



# MEET YOUR 2010 OFFICERS, VESTRY & DEANERY DELEGATES

At our Annual Meeting in January, we elected four new members to the Vestry to serve for three-year terms. But what does a Vestry *do* anyway? The Vestry is responsible for governing the parish and managing the physical and financial assets. But its main task is leadership. According to *The Vestry Resource Guide: Servants Called to Leadership, Volume I*, the Vestry is the body within a congregation that, with the clergy, leads the parish.

The Vestry:

- Helps to discern the vision toward which God is drawing our community;
- Articulates and communicates the vision;
- Holds the community accountable for its realization of that vision; and
- Keeps the mission of the Church and that of our congregation clearly before us.

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## The Wardens and Officers



### Ayanna Bennett, Senior Warden (2008–10)

Ayanna is our new Senior Warden. She is a pediatrician, trained at UCSF, Berkeley, and Stanford. Ayanna came up from San Diego after high school, fell in love with the fog and crazy people, and gave up on SoCal for good. She works in a few places with different groups, mostly young kids in Alameda, and teens in San Francisco. She's a decent poet, a so-so dancer, an inconsistent runner and she lives for those crazy stories that people tell her in the exam room. She found St. Paul's through the rummage sale 5 years ago, but didn't truly join until 2006 with the best Inquirer's class ever. She has jumped in with both feet wherever asked, but is most in love with the kazoo band, spaghetti dinners (of all kinds), and anything that gets St. Paul's people out into the streets with the people. You can reach her at [seniorwarden@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:seniorwarden@stpaulsoakland.org).



### Liz Lindsley, Junior Warden (2008–10)

Liz is our newly elected Junior Warden. She is excited about the potential of truly being the "people's warden" and is available, with her best listening skills, to all parishioners. She has been involved with Family Ministry, serves on Altar Guild and as Sub-Deacon. Liz came to Oakland in August 2004 from Santa Cruz, although she was born here and her parents were married at St Paul's. So in a way, coming to St. Paul's and Oakland was a bit like coming home. Liz has led small faith formation groups in her previous parish and is eager to see them here. She is an artist and educational consultant focusing on arts education as well as a professional facilitator and trainer, owning her own business, the Consortium for Excellence in Arts Education. She is a Stanford alumna with a doctorate in education from USC. She likes to garden, paint, make books and hike in her spare time. Liz can be reached at [juniorwarden@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:juniorwarden@stpaulsoakland.org) or 510.845.4144.

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### Athena Honoré, Secretary (2010–12)

Athena is our newly elected Secretary and has been a member of St. Paul's since 2006. She and her partner Beca chose St. Paul's because of its Oasis affiliation and the warm welcome from the congregation. St. Paul's is Athena's first church; she grew up atheist and converted. She was baptized here on Easter 2006, and she and Beca were married here on November 1, 2008. Athena has participated in Oasis, St. Mary's dinners, and the Marriage Equality and Harvest fundraising dinners; served on the Search Committee to find our new rector; and is currently an usher. She is committed to transparency and openness, and values the opportunity to help St. Paul's grow and become even more vibrant and engaged with the community. She likes to knit socks and makes a mean oatmeal-chocolate chunk cookie. Athena can be reached at [athenaphone@yahoo.com](mailto:athenaphone@yahoo.com).



### Trudy Hsu, Treasurer\*

Trudy is our newly elected Treasurer. Trudy has been a parishioner since 2003 when she attended the Noisy Worship service with her noisy toddler Virginia. Since then she has focused on Family Ministry activities as the Noisy Worship alums move into elementary/middle school and continue their spiritual growth. Originally from Massachusetts, Trudy spent several years in the Midwest getting an MBA and joined the Episcopal Church after starting her first job in Milwaukee. She relocated to the Bay Area in 1994 as she continued her career in marketing medical devices and diagnostics. She looks forward to further involvement on the financial side of St. Paul's as treasurer and can be reached at [finance@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsoakland.org).

*\*The treasurer is an officer of the corporation and a member of the executive committee along with the rector, the wardens and the secretary. The treasurer is not a member of the vestry.*

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## Members of the Vestry



### Kathy McClelland (2010–12)

Kathy came to St. Paul's in November of 1982, new to the Bay Area and a single mom of a 3-year-old son. St. Paul's was the first church she "auditioned" and she felt so drawn to this community that she's never left. Today Kathy is the mother of three grown sons, stepmother to a grown daughter (a graduate of St. Paul's School) and grandmother of an energetic 2-year-old grandson. While working full time as an administrative assistant at U.C. Berkeley, Kathy attended graduate school and in 2006 completed a masters degree in counseling psychology from Holy Names University. Retired from U.C., Kathy currently is a marriage and family therapy intern working in the fields of addiction and trauma. Currently she is the coordinator of the Altar Guild and also serves as an acolyte and lay reader. You can reach Kathy at [kmcclelland3733@comcast.net](mailto:kmcclelland3733@comcast.net).

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### **Philip Merrick (2010–12)**

Philip came to St. Paul's via our open chapel and the Wednesday Eucharist and will celebrate his ten-year anniversary as a member this Easter. He is a resident of Oakland and works in the insurance industry in San Francisco's Financial District. This is Phil's second tour of duty as a Vestry member. He has served as Senior Warden and as an ex-officio member of St. Paul's School board of Trustees. He also serves as Sub-Deacon and enjoys assisting at the altar. Phil can be reached at [merrickph@yahoo.com](mailto:merrickph@yahoo.com).



### **Claudette Ford (2010–12)**

Claudette moved to Oakland in October of 1998 and the following spring joined St. Paul's. Currently a member of the Altar Guild, she has also served on the Buildings and Grounds committee. She works for the City of Berkeley as the Public Works director and hopes to put her management experience and skills at motivating large groups of people to good use while on the Vestry! Claudette believes St. Paul's is a unique and vibrant church with a long tradition of being forward thinking and ready for new ideas and challenges. Claudette can be reached at [brookford27@yahoo.com](mailto:brookford27@yahoo.com).



### **Clinton Cleveland (2009–11)**

Clinton has been a parishioner at St. Paul's since 2005. He helps organize the recording of sermons and music at St. Paul's and is working to bring new community service opportunities to our parishioners. A long-time "8 o'clocker," this year he has started to attend the 10 a.m. so his daughter Lucie can participate in our Mustard Seeds program. Clint regularly serves as an acolyte or Sub-Deacon. Outside church, he is a full-time student of French and International Relations. He can be reached at [ccleveland@gmail.com](mailto:ccleveland@gmail.com).



### **Sarah Smith (2009–11)**

Sarah has been attending St. Paul's since 2006. She and her husband Rodolfo Hernandez were married here in 2007. She is grateful to God to have found this affirming community. One of those "cradle Episcopalians," she is a psychiatric social worker in a mental health clinic that serves the uninsured, and before that she worked as a therapist in Oakland public schools. Sarah has enjoyed singing in St. Paul's Choir and with the children and their families in Faith Quest, and being a Lay Reader. She has been heading the Stewardship Committee and looks forward to St. Paul's growth as a community, and continued discernment of its Stewardship goals. You can reach her at [sarahsmith12@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsmith12@gmail.com).



### Rufus Berry (2009–11)

Rufus has been an active member of St. Paul's since 1997, and during this time, he served in many capacities, including acolyte director from 1988 to 1992. Prior to joining the St. Paul's family, Rufus was an active member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in his native Liberia, West Africa. Outside of St. Paul's, Rufus served for five years as president of the Liberian Community Association of Northern California (LCANC). During his presidency, he successfully carried out humanitarian aid shipments in 2004 and 2006 consisting of more than \$125,000 worth of medical supplies, \$60,000 worth of clothing and toys, and the donations of 4,000 gallons of paint for school renovation. Rufus is currently employed with the County of Alameda as Budget Manager with the Housing and Community Development Agency. Rufus can be reached at [rufus\\_berry@yahoo.com](mailto:rufus_berry@yahoo.com).



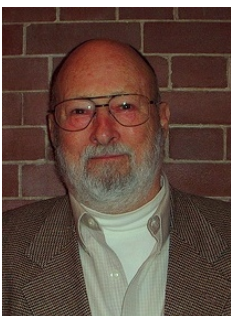
### Paula Hawthorn (2009–11)

Paula has been at St. Paul's for about 11 years, is a member of the Altar Guild and loves the quiet beauty of the 8 a.m. service. Paula is very interested in learning how, as a diocese and as a parish, we can help attain the Millennium Development Goals that Bishop Marc so ably and wonderfully motivates us to consider. Paula is retired, having formerly been an executive at several Silicon Valley companies, and enjoys her grandchildren, quilting, and working in political campaigns. She can be reached at [pbhawthorn@mindspring.com](mailto:pbhawthorn@mindspring.com).



### Richard Larson (2008–10)

Since joining St. Paul's with his wife Vicki in 1985, Richard has served on Vestry, as Senior Warden and Junior Warden, on various committees, and as a reader and choir member. Richard is a landscape architect and urban planner. Their daughter Christina is in her 3rd year at the University of Washington, in Seattle. Richard can be reached at [designoffice@earthlink.net](mailto:designoffice@earthlink.net).



### King O'Neal (2008–10)

King was born in Aruba, baptized in Long Beach, confirmed in Bakersfield, and educated at Antioch College, and the University of California Berkeley, where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in the College of Agriculture with a major in Soil Science. He has had several wives (sequentially), and several careers including teaching, farming, produce packing and sales, fire and casualty insurance underwriting, irrigation engineering, transportation, mortgage banking, real estate, and home construction. He is currently a terrified student of the volatile stock market. He is a life-long Episcopalian. In addition to his present term, King served on the Vestry in the late 1970s, and he is also an usher. You can reach him at [kingaoneal@aol.com](mailto:kingaoneal@aol.com).

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## St. Paul's is part of the Alameda Deanery

The Deaneries are an important component of church governance and effectiveness. The Diocese assesses each parish yearly and uses this money to offer services and programs to the churches. The Deaneries are tasked with the development and implementation of the policies and plans for the Diocesan Convention and of the Executive Council. Much of the authority in the Diocese ultimately lies in this yearly Diocesan Convention.

The Diocese of California is divided into six regional deaneries: Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Peninsula, San Francisco and Southern Alameda. Canon IX of the Diocese of California describes in detail the boundaries of each deanery, membership criteria and the general objective of a deanery. At the 2008 Convention a taskforce was commissioned to review Canon IX and to revise it in collaboration with the deaneries. Their work is still underway. Recent St. Paul's parishioner Melissa Ridlon serves on this taskforce.

To keep abreast of developments in the Diocese between conventions and to address more local concerns, the delegates and alternates of each deanery meet roughly each quarter. Along with the clerics serving parishes in a deanery, each parish gets a proportionate number of lay representatives, each of whom have a vote.

At St. Paul's delegates serve a total of 4 years — 2 as alternates and 2 as delegates. We currently have 2 of each, but are on the cusp of qualifying for an additional delegate. In anticipate of this growth, the Vestry will be appointing an additional alternate for 2010 who will then become a full delegate for the 2011–2012 term. At the 2011 Annual Meeting, the congregation will vote for 3 new alternates to the Deanery.

If you are interested in serving on the deanery, please speak with one of our current delegates/alternates, a vestry member or Fr. Wilson. This is an excellent way to serve both our parish and the wider church.

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## Deanery Delegates



### Robert Knapp (2009-2010)

Robert has been coming to St. Paul's since 1989, lured by the proximity of the church to St. Paul's Episcopal School, where his older daughter was a student. At St. Paul's he has served on the Vestry and as Senior Warden; on the Personnel, Communications and Stewardship Committees; as an Usher; as a Reader; and in various and sundry miscellaneous capacities. He is retired as a Classics Professor at Berkeley and now works as a writer/researcher on historical topics. He finds involvement in Diocesan affairs enlightening and very helpful in putting St. Paul's needs and goals into a larger perspective, and in keeping informed about issues affecting our parish. You can reach him at [rcknapp@berkeley.edu](mailto:rcknapp@berkeley.edu).

### Paula Hawthorn (2009-2010)

Vestry member Paula Hawthorn is also a deanery delegate through 2010.

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## Deanery Alternates

*(through 2010; then Delegates through 2012)*



### Sheila Fischer (2009–2012)

Sheila, serving as an alternate through 2010 and as a delegate for the subsequent two years, has been attending St. Paul's since 2007. She really enjoys the services at St. Paul's, and is an usher and lector. She is impressed by the energy and optimism in this parish, and believes that Diocesan contacts and support can aid St Paul's in becoming more involved with community outreach. Outside of St. Paul's she works in the IT department of a software company. Outside of work she enjoys working with ESL (English as a Second Language) students and running and walking around Oakland and its surroundings. She can be contacted at [s\\_a\\_fischer@hotmail.com](mailto:s_a_fischer@hotmail.com).



### Leah Hall (2009–2012)

#### and Vestry Representative to the SPES Board of Trustees

Leah is continuing her service as the Vestry's school board representative, a position she accepted in 2007. She is a designer with an interest in multi-disciplinary practice: architecture, urban planning, and landscape design. Her experience includes design roles in the execution of the Los Altos School District Master Plan and a number of related construction projects. She earned her Masters in Architecture at Yale University and was awarded the William Wirt Winchester Traveling Fellowship. Leah lives with her family in San Leandro, and is the parent of a St. Paul's School 4th grader. Leah's interests at St. Paul's Church include Family Ministry, Vestry composition, development, and communications. You can reach her at [llahhael@yahoo.com](mailto:llahhael@yahoo.com).

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