

# ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

120 EAST J STREET, BENICIA, CALIFORNIA 94510

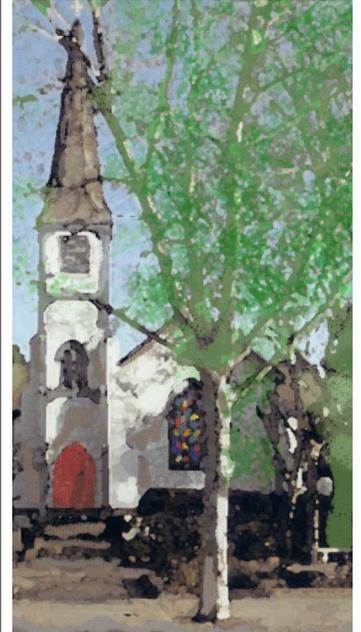
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WWW.STPAULSBENICIA.ORG

## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

*Notice is hereby given for the Annual Meeting  
of the Parish of St. Paul's, Benicia  
on Sunday, January 28, 2018  
for the purpose of election of members  
to Vestry and Diocesan Convention,  
for the reception of reports,  
and for the transaction of any other business  
which may legally and canonically come  
before the meeting.*

*The meeting follows our joint communion service at 10 a.m.*



*At St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church,  
all are welcome and  
affirmed in the many  
diverse and wonderful  
ways God has made  
us. May you find a  
home here, and may  
this be a safe place to  
encounter God and  
one another.*

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## S T A F F

The Reverend Jeanne Forte	Rector (retired Dec. 31, 2017)
The Reverend Peter Champion	Interim Rector (beginning Jan. 16, 2018)
The Reverend Canon Mary Goshert	Associate Priest
The Reverend Pamela Higgins	Associate Priest
The Reverend Doctor Arthur Holder	Associate Priest
The Reverend Beth Gaines	Deacon
Glenn Walp	Traditional Music Director
Mark Sackett	Contemporary Music Director
Tim Markley	Archivist
Beckie Pelkey	Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator
Andria Reid	Godly Play/Nursery Care Coordinator
JoAnn Souza	Parish Administrator
Betsy Zampa	Communications Coordinator
Emily Fracisco, Emma Gilbert, Haley Reid,	
Giovanna Zampa	Nursery Care Staff
Jacque Dennis-Jackson	Sexton

## V E S T R Y

Tom Mader, Senior Warden	Term expires January 2018
Del Baker-Medlock, Junior Warden	Term expires January 2019
Anne Seed, Clerk	Term expires January 2019
Lori Friday	Term expires January 2018
John Healy	Term expires January 2018
Barbara Jewell	Term expires January 2020
Kim Rodekohr	Term expires January 2019
Mark Sally	Term expires January 2020
Bill Smiglewski	Term expires January 2020
Leslie Soughers	Term expires January 2019 (deceased)

*Ex officio member:* Arthur Schipper, Treasurer

## TRANSITION AND RECTOR SEARCH

**PROFILE COMMITTEE** – *This committee is responsible for data gathering and preparation of the Parish Profile.*

Mark Sally, Chairperson

Jim Brown

John Healy

Jeff Jarvis

Mittie Railsback

David Sells

Virginia Vater

Judy Furlong, Chaplain

**APPLICANT REVIEW COMMITTEE** – *This committee is responsible for reviewing applications, interviewing applicants, and recommending candidates to the Vestry.*

Debbie Borst, Chairperson

Del Baker-Medlock

Heather Healy

Jeanne McCarrick

Pat Morgan

Donna Patey

Fred Railsback

Steve Rodekohr

Robin Silver

Jackie French, Chaplain

## ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

Opening Prayer and Memorials

Organization:

Appointment of Clerk of the Annual Meeting

Report of Vestry Clerk regarding Quorum

Appointment of Tellers for the election

Approval of Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting

Report from the Nominating Committee:

Nominations for 3-year Vestry term: Yann Jouvenot Sells, Charlie Kilbourne, David White

Nominations from the floor

Motion to close nominations

Balloting (if necessary)

Lay Delegates to Diocesan Convention (6)

Affirmation of ongoing Delegates

Tom Mader (5th year); Robin Silver (4th year); Jackie French and Dawson Urban (3rd year)

Nominations for Delegates (4 or more)

Motion to close nominations

Balloting (ranking of nominees; top 2 are elected as delegates, remaining candidates are elected as alternates in vote count order)

Financial Report

2017 Questions?

2018 Budget and 2019 Projected Budget

Reports of Committees and Commissions (motion to file by title)

Special Report on the Parish Profile: Mark Sally, Profile Committee Chairperson

Remarks of Interim Rector: The Reverend Peter Champion

Election Results

Acknowledgments and Thank Yous

Commissioning of New Vestry

Closing Prayer and Dismissal

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 29, 2017

The Annual Meeting (AM) of St. Paul's Episcopal Church was called to order by Rev. Jeanne Forte at 11:49 a.m.

Rev. Jeanne led the AM in prayer, including a collect for the meeting. This was followed by reading the memorials for 2016; including a thanksgiving for those who were baptized into the faith. Thanksgivings were also shared for those who celebrated the union of Holy Matrimony in 2016 and for those who had unions blessed. We remembered with thanksgiving the lives of those who departed this life in 2016. Thanksgiving was given for those who have served in the Armed Services and who have lost their lives as part of this service. Thanks were given for those who have shown hospitality to us and who have allowed us to show hospitality to them, particularly through the endeavors of the Abraham Path Journey. Thanks were given for a successful year of stewardship. A complete list of names is included as an attachment.

### **Organization:**

Anne Seed was appointed as Clerk for the 2017 AM. A quorum was declared to be present for the AM.

Jackie French and Neal Mulholand were appointed as tellers for election procedures.

A motion was made by David White, with a second from Fred Railsback, to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2016 Annual Meeting minutes. Motion approved.

### **Report from the Nominating Committee:**

The nominees for Vestry (3-year term, 2017-2020): Barbara Jewell, Mark Sally, Bill "Ski" Smiglewski. A call was made for additional nominees from the floor, but there were none forthcoming. A motion was made by Art Schipper, with a second from Mittie Railsback, to cease nominations. Motion passed. A motion was made by Neal Mulholand to approve the slate of vestry candidates as presented. The motion was seconded by Del Baker-Medlock. Motion passed. All nominees were approved as new Vestrypersons.

### **Lay Delegates to Diocesan Convention:**

The number of Lay Delegates to Diocesan Convention for St. Paul's has been reduced from six delegates in 2016 to five delegates in 2017. Lee Anne Bundesen, who would have been in her 5<sup>th</sup> year as a Lay Delegate, has agreed to step off and as the number of Lay Delegates has been reduced, there is no need to elect additional delegates. The existing Diocesan Convention delegates were presented and affirmed: Anne Seed (4th year), Tom Mader (3rd year), Robin Silver (2nd year), Jackie French (1<sup>st</sup> year) and Dawson Urban (1<sup>st</sup> year). Names for Alternate Delegates were called for from the floor. Presented names were: Mary Frances Kelly Poh and Judy Furlong. A motion was made by Neal Mulholand, with a second from Del Baker-Medlock, to close nominations for Alternate Delegates. Motion passed. Elected to serve as Alternate Lay Delegates: Mary Frances Kelly Poh and Judy Furlong.

### **Financial Reports:**

The Financial Report for 2016 was presented by Art Schipper, Treasurer, and Tom Mader, Senior Warden. Gratitude was expressed for the services of Art Schipper, Treasurer; Carole Johnson, Assistant Treasurer; Robin Silver, Pledge Clerk; the team of people who count the money each week and those who have signature card authority with Bank of the West. Gratitude was also expressed to the congregation for our ongoing financial support of St. Paul's. Art reviewed his Treasurer's Report as included in the 2016 Annual Meeting Report, including an overview of Income, Expenses, Net Income, Assets and Liabilities (please see attachment).

Tom Mader presented the budget for 2017, (ratified by the vestry on 12/18/16). Several questions were received from those present, including the possibility of cutting expenses to reduce the overall deficit, the need to increase the number of pledges to help us meet the budget, and the frequency with which non-profit institutions employ a deficit budget.

## ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 29, 2017

### **Reports of Committees and Commissions:**

There was a motion by David White to receive all reports of Committees and Commissions as contained in the 2016 Annual Report by title. Motion was seconded by Mary Frances Kelly Poh. Motion passed.

### **Special Report on the Diaconate at St. Paul's:**

Deacon Beth Gaines gave a short overview of her role as Deacon at St. Paul's. Special note was made of her enjoyment of serving at the Communion table and of representing Christ in the community and helping other people recognize their special ministries. Attention was called to the upcoming workshop, "Older and Wiser," to be held on February 4, 2017.

### **Special Report on the St. Paul's Historic Trust:**

Fred Railsback explained the origins of the St. Paul's Historic Trust and how it continues to benefit us to this day, and hopefully, far into the future. As a result of the monies provide by the trust, the physical buildings of St. Paul's are in the best shape they have probably ever been. Support for the Peddlers' Fair was discussed. The Trust's role in helping a new Rector coming into the area find a place to live was discussed. Lastly, the Trust's support of other non-profit community organizations was explained.

### **Special Report from the College for Congregational Development Team:**

The College for Congregational Development Team presented preliminary results of the survey that had been conducted at the beginning of the Annual Meeting.

### **Commissioning of New Vestry:**

The St. Paul's Vestry for 2017 was installed: Del Baker-Medlock, Lori Friday, John Healy, Barbara Jewell, Tom Mader, Mark Sally, Anne Seed, Bill "Ski" Smiglewski, and Leslie Soughers.

### **Acknowledgments and Thank Yous:**

Many people were acknowledged and thanked in Rev. Jeanne's sermon at the worship service.

Rev. Mary Goshert expressed strong support for Rev. Jeanne and the work she does and the support she provides to all of us. Rev. Mary was passionate in encouraging us to provide competitive pay to Rev. Jeanne and to the priests who will come after her.

### **Adjournment:**

Deacon Beth Gaines provided the dismissal for us. The Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Episcopal Church was adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Seed, Clerk of the Annual Meeting

## RECTOR'S REPORT

By the time you read this, I will be retired and trying to figure out what to do with my newly found extra time. On the day of St. Paul's Annual Meeting I will be walking the rice paddies, enjoying books, yoga, massages, and quiet time in Ubud, Bali. It is my "go to" place for serenity and discernment. And yet, please know I will be missing you, loving you all and praying for you as you move forward into an exciting 2018. At this time, you should be well into your new Rector search process. I know that last July, good people were called into this discernment on behalf of St. Paul's, and they form a wonderful, cross-section of this Christ-led family.

Contained in this Annual Report booklet are the highlights of 2017. Please read them. They represent the work that you have done for St. Paul's in the last year. It was a year of mixed blessings for me, as on March 2<sup>nd</sup> I announced to Vestry, and the congregation that I would retire at the end of the year. I became acutely aware of 'last things.' Lent and Easter were especially poignant and lovely as always. What follows are a snapshot of memories of 2017:

I am so thankful to have had the opportunity to work with young people one more time. David Sells and I mentored a wonderful group of youths and others to be confirmed or received into the church. A very wet confirmation retreat was hastily organized when traveling to our Family Winter Weekend became impossible. Too much snow this year! It was a fun-filled retreat nonetheless, touring around the wet West coast and stopping at sacred sites along the way. On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Bishop Beisner confirmed those desiring to make an adult commitment to their faith. Our Party of Parties was hosted on April 1<sup>st</sup> by a group of travelers who had journeyed with me to Cambodia and Thailand last fall. The party was a great success, and our parish finances reap the benefits of that venture, just as people, both from St. Paul's and beyond experience fellowship and a lot of fun at the events.

The opportunity to lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land was a dream come true. With wonderful, intrepid pilgrims from St. Paul's and St. John's, Roseville we spent a wonderful time treading the footsteps of Jesus and the apostles. We left immediately after Easter, an auspicious time, as we continued to celebrate Resurrection, even in that troubled land. Our Abraham Path windup in July was an opportunity to meet fellow pilgrims, share our pilgrimage experiences with all of you, and to discover anew just 'who is our neighbor.' I urge you all to continue your prayers for the peace of Jerusalem. Because of recent political actions, peace is much further away from us all. Those of us who trod this ancient and sacred land have a better understanding of the thousands of years of heartbreak and tragedy. Pray unceasingly for peace in the Middle East.

Kids Vacation Academy celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year! Excited by our Star Wars theme, we explored the galaxies and our own territories seeking God and our neighbors, learning that no matter how far away we go, God finds us and brings us home. I was struck by the fact that counselors, who began our KVA journeys as campers, were, after a decade, aging out and heading off to college, and that a university junior made his way home for the week, to continue his support of KVA (thanks Joseph!) We did well with other youth initiatives this last year: Pathways, an initiative from the Diocese and the National church introduced young people to social justice issues, abroad and in our own back yard. The Sierra Service Project continued to be robust, under new leadership of Jeff McMoyler. This year's Peddler's Fair was a great success. Taking the first shift of the event, I was permitted to have a radio. It made me ridiculously happy!

On July 29<sup>th</sup>, the Rector Search process was officially launched. Canon Andrea McMillan trained the Profile and Applicant Review Committees in the process of moving toward a new Rector. We all participated in a Parish Congregational Assessment, administered by Holy Cow! Consulting, learning much about ourselves and

## RECTOR'S REPORT

our way forward. Along with the losses of some wonderful members of our Parish family – Leslie, Sarah, and Betty – I was deeply grieved to say goodbye to my companion dog Abby. She was with me for nearly 11 years, and I miss her. I swear, that coming here as your rector all those years ago was largely due to the charms of my Bernese Mountain Dog Sophie, and my love of furry and four-legged family members. My heart is filled to the brim with gratitude for my colleagues, Mary, Arthur, Pam and Beth. I am indebted to the Senior Wardens who shoulder much of the work of our parish, and made me look good – Bob, Fred, Jackie, Lee Anne, Debi and Tom. I am also thankful for the work of our partners in ministry, Vestry, Historic Trust, the Brotherhood of St. Paul's, Cursillo, Altar and Flower Guilds, the Hospitality Committee and all the committees, commissions and groups and gatherings, and I would be remiss if I didn't mention the dedicated work of our Lay Ministries. What lovely companions you have been to me all these years! To the artists of this community the visual, fabric and flower, and especially my great love – music. You continually create beauty in this place. Thank you.

No words can express my love and appreciation for our Parish Administrator. JoAnn Souza has been the binding agent of this community for nearly 12 years. And she has been my personal go-to I will miss her wise counsel and good humor deeply. Thank you so much, JoAnn!

My dreams and prayers for you in 2018 are that you continue to grow spiritually, raising supportive leadership, especially among the laity, and growing in love and care of our families.

I love and miss you all. All the best in 2018

Your servant in Christ,



Jeanne+

## INTERIM RECTOR'S REPORT

Beloved Friends in Christ,

I write this halfway through my third day as your Interim Rector. As with any new position, there has been lots of necessary paperwork to complete. That has kept me at my desk far more than I prefer, but I hope to be able to dig more deeply into the very active ministry of St. Paul's next week. By the time of the annual meeting I'll have been here for a week and a half, but will still be on a steep learning curve. And schedules being what they are, I wanted to make sure to include something in the printed report for the Annual Parish Meeting. So here goes...

First off—thank you for the marvelous welcome you've already extended to me! I've had many of you drop by the office to introduce yourselves, and I've met more of you at Wednesday Eucharist and Bible Study, and at the Community Meal. I look forward to worshipping with you on the 21<sup>st</sup> and to meeting each and every one of you. I'm impressed by the energy and enthusiasm that is abundant each day, and I see signs of deep and growing faith everywhere I look. The Spirit is present and active at St. Paul's! I feel blessed to be joining you as a companion on the journey you are taking as you search for your new Rector. This is an important time in your congregational life, and my role is to help you get as much out of this time as you can. My tasks while I'm with you will be several:

- First, it will be my responsibility to provide stability while you live in the between times. That means being a presence at the altar and as a preacher, as a provider of pastoral care, and as a support for the many ongoing ministries of your parish. The administrative duties of the rector also need to be attended to so that your new Rector will find things well tended when s/he arrives.

- Second, the Vestry has asked me to pay special attention to several areas of ministry. Primarily, these are the areas identified on your Holy Cow! Report— attracting and welcoming new members, attending to the spiritual needs of children, youth and families, and helping you better serve the community and the world.

- Third, I bring a new set of eyes with which to look at your congregational life. I'll be asking lots of questions and making some suggestions for different ways of doing things. I may even make a suggestion that threatens a sacred cow or two. I tell congregations that if I don't push your buttons from time to time, I'm probably not doing my job. Please know that every question or every suggestion is meant to help St. Paul's be the healthiest church it can be.

My ministry style is pretty plain. You are welcome to call me by my first name. I am usually not the smartest guy in the room. I most definitely do not have all the answers, and I make more than my share of mistakes. I prefer to collaborate rather than dictate, though I know that there are times when I need to be the decision maker. I work hard to learn names, but need reminders. One mundane matter... I have significant hearing loss—a side effect of chemotherapy for head and neck cancer in 2004. I wear hearing aids in both ears, but I still have trouble with auditory discrimination. Please be patient when I ask you to repeat something; don't hesitate to let me know if I answer a question you didn't ask; and know that I try very hard to understand what you're saying because I believe you deserve it.

I look forward to getting to know each of you. May God bless our time together.

Peter Champion+  
Interim Rector

## NOMINEES FOR VESTRY — 3-YEAR TERM

### *Yann Jouvenot Sells*

I have been a member of St. Paul's since 2009, when my husband Dave and our two sons, Albert and Thomas, moved to Benicia. St Paul has welcomed and embraced us since, and it has become an extension of our family. Our youngest son James was brought to St Paul as soon as he was in our care (three weeks old), and our three boys have been baptized and welcomed to the Episcopal Church by Rev Jeanne.

My functions in St. Paul's have mainly revolved around the choir and as an usher. We have also participated in a variety of family activities such as KVA and family weekends. As my sons grow older, I look forward to getting involved in the Sierra Service Project. In 2015, I started my path in the Cursillo community, and it has had a profound effect in my spiritual life. I am currently the Cub Master for Pack 128 of the Benicia Cub Scouts and was a Volunteer Firefighter in this town for five years (until 2016).

I look forward to bringing my skills to the vestry, in particular around the areas of communication, leadership and financial planning, as well as my perspective as the father of young children and a gay man. If elected, I will be committed to working with the rest of the Vestry members to ensure St. Paul's future as the welcoming and inspiring community that we all know it to be.

### *Charlie Kilbourne*

I was raised in the Episcopal Church and my wife Dale and I have been members of St. Paul's since 1990. I served on the Vestry during the mid-1990s and helped coordinate the Lay Eucharistic Visitor ministry under Father Harold. I served as the spiritual advisor for the Rector search in 2000 and was a member of the search committee that brought Rev. Jeanne to St. Paul's. I currently serve as a Lay Eucharistic Minister, Usher and am a member of St. Paul's Parish Commission on Ministry.

I retired from California state service last year, having worked 29 years as a public policy manager and analyst in job training programs for the Employment Development Department. I am a passionate advocate for people with epilepsy and serve as a board member and volunteer educator for the Epilepsy Foundation of Northern California. I subscribe to Jackie Robinson's observation that, "A life is not important except for the impact it has on other lives." I would bring this philosophy and passion to my work as a Vestry member.

### *David White*

I have been coming to St. Paul's since the mid to late 80s, first sporadically, then regularly in the 90s. I was recruited into the choir and found that my involvement made me more centered in the messages and liturgy. I was asked to serve on the vestry and was senior warden for a two-year term, while a rector search was underway, eventually calling Jeanne Forte (after a trial rector didn't work out) to our midst.

I have seen quite a few changes in this wonderful congregation, and I look forward to being able to serve God and the wonderful people here, and those yet to come. My mission will be to understand what will be the best for St. Paul's and the people of the community.

### *Vestry*

*The vestry is a body of lay members elected by the congregation who are empowered and authorized to manage the affairs and conduct the secular business of the parish. The vestry also aids and supports the rector to promote the spiritual welfare and growth of the parish. Vestry provides an opportunity for service, spiritual growth, and ministry during a very dynamic time at St. Paul's. Meetings are held on the second Thursdays of the month at 7 p.m. and are open to all members.*

## OFFICER'S REPORT: SENIOR WARDEN

The work of St. Paul's Vestry in 2017 was framed by Rev. Jeanne's announcement in March that she would retire at the end of the year. In the months that followed, our faith community continued to grow spiritually in her care. A pilgrimage to the Holy Land, theologically progressive Bible study, Godly Play storytelling, a *Star Wars* themed Kids' Vacation Academy, inspiring Grateful, Glad and Giving outreach projects, and a two-year stewardship program provided us all some answers to the question, "What is God calling us to do?"

Meanwhile, your Vestry prepared the way for calling our next rector. With the wonderful support of our Deacons, a celebration of Rev. Jeanne's ministry at St. Paul's was planned and enjoyed. Under the guidance of our Diocesan Transition Minister, The Rev. Canon Andrea McMillin, search committees were formed and trained. The Profile Committee conducted a congregational assessment and drafted our Parish Profile for review and approval at the Office of the Bishop. The Bishop has now appointed The Reverend Peter Champion to serve as our Interim Rector. As I write this report, we are within days of announcing the "open position" and posting our Parish Profile online. Then the work of our Applicant Review Committee will begin in earnest.

Our parish continues to face some serious financial challenges. Congregational giving patterns have remained relatively stable, while our operating expenses continue to grow, driven upward primarily by additional personnel costs. We are fortunate to have the support of St. Paul's Historic Trust for the preservation of our buildings, and a bull market has resulted in investment growth over the past year, despite our withdrawals to sustain parish operations and cover unbudgeted program expenses. We closed our 2017 Treasury accounts with an operational deficit of more than \$27,000. Transfer of all Party of Parties revenue and additional reserve withdrawals were required to balance the books in our end-of-the-year reconciliation.

At the conclusion of the 2018 Annual Meeting I will pass the gavel to Barbara Jewell. It has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as your Senior Warden. I step away from the podium, confident that

St. Paul's is in good hands and will continue to be a source of transformation for our parish family and local community.

*Winds in the east, mist comin' in.*

*Like something is brewin' about to begin*

*Can't put me finger on what lies in store*

*But I feel what's to happen, all happened before.*

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mader

## OFFICER'S REPORT: JUNIOR WARDEN

In 2017 we saw some great help from our parishioners. We had a day of service where we had one of the best turnouts for cleaning inside the buildings and also some work on the outside. We were able to install some great security lights outside the rectory to help light up the backyard. We have seen a decrease in people spending time back there late at night and a decrease in some vandalism.

Thanks to some of our own children we replaced and painted pickets in the fence, fixed the front and back gates, cleaned up the kid's play area, and painted over graffiti. Thanks to the parishioners who dared to climb up on the roof, we have been able to repair leaks that were causing issues inside the church. We were also able to get two of the broken windows in the parish hall repaired and were able to get parts of the fence by J Street fixed so that we didn't lose some of the decorative iron work. Also, a barbecue pit was installed for the Community Meal.

We also took care of the water protection sheeting located on the back side of the church so that the undercroft area could continue to be protected. There are a few items inside the church that we are planning to fix, including sanding and repainting the mantle behind the sacristy.

Our little part of Benicia history has been taken care of so that our visitors and families can enjoy the beauty and the history of one of the many historic buildings that are here in Benicia. As we go forward looking for Rev Jeanne's replacement we will continue to show how much we care about St. Paul's.

Respectfully submitted,

Del Baker-Medlock

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**Income:** In 2017 we had total income of \$320,678. Pledged income was \$249,134 (76% of total). Givers of Record contributed \$26,397 (8%). Plate income was \$7,860 (2.4%). Rent for use of the church facilities was \$17,700 (5.5%). We moved \$1,121 from subordinate accounts (3.8%) to cover some budgeted expenses. Party of Party funds were \$11,454 (3.5%). Other smaller amounts (2%) were moved from several subordinate accounts. From these figures, you can see that contributions in whatever form are important to maintaining the programs at St. Paul's.

**Expenses:** In 2017 total expenses were \$331,915. Personnel accounted for 66% of total expenses. All budgeted expense categories are shown in the numerical treasurer's report included in the annual report.

**Net Income:** Net income (Total Income less Total Expenses) was \$-11,322. About \$8,714 of this will be covered by the disability insurance for the time Rev. Jeanne was unable to function as Rector, and the remainder will be covered by withdrawal from Reserve accounts.

**Assets:** At the end of 2017 we had financial assets of \$543,077. These assets included \$24,802 in the Operating accounts (4.6%), Other Bank Accounts of \$2,324 (>1%), and Reserves of \$515,951 (95%). These amounts don't quite equal 100% due to rounding. The reserves are in general funds that have been contributed in bequests by members of St. Paul's. Some of these funds are endowed and their use is very restricted. Other funds are available for any purpose approved by the Vestry. The majority of these reserves are invested in the Diocese of Northern California Endowments and Memorial Trusts. On January 1, 2017, our reserves stood at \$474,848. During 2017 we withdrew \$16,500 from these reserves. So in 2017 we had a net increase in the reserves of \$68,229.

**Liabilities:** The subordinate accounts are tracking accounts that show funds contributed for specific purposes, and that can only be used for those purposes unless otherwise directed by the Vestry. The amounts shown in the subordinate accounts are covered by funds in the Operating Accounts, Other Bank Accounts, and the Reserves. At the end of 2017, these tracking accounts showed that we had \$42,091 being held for specific purposes.

I have not shown the amounts of individual bank accounts, subordinate accounts, or reserve accounts in this annual report. However, this information is given to the Vestry each month as part of the monthly treasurer's report to the Vestry.

Respectfully submitted,

Art Schipper  
Treasurer

Carole Johnson  
Assistant Treasurer

**2018 BUDGET**

COPIES OF 2018 BUDGET AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE  
UPON REQUEST.

**2018 BUDGET**

COPIES OF 2018 BUDGET AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE  
UPON REQUEST.

**2018 BUDGET**

COPIES OF 2018 BUDGET AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE  
UPON REQUEST.

**2018 BUDGET**

COPIES OF 2018 BUDGET AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE  
UPON REQUEST.

## MINISTRIES — CALLED TO CARE

### *Keeping in Touch*

Submitted by Ginny Altice

Birthday, anniversary, and get well cards are sent to all in the parish who have provided this information to the church office. I continue to receive cards from several parishioners on a regular basis and they are much appreciated. Thanks to all who have made donations of cards and/or stamps.

### *Lay Eucharistic Visitors*

Submitted by Judy Furlong, Coordinator

The Lay Eucharistic Ministers, or Visitors, continue to provide the Sacrament to those who are unable to join us for Sunday worship. Call the church office to request that we bring the Sacrament to you or a loved one. If you would like to train for this important ministry, contact the church office.

### *Meal Train*

Submitted by Betsy Zampa

Meal Train continues to be a blessing to parishioners and their families who are in need of meals due to illness, surgery, or other life stress. In 2017 we were able to provide meals to five different families.

Sadly, we lost one of our best Meal Train providers this year. Leslie Soughers was an enthusiastic supporter and meal provider. Leslie lost her battle with cancer and we all still feel the loss. St. Paul's was able to be a blessing to Leslie's son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren in the weeks before and after Leslie's passing by providing meals for them.

This is an "as needed" ministry and we always welcome new volunteers to deliver meals. You don't even have to be a cook to be a volunteer. Meals can be purchased at restaurants and grocery stores. Both the providers of the meals and the recipients have reported what a blessing this ministry has been for them. If you'd like to volunteer or have a need, please call the church office at (707) 745-0307.

### *Newcomers*

Submitted by Mark Sally

A Newcomers dinner was hosted by Rev. Jeanne Forte in February 2017 to welcome St. Paul's newcomers. The welcome dinner is an informal gathering for newcomers to meet with our Rector and several lay ministry people from the congregation. The dinner venue also prepared the way for newcomers to attend a newcomer's class during the summer/fall and provided an overview to walking the Episcopal Way. The class was attended by both newcomers and existing St. Paul's members. The course provided a general overview of the Episcopal Church, Anglican Communion, tradition/reason/scripture, and varied topics of interest to the attendees. The discussions and participants made the course great! The course also provided an opportunity for the participants to meet with the St. Paul's clergy and some Vestry members. The class was coordinated by Mark Sally with oversight from Rev. Jeanne Forte.

### *Older and Wiser*

The Rev. Beth Gaines

Older and Wiser is a ministry of continuing education to assist those with aging and care concerns. The goal is to create and maintain resource materials such as service directories, referral information, and guest speakers on a variety of topics. A workshop was held in February. More classes are planned for 2018.

### *PIE Greeters*

Submitted by Deborah Borst

PIE (People Involved in Evangelism) is a small group of parishioners responding to visitors who filled out a blue welcome card, provided in the pews, and are requesting more information about our services and programs. The blue cards are initially given to our Parish Administrator, JoAnn. Based on the contact information provided on the blue card, one of our PIE greeters will try to call or e-mail the visitor(s) to set up a brief visit. If visitors are outside the Benicia/Vallejo area, or they do not respond to our attempt to reach them for a visit, JoAnn will mail them an information packet. The visit may include answering a few questions, sharing current events or even a prayer. A PIE greeter will deliver the information packet and a small gift such as a baked good or a plant.

## CALLED TO CARE / CATECHUMATE

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Submitted by Jeanne Brown and Jeanne McCarrick

St. Paul's Prayer Shawl Ministry invites knitters and crocheters of all skill levels to serve God by knitting/crocheting a gift in the form of a shawl to bring comfort and love to someone in need. The shawl may be done at home; and patterns, yarn and instructions are available. There are no regular meetings or deadlines for finishing, and there is no obligation to make more shawls than you wish. If you do not knit or crochet but are interested in helping with this ministry, prayers are always encouraged, or you may make a donations toward the purchase of yarn. Those in need of a prayer shawl may contact the Church Office or the Rector.

### **Stephen Ministers**

Submitted by the Rev. Beth Gaines, Stephen Leader

Stephen Ministers provide one-on-one Christian care to people in our congregation going through difficult times in their lives. In 2017 Stephen Ministries at St. Paul's continued its partnership with the Stephen Leaders of Community Presbyterian, Wayside United Methodist, and Benicia Community Congregational United Church in Christ. Together, we offered continuing education as well as fellowship to the Stephen Ministers from all four churches.

## CATECHUMATE

### **Confirm not Conform (CnC)**

A class of seven wonderful young people have been "fulfilling the expectations made at their baptism" by entering a course of studies toward Confirmation. CnC is intentional learning about what it means to be a faithful Christian as adults in this increasingly complex environment. The commitment is a nine-month-long intensive study. They have learned about our Holy Scriptures, made their way around our Book of Common Prayer (receiving their own copies for regular use!), developed service projects, learned of other faiths, and worked through many other aspects of faith development. This work is supported by the inclusion of mentors, one for each confirmand, who support, pray with—and for—each student.

### **Congregational Commission for Ministry**

Submitted by Robin Silver, CCOM Chair

CCOM consists of a group of individuals from St. Paul's who confidentially guide and support individuals in their calls to ministry, both lay and ordained. We are there to prayerfully help with discernment, educational goals, unexpected challenges, and as an advisory board to the Rector.

## CATECHUMATE

### *Cursillo*

Submitted by Steve Rodekohr

What is Cursillo? The Spanish name, "Cursillo de Cristiandad," means "short course in Christianity." Cursillo is a dynamic weekend of spiritual renewal that helps us to recognize Christ's presence in our own lives and in the lives of others. A Cursillo weekend provides the opportunity to live for three days in a community of people who are striving to live as true Christians.

St. Paul's has a very active Cursillo community. We serve with the ecumenical Redwood Empire Cursillo in Santa Rosa, with weekends being held at the Angela Center. The Redwood Empire offers a women's and men's Spring and Fall Cursillo as well as a winter coed Cursillo in February.

The entire Cursillo community was saddened when our beloved Angela Center in Santa Rosa was destroyed in the fires. But, the Spirit of Cursillo is alive! The Redwood Empire Cursillo Secretariat is busy locating another venue where we can continue to bring the gift of Cursillo and to build the faith in Jesus Christ to others.

If you are interested in Cursillo and would like more information, please contact the church office.

### *Men's 4th Day*

Submitted by Mark Sackett

Our Men's Fourth Day is a monthly gathering of men who have experienced Cursillo. Our focus is prayer, scripture reading, and discussion focused on our spiritual growth. We support one another in our paths as Christian men, while occasionally eating baked goods. Jokes aside, there are members of a number of churches, including Episcopal, Catholic, Baptist, and non-denominational Christian who are regular attendees at our meetings.

### *Wednesday Morning Bible Study*

In 2017, men and women gathered each Wednesday following Holy Communion for coffee and a close reading of our Sunday Revised Common Lectionary readings. Debate has been interesting and challenging. We look forward to 2018 of Year B's readings and welcome anyone who would like to study God's word. Meet in the Parish Hall Wednesdays at 10:45 am.

## GOOD & ORDERLY MANAGEMENT

### ***Benicia Peddlers' Fair***

Submitted by Julie MacKenzie, Chairman/  
Coordinator

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Benicia Peddlers' Fair was held on August 12, 2017 under the joint direction of Julie MacKenzie, Chairman/Coordinator, and Jeff Jarvis, Communications Director. The 2017 Fair followed the organizational model that was developed and adopted in 2014, which divided the Operational Management of the fair into separate areas of responsibility. In 2017 these divisions included: Office Management, Vendor Recruitment and Coordination, Advertising, Food Management, Quality Control, Logistics, Communication, Traffic and Volunteer Recruitment, all of which are coordinated by the fair chairperson.

The 2017 fair was flawless, both in terms of its production and its financial success. This could not have been done without the help and support of the Historic Trust (which sponsors the Benicia Peddlers' Fair for the preservation of Benicia's St. Paul's Episcopal Church's three historic buildings), the clergy and congregation of St. Paul's the City of Benicia, the Benicia Valero Refinery, and the citizens and the merchants on First Street.

Though the fair lost the revenue of eight booth spaces due to the earthquake damage of the building at West J and First Street this year, we still managed to increase our net revenue from that of 2016. The fair's gross was **\$59,748.00**, which included a \$2,500 donation from Valero's Benicia Refinery. In addition, the Fair's information booth generated **\$175** through the sale of bottled water. Our expenses to produce the 2017 fair were **\$19,137.29**, which resulted in a **net profit of \$40,610.71**. All of the fair's profits are managed and held by St. Paul's Historic Trust and are used to preserve and maintain the historic buildings of St. Paul's Episcopal Church (a never-ending job). In addition, as an example of Christian faith, each year the Peddlers' Fair and the Historic Trust donate 10% of the fair's net profit to local non-profit groups.

The fair stretched from First and J, all the way to B Street. In addition to Antique, Vintage, Collectible, Arts & Craft and food vendors, there were local non-profit groups selling beverages and musicians performing and selling their music. In addition, an afternoon concert of jazz and popular music was held in the city park in front of St. Paul's, courtesy of the Valero/Benicia Community Band. This event proved very popular and was looked upon favorably by both the

fair visitors and peddlers. This year's fair was again enhanced by antique appraiser Steve Yvaska, and we hope to have him return in 2018.

The success of this year's fair reinforces the belief that the fair is still viable and an important and major source of fund raising for this church. Without the continuation of St. Paul's Episcopal Church's Benicia Peddlers' Fair, many of the upcoming preservation projects identified by the Vestry and Historic Trust, i.e., re-roofing and painting of the main church building and repair and preservation of our stained glass windows, would not be able to be addressed in the foreseeable future. In addition to providing needed revenue, the Peddlers' Fair also serves as an important catalyst for service within our church and each year reminds the community that St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Benicia is a living and growing presence within the greater community of Benicia.

While the new operating structure of the Peddlers' Fair should enable us to continue long into the future, that will only hold true if new people with new skills and new ideas step forward from our congregation to assume the direction, management, and coordination of the fair. The ownership of this fair belongs to the entire congregation. Last year several people answered this call and their contributions helped greatly in the success of the 2017 fair. I would like to specifically mention **Cathy Cellini, Jeanne McCarrick, Gerri MacGregor, Lisa Pena, and Rev. Pam Higgins**, who answered last year's call and who along with **Jim Brown and Mittie Railsback** worked tirelessly in the Peddlers' Fair's office.

A great and sad void has been left with the sudden passing of **Leslie Soughers**, who helped make the Peddlers' Fair happen these past couple of years by recruiting volunteers whenever additional people power was needed. She will be missed and in her name and memory I invite you to consider stepping into a leadership role or volunteer in some capacity in 2018. Some of the work for the 2018 fair and the mailing has already been put in place. But there is still much that needs to be done. With the continued support of this congregation and by the grace of God, our beloved Peddlers' Fair will remain strong. Thank you all for your trust and support this past year and for giving us the opportunity to serve St. Paul's.

## GOOD & ORDERLY MANAGEMENT

### Communications Ministry

Submitted by Betsy Zampa  
Communications Coordinator

The Communications Committee continues to meet regularly during the year to discuss and work on the communication needs of the parish. The website continues to be a great resource for our members, as well as an outreach tool. This year we added an "I'm New" tab to the website where interested folks can read questions and answers to frequently asked questions about St. Paul's. We developed this page knowing that for a majority of people, the first place they go to when they want to find out about a place is the web. Since we instituted the "I'm New" tab in July, it has received 598 hits.

With the parish in transition and the search for a new rector, the website has been the "go to" place for information. The 2016 Annual Report, the results of the Holy Cow Survey and updates regarding the transition have placed on the website so that interested candidates can get a thorough look at our parish.

JoAnn and Betsy work hard to make sure that complete and accurate information gets relayed to the parish via emails, the St. Paul's "app," bulletins, announcement sheets, social media, online calendars, and the lay ministry schedule. Please spend some time browsing the website and if you have any questions or suggestions, contact JoAnn at [admin@stpaulsbenicia.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsbenicia.org).

Thanks to Mary Frances Kelly-Poh for continuing to serve on the Communications Committee. Her knowledge about the parish is invaluable. Anne Seed is our Vestry liaison and we appreciate her insight and good attention to detail.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm in the rectory. If this ministry interests you, we welcome you to attend a meeting.

### St. Paul's Historic Trust

Submitted by Fred Railsback

The mission of St. Paul's Historical Trust, founded in 1970, is to support the preservation and maintenance of our three historical buildings: the Sanctuary, the Parish Hall, and the Old Rectory (church office), all of which are California Historical Landmarks No. 862.

The bulk of the funds raised by the Trust comes from the annual Peddlers' Fair, the details of which are in the Peddlers' Fair Report. All funds, except 10% of the net profit of the annual Fair, are spent on our historical buildings, which requires constant maintenance. The 10% of the net profit of the Peddlers' Fair goes back into the community in the form of grants to local nonprofits.

The Trust is comprised of:

Tom Aldinger

Bob Hall

Bill Markley

Fred Railsback

Dawson Urban

Rector's Position (Rev. Jeanne Forte, 2017)

Sr. Warden's Position (Tom Mader, 2017)

Peddlers' Fair Chair (Julie MacKenzie, 2017)

Community Representative (Deb Machado, 2017)

Please remember the Trust in your estate planning.

## GOOD & ORDERLY MANAGEMENT

### Vergers

Submitted by Fred Railsback

The Vergers of St. Paul's follow an age-old tradition of caring for the well being of our three historic buildings. Neither rain, wind, or fear of the boogeyman keep these gentlemen from making sure our buildings are secured and alarmed every night, all 365 nights of the year.

Our intrepid and trusted Vergers Chris Ayles, Joe Brien, Bob Hall, Tom Mader, Bill Markley, Jim MacKenzie, Neal Mulholand, Mark Park, and Fred Railsback also show up on Sunday mornings to unlock doors, turn on lights, set up the audio system, and most importantly, make good, strong coffee. They are a versatile and well-rounded group, always ready to go the extra mile, but sometimes in the wrong direction. If any of our masculine congregants, who are eligible for a kitchen pass, would be interested in joining this fearless group, please call me. It takes a special kind of person, similar to the Phantom of the Opera, to skulk around these old, creaky buildings on a cold, windy night, but you may just qualify! We offer a great afterlife benefit.

## OUTREACH

### **Feed the Hungry Community Meal**

Submitted by Debi Hall

St. Paul's is in its 20th year preparing and serving a hot meal to anyone who walks through our doors on Wednesdays. We continue to serve 125-150 every Wednesday from 4:30-6 pm. Heritage Presbyterian Church cooks one Wednesday a month, and the Kiwanis Club cooks every fifth Wednesday.

In 2017, we served over 6,600 meals to our neighbors in need! We do this with money from St. Paul's budget, donations from the Community Action Council, the Contra Costa/Solano County Food Bank, and monetary donations received throughout the year from various clubs and individuals who have heard about our program. This year we were included in the 10% community outreach from the Peddlers' Fair proceeds.

St. Paul's volunteers continue to be a great blessing to the program. This year, Maggie Smith stepped down as Head Cook, and Bob Johnson retired from his long-standing server/room set-up role. Joe Zatina has stepped in as Head Cook with Robin Beckers, Jeanne McCarrick, and Cathy Wojan helping with prep. Bob Hall and Chris and Tom Mader fill in as needed. Cathy Wojan is our awesome jack-of-all-trades, doing anything we ask of her, including taking out the trash and making food bank runs with her brother, Todd Silva. Fred and Mittie Railsback set up the tables and chairs each week, and Steve and Kim Rodekahr put away the dishes. Our servers, Wanda Anderson, Cathy Cellini, Bill and Ann Zuerner, Linda Tremain, and more, set up the room, serve, and guide our visiting volunteers.

We have a dedicated and much appreciated group of dishwashers: Jim Brown, Mark Park, Lydia Kennedy, and Jeanne Brown, who clean up our messes with a smile and a lot of elbow grease! Besides our own wonderful helpers, volunteers came from the Key Club at Benicia High School, the Mason's, from St. Paul's, and the community at large. Please keep the Community Meal in your prayers as we strive to improve the program, make changes as necessary, and continue to serve those in need in our community.

### **Grateful Glad & Giving (G3)**

Submitted by Lee Anne Bundesen

*The mission of Grateful, Glad & Giving is to point out the blessings that God has given us.*

*We respond with gratitude for the people, places and experiences in our lives.*

*We celebrate our gladness with open hearts to share our blessings with others through prayer and action.*

In January and February, along with the Confirm not Conform group, Grateful, Glad & Giving worked on a "Keep the Homeless Warm & Dry" collection. Items that you provided were not only clothing, but blankets, tarps, disposable rainwear, and much more! Vallejo Together took care of distributing these items to homeless camps in Vallejo. A number of G3ers "schlepped" large bags and boxes of your contributions to Vallejo but none more often than Gerri and Roy MacGregor.

For Lent, G3 provided handouts showing the schedules and lectionary readings for all the services during Lent and Easter week. During Lent, a Prayer Exchange was initiated by Grateful, Glad & Giving. Many prayer requests were received, taken by others and prayed over.

Your donations of school supplies and backpacks allowed 43 of Benicia's needy students from 1<sup>st</sup> grade through high school to make a fresh start on the new school year knowing that they were cared for and prepared. The Backpack Project is the most intensive of G3's annual events. We'll be looking for more people to be involved in making the Backpack Project more fun than ever this upcoming year.

For this year's Day of the Dead/All Saints' celebration, Grateful, Glad & Giving worked with Barbara Jewell to put everything in place for a joyful celebration of life.

On four 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays, food bags stuffed with groceries and household supplies were collected for Benicia Community Action Council's pantry to assist the hungry. We did several special "food bags" in 2017 — one for "Spring Cleaning" and another for "Back to School" featuring DIY breakfasts, pack your own lunch items and nutritional after-school snacks.

Christmas gifts for 61 children surrounded the Giving Tree this December as St. Paul's shared God's love with the children of Benicia. Your gifts helped parents provide wonderful surprises for their children.

## OUTREACH

If you'd like to be part of this joyful and rewarding ministry, please contact any member of G3 (Pat Loughran, Donna Patey, Lydia Kennedy, Gerri MacGregor) or the Parish Office. Our meetings are usually at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.

### **Party of Parties**

Party of Parties (PoP) is an ongoing fundraiser for St. Paul's general fund. Since its inception in 2008, funds have been raised through a system of wonderful gatherings, sponsored by parishioners to ensure the financial health of the parish. We have raised yearly between \$8,000 to \$13,000.

Great parties this past year included Opera the Ballpark, Mystery Dinner, Columbus Weekend Family Campout, Tamale Making, and many others. Family and children's parties are welcomed, so there's plenty to offer for everyone. Also, PoP is a great way to meet other parishioners and enjoy new experiences. If you (individually or a collection of like-minded souls) would like to host a party in 2018, please contact a Vestry member for information.

### **Thank God It's a Fourth Friday**

TGIFF has enjoyed eight years of gathering friends and family members of St. Paul's for a monthly social gathering. Most "fourth" Fridays of the month, St. Paul's hosts a "happy hour" potluck, with snacks and refreshments and great conversation. This past year we offered two family-style gatherings. We meet in the undercroft (downstairs) from 5:30-7 pm. Come to unwind from a busy week and meet some of the family. Contact the church office for more information or if you would like to host one of our Friday gatherings.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### *Acolytes (Youth )*

Submitted by Tom Mader

Children of St. Paul's continue to learn more about the Church through their participation in the Youth Acolyte and Lector Ministry. Under the tutelage of our clergy and adult lay ministers, children age six and older are serving as Acolytes during the 11 am family worship service, carrying the cross for processions and receiving the gifts of bread, wine, and alms at the altar. Older children now also serve as Lectors, reading the lessons for special celebrations and regular Sunday services.

### *Altar Guild*

Submitted by Chris Mader

During the last year, the dedicated members of the Altar Guild have continued to take loving care of the altar needs for the many types of services conducted at St. Paul's. Each team of two or three volunteers commits to serving one week a month, or volunteers may substitute as needed.

Twice a year we meet to polish, clean, and review the special requirements of Christmas and Easter. We also meet periodically to share information. We appreciate the dedication, hard work, and flexibility of each member. We welcome those interested in joining us to contact the church office.

### *Contemporary Music Ministry*

Submitted by Mark Sackett, Music Director

This past year the Contemporary Music Ministry continued its focus on prayer, praise, and worship. All members of the ministry support the priority of leading by teaching and leading by example. We pray together every Sunday, often while singing. We continue to support young people taking part in our music ministry and have also gathered some new members to our choir.

Please allow me to take this opportunity to say how proud I am to worship with this wonderful group of people. They are focused and clear on their purpose and dedicated to their mission of leading the congregation in sung prayer. We have had a number of terrific leaders emerge from this ministry, and we've even taken steps towards evangelism.

### *Flower Guild*

Submitted by Lydia Kennedy, Coordinator

The St. Paul's flower guild had a wonderful year creating the beautiful arrangements to enhance our historic church. The dedication and creative talent of the team is amazing. Thanks to those who have committed to one Sunday a month, 5th Sundays, and our wonderful substitutes and special events volunteers.

The flower guild runs completely from donations (not part of the regular church budget). If you enjoy the flowers, please consider sponsoring flowers for a remembrance of a loved one or a special occasion. A donation of \$50 allows us to create the arrangements you see each week. We will work with you to try and honor any special color or flower requests. The 2018 flower dedication binder is in the parish hall. We all look forward to being able to continue the tradition of offering beautiful flowers at St. Paul's.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### *Lay Eucharistic Ministers*

Submitted by Julie MacKenzie

The Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Adult Crucifers at St. Paul's are an integral part of the liturgy. Theirs is a special calling, and their faithful service enhances the beauty of our worship services. In addition to being present to serve on Sunday, they also serve at the Rector's request during special Holy Days, at weddings, and funeral and memorial services. Senior Lay Eucharistic Ministers also serve as intercessors, researching and writing prayers of their own or using the Book of Common Prayer. Many of our Lay Eucharistic Ministers also lead morning prayers during the week.

These ministries are a gift to the congregation and to the clergy. We currently have 25 active Lay Eucharistic Ministers (LEMs), 32 Lectors, and 6 active Adult Crucifers. During our last Ministry Fair in September, we gained two new Lectors and three new Lay Eucharistic Ministers. Through illness and attrition we are down three crucifers and have not yet been able to find replacements for them. The crucifers carry the cross and lead the procession at the beginning and ending of services and play a vital role during communion, assisting the clergy.

We need and welcome new people into this ministry and will support them with training and mentoring. Those who serve in these ministries commit to service, prayer, and to attending training/review sessions annually as well as Lay Ministry Workshops at least once every three years to maintain their license. We look forward to welcoming new LEMs, Lectors, and Adult Crucifers in 2018 and give heartfelt thanks to those who continue to faithfully serve in these ministries.

### *Morning Prayer*

Submitted by Jim Brown

Morning Prayer is said in the side-chapel Monday through Friday at 9 am year round. The officiants are: Mary Frances Kelly Poh (Tuesdays), Mittie Railsback (Wednesdays), Jeanne McCarrick (Thursdays), Jim Brown (Mondays and Fridays), and occasional substitutes.

Total Weekdays in 2017:	260
Total Morning Prayer Offices:	252*
Total Attendance:	539
Average Attendance:	2.14

\* 260 less 5 days off for KVA and three absences.

### *Office Angels*

Submitted by JoAnn Souza

The Office Angels continue to provide invaluable assistance to the Parish Administrator. They fold and distribute Sunday bulletins, fill in for the parish administrator when she is away, and assist with mailings throughout the year. The Office Angels generally work in pairs on Fridays folding the Sunday bulletin. More volunteers are always welcome to help for one hour a week.

### *Traditional Music Ministry*

Submitted for Glenn Walp, Music Director

Glenn Walp, responsible for music in our traditional worship services, is a wonderful asset to St. Paul's. We are grateful for the gifts he shares, especially leading music and the gift of bringing young people and their instrumental talents to our worship. The choir rehearses under Glenn's leadership at 8 am on Sunday mornings, and all are invited. A marginal ability to read music and carry a tune, and a great love of worship, are necessary.

## WORSHIP & MUSIC

### Ushers

Submitted by Steve Rodekoher, Coordinator

Have you thought at times, “I think I would like to become more involved in the activities and ministries here at St. Paul’s”? Well, many people begin their servant journey in the Usher Ministry! Each service, the Usher’s greet those coming into our church to worship. They greet you with a warm smile and a service sheet and are available to assist with questions about the service.

Ushers perform several very important functions during the service. We play a key role in the Offertory (Alms collections) and the Eucharist or Communion.

The ministry currently has 40 Parishioners performing ushering duties on a regular basis. All Ushers have received a one-hour training session and have been provided a Guideline for St. Paul’s Ushers. Thanks to the dedication of those in this ministry, 2017 ran very smoothly.

As with any ministry, the Usher Ministry is always seeking those to serve. This is a very important and easy ministry to be involved with here at St. Paul’s. Your obligation is about one service (of your choice) every other month. Ushers for both services are needed. If you’re interested, contact the church office.

### Worship Committee

Our Worship committee meets at the request and under the guidance of the Rector. In 2017, leaders of all aspects of liturgy did a wonderful job of keeping St. Paul’s worship running smoothly. The Worship Committee is formed by clergy and members from the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, Ushers, LEMs and Lectors, Acolytes and Crucifers, Music leaders, Godly Play, Adult Forum, and office staff. Thanks to everyone for a successful 2017.

## YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES

### *Godly Play (Sunday School for ages 4 and up)*

Submitted by Andria Reid,  
Godly Play Coordinator

We are in our third year with our Godly Play program. Godly Play has a Montessori foundation and is a creative, imaginative approach to Christian formation and spiritual guidance. Through Godly Play, we are seeking to nurture the deepest part of children's hearts and help them become aware of the mystery of God's presence in their life by exploring the stories of the bible through wonderment and play.

This past year has been fantastic! The program is running smoothly and our Godly Play team has done a wonderful job presenting the stories. We have had on average 12 children attending, and they seemed to really enjoy and get into the stories. Following each story, the children enjoyed a feast together where they were able to talk about the story or whatever was on their minds, and during their work time they were able to work with the stories, paint, draw, and work with clay.

With the addition of money raised during the Ministry Fair, we were able to purchase some new stories. We also had five newcomers join our GP team.

Once again, I would like to thank the entire congregation for your support for allowing us to bring these stories to the children of St. Paul's, and for the GP team for all your time and commitment! Remember, these stories belong to all of us.

Anyone interested in learning more about Godly Play, making a donation, or volunteering, please contact the church office.

### *Kids' Vacation Academy (KVA)*

Each year for the past 11 years St. Paul's has been transformed for one week in June into the great Pacific Ocean, the forests of Narnia, the African Veldt, jungles and castles, among other magical places. Participation of 60 children, 20 teens, plus countless parents and grandparents have made these KVA camps a success. With our thanks to the Kaeli DeWeese legacy, any child in preschool through sixth grade is welcome to attend this week of fun and learning about God's unconditional love. Stay tuned for details about the 2018 KVA, "Zootopia," scheduled for June 18-22.

## YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

### *Sierra Service Project (SSP)*

Submitted by Jeff McMoyler SSP Coordinator

This was the 24<sup>th</sup> year of St. Paul's mission work with the Sierra Service Project . Each year we send 20 youth and 4 counselors to Native American or urban communities to help improve the lives of the underserved. Last July, our SSP trip took us to Chiloquin, Oregon, near the inland border with California . Our group worked with three other church groups, building disabled access ramps, creating and repairing decks with railings, painting, and re-roofing a home for residents of the area. We spent our community service day clearing deadfall and debris, which were the result of severe winter storms at a nearby US Forest Service campground, which reduced the probability of wildfires during the danger season. Learn more about Sierra Service Project at [www. sierraserviceproject.org](http://www.sierraserviceproject.org).

This was my first year as the SSP Coordinator, having been a counselor with both of my now-grown sons in the past. I am grateful for the steady guidance from Steve Rodekoher, coordinator of the program for the previous 12 years. and a host of other adult volunteers from St. Paul's as I've learned the ropes. Our SSP group will be serving in San Diego in the summer of 2018. This is an urban site with different challenges from last year but still many needs

Our annual mission trip costs us close to \$10,000 each year. Between our individual fee to participating families and our fundraising efforts, our group raises all the money needed to fund our trips. We'll be having a couple of events coming up in December, February, and March with the Chili Dinner, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and St. Patrick's Day dinner. Please support our youth. Without St. Paul's generosity, SSP would not be as successful as it is! If you wish to provide a private donation, you can make a check payable to: **St. Paul's SSP Program** and place it in the SSP mailbox in the Rectory. Thank you, St. Paul's parishioners, for your support!

Anyone who would like to be a part of the Sierra Service Project may contact the church office.

### *Youth Activity League (4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)*

Submitted by Beckie Pelkey,  
Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator

No report submitted.