



THE
EPISTLE

STEWARDSHIP 2010

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

YOU ARE INVITED!

ALL-PARISH BREAKFAST

NEXT SUNDAY, OCT. 10

Come to breakfast from 10 am to 11 am in the Parish Hall



Thank you for feeding us in 2010!

Now let us feed you!

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

STAFF

The Rev. Jeanne Forte
Rector

The Rev. Canon John Bogart
Associate Priest

The Rev. Dr. Linda Clader
Associate Priest

The Rev. Shep Jenks
Deacon

Steven Yurosko
Postulant

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Contemporary Music Director

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Oct. 31, 2010—23rd Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Ann Lindsay
	LEM	Dale Kilbourne
	LEM/Inter.	Charlie Kilbourne
	Crucifer	Amy Markley
	Torch.	Mikayla Stotler, Aislynn Stotler
	Ushers	Art & Sandy Schipper
11 AM	Lector	Maureen Troyer
	LEM	Virginia Vater
	LEM/Inter.	Barbara Jewell
	Ushers	Jeff & Jennifer Jarvis
	Altar Guild	Susie Bonstin, Katie Scott
	Flower Guild	Maggie Smith, Edie Lockman
	Lay. Euch. Visit.	JoAnne Craig
	Office Angel	TBA
	PIE Greeter	Jennifer Jarvis
	Verger	Joe Brien

ST. PAUL'S MISSIONAL BUDGET

Lee Anne Bundesen, Senior Warden

Our Mission Statement

We celebrate God's presence as we worship, pray, study and serve in the Community.

We are St. Paul's!

It is up to us individually and collectively to fulfill our mission as followers of Christ in this faith community. The Vestry is presenting a "missional budget" to you for 2011 that will allow St. Paul's to continue and expand on the good work that is accomplished here.

I spoke to a representative of the local newspaper yesterday and she commented that we do so many wonderful things here at St. Paul's. At that moment, she was talking specifically about the Blessing of the Animals, but the newspaper recently covered Kids' Vacation Academy and the Peddler's Fair. She's right!

With our mission statement in mind and prayer, please review this missional budget and determine how you can actively support this mission with your time, talent and treasure.

Worship & Prayer

To show our love for God through worship, prayer, intent and action

—In the last year, St. Paul's welcomed an average of 132 weekly worshippers to Sunday services.

The Parish Administrator and 3 Office Angels prepare the bulletins; the Altar and Flower Guilds ready the church; visitors and friends are welcomed by 2 of the 37 ushers; Rev. Jeanne is assisted by 11 acolytes, 20 LEMS, 20 Lectors and 16 Intercessors while Traditional hymns or songs of 6-voice traditional, or the 17-strong Contemporary choir fill the sanctuary.

—Eucharist services on Wednesday mornings served over 400 hosts this year during a lovely, quiet service celebrating God's love.

—John Bogart and lay persons lead the traditional Morning Prayer service 260 times per year.

To spread the good news of the gospel - forgiveness and love

—In the past year, 63 new members have joined us in worship and mission.

—We've had 9 baptisms, 2 weddings and a funeral.

Estimated Budget for Worship & Prayer: \$187,000

Study & Fellowship

To grow in relationship with God and one another

In the past year, St. Paul's has provided adults opportunities for increasing an understanding, knowledge and commitment to our faith and to our faith community.

—The Wednesday morning Bible Study group meets 40 times per year and in the last two years have read and discussed the Bible from Genesis to Paul's letters.

—"Living the Question" met 21 times for lively discussion of Christianity in the 21st century. Evening Bible Study has just started a new series, "Discovering the Bible".

—Dan Schutte presented "Walking the Sacred Path" to an interdenominational group.

—The Book Forum discussed A People's History of Christianity and is now beginning to read Welcome to the Wisdom of the World.

—Fellowship is reflected in the annual Advent Tea, the Brotherhood of St. Andrews and their parish events, the successful Thank God it's Fourth Friday, and in the more than 200 birthday and anniversary cards sent out annually by the Ruthie Ministry.

Children grow in their understanding and faith primarily through Sunday School which had 29 registered children last school year and had 19 students the first day this year.

—58 children participated in the five day Kids' Vacation Academy in June, along with 19 teen counselors and 26 adults.

Continued on the next page

ST. PAUL'S MISSIONAL BUDGET

cont'd from pg. 3

- 11 acolytes participate in Sunday Services.
- Relationship building and outreach are both products of Friday Activities for Kids which had 26 kids registered during the last school year who brought 17 guests.
- Sierra Service Project provides high school students an opportunity to explore and solidify their relationship with God.

Estimated Budget for Study & Fellowship: \$22,000

Serve in Community

To witness our faith in service beyond ourselves

- Rev. Jeanne and our Steven Ministers provide Pastoral Care in the Parish and in the community. Pastoral Care attends to those who are in difficulty, being open and listening to understand how to meet their needs. Rev. Jeanne is a chaplain for the Benicia Police.
- Feed the Hungry includes the Community Meal that serves 500 meals per month and our 5th Sunday food bags totaling 1000 pounds of food per year for Community Action Council.
- Sierra Service Project gave 20 high schoolers the opportunity to experience the profound power of serving people who have a culture and life experience different from their own.
- St. Paul's provides space for many organizations in this community. The fact that we have these buildings that we maintain, heat and furnish makes this possible and demonstrates our commitment to the community.
 - Recovery groups: AA meets here 416 times per year; NA has 52 meetings per year and LifeRing has 52 meetings per year.
 - Meditation group: Our sacred space is a perfect space for contemplation 52 times/year.
 - Women Supporting Women Fair is held in the Parish Hall annually.
 - Foreign Affairs meets 8 times per year.
- Rebuilding Solano Together met 4 times in St. Paul's Undercroft.
- Piano recitals and community concerts have been performed in the church 5 times this year.
- St. Paul's is committed to the identification, growth, and nurturing of persons for ordained ministry. To that end, 1% of our budget is dedicated to Church Divinity School of the Pacific.
- St. Paul's supports the Diocese of Northern California. Space has been provided for Diocesan meetings on 5 occasions and St. Paul's welcomed Vocare, a Christian formation group for young adults of the Diocese 3 times.

Estimated Budget for Service: \$95,000

Total Estimated Budget for 2011 \$304,000

October 2010



BIRTHDAYS

	Laura Peabody	8	Kitty Griffin	23
	Holly Markley	8	Walter Vater	25
Carol Smiglewski	Katie Scott	9	Connor McGillis	28
Lisa Powell	Sue Yurosko	16	Debi Hall	30
Emily Sackett	The Rev. Jeanne Forte	20	Fred Railsback	31

ANNIVERSARIES

John & Johanna Wright	26	Fred & Mittie Railsback	31
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For where your treasure is ... Matt.6:21

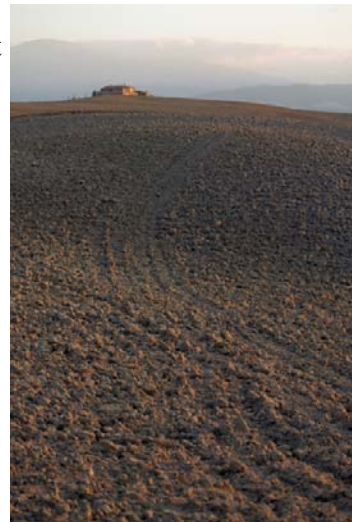
Grandpa Rolston farmed his entire life. His whole family, beginning with my father, was born and grew up in the dust bowl of North America during the '30s. The family homesteaded about a hundred miles north of the Montana border near Willow Bunch, Saskatchewan. The ground was rock hard, barren, dry – the soil yielded nothing. Those were desperate times. But when Dad's family loaded up the truck and moved to Vancouver Island, on the West Coast of Canada, things changed. In that place the soil was rich, moist and loamy.

Grandpa was in heaven because he literally loved the dirt. I can remember him grabbing a handful of the black stuff and smooshing it through his great hands, breathing in the peat scent. "Ah," he'd say "that's great dirt!" Funny, I had thought it was just dirt, or "trouble" on the seat of my pants. But to Grandpa it was gold. The "promise" was right there in his hands – under his fingernails. He would happily throw seeds into the loam and they burst forth producing hundred-fold. A treasure.

I guess it's all how you define treasure. Our churches are like that soil that Grandpa loved. They are places where seeds get planted and nurtured. If the soil is strong, if we see it as treasure, then what grows in our churches are strong disciples, equipped to go and be Christ in the world. The treasure where our hearts are could refer to our individual bank accounts, or it could refer to the treasure that is Christian community which needs our work of tilling and planting and fertilizing and weeding and praying for a good crop.

Just as my Grandpa's heart was in the soil, so mine is in this parish family of St. Paul's, and in the church outside her doors. Treasures, gifts from God, gardens ready to grow. I am honored to give my treasure for God's work in this family of St. Paul's. And I ask for your prayers. I also ask you to commit your treasure as together we till the soil, plant and harvest the rich loam of St. Paul's.

Blessings, Jeanne+



Words from the Wise...

After listening to Steve Rodekohr and Rev. Jeanne talk about the wisdom circle at SSP, I asked if I could start a new feature in the Epistle that will give us a little wisdom each month from a large cross-section of parishioners; old to young, life-experienced and maybe not-so-much. I asked Emmett McDowell to be my first contributor for a couple of reasons. He's a retired Presbyterian Pastor, he's had many life experiences, and he's a hoot! I love talking with him. So, I asked him to give me his favorite quote, something he's learned over the years, "what I know for sure" or a some piece of life advice. Here is his reply:

"I have many words that have been helpful to me, but here's one that has been with me all during my career. One of my seminary profs used to say to us, "Boys (there were no women in seminary in those days), push your work and your work won't push you." Mostly I have found that to be true. Although at times I felt pushed. By the grace of God I've made it!"

I hope you enjoy this new feature. But watch out! I may ask you to be my next contributor!

Blessings, Debi Hall



An “Imagine if…” thank you note as we move forward:

The Rector and Vestry of St. Paul’s would like to take this opportunity and give thanks to every one of you for your love and support of our parish family. To those of you who supported us with your monetary goods, thank you. In a time of economic stress, we are grateful to be financially sound. At our Annual meeting in January, your Vestry presented a balanced budget. Some difficult decisions were made with regard to programs and salaries. We invested in the need to practice financial responsibility as so many of us are impacted economically. Things are ‘on track’ and we have entered the final quarter of the year living within our means. Pledge giving is almost 100%. Thank you, thank you.

Last years’ “Imagine if…” campaign helped your Vestry establish guidelines for programs and activities over the last year. You met the challenge to ‘think outside the box’ and share your dreams with us. Some of those dreams remain just that ... dreams for the future. Yet other dreams were realized over this past year, and are feeding our family:

Many of you imagined enhanced Christian Education opportunities. There are currently four adult-oriented programs offered ... Tuesday night’s Kerygma, Wednesday morning Coffee and Bible study, Sunday Morning Book Forum, and our occasional Sunday evening Forum.

We were asked to provide opportunities for classical concerts and recitals that showcase the acoustic qualities of St. Paul’s. Numerous concerts have been held this past year, with many opportunities yet to come. We are appreciative of the gifts of so many talented artists who offer their gifts as a benefit to our Community Meal program.

Enhanced programs for children such as the Friday Afternoon for Kids (FA4K) is up and running. Its scope has expanded to offer a program for children who are growing beyond participant, and are learning how to serve as mentors and junior counselors.

“Imagine if ...” there was a time when people could gather at the end of the week and enjoy a time of fellowship for a few hours before launching ourselves into our weekend activities? We heard your requests. While we continue to struggle to name the time (Jovial Hour, TGIFF [Thank God its Fourth Friday], A Spirited gathering) the end result is the offering of a time when people get together in the undercroft and, weather permitting, in the back yard to get to know one another a bit better.

Please note that all of these events are self-supporting. For 2010, that was the condition of growth. Realistically, there are many, many more opportunities to grow and serve both within and outside the doors of St. Paul’s. Your Vestry has a heart to make that happen. In the next few weeks, you will hear testimonies giving witness to the great work being accomplished in the hearts and minds of our parish family. St. Paul’s has changed, and continues to change lives. Thanks be to God! Come for breakfast. Listen. Learn and then give generously. We need your financial support.

Thank you,
Jeanne+

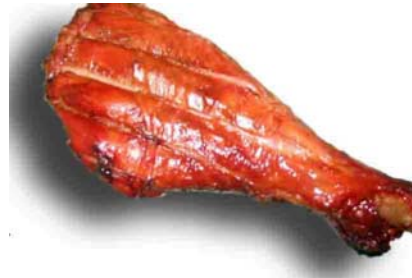


It's All Happening at St. Paul's!



Sunday, Oct. 24

Evening Forum: Churches on the Edge—Observations from a Visitor, with Judy Furlong



Saturday, Oct. 30

Party of Parties Medieval Feast, 7-10 pm; \$30 per person
Join Jeanne as she takes you back to medieval times for dinner. The parish hall will be transformed into a medieval banquet room complete with candles, hunks of meat, and homemade cider. Bring only daggers as befitting victuals. Contact Jeanne at the church office to sign up.



Sunday, Oct. 31

Day of the Dead Celebration at 10 am
Day of the Dead Service at 11 am
Halloween Community Event at 5 pm



Saturday, Nov. 6

Party of Parties B-I-N-G-O
For \$10 a person, you will get 3 bingo cards; there will be prizes for the winners; invite your friends. Contact Caleigh Furlong to sign up.



Sunday, Nov. 7

Party of Parties Holiday Edible Art Class taught by professional baker Katie Scott. The cost is \$30.



Saturday, Nov. 13

Benefit Cello Concert at 7 pm; tickets are \$10. Proceeds help the Community Meal. Call the church office for details.



Saturday, Dec. 4

Annual Advent Tea at 10 am
Benefit Choral Concert of Christmas favorites; proceeds benefit the Community Meal; time TBA

A Pastoral Letter from the House of Bishops (cont'd)

unnecessary incarceration of undocumented workers. Since, as we are convinced, it is natural to seek gainful employment to sustain oneself and one's family, we cannot agree that the efforts of undocumented workers to feed and shelter their households through honest labor are criminal.

(2) We profess that inhumane policies directed against undocumented persons (raids, separation of families, denial of health services) are intolerable on religious and humanitarian grounds, as is attested by the consensus of a wide range of religious bodies on this matter.

(3) We call on the government of the United States and all governments to create fair and humane immigration policies that honor the dignity of people on all sides of this issue. In the United States, we seek a reasonable path to citizenship for undocumented workers; a plan to reunite families; and a viable system for receiving temporary or seasonal guest-workers, with clearly identified points of entry. These measures would free the United States border patrol to concentrate its efforts on the apprehension of drug traffickers, terrorists, and other criminals, and not on ordinary people who are simply seeking a better life for themselves and their children.

(4) We acknowledge the duty of governments to protect their people, including the securing of borders. The church has always respected this duty, which is grounded in government's God given duty to protect innocent people and punish wrongdoers (Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13-17).

(5) We recognize that racism and bigotry impact debates over migration and immigration. The Episcopal Church is committed to the eradication of all forms of racism, and decries the use of racial profiling in the arrest of persons suspected of being undocumented.

(6) We confess our own complicit sinfulness as people who benefit from the labor of undocumented workers without recognizing our responsibility to them. We passively tolerate an economic and political system that accepts this labor from millions of undocumented workers, and which has received approximately \$520 billion in social security revenue from them—revenue from which they will never benefit. Yet at the same time we treat them as a threat.

(7) We do not discount the concerns of our fellow citizens regarding the danger uncontrolled immigration poses to our safety and economic well-being. We insist, however, that these concerns be approached within the broader context of a national commitment and covenant to inclusion and fellowship across all lines for the sake of the common good.

(8) We take seriously our commitment to and responsibility for our fellow citizens, as we strive to face the spiritual, moral and economic challenges of life in all sixteen nations represented in The Episcopal Church. We call on our fellow citizens to remember that the good of a nation lies beyond its own self-interest, toward a vision of a humanity restored in Jesus Christ, for in him "you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13).

(9) We offer for additional study a theological resource, "The Nation and the Common Good: Reflections on Immigration Reform."

God's grace be with us all.



October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
GROUP MEETINGS Alcoholics Anonymous: 7 am Mon- Sat; 6 am & 8 pm Sundays LifeRing: 7 pm Tuesdays Meditation: 6 pm Sundays Narcotics Anonymous: 8 pm Fridays					1 9 am MP† 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids	2 Southwest Deanery Convocation in Santa Rosa
3 Pentecost 19 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Humane Society Forum 11 am Blessing of the Animals	4 9 am MP†	5 9 am MP†	6 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	7 9 am MP†	8 9 am MP†	9 7:30 am Brother- hood Meeting 4 pm SMOTJ Ceremony
10 Pentecost 20 8:45 Rite II HE† 9:45-11 am Parish Breakfast 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contempo- rary HE†	11 9 am MP†	12 9 am MP† 10 am Clericus 7 pm Adult Forum Discovering the Bible	13 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	14 9 am MP† 7 pm Vestry Meeting	15 9 am MP† 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids	16
17 Pentecost 21 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contempo- rary HE†	18 9 am MP†	19 9 am MP†	20 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	21 9 am MP†	22 9 am MP† 5:30 pm TGIFF	23 11:30 am Private Party
24 Pentecost 22 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Sunday School 11 am Contemporary HE† CnC Evening Forum: Church on the Edge	25 9 am MP†	26 9 am MP† 7 pm Adult Forum Discovering the Bible	27 9 am MP† 10 am HE† 10:45 am Bible Study 4:30-6 pm Meal	28 9 am MP†	29 9 am MP† 2-4 pm Friday Activities for Kids	30 7 pm Party of Parties Medie- val Dinner
31 Pentecost 23 Fifth Sunday Food Bag Collection 8:45 Rite II HE† 10 am Day of the Dead Festivities 11 am Day of the Dead HE†	31 Continued 5 pm All Hallow's Eve Community Celebration		UPCOMING @ ST. PAUL'S: Friday, Nov. 5: Friday Activities for Kids Saturday, Nov. 6: Party of Parties B-I-N-G-O Sunday, Nov. 7: Party of Parties Holiday Edible Art Monday, Nov. 8: Worship Committee Meeting Saturday, Nov. 13: Cello Benefit Concert Sunday, Nov. 14: Ingathering of 2011 Pledges			

October 2010 Lay Ministries Schedule

Oct. 3, 2010—19th Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Frank Shoemaker	
	Lector	Fred Railsback	
	LEM/Inter.	Bob Hall	
	Crucifer	Timothy Connor	
	Torch.	Mikayla Stotler, Aislynn Stotler	
	Prayers	The Rev. Jeanne Forte	
	Ushers	Bob & Ellen Whitehead	
	11 AM	Lector	Sara Underwood
		Ushers	Kim & Steve Rodekohr
		Altar Guild	Nancy Bauschinger, Linda Tremain, Jean Wigand
Flower Guild		Maureen Troyer	
Lay. Euch. Visit.		JoAnne Craig	
Office Angel		Ginny Altice	
PIE Greeter		Jennifer Jarvis	
Verger		Neal Mulholand	

Oct. 10, 2010—20th Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Debi Hall	
	Deacon	The Rev. Shep Jenks	
	LEM/Inter.	Sue Yurosko	
	Crucifer	Matt Markley	
	Torch.	Alan Kwok, Patric Knoblic	
	Ushers	Tom & Chris Mader	
	11 AM	Lector	David Bundesen
		LEM	Jennifer Jarvis
		LEM/Inter.	Jeff Jarvis
		Altar Guild	Sandy Voorhees, Edie Lockman, Nancy Jenks, Martha McAfee
Flower Guild		Lee Voorhees	
Lay. Euch. Visit.		Judy Furlong	
Office Angel		TBA	
PIE Greeter		Mike Baldwin	
Verger	Fred Railsback		

Oct. 17, 2010—21st Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Katie Scott	
	LEM	Mary Frances Poh	
	LEM/Inter.	Jackie French	
	Crucifer	Michelle Gaines	
	Torch.	Emily Sackett, Jake Sackett	
	Ushers	Bob McIntosh, Steve Rodekohr	
	11 AM	Lector	Ski Smiglewski
		LEM	Edie Westphal
		LEM/Inter.	Mike Baldwin
		Ushers	Don & Maggie Smith
Altar Guild		Cyndi Hardy	
Flower Guild		Julia Ritter	
Lay. Euch. Visit.		Beth Gaines	
Office Angel		Betty McIntosh	
PIE Greeter	Jane Samuelson		
Verger	Bill Markley		

Oct. 24, 2010—22nd Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 AM	Lector	Caleigh Furlong	
	LEM	Martha McAfee	
	LEM/Inter.	Mittie Railsback	
	Crucifer	Joseph Ellett	
	Torch.	Vivian Avant, Mara Guerin	
	Ushers	Ann Lindsay, Andrew Urban	
	11 AM	Lector	Maggie Smith
		LEM	Judy Furlong
		LEM/Inter.	Sue Yurosko
		Ushers	Patricia Swayne, Steve Rodekohr
Altar Guild		Steven & Sue Yurosko	
Flower Guild		Mittie Railsback, Debi Hall	
Lay. Euch. Visit.		Judy Furlong	
Office Angel		Kay Barnard	
PIE Greeter	Betty & Bob McIntosh		
Verger	Bob Hall		

Lay Ministries Schedule cont'd on pg. 2

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 November

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.

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

The Rev. Jeanne Forte

Meetings are also
Regularly attended by:
Art Schipper
Treasurer

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 120 East J Street, Benicia, CA 94510

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