



Wherever you find yourself on your journey of faith, there is a place for you here.

**There comes a time when autumn asks,
“What have you been doing all summer?”** ANONYMOUS

I'm looking back at this summer at St. Paul's and am amazed at the number of things that kept summer interesting and fresh! We've had a busy and productive summer with the very successful June "Hooked" at Kids' Vacation Academy and we look forward to the success of the Peddler's Fair this month. We've seen the Sierra Service Project kids and counselors return from their trip with more understanding of their strengths and the world's challenges. CAC and the needy of Benicia received a substantial 5th Sunday offering. The community of Benicia was served our Community Meal each Wednesday evening. For spiritual reinforcement, Morning Prayer was at 9 am weekdays, and the midweek restorative 10 am Eucharist and Bible Study on Wednesdays continued through the summer.

In addition, we had a number of Party of Parties, including the Sunday Cinema series, an evening with the Sopranos, the Mamma Mia sing-along, a Pool Party, art classes and the absolutely fabulous Lobster feed!

The kitchen is looking good and in fact, we were able to help Community Action Council when they needed a kitchen for a few days. We tackled tough, unfunded, unexpected maintenance and repair challenges.

The bulletin boards were recovered and welcome fresh new postings. A "Volunteers" bulletin board in the Parish Hall was set up. Be sure to go by to see who's doing what. If your name isn't on it, please add a star with your name and ministry. If your name isn't on it because you're not active, be inspired by those whose efforts you admire.

**In time, winter will arrive and
we'll be asked what we've
done during the fall.**

Fall provides a new opportunity to get involved, so don't miss the Ministry Fair on Sunday, 9/13. To start, here's a short schedule of upcoming events to get on your calendar:

- 9/4 Friday Activities for Kids resumes at 2 pm
- 9/11 Parish Retreat – Friday 9/11 and Saturday 9/12
- 9/13 Sunday School starts at 10am in the Undercroft for all ages
- 9/13 Ministry Fair – Come to find the service and ministry needs

Continued on page 9

The Epistle is the
monthly newsletter of
St. Paul's Episcopal Church

STAFF

The Rev. Jeanne Forte
Rector

TheRevJeanne@stpaulsbenicia.org

The Rev. John Bogart
Associate Priest

The Rev. Linda Clader
Associate Priest

The Rev. Shep Jenks
Deacon

Kathy Macek
Seminarian

Glenn Walp
Traditional Music Director
musicbms@yahoo.com

Mark Sackett
Contemporary Music Director
msackett@sfopera.com

JoAnn Souza
Parish Administrator
secretary@stpaulsbenicia.org

Church Office e-mail
secretary@stpaulsbenicia.org

Regina Crawford
Nursery Care Coordinator

Table of Contents

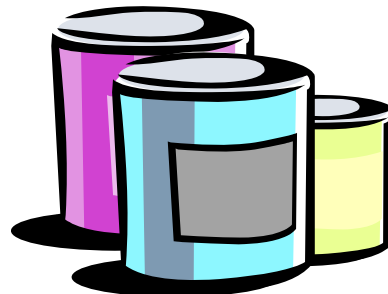
Autumn/Winter	1/9
Fifth Sunday Food Drive	2
Sabbath Celebration	3
Acolyte Training	3
Lay Ministries Schedule	4
Diocesan News	5
Rector's Report	5
Save these Dates!	6
Calendar	7
Sunday School	8
Birthdays/Anniversaries	9
Vestry	9
Announcements	10
10 Things to do Before You Die	11

Fifth Sunday Food Drive

August is a fifth Sunday month, which means we'll be collecting food to give to the Community Action Council, the social services agency in Benicia. With schools resuming later this month, we are also asking for donations of school supplies and snacks.

Look for bags in church on Sunday, Aug. 23. Please return them to St. Paul's on the following Sunday, Aug. 30. On average, we collect about 300 pounds of food, which is most appreciated by CAC and the people of the community who are struggling to feed their families.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Edna Aldinger. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry.



Sabbath Celebration!

Fall 2009

The services begin at 5 pm, and are completely user-friendly. Songs, prayers and readings make up the content of the service which is approximately 40 minutes long.

This fall we resume our Sunday evening services. There are some differences to note:

First Sundays:

Power tools – an SSP check-in and chow down. This is geared to SSP alums, those who would like to go to SSP in the future and those who like to hang out with great young people who work hard, give much of themselves, love God and others. It is loosely formatted. The music is apt to be wild, so hang on and join in!

Second Sundays:

Holden Evening Prayer -- Holden Evening Prayer was written in 1985-86 at a Lutheran retreat center in Washington state. This lovely setting of vespers follows the traditional form while using contemporary and inclusive language. It is peaceful, easy to sing and a lovely way to start the week.

Third Sundays:

Kids Rule – family service. Families will take part in the leadership of this service. It is meant to be fun and geared for the enjoyment of all.

Fourth Sundays:

Taizé – this popular, reflective service is a time of centering and deepening our relationship with God in song, prayer and contemplation.



ACOLYTE TRAINING SUNDAY, SEPT. 27 AT 1 P.M.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME AN ACOLYTE OR A CRUCIFER, CONTACT KATIE SCOTT OR SUSIE BONSTIN, OR CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE.

August 2009 Lay Ministries Schedule

August 2, 2009—9th Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM	Lector	Kathy Macek
	LEM	JoAnne Craig
	LEM/Inter.	Edie Westphal
	Crucifer	Connor Kearns
	Torch.	Christian Kearns, Mikayla Stotler
	Ushers	Don & Maggie Smith, Carole Johnson
	Altar Guild	Susie Bonstin, Katie Scott
	Flower Guild	Maggie Smith, Edie Lockman, Maureen Troyer
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Judy Furlong
	Office Angel	Betty McIntosh
	PIE Greeter	Caleigh Furlong
	Verger	Fred Railsback

August 9, 2009—10th Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM	Lector	Katie Scott
	LEM	Jeff Jarvis
	LEM/Inter.	Mike Baldwin
	Crucifer	Michelle Gaines
	Torch.	Emily Sackett, Alan Kwok
	Ushers	Jon & Kelly Kearns
	Altar Guild	Nancy Bauschinger, Linda Tremain, Jean Wigand
	Flower Guild	Kitty Griffin
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	JoAnne Craig
	Office Angel	Kay Barnard
	PIE Greeters	Judy & David White
	Verger	Bob Hall

August 16, 2009—11th Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM	Lector	Debi Hall
	LEM	Jackie French
	LEM/Inter.	Bob Hall
	Crucifer	Amy Markley
	Torch.	Matt Markley, Teresa Gaines
	Ushers	Kellie Sweeney, Patricia Swayne
	Altar Guild	Sandy Voorhees, Edie Lockman, Nancy Jenks, Chris Stevens, Nina Landuyt
	Flower Guild	Lee Voorhees
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Steve & Sue Yurosko
	Office Angel	Kathy Prosser
	PIE Greeter	Ann Lindsay
	Verger	Joe Brien

August 23, 2009—12th Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM	Lector	Bob Cecil
	LEM	Sue Yursoko
	LEM/Inter.	Steve Yurosko
	Crucifer	Joseph Ellett
	Torch.	Aislynn Stotler, TBA
	Ushers	John & Linda Reiff
	Altar Guild	Kim Rodekohr, Shelby Rodekohr, Haley Rodekohr, Cyndi Hardy
	Flower Guild	Julia Ritter
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Beth Gaines
	Office Angel	Betty McIntosh
	PIE Greeter	Jennifer Jarvis
	Verger	Joe Brien

August 30, 2009—13th Sunday After Pentecost

10 AM	Lector	Maggie Smith
	LEM	Mittie Railsback
	LEM/Inter.	Fred Railsback
	Crucifer	Chris Markley
	Torch.	Jake Sackett, Alan Kwok
	Ushers	Steve & Kim Rodekohr
	Altar Guild	Steve & Sue Yurosko
	Flower Guild	Mittie Railsback, Debi Hall
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Judy Furlong
	Office Angel	Kay Barnard
	PIE Greeters	Betty & Bob McIntosh
	Verger	Tom Aldinger

Diocesan News:

The 99th Annual meeting of the *Convention* of the Diocese of Northern California will be held on November 13-14, 2009 in Redding California.

***Convention** is the legislative body of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California. It is held annually to gather the Bishop, Presbyters (Priests), Deacons, and Lay Representatives from every parish. Lay Delegates and their alternates are elected at each Parish Annual Meeting to represent the concerns of the church at this annual gathering.*



Presiding Bishop Katherine Jefferts Schori will be present at this year's Convention. She will preside and preach at the Closing Eucharist, and will be the speaker at the Friday night banquet. All Clergy and Lay Delegates have seats at the banquet. Spouses that are attending *Convention* are also to be welcomed. There will be extra tickets available to anyone who would like to travel to Redding to attend the banquet. If you wish to attend the banquet (\$26.00) please contact the office before August 31.

Convocation – a meeting of the Southwestern Deanery of our Diocese is called for October 31 from 10 am until 1 pm. All Vestry executive, Delegates and Alternates to *Convention* are urged to attend. The purpose of *Convocation* is to keep parishes updated on the life of the Diocese, and to convey information, and invite participation. On October 31st, *Convocation* will meet for a time of Education, fellowship and the dissemination of information pertaining to *Convention*. This meeting is of utmost importance to members of *Convention*.

Convention = meeting of the Diocese

Convocation = meeting of the Deanery

Got it?

Rector's Report

I am alone in the house most often. Alone that is, except for the four-legged companions that share the domicile. Most often I come in, enter in silence, but within a moment of the door opening there will be a pounding of feet and there is the dog. Abby's tail spins, she dances-in-place, two soft brown eyes search mine. What happens more and more these days of living alone is that I talk to the dog . . . a lot. I salute her when we first meet. I ask her how she is. I tell her what kind of day it is. I find myself asking her if she would like to go for a walk. I ask her where I put her leash (She remembers when I don't). But it doesn't stop there. I give her my opinion of events in my life. She seems to be sympathetic. Yes, I know that's silly. Yet is it?

I pick up the Contra Costa times and read the latest local tragedy. I 'google' the news for today's Doomsday report. I switch to NBC news for the latest news about the destruction of our earth. I watch a television series of post-Apocalyptic civilization.

I am prompted more and more these days to listen to the songs of whales. Some people listen to the vocabulary of dolphins and one or two of us live with gorillas and orangutans. Know why? Because there is a deep voice calling to us that we may need the wisdom and love of all life if we are to survive. Maybe Abby and I should talk more.

Blessings, Jeanne †



Save these dates!

August 9 –

at the 10 am service, thanksgiving for another successful year of the Peddler's Fair.

August 23 –

at the 10 am service, and following ... someone has had a birthday. Come find out who!

September 2 –

Wednesday Morning Bible Study Resumes. Come for Holy Communion and stay for coffee, fellowship and (Holy) spirited conversation and study. We will be beginning our study of the New Testament. All are welcome.

September 11-12 --

Parish Retreat: a 'retreat' in place for Community formation in the middle of hard times ... the very serious work of having more fun than anyone else! A study of most important things, like YOU! Details to be released later. But come prepared to enjoy yourself.

September 13 –

Ministry Fair—Discover the ministries of St. Paul's, the amazing amount of behind-the-scenes work. Find out where your talents lie and jump in. All are welcome.

October 3 –

LEM/Lector tune-up and training.

September 27 –

Acolyte Training and afternoon of well-behaved fun (following the 11 am service)

TBA – Keeping God's Children Safe training session (for teachers, and anyone who works with youth)

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 8 AM AA Holy Strollers Relay for Life
2 <i>9th Pentecost</i> 6 AM AA 10AM HE† 6 PM Cinema: <i>Casablanca</i> 6 PM Meditation 8 PM AA	3 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	4 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 7 PM LifeRing	5 7 AM AA 10 AM HE† 10:45 AM Morn- ing Coffee 4:30-6 PM Meal	6 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	7 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 8 PM NA	8 8 am-4 pm 46th Annual Peddler's Fair 8 AM AA
9 <i>10th Pentecost</i> 6 AM AA 10AM HE† 6 PM Cinema: <i>Incredible Journey</i> 6 PM Meditation	10 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	11 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 7 PM LifeRing	12 7 AM AA 10 AM HE† 10:45 AM Morn- ing Coffee 4:30-6 PM Meal	13 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 6:45 PM Vestry	14 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 8 PM NA	15 8 AM AA
16 <i>11th Pentecost</i> 6 AM AA 10AM HE† 6 PM Cinema: <i>Sound of Music</i> 6 PM Meditation 8 PM AA	17 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† Benicia Schools Open	18 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 7 PM LifeRing	19 7 AM AA 10 AM HE† 10:45 AM Morn- ing Coffee 4:30-6 PM Meal	20 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	21 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 8 PM NA	22 8 AM AA
23 <i>12th Pentecost</i> 6 AM AA 10AM HE† 12 PM Volunteers 6 PM Cinema: <i>Kids' Choice</i> 6 PM Meditation	24 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	25 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 7 PM LifeRing	26 7 AM AA 10 AM HE† 10:45 AM Morn- ing Coffee 4:30-6 PM Meal	27 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	28 7 AM AA 9 AM MP† 8 PM NA	29 8 AM AA
30 <i>13th Pentecost</i> 6 AM AA 10AM HE† 12 PM Newcomers 6 PM Meditation 8 PM AA 5th Sunday Back to School Supplies	31 7 AM AA 9 AM MP†	Upcoming in September Sept. 4: Friday Activities for Kids (FA4K) Sept. 11: Parish Retreat Sept. 12: Party of Party New Orleans Dinner Sept. 13: Sunday School Resumes/Ministry Fair Sept. 18: FA4K				



Pssst...Sunday School starts Sunday, Sept. 13 at 10 a.m. Come make ice cream sundaes and participate in special activities. Have Mom, Dad or an adult fill out the registration forms. See you there!

Coupon

Trade this coupon for 1 ice cream sundae

Valid on Sept. 13 during Sunday School

Sunday School teachers and assistants who enjoy bible stories, crafts, drama, music and other ways of sharing God's word.

Join in the wonderful experience working with 3-5 year olds or elementary school aged children. Volunteer to share the responsibility for a Season (3 months) or for the whole school year. Fill in as a substitute if your schedule is flexible. Come enjoy the Sunday School experience that leaves you with a sense of satisfaction and a smile.

For more information, check out the Sunday School fliers found in the pews, on the Parish Hall bulletin board, or in the church office.

Sign-up in the Parish Hall or contact Chris Mader.

WANTED

August

BIRTHDAYS

Allison Connor	3	Jeff Jarvis	6	The Rev. John Bogart	18
Cyndi Hardy	5	Winnie Johnson	8	Arielle Brien	22
J.C. Hardy	5	Linda Tremain	12	Giovanna Zampa	22
		Debbie Varson	12		
		Christopher Leveque	15		

ANNIVERSARIES

Steve & Sue Yurosko	1	Charles & Dale Kilbourne	26
The Rev. John & Mary Lou Bogart	15	Mike & Lisa Guerin	27
Kitty & Grif Griffin	23	Jeff & Jennifer Jarvis	31

VESTRY

Lee Anne Bundesen
Senior Warden

Caleigh Furlong
Junior Warden

Sara Underwood
Clerk

Susie Bonstin

Angela Owston

Linda Tremain

Jeff Jarvis

John Wright

Anne Seed

Rev. Jeanne Forte

Meetings are also
regularly attended by:

Art Schipper
Treasurer

**There comes a time when autumn asks,
“What have you been doing all summer?”** ANONYMOUS

Continued from page 1

and opportunities. Use this event to sign up and make use of your talents in God's service.

10/17 Sisterhood thrift sale –
Saturday and Sunday

**“Be ye doers of the word,
and not hearers only.”**

Thank you for your time... and for the talent and interest that you bring to ministries, activities and events.

Lee Anne Bundesen
SENIOR WARDEN

p.s. We've got lots of Party of Parties coming up to enjoy – the New Orleans dinner, Wine Tasting, Canadian Thanksgiving, Massage Instruction, Walk on Windsor and Bingo.

***10 ~~fun~~ things to do before you die –
a very serious retreat about having fun in tough times.***



Start the year off right!

September 11 at 7 pm until September 12 at 5 pm.

To view one's spiritual life through the lens of humor and fun can be a truly a transformative experience. Especially in these difficult times, it is vital to keep our hearts fixed on God's promise over life's pitfalls. Between the hours of 7 pm Friday until 5 pm on Saturday, we will pray and play our way through the very serious work of having more fun than anyone else!

First thing: Make a list

Second thing: Have more fun than anyone else!

Third thing: Get some insight

Fourth thing: Write something at the end of every day

Fifth thing: Get some depth

Sixth thing: Seriously, live alone for a while!

Seventh thing: Find a place to escape reality!

Eighth thing: Make yourself interesting

Ninth thing: Treat yourself

Tenth thing: (to be revealed at the Sunday Service)

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
120 East J Street
Benicia, CA 94510
Phone: (707) 745-0307
Fax: (707) 745-1542
E-mail: secretary@stpaulsbenicia.org
Website: <http://www.stpaulsbenicia.org/>

St. Paul's Vision Statement

Vision

*We are the hands of Christ
in the Heart of Benicia*

Mission

*We celebrate
God's Presence
as we
Worship,
Pray,
Study, and
Serve in the Community*

St. Paul's Worship Schedule August

Monday - Friday

9 am—Morning Prayer

Wednesday

10 am—Holy Eucharist
10:45 am—Coffee & Discussion

Sunday

10 am—Contemporary Holy Eucharist:
Praise Music

Nursery care is provided for infant and toddlers
(0-4 yrs) from 9 am to 11:30 am.