



GROWING TOGETHER  
ST. PAUL'S OAKLAND 150 YEARS

Volume 16, Issue 7

### In This Issue:

Homecoming 2022

St. Paul's History

Music Director Search

Fellowship is Back!

Nametags are Back!

Carolyn Bolton & Children/  
Youth Ministry

Senior Warden's  
Message

Playdate at Dimond Park

Rector's Message

Community Outreach &  
Social Justice

Climate Action Box

Environmental  
Stewardship

Reading & Discussion  
Group

St. Paul's Legacy Society

Back-to-School Supplies  
Drive

Guns to Gardens

Creation Care 101

Vestry Highlights

Treasurer's Report

Concerts at St. Paul's

80th General Convention

Windows of St. Paul's

# THE GOOD NEWS

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN



## We're Back! Come Home!

### St. Paul's Homecoming

## Celebration—History—Fun—Food

The 10:00 service will mark our return from those lazy, hazy days of summer. And what better way to welcome us back than a celebration of the highly anticipated publication of *Faith and Mission*, Liz Hook's history of St. Paul's, 1871-1921! There will also be special recognition of Mark Bruce to thank him for his splendid work as interim choir director and organist while we searched for a new, permanent person.



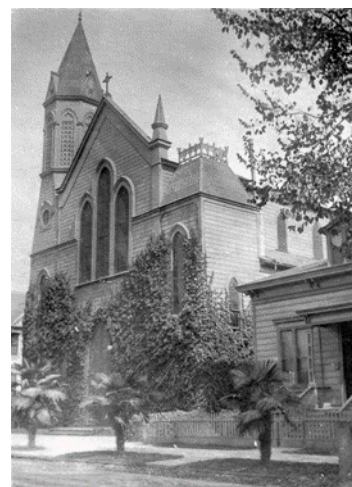
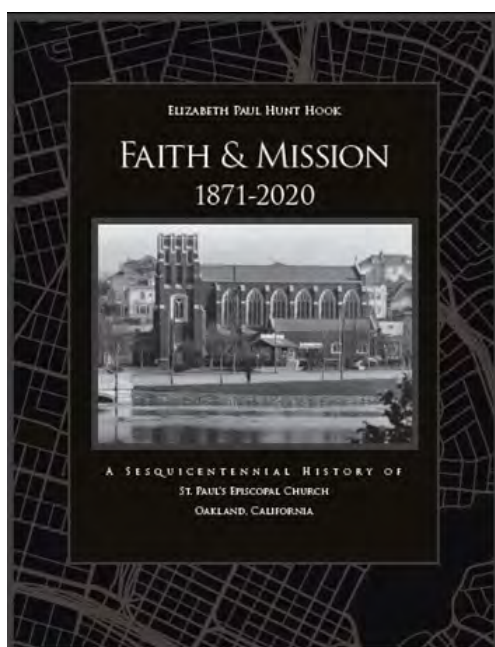
Mark Bruce

After the service, everyone is welcome to continue our homecoming in a carnival atmosphere over in the playground of St. Paul's Episcopal School. Liz will be there to sign copies of her book that can be had for a mere \$35 donation, defraying the \$46 actual cost of the book. We will have a special cake in appreciation of Mark's wonderful service to us. There will be Sunday School signups, games, and playtime for the kids. Indira Balkissoon and the Pollinator Posse will have a table of information. There will be hot dogs and other good eats for everyone. Come one! Come all! Come home to St. Paul's!

## St. Paul's Sesquicentennial History

*Faith and Mission 1871-2020* is a comprehensive, exciting account of how St. Paul's began a century and a half ago as the second Episcopal parish in Oakland, grew to be an important part of the city's religious and community life, and, in the late twentieth century, came to represent the best in progressive approaches to social and religious engagement—a tradition that has carried on strongly throughout its most recent fifty years. Elizabeth Hook's endeavors as our archivist led first to a series of articles in the church newsletter that treated various aspects of our history. About three years ago, she and Robert Knapp took up the larger project of editing these articles into book form and adding various chapters on more recent history. Then Vicki Larson volunteered her considerable graphic design talents to turn our manuscript into a lovely masterpiece while also adding vital details and images to what Liz and Robert had put together.

And now *Faith and Mission* is here!



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## Music Director Search Committee Update



The music director search committee has been working hard. We are in the process of interviewing and auditioning finalists. Our work has been challenging in the face of summer absences, both Rector and choir, but we hope to be finished with our work and hand off to the Rector in early September. Hopefully we will have news in time for the October newsletter!



## Fellowship is Back!

**Alice Brilmayer, Coffee Hour Chief**

**Have you been missing coffee hour after the 10:00 am service?  
Getting together with your St. Paul's family is definitely back!**

Meet in the courtyard for light refreshments and conversation. We'll have things like cookies, cake, fruit, and anything else the host brings. What's most important is making contact with each other. Lockdowns for COVID robbed us of emotional connections with each other. We need to re-build those relationships, and what better time when we're already together?



**If you're new to St. Paul's, this is the easiest way to get to know the folks in the pews.**

**We need a lot more hosts!**

To maintain this meeting time, we need people to provide refreshments. So far, the groups have been small, so providing refreshments won't be an onerous task. If you can volunteer to bring goodies,

please email Alice Brilmayer at [authoralicegaines@gmail.com](mailto:authoralicegaines@gmail.com). She'll give you the lowdown on what's needed.

## Nametags - They're Coming Back, Soon!

**Tom McGarrell, the nametag guy**

As part of our response to the Covid pandemic, St. Paul's stopped using parishioner nametags. Nametags had been, for years, a happy way to introduce ourselves to fellow parishioners and to welcome newcomers. Yep, like that bar in Boston, we were a parish "where everybody knows your name".



Our Rector, Fr. Mauricio, and our Senior Warden, Maura Lane, have decided it's time to reintroduce the use of nametags at St. Paul's. We will do so in September.



If you were a parishioner prior to March 2020, we have your nametag. If you joined the parish thereafter, please contact Tom McGarrell and let him know how you wish to have your name appear on your tag. Tom can be reached at 267-808-1921 or via [tommy3405@yahoo.com](mailto:tommy3405@yahoo.com).



## Welcome, Carolyn Bolton, the new children's and youth minister for St. Paul's!

**Carolyn Knapp**

The young people of St. Paul's – over 30 kids at last count – now have a leader in the form of a long-time friend of St. Paul's, Deacon Carolyn Bolton.

Many will remember her great work with Senior Services and as a comforting presence at St. Paul's Towers, and, of course, she is the guiding light of the phenomenally successful Pantry of Hope. But long before she became an Episcopalian and a deacon, Carolyn's volunteer work with her Baptist church and its Vacation Bible School led her to decades of service with the Boys and Girls Clubs in East Oakland and she was the Day Labor Coordinator and Diamond Youth Shelter Coordinator at the Larkin Street Youth Center. She enjoys "helping kids be the best they can be and encouraging them not to give up." Fun fact: Carolyn was a P.E. major and loves physical activity!



With the mission of teaching children to "know God, love God, and serve God," Carolyn has been putting together a schedule of activities for those from preschool through age 17. Since she just started her ministry in early July, the details are still being worked out, and she asks for patience and flexibility as she grows the

program.

### Here's what we know about what's planned:

For those 12 and under: a picnic on September 10<sup>th</sup> at Dimond Park (see announcement elsewhere in this newsletter) will kick things off. Homecoming Sunday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, will feature games, food, Pollinator Posse activities, and Sunday School sign-ups. In October, you can look forward to a children's service at Fairyland on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and regular Sunday School, with a new, Diocesan-supported curriculum, beginning on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Among other future activities are movie nights, a Christmas Eve service, and a family Earth Day celebration.

For those 13 and up: acolyte training will be on September 10<sup>th</sup>, and October 30<sup>th</sup> is set to be a youth-led service, complete with a sermon and music by our young people. Overnights with the youth group from Christ Church Alameda, ice skating, retreats at the Bishop's Ranch, and service opportunities at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Martin Luther King Day are on the horizon.



If you or your grown-up would like to be on the youth program activity mailing list and help with these events, please get in touch with Carolyn: [cbolton730@aol.com](mailto:cbolton730@aol.com).

## Senior Warden's Message

### Trust and Fear

**“First of all, let me assert my firm belief that the only thing we have to fear is fear itself - nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance.” Franklin Delano Roosevelt**



The world is still moving through the game-changer of Covid-19. Unless one has survived a major crisis – and there are many different kinds - this is a new experience that raises a lot of questions and concerns. I hear conversations about when things will go back to normal. Or the expression “when will things be the way they used to be?” What does the “new” normal look/feel like?

A crisis brings out many parts of ourselves. Our responses are influenced powerfully by the psychology of the times. It is also true that a panicked mentality will prevent us from taking the actions we need to recover quickly.

The most common response is fear. Fear is a complex emotion. It's the root of insecurity and anxiety. The instability and uncertainty that emerge from a crisis are experienced as trauma in many forms, including physical, psychological, social, political, emotional, and economic. This profound distress takes a toll on us that exacts substantial suffering in the short term. Just as important, crises produce a delayed and extended reaction that often isn't realized for years.

**Trust and fear** are often related. Where there is fear, there will be less trust. If you want to create trust, then reducing fear is an important activity. There are many reasons to cultivate trust. We've found a way to have fellowship together in the courtyard. There a lot of wonderful activities scheduled for the fall.

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## Parish News Welcome...

### Zoe Mae Zumbro

Born August 17, 2022, 7 lbs 10 oz, daughter of Christina Larson & Austin Zumbro, sister of Billie Ruth Zumbro (age 2-1/2). Richard Larson is the proud Grandpa, Vicki the proud Grammy. Welcome, Zoe!



**You're Invited! (and free to forward)**  
**Playdate/Picnic at Dimond Park for St. Paul's members**  
*geared for families and kids ~11 and under*

**Join us at Dimond Park, for a Playdate in the Park**  
**with breakfast treats — coffee, juice, pastries provided!**

**WHEN: Saturday, Sept 10th, 10:30am -12pm**

**WHERE: Dimond Park, Oakland, with access to playground**



<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Dimond+Park/@37.8055325,-122.2153768,18z/data=!4m6!3m5!1s0x808f87a929041c57:0xe47486a6f09bd9b2!4b1!8m2!3d37.8053434!4d-122.2152264>

*Pollinator Posse will have mask and finger puppet making and also milkweed planting.*

**WHO: St. Paul's families and kids, and friends**

**RSVP: Please respond to this email**  
**[sarahsmith12@gmail.com](mailto:sarahsmith12@gmail.com)**

**Let us know you may be coming!**

**QUESTIONS: Email or Call/text Sarah at 510-205-0374**

*You may want to bring a blanket or chairs.*  
*You are welcome to bring any treat or beverage, if you wish.*

## Rector's Message

### The Holy Spirit's Work

#### The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson

September is here. Summer is essentially over. Maybe because such a large majority of our society is connected to the education system, we tend to view the months of August and September as a time to restart or reimagine the way we do things and the way we plan our lives. This is the time of the year when gas prices go down, airline tickets get cheaper, vacation rentals are vacant. This is also the time when churches start to see increased attendance as families spend more time closer to home on the school weekends, even more so if they consumed their vacation budget over the summer.

How should the Church approach this reality? Should we boost our marketing or messaging strategies to get people to go to worship and other activities? Should we send out invitations? Should we plan special events that will attract more and even new people? The simple answer is yes. In fact, these are things that should not be limited to this time of the year; we should be making these efforts year-round.

The bigger issue, however, is not *whether* we should communicate with the members of our communities, but, more importantly, *what* we are communicating. The purpose of our communications isn't to be geared towards drawing attention to ourselves as if we were youtubers or social media personalities trying to get people to know and follow us. We are not a social group or political party. We are the Body of Christ.



Yet even as the Church, we are not the ones to issue the invitation to be members of the Body. That is God's role and prerogative, Holy Spirit work. No matter how special and loving and socially conscious we think we are, the Feast of the Lamb of God is not ours to host; the kingdom is God's. The cross on Calvary is Jesus'.

Our call is to do our best to be wholesome examples of what it means to live into the invitation set forth before us by God. I pray that together we will continue being worthy bearers of the Good News of God in Christ by the ways in which we offer ourselves to God in worship and in service. Let us do so faithfully, leaving open our arms and hearts to others guided by the Spirit to partake in the life of this place of inquiry, ministry and evangelism.

## Bishop Transition News

### Bishop Marc to retire in 2024; Search Committee to be appointed next month

Bishop Marc formally announced his retirement in July, though he'll remain the bishop for another two years. A search committee will be named next month and a special Diocesan Convention will elect his successor at the end of 2023. The successor will be consecrated "Bishop Coadjutor" in May 2024. Then the two will serve together until Bishop Marc retires and completes the transition in July 2024. The new bishop will be the tenth one to serve in over 160 years. Bishops last a long time!

The diocesan Standing Committee has created a website for all news, updates, and information about the upcoming Bishop Search. The website will be updated with more content in the following days. Visit the site here: <https://diocalebishopsearch.org>



## Community Outreach and Social Justice at St. Paul's

**Matthew Schooler**

**Vestry Liaison for Outreach and Social Justice**

I trust everyone had a blessed and relaxing Summer.

In the Fall, we will continue to work on Outreach to our local communities and Social Justice for all. This is not a political movement, but rather a chance to live an example of the Christian life. We must work to feed the hungry, love our neighbor, and stand against violence in our communities. It entails many of the things we are already doing at St. Paul's Oakland, with our school backpack program, Angel tree, and turning weapons into garden tools, along with standing against violence every month. This committee allows us to get an organized message out to others, interact with other communities, and raise interest in the needs of those who surround us. It is our primary purpose as followers of Christ.

I will host a refreshment hour in September that will be followed by a committee meeting. I already have people who are interested and will be looking for more. I also encourage all who know of a local need that we can help with to bring it to this committee. You can reach me at [mwschooler70@gmail](mailto:mwschooler70@gmail.com) or (213) 245 -5154.



## Good for the Earth: Climate Action Box

**Interested in helping monarch butterflies?**

**Indira Balkissoon**

**Vestry Liaison for Environmental Stewardship**



You can take plenty of actions, no matter your skill level from planting a pollinator-friendly garden to having one or two nectar plants on your stoop or porch. Here is a list of Pollinator plants recommended by the Pollinator Posse: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DD\\_3Yj-rk7OhNHdnIfOh8kL8003\\_8f9n/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DD_3Yj-rk7OhNHdnIfOh8kL8003_8f9n/view)

There is much talk about planting milkweed. Be sure it is native to California. Native California milkweed reinforces the monarch's migration patterns. Always avoid tropical milkweed. This fact sheet below from the Xerces Society provides more information on planting milkweed: <https://xerces.org/sites/default/files/publications/19-004.pdf>

Want to know more? Get in touch with Indira Balkissoon, the Vestry Liaison for Environmental Stewardship at [tagindy@aol.com](mailto:tagindy@aol.com).





## Environmental Stewardship at St. Paul's

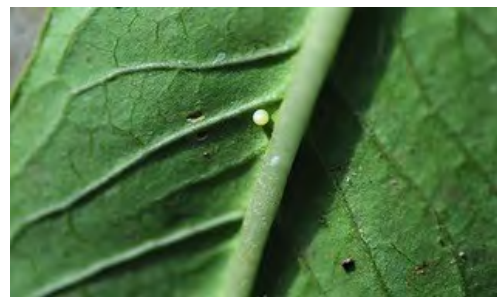
**Indira Balkissoon**

### Vestry Liaison for Environmental Stewardship

**Welcome Back!!**



Our pollinator garden is growing and the wildflower seeds are sprouting. We did lose one plant; I replaced it with a Tithonia, a nectar plant which was recommended by the Pollinator Posse. They say it is an important plant to add because it blooms in the winter when the Monarchs need nectar. One very important thing for the garden is that we figure out how often it is currently being watered. The Monarch Larvae Monitoring Project is up and running. We just sent in our first results.



The first photo on the left is of the garden just after planting in July. The next one shows the Tithonia that I added in August. The last photo is of a monarch egg on a milkweed leaf.

This fall we have two upcoming church events to put on your calendar; we could use your help with the environmental stewardship parts of them. At the upcoming Back to School picnic on September 10<sup>th</sup>, in addition to many inspiring activities, we will have mask and finger puppet making and also milkweed planting. At our Homecoming on September 25th, the Pollinator Posse will be visiting with a mini butterfly museum complete with microscopes and caterpillars. To let Indira know if you can help, please e-mail her at [tagindy@aol.com](mailto:tagindy@aol.com).

The Environmental Stewardship Committee members include Sharon Pilmer, Victoria Larson, Sarah Smith, Anne Jensen, Doug Jensen, and Mirela Stanke, and they are looking forward to continuing with an expanded theme this year of: "Growing Together, Building Community, Inspiring Ministries 2022-2023".

## Beyond the Word: A Reading & Discussion Group

Led by Pam Buckingham & Dale Trunk

Journey with us as we read together books that explore God, faith, religion, and community. The idea is to read the book and have a discussion session for each half of the book. We will meet twice for each book with plenty of time in between to read and digest. We've chosen a variety of books and authors that explore the Jewish Sabbath, the practice of Christian spirituality, community life in Christ, and the calling to follow Jesus. Participants will buy or borrow their own copies of these widely available titles. They can also be checked out from the library, either in hard copy, or digitally.



Select Wednesday evenings on Zoom from 7-8pm:

1st book Sept 21/Oct 12

*The Sabbath* by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

2nd book Nov 2/Nov 16

*Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality* by Julia Gatta

(Skip Nov 27- Dec 24 Advent)

3rd book Jan 11/Feb 8

*Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

(Skip Feb 22 - Apr 6 Lent)

4th book Apr 19/May 10

*The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier



To sign up for the Zoom meetings or to ask questions, please email [pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com)

## The St. Paul's Legacy Society News

Doug Jensen

On June 26<sup>th</sup> The Reverend Richard Schaper CFP, who was our preacher that Sunday, led a planned giving workshop in the courtyard following the 10:00 service. We had a good turnout, and he shared estate planning ideas, including reasons for ensuring one has an up-to-date will, as well as simple ways to remember St. Paul's in one's long-range giving plans.

Check out the web site [Freewill.com](http://Freewill.com), where in no more than 20 minutes one can create a simple will. Also, for California residents, the web site offers:

- ways to create a revocable living trust
- directions on how to provide beneficiary designations for assets such as 401k's, IRA's and life insurance that may not be included in a will or trust.



There is no cost for this do-it-yourself advice. It is available through the support from a consortium of nonprofit organizations who anticipate that many who use this web site may chose to leave a gift to causes, they care about.... like St. Paul's. We hope you will consider doing the same!

On All Saints Sunday, November 6, we plan a celebration and luncheon honoring the founding of the St. Paul's Legacy Society and those who have made provisions in their estate plans to provide for St. Paul's after their death. We hope to add new members to this list. The next two months is a good time to re-view your estate plans and consider a future gift to St. Paul's. Fr. Schaper has also offered to help in any way possible. His email address is [rlschaper@gmail.com](mailto:rlschaper@gmail.com).

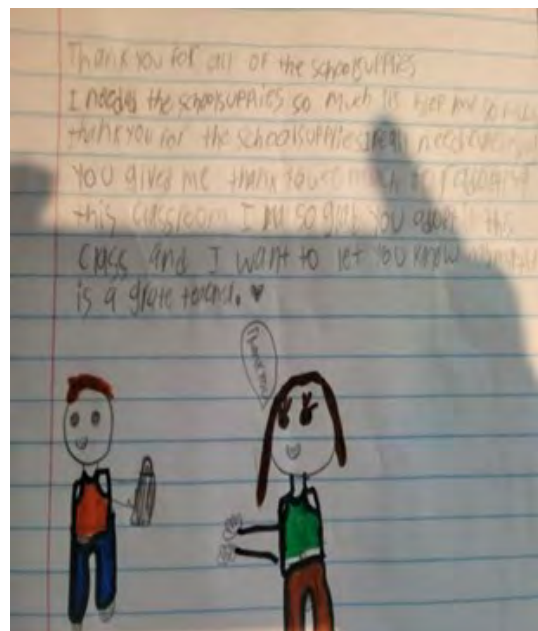
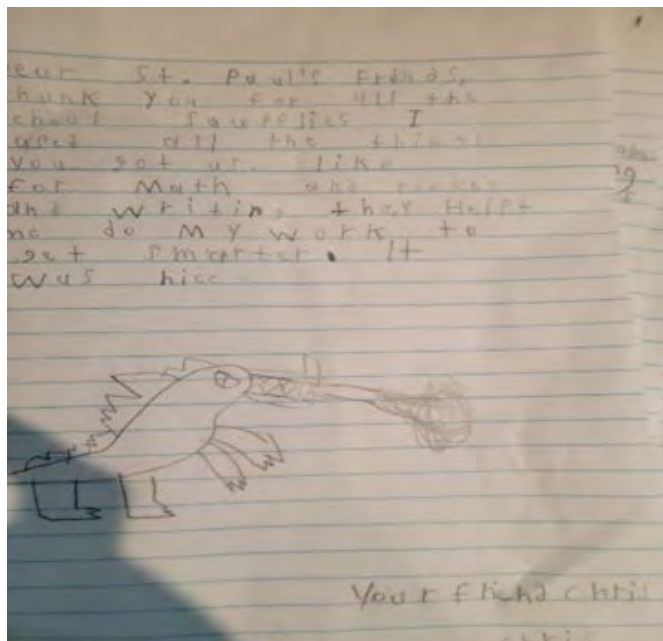
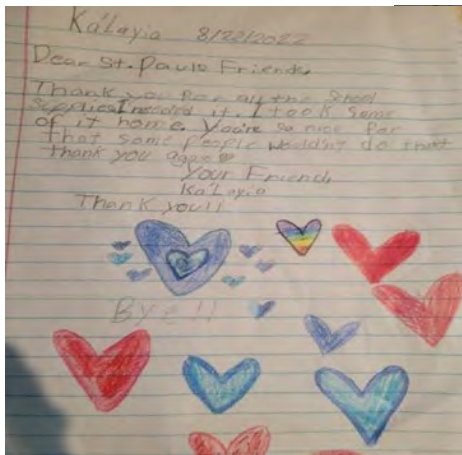




## Back to School Supplies Drive Huge Success

**Jeanette Dinwidde-Moore**

Thanks, thanks, thanks for being so very generous and supportive of our emerging ministry of providing back to school supplies to children and families in need. This year's effort was a huge success with over 100 young people receiving bags and backpacks of school supplies – this is more than a 30% increase over last year's effort. We will share the thank you letters from the programs on the parish website but a few of the letters and the picture below show the joy of the young recipients. Through our parish family's generosity, we raised over \$1,500 – thanks so much. We are looking forward to next year's drive and doing even more. We would love for you to join us in this budding ministry and are particularly interested in engaging our youth.



Thanks, and blessings to all of you,

Deacon Carolyn Bolton, Rev. Anne Jensen, Sharon Pilmer, Maura Lane, Lisa Strait, Saundra Andreson and Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore



## St. Paul's Oakland Sponsors "Guns to Gardens"

Paula Hawthorn

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's podcast "[Learning from the Red Letters](#)" introduced members of St. Paul's Oakland to the movement to forge guns into garden tools, as called for in Isaiah 2: "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares."



Through Bishop Jim Curry, whose work is [highlighted here](#), they learned of the national group [Guns to Gardens](#). The church began working with them to create one of the many Guns to Gardens events that were scheduled across the nation on June 11th, which was also chosen as Guns to Gardens Day.



To prepare for June 11th, the Oakland Police Department worked with John Rogers, a local blacksmith, to forge 50 previously surrendered guns into garden tools. The handles were then attached by Orinda Boy Scout Troup 237 as part of the Eagle Project of Preston Hawthorn, grandson of St. Paul's member Paula Hawthorn. (Preston will be fondly remembered by Mary the Virgin Episcopal Church in San Francisco, since he was one of the cutest babies to have been baptized there).



The tools were given to the first 50 people who turned in guns. In the future, all of the guns that were turned in will be forged into garden tools.

Preston with garden tools forged from guns, and John Rodgers, our blacksmith:

In addition to receiving garden tools, it was necessary to provide some form of payment to those who turned in guns, but the Oakland Police Department did not have such a

budget. St. Paul's became the center for raising the required funds.

Church member Vicki Larson designed a [website](#); the rector, the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson set up a special fund; and Paula Hawthorn made a quilt to give as a prize to a randomly-selected donor. Through these efforts, more than enough money was raised to fund the buyback.

The buyback event was held at At Thy Word Ministries in East Oakland, a church well-known to those who participate in [Faith In Action – East Bay's Friday Night Walks](#). In addition to being located in East Oakland, where there are many guns, the church has a

## St. Paul's Oakland Sponsors "Guns to Gardens"

Paula Hawthorn

flow-through parking for cars to enter with the guns in the trunk and where volunteers could administer an anonymous survey.

After that point, OPD could retrieve the guns, place a value on them, and give the people their gift cards and garden tools. People could then drive out, without getting out of their cars.

Volunteers administering surveys:

There were 26 volunteers, from six different organizations, with the largest contingent from St. Paul's.



## Creation Care 101 Fall Program - Starts Sept 20 2022

Pollinator Posse

The work of the St. Paul's Pollinator garden and Monarch Larvae tracking project is part of a conversation for practical applications of environmental healing to address our changing climate. More information about Creation Care is being offered by an exciting new free program with churches across the country on the journey of restoring faith, justice, and creation. Each session (1.5 hours each) will feature talks from leading theologians and scientists, inspiring stories from churches, facilitated heart-led conversation, and tools for practical implementation.

### 8 Sessions, 1 Session per month

Free, Live via Zoom, will be facilitated

2nd Thursday of each month

Sessions are 1.5 hours and live at both 7pm ET or 7pm PT

You just show up!

### 8 SESSION OVERVIEW:

Sept 8th Intro: Faith, Science & Creation Care

Oct 13th Eating: Theology of Food

Nov 10th Hosting: Honorable Gatherings

Dec 8th Purchasing: Living Simply & Justly

Jan 12th Regenerating: Soil, Compost, Waste

Feb 9th Reframing: Water & Energy

Mar 9th Planting: Gardens & Spaces

Apr 13th Planning: Pulling it Together



Need to miss a session? We've got you covered - all who are registered automatically receive a recording of each session!

**For more information:** <https://creationcarecollective.org/creationjustice101/>

**Register at:** <https://creationcarecollective.org/event/creation-justice-101-fall-program/>

## Second Sacred Ground Group Finishes Initial Study

### Carolyn Knapp and the '21-'22 Sacred Ground Group

Almost a year ago, four parishioners, inspired by the success of a group in 2020-21, answered Anne Jensen's invitation to participate in a second offering of [Sacred Ground](#), the Episcopal Church's film- and readings-based dialogue series on race, grounded in faith. The idea, according to the developers, is "for small groups to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity."

The 11-part series, which the St. Paul's group explored over 13 meetings, is built around what is described as "a powerful online curriculum of documentary films and readings that focus on Indigenous, Black, Latino, and Asian/Pacific American histories as they intersect with European American histories."

Our group, which included, in addition to Anne Jensen, Priscilla Kingston, Carolyn Knapp, Sharon Pilmer, and the late Maria Paull, found the materials emotionally and spiritually challenging: there is much to lament in our history. But the participants also discovered they needed to own their own racism after growing up in a racist society, and acknowledge that they had benefited from racist policies simply because they were white.



The difficult walk on Sacred Ground is never finished, and, like the labyrinth, its way is full of twists and turns. Over the coming months, the group will be working to incorporate what they have learned into the worship and fellowship of St. Paul's. They hope to bring more sensitivity to working with people of color at St. Paul's in its ministries and as we welcome the stranger to worship with us.

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## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S

All events this month will be in person. For the latest schedule and any rules about COVID precautions, please check the church website: <https://www.stpaulsoakland.org/>.

Most services will also be live-streamed on the Church's Facebook page. For details, go to the church website.



*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*

#### 2022 VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson Rector

Maura Lane Senior Warden

Will Cowart Jr., Junior Warden

Flarnie Adams, Clerk

Ann 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 Balkissoon

Matthew Schooler

Irene Plunkett

#### DEANERY DELEGATES 2022

Delegates

Melanie Blake

Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore

Tom McGarrell

Alternates

-vacancy-

## Highlights from the June 2022 Vestry Meeting

Highlights from the June 2022 and September 2022 Vestry meetings will appear in the October edition of the Good News.

### Treasurer's Report

**Ann Goggins Gregory**

As of the end of July, we have seen good momentum in pledge revenue, which has picked up and exceeds budget the last few months; this uptick is helping us make up for a slower-than-budgeted start to the pledge year. More broadly, year-to-date we are slightly below budget on both revenue and expenses. At the mid-year mark, the net income (loss, in this case) is better than what we had budgeted, at -\$93K vs. -\$106K (see summary table below). As a reminder, St. Paul's budgets a deficit most years, pulling from operating reserves in our investment accounts to cover the difference.

	Year-to-date actuals as of July 31, 2022	Year-to-date budget through July 31, 2022
Revenue	\$178,724	\$195,458
Expense	\$272,427	\$301,726
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$93,703)</b>	<b>(\$106,268)</b>

#### REVENUE DYNAMICS:

- Pledge revenue has been ahead of budget over the summer, including \$5K over budget in July. After a slow first quarter, our year-to-date pledge revenue is now tracking almost exactly to budget.
- Plate remains considerably under budget for the year, at \$13K (41%) below budget year to date.
- Revenue associated with 'space use' – i.e., different community groups renting the church space – is also below budget year to date (\$38K vs. \$44K), likely due in part to continued COVID concerns.

#### EXPENSE DYNAMICS:

- Personnel is under budget year-to-date, due to the open Children & Youth Ministry Director position. Carolyn Bolton is now filling this position, so it has begun to incur costs. This is an exciting development for the youth of our parish.

On the balance sheet / investment side of things, the financial markets have had a rough few months. We continue to monitor the market and are in frequent touch with our Merrill Lynch financial advisors.

As always, I'm available for your questions or comments at [gog-gins.gregory@gmail.com](mailto:gog-gins.gregory@gmail.com)



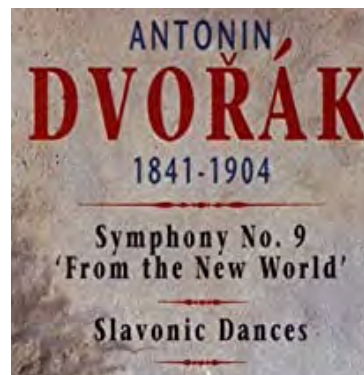
## Concerts at St. Paul's

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra  
2022-2023 Concert Series  
Celebrating 58 Years of Music Making

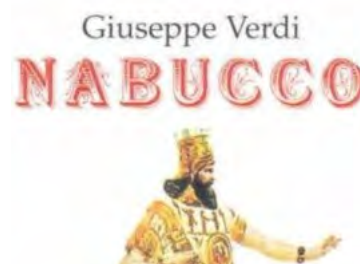


Saturday, October 1, 2022  
3:00 PM (Preconcert talk at 2:40PM)

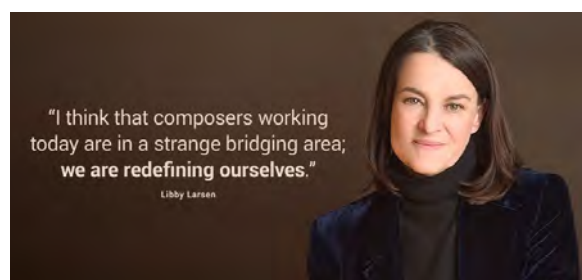
Antonin Dvořák *Symphony No. 9, Opus 95, "From the New World"*



Giuseppe Verdi • *Nabucco Sinfonia*



Libby Larsen • *Deep Summer Music*  
Women Composer Series



### ADMISSION FREE

Tickets are required to attend this concert. Please go to [www.prometheussymphony.org](http://www.prometheussymphony.org) for ticket information.

Audience members must show proof of full vaccination including boosters for admittance. Masks are required when in the church. Families with children (all fully vaccinated) are always welcome and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

We will be recording the concert for later publication so if you don't have a ticket, you can still see the concert.

**There is no admission fee for our concerts, but donations are gratefully accepted.**

[See our website](http://www.prometheussymphony.org) for Covid protocols, updates, and parking details.

## The 80<sup>th</sup> General Convention Meets at Last

Carolyn Knapp

This July, the Covid-postponed 80<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church took place in Baltimore, MD in a slightly truncated format and after many sessions of legislative committee work done beforehand on Zoom in order to shorten the amount of time everyone had to be together.

Our own Rector, Fr. Wilson, was an alternate who participated virtually as part of the new rules for limiting attendance. (You can check out a short video of his commentary at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2LyEzLAeQgI> )

The General Convention happens (normally) every three years. It has a bicameral organization (the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops) and passes all kinds of resolutions and rules. Many of these need to be approved by two successive conventions to go into effect, so the wheels grind exceedingly slowly! But they cover important things like the ordination of women, gay marriage and the Prayer Book. So what happened this year?

**\*The Book of Common Prayer may become more than a physical book; it might include liturgies, like same-sex marriage rites, that will have “Prayer Book status” if this passes in the next Convention.**

\*A voluntary Episcopal Coalition for Racial Equity and Justice among dioceses and congregations was established, and a pledge made of more than \$2.5 million over the next biennium to further The Episcopal Church’s commitment to investigating its role in Indigenous boarding schools.

\*Convention passed [Resolution D083](#) “affirming that all Episcopalians should be able to access abortion services and birth control with no restriction on movement, autonomy, type, or timing.”

\*The Convention also elected two women of color to lead the House of Deputies, passed resolutions supporting family leave for church employees, and passed other resolutions against gun violence.

And there’s more ... You can find the details in an [Episcopal News Service article](#) on the subject, and daily reports from the Diocese of California’s delegation [here](#).

**Coming next month: Hundreds of bishops gathered at Lambeth. What does it mean for you?**

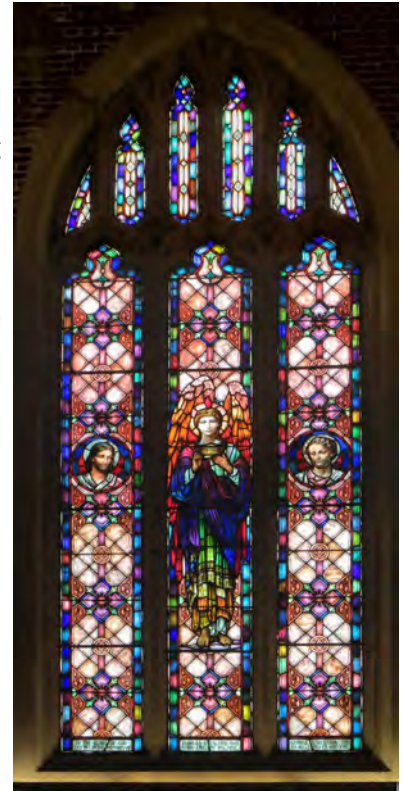
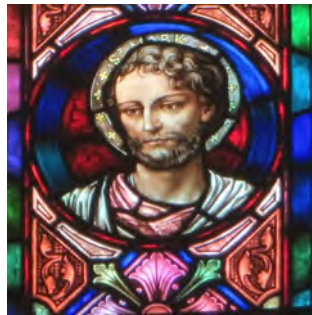
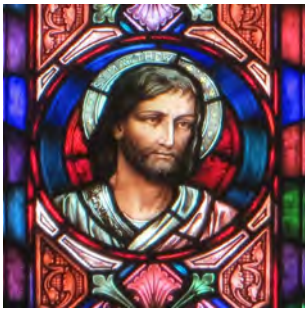


Julia Ayala Harris, newly elected President of the House of Deputies

## The Windows of St. Paul's

### Robert Knapp Saint Matthew and Saint Mark

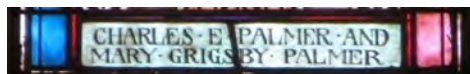
This window's uncomplicated design shows off the elaborate geometric shapes that occupy most of the space. The composition is an angel holding a crown in the center with a bust of St. Matthew in a rondel to the right and a bust of St. Mark in a rondel to the left. Each has an identifying text on a ribbon over their head. Both face toward the angel with downward, pensive gaze. St. Matthew was one of Christ's original disciples. The identity of St. Mark is much disputed although it is certain that he was not one of the Twelve. The choice of these two saints may relate to the occupations of the deceased since Matthew is the patron saint of money-related endeavors and Mark is, among other things, the patron saint of lawyers and notaries.



The angel holding a crown is an unusual image. Usually an angel holds the crown over a saintly head, for example above the Virgin Mary, or the crown held is a crown of thorns. In the present case, the crown seems to be a generalizing symbol of the majesty of the two saints honored to her/his left and right.

The dedication appears across the bottom of the window's three lancets:

*To the glory of God and in memory of// Charles E. Palmer and Mary Grigsby Palmer// George S Wheaton and Ida Bell Palmer Wheaton.*



Charles E. Palmer (1844-1908) had been treasurer of Alameda County and then cashier of the Union National Bank in Oakland. His wife, Mary Grigsby Palmer, died in 1918. George S. Wheaton (1869-1908) was a prominent wholesale provisions merchant and a director of the San Francisco Board of Trade. He had married Ida Bell Palmer (1877-1919), Charles and Mary Palmer's daughter, at St. Paul's in 1901.

The window seems to date from around 1920 to judge by the death dates of those honored. The artist is unknown.





# St. Paul's

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## Dear Readers:

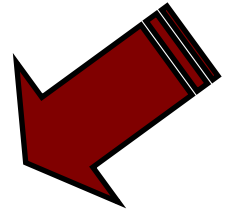
*Currently, the newsletter is not being distributed by regular post. If you know of someone who does not have access to the electronic version, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or [admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org). She will make a hardcopy and send it.*

## 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](mailto:csknapp@earthlink.net)

*The Good News* is a publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland, California. Carolyn Knapp, editor, Robert Knapp, composition and graphics, Kate Eby, copy editor

## From the Editors:

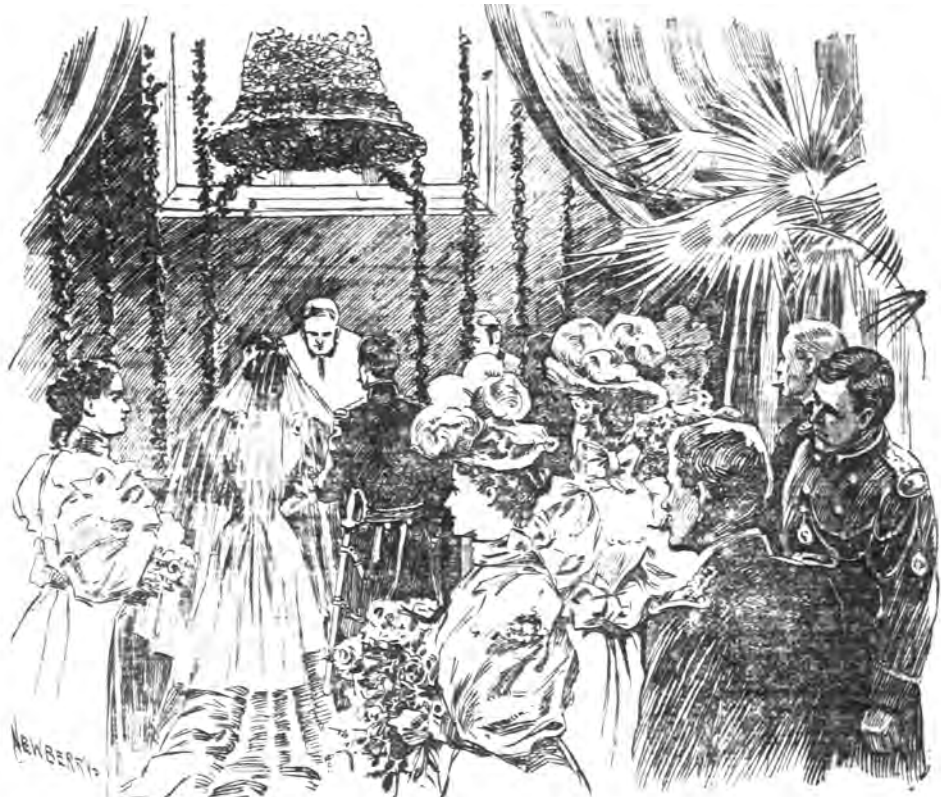


### Watch for news in October's *Good News*!

Development of a strategic plan for St. Paul's.

Hundreds of bishops gathered at Lambeth. What does it mean for you?

St. Paul's 126 years ago...



The Marriage of Miss Requa and Captain Long at St. Paul's, Oakland, Yesterday.

The marriage of Isaac Requa's daughter, Amy, to Captain Long in Old St. Paul's, 1896. The Resurrection Window in "New" St. Paul's (1912) is dedicated to Isaac by his widow, Sarah.