



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"Seeking the Welfare of the City"



**2025 - 2027
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
CASE FOR SUPPORT**

**711 South Saginaw Street
Flint, MI 48502**

Table of Contents

Introduction and Note from Our Rector	1
Supporting St. Paul's Vision for the Future: A Capital Campaign Maintaining the Church Complex to Support Growth and Expansion of Programs and Services in the Community	2-3
Faith in Action: Upholding Justice and Serving the Community	4-6
Inspiring Connection Through Music and the Arts	7-8
A Commitment to the Community: Outreach Events	9
The Susan Kilmer Scholarship Fund	10
Caring for the Present, Preparing for the Future	11-12
History of St. Paul's Episcopal Church	13

Mission Statement

St. Paul's parish proclaims the Gospel of Jesus, welcoming all, opening doors, and sharing gifts through worship, service, and engagement that builds community and advances the Kingdom of God.

Guided by Love, Serving with Purpose

For decades, St. Paul's has positioned itself as a welcoming progressive community of faith that cares deeply for its neighbors. Diversity, inclusion and community service have been priorities for the church. St. Paul's celebrates a long history of establishing and supporting initiatives that address critical issues in the City of Flint and the surrounding community, including poverty, homelessness, and food insecurity.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church is launching a capital campaign to support the growth and sustainability of our church's mission. This initiative is more than just a fundraising effort — it is a collective commitment to strengthening our foundation, enhancing the spaces in our church complex, and expanding our reach in serving our community.

Our campaign will unfold in three distinct phases, each designed to meet the evolving needs of our congregation and community.

The goal for Phase One (2025-2027) is \$1.9 million dollars.

In 2022, St. Paul's engaged with Partners for Sacred Places to conduct a strategic visioning process with the goal of identifying initiatives to enhance its involvement and impact on the Flint and Genesee County community. **Three overarching goals emerged from the strategic conversation with parish and community members:**

- Strengthen parish ministry through new collaborations.
- Expand role of church in city-wide events.
- Become a community center through space sharing.

This capital campaign will enable us to achieve these important objectives while ensuring that our Episcopal faith and fellowship can flourish for generations to come.

For more information about our Capital Campaign, please contact
Father Tom Manney at 810-234-8637 or rector@stpaulschurchflint.com
website: stpaulschurchflint.com



A Note from Our Rector

Dear Friends,

I hope this letter finds you well. We are excited to share with you an important document that outlines our latest campaign efforts. Your support and commitment are crucial to the success of our mission.

At St. Paul's, we have an unofficial motto, "...seek the welfare of the city...and pray to the Lord on its behalf for in its welfare, you will find your welfare." (Jeremiah 29.7). At St. Paul's we understand that the vitality of our church is tied directly to the future of Flint. As such, we seek not just to be in the neighborhood, but be an integral, vibrant part of it.

We kindly invite you to read this document and consider contributing to our campaign. As you read through the case for support, we hope you find it in your heart to consider a gift to help us stay strong for now and in the future. Your generosity and involvement make a significant difference in our community.

Thank you,

Tom +

The Reverend Thomas Manney

Supporting St. Paul's Vision for the Future: A Capital Campaign

Maintaining the Church Complex to Support Growth

The parish and community are blessed to have a such a historical gem in their midst for over 150 years. The church complex requires investment of resources to ensure that the sanctuary and adjacent gathering spaces and offices are maintained appropriately for optimal usage, especially since one of St. Paul's major goals is service to the local community. The capital campaign and related initiatives are an investment into the future of St. Paul's parish and, most importantly, will enhance the Episcopal presence in the City of Flint so the church can continue to share the teachings of Jesus Christ, embrace a legacy of inclusion, and aspire to tell and exemplify God's love for every human being.

PHASE ONE (2025-2027)

Phase One of the campaign will focus on raising \$1.9 million dollars to enable St. Paul's Episcopal Church to ensure a welcoming atmosphere for church activities and community partnerships:

- **Installation of a reliable, energy-efficient HVAC system**

The existing HVAC system is 50 years old and struggles to maintain comfortable temperatures. Frequent breakdowns have not only led to escalating repair costs but have also disrupted services and events. A new HVAC system will ensure the sanctuary and meeting rooms are consistently comfortable, encouraging greater participation in worship, social services, and other church activities, a key goal of the church's strategic vision. With the many musical programs offered, it is also critical to maintain a more stable temperature for the Dalton Organ and the grand piano to ensure the proper use and longevity of these instruments which are integral to the spiritual and musical life of the parish.

- **Bathroom renovation**

To support the initiatives of Family Promise and its programs for children and their families, the renovation of the bathrooms on the second floor is also a key priority.

- **Other projects include:**

- restoration of the bell tower
- repair of windows in apartment and Bridal room
- upgrading the door monitoring system to allow easier access after-hours

PHASES TWO AND THREE (2027 and beyond)

Strengthen Stewardship and Growth:

The goal of Phases Two and Three is to raise \$1.6 million dollars to support additional maintenance and upgrades that will ensure the church complex is prepared to sustain increased worship, educational and community outreach activities for years to come. Through strategic investment of resources, St. Paul's will not only be able to reduce energy costs but will also be able to allocate more resources to our mission of serving others and embodying our values of care and sustainability. Some examples of these upgrades include:

- Organ upgrades
- Additional bathroom upgrades
- Barth Hall/Kitchen upgrades - replace ceiling and flooring
- Stained glass windows recovering
- Replace water heaters
- Replace flooring/carpeting in nave and other areas of building
- Refinish pews

Supporting St. Paul's Vision for the Future: A Capital Campaign

Expansion of Programs and Services in the Community

Through the capital campaign, St. Paul's seeks to expand opportunities for partnership and service so that the church can maintain a strong and vital presence in downtown Flint. Specifically, we would like to explore the establishment and expansion of the following initiatives:

CAMPUS MINISTRY

As part of our ongoing commitment to the Flint community, St. Paul's seeks to establish a campus ministry dedicated to building meaningful relationships with students at local institutions, including the University of Michigan-Flint, Mott Community College, Michigan State University, and Kettering University.

In the first year, St. Paul's efforts will aspire to:

- Provide a dedicated space for students to gather and study.
- Host a weekly service and dinner to foster fellowship.
- Invite students to the Music in the Heart of the City concert series and offer a special reception.

St. Paul's campus ministry reflects our belief in the transformative power of Christ's love in the lives of young adults. By working together, we can create vibrant spaces where students explore faith, build meaningful connections, and prepare to serve the world.

Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry plays a vital role in the life and mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. It serves as a foundation for spiritual growth, moral development, and community building among young believers. Currently, children who attend Sunday services actively participate in the offertory procession as well as Sunday school. Through a variety of activities, each school session focuses on sharing the story of Jesus with the children.

As we look to the future, we would like the capital campaign to support the expansion of the children's ministry with the goals of attracting new families to services and active parish membership by:

- offering a Vacation Bible School that would be open to children in the parish and community.
- in partnership with Family Promise, offer an after-school program that would include tutoring and other learning activities.

A thriving Children's Ministry would attract young families, fostering overall church growth and sustainability. It creates a sense of belonging and community among children, leading to future church engagement.

Faith in Action: Upholding Justice and Serving the Community

Social justice has long been a guiding concept for St. Paul's and continues to be ingrained in St. Paul's ministry and community outreach. For decades, St. Paul's has been committed to partnering with several agencies that provide much needed services to community members who encounter homelessness and food security, mental health concerns, while also serving as a welcoming church for the LGBTQ community.

CROSSOVER OUTREACH

In 1991, St. Paul's along with First Presbyterian Church of Flint, Court Street United Methodist and Every Nation Church (formerly Riverside Tabernacle) founded Crossover Outreach to create a service center for community members experiencing food insecurity and/or needing basic supplies such as clothing, household items and personal items.

Today, St Paul's continues to support the agency's invaluable services to the community including:

- Donations of food to support Crossover's Thanksgiving dinner which offers meals to 100 individuals each year, the Angel Tree which provides children with Christmas presents, and Easter basket items.
- Participation of two parish members and the rector on Crossover's Board of Directors.
- Annual sponsorship of up to forty 3rd through 8th grade children from the City of Flint to attend Camp Chickagami, a retreat and camp facility owned and operated by the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes in Presque Isle, Michigan. This includes transportation to and from the camp. The program focuses on ensuring each camper leaves with a greater sense of self-love, confidence, spirituality, and creativity from a week of being accepted as they are in a compassionate community.
- And, most recently, St. Paul's supported the 2023 construction of Crossover's new building.



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We wouldn't exist without them! Crossover Outreach and St. Paul's have enjoyed a long and enduring relationship for several decades. The church has played a vital role in ensuring that Crossover can continue its mission to serve the community's most vulnerable members.

**Denise Diller, Executive Director
Crossover Outreach**

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Faith in Action: Upholding Justice and Serving the Community

St. Paul's is a God send! They are our support network and without them we would not be able to serve the homeless population in the significant ways we do.

Tiffani Wharry, Executive Director of Family Promise

FAMILY PROMISE OF MID-MICHIGAN

Since 2012, Family Promise of Mid-Michigan has been offering services in the Greater Flint community to end homelessness. Family Promise is part of a nationwide program that works with volunteers within communities to address the homelessness of families with children. St. Paul's has been supporting the work of Family Promise since 2013 by housing families in classrooms for a week, four times a year.

In August 2023, Family Promise moved their Day Center, the 'hub' of their operations, to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This relocation brought the agency closer to downtown, offering better access to essential services for our families in need. Located on the second floor of St. Paul's complex, Family Promise provides critical services to homeless families with children in Genesee County schools, including:

- transitional housing and stabilization program through which they provide food, household items, gas cards and other basic needs to families.
- home buying and financial literacy workshops with the goal of positioning each family to become self-sufficient in their own home.
- providing tutoring and mentoring for children twice per week and a safe place for them "to hang out" afterschool.



Tiffani Wharry shared how much peace and calmness she has found working in St. Paul's building. She has been welcomed and accepted by the staff and members of the congregation. Having the Day Center in St. Paul's has changed the program and her own life. She now is a member of St. Paul's and appreciates how intent we are in doing the work God has given us to do for this community.

Service to the Community

Faith in Action: Upholding Justice and Serving the Community

St. Paul's is a progressive, inclusive parish that embraces the LGBTQ community and creates safe spaces and opportunities for connection. Annually, the church offers ecumenical services for both Transgender Remembrance Day, a day in November dedicated to those transgender people who have been murdered, as well as the Flint Community Pride Day in June as part of National Pride Month.

In 2024, the **Trans Support Group** was established and meets bi-weekly at St. Paul's. Administered by the Genesee Health System, this group represents the congregation's commitment to support those who are the victims of severe discrimination.

ST. PAUL'S DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Through the work of the Diversity Committee, St. Paul's offers educational presentations and monthly movie nights to raise awareness about important social issues. Some recent programs include:

- **“Why Don't They Just Walk Away?” - Symposium on Human Trafficking**

In a partnership with Court Street United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church of Flint, and Sanctum House, St. Paul's Episcopal Church hosted a one-day symposium. The event focused on the facts, issues, and challenges of human trafficking, and why victims don't walk away.

- **Middle East Peace Vigil**

In an effort to raise awareness about the war in Gaza, community members gathered to write cards and letters of encouragement and comfort for the children and families that have been brought to the United States from Gaza after the events of October 7, 2023. Following this activity a solemn vigil of peace was held in the Sanctuary during which participants lifted their voices in prayer and song for the peace and reconciliation that brings an immediate end to the violence in Gaza and the West Bank.

A Message from a New Member

About a year ago, Rajaad Twine (Raj) and his partner attended the Pride in the Park event in Flint, where they came across a brochure about St. Paul's. The message of inclusivity and warmth within its pages stood out to Raj, offering something he had not experienced in other churches—a true sense of welcome.

The very next day, Raj attended a Sunday service at St. Paul's, and from that moment, he never looked back. The congregation's open arms and accepting spirit made an immediate impact, fostering a sense of belonging that he had long sought. Inspired by the love and support they received, Raj and his partner quickly became active members of the church. Raj found his voice in the Gospel Choir, sharing his passion for music with the congregation.

Now, in a joyous celebration of their relationship and their deep connection to St. Paul's, Raj and his partner, Dr. Robert Cuthbertson, are planning a commitment ceremony this fall—a testament to the church's role in their spiritual and personal journey.

Inspiring Connection Through Music and the Arts

Holly Richardson, Music Director, believes the choirs at St. Paul's offer an opportunity to maintain the important tradition of choral singing as well as building strong connections among the parishioners who participate. Music has been integral to the services and life at St. Paul's Episcopal Church since its inception. The parish offers several opportunities for parishioners to get involved in the musical life of the church including the Chancel Choir, Gospel Choir, and Handbell Choir. Collectively, there are close to 35 parishioners who are involved in this ministry, and the choirs are actively engaged in the community.



While the **Handbell Choir** performs once per month, the **Chancel Choir** performs for most of the Sunday services. The choirs at St. Paul's have a history of partnering with other community churches; on Good Friday each year the choirs from First Presbyterian of Flint, Court Street United Methodist, and the Peoples Church of Flint participate in a joint service. In April each year, the Handbell Choir participates in the Peggy Ring workshop hosted by Faith Lutheran Church. This is a consortium of eight church bell choirs that come together to learn new music and then offer a public concert at the end of the day. The **Gospel Choir** is another opportunity to experience the love of singing and fellowship. Each year, the choir performs in many venues in Michigan.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

One of the parish's signature programs is the **Music in the Heart of the City Concert Series**. Talented performers, both vocalists and instrumentalists, are featured during five to six concerts that are open to the community. Attracting 50-100 attendees every concert, the series was established to encourage community to experience the beauty of music as well as St. Paul's sanctuary and organ, the largest of its kind north of Detroit and east of Grand Rapids. Each year, an **Artist in Residence** is featured during the concert series. Local musicians are selected to perform and in recent years they have hailed from University of Michigan-Flint, Mott Community College and local churches. In 2024, the Artist in Residence was Trio Rubato and their performances were entitled "Musical Conversations: Where Jazz Meets Classical."

A strong supporter of the **City of Flint Artwalk**, St. Paul's opens its parlor to artists to display their art and musicians to perform in the sanctuary on the second Friday of each month. Black History Month is celebrated during February and art from the Youth Arts: Unlocked Program, a workshop for justice involving youth, is featured one month each year.

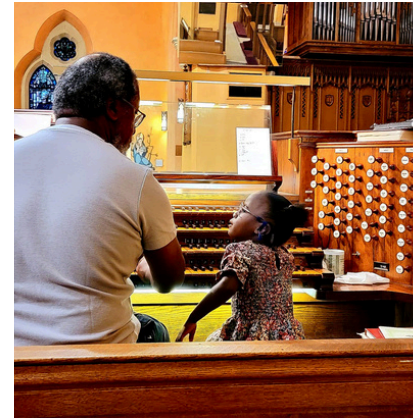
The beauty of St. Paul's sanctuary attracts musical groups to hold practices and performances such as **New Century Chorale**, a 35-voice choir with members who come from all over Genesee and Lapeer counties. Additionally, local high schools host their concerts and invitationals at St. Paul's.



HISTORY OF DALTON ORGAN

Our current organ is the third organ built for St. Paul's Episcopal Church and was completed in 2018. This organ was built by Jerroll Adams of Milan, Michigan, where he expanded and used the best of the pipe work from the second organ completed in 1940. The instrument contains eight divisions, 71 registers, 88 ranks and over 5,000 pipes. The pipes are housed in three functional cases plus an echo division in the rear gallery. The organ has a four manual console and a small two manual mini console in the gallery.

The organ was named after Florence Whiting Dalton, born to James H. Whiting and Alice M. Northup. Alice died on December 30, 1940 and her family generously gifted the church with funds for the second organ. Today's organ pays tribute to the generous gift of her family, by continuing to be called the Dalton Memorial Organ.



**“St. Paul’s is a church
‘with a heart,’ a place
where diversity of people
and thought flourishes,
where warmth and
belonging define the
congregation.”
—Russ Matar**

A Lifetime of Commitment for Over Fifty Years

For Russ Matar, St. Paul's was more than a place of worship—it was an extended family of progressive, action-oriented individuals who lived by the motto, “Do as much for them as you do for your own.”

Russ's journey with the Episcopal Church began in Port Huron, MI, where he first engaged with the church as a young boy. Throughout his life, he served as a lay reader and usher, roles that deepened his faith and connection to the church. His commitment to service was shared by his daughter, TaMara Oertel, who made history as the first female lay reader in their parish.

In 1975, Russ joined St. Paul's, drawn by his connection to Father Shulenberg and the church's welcoming presence. St. Paul's doors were always open, offering a sanctuary of faith, fellowship, and purpose. What stood out most to Russ was their unwavering commitment to serving from the heart.

Finding peace and encouragement within the St. Paul's community, he embraced the opportunity to get involved. To him, community service was not just an obligation, but a fundamental part of life. Russ actively served in many different roles over the past 50 years. Through these roles, he witnessed firsthand the congregation's ability to come together and accomplish great things.

Russ believes that the parish's steadfast commitment to outreach embodies spirit of community, reinforcing its role as a pillar of support and compassion now and for years to come.

A Commitment to the Community: Outreach Events

St. Paul's and its parishioners engage in a variety of activities annually that support community members and events hosted by organizations in the City of Flint that attract participants from the region. The church's participation is a mechanism through which community members can learn about and engage with the parish.

These are just a few examples of the many connections St. Paul's has with our community.

FLINT WATER CRISIS

In 2015, St. Paul's served as a hub of support during the water crisis. Episcopal churches and other organizations throughout the United States sent water to St. Paul's totaling \$150,000. Parish volunteers coordinated the distribution of the water to the community.

BACK TO THE BRICKS AND THE CRIM FESTIVAL OF RACES

St Paul's supports long-time community traditions such as Back to the Bricks and the Crim Festival of Races each year by welcoming participants into the church complex. These events are an opportunity for community members to learn about the parish, tour the sanctuary and complex, and partake in refreshments with parishioners. The Rector offers a blessing for the runners who participate in the Crim race. On average, 200 individuals engage with St. Paul's during each of these events.

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

Each year, St. Paul's hosts an average of four blood drives a year in collaboration with Dr. Susumu Inoue, a member of St. Paul's. Unlike going to the Red Cross Donation Center, the blood drives have become a fun social event with lots of fellowship and juice and cookies!

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Each year, a service recognizing St. Francis of Assisi is held to which community and parishioners bring their pets for a blessing. Representatives of the Humane Society of Genesee County participate in our service to share their latest news. Pet food, treats, blankets and toys are collected by the congregation and are donated in support of the work that the Humane Society does to ensure the health and safety of animals in our community.

When something is needed, we are here to help!

**Barbara Mannor, Capital Campaign Co-chair and
Director, Children's Formation**



THE SUSAN KILMER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Established by Susan Kilmer, a former teacher and parishioner of St. Paul's, the Susan Kilmer Scholarship Fund is administered by the parish. The scholarship of up to \$2,000 annually supports active congregation members at St. Paul's or any local church who are attending a post-secondary institution. Applications are reviewed by a committee and awards may be applied to the cost of tuition, books, and room/board. A total of eighteen scholarships have been awarded between 2020 – 2024.

Supporting Education

A Recent Kilmer Scholarship Awardee

Myron Manygoat, originally from Arizona, has been connected to the Episcopal Church his entire life. As a young man, he found purpose in serving as a youth group leader and Sunday school teacher, helping others grow in faith as he did. After completing his service in the U.S. Marines, Myron relocated to the Flint area in search of new opportunities and a place to call home. He found that home at St. Paul's. As a devoted father to a three-year-old daughter, he treasures the support and inclusivity that define the church.

Recognizing his dedication and aspirations, St. Paul's selected Myron as the recipient of the 2024 Susan Kilmer Scholarship, supporting his journey as a senior at Ferris State University studying survey engineering. This investment in his education strengthens his resolve to give back to the community that has given him so much.

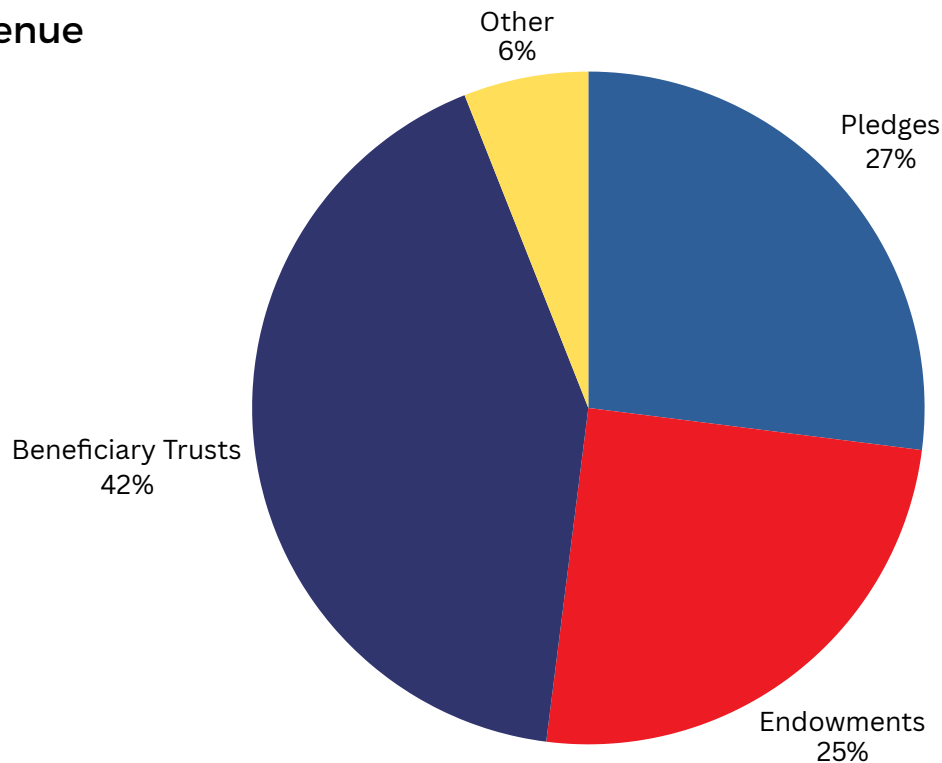
Myron values the church's dedication to diversity and education. He was particularly moved by the work of the Diversity Committee, which creates opportunities to engage with different cultures and social issues. A highlight for him was the field trip to the Museum of Ojibwa Culture in St. Ignace, MI, where members learned about the rich traditions and contemporary experiences of the Chippewa people.

Through all of this, what keeps Myron coming back to St. Paul's is its unwavering spirit of inclusivity and service. "It's a place that looks out for others and helps anyone when they can," he says.

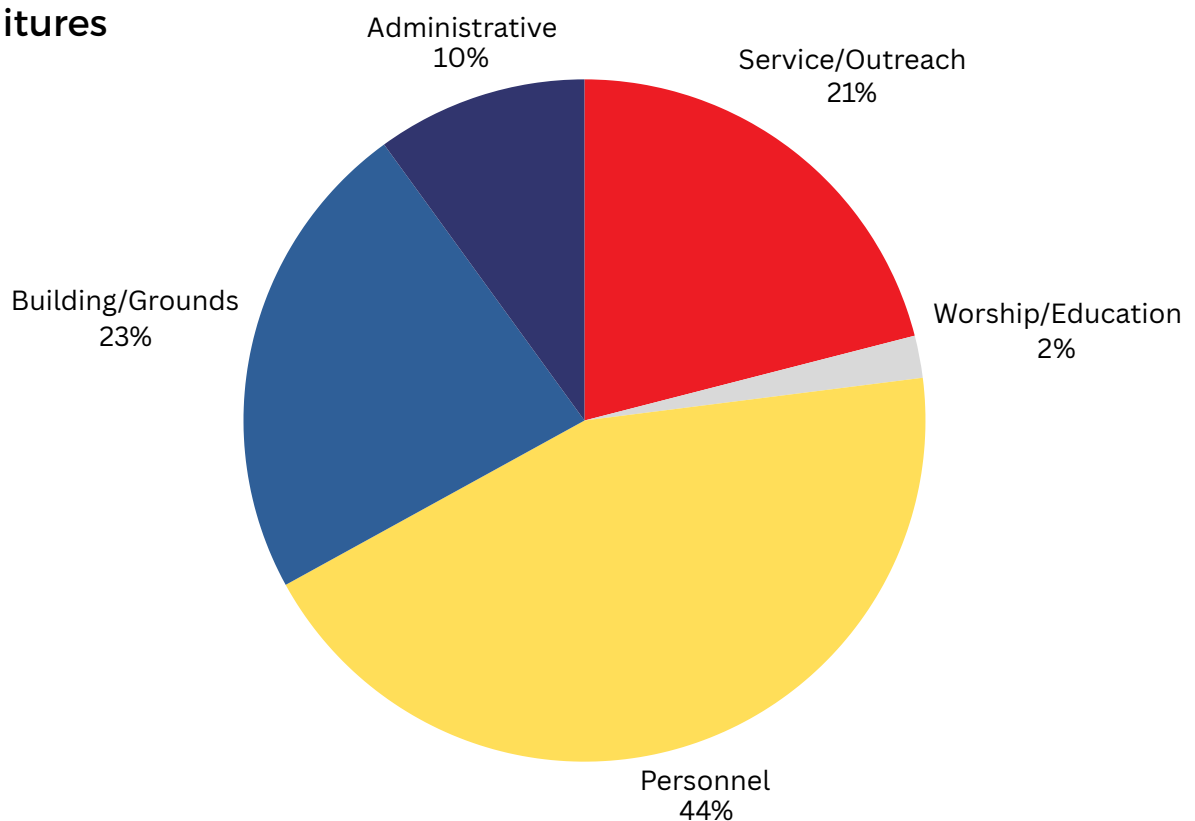
Caring for the Present, Preparing for the Future

St. Paul's has been an exemplary steward of its resources for over 150 years with solid investments and strong fiscal oversight. With this campaign, the parish envisions a future of steady growth and continued commitment to its congregation and the community!

Revenue



Expenditures



St. Paul's Parish Leadership

VESTRY MEMBERS

Rebecca Bennett
Jan Bugbee
Dr. Robert Cuthbertson
Heather Gagnon
Zan Milner
TaMara Oertel
Karen Schaefer

CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

Joel Arnold
Rebecca Bennett
Jan Bugbee
John Cherry
George Gibson
Maggie Hart
Reverend Thomas Manney
Barbara Mannor
TaMara Oertel
Linda Moxam, consultant
Michelle Rosynsky, consultant

A Message from Our Senior Warden

I keep a quote on my refrigerator credited to St. Francis of Assisi and it reads, "Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary use words." I think the meaning and intent of this quote are at the heart of how St. Paul's people love and reach within and without the walls of our beautiful building. We are now in a place with leadership and energy to act for future generations to enjoy the benefits we are working to preserve. We currently have more community groups/organizations making use of our building than at any other time in our history. Because our building is what allows us to provide space for the community's needs we have to keep the building safe and up to date. Our Capital Campaign is pivotal to our making this happen and for worship in the beauty of holiness. For future generations to enjoy the same experiences, it is critical for us to be successful in this campaign. We welcome your support!

TaMara Oertel
Senior Warden 2023-2025

For more information about our Capital Campaign, please contact
Father Tom Manney at 810-234-8637 or rector@stpaulschurchflint.com
website: stpaulschurchflint.com

Our Shared History - Seeking the Welfare of the City

1839 – The Missionary Priest

The Reverend Daniel Ebenezer Brown, a missionary priest from Green Bay, Wisconsin, first visited the ‘grand traverse’ of the Flint River at the Saginaw Trail in August of 1839. His mission, to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus and build a new community of faith at this strategic intersection, in the very heart of the young ‘Flint River Village’. The priest’s arrival marked a major milestone as the first settlers worked to build a new city here at this wilderness intersection, where the river met the road. He carried with him the familiar texts and traditions, and the shared vision of establishing the region’s first Episcopal Church.

Settlers from western New York made up the majority of the priest’s first congregations. Among those who heard his first sermons in the summer of 1839, were families whose names are found even today in public places, parks, schools, and street signs; Averill, Dayton, Walker, Pierson, Decker, Hamilton, Stevens, and Bishop. Along with their new priest, it seems that these families understood from the start that their own welfare was and would always be inextricably linked to the welfare of the city to which they had come.



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When I visited this place in August last it was indeed new ground. The voice of an Episcopal clergyman in celebrating the services of our church had never been heard here. On that occasion my services were the first. I preached three times to large and interested congregations.

The Reverend Daniel Ebenezer Brown, 1840

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1842 – The Tabernacle and the Old Church

St. Paul’s Episcopal Church was organized in the fall of 1839, and the parish was formally recognized by the Diocese of Michigan on January 15th of 1840. With no building of their own, the congregation’s first services were celebrated in rented space, the ‘Upper Room’ above the general store of Ira Wright and R. F. Stage. By the winter of 1842, it was clear that the congregation had outgrown the ‘Upper Room’, and new, larger quarters were needed to advance the vision and work of the young church. Described as a ‘destitute parish’ by the bishop, the hope of the congregation would be found in their shared history, the churches and communities from which they’d come. The Reverend Brown was dispatched to churches in New York, where he successfully solicited gifts of land and funds sufficient to erect St. Paul’s first church edifice. Awaiting the completion of their new church building, a crude shanty of ‘slabs and refuse lumber’ became the temporary home of St. Paul’s. Extravagantly dubbed ‘The Tabernacle’ the building was described by the bishop as being “comfortable in summer and to some limited extent had been made so in winter”. The cornerstone for St. Paul’s first ‘proper’ church building was set on June 29, 1842, on the lot just south of today’s Mott Foundation Building. This, the ‘Old Church’ was completed in the spring of 1843 and consecrated by the first Bishop of Michigan on July 30 of that year.

Our Shared History - Seeking the Welfare of the City

1872 – The New Church



Through the next thirty years, land and lumber fueled the economic prosperity of the community. A city was arising on every side of St. Paul's, and members of the congregation figured prominently in organizing and building the village's infrastructure and institutions. When the City of Flint was organized in 1855, Grant Decker (a founding member and vestryman of St. Paul's) became the new city's first Mayor. Indeed, the next three Mayors of the City of Flint were also St. Paul's vestrymen, Robert J. S. Page, William M. Fenton, and Henry M. Henderson. These men were the first of many St. Paul's parishioners who would later be elected to lead the city or serve the state or nation in elected office; each one 'seeking the welfare of the city'.

By 1869, serious changes and challenges threatened the well-being of the parish. The old church was just too small, and in such poor repair that rain simply poured through the old roof of the damp old structure. More urgently, the priest had fallen out of favor with the congregation (and perhaps vice versa) and the church was closed for months.

With the arrival of St. Paul's 5th rector, the Reverend Marcus Lane, came new hope and a shared vision for the parish. Among the first to respond to this new hope was Mrs. Eliza Simpson Henderson, who had been among those first congregations in the 'Upper Room' and the 'Tabernacle'. As church leaders contemplated the construction of a new, larger building, it was her initial gift of \$8,000 that made it a reality. It was this act of faith that sparked a wave of generosity that set the entire \$26,000 project in motion.

The cornerstone for St. Paul's new building was set on May 29, 1872, at the intersection of S. Saginaw Street and E. Third Street. The Gothic Revival structure was designed by Gordon W. Lloyd, the prominent Detroit architect who had also designed Detroit's Central Methodist Church, Christ Church, and 'the Whitney'. Fifteen months later, the Rev. Marcus Lane took the pulpit and preached his first sermon in the new church on August 24, 1873.

1916 – The Parish House

The Reverend J. Bradford Pengelly was called to Flint in 1913, to serve as 9th Rector of St. Paul's. His home, the parish rectory, sat on Kearsley Street alongside the homes of the city's automobile and industrial pioneers. His neighbors were in many cases, also members of his congregation and leaders in his new parish. These were the men and women who would soon be inspired by his vision for the welfare of the city and the wellbeing of its residents.

This was the vision that inspired the Honorable Charles Stewart Mott to organize a campaign to build a new 'Parish House' and renovation of the old church structure. He opened the campaign with his offer to give the first \$40,000 (sufficient to erect the entire Parish House), if the congregation pledged to raise the rest of the funds needed for other repairs and renovations. Like Eliza Simpson Henderson's simple act of faith when the church building was erected, Mr. Mott's gift inspired a wave of generosity that gave us the Parish House, dedicated to 'The Kingdom of God and the needs of our city.'

Our Shared History - Seeking the Welfare of the City

When the cornerstone for the new ‘Parish House’ was set in place by C. S. Mott and J. Dallas Dort, on September 17th of 1916, the Rev. Mr. Pengelly addressed the massive gathering of neighbors and friends. His message was clear. The priest spoke of the church and its buildings as, ‘hold[ing] the same relation to city as the heart does to the body. It is in the midst of the civic body. We hope to make it in purpose what it is in location.’ Central to his vision was the building of a new, modern Parish House, to replace the old house once occupied by the Beecher family almost 50 years earlier.

It seems that the Parish House itself was to become a sort of cornerstone, setting a true direction and establishing a foundation to support the work of the church for generations to come. This was where the social gospel, preached by the visionary rector, would intersect with the needs of the industrial city that was growing up on every side, the intersection at which the faith and beliefs of the congregation would embrace the work of social justice, child welfare, and economic equality.

This is going to be a large and well-equipped building. It will be capable of giving us much pleasure. But God forbid that we of St. Paul’s and our friends should use it in a selfish way, just for our own comfort and entertainment. No! We here and now dedicate it to the larger uses of the Kingdom of God and the needs of our city.

The Rev. J. Bradford Pengelly, 1916

1953 – The New Parish Hall

As early as 1935, the congregation recognized the need to expand and update the relatively new Parish House. Community and civic groups routinely filled the auditorium and gymnasium. Mathew Davison, Jr. led a campaign to renovate the facility to accommodate the work of the parish, including working space for the priest and parish staff members. Then, in June of 1945, a small group of parishioners purchased the lot and buildings just south of the Parish House. Another act of faith by a few parishioners, inspired and made possible the third and final addition to the St. Paul’s physical structure. Those parishioners, Alice Johnson, Donald E. Johnson, J. E. Burroughs, John L. Pierce, and Homer J. McBride purchased the lot and arranged terms to transfer it St. Paul’s. The cornerstone for Barth Hall, named in honor of Charles F. Barth, was set on this lot in 1953.

Our Shared History - Seeking the Welfare of the City

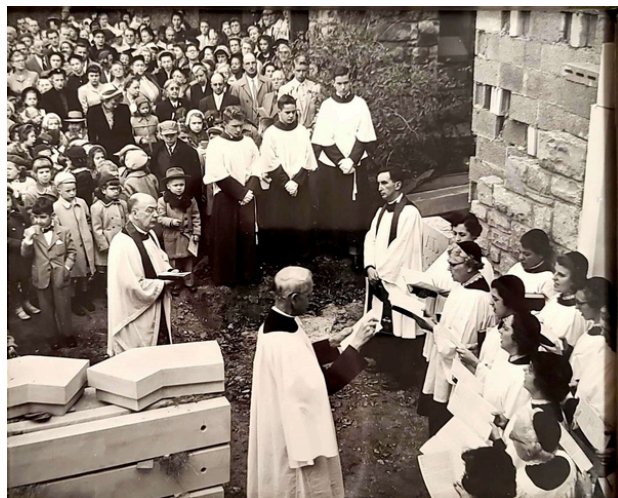
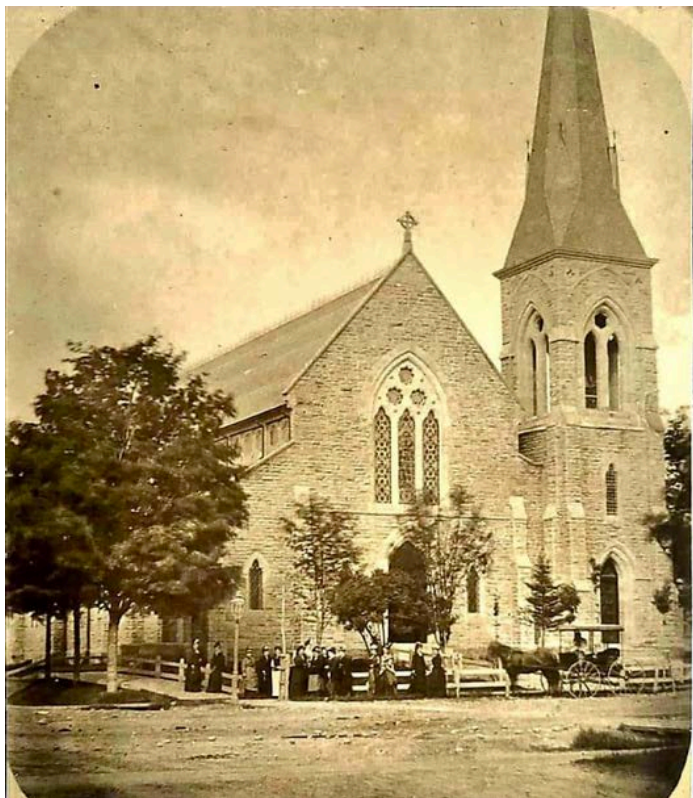
Today

Since 1953, the footprint and exterior of St. Paul's buildings has remained largely unchanged. Throughout those years, our neighbors have continued to engage and use these facilities in service of the city and wider community. Major campaigns and the generous support of friends and neighbors have enabled the church to complete ongoing maintenance and undertake major repairs and upgrades.

The walls, windows, and memorials in these historic buildings tell the story of the faithful congregants and inspired neighbors who built and cared for them through the years. Those of us who follow their lead today are not only the caretakers of the facilities and abundant gifts of those who came before us. We are called today as the stewards of their vision, and keepers of the shared commitment to 'Seek the Welfare of the City'



For more information about our Capital Campaign, please contact
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website: stpaulschurchflint.com



St. Paul's Episcopal Church
1840 - present





ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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