



THE EPISTLE

SEPTEMBER 2010

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

Did you hear the bells?

On Saturday, the bell of St. Paul's rang 2,996 times, one toll for each soul who died in the September 11th terrorist attacks on New York, Arlington, Virginia, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. At 8:46 Saturday morning, people stopped and listened. Some wondered. Others remembered the day we now call "9/11" and recall where they were precisely at 8:46 on September 11th, 2001. It rang in the end of our naiveté. Since that day we have struggled particularly with the complex meaning of the question asked of Jesus "Who is our neighbor?"



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

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Rector

**The Rev. Canon John Bo-
gart**
Associate Priest

The Rev. Dr. Linda Clader
Associate Priest

The Rev. Shep Jenks
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Steve Yurosko
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Glenn Walp
Traditional Music Director

Mark Sackett
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In This Epistle...

Did You Hear. . .	1
On the Burning of Books	3
Educational Opportunities	4
Special Activities	5
Dance the Decades	6
Eid Mubarak	7
With Gratitude	8
Friday Activities for Kids	8
September Birthdays	9
PIE Greeters	9
September Calendar	10
September Lay Ministry	11
Vestry	11

On the Burning (or Banning) of Books

Banned Book Week Sept. 25-Oct. 2

From September 25th till October 2nd, the American Library Association celebrates their annual Banned Books Week. During Banned Books Week, Amnesty International directs attention to the plight of individuals who are persecuted because of the writings that they produce, circulate or read. Please remember in your prayers women like Hengameh Shahidi, an Iranian woman imprisoned for her writings, and men such as Nurmemet Yasin, in a Chinese prison. Interestingly, the banning of books comes closer to home. Here are some of the books banned in our own school systems:



Bless Me, Ultima, Rudolfo, Anaya, 1972
Harry Potter series, J. K. Rowling, 1997-07

DEEMED SOCIALLY OFFENSIVE

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, Benjamin Franklin, 1791
The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne, 1850
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain, 1884
As I lay Dying, William Faulkner, 1930
Brave New World, Aldous Huxley, 1932
Gone with the Wind, Margaret

Mitchell, 1936
Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck, 1937
Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl, Anne Frank, 1947
The Catcher in the Rye, J. D. Salinger, 1951
Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury, 1953
To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee, 1960
James and the Giant Peach, Roald Dahl, 1961
Catch-22, Joseph Heller, 1961
A Clockwork Orange, Anthony Burgess, 1962
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Ken Kesey, 1962
In Cold Blood, Truman Capote, 1966
Cujo, Stephen King, 1981
The Color Purple, Alice Walker, 1982
Ordinary People, Judith Guest, 1982
A Thousand Acres, Jane Smiley, 1991

DEEMED TOO POLITICAL

Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe, 1852
All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Maria Remarque, 1928
A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway, 1929
The Grapes of Wrath, John Steinbeck, 1939
For Whom the Bell Tolls, John Steinbeck, 1940
Animal Farm, George Orwell, 1945
Doctor Zhivago, Boris Pasternak, 1957
Slaughterhouse-Five, Kurt Vonnegut Jr., 1969
In the Spirit of Crazy Horse, Peter Matthiessen, 1983

DEEMED TOO IRRELIGIOUS

On the origin of Species, Charles Darwin, 1859
The Lord of the Rings trilogy, J.R.R. Tolkien, 1954
The Last Temptation of Christ, Nikos Kazantzakis, 1960

For more information look at: <http://www.amnestyusa.org/events/banned-books-week/>, and with thanks from www.aarp.org/bulletin

Educational Opportunities This Fall

BETWEEN SERVICE BOOK FORUM— Starts Sunday, Sept. 26

Contact: Church Office, 745-0307

Welcome to the Wisdom of the World and its meaning for you: Universal spiritual insights distilled from five religious traditions by Joan Chittister. “Chittister turns her attention to a broad range of spiritual authorities and traditions in order to discover and present many models of what it might mean to be a holy person. Her brief chapters and easy, elegant style captivate, and keep readers. She addresses elements in Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam and Christianity pertinent to her reflections.” This discussion forum runs between services from 10:05 till 10:50, most Sundays till November 14th. Copies of the book can be purchased independently, or through a bulk order purchase. Contact the church office to purchase your copy.

TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY— Starts Tuesday, Sept. 28

Contact: Judy Furlong, 745-6463

Kerygma Class Coming! Discovering the Bible: A New Generation

What is kerygma? Kerygma is the Greek word which means proclamation of truth. Kerygma classes offer a wide variety of Scripture studies, designed to introduce us to, and enrich, our knowledge of Holy Scripture.

Discovering the Bible is a 30-session overview of the Bible, which will introduce us to the people, places and stories of the Bible. The invitation to find where the Story lives in one's own story provides a perfect meeting place for both those brand new to Bible study, and those who have had a long familiarity with Scripture.

Sessions include reading, reflection, discussion, creative expression and discovery. Old Testament Discoveries offer such topics as The

Beginnings, The Exodus, The Journey, The Kings, The Prophets, and many more. New Testament sessions will include The Good News, The Savior, The Teachings, The Ministry and others. Each session lasts for approximately 1 1/2 hours, with time built in for small group interaction, discussion with the whole group and time for creative expression.

Discovering the Bible will be offered every other Tuesday evening from 7 to 8:30 p.m., beginning on Tuesday, September 28th and continuing throughout the year. A resource book, which includes all readings, assignments and discussion questions, is \$30, with scholarships available.

To get a closer look at the Kerygma programs, go to www.kerygma.com. There will also be information available, as well as sign-up sheets, at the Ministry Fair on September 12th in the Parish Hall, or contact Judy Furlong, 745-6463, jafurlong42@comcast.net, for more information.



Special Activities and Services for You, Your Family and Your Neighbors!



Walk your dog to church – Blessing of the Animals *October 3, 10 am till noon*

This Feast of St. Francis, bring your animal friend to church for a blessing and a treat. The Director of the Benicia-Vallejo Humane Society will be present with some adoptable friends to speak to us about his work with homeless animals. We may have the opportunity to bless service police dogs as well. This is open to all four- and two- legged animals and their well-behaved peoples.



All Hallow's Eve at St. Paul's Community Celebration *October 31 from 5 pm till the Ghosties chase us away!*

Years ago, we are told, St. Paul's opened her doors to children of all ages who were on the prowl on Halloween. We would like to re-institute this tradition. We will begin with a "spooky" service, reclaiming the night as a significant date in the Christian Calendar. This will be followed by games, treats and roasted hot dogs. Braver folks and children may find out if our Rectory is really haunted!

Party of Parties Dance the Decades

Saturday, Sept. 25

From 7 pm to 11 pm

Shake off those end of summer blues by dancing the decades. This Party of Parties fundraiser for St. Paul's is open to church members, family, friends and the community who like to socialize, dance, and have a fun time. A guest DJ from a Sacramento radio station will play the tunes from oldies to the latest hits.

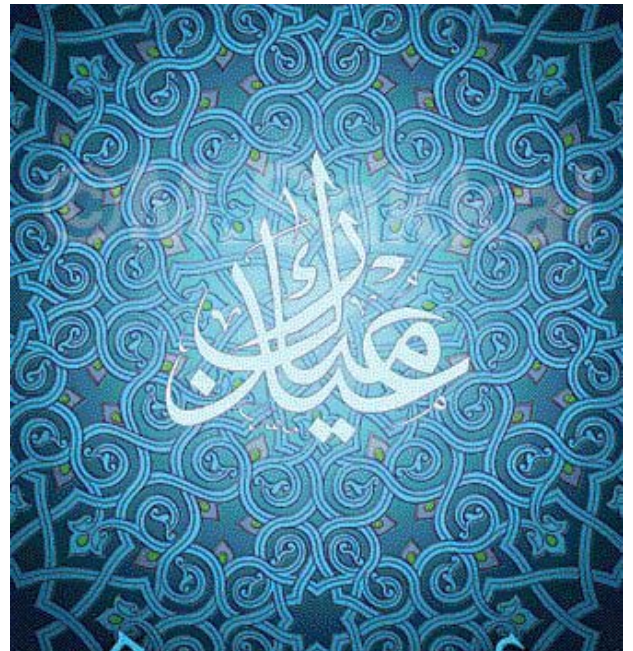
There will be prizes for best dressed and best dancers. Tickets cost \$10 per person in advance and \$12 at the door. There will be a nominal charge for food and beverages. To purchase tickets, contact Maureen Troyer at 747-6040 or email her at irishitaliantoo@yahoo.com.



Eid Mubā rak!

Imagine this: You have been told that Christmas must be “toned down” this year. There can be no visible shows of tree lights, Santas, Stars in the night ... no Christmas carols sung outside, feasting must be private and shouts of Merry Christmas should be quieted. Muslim communities all over the United States are doing just that this year. Instead of shouting out good wishes, inviting outsiders into their celebrations, and crying out “*Eid Mubā rak!*” (or the Malay version “Selamat Hari Raya!” “a blessed feast to one and all,”) Islamic communities have been encouraged to take their celebrations inside, behind closed doors. For the most part they do so willingly, out of respect for a world that mourns the deaths of so many on 9/11. The traditions of giving alms, and reconciling with family and friends is conducted under the cloak of privacy.

For my part, I appreciate their respect, and I feel saddened that the wonderful celebration of peace, love and joy which could be offered by the Islamic



community is occluded by radical fundamentalists. Terrorists most definitely do not speak for the Islamic community. Nor does Pastor Jerry Jones in Gainesville, FL, give voice to the Christian community.

This Christmastide, as I light my candles, welcome people into St. Paul’s from all traditions, I will remember my Muslim friends and pray for peace in my time.

Bless you,
Jeanne+

With Gratitude to the St. Paul's Family

I need to convey a huge "thank you" to everyone who was so kind to Bob and me during my recent illness. To those who visited during my hospital stays, to those who sent cheery cards or phoned to see how I was doing, and to those who made sure we didn't go hungry once I returned home! And special thanks to Jeanne for her many visits and prayers, and also to Judy Furlong for bringing us communion. We truly are "family" here at St. Paul's, and I am overwhelmed with gratitude.

*Sincerely,
Kay Barnard*

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Friday Activities for Kids

2:00 - 4:00 on 1st, 3rd & 5th Fridays after school

Elementary School, Grades 1-5

Kindergarteners and Pre-schoolers welcome with adult supervision



Activities will include science experiments, games, cooking, art projects, field trips, holiday-theme projects, parties, tours, special guests, movies and more!

September 2010

BIRTHDAYS

Donna Baldwin	18	Dorothy Pitchford	27
Kay Barnard	20	David White	28
Eugenie Emmanuel	22	The Rev. Shep Jenks	29
Jackie Brien	23	Carole Johnson	30

ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Winnie Johnson	14	Bill & Carol Smiglewski	23
Bob & Debbie Varson	16		

PIE Greeters Needed!



Looking for a ministry to enjoy? Do you like meeting new people? Have an hour or two a month to spare? How about joining the PIE Greeter Team? We are a small group of dedicated people who welcome newcomers to St. Paul's by personally contacting them. The PIE Greeters are given newcomer information and asked to contact them by delivering a PIE (or other treat) and a packet of information about St. Paul's.

Chat with current PIE Greeters Mike Baldwin, Jennifer Jarvis, Bob and Betty McIntosh, and Jane Samuelson and if this is a ministry that you'd

like to help with, please contact Caleigh Furlong for more information or details at 642-4648 or caleigh@southwind.net.

September 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
GROUP MEETINGS <i>Alcoholics Anonymous:</i> 7 am Mon- Sat; 6 am & 8 pm Sundays <i>LifeRing:</i> 7 pm Tuesdays <i>Meditation:</i> 6 pm Sundays <i>Narcotics Anonymous:</i> 8 pm Fridays			1 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 4:30-6 pm Meal	2 9 am MP†	3 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids	4
5 Pentecost 15 8:45 Rite I HE† 11 am Contemporary HE†	6 Labor Day 9 am MP†	7 9 am MP†	8 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	9 9 am MP† 7 pm Vestry Meeting	10 9 am MP†	11 7:30 am Brotherhood Meeting 10 am-12 pm Acolyte Training
12 Pentecost 16 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE† Ministry Fair Epistle Available	13 9 am MP†	14 9 am MP†	15 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	16 9 am MP†	17 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids	18 Lay Ministry Workshop in Santa Rosa Party of Parties Walk on Windsor
19 Pentecost 17 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE†	20 9 am MP†	21 9 am MP†	22 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	23 9 am MP†	24 9 am MP† 5:30 pm TGIFF Party of Parties Opera in the Park	25 7 pm Party of Parties Dance the Decades
26 Pentecost 18 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE†	27 9 am MP†	28 9 am MP† 7 pm Adult Forum Discovering the Bible	29 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	30 9 am MP†	UPCOMING: Oct. 2—Southwest Deanery Convocation in Santa Rosa Oct. 3—Blessing of the Animals	

September 2010 Lay Ministries Schedule

SEPT. 19, 2010—17th Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Tom Mader
	LEM	Mary Frances Kelly Poh
	LEM/Inter.	Judy Furlong
	Crucifer	Joseph Ellett
	Torch.	Emily Sackett, Jake Sackett
	Ushers	Susie Bonstin, Katie Scott
11 AM	Lector	Anne Seed
	LEM	Mike Baldwin
	LEM/Inter.	Barbara Jewell
	Ushers	Jeff & Jennifer Jarvis
	Altar Guild	Sandy Voorhees, Edie Lockman
	Flower Guild	Lee Voorhees
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Judy Furlong
	Office Angel	Betty McIntosh
	PIE Greeter	Jane Samuelson
	Verger	Tom Mader

SEPT. 26, 2010—18th Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Caleigh Furlong
	LEM	Mittie Railsback
	LEM/Inter.	Fred Railsback
	Crucifer	Amy Markley
	Torch.	Vivian Avant, Patric Knoblic
	Ushers	Bob & Ellen Whitehead
11 AM	Lector	Ski Smiglewski
	LEM	Jennifer Jarvis
	LEM/Inter.	Jeff Jarvis
	Ushers	Tom & Chris Mader
	Altar Guild	Kim Rodekohr, Shelby Rodekohr, Haley Rodekohr, Cyndi Hardy
	Flower Guild	Julia Ritter
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	Beth Gaines
	Office Angel	Kay Barnard
	PIE Greeter	Betty & Bob McIntosh
	Verger	Tom Aldinger

VESTRY

Lee Anne Bundesen
Senior Warden

Bill Smiglewski
Junior Warden

Linda Tremain
Clerk

Sue Embree-Davis

Caleigh Furlong

Jeff Jarvis

Fred Railsback

Anne Seed

John Wright

Rev. Jeanne Forte

Meetings are also
regularly attended by:
Art Schipper
Treasurer

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
120 East J Street
Benicia, CA 94510
Phone: (707) 745-0307
Fax: (707) 745-1542
E-mailadmin@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*

September

Monday - Friday

9 am—Morning Prayer

Wednesday

10 am—Holy Eucharist

10:45 am—Bible Study

Sunday

8:45 am—Rite II Eucharist:
Traditional Music

10 am—Sunday School

11 am—Contemporary Holy Eucharist:
Praise Music

Nursery care is provided for infant and toddlers
(0-4 yrs) from 8:30 am to 12 pm.