



St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

January 2019

Volume 1 Issue 12

THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

CONNECTIONS

By the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson



First and foremost, happy 2019 and may God's ever-present grace and blessings continue becoming clearer in your life.

All my life my parents taught me that Church

is a place where wonderful lifelong relationships can be built, and my experiences over many years have proven them right. The connections with which I've been blessed, with people of all walks of life in the great family of believers around the world, continue to have a profound impact on my deeper connection with God and the Eternal Word, Jesus. The blessing of seeing the love of Christ in the faces and spirits of an incredible diversity of people with whom I've shared conversations has helped in the continued process of 'undimming' my vision of God's truth, and I can only hope that I have helped others the way they have been of help to me.

In the coming weeks, the Vestry will be sharing with the congregation the work it has been doing for the development

of a strategic plan for the next three years, which will lead us to the parish's 150th anniversary in 2021.

CONNECTIONS is the name that has been given to this plan. Though it does not constitute the end-all and be-all of what St. Paul's is about, it will help us focus our efforts in the coming years, and it is a direct response to the priorities the congregation set in place for itself only two years ago: Diverse and Welcoming Church Community, Center for Spiritual Growth, Vibrant Youth Presence and Participation, A Stable and Cooperative Service Program, and Inviting Church Facilities.

Our hope is that this document will be both a guidepost that focuses our efforts and a source of continued conversations about who we are and who we seek to be as individuals and as a faith community in the city of Oakland. As part of our pledge campaign last year, I mentioned that we are hoping to come to each of your homes to share this vision with you, but more important will be the opportunity to hear your thoughts on the plan. We are asking

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ST. PAUL'S 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held on January 20, 2019 during the 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist service. Besides receiving committee and ministry reports, we will also be electing three persons to the Vestry as well as two

deanery delegates and three alternates. The vestry nominations committee has received names of potential vestry nominees. Please let us know if you are willing and able to serve as a Deanery Delegate.

PANTRY OF HOPE

Item of the month

Please continue to support the work of our pantry by contributing items to its inventory.

January

Bottles of juice

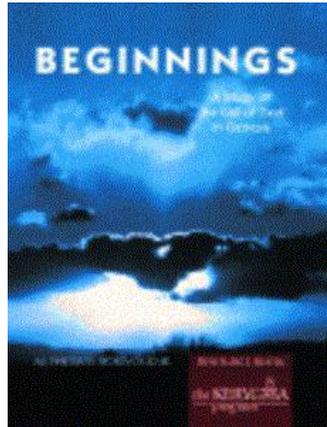
February

Bottles of juice

Bring your donations to church and place them in the offering basket in the narthex.

Thanks!

GENESIS 2.0



St. Paul's is offering a continuing adult class (seven sessions) during Epiphany. The good news is that if you didn't get in during the fall, you can

join now! Please read Genesis chapters 1-26 to catch up. Beyond that no previous study or knowledge is required. We will all come from our own experiences of life and faith. Everyone is welcome! As we read Genesis we will follow a study group model, where the participants do the reading ahead of time. The reading will take about an hour a week but doesn't have to be

done all at one time. The discussions will follow the interests and reflections that people bring to the group, including questions of how these stories inform and shape our lives today. We will explore different methods of studying and praying the scriptures and welcome the inclusion of art, music and literature into our conversation. This is not a lecture class. Irene Plunkett and Anne Jensen will be cofacilitators most weeks.

When: Sundays in January and February, starting January 6 except for January 20, which is the annual meeting. We'll meet after the 10 AM service, giving people a few minutes to pick up coffee and a snack. Where: Chapter Room (near the office) Questions and registration: Email or call Rev. Anne Jensen, annehj@aol.com, cell phone 510-917-3630.

WEEKLY FLOWER DONATIONS

It's the time of year again to sign up for weekly flower dedications. Each Sunday, except during Lent and Advent, the altar flowers are paid for by parishioners and friends in memory of loved ones or in celebration of life events (birthdays, anniversaries, new arrivals, graduations). The suggested donation is \$65 and you will be contacted the week before your dedication date as a reminder and for the wording you would like to appear in the service sheet. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or contact Altar Guild Coordinator Ann Del Simone (anndelsim@msn.com) if you would like to make a dedication, and let Ann know if you have any special flower re-

quests.

Do you like to arrange flowers or have an interest in preparing the altar for Sunday services? The St. Paul's Altar Guild is looking for new members and would love for you to join us. Contact Ann for further information.



NETS OVER THE CRÈCHE ADVENT INITIATIVE WILL PROTECT AT LEAST THREE AFRICAN VILLAGES FROM MALARIA

By Carolyn Knapp

St. Paul's parishioners responded generously to a chance they had to help prevent malaria, the number one infectious killer in the world, by donating over \$1,500 during Advent to Nets Over the Crèche, a program to send bed nets to African villages at high risk for the disease. Every two minutes, a child in Africa dies of malaria; each year it infects over 200 million more people and kills more than nearly a million of them, promoting a vicious cycle of disease and poverty.

Nets for Life is a program partnered with Episcopal Relief and Development to distribute the insecticide-permeated nets and train local volunteers to help people understand how to use them.

So far, the nets have saved the lives of

at least 112,000 children under 5, reduced malaria cases by 45%, and effected policy changes in five African countries. We asked ourselves what we as individuals and as a parish could do and found that one bed net would protect not just a child but a whole family. One net, plus shipping and distribution, costs just \$12. Thirty nets would protect a village. We thought our "village" of St. Paul's could send nets to one village in Africa.

We raised enough money to "cover" more than four!

Thank you so much for bringing life and hope to these communities.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Over the centuries, the body of the faithful has relied on the giftedness of its members to grow and thrive.

Though a lot has changed in our society and the structures of the church the reality continues being that almost every ministry of the church depends on the work of volunteers who respond to particular calls from God to serve. St. Paul's, Oakland is no different from the rest of the Church, we need the hands and gifts of all our members to continue ministering

faithfully to each other and the Oakland community. Though we no longer need individuals to run the mimeograph machine or to assemble and fold bulletins, there are still many other things that machines can't do and are in need of the human touch, including the ministries of Ushers, Acolytes, Altar Guild, Readers, Choir, Pantry of Hope, Faith Quest, Mustard Seeds, vestry and Committees, - to mention a few. Please offer your gifts to St. Paul's.

DONATIONS TO ST. PAUL'S

Using your Smartphone, scan this QR Code to make a digital offering to St. Paul's Church. Your donation will be processed through SPEC's PayPal account.



2018 OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio
Wilson – *Rector*
Alice Brilmayer
Senior Warden
George Strait
Junior Warden
Irene Plunkett
Clerk
Saundra Anderson
Treasurer

VESTRY BY CLASS

Class of 2018

Alice Brilmayer
George Strait
Saundra Anderson

Class of 2019

Pamela Kruse-Buckingham
Irene Plunkett
Will Cowart

Class of 2020

Ben Clausen
Allison Sass
Dylan Versteeg

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2015

Delegates

Scott Buckingham
Paula Hawthorn
Sheila Sims

Alternates

Pamela Buckingham

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday, January 6, 2019
The Epiphany of Our Lord Jesus Christ
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

St. Paul's Chancel Choir
 Bach, *Das alte Jahr vergangen ist* (BWV 614)
 Darke, *In the bleak mid-winter*
 Howells, *Here is the little door*
 Pachelbel, *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*

4:00pm Evensong
 This short Anglican service combines the end-of-day monastic offices of Vespers and Compline. Since the latter part of the 16th century, England's greatest composers have contributed to the rich musical tradition of this uplifting and beautiful liturgy. St. Paul's Schola Cantorum. Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Sunday, January 13, 2019
The Baptism of Our Lord Jesus Christ
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

St. Paul's Chancel Choir
 Brahms, *Schmücke dich o liebe Seele*
 Tye, *O Holy Spirit, Lord of Grace*
 Howells, *Like as the hart*
 Zachau, *Vom himmel hoch, da komm ich her*

Saturday, January 19, 2019
7:00pm, Concert
The Yale Whiffenpoofs

Yale's premier a cappella choir presents an exciting night with a diverse range of music, including classic jazz standards like *A Nightingale Sang in Berklee Square* and popular music such as *I'm Gonna Find Another You* by John Mayer. Treat yourself to Whiffenpoof classics like **Rainbow Connection** and the legendary *Whiffenpoof Song*, covered by such greats as Bing Crosby and Elvis Presley. With a wit and charm that has been honed over a century, the Whiffenpoofs are sure to delight any audience member, no matter what age, for the perfect night of music and cheer! <http://www.whiffenpoofs.org>

Sunday, January 20, 2019
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

St. Paul's Chancel Choir
 Hancock, *Air*
 Lassus, *Veni in hortum meum*
 Purcell, *O God, thou art my God*
 Bach, *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor* (BWV 551)

Newsletter contributors sought

We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talents.

The deadline for each edition is the 25th of the month previous to publication.

Please send your submissions of no more than 500 words to: halice@pacbell.net.



The Yale Whiffenpoofs

Sunday, January 27, 2019

10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

St. Paul's Chancel Choir

Mendelssohn, *Adagio* (from Sonata I)
Tallis, *O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit into our hearts*

Mozart, *Ave verum corpus*

Mendelssohn, *Wie groß ist des allmächtigen Güte*

3:00pm, Concert

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra

Eric Hansen, Music Director and Conductor

Third Concert: Anton Bruckner ·
Symphony No. 1 in C Minor

Felix Khuner Young Artist Concerto
Competition Winner

Pre-concert talk begins at 2:40 PM.
Families with children are always
welcome, and the facility is wheelchair
accessible. There is no admission fee for
their concerts, but donations are
gratefully accepted. [http://
www.prometheussymphony.org](http://www.prometheussymphony.org)

8:00pm, Compline

Gregorian chant and polyphony in
candlelight.

St. Paul's Compline Choir. Christopher
Kula, Music Director.

MLK @ Grace

**Sunday, January 20, 2019,
5:00 pm to Monday, January
21, 2019, 1:00 pm**

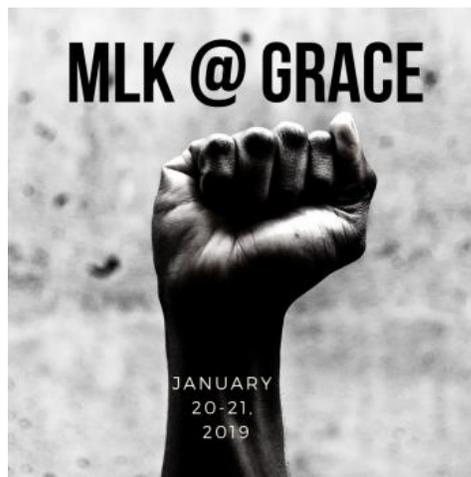
MLK @ Grace is an overnight sleepover
and service event at Grace
Cathedral. Join youth from around the
Diocese and Northern California for
fellowship, fun, discussion, and action.
There will be facilitated community
building, active and contemplative
activities, art, music, and prayer. We
will march together Monday in the San
Francisco MLK day Parade.
Program begins at 5 pm on Sunday and
ends at 1 pm on Monday.

Cost for MLK @ Grace is \$10, and
there is ample scholarship available. All
youth must be accompanied by a
designated Adult Leader.
Contact: Caren Miles, Associate for
Faith Formation, carenm@diocal.org,
415.869.7815

Youth Registration [HERE](#)

Adult Registration [HERE](#)

Harriet Bedell was born on March 19,
1875. Inspired by an Episcopal
missionary, she enrolled as a student at
the New York Training School for
Deaconesses where she was instructed
in religion, missions, teaching, and
hygiene. She then became a missionary-
teacher among the Cheyenne at the
Whirlwind Mission in Oklahoma. In
1916, Bedell was sent to Stevens



SAVE Stands-Ins against gun violence

SAVE (Soldiers Against
Violence Everywhere)
Oakland is taking a non-
violent stand against the
rampant murders in our
community by having
“Stand-Ins” from 11a.m. –
noon near where a person
was recently killed. Please
contact Paula Hawthorn,
510-601-8388, if you would
like to participate.

Contact [Save@Truevine-
Ministries.com](mailto:Save@Truevine-Ministries.com) to be put on
the email list for future
Stand-Ins.

SAINT OF THE MONTH

HARRIET BEDELL, DEACONESS AND MISSIONARY, 1969

WORSHIP ROTA ONLINE

The current rota for the Sunday worship services is posted on the St. Paul's Web site at :
http://
www.stpaulsoakland.org/
RotaSchedule

The rota includes the names of readers, sub-deacons, intercessors, and lay Eucharistic ministers.

New volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Fr. Mauricio or the Ven. Carolyn Bolton to volunteer or if you have any questions.



Village, Alaska, where she was finally set apart as a deaconess in 1922. She also served as a teacher and nurse at St. John's in the Wilderness at Allakaket, just 40 miles south of the Arctic Circle, where she sometimes traveled by dogsled to remote villages. During her last years in Alaska, Bedell opened a boarding school.

In 1932, hearing about the plight of the Seminoles in Florida, Bedell used her own salary to reopen a mission among the Mikasuki Indians. There, she worked to revive some of their traditional crafts: Doll-making, basket-weaving, and intricate patchwork designs. The arts and crafts store that they established to sell their handicrafts improved the economy of the Blades Cross Mission. Though forced to officially retire at age 63, Bedell continued her ministry of health care, education, and economic empowerment until 1960 when Hurricane Donna wiped out her mission.

Active into her eighties, Deaconess Bedell drove an average of 20,000 miles per year during her ministry. She was one of the most popular writers in the national Episcopal mission periodical, *The Spirit of Missions*. Bedell won the respect of indigenous people through her compassion and respect for their way of life and beliefs. While active in ministry among the Cheyenne, she was eventually adopted into the tribe and given the name "Bird Woman." The diocese of Southwest Florida has long celebrated Harriet Bedell Day on January 8, the anniversary of her death in 1969.

Holy God, you chose your faithful servant Harriett Bedell to exercise the ministry of deaconess and to be a missionary among indigenous peoples: Fill us with compassion and respect for all people, and empower us for the work of ministry throughout the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SAINT OF THE MONTH

VINCENT

DEACON OF SARAGOSSA, AND MARTYR, 304

Vincent has been called the protomartyr of Spain. Little is known about the actual events surrounding his life, other than his name, his order of ministry, and the place and time of his martyrdom. He was a native of Huesca, in northeastern Spain, and was ordained deacon by Valerius, Bishop of Saragossa. In the early years of the fourth century, the fervent Christian community in Spain fell victim to a persecution ordered by the Roman emperors Diocletian and Maximian. Dacian, governor of Spain, arrested Valerius and his deacon Vincent, and had them imprisoned at Valencia.

According to one legend, Valerius had a speech impediment, and Vincent was often called upon to preach for him. When the two prisoners were challenged to renounce their faith, amid threats of torture and death, Vincent said to his bishop, "Father, if you order me, I will speak." Valerius is said to have replied, "Son, as I committed you to dispense the word of God, so I now charge you to answer in vindication of the faith which we defend." The young deacon then told the governor that he and his bishop had no intention of betraying the true God. The vehemence and enthusiasm of Vincent's defense showed no caution in his defiance of the judges, and Dacian's fury was increased by this exuberance in Christian witness. Valerius was exiled, but the angry Dacian ordered that Vincent be tortured.

Although the accounts of his martyrdom have been heavily embellished by



early Christian poets, Augustine of Hippo writes that Vincent's unshakeable faith enabled him to endure grotesque punishments and, finally, death.

Records of the transfer and present whereabouts of Vincent's relics are of questionable authenticity. We are certain, however, that his cult spread rapidly throughout early Christendom and that he was venerated as a bold and outspoken witness to the truth of the living Christ.

Almighty God, your deacon Vincent, upheld by you, was not terrified by threats nor overcome by torments: Strengthen us to endure all adversity with invincible and steadfast faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Dear Readers:
In an effort to reduce paper waste and printing/ mailing expenses, we are asking anyone who gets the on-line version of The Good News and no longer needs a paper version mailed to his or her home to let us know. If you don't get the newsletter online and would like to, or if you want to take yourself off the snail-mail list, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or admin@stpaulsoakland.org. Many thanks.



St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

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Web: www.stpaulsoakland.org

Services

SUNDAYS

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

4 p.m. Evensong
(First Sundays, Oct.-June)

8 p.m. Compline
(4th Sundays only)

WEDNESDAYS

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist
(with Healing prayer on
the 1st Wednesday of the
month)

(Continued from Page 1)

that all members of the St. Paul's family make a personal commitment of time, energy and money to bring this plan to full embodiment. Furthermore, it is essential that we are all clear on its purpose and the process of implementation, as well as its costs. Though these close family visits are important, we also believe that larger congregational conversations will be necessary, and those will be scheduled in the best way possible considering all the other events in the life of the parish.

I believe 2019 is going to be an exciting and interesting year for St. Paul's, both internally and externally. Besides the implementation of the above-mentioned plan, we are still looking to fill two essential staff positions: Parish Administrator and

Director of Children and Youth Ministries (part-time). If you know of anyone who might fit our community's needs, please have them apply. We are also on the verge of having a significant increase in the number of people living within this neighborhood when the development projects are completed on Broadway, 27th St., and others. Will we be ready to receive those new residents who might be searching for a faith community to call home? What a wonderful opportunity to be who we say we are in our Vision and Values statements: *St. Paul's dares to be an open embracing community; discovering, celebrating, and sharing the Love of Christ, and, we value everyone and welcome all to find a place to belong in the worship, fellowship and ministry of this parish.*