



Volume 15, Issue 4
June 2021

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THE GOOD NEWS

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Loaves and Fishes A New Ministry at St. Paul's! Katie Lauter

St. Paul's is starting a new ministry for our parishioners who need help during times of need (for example: following surgery, severe illness, birth, death, etc.). Getting dinner on the table following a major life event can be so hard, so we want to help each other during those times with prayer and food. A "meal train" connects those needing help with the helpers.

I was first introduced to a meal train when I had my son, Wesley. I didn't think much of it at the time the friend offered to organize it, but WOW... having dinners ready to heat up when I was healing and my husband Digger and I were exhausted was an incredible help. I recently organized a meal train for a friend whose husband underwent a major surgery and when I heard she had people from her church bringing meals to her too, I knew I should help start the same at St. Paul's!

If you are interested, here are the ways you can help:

1. **Cook a meal** at home and deliver it to the parishioner requesting meals.
 2. **Buy a pre-made meal** and have it delivered—or deliver it yourself.
- Be a **delivery**

[Continued on last page](#)



Life in the Spirit: A Meditation on Stewardship Anne Jensen

Happy Pentecost! We have just celebrated the birthday of the Church, when the Holy Spirit was poured out on all who were around and they heard the words of Peter, each in their own language, to the amazement of them all. Imagine yourself in that scene! What if you had been there? Would your life have been changed forever? Certainly, Paul's life was, and all those who had been hiding out waiting and wondering what would happen next.

The gift of the Holy Spirit has already been given to us. Do we live as Spirit-filled people? My best guess is "some of the time," or maybe even "most of the time." Actually, I think that we are more Spirit-formed or Spirit-informed than we realize.

Our spirituality is revealed as we live in real time, and it is in a constant state of being shaped, reshaped and renewed. Think for a moment about what messages you have used as guidelines for your own life.

Years ago a friend gave me a tape of Jimmy Cliff singing songs

[Continued on last page](#)



Vestry Report

Erica Terry Derryck Clerk

As a reminder, any member of the Parish may attend Vestry meetings, which are at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise noted; the full minutes of the meeting are available to parish members upon request by contacting the parish administrator or a member of the Vestry

In order to keep the Parish informed of the work that the Vestry does as the elected volunteer leadership of the church, we will be reporting monthly on the Vestry meetings and sharing a written summary each month in the bulletin and newsletter.

What follows is a summary of the key decisions made by the Vestry at the April 28, 2021 Vestry meeting which was conducted via zoom.



The Vestry approved the hiring of a new children and youth ministry layperson lead who will also coordinate with St. Paul's Episcopal School and the costs for the new role will be apportioned between the school and the church accordingly.

Revenue was down in the month of March, but plate donations picked up in April so the expectation is that church finances will not be adversely affected long term.

The church's long-term investments fluctuated with the market, but held at \$2.3M at the last time of reporting.

The church's Small Business Administration Payroll Protection Program loan was forgiven by the federal government.

A new ministry to support parishioners who need temporary meal support during times of illness and convalescence was formed and is being led by Katie Lauter who is a member of the hospitality ministry.

The church filed its annual parochial report with the diocese which included a summary of the impacts of COVID-19 on the parish along with the usual stats on attendance, baptisms, confirmations and finances, among other data points.

Vestry voted to defray the cost of insurance premiums for Pantry of Hope volunteers whose cars were vandalized by a pantry patron.

The diocese guidance on reopening is forthcoming.

Fr. Mauricio will be on sabbatical for the months of June and July and on vacation during August.

The Vestry voted to name Will Cowart Jr. Warden.

THE

2021 VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio
Wilson, Rector
Senior Warden
Sharon Pilmer
Junior Warden
Will Cowart Jr.
Clerk
Erica Terry-Derryck
Treasurer
Ann Gregory

VESTRY BY CLASS Class of 2021

Erica Terry-Derryck
Sergio Prieto
Lisa Strait
Class of 2022
Will Cowart
Ann Gregory
Sharon Pilmer
Class of 2023
Flarnie Adams
-vacancy-
Lane Ceric

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2020

Delegates
Melanie Blake
Tom McGarrell
Alternates
Jeanette Dinwiddie-
Moore
-vacancy-

Rector's Reflection

Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson

The Rest

For a few months now, Bishop Marc has invited the clergy of the Diocese of California to come together once a month on a Wednesday afternoon for fellowship over Zoom. The time together normally begins with the Bishop and his staff sharing important announcements that we need to be aware of, as well as an update on where we are as a diocese in regard to guidelines during this season of pandemic. An approximate 20-minute period is dedicated to a guided reflection, with Bishop Marc offering a different topic each time. At our May gathering, the topic for reflection was REST. He highlighted the fact that often individuals who dedicated themselves to the care and well-being of others don't pay enough attention to the need for self-care. The biblical foundation for our conversations were the beginning of the second chapter of Genesis, where God rests after completing creation, and chapter 4 of the letter to the Hebrews that speaks about the possibility of attaining the promised gift of heavenly rest, while also seeking to enjoy some rest in the current life.



I do not believe that God ever has or ever will need rest. I do believe that the writer of Genesis was not intending to make reference to God resting in the way we as humans need it, in the form of sleep for physical or mental recovery. Rather, I believe that God took the time to take in or digest everything that God had done.

In April 2013, when I was working on my doctoral thesis, I came to a point around 1 a.m. when I typed in a set of words and moved my fingers away from the computer keyboard. I then quickly moved through all of the chapter I had written, turned off the computer and said out loud, *I'm done*. When I went to bed, I felt relaxed and overjoyed. This thing that had taken so much work and so many hours was done, and I could rest. Life gives us all moments such as this. Moments when we can take our hands off and enjoy the creation. I feel this same way when I plant, care for, and harvest things in our garden: potatoes, tomatoes, lettuce, peaches, oranges and others. When you can see the results of your labor, a moment of pause, reflection or rest can be invigorating and energizing for future endeavors.

I pray that you live not only in the hope of eternal rest in God's heavenly kingdom, but that you are able to have moments of pause and rest as we continue to build the kingdom here, in our time. May you find moments during this summer season to recognize and appreciate the fruits of your hard work and efforts. Give yourself the opportunity to look at your life and imitate God in saying: IT IS GOOD!

Local Music Events in June

Victoria Larson

Check out details of the June local music events on the St. Paul's website:

<http://www.stpaulsoakland.org/>

All events are online

John Prescott, Ph.D., Musicologist and Lecturer on "How to Listen to 20th and 21st Century Music" 6-week course June 10 through July 15, Thursdays from 12:30pm -2:30pm, via Zoom

"An American Picnic" presented by San Francisco Choral Artists Sunday, June 13-30, 5pm PDT

Lectures on music theory and history by Eric Hansen, Music Director, Prometheus Symphony Orchestra

Pentecost 2021 at St. Paul's



June Worship Schedule The times they are a- chargin'!

All services will be live-streamed on the Church's Facebook page and can be viewed later on YouTube. For details go to: <https://www.stpaulsoakland.org/streamed-services.html>.

You will need a reservation to attend in-person services. Folks on the Parish e-mail list will receive an invitation the Tuesday before the Sunday service. Missed the invitation? Go to the [Church website](#) beginning Wednesday morning and follow the directions there.

Wednesday, June 2

12:10pm, Noonday Prayer, streamed

Sunday, June 6

8am, Holy Eucharist, streamed

10am, Choral Eucharist, in-person in the courtyard (by reservation), and streamed

4pm, Evensong, streamed (final service until October)

Wednesday, June 9

12:10pm, Noonday Prayer, streamed

Sunday, June 13

8am, Morning Prayer, streamed

10am, Sung Matins, in-person in the courtyard (by reservation), and streamed

Wednesday, June 16

12:10pm, Noonday Prayer, streamed

Sunday, June 20

8am, Morning Prayer, streamed

10am, Sung Matins, in-person in the courtyard (by reservation), and streamed

Wednesday, June 23

12:10pm, Noonday Prayer, streamed

Sunday, June 27

8am, Morning Prayer, streamed

10am, Sung Matins, in-person in the courtyard (by reservation), and streamed

8pm, Compline, streamed

Wednesday, June 30

12:10pm, Noonday Prayer, streamed

From the Senior Warden

Sharon Pilmer

Summer is upon us, and changes are afoot!

As you know, COVID numbers, nationally and locally, continue to decline, and vaccination rates are increasing. In Alameda County, as of May 19, 75% of individuals 16 years and older have received at least one dose of the COVID vaccine, and 58% are fully vaccinated. Alameda County remains in the orange tier at 2.6 adjusted cases per day per 100,000 residents, which represents a slow decline. The CDC has made significant changes to facial covering recommendations (significantly liberating fully vaccinated individuals from mask wearing in many situations), but the state has not. Our Bishop has also issued guidance that predates the CDC changes. What does all this mean for us?



As of **June 1**, changes to the worship schedule move us closer to full reopening.

8 AM Worship: Livestreamed via Facebook

9:15 In-person Morning Prayer: discontinued

10 AM Worship: In-person, outdoors in the central courtyard, AND live streamed via Facebook.

This service will be limited to no more than 50 participants, including the choir and altar party.

An e-mail link to reserve a spot will be sent on the Tuesday prior to Sunday worship, and the link will be on the St. Paul's website on Wednesday.

We will be wearing masks, but we will be able to sing and participate in the service. We are being cautious to protect those who are not vaccinated.

Holy Communion will be offered on the first Sunday of the month, and the rest of the Sundays will be Morning Prayer. There will be a drive-by option to receive the sacraments on the first Sunday in the event that folks are not comfortable yet with in-person worship

Activities for children and youth: stay tuned

As of **September 12**, assuming all goes well, **we return to indoor worship. Save the date!!**

SEPTEMBER 2021						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30		2	3	4	
5			9	10	11	
12		14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2

I want to give a couple of shout outs:

Robert and Carolyn Knapp, for producing a great newsletter. If you would like to make a contribution please e-mail Carolyn at csknapp@earthlink.net

Katie Lauter, for taking the initiative to start a **Loaves and Fishes** ministry of meal delivery to those who may be temporarily in need of help with meals. If you would like to be part of this group please contact Katie at katie.a.lauter@gmail.com

Erica Derryck and the group working with her to finalize recommendations to the vestry for a contractor to install our upgraded **audio-visual system**

Finally, to Father Wilson who will be taking a well-deserved break for a sabbatical leave during June and July and vacation during August.

From the Junior Warden Will Cowart

The Church is Still Standing!

As the saying goes, “**The Church is Still Standing.**” As we celebrate our 150 years, St. Paul’s has survived earthquakes, floods, and now a pandemic. We have updated lighting and tidied-up the place, preparing for the return of the community and parishioners. With this in mind, we have completed a routine church self-inspection to prevent accidents and are creating a plan to maintain the small things that have the potential to become larger issues. Some focus areas are some cracks in the floors and steps. The roof, although not leaking, appears to be several years old, and we have seen a couple of extension cords which may need to be replaced. If there are items you think we should keep an eye on, please let us know.

From the Vestry Representative to St. Paul’s Episcopal School Will Cowart

Good Words of the Day!

This past year, St. Paul’s Episcopal School and children have been challenged in ways unimaginable. The new words “**Distance Learning or Hybrid Learning,**” as we have come to know, is almost an official brand, like “the Warriors!” As the official school year comes to an end, it is with great pride that I let you know how committed the school has been to maintaining a great relationship between the school, the church, and every individual’s spiritual journey. The Friday Chapel has been well attended, at times with more than 300 participants, and in the words of some parents “I love chapel and its energy, and that is why St. Paul’s is so great.” The school continues to engage in community learning, making sure it is financially solid, and realizing that, in the world we live in today, diversity, equity, and inclusion are important, and words matter. Here is a glance at the classroom environment for our St. Paul’s students.



Classroom spaces are modified to accommodate appropriate physical distancing according to federal, state and local guidance.

Three to six feet

distance is maintained between student chairs with individual desk shields to minimize/avoid contact during instruction.

Treasurer's Report

Ann Gregory

The treasurer's report will return next month!



Meet Your Deanery Rep & Diocesan Delegate, Tom McGarrell

Carolyn Knapp

Tom McGarrell loves understanding how the Diocese of California works – and is impressed with how responsive it is to concerns of both the laity and the clergy. He's been enthusiastically representing St. Paul's at the annual Diocesan Convention and attending the Alameda Deanery meetings in between conventions since 2019.

Tom came to St. Paul's in 2008 after many years of commuting between Philadelphia and Berkeley and shopping around for an Episcopal church on both sides of the Bay. Although he was raised a Roman Catholic, he's been going to Episcopal churches for 40 years, finding a spiritual home in Anglo-Catholic settings like St. Mark's in Philadelphia (highly recommended if you find yourself in the City of Brotherly Love). At one church in San Francisco, he ran into Jack Eastwood, the recently retired rector of St. Paul's, who suggested our parish. The rest is history. Tom served as the St. Paul's Treasurer for several years and did a stint on the Vestry. Pre-pandemic, he ran the pop-up rummage sales and worked in the Pantry of Hope, but probably he is best known to parishioners as the hospitable "name tag guy" who stood in the narthex next to a board full of tags at the 10 a.m. service, greeting everyone who came through the doors and making sure they had a tag. He is already back with the pantry (which served 70 people on May 23rd), and we look forward to seeing him at the doors in September!

Tom marvels at how well the shared governance of the Diocese works, as illustrated, he says, by the successful drive for transparency in budget and actual income and expenditure. In 2019, first at the deanery level and then at the annual convention, the clergy representatives, who were quickly joined by the lay ones, demanded that the Diocesan "actuals," as well as its budget, be available to all before going to a vote before the Convention. The figures appeared, much to everyone's satisfaction; Tom, an investment specialist, was particularly pleased. The work of both the deaneries and the Diocese has continued on Zoom in 2020 and into this year, where a recent discussion topic has been how sabbaticals for interim rectors could be funded.



Sacred Ground Q & A

Irene Plunkett, Trudy Hsu, Alice Brilmayer, and Indira Balkissoon



What is Sacred Ground?

Sacred Ground is a “film- and readings-based dialogue series on race grounded in faith”. It is one part of the Episcopal Church’s *Becoming Beloved Community* goal which provides a path to learn about racial injustice and grow as a “community of reconcilers, justice-makers and healers...” As the course progresses participants also learn how economics, politics, class, and geographic boundaries have also been factors in the history of racism.

How is it structured?

The course consists of ten sessions; we met biweekly for 90 minutes. There’s a reading list for homework with 90 minutes estimated as the max time needed for each assignment; usually it was less. Meeting protocol was set by the group at the beginning; for example, we’d all view videos beforehand rather than as a group. Meeting time was thus devoted to discussion with two facilitators to help stay on track and/or encourage exploration of interesting comments as needed. With 15 participants we usually had a good balance between a smooth flow of discussion and time for individuals to pause and think through their opinions. Occasionally we divided into break-out groups but most of the time having just one group worked out well.

What is the content like?

The readings were an interesting mix of articles, book excerpts and two books that we read throughout - *Jesus The Disinherited* and *Waking Up White*. We also viewed many well-done videos, everything from PBS documentaries to Katie Couric interviews with ordinary people. The flow of the course was basically chronological going back to the establishment of the colonies and catching up to the present day. Each session has a theme and much of the content revealed new or little-known aspects of Black, Indigenous, Latino and Asian American histories and selected family stories. Through a mix of re-enacted vignettes and interviews with contemporary historians the course punctures some long-held myths and presents more updated interpretations of events.

Is it effective?

Sacred Ground is not meant to be prescriptive. It simply provides a framework in the context of history for members to have a dialogue about race and potentially inspire ideas about steps towards racial healing, reconciliation and justice that we can take individually and collectively. As part of the *Becoming Beloved Community* vision, it is one step on a long term journey of spiritual formation, but one that is easier to do with others.

Read more about Sacred Ground at <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/> . Interested in participating in a group? Email Anne Jensen: annehj@aol.com .

The Windows of St. Paul's

Robert Knapp

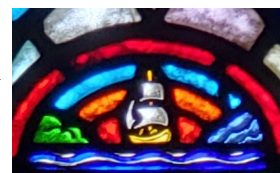
The Chapel of the Pacific

Bishop Kip baptizes a child

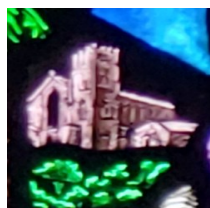


Bishop William Ingraham Kip (1811-1893) was the first missionary bishop of California, elected at the 24th General Convention, New York, in 1853. He sailed through the Golden Gate on the *Columbia* steam ship (not a sailing ship, as shown in the window) on January 29, 1854. He became the first bishop of the newly created Diocese of California in 1856. The window depicts his visits to mining settlements in the Sacramento Valley; fruit-producing lands of

Southern California; and Native Americans. The small representation of St. Paul's shown is in honor of Theo Dredge and his 38 years of service as vestryman & custodian of this church. Armiger F. Dredge, Jr., was a fitting partner for his grandfather in this labor on behalf of God and St. Paul's.



S.S. Golden Gate, the ship Kip took from Panama to California, sister ship to the Columbia



St. Paul's Oakland

The window's shape is a single lancet with trefoil arch. In the quatrefoil, Bishop Kip dips his hand into a baptismal font while holding a child to be baptized. To the right is a missionary tent with a cross planted in front, a miner panning for gold, and an orange



tree. To the left is a representation of St. Paul's Church, and a Native American making a fire. At Kip's feet, flowers and fruit symbolize the richness of the land. Above his head a tall ship sails into the Golden Gate with a radiant sunset behind it. Below are Tudor roses and examples of California produce. Inset into the background lozenges are the seals of the following (clockwise from the top): Diocese of California, Diocese of Northern California, Old St. John's Oakland (the mother church of St. Paul's Church), Diocese of Los Angeles, St. Paul's Oakland, and the Diocese of San Joaquin.



Theo Dredge, 1925

At the bottom the window is the text, *Wm. Ingraham Kip, first Missionary Bishop of California, 1853-1893*. Below that, the text on the plaque reads: *In loving memory of Theo Faulkner Dredge 1868-1936. For 38 years a vestryman of this parish and custodian of this church, 1912-1932 and in loving memory of his grandson, Armiger F. Dredge, Jr., 1924-1949, member, vestryman, treasurer of this parish.* The Cummings Studio, San Francisco, created the window in about 1942.





St. Paul's

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Dear Readers:

Currently, the newsletter is not being distributed by regular post. If you know of someone who does not have access to the electronic version, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or admin@stpaulsoakland.org. She will make a hardcopy and send it.

From the Front Page Loaves and Fishes

person between the two homes.

There is no specific commitment for you to join (we certainly don't expect you to be able to participate for every call for meals). If you are interested, please email katie.a.lauter@gmail.com with "LOAVES & FISHES" in the subject line. In the body of the email, please note if you want to bring food and/or deliver it.

The nitty-gritty: a parishioner in need will contact the church office and will be directed to Katie. They will establish the time-frame they will need meals, noting the number of meals/days/dietary restrictions & preferences/number of people who need feeding. Katie will activate the Loaves & Fishes email chain! Volunteers will sign up on a meal train website filling in a date/time that works for them with what food they will be bringing or having delivered (e.g. through DoorDash/Grubhub). If the food is your own, you will drop off your fare, or contact Katie if you do not have transportation to do so and she will arrange it.

Stewardship

of faith, love and revolution called "Son of Man." It was a terrific gift! This was music that my children and I could agree to listen to in the car; you can find it today on YouTube. These words from Micah 6:8 were new to me, but after repeated sing-alongs, they are firmly in my head and heart.

What is good?

And what does your Lord require

But to do justice and to love mercy

And to walk humbly with your God.

The words you live by have undoubtedly come from many sources, but the ones we have in common are that we are created in God's image and are beloved children of God. You have heard the teachings of Jesus, particularly as we heard in the readings last month, "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12). The question we all carry is "How are we going to live?"

We make a ton of decisions every day, starting from the moment we wake up: How much time do I have? How am I going to use it? How much water am I going to use? How am I going to nurture my relationship with those I love the most? How am I going to express myself today? How you answer those questions reflects your spirituality.

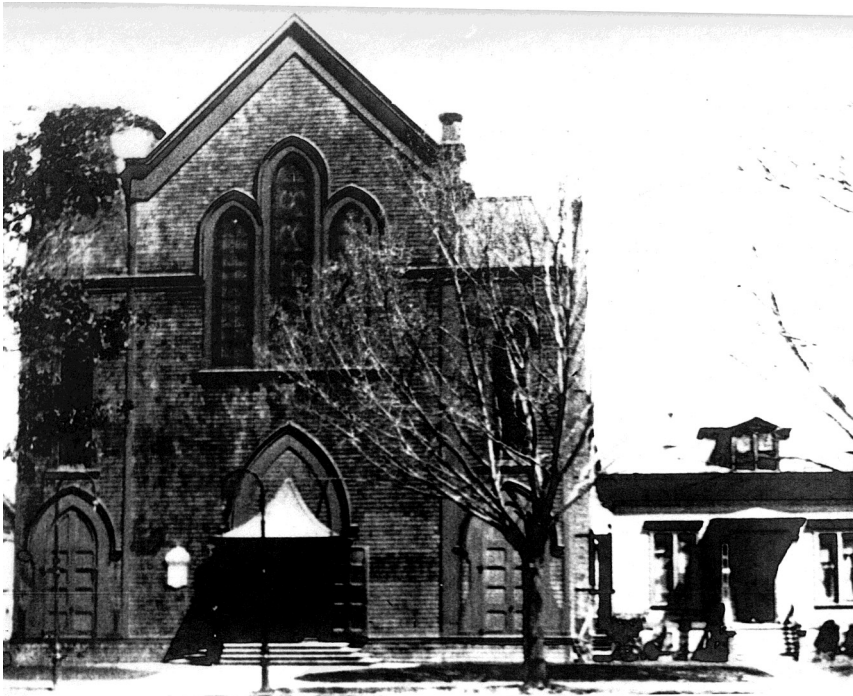
One way we look at how we are going to live is through the lens of stewardship. No, I don't mean the annual appeal. I mean stewardship of all the gifts God has given us. I like the definition that stewardship is everything you do with everything you have. What do you have? Life, love, breath, the use of language, intelligence, physical strength, money, food, the beauty of nature, supportive relationships, imagination, friends, neighbors and more. I think stewardship is about caring. As God cares for and loves us, and as we carry within us the desire to love God and care for those around us, we realize that we are made, hard-wired, for relationship with God and with each other. We had that lesson reinforced for us this past year.

Stewardship is about caring because we are cared for. Stewardship of the environment is a good place to start, because so much of what we do has an impact on the air, the water, the ground and the climate. In addition to stewardship of money, consider also our stewardship of time, because our relationships depend upon quality time. I believe God wishes for us a spaciousness in the midst of everyday living, moments in which we are bathed in God's love and the love of the humans who share our love. And that means living with an openness to the Spirit moving in us wherever we may be.

From the Editors:

Watch for news on these fronts next month!

**Social justice
Outreach and hospitality
Family & children
Faith formation/ spirituality
AV Committee**



St. Paul's is 150 years young in 2021. This is the original 1871 building, the re-purposed chapel of the College of California, 14th and Harrison, downtown Oakland. The rectory is on the right.

Newsletter contributors sought

We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talents. The deadline for each edition is the 25th of the month previous to publication. Please send your submissions of no more than 400 words to csknapp@earthlink.net
