labora, pray and work, as we nurture, grow, and maintain all aspects of the garden, transforming the physical labor into an act of dedication and spiritual connection.





St. Benedict's Garden is going to be a sustainable, eco-friendly, and easy to manage garden that will cultivate Benedictine practices while providing bountiful community grown and nurtured harvests for those who are in need of food that nourishes not just the body, but the spirit.

Our raised beds will include a variety of tomatoes, zucchini, garden peas, carrots, radishes, winged beans, herbs, garlic, onion, sweet peppers, & seasonal vegetables like pumpkins. In addition to the vegetables, we want to have pear and peach trees, berries, and planters with local wild flowers to support our local pollinators.

Thank you to Trinity Chapel, Vestry, and Father Garron for their overwhelming support of St. Benedict's Garden. To learn more about the garden, please reach out to Tiffany McAlister or Nathalia Baum.

*In loving service, the Episcopal Community*

## The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ



The 2025 Advent season has passed, completed on Christmas Day. At the release of the January 2026 *Angelus*, we will be in the midst of the First and Second Sundays after Christmas which immediately precede the Epiphany, a feast in the Christian church celebrated on January 6th. I had heard the term Epiphany many times growing up and knew it was a feast day celebrated in the Catholic and Anglican churches, as well as many other denominations, but I have to confess I really never knew what it truly was until it was suggested to me as an article for *The Angelus* and my research on it began.

So, what is the Epiphany? The Epiphany is the Christian feast day that commemorates the visit of the Magi upon Jesus' birth bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In eastern churches, the Epiphany is also recognized as The Baptism of Jesus and the wedding in Cana. However, here in the western Christianity sector it is primarily recognized as the commemoration of how a star led the Magi's visit and the presentation of gifts to the Christ child. The Epiphany, celebrated twelve days after Christmas, is also referred to as "Three Kings Day" and "Little Christmas." It is a Greek word meaning "to reveal, to appear, or to make manifest." The twelve days after Christmas are significant as it is believed that the wise men's journey to visit the newborn savior took twelve days. The Epiphany marks the end of the Christmas season and thus begins the six-week season leading up to Lent, which is referred to as the "Epiphanytide." Many parishes in Eastern and Western culture also celebrate Epiphany Eve on January 5th, (aka Twelfth Night), which concludes the Christmas season, with numerous types of festivities and celebrations. Many Epiphany customs include singing, chalking doors (which is a custom of blessing one's home with four crosses that are placed between and outside the initials of the three Magi that visited Jesus). Another custom recognized on Epiphany Eve is the removal of Christmas decorations in one's home and church. The Council of Tours officially declared the twelve-day period from Christmas to Epiphany as a sacred festive season in 567A.D.

The celebration of the feast is also a commemoration of the manifestation of Jesus' divinity to the gentiles (represented by The Magi/Wise Men) as well as to the whole world.

Sources: Wikipedia, Britannica, AI Overview

*Chuck Drennan*



## Bible Study

### Bible Study resumes Weekly Schedule

Our weekly Bible Study begins again on Tuesday, January 6th, after a break over the Christmas holidays. We are studying the *Gospel of Luke* at 10:00 a.m. in the St Paul's conference room. The evening Bible Study (which typically meets at 5:30 p.m. at St. Paul's) will be held at 5:00 p.m. at Trinity Chapel due to the Feast Day service at Trinity Chapel at 6:00 p.m. today. Meeting every Tuesday, both morning and evening sessions study the same sections.

All you need to bring is your Bible (any translation will do!). We will also be using an additional resource that is not required to join the study, but may be helpful as we dive deeper into Luke - *Luke for Everyone: 20th Anniversary Edition with Study Guide (The New Testament for Everyone)* by N.T. Wright. There are five copies available in the Parish Bookstore for purchase.

### Education Commission



*Not only in the community, but for our community...* Thank you to all parishioners

who gave so generously to our "Love Thy Neighbor" food drive in November! An abundance of non-perishable food items was taken to our neighbors at Crisis Food Center for distribution to those in need. Collection baskets remain in the Narthex at St. Paul's and Trinity for us to contribute to the ongoing needs. Monetary donations are very much appreciated as well.



### Evangelism and Outreach Commission

## Gather in January with the Twilight Tome Society

Attention fantasy readers! The Episcopal Parish of Alton's fantasy-focused book club, the Twilight Tome Society, will continue its adventures. **We will be meeting on Monday, January 26th, at 6:30 p.m. in the main level conference room at St. Paul's to share our thoughts on *Kings of the Wyld* by Nicholas Eames.** As always, there will be snacks in which to indulge.

*Nathalia Baum and Tiffany Thrush*





## Saturday Café—In Service with our Neighbors

Stay tuned for the 2026 schedule when we join with others from our Parish to serve lunches through the Saturday Café program held at First Presbyterian Church..

We generally meet in the kitchen at First Presbyterian Church at 10:00 a.m., begin serving those in need at 11:30 a.m. and are done by 12:30 p.m., but you are welcome to come for a shorter time if you wish.



### *Evangelism and Outreach Commission*

## Trinity Chapel Receives Putnam Grant

In early December, the Episcopal Parish of Alton was informed that a \$7,500 grant has been awarded to them for the revitalization of Trinity Chapel. Per the application, this grant money is to be used for a new parish hall roof for the chapel and for major paintwork and steeple repair. The Putnam Grant comes from the people and Vestry of St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Mt. Carmel, Illinois, who provided \$40,000 in grant money for missions and parishes in the Diocese.

This grant money will help continue our use of Trinity Chapel on State street, which has seen an influx of activity and use in the past two years. It's important that the space continues to be made available for our Church. Trinity Chapel continues to be a beacon of the hope and light of Christ on State street!

*Fr. Garron+*



## *Bearing Fruit* FINANCIAL REPORT

**As of November 30, 2025:**

*All givers matter and  
every gift  
makes a difference.*

Y-T-D Total Revenue to Budget

Y-T-D Revenue: \$197,514

Budgeted Revenue: \$159,243

Y-T-D Total Expenses to Budget

Y-T-D Expenses: \$225,822

Budgeted Expenses: \$239,923

## January “Kids’ Night In” Planned

“Kids’ Night In” will be held on Saturday, January 24th, from 5-8 p.m. at St. Paul’s for all children ages 5-14. Join us for an evening packed full of activities including pizza making, movies and crafts. Hosted in partnership with our friends at the First Presbyterian Church, this is a time for our community’s youth to come together to build friendships, foster fellowship and have fun! For more information, please contact Tiffany Thrush or the office at 618-465-9149.

## Ecumenical Youth Group Upcoming Gatherings

All middle school and high school students are welcome to join us for discussions about the faith, mission outreach, and enjoy plenty of food! The picture is from our first group meeting in October gathered around the fire pit in the garden at St. Paul's. Currently the group is meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month and switch between two locations. Below are our upcoming meetings:

Sunday, January 4th @ 6 p.m.  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church (10 E 3rd St.)

Sunday, January 18th @ 6 p.m.  
Main Street United Methodist Church (1400 Main St.)

*Fr. Garron+*



## S.P.I. Detectives Needed to Solve a New Case: The Case of the Frozen Future



2026 has begun and St. Paul's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, but everything that could go wrong has gone wrong! Reports are missing, the voting box has vanished, ballots are nowhere to be found, and only an ink blotch is left behind. Without a vote, every program, trip, and event for 2026 is at risk of being canceled. We need the S.P.I. Investigators to find the culprit! Four suspects have been identified. Join the investigation, question the suspects, and solve the case on Saturday, **January 24th, from 3-5 p.m. at St. Paul's.**

**Who?:** All youth ages 9-14

**What?:** The Case of the Frozen Future Case Number SPI004

**When?:** Saturday, January 24th, 3-5 p.m.

**Where?:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 10 E. Third St., Alton, IL 62002

### ADDITIONAL INTEL:

Detective Gear: New investigators will be sworn in and receive their official S.P.I. badges and detective notebooks upon arrival.

Fuel for the Case: "Brain Food" (snacks and drinks) will be provided to keep our investigators sharp.

RSVP REQUIRED: Please report your availability to [episcopalalton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalalton@gmail.com).

## Annual Reports

**All annual reports are due in the church office by January 10th.** Groups with checking and/or savings accounts must include their expenses/receipts and end-of-year balance.



# 2026 Episcopal Year Calendars and Giving Envelopes

The new calendars are available for you to pick up in Heneghan Hall. The sets of boxed envelopes are also available – please take a set for your use throughout the year.

## Highlighting Faith and Fellowship at the EPA











## January Calendar

Thursday, January 1st Office Closed – Happy New Year!!

5:30 p.m. *Feast of The Holy Name* at Trinity Chapel

Saturday, January 3rd 11:00 a.m. Acolyte Training at St. Paul's

Sunday, January 4th

*Open Offering supports Rector's Discretionary Fund*

8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

Coffee Hour Presentation following service at St. Paul's

12:30-1:30 p.m. Pet Food Pantry

6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Youth Group at St. Paul's

Tuesday, January 6th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Paul's

10:00 a.m. Bible study at St. Paul's and 5:00 p.m. Bible Study at Trinity Chapel

6:00 p.m. *The Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ* at Trinity Chapel

Thursday, January 8th

4:00 p.m. Bell choir; 5:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal at St. Paul's

Friday, January 9th 6:30 p.m. Brotherhood of St. Andrew at Trinity Chapel

Saturday, January 10th 10:00 a.m. Second Saturdays for Healthy Living at St. Paul's Heneghan Hall

Annual Reports due in to the office at St. Paul's – email to [episcopalalton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalalton@gmail.com)

Sunday, January 11th

8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

12:15 p.m. Greeter/Usher meeting at St. Paul's sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Parish Life meeting at St. Paul's conference room

Tuesday, January 13th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Paul's

10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Bible Study at St. Paul's

Thursday, January 15th 4:00 p.m. Bell choir; 5:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal at St. Paul's

Saturday, January 17th 9:00 a.m. ECM at Trinity chapel

Sunday, January 18th

8:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist at Trinity Chapel

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's

Coffee Hour Presentation following service at St. Paul's

6:00 p.m. Ecumenical Youth Group at Main St. Methodist Church

Monday, January 19th Office Closed in observance of Martin Luther King holiday

5:30 p.m. *The Confession of St. Peter* at Trinity Chapel (Healing service)

Tuesday, January 20th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Paul's

10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Bible Study at St. Paul's

6:30 p.m. Vestry meeting

Thursday, January 22nd 4:00 p.m. Bell choir; 5:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal at St. Paul's

Saturday, January 24th

3:00 – 5:00 p.m. S.P.I. Investigators: The Case of the Frozen Future at St. Paul's

5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Kids' Night In at St. Paul's

Sunday, January 25th - One Service only today at St. Paul's

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at St. Paul's – Annual meeting to follow service

*The Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul* - Observed

Monday, January 26th

6:30 p.m. Twilight Tome Society fantasy book club at St. Paul's conference room



Tuesday, January 27th

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer at St. Paul's

10:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Bible Study at St. Paul's

Wednesday, January 28th Book Club - 9:30 a.m. at Trinity Chapel



Thursday, January 29th 4:00 p.m. Bell choir; 5:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal at St. Paul's

Friday, January 30th

5:30 p.m. *Feast of King Charles the Martyr* at Trinity

Chapel

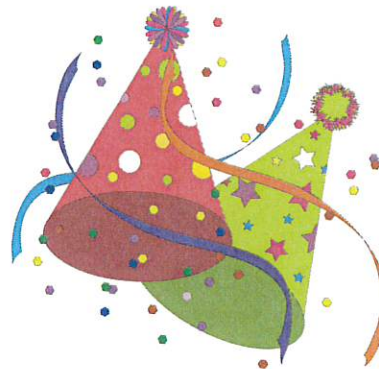
**Fr. Garron will lead Morning Prayer in St. Elizabeth's Chapel at St. Paul's  
Monday-Thursday at 9:00 a.m.**





## January Birthdays

04 Jack Gottlob  
06 Randy Smith  
06 Sean Stone  
11 Veronica Wrausmann  
12 Chris Donohoo  
16 Robbie Cupp  
17 Bryant Johnson  
19 Terry Durham  
19 Elizabeth Foley  
26 Tracy Summers  
29 Millie Hancock



## February Birthdays

01 Michael Garland  
04 Donna Fisher  
06 Sean Downey  
13 Pat McLaughlin  
18 Bruce Bayer  
25 Bill Moyer

## *Vestry*

**Fr. Garron Daniels+—Rector XXI**

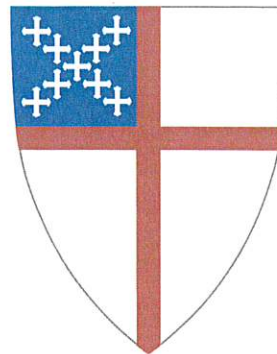
**Robbie Cupp—Senior Warden**

**Chuck Drennan—Junior Warden**

**Judy Jones—Treasurer**

**Linda Dunnagan—Clerk of the Vestry**

**Tony Springman – People’s Warden Emeritus**



### **Vestry Commissions:**

**Education:** \*Robbie Cupp, Dave Elson

**Evangelism & Outreach:** Marti LoRusso, April Drennan, Mary Molloy, \*Robbie Cupp

**Liturgy & Music:** Robbie Cupp, \*Chuck Drennan, Millie Hancock

**Parish Life:** \*Mary Molloy, Marti LoRusso, April Drennan

**Property & Maintenance:** \*Bill Moyer, Chuck Drennan, Dereck Cook, Tom Harris, and  
Dave Elson

**Public Relations & Publicity:** \*Millie Hancock, Meg Dorris, Dereck Cook

**Finance & Insurance:** \*Judy Jones (*ex officio*), \*Meg Dorris, Tom Harris, Bill Moyer, and  
Dave Elson

\* Indicates lead person



The deadline for the February *Angelus* is January 20th. Please email your articles and photos to [episcopalalton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalalton@gmail.com).

### **The Episcopal Parish of Alton**



**St. Paul's Church**  
10 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Alton, IL 62002

**Trinity Chapel**  
1901 State St.  
Alton, IL 62002



**Telephone:** 618-465-9149

**Priest's contact:** phone 816-262-1904 and email [frgarron@gmail.com](mailto:frgarron@gmail.com)

**E-mail:** [episcopalalton@gmail.com](mailto:episcopalalton@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.episcopalalton.org](http://www.episcopalalton.org)

**Facebook.com/episcopalalton**





# ANNUAL ACOLYTE TRAINING

Come see what being an Acolyte  
is all about!

JANUARY 3RD – 11:00 AM

St Paul's, 10 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Alton, Il

Interested to learn more?  
Contact Fr Garron or Robbie Cupp



St. Paul's Episcopal Church Presents:

## The Case of The Frozen Future

A youth Whodunnit Mystery!

2026 has begun and St. Paul's Annual Meeting is Sunday, but reports are missing, the voting box has vanished, ballots are nowhere to be found, and only an ink blotch is left behind. Every program, trip, and event for 2026 is at risk of being canceled!

**This is your official summons!**

Join the St. Paul's Investigators to hunt for clues, interrogate four mysterious suspects, and unravel the conspiracy. It's a race against time to solve "The Case of the Frozen Future."

### Who?

All youth ages 9-14  
are invited to participate.

### What?

"The Case of the Frozen Future"  
A Whodunnit Mystery

### When?

Sat. January 24th 3:00 - 5:00pm

### Where:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
10 E 3rd St.  
Alton, IL 62002

### RSVP:

Please RSVP to  
episcopalaalton@gmail.com  
or call 618-465-9149!



St. Paul's Episcopal &  
First Presbyterian  
invite you to our January

# Kids' Night In!

Pizza  
Movies  
Snacks

Activities  
Games  
Crafts

Free for children 5-14  
Saturday, January 24th  
5:00 - 8:00pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
10 E. 3rd St.  
Alton, IL 62002  
618-465-3592

