



NEWSLETTER

*A place of welcome. A place of grace. Rooted in love.
There is a place for you here.*

SUNDAY SERVICE

10 a.m.
the Rev Monica Burkert-Brist

CHOIR MINISTRY

Thursday Practice 6:30 p.m.
Voice Lessons Saturdays 10 a.m.
Sunday Service Prep 9 a.m.

YOUTH MINISTRY

2nd Sundays at 9:50 a.m.
September - May

Mother Monica's Message

Dear Friends: In just a couple of weeks, on Feb, 18 we will begin the Season of Lent with the observance of Ash Wednesday. During our Ash Wednesday liturgy, right before the ashes are blessed and distributed, I share the following invitation from the Church with all of you...

During Lent, the [early Church] was put in mind of the message of pardon and absolution set forth in the Gospel of our Savior, and of the need which all Christians continually have to renew their repentance and faith....I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.

Lent is a significant season in the year for Christians – a time of solemnity and self-reflection where we confess our failings and resolve to live a more godly life based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. It lasts for just over six weeks leading up to Easter. We call it "Lent" in English because it occurs during the time of year when our days are 'lengthening' in the northern hemisphere.

We can observe Lent by adopting practices that will help us focus on our continuing need for God's forgiveness and our resolve to walk more closely alongside Jesus in our daily lives. This can include giving up something we enjoy, taking on a new task or project, or giving of our time or funds to a special cause. Here at St Paul's, you will notice that our church services and decorations are more solemn. We will also offer opportunities for additional reflection, prayer and study.

Please come join us-- we have lots to share and pray about together.

Mother Monica



THE REV MONICA BURKERT-BRIST

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Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 1

- Annual General Meeting & Potluck

February 3 - 16

- Mother Monica Vacation

Wednesday, February 4

- Mary's Room Diaper Delivery at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday, February 8

- Youth Formation Sunday at 9:50 a.m.
- Blessing Box Donations

Tuesday, February 17

- BWW Immigration Meeting at St. Paul's at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 18

- Ash Wednesday Services at 12 noon and again at 6 p.m.

Friday, February 20

- Family Game Night at 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 22

- Vestry Meeting after church

Tuesday, February 24

- Men's Gathering at Jordy's, Watertown at 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

- Mary's Room Diaper Delivery at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday, March 8

- Youth Formation Sunday at 9:50 a.m.
- Blessing Box Donations

Happy Birthday

Nancy Bauer
Don Gottschalk
Chene Ball
Cathy Kerwin
Terri Beltemachi
Ken Krueger

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

📣 Thank You & Election Results

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who attended our church's Annual Meeting this past Sunday. Your participation and input are truly invaluable as we continue to grow and serve our community together.

Election Results

We are pleased to announce the results of the recent elections:

Vicki Wright will serve a second term as **Sr. Warden**.

Fran Vandre will serve a first term as **Jr. Warden**.

New **Vestry members** for a three-year term: **John Fritz and Amy Hartwig**.

Diocese Convention Delegates: **Fran Vandre and Cindy Krueger**. Our **alternates** will be **Ellen Klaus, Georgia Irre, and Nancy Bauer**.

We are excited to welcome **Amy Hartwig as St. Paul's Outreach Coordinator**. Amy's dedication and passion for service will be a great asset as we continue to make a positive impact in our community.

Thank you again to everyone who made this year's meeting a success. We look forward to another year of growth and service together!



Ash Wednesday

You are warmly invited to join us for Ash Wednesday, Feb 18th as we begin the season of Lent together in prayer and reflection. We will offer two services on **Ash Wednesday, at 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m.**, both including the Imposition of Ashes. Whether you come during your lunch hour or in the evening, all are welcome to take part in this meaningful time of worship as we prepare our hearts for the journey of Lent.

Join Us for Lenten Devotions and Study. During the Season of Lent, St Paul's will offer various opportunities for study, prayer and fellowship. Beginning on **Monday, Feb 23, a ZOOM evening prayer** will be offered weekly to remind us to prayerfully consider our walk with Jesus. We will also be offering a **study series commencing on Thursday March 5**. Watch your email and announcements for further details.

🎲 ✨ St. Paul's Family Game Night! ✨ 🎲

Looking for a fun, low-key evening with laughter and friendly competition? Join us for Family Game Night on **Friday, February 20th, from 6:30–8:30 p.m.**, hosted by the wonderful **Cindy Krueger!** **All ages are welcome—from 1 to 99** 🤖 ➡️ 👤 **Bring a snack to share** 🎂 🍪 and a **favorite family game** ♟️ 🎲 if you have one—no worries if you don't, there will be plenty to play. This is a great opportunity for all ages to connect, unwind, and enjoy time together. Come for the games, stay for the fun—we can't wait to see you there! 🎉 😊



Building a Welcoming Watertown: Supporting our Neighbors

This winter has been a busy and challenging time for Building a Welcoming Watertown. Over 40 volunteers have taken turns staffing an intake process on bitter winter nights helping those without safe shelter in our community gain access to a warm bed and a meal through partnership with The Heritage Inn and Super 8 hotels. The Shelter Program opened the weekend after Thanksgiving, not a moment too soon. Our first winter has been severe and challenging. In 2025, BWW opened the shelter program over 13 nights and sheltered 50 individuals, including 8 minors. So far in 2026, the shelter program has opened 14 days, sheltering 46 individuals, including 6 minors. We hope to find a permanent shelter location before next winter which would eliminate the need for hotel expenses. Our Outreach donations through mid-February will be donated to the Shelter program.

In addition to the Emergency Shelter Program, BWW members are also organized to provide education and support to our immigrant neighbors as well as information and resources to support the students and educators in our school system. To learn more about and support its work, speak to Elizabeth Fritz, John Fritz, Ellen Klaus, Fran Vandre, Tom Cramer or Georgia Irre, all of whom regularly attend.

BLESSING BOX GROCERY LIST

- instant soups
- dry packaged soup mixes
- single serve packets of tuna or chicken
- granola bars
- jerky
- nuts
- smaller containers of hot cocoa mix

While you're at the grocery store, please consider picking up one or two items from this list to help stock our Blessing Box.

Personal care items:

- deodorant
- toothpaste
- small boxes of kleenex
- individually wrapped single toilet paper rolls

Mary's Room
Diaper Delivery  **Feb. 4th at 9:45a**



FEBRUARY 2026

Welcome to **Amy Hartwig** as St. Paul's new **Outreach Coordinator!** Amy will oversee all outreach ministries at St. Paul's, coordinating quarterly meetings, providing updates to Mother Monica and the Vestry, and serving as a key connection and support for our ministry leaders. We're grateful for her willingness to serve and excited for all she will bring to this role.



- To Peter & Vicki Wright:** Where would we be without these two dynamos? These two do so much that we don't even know about to keep our church going.
- To Sherry Fraser:** Thank you, Sherry, for coming in on the day of the Kings Feast, to help make the final food dishes! It was a last-minute request, too. From Ellen Klaus
- To Dan Devers:** What a Winter!! Thank you to Dan for continuing to clean up after this winter and dealing with it is the most fridged cold!
- To Nancy Bauer:** Thank you for being a wonderful Vestry member the past three years. Your input and participation has been invaluable.
- To Ken Krueger:** Thank you for the amazing job you have done as Jr. Warden. You have been so diligent at getting any To-Do list accomplished and staying on top of all the check lists. Thank You!
- To Amy Hartwig:** Thank you to Amy for hosting the lovely Ladies Fellowship in your beautiful home. Your Christmas decorations were amazing.



413 S 2nd St
 Watertown WI

Church Leadership

- Bishop: The Rt. Rev Matt Gunter
- Rector: The Rev. Monica Burkert-Brist
- Senior Warden: Vicki Wright
- Junior Warden: Ken Krueger
- Assist. Jr. Warden: Dan Devers
- Church Musicians: David & Sara Dow
- Administrator: Jen Devers

Connect with Us
 920-261-1150
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For pastoral care visits, at-home communion, or other pastoral needs, contact Mother Monica at: revmbb.saint413paul@gmail.com Phone: 608-215-9232