

BLOW YOUR TRUMPET GABRIEL

News of the Life and Ministries of St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church

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Winter 2026

Issue 10 Highlights:

***From the desk of
Rev. Peter Floyd***

Photo Gallery

Voice of the Vestry

Ash Wednesday

***Notes from our
Jr. Warden***

In Memorial



“Our mission is to share with our neighbors our love of God through worship, fellowship and service. We will journey together both during our worship and outside our church walls, as a community of faith, in unity with God and each other in Christ.”

The Vestry – St. Gabriel’s Episcopal Church March 2024

Words and Reflections from Reverend Peter Floyd

We celebrated Epiphany today in our community. In so doing, we celebrated the light from the star that stood still over the manger scene with Mary, Joseph, Jesus, shepherds, sheep, camels and the Wise Men. In the reality of the world as it is today, we celebrate the beauty and vulnerability of light, standing over and against the dictators of the world; the darkness, evil and terror inherent in their power and control. Pray for the people of Iran, indeed pray for everyone who lives under such darkness and evil.

Photo Gallery Photo Gallery Photo Gallery



The Altar Guild and many helpful elves readied the sanctuary for the Christmas season.

The Back Stage Academy of Dance has renewed their contract for use of our parish hall. Classes meet for instruction on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. Thomas and Mindy brought their talents and wonderful duets during Christmas and Epiphany.

The Voice of the Vestry – January 7, 2026

Present: Rev. Peter Floyd, Ron Stack, Mark Pruzin, Kris Zabranski, Re Pruzin, Tim Chicker, Bill Makucin, Paul Angelico

Absent: Richard Hudson, Karen Spotts

Meeting Start Time: 10:51 am. Open Prayer by Rev. Floyd.

Motion to approve minutes from 9 November, 2025 by Tim Chicker, 2nd by Kris Zabranski.
Motion passed.

Priest In Charge

- Everything is going well. Very happy with the congregation.

Senior Warden

- Still waiting to do the wheel replacement on the table and chair carts.
- Heat grates for the narthex will need to be replaced.
- Window has been replaced in the kitchen.
- Anyone passing the church on Friday mornings and is able, is asked to bring the garbage cans to the back by the kitchen door.

Junior Warden

- Website is up to date.
- Backstage Academy of Dance is very happy using the church parish hall and will be renewing their contract for another session

Treasurer – No Report

Assistant Treasurer

- Financials to be sent out during the Week of December 8th, 2025.
- Financials are strong.

Old Business

- Jenny Berthiaume will continue to contact Channel 3, WFSB, (with direction from the Sr. Warden and/or the PIC) for Sunday Service cancellations due to inclement winter weather. Parishioners should tune in to Channel 3 for weather updates.

* Epiphany Function TBD.



New Business

- Christmas Eve Service is set for 6 PM. NO service on Christmas Day.
- Greening of the Church is set for Sunday, 21 December, 2025.
- Backstage Academy of Dance to start Session 2 on 7 January 2026.
- Parish Clerk Joanne Chicker to receive an increase of 5% to her hourly pay (\$17.85 per hour) effective 1 January, 2026.

Motion to accept raising Parish Clerks salary by Re Pruzin, 2nd by Bill Makucin. 1 abstention.
Motion passes.

Next Vestry Meeting - To be determined.

Motion to Adjourn at 11:22 AM – Motion by Rev. Floyd, 2nd by Bill Makucin. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark M. Pruzin
Junior Warden

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

St. Gabriel's will celebrate Ash Wednesday on February 18 at 4:00pm.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent in the Episcopal Church, emphasizing penitence, mortality, and preparation for Easter through the imposition of ashes and optional fasting. Lent is the 40-day period of reflection, penitence, and self-denial, inspired by Christ's 40 days in the desert. The day emphasizes human mortality and the need for repentance, reminding worshippers that life is finite and that spiritual renewal is essential. The ashes, traditionally made from burning the previous year's Palm Sunday fronds, are a visible symbol of this penitential focus.

IMPORTANT NOTES FROM THE JUNIOR WARDENS DESK

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting for Saint Gabriel's Church previously scheduled for February 15 has been put on hold by the PIC until further notice. Please keep in mind that this is an important meeting of our parish year and will be rescheduled. Reports from our Priest in Charge, Wardens, Altar Guild and Treasurer will be presented. If there is anything that anyone has to bring up regarding the life of St. Gabriel's, please inform Joanne Chicker, Parish Administrator, so she can put you on the agenda.



SEEKING NEW MEMBERS

If anyone is interested in serving on the Vestry, please contact either Ron Stack, Senior Warden, or Mark Pruzin, Junior Warden. Being a member of St. Gabriel's Vestry is an interesting and rewarding experience. Monthly meetings are held following the church service.

COFFEE HOUR



Thank you to all who have either donated money or have brought in pastries and other goodies for our coffee hour. The coffee hour runs on the donations from the congregation. Thanks to all those who have taken the time to set up and clean up. Remember that “many hands make light work” so pitch in to help if you can!

VOLUNTEERING TO ASSIST SUNDAY SERVICES



Please consider signing up to assist in Sunday worship: **Readers, Chalice Bearers, Counters and Altar Guild positions are not only welcome but necessary for our small but mighty parish to continue to flourish.** Anyone who is interested in participating in any of these indispensable roles should see Rev. Floyd or Joanne Chicker. For those already participating, the sign-up sheet for the remainder of January, February and March is located on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Thank You! **Reminder – Please find a substitute if you are unable to serve on your signed date and let Joanne know of the change.**



IN MEMORIAL

The St. Gabriel's praying community mourns the loss of our good friend Curt Richards. Curt will always be remembered for his dedication to St. Gabriel's, serving the church as a former member of the vestry and his unwavering presence in the front pew. A celebration of life for Curt will be held at St. Gabriel's on Saturday, February 21, at 11:00. All are invited to attend.

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church Newsletter
Jenny Berthiaume, Editor