



Volume 16, Issue 2
February 2022

In This Issue:

Rector's Message

Spirituality w/ Anne Jensen

Black History Month

Lenten Study with Dale
Trunk

Confirmation Classes

Compline and Evensong at
St. Paul's

Annual Meeting Highlights

Windows of St. Paul's

From the Senior Warden

Treasurer's Update

Joyce Williams Hart, RIP

New Music Director Search

February-early March wor-
ship schedule

THE GOOD NEWS

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

Rector's Message

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson

Black Spirituality

It is February and in the United States it is Black History Month. The title of this article is borne from a question that has been swirling in my mind: Is there such a thing as Black spirituality that is different from the spirituality of other ethnic groups?

At the outset, I would personally lean toward saying that there is no inherent difference between the spirituality of the many ethnic groups around the world simply because of the ethnicity factor. At the same time, there is the fact that Christianity speaks of the Spirit expressing itself differently in each person according to how the spirit wills (1 Corinthians 12:11). So the giftedness from the Spirit makes us all different from each other. That said, is there something to which we could point to suggest that Black people have some commonality in the way they live into their relationship with God? Theologians like the late James Cone would probably say that those things exist, again, not due to ethnicity, but rather to their lived experiences. The Black experience in the United States, for example, has brought about unique and deep perspectives of God and Jesus. In the introduction to her book *The Black Christ*, Kelly Brown-Douglas writes: "*The Black Christian experience has been one in which Black people have consistently confirmed the presence of a sustaining and liberating Christ in their lives... This sustaining and liberating Christ of Black faith represents God's urgent movement in human history to set Black captives free from the demons of White racism.*" (Kelly Brown-Douglas, *The Black Christ*. New York: Orbis Books 2004. Page 2)

Similar to the Israelites awaiting liberation in Egypt, and like the Hebrew people in the times of Jesus, Black enslaved people believed in a God and a messiah that would liberate them from their oppressors. This God and messiah, out of necessity, had to be different from how the oppressing groups described and believed in God. What has developed from there are ways of expressing faith and worship that speak of liberation, freedom, and redemption. They are borne out of the lived experience of enslavement.

Going back to my initial stream of thought, I believe the lived experiences of different ethnic groups have caused the ways in which each of those express and live a spiritual life. It should also be true then that within each ethnic group there are going to be varied lived experiences and therefore varied spiritualities, as no ethnic group is isolated and confined to any one place in the world. There would therefore be no monolithic Black Spirituality, but rather multiple Black spiritualities, inspired by the diversity of Black experience in the world.



Praying in All Times and Seasons

The Rev. Anne Jensen

When things had settled down after Christmas and the new year, I was looking for a new pattern of prayer and, quite frankly, a way to get back on track with a daily routine. I picked up *Daily Prayer for All Seasons* (Church Publishing, Inc.), which I've had for several years and in which I almost always find something interesting. It's based on the monastic hours of prayer, adjusted for contemporary life. It doesn't require middle-of-the-night getting out of bed and processing to the nearest chapel, and if it did, I would quickly make an adjustment of my own!



The seasons the title refers to are the liturgical seasons of the church: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, etc. Thus the prayers are timely and relevant. Within each day of each season is a collection of short liturgies for when you first get up (*Lauds*), beginning of the day (*Prime*), mid-morning (*Terce*) noon (*Sext*), mid-afternoon (*None*), end of the day (*Vespers*), and bedtime (*Compline*). Each of these liturgies has a theme.

The beauty of this system is flexibility! You can choose what time of day you will pray. You missed the beginning of the day? Go to the mid-morning liturgy! That's what I did and found a prayer I'd never seen before. In fact, I needed to read it three times to let it sink in. I could have breezed through it, but instead, it became my meditation for the day.

O God, your Spirit of Wisdom was present at the creation and with Jesus at his baptism: Open our hearts to that same Spirit, and strengthen and guide us to love and serve you and our neighbors; through Jesus Christ our Love. Amen

There are as many reasons to pray as there are people who discover in their deepest being a desire to know and be known by God. This prayer asks God to open our hearts and to shape our lives with love that we may be filled with love that will overflow into all that we do. In what way is God be inviting you to open your heart? As you consider this question, imagine that you are the focus of God's compassionate and merciful gaze.

Black History Month

Northern California/Vivian Traylor Chapter Invites you to the

Feast Day of Absalom Jones

February 12, 2022 10:00 a.m. PST (virtual)

Theme: Bridging the Troubled Waters

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrd-igpzgJG9ELMDiMs_YgZpgl6tDAWw0O

The Most Rev. Julio E. Murray Thompson, Primate of IARCA & Bishop of Panama, Speaker

Books and resources for all ages

As we try and live out our baptismal promise to "strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being," we have another opportunity for faith formation and justice with Black History Month. Please check out these new [book recommendations for Children and Youth](#) as well as links to great resources for using local library books with Christian Formation. Also, look at an older post on [Talking about Race](#) for more suggestions and resources, or check out this list of [book suggestions for adults](#).

Lenten Study 2022: Time for Care

Wondering, Wandering, and Weaving-Our-Way with Y-H-W-H
Seasons of Spiritual Growth: Let Go! – Let In! – Get It! – Grow Up!

A Zoom Lenten Series 2022 at Saint Paul's

Led by Dale Francis Trunk, M.Div.

Five Wednesday Evenings: March 9 – April 6

6:30 pm – Evensong

7:00 – 8:30 pm Presentation and Discussion



In this discussion series (no readings required or suggested) we will explore four seasons of spiritual growth: “Let Go! Let In! Get It! Grow Up!” We change; things are taken away; things fall apart. We find help to keep going. Our brokenness is redeemed. We find home within and join others in the seasons of their Journeys.

“Lent” means “springtime” and “the lengthening of days.” Experiencing this growth of light invites us to *metanoia*, the foundational Christian experience of seeing things in a new way through cycles of life-death-resurrection. How are we losing our life with long-term life-draining spiritual pains in exchange for short-term unsatisfying gains? How does grace enable us to redirect our way of life toward long-term life-giving spiritual gains with short-term worthwhile pains? In some traditions, Lent becomes a negative competitive practice of “holy” misery. Healthful and helpful Lenten practices increase our spiritual vitality and yield good fruits. How are we finding our way during this third Lent of Covidtide?

Look for further details and the Zoom link in the March *Good News*.

Dale is a parishioner at St. Paul's. Here's what he says about himself. “By the age of five, three important aspects of my soul began to unfold: a Franciscan spirit, delight in horticulture, and being a gay foreigner in a straight world. After high school, I began a 25-year journey as a Franciscan friar. I was awarded a Master of Divinity from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, felt my heart open during two summers of Spanish immersion in Mexico City, completed two years of spirituality studies at the Franciscan and Jesuit universities in Rome, fulfilled one year of Clinical Pastoral Education at UCSF Medical Center, and graduated from the Spiritual Directors Institute at Mercy Center in Burlingame. My pastoral experiences as a friar included hospital chaplaincy, teaching, preaching, spiritual direction, and parish ministry. After 25 years as a friar, burnout and the need to come out guided me to leave the Order. After 25 years with a vow of poverty, I was homeless, unemployed, and had zero financial assets. My sister took me in. I looked for work. I got hired as a flight attendant, which I valued as a ministry among tired and thirsty pilgrims. After 22 years, I lost that job to Covid. This loss led me to grow my ministries of horticulture (specializing in aesthetic pruning), spiritual direction, preaching and teaching. Pruning is one of my spiritual laboratories: recognizing and revealing an individual's essential beauty, removing dead and diseased parts, opening the inside to healing light and air, and making cuts to stimulate good growth, flowering, and fruiting. My other main school of spirituality is living with my partner, John, and our guide dog, Joelle.” You may get in touch with Dale at dalefrunk@aol.com.



2022 Confirmation Classes

Are you in high school or are you the parent or guardian of a high school student who wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring of 2022?

We are preparing to offer Confirmation classes for our high school age youth starting in the season of Lent. At this time the plan is to hold the classes on Sunday afternoons via Zoom, with the hope that it will be possible to have a few of our sessions in person.

Confirmation dates have not yet been released by Bishop Andrus' office; however, they tend to be on the first Saturday in June of each year at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco. A few dates are also scheduled in the fall in other congregations of the diocese.

Please email Fr. Wilson (rector@stpaulsoakland.org) to enroll in the program and for more information.

Compline and Evensong at St. Paul's Vicki Larson

Compline, Prayers for the End of the Day

Fourth Sundays at 8:00 p.m. In-person and streamed on our [Facebook Group page](#)

On the fourth Sunday of every month at 8:00 p.m., the choir of St. Paul's sings the service Compline, a contemplative service of psalms and prayers. Dating back to the fourth century, Compline was said or sung by monks as the last service, at the end of their workday.



The transcendent quality of the Gregorian chant and polyphony, along with the beauty of St. Paul's Church bathed in candlelight, has made the service an oasis of peace and serenity in the lives of those who attend.

St. Paul's Compline Service is entirely sung, with psalms and short passages from scripture, a hymn, a canticle (*Nunc Dimittis*), a litany, collects, additional prayers, and a Marian hymn. There is no sermon. A period of silence before, during, and following the service, allows time to pray and reflect.

Candles are lit at 7:50 p.m. and the church remains open for 15 minutes or more after the service ends (usually around 8:40 p.m.).

Evensong

First Sundays at 4:00 p.m. In-person and streamed on our [Facebook Group Page](#)

Evensong, a short choral service of psalms, canticles, hymns, and anthems, is a quiet alternative to the traditional Sunday morning Holy Eucharist. It is sung by St. Paul's Choir on the first Sunday of the month, October–June, at four o'clock p.m.

This Anglican service combines the end-of-day monastic offices of Vespers and Compline. Ever since the latter part of the 16th century, many of England's greatest composers, as well as composers from around the world, have contributed to the rich musical tradition of this uplifting and beautiful liturgy.



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

THE 2022 VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio
Wilson, Rector
Maura Lane,
Senior Warden
Will Cowart Jr.,
Junior Warden
Flarnie Adams,
Clerk
Ann Goggins Gregory
Treasurer

VESTRY BY CLASS

Class of 2022
Will Cowart
Ann Gregory
Sharon Pilmer
Class of 2023
Flarnie Adams
Brian Stanke
Maura Lane
Class of 2024
Indira Balkisson
Maria Paull
Matthew Schooler

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2022

Delegates
To be appointed

Alternates
-vacancy-

Annual Meeting 2022 Highlights

Carolyn & Robert Knapp

Elections and reports are the stuff of annual meetings, and the St. Paul's 2022 one was no exception.

Here is our new Vestry:

Class of 2022: Will Cowart, Junior Warden

Ann Gregory, Treasurer

Sharon Pilmer

Class of 2023: Flarnie Adams, Clerk

Maura Lane, Senior Warden

Brian Stanke

Class of 2024: Indira Balkisson

Maria Paull

Matthew Schooler



Outgoing members Erica Derryck, Sergio Prieto, and Lisa Strait were recognized for their service.

The Rector's report

- Credited many people with allowing St. Paul's to "be church" in several different formats during a tumultuous year.
- Described the transition in the music department as Chris Kula departed, Phillip Saunders and Michael Page stepped into the breach, and Mark Bruce came to be our interim director. Sharon Pilmer will be heading the search for a new director.
- Called out the community services the church provides including the Pantry of Hope, the Giving Tree, the Peace, Justice and Hunger Commission, and working against gun violence, but regretted the difficulties of providing pastoral care and asked that parishioners let the clergy know of anyone in need of visits and prayers.
- Emphasized the presence of St. Paul's on the Diocesan Executive Council, the Standing Committee, the board of Clausen House, and the Union of Black Episcopalians (U.B.E.), among others, and its continuing partnership with the Towers and the School.
- Reminded everyone that the Vestry is dealing with the ongoing problems of a physically old building and the audio-visual system
- Described how he had been exhausted prior to a three-month break this past summer, a break that was vital in restoring his health.

Stewardship and Treasurer's report

The count is now at 60 pledges and \$210,000, the most since 2015.

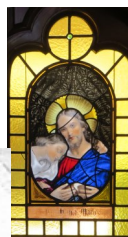
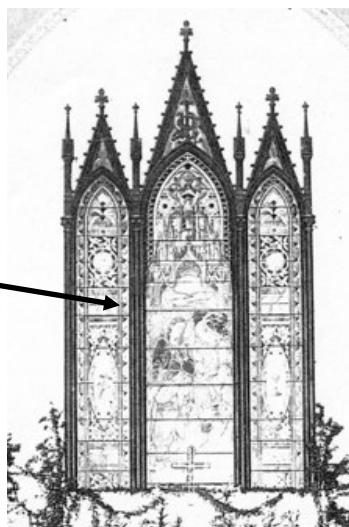
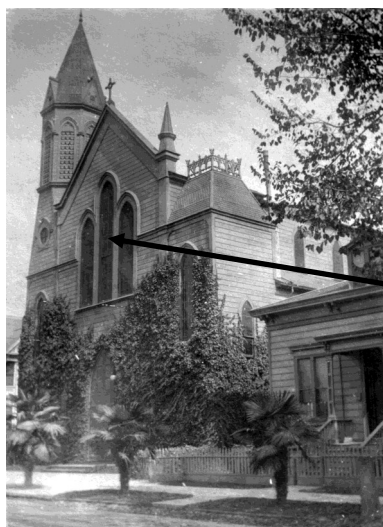
[Continued on last page](#)

The Windows of St. Paul's

Robert Knapp

Windows from "Old St. Paul's"

We have now seen all of the windows currently in St. Paul's that came from Old St. Paul's on Harrison Street. However, there were many more stained-glass windows in that church than were transferred to New St. Paul's on Montecito in 1912.

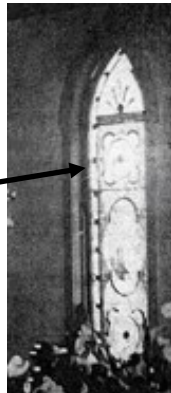
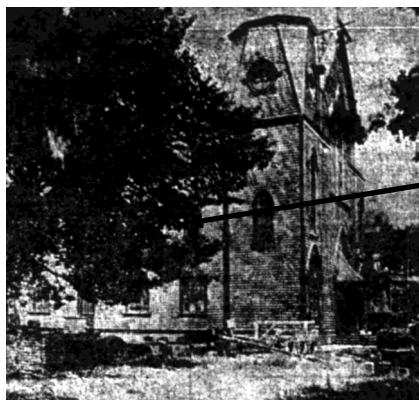


These are the four windows that were brought to New St. Paul's from Old St. Paul's.



This is the best image we have of Old St. Paul's. The three large windows were behind the chancel. To the right is an image of those windows from inside the church. The window has in its frames a cross and crown to the left and a chalice to the right. The center theme is unclear, but seems to be Joseph on the left, Mary on the right, and baby Jesus below and between them.

There were also stained-glass windows, apparently less elaborate, along the side of the nave. One such window is just visible on the side of a 1907 view of Old St. Paul's. This interior image is the only example we have of those windows.



Neither this image nor the chancel images correspond to anything transferred to New St. Paul's in 1912. It seems that few windows were saved from the old church. Perhaps the structure was sold to another church that wanted to retain the windows; perhaps some windows were destroyed in extraction or in transit. The end result was the same: New St. Paul's had very few old windows when it was consecrated in 1912. Starting next month, I will describe those first

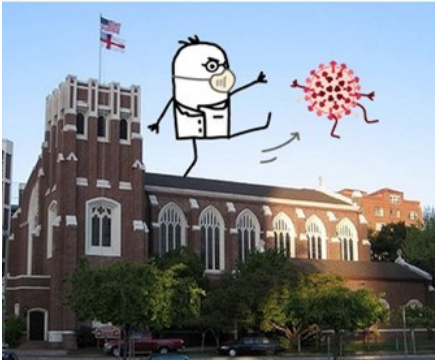
windows created specifically for the new church building.

From the Senior Warden

Maura Lane

Happy New Year! The Annual Parish meeting took place on Sunday, January 16th at 1 p.m. via Zoom because of COVID. It was great to see so many of you.

The business of the parish was reviewed with reports from the Rector, the Treasurer, and various committees. The contributions of departing Vestry members - Erica Terry Derryck, Sergio Prieto-Anderson, and Lisa Strait – were acknowledged. Matthew Schooler, Indira Balkissoon and Maria Paull were elected for 3-year terms. Brian Stanke and Maura Lane were elected to complete vacancies caused by departures earlier in the year and will serve 2-year terms. At the Planning Meeting that followed the annual meeting, the Vestry elected the following officers: Will Cowart as Junior Warden, Ann Gregory as Treasurer, and Flarnie Adams as Clerk. The Vestry Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, February 5th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.



COVID is still with us. We will continue to adapt our worship practices and do as much as possible to take care of one another. Please reach out and call the church if you're feeling isolated or need help.

Going forward, some of the priorities for the coming year include creating and conducting a Music Director Search Committee. The Committee will be led by Sharon Pilmer. Please contact Sharon if you have an interest in participating.

Many thanks to everyone's generosity in regard to pledging -- and just a reminder that a pledge can be made at any time during the year! Just go to the [St. Paul's home page](#)

and scroll down a bit.

Finally, a little about me. I came to St. Paul's when Don Seaton was the Rector (many years ago). I am a 4th generation Episcopalian and have explored other approaches to faith but always returned to the Episcopal Church. In addition to worship, I've enjoyed working with the Altar Guild, on the Annual Parish Picnic, the Rummage Sale and 3 terms on the Vestry, including acting as Junior Warden. I learned how to knit caps when Deacon Bolton had her knitting group. I loved helping in the nursery and with Faith Quest. There is always so much to do and learn at St. Paul's. I look forward to a time when we can actually spend time with one another



GROWING TOGETHER

ST. PAUL'S OAKLAND 150 YEARS

Here's a BIG shout-out

to St. Paul's member **Sharon Pilmer**, our outstanding Senior Warden during 2021.

Sharon's faith, commitment, zeal, and patience through the year kept us going through the COVID challenges even as she led a very successful Stewardship Campaign.

Thanks, Sharon!!

Treasurer's Update

Ann Goggins Gregory

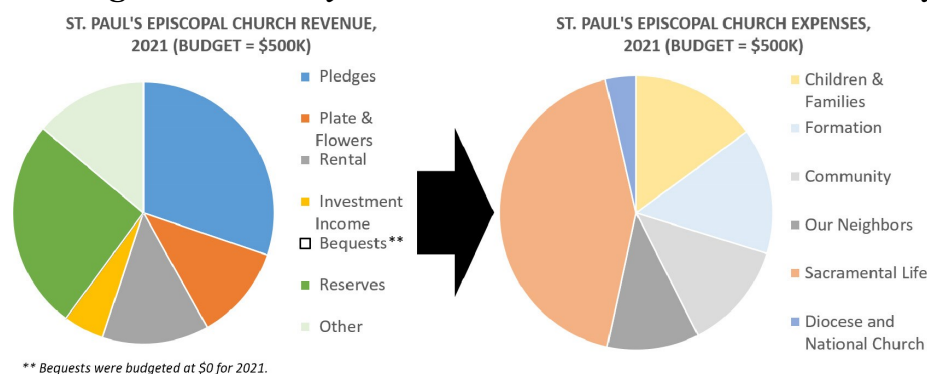


Treasurer's Update: 2021 Year in Review

This month you'll find a high-level review of 2021 financials. These themes were shared – with additional color and detail – at the recent annual meeting. If you would like a copy of that presentation, feel free to reach out to me (goggins.gregory@gmail.com), and I'll happily send it your way.

As a reminder, St. Paul's revenue supports our mission and ministry, from community outreach to faith formation to sacramental life and beyond. Indeed, budgets are a manifestation of organizational values and priorities. Below is a "narrative budget," summarizing budgeted sources and uses of funds for 2021.

Top line message: Financially, St. Paul's weathered 2021 reasonably well.



Revenue

- ◆ After a slow start to pledges and plate, we ended year right near budget.
- ◆ 2021 revenue also realizes Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan forgiveness (\$56K). As a reminder, the PPP was part of the federal COVID stimulus in 2020 and covered payroll-related expenses totaling \$56K. In 2021, we received confirmation that the loan was forgiven, hence its appearance on our income statement.
- ◆ Total revenue = \$361K vs. \$367K (which includes PPP forgiveness).

Expenses

- ◆ We had significant personnel savings because we have not hired a children's ministry director.
- ◆ We saw higher maintenance / repair costs due to COVID and return to in-person services.
- ◆ Total expenses = \$462K vs. \$497K.

Net Income

- ◆ Net Income (Loss) = -\$101K vs. -\$128K. Includes PPP forgiveness.
- ◆ As a reminder, we use Operating Reserves to cover this loss.

Assets

- ◆ Investment accounts performed very well during 2021.
- ◆ YOY (year-over-year) gains of \$220K; fund balance of \$2.45M as of November 30, 2021.

Diocesan Doings

Social Justice Banners Grace Cathedral in San Francisco

From *DioCal* January 25, 2022

Grace Cathedral in San Francisco recently started a rotating display of quilt banners created by the Social Justice Sewing Academy that commemorate lives stolen by violence in America. A new banner will be displayed each month.

“Our Gun Violence Altar near the entrance to the cathedral is a fitting location for these deeply moving works of art and heart. The banners invite viewers to stop, pray, and reflect on the heavy toll of violence [on] our society.” said the Rt. Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus, Episcopal Bishop of California.

The SJSA Remembrance Project is a community art project that creates activist art banners, for local and national organizations to publicly display for solidarity, in the fight for social justice and remembrance of those lost to violence. The project remembers those lost to authority violence (officer-involved shooting, police brutality, etc.), community violence (victims of gang violence, neighborhood or family, drive-by shooting, etc.), race (hate crimes, racially motivated, etc.), and gender and sexuality (violence against LGBTQ +, domestic violence, “missing, murdered Indigenous women,” etc.).

According to Sara Trail, Bay Area native and founder of the Academy, “Participating in this project means sitting with your feelings and holding this person close. It means educating yourself about injustices, systemic and individual, that impacted this person’s life. It means understanding the life beyond the name, the circumstances of their death, and working to create art that informs others.”

Volunteers receive the name of a murdered person and work to design and create a very personalized memorial block to commemorate the life of that person. The blocks, often embroidered or embellished, are assembled into banners by another team of volunteers.

Founded in 2017, the Social Justice Sewing Academy (SJSA) is a non-profit organization that aims to empower individuals to utilize textile art for personal transformation, community cohesion, and to begin the journey toward becoming an agent of social change. In addition to the Remembrance Project, the Academy comprises:

- Memorial Quilts -- textile memorials for families who have lost a loved one to violence
- Community Quilts -- students and young people across the country use their voice and personal expression to create the message we all see
- Business Incubator -- a 6-month virtual program aimed at developing and supporting the next generation of entrepreneurs

See more at: <https://gracecathedral.org/stopgunviolence/> and <https://www.sjsacademy.org/>



Joyce Williams Hart, 1933-2021

Longtime St. Paul's member Joyce Hart passed away at the end of 2021. Excerpts from the obituary by Larry Hart in the *Piedmont Exedra*, December 28, 2021, appear below:

"Joyce Williams Hart was born on June 17th, 1933 at Peralta Hospital in Oakland. Joyce attended Piedmont High School and was graduated in 1951. She moved on to UC Berkeley where she was an active member of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. She graduated from Cal in 1955 with a degree in Public Health. Putting that education to good use, Joyce worked at Children's Hospital in Oakland for 35 years.



"In 1957 Joyce married Richard (Dick) Hart and the couple began a 58 year partnership that produced sons Larry (1960), Christopher (1969), and Jeremy (1971). Joyce was predeceased by son Kevin (1964-1967). The couple made a home on Portal Ave in Oakland until 1973 when they moved to Hillside Ave in Piedmont.

"Joyce enjoyed many hobbies and interests. She was a knitter, seamstress, cook, avid reader, decorator, furniture restorer, and traveler. Her two greatest passions however were bridge and Bay Area sports. Sadly, the pandemic drove her playing online where she was an active player right up to her passing. Joyce loved all Bay Area sports teams but none more than her A's and Giants. It was not uncommon to see her in the shade of the Coliseum watching the A's and listening to the Giants game on her bright yellow headphones."

Vicki Larson fondly remembers that "her flower arrangements were always striking, elegant, beautiful, and whenever we'd arrange a garden cleanup day, she'd show up with her trowel, ready to dig!"

Arrangements for a memorial service are pending.

A New Music Director for St. Paul's



The music program at St. Paul's is transitioning to a new director. Mark Bruce, whom some of us remember as the music director back toward the beginning of the century, has returned as interim music director. We will learn more about him in next month's newsletter.

We hope to have a permanent director in place by mid-year. The search for that director is being led by Sharon Pilmer. If you are interested in being a part of the search, contact her and offer your service.

February Worship Schedule

All services will be live-streamed on the [Church's Facebook page](#). 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. To get on the reservation email list, send a note to admin@stpaulsoakland.org.

Sunday, February 6: Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00am

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

10:00am

Choral Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

4:00pm

Evensong in-person (by reservation) & streamed

Wednesday, February 9

12:10pm

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

Sunday, February 13: Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany: The Feast of Absalom Jones

8:00am

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

10:00am

Choral Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed



Wednesday, February 16

12:10pm

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

Sunday, February 20: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00am

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

10:00am

Choral Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

Wednesday, February 23

12:10pm

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

Sunday, February 27: Last Sunday after the Epiphany

8:00am

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

10:00am

Choral Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

8:00pm

Compline, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

Wednesday, March 2: ASH WEDNESDAY



7 a.m.

Holy Eucharist (streamed)

12:10 p.m.

Holy Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

7 p.m.

Choral Eucharist, in-person (by reservation) & streamed

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

114 Montecito Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Phone: 510.834.4314
Fax: 510.834.0166
E-mail:

admin@stpaulsoakland.org
Web:

stpaulsoakland.com
www.stpaulsoakland.org

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.

Newsletter contributors sought

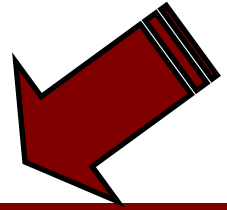
We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talents.

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

From the Editors:

Watch for news on these fronts next month!



Stewardship

News is coming next month on St. Paul's planned giving and the Legacy Society.

Swords into Ploughshares

Paula Hawthorn says: "We finally have the full team to do the Swords Into Plowshares event! I think [it] will be some time in April." Expect more details in March.

Music at St. Paul's News

Mark Bruce, our interim music director, will introduce himself and his approaches to music.

St. Paul's History

The publication process of *Faith and Mission*, the St. Paul's history, continues. We hope the book will be available in February.

St. Paul's has weathered the pandemic fairly well, thanks to a PPP (Paycheck Protection Program) loan forgiveness (\$56,000) and, sadly, having no youth minister; we had a \$100,000 net loss on income last year, which was covered by operating reserves. Expenditures for repairs and (we hope) a youth minister are on the horizon, as well as developing a plan to gradually pay down the building loan. A short version of the Treasurer's Report is in this edition of *The Good News*.

Youth and children's minister

The goal for this #1 priority is June 30. It is too expensive to hire an Episcopal priest and we are therefore looking for a layperson to share with St. Paul's School as their chaplain. Efforts to bring in someone from outside the Bay Area have been compromised by the high cost of living here.

The Pantry of Hope and other outreach

Carolyn Bolton needs help picking up food from the Alameda County Food Bank for the Pantry every other Friday. She is coordinating with the School on putting together "tiny house bags" suitable for Oakland's "tiny house" developments, as these homes have no kitchens.

To see the annual meeting reports in full, please go to <https://www.stpaulsoakland.org/vestry.html> and scroll down a bit.

[Return to page 6.](#)