



St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

July/August 2019

Volume 6, Issue 12

THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

IMMIGRATION AND YOU/ME/US. By the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson



When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall

love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God. Leviticus 19:33-34.

I ran across this text a few days ago as I continued my preparations for conversations with the young members of our congregation who will be preparing for Confirmation. It's part of the Levitical Code, a long series of ordinances set forth for the people of Israel. This particular passage was striking to me because I was reading about the places in the Bible that are used by some to condemn LGBTQ+ people. After reading chapter 18 of Leviticus, I couldn't stop myself from heading into 19, and there it was; a mandate from God to care for the alien

and treat them as citizens.

I don't believe the reason we ought to treat the modern-day alien in our midst with kindness stems from an Old Testament mandate, but rather from a New Testament covenant of love unconditional. It is the same commandment of love in which we are invited to love God, self, and neighbor; the neighbor that takes on the form of every other human being who resides on this planet, because the blood of Jesus was shed on the cross for every single one of us.

The reference back to Leviticus is essential in regard to the literalism with which some people chose to apply the teachings of Scripture. It is preposterous to me that anyone can declare the absolute need and obligation to demand compliance with the commands of chapter 18 and in the next breath declare that chapter 19 no longer applies in our day and age. It is indeed deeply hypocritical to pick apart the *Law of God* to apply it in ways that are only convenient to one's purposes.

(Continued on Page 8)

Inside This Issue

- Page 2
- Music at St. Paul's
Summer Choir
QRC Code
Page 3
- 150th Anniversary
Page 4
- Saint of the Month
Page 5
- Saint of the Month
Page 6
- Honoring Marion Sayer
Peace Awards
Fall Events
Page 7
- Beloved Community

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISRIES



José Daniel Pinell Mendieta was born in Managua, Nicaragua. Before migrating to the United States at the age of 17, he became passionate about his Christian faith and found a deeper commitment to it. Daniel was involved in children's and youth ministry soon after arriving in the States. He helped oversee the formation of a new youth group in a Latino local parish in Concord, CA. He became passionate for youth ministry as the youth group flourished over the years. While helping with the development of the youth group he also volunteered to teach chatechism for children preparing for first communion. He also became involved with an ecumenical missionary order called

(Continued on Page 7)

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

PRELUDE PREVIEWS RETURN!



Before each 10am service this Summer, Christopher Kula will continue to play through J S Bach's cycle of keyboard preludes and fugues known as "The Well Tempered Clavier." Before the prelude, musicologist and choir member John Prescott will speak for a few minutes about the piece we are about to hear and how Bach's music can lead us into the prayerful space of the liturgy.

PANTRY OF HOPE

Item of the month

Please continue to support the work of our pantry.

The process of restocking the inventory is on the way and for the month of July and August we are hoping to receive your donations of strawberry or grape jelly and juice.

Thanks for your continued support and prayers.

COMPLINE

Sundays, July 28 and August 25
8pm

Since October of 2002 the choir of St. Paul's has sung Compline on the fourth Sunday of every month at 8:00 pm. The transcendent quality of the Gregorian Chant, along with the beauty of St. Paul's Church bathed in candlelight, has made the service an oasis of peace

in the lives of those who attend, both Christians and Non-Christians. The candles are lit at 7.50 and the church remains open for a half hour after the service ends (usually around 8.40). With St. Paul's Compline Choir. Christopher Kula, Choir Director.

JOIN ST. PAUL'S SUMMER CHOIR!

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to sing in a Saint Paul's Choir? Here's your chance to find out. Everyone is welcome to join the Summer Choir. Simply show up at 9:15 on Sunday morning, starting on

June 16. We'll have a brief rehearsal before the 10:00 am service. Learn simple chanting and sing with one of our wonderful section leaders. You'll be glad you did.

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.





SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2020

5:00PM – 10:00PM

As we kick-off our sesquicentennial anniversary celebration with a Mardi-Gras themed Fundraising Gala Dinner dance.

Details forthcoming, including other activities that lead up to our January, 2021 anniversary date.



2019 OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY

- The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson – *Rector*
- Irene Plunkett – *Senior Warden*
- Will Cowart – *Junior Warden*
- Pamela Kruse-Buckingham – *Clerk*
- Sandra Anderson – *Treasurer*

VESTRY BY CLASS

- Class of 2019**
- Pamela Kruse-Buckingham
 - Irene Plunkett
 - Will Cowart

- Class of 2020**
- Allison Sass
 - Dylan Versteeg
 - Bill Davis

- Class of 2021**
- Madyé Parrish
 - Sergio Prieto
 - Erica Terry-Derryck

- Future meetings:**
- September 24
 - October 22
 - November 26

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2015

Delegates

- Melanie Blake
- James Kadleck
- Tom McGarrell

Alternates

To Be Appointed

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Sojourner Truth

“Miriam of the Later Exodus”



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.

Isabella (Sojourner Truth) was the next-to-youngest child of several born to James and Elizabeth, slaves owned by a wealthy Dutchman in New York. For the first 28 years of her life she was a slave, sold from household to household.

She fled slavery with the help of Quaker friends, first living in Philadelphia, then New York, where she joined the Mother Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church when African-Americans were being denied the right to worship with white members of St. George's Church in Philadelphia. Belle (as Isabella was called) became a street-corner evangelist in poverty-stricken areas of New York City, but quickly realized people needed food, housing and warm clothing. She focused her work on a homeless shelter for women.

When she was about 46, Belle believed she heard God say to her, "Go east." So, she set out east for Long Island and Connecticut. Stopping at a Quaker

farm for a drink of water, she was asked her name. "My name is Sojourner," Belle said. "What is your last name?" the woman asked. Belle thought of all her masters' names she had carried through life. Then the thought came: "The only master I have now is God, and His name is Truth."

Sojourner became a traveling preacher, approaching white religious meetings and campgrounds and asking to speak. Fascinated by her charismatic presence, her wit, wisdom, and imposing six-foot height, they found her hard to refuse. She never learned to read or write, but quoted extensive Bible passages from memory in her sermons. She ended by singing a "home-made" hymn and addressing the crowd on the evils of slavery. Her reputation grew and she became part of the abolitionist and women's rights speakers' network.

During a women's rights convention in Ohio, Sojourner gave the speech for which she is best remembered: "Ain't I a Woman." She had listened for hours to clergy attack women's rights and abolition, using the Bible to support their oppressive logic: God had created women to be weak and blacks to be a subservient race.

O God, whose Spirit guides us into all truth and makes us free: Strengthen and sustain us as you did your servant Sojourner. Give us vision and courage to stand against oppression and injustice and all that works against the glorious liberty to which you call all your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Martin de Porres, Rosa de Lima, and Toribio de Mogrovejo

Witnesses to the Faith in South America, 1639, 1617, 1606



Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru, on December 9, 1579, the illegitimate son of a Spanish nobleman and a young black former slave. Because Martin inherited the dark skin of his mother, his father abandoned the family.

Martin apprenticed to a barber-surgeon and after learning the trade, he applied to the Dominicans to be a “lay helper.” Placed in charge of the infirmary, he was known for his tender care of the sick and for his spectacular cures. His faithfulness led the community to request his religious profession. The stipulation that “no black person may be received to the holy habit or profession of our Order,” was dropped, and Martin took vows as a Dominican brother in 1603.

Martin was a good friend of Rosa de Lima, who shared his passion for the sick and the poor. Rosa was exceedingly beautiful and, because of her family’s fading fortunes, she feared being married off to a wealthy man in exchange for her dowry. Not wanting this to happen, Rosa disfigured herself. In order to contribute to her family’s upkeep, Rosa took in sewing and served as a gardener.

Her passion for the poor, however, eventually led her to the Third Order of St. Dominic where she became a recluse. Out of her prayer grew a strong desire to do works of mercy for the poorest of the poor, particularly for Indians, slaves, and others on the

margins of society.

Toribio de Mogrovejo was born in Spain in 1538 and became a brilliant student of law and theology. In 1580, the Archdiocese of Lima, Peru, needed a new leader and Toribio was chosen. He objected because he was a layman, but was overruled, ordained priest and bishop, and arrived in Peru in 1581 as archbishop.

Confronted with the worst of colonialism, Toribio fought injustice in both the church and the civil order. He baptized and confirmed nearly a million souls. Among his flock were Rosa de Lima and Martin de Porres. He founded many churches, religious houses, and hospitals, and, in 1591, founded the seminary at Lima.

Merciful God, you sent your Gospel to the people of Peru through Martin de Porres, who brought its comfort even to slaves; through Rosa de Lima, who worked among the poorest of the poor; and through Toribio de Mogrovejo, who founded the first seminary in the Americas and baptized many: Help us to follow their example in bringing fearlessly the comfort of your grace to all downtrodden and outcast people, that your Church may be renewed with songs of salvation and praise; through Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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 to be put on the email list for future Stand-Ins.

HONORING MARION SAYER

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.



hospitals. Knitted lap blankets for the youth at the probation department; assisting with the bookkeeping at St. Paul's. She has been a trooper.

The art class invited Marion to come speak with them of the importance of volunteering and how volunteering helped to mold her to the person she is today. During the presentation the youth were able to get a general idea of "Who she is" and background information to make a quilt to represent Marion's ventures.

The eight grade art class from St. Paul's School wanted to present a senior from St. Paul's Church with a hand made quilt made by the students. Rev. Carolyn Bolton picked Marion Sayer because of her volunteer work with the church and the community. Marion has helped with the day labor lunch program, she was part of the knitting team, knitting blankets and hats for the newborns at Highland and Children

Each patch in the quilt represents something in Marion's life she expressed about herself. Once completed, the art class presented the quilt to Marion on June 11, 2019, which just happened to be her birthday. (What a beautiful birthday present.) Marion had no idea the student had made this special quilt for her.

WARRIOS FOR PEACE IN OAKLAND AWARDS RECEPTION

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019, 4:00 P.M.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

114 MONTECITO AVENUE

HONORING LOCAL HEROES DEDICATED TO REDUCING VIOLENCE IN OAKLAND

SPECIAL EVENTS AT ST. PAUL'S THIS FALL

September 15:	Homecoming Celebration
September 21:	Beloved Community Training Day
September 21:	S.A.V.E. Peace Awards Reception
October 6:	Episcopal Schools Celebration
October 13:	Blessing of the Animals
October 27:	Youth Sunday
November 2:	Diocesan General Confirmation

Director of Y. & C.M.

(Continued from Page 1)

InnerCHANGE, where he ministered to youth at risk at Juvenile Hall and gang members in San Francisco. Intending to become a Catholic priest, Daniel entered as a candidate for the pre-novitiate with the Augustinian religious order and studied philosophy for almost 2 years. He left after discerning a call to the married life. He married a few years after leaving the Augustinian community, meeting his wife while doing ministry with InnerCHANGE. Daniel worked as a community organizer for immigrant's rights in Oakland, CA, helping organize clergy and churches to fight for the rights of immigrants and refugees.

After years of discernment, Daniel and his wife Nettie joined The Episcopal Church on Easter of 2018. Daniel is currently discerning a call to the Priesthood in The Episcopal Church. They have two young children, Lucas (2 years old) and Nicolas (3 months old) and are learning the chaotic, joyful and rewarding life of new parents. He graduated with a Masters of Divinity from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in the Spring of 2019. Daniel enjoys reading books on theology and the life of the Saints, among other biographies, traveling and enjoying a variety of cuisines, writing, cooking, and a good cup of coffee.



Save the Date: Beloved Community Training Day in the East Bay

This fall St. Paul's Oakland will host a Beloved Community Training day on Saturday, September 21.

The day will include required training sessions for Eucharistic Visitors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Whole & Healthy Church Training, along with an array of workshops for lay leaders in all areas of ministry.

Registration will open in late-summer.

When: Saturday, September 21

Where: St. Paul's, Oakland, 114 Montecito Avenue

Contact: Amy Cook, Working Group Head for Faith Formation, amyc@diocal.org

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

114 Montecito Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Phone: 510.834.4314
Fax: 510.834.0166
E-mail: admin@stpaulsoakland.org
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)

When it comes to what many have chosen to call the “immigration crisis” in this country, and in fact around the world, I can’t help but see it as our lack of love for our neighbor. For when the term crisis is used in reference to the immigrant community, it is out of fear of having to share our land and benefits with others. We show a lack of compassionate resolve to deal with the issues that motivate people to risk their lives by traveling to a strange place by any means necessary. For many around the world it is better to take a chance of dying in the desert heat or the rushing waters of a river than to stay in a situation where death or endless misery is certain.

When we think of Israel in the land of Egypt, we tend to remember the last part of the story, when Moses was sent

to free them from slavery, but that’s not how the story began. Jacob and his children were welcomed to Egypt as equals and given everything they needed during a time of great famine in the known world.

We should welcome the alien of 2019 into this land, for not long ago, your ancestors (or maybe even you) were aliens in this very place. If following the Levitical Code makes you uncomfortable in any way then, welcome the stranger or alien as though they were Christ himself, for even he didn’t have a home. *Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” Luke 9:58*