



**St. Paul's**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

July-August 2017  
Volume 11 Issue 7

# THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

## POETRY IN MOTION

By the Rev. Annie Pierpoint Mertz



When I was in high school, we did a unit on poetry in my English class. I remember the teacher explaining

that each of the four seasons represented a stage of the human life

cycle. Spring was birth, summer was growth and maturity, fall was old age, and winter represented death. True enough in some cases, as in the lovely, dark, and deep woods filling up with snow in Robert Frost's poem "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." But I was—and still am—mystified that fall represented a season of slowing down and approaching the end.

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## PRESIDING BISHOP VISITS CHARLOTTESVILLE, BRINGS MESSAGE OF CHRISTIAN LOVE IN THE FACE OF HATE

By David Paulsen, Episcopal News Service

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on Sept. 7 visited each of Charlottesville's three Episcopal churches, spoke at length with clergy and diocesan officials, and preached at an evening worship service here, less than a month after violence during a white supremacist rally thrust this Southern college town into the national spotlight. Curry's message was one of support, and of the power of Jesus' love to show the way forward.

"We have been praying for you. We will continue to pray with you. Above all, we stand together," Curry said in his sermon before the hundreds of people who filled St. Paul's Memorial Church overlooking the University of Virginia campus.

On Aug. 12, Episcopal and other faith leaders joined with anti-racism counter-protesters in solidarity against the hate groups that had amassed in

Charlottesville to oppose removal of a statue of Confederate General Robert E. Lee. The confrontation sparked clashes that injured dozens and left one counterprotester dead.

The melee also amplified a national debate over statues of Lee and other Confederate symbols, including at Episcopal institutions. In Charlottesville, subsequent City Council meetings have featured raucous debate on the issue, leading to a unanimous vote Sept. 5 to remove a second Confederate statue, the Daily Progress reported.

The Episcopal churches in Charlottesville are focused on healing and weren't looking to generate headlines by inviting Curry, said the Rev. Paul Walker, rector of Christ Episcopal Church, a large congregation in downtown Charlottesville. He and other clergy

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## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL SCHOOL RATED AS ONE OF OAKLAND'S FINEST

### PANTRY OF HOPE

#### Item of the month

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

#### September

Bottles of juice

#### October

Bottles of juice

#### November

Bottles of juice

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

Thanks!



Recently, Oakland magazine celebrated its "Best of Oakland" party. Josh Stern, head of school, was proud to announce that St. Paul's Episcopal School was recognized in Best Private Elementary and Middle Schools. Congratulations, SPES!

## IT'S HOMECOMING TIME!

Our rector is back. The choir is back. It's time to celebrate.

On Sunday, September 17 after the 10:00 am service, we'll be having a Homecoming Potluck. Bring something to share—either your signature dish or something yummy you've bought—and join us in the parish hall for a sumptuous feast.



## FUNDRAISING THIS AUTUMN: POP-UP GARAGE SALES

*Sell your possessions and give alms"*  
*Luke 12:13.*

Yep, its time for some garage sale fundraising at St. Paul's! We will have two "multi-family" style garage sales. The dates are Saturday, September 23 and Saturday, October 28. The proceeds of the garage sales will be applied to our parish ministries. The set up for each sale will be between 7am and 9am. The sales will be between 9am and 2:30pm or so. No early bird buyers please, but early bird volunteers will be cheerfully welcomed. Coffee will be provided during the set up period. Donuts, no doubt, will miraculously appear. Unlike the large rummage sales sponsored by St. Paul's in the past, these sales are meant to be less labor intensive. Each sale will have seven available booths. Each booth will be sponsored by a family or a parishioner or two. Each booth will be responsible for its set up, delivery of its goods for sale, sale of the goods, and removal of unsold goods at the end of the day. Volunteers will assist. Each booth should have at least \$200 worth of goods for sale. The proceeds of each booth's sales will be donated to St. Paul's at the end of the day. A receipt will be given and the amounts will be reflected on the parishioner's annual statement. And at each sale we will endeavor to keep the "fun" in fundraising. For additional information and to reserve a booth, please contact Tom McGarrell at 267 808 1921 or [tommy3405@yahoo.com](mailto:tommy3405@yahoo.com).





Date of Departure: 01/08/2018

Date of Return: 01/17/2018

\$2,150 Double occupancy:  
*includes all costs once you arrive at SJO airport in Costa Rica on 01/08 until you are dropped off at the same on 01/17.*

There is a 20 person limit.

## ECO PILGRIMAGE TO COSTA RICA

Located close to the midway point of the American continents Costa Rica enjoys one of the greatest eco diversities in the world. It is also deeply rooted in the Christian faith brought by the Spanish conquistadores.

Each day will begin with time of personal and group reflection.



Places visited will include:  
- Puerto Viejo - Tortuguero National Park  
- Arenal Volcano - The National Theater  
- The Catholic Metropolitan Cathedral

Pilgrimage organizer: The Rev. Dr. Mauricio J. Wilson  
Phone: 510-834-4314, ext. 502  
Fax: 510-834-0166  
Email: rector@stpaulsoakland.org



## LOOK! WE'RE MOVING INTO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY!

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. Please add 3% for processing.



### 2016 OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY

- The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson – *Rector*
- Alice Brilmayer – *Senior Warden*
- William (Bill) Davis – *Junior Warden*
- James Kadleck – *Clerk*
- Sandra Anderson – *Treasurer*

### VESTRY BY CLASS

- Class of 2017**
- William (Bill) Davis
- James Kadleck
- Yuri Sikkema
- Class of 2018**
- Alice Brilmayer
- George Strait
- Sandra Anderson

- Class of 2019**
- Mel Behrendt
- Pamela Kruse-Buckingham
- Irene Plunkett

### DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2015

#### Delegates

- Scott Buckingham
- Paula Hawthorn
- Sheila Sims

#### Alternates

- Izabella (Bella) Sempari
- Pam Buckingham

## MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

### SPECIAL MUSIC IN SEPTEMBER

**Sunday, September 3, Thirteenth  
Sunday after Pentecost  
10 a.m., Choral Eucharist**

No choir (St. Paul's Choir Retreat weekend).

**Sunday, September 10, Fourteenth  
Sunday after Pentecost  
10 a.m., Choral Eucharist**

Ubi caritas, *Durufilé*; Ain't got time to die, *Thayer*; O sacrum convivium, *Messiaen*; Prelude and Fugue in D (Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1), *Bach*; Ein feste Berg, *Pachelbel*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

**Sunday, September 17, Fifteenth  
Sunday after Pentecost  
10 a.m., Choral Eucharist**

Go down Moses, *Tippett*; My shepherd will supply my need, *Thomson*; Prelude and Fugue in D minor (Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1), *Bach*; Voluntary in D minor, *Herschel*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

**Sunday, September 24, Sixteenth  
Sunday after Pentecost  
10 a.m., Choral Eucharist**

Vinea mea electa, *Poulenc*; Beati quorum via, *Stanford*; Sinfonia in C, *Bach*; Trumpet Voluntary, *Stanley*.

With St. Paul's Episcopal Church Choir; Christopher Kula, Music Director.

**8 p.m., Compline**

Gregorian chant, polyphony, and candlelight, in the church. Music of Byrd, Tallis, Victoria. Compline, a service of psalms and prayers, has been sung 'at the close of day' in monasteries, convents and churches for many centuries and is one of the best-loved services of the Church. It has been re-instituted in response to the renewed interest in plainsong (Gregorian Chant) and contemplative prayer. There is no sermon. With St. Paul's Compline Choir. Christopher Kula, Music Director.

### 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 15th of the month previous to publication.*

*Please send your submissions of no more than 500 words to: [halice@pacbell.net](mailto:halice@pacbell.net).*

### PIANO FOR SALE

We have a baby grand piano for sale. The piano was made by the Gulbransen Company and is 4 feet, 8 inches tall. It stays in tune and is great for a small home. Asking price is \$600. Piano truck not included. Please email or call Mia Gamboa in the church office if you are interested ([admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org), (510) 834-4314 x 501).



## WRITERS NEEDED FOR PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Exercise your creativity by composing Prayers of the People to be used during Sunday services. A small group of regular parishioners have gathered to learn how to make their contribution to our worship. Guidance and/or editing is available.

We'll start writing prayers this September to launch the program at the beginning of 2018. If you're interested, contact Jeanette Dinwiddie Moore, [dinwidd@gmail.com](mailto:dinwidd@gmail.com), 510-531-3355. Or speak to Jeanette at the 10:00 am service.

## MEN WHO WANDER

Men who Wander will resume in the fall.

Be on the look out for announcements which will be forthcoming.



## WOMEN WHO WONDER RESUMES

Women Who Wonder—our book club for women—will resume on the third week of October. We meet in the chapter room at 6:00 for a simple meal and discussion of issues raised in our reading and in our lives.

Look for more information in the near future.

## FOYER GROUPS COMING TO ST. PAUL'S THIS FALL

Would you like to have an opportunity to get to know your St. Paul's family members better?? Do you find coffee hour is just too short to really get to know your fellow parishioners?? Why not join a Foyer Group?? Foyer Groups are a social opportunity for parishioners to share time, conversation, and a meal together, which provide a great way to get to know each other better. The groups are made up of eight people (singles or couples), who gather together approximately once a quarter to share a meal. If you are interested in joining a Foyer Group, look for the sign-up sheets that will be in narthex starting Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. If you would like more information in the interim, please feel free to call either Rev. Anne Jensen, [annehj@aol.com](mailto:annehj@aol.com), 510-251-1706, Irene Plunkett, [iplunkett@sbcglobal.net](mailto:iplunkett@sbcglobal.net), 510-568-8257 or Jeanette Dinwiddie Moore, [dinwidd@gmail.com](mailto:dinwidd@gmail.com), 510-531-3355.

## 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 11 a.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.

## PRESIDING BISHOP VISITS CHARLOTTESVILLE

### 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.

members were grateful Curry agreed to this pastoral visit, a day filled mostly with private gatherings, as well as the public worship service.

Curry began the day at Christ Church, where bishops of the Diocese of Virginia met him around 9:30 a.m. for an informal orientation. He thanked them and the local Episcopal community for its work – “not just what you have done but who you were in the midst of all this.”

Christ Church is on the corner opposite Emancipation Park, where the statue of Lee now is wrapped in a layer of plastic as the city resolves a legal fight over its removal. The park is visible from Walker's second-floor office window, and before the day's proceedings got underway, he walked Curry across the street to spend a few minutes at the foot of the Lee statue discussing its history and pending fate.

From there, the group drove a short distance northwest to Trinity Episcopal Church. It's a smaller and historically black, but diversifying, congregation that on Aug. 12 hosted an afternoon prayer service for faith-based groups to conclude their day of opposition to the white supremacist rally.



*St. Paul's Memorial Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, overlooks the campus of the University of Virginia.*

On Sept. 7, Trinity's vicar, the Rev. Cass

Bailey, welcomed Curry in the parish

hall for

conversations –

Curry would later describe it as “sacred time” – with about 50 priests and deacons from the 18 congregations in the diocesan region around Charlottesville.

The meeting was not open to the public, but later in the day, Diocese of Virginia Bishop Shannon Johnston said it was a profoundly meaningful experience for those present. Curry served as chief pastor to them and provided a ministry of encouragement, Johnston said, and affirmed the support of the Episcopal Church.

“In times like Charlottesville has come through, the feeling of being connected to the larger body is extremely important,” said Johnston, who was in Charlottesville on Aug. 12 with other Episcopal clergy members.

Johnston introduced Curry at his next stop, a luncheon back at Christ Church. More than 100 attended, primarily members of Diocese of Virginia governing boards and committees. Curry, in his remarks to them, again applauded those who stood up and spoke out against racism in Charlottesville last month.

“I was never prouder to be an Episcopalian, in all the pain, than I was when I saw you,” Curry said, while underscoring that the issue of racism is bigger than one city.

“We never fully resolved or brought to completion the issues that were engaged in the Civil War, or the War Between the States,” he said. “The fundamental issues didn't get resolved. And nobody in this room was there, and nobody in this room did it. But we're stuck with it.”

Racism is a

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demon that “still must be engaged,” he said. “We’ve come here to figure out how do we follow Jesus in a time such as this, and how do we do it with integrity and with a sense of wholesomeness and in ways that can help us all end the nightmare and realize God’s dream.”

Curry also spent time Sept. 7 with Episcopal college students from the Charlottesville area and those attending the University of Virginia. The afternoon meeting took place in the parish hall at St. Paul’s, a couple hours before Curry preached at the Eucharist in the church. The Rev. Will Peyton, rector at St. Paul’s, alluded to Curry’s role as chief pastor in an interview with Episcopal News Service before the presiding bishop’s visit.

“I’m grateful to him, to take care of us, to express the care of the church,” Peyton said. “I think there really is a pretty universal feeling in Charlottesville that we were attacked.”

Peyton, whose church hosted a prayer service Aug. 11 on the eve of the white supremacist rally, kicked off the Sept. 7 worship service with a welcoming message that was followed by a long procession of choir and clergy.

Curry’s half-hour sermon directly addressed the prior month’s events in Charlottesville only briefly, yet his message of Christian love and compassion was an intentionally pointed contrast to the hate-filled views promoted by the neo-Nazis, Ku Klux Klan members and other supremacist groups that rallied behind the Lee statue.

He began by recounting the Gospel reading, the depiction in John 18:33-37 of Jesus’ response to Pilate. “Jesus was telling us then, and telling us now, that there is another way.”

Curry went on to pull in additional

biblical references, from the Beatitudes and from Jesus’ last discourse in John 13-17 and his command to “love one another,” even your enemies. He continued that God’s unconditional love is embodied in Jesus’ selfless sacrifice on the cross.



*The Rev. Paul Walker (left), rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, speaks with the presiding bishop at an informal orientation.*

“That kind of love is counterintuitive, it is counter to this world, but it can change this world,” Curry boomed to applause. The presiding bishop also invoked the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.’s rules for nonviolent direct action, which began with the command to meditate on the teachings of Jesus. He also shared a personal story, of a white man who once told him that the love shown by members of an Episcopal congregation had changed his life and prompted him to convert and turn away from his family’s past in the Ku Klux Klan.

The lesson, Curry said, is to be people of Jesus’ love without shame and to bear witness to that love. He concluded with a message specifically for the Charlottesville crowd.

“Charlottesville. Virginia. Lift up your heads, straighten your backs, walk together,” he said. “Walk together and work together and live the way of love until the love of God transforms this world.”

**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](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org). Many thanks.**



# St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

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## 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*)

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Anyone connected to a school can tell you that fall is anything but that! It is a season of “kicking off” activities—sports teams, tutoring sessions, volunteer opportunities, you name it. The first day of school feels like New Year’s Day as we bring good intentions, clean slates, and new lunch boxes through the doors. It is a time of year infused with hope and energy!

At the 10 a.m. service on August 20th, we gathered children, parents, teachers, and anyone feeling in tune with this new fall energy at the front of the church and said a prayer for the new year. We asked God to be present in all

our moments and to guide us through this time of transition. This is my prayer this month for all of us at St. Paul’s. As we wrap up summer construction projects, re-launch into our many programs and ministries, and continue in the rhythm of weekly worship in community, may we do so with God’s love at the fore. And perhaps we can take a cue from my high school English teacher, taking a moment here and there to slow down, breathe deeply, and appreciate God’s many gifts as they come.

Blessings,  
Mother Annie