



St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

January 2016
Volume 10 Issue 1

THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

MILKING MAIDS

By the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson

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Since the late 18th century, with the release of the popular rhyme, then song, the Twelve Days of Christmas, we have started each calendar year with eight maids milking and finished each year with seven swans swimming. This happens because the Christmas calendar begins on December 25 and is therefore split into two months of two calendar years. If you are unaware, the eight maids milking refers to eight young ladies milking cows or other milk bearing farm animals. The milking maids in the middle of the Christmas Season, at the very beginning of the new year reminds me of the fact that life does not stop or slow down because some of us are on holiday. The animals need to be milked, crops must be tended, and children cared for. Some would say that a fast paced lifestyle is a 20th and 21st century creation, but in reality human beings have always been busy trying to get things done and doing them each day in a more efficient way.

So 2016 is here and we should have no expectations of a slowdown in life. In fact all signs point to this being a 'full steam ahead' year. This month alone packed with excitement. We do welcoming on the first Sunday, the baptism of Ellie and Josephine on the

10th, our Annual Meeting on the 17th with the election of Vestry members and Deanery delegates and on the 24th we



celebrate our patron saint, not only in worship but also in a potluck luncheon. These only account for the things we will be doing on Sunday morning. In addition, we have the Pantry of Hope serving over 60 families every two weeks; and, on January 10, Club 456 will be born, to gather our young members in the 4th, 5th and 6th grade. This year will bring the excitement of the search for a successor to Dr. David Farr as Music Director and many opportunities to express our gratitude to David for his years of faithful service.

Like in past years most of the opportunities for making a difference are going to be generated not as part of our corporate worship life but right from the daily lives of individuals of this parish family. Their success and survival depends on the continued presence and prayers of committed

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ST. PAUL'S 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting will be held on January 17, 2016 at 10 a.m. If you wish to offer nominations for Vestry, please contact one of the members of the nominating committee: Mary Wells, Charles Doyle, Paula Hawthorn or Maura Lane.

FROM THE ST. PAUL'S ARCHIVES

Edited by Liz Hook

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

Canned soup

March

Canned fruit

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

Thanks!

(During our newcomers' tour of the church it became clear that a review of the history of some of our stained glass windows was in order. The below are a condensation of two of Liz Hook's articles from 2011 and 2012.)

Several of you have asked me about the windows of St. Paul's. I thought the Requa Window over the altar would be a good place to begin. It is formally called the Resurrection Window and the Biblical reference is Mark 16:9.

Technically, it is referred to as a "triple lancet Gothic window with cinquefoil top. It is a naturalistic painting set at sunrise in a garden with mountains in the background. The whole is framed by an elaborate architectural motif in shades of off white to indicate stone. This is softened by red Tudor roses in intervals."

On the lower left, Mary Magdalene, on her knees, raises her hands toward the risen Christ in the center lancet. On the lower right, a winged angel sits on the edge of the opened stone tomb.

Many people seeing the window for the first time are surprised to see a redwood tree in the background behind Mary and clumps of what are thought to be native California plants in the garden. One day Father Wilson climbed a ladder to get a closer look and found a patch of strawberries growing at the lower left side of the center lancet.

The figures in the stonework over Mary and the angel are Moses

holding the stone tablets with Roman numerals to the right, and St. Paul holding his symbols, a book and a sword on the left. Above Christ's head, we find a mitre, scroll and a cross and the motto of the Diocese of California, "Pacifica et impera." Below that and just over Christ's head.....yes, that's a eucalyptus tree.

The four small lancets at the top of the window each contain a figure (probably angels) each holding a scroll which together reads, "I will// ransom them from//the power of// the grave." (Mark 16:9).

The window is dedicated "To the Glory of God and in memory of Isaac Lawrence Requa, born November 23rd AD 1828. Fell asleep March 29th AD 1905." This window is recorded as being in place (and new) at the consecration of the church in December of 1912.

Besides the Requa Window, four other windows were in place at the consecration of our current building. They are unique in that they were removed from the old original wooden church building and incorporated into the new church. I believe these windows date from the early 1860's when the College of California was erecting its campus buildings.

When you are sitting in your pew, look up to the right over the lectern and see three lancets with only the center lancet showing the figure of a young man in stained glass. It is believed that the figure is Christ depicted with a cruciform halo. At the bottom of the center lancet is a

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memorial to Mary Mason Gurnett, AD 1887. The memorials on the lower left and right lancets are dedicated to George A. Parker, A Vestryman, AD 1877 on the right and on the left, in memory of Watson Webb, A Vestryman, AD 1876.

Still sitting in your pew, look up to the left over the pulpit. Again, only the center lancet of the window shows a female figure in stained glass. She is a beautiful young woman holding a Holy Bible and a staff topped with a cross. Some descriptions call her an unknown saint; others call her Ste. Faith or the “personification of the virtue of faith”. The text on the glass reads “Have faith in God, Mark XI, 22.” The bottom of the center lancet reads: “The glory of God and in memory of Josephine Eastland died January 29, 1886.”

Now look down below the Faith window to the exit doors going out to

the courtyard. On the door to the right is St. John leaning on Christ at the Last Supper. The Biblical reference is John 13:23, and the window is in memory of Julia Francis Ward.

The window on the left door is from the story of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:34. The wounded man rides on the ass of the Good Samaritan and is in memory of Herman Babcock, Vestryman. Mr. Babcock and all the other vestrymen mentioned herein are found in the earliest minutes and financial records of the parish. All were most generous with time and money in our founding and were quick to give and make loans to get the new congregation on stable footing.

Many thanks to Ginny McCormick for doing the fine research on our windows and to Kristine Requa Snyder, great granddaughter of Mark Requa, for the family history.



2015 OFFICERS OF THE VESTRY

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson – *Rector*
Elizabeth (Liz) Hook
Senior Warden
William (Bill) Davis
Junior Warden
Thomas (Tom) McGarrell
Treasurer
Mary Wells
Clerk

VESTRY BY CLASS

Class of 2015
Alice Brilmayer
Charles (Chuck) Doyle
Mary Wells

Class of 2016
Elizabeth (Liz) Hook
Thomas (Tom) McGarrell
Sharon Pilmer

Class of 2017
William (Bill) Davis
James Kadleck
Yuri Sikkema

DEANERY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES 2015

Delegates
Paula Hawthorn
Scott Buckingham

Alternates
Izabella (Bella) Sempari
One TBA

MUSIC AT ST. PAUL'S

SPECIAL MUSIC IN JANUARY

Sunday, January 3, Second Sunday after Christmas

10:00 a.m., Choral Eucharist

O come, ye servants of the Lord by Tye, Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling by Berlioz, and In the bleak midwinter by Darke, sung by St. Paul's Choir; David Farr, Music Director. St. Paul's Bell Choir; Paco, Director.

4 p.m., Evensong

Chapel College Ensemble of Men & Boys, Christopher Kula, Director.

Sunday, January 10, First Sunday after the Epiphany: The Baptism of our Lord

10:00 a.m., Choral Eucharist

Jesus autem hodie by P. M. Davies, Tribus miraculis by Palestrina, and Jesu, dein' Seel' lass heilig'n mich by M. Franck, sung by St. Paul's Choir; David Farr, Music Director. St. Paul's Bell Choir; Paco, Director.

Sunday, January 17, Second Sunday after the Epiphany

10am, Choral Eucharist, Parish Annual Meeting

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace by Tye, Tribus miraculis by Marenzio, There is a balm in Gilead by Dawson, sung by St. Paul's Choir; David Farr, Music Director. St. Paul's Bell Choir; Paco, Director.

Sunday, January 24, Patronal Feast, Conversion of St. Paul

10am, Choral Eucharist

Missa Hilarus by Philip Saunders, and Alice Brilmayer's hymn for the conversion of St. Paul. With The tree of life my soul hath seen by Poston, This world, my God, is held within your hand (with bells) by Proulx, and Sing, my soul, his wondrous love by Rorem, sung by St. Paul's Choir; David Farr, Music Director. St. Paul's Bell Choir; Paco, Director.

3:00 pm, Prometheus Symphony Orchestra, Third Season Concert

Richard Strauss Till Eulenspiegels lustige Streiche, Op. 28, Aaron Copland El Salón México, Khuner Competition Winner. Eric Hansen, Music Director. FREE. More info at prometheussymphony.org.

8:00 p.m., Compline

Gregorian chant, polyphony of Byrd, Tallis, Victoria, in candlelight. 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. St. Paul's Choir, David Farr, Director.

Sunday, January 31, Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

10am, Choral Eucharist

O Lord, give thy Holy Spirit by Tallis, Thy word is a lantern by Purcell, and A Gaelic Blessing by Rutter, sung by St. Paul's Choir; David Farr, Music Director. St. Paul's Bell Choir; Paco, 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.

COOKIES AND CAROLS



As every year, St. Paul's brought in the Christmas season with cookies and carols on December 13. We outdid ourselves with the sweet treats, and we sang our hearts out to the accompaniment of David Farr on the piano.

Our next potluck is in January for the Feast of St. Paul. January 24 after the 10:00 am service. Drop off your contribution in the kitchen before the service or bring it afterwards. Be sure to bring a hearty appetite.

OUR BELL CHOIR IN ACTION



On December 12, St. Paul's wonderful bell choir performed with the Oakland City Chorus in a benefit concert. And you can see they also have fun.

The bell choir is looking for new members. No musical experience is required. Please see any member of the choir for more information.

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. Upcoming dates and locations are:

- 1/9/16
West Grand Avenue &
San Pablo Avenue

Contact Save@Truevine-Ministries.com to be put on the email list for future Stand-Ins.

SAINT OF THE MONTH

HARRIET BEDELL, DEACONESS & MISSIONARY, 1969



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 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.

WORSHIP ROTA ON LINE

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.

NEW FLOWER CHART IN NARTHEX

The 2016 flower chart is here, in the Narthex!

The flowers that grace our Altar each week are generously donated by our church family members. If you are interested in dedicating the altar flowers on a particular Sunday or to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or other special occasion, please sign your name on the flower chart located in the Narthex.



The suggested contribution for each Sunday is \$30.-00 – \$50.00, but any amount is welcomed. Please make your check payable to St. Paul's (with "flowers" written in the memo line) and mail to the church or place in the offering plate at your convenience.

Thanks, from your Altar Guild for enhancing our worship at St. Paul's Oakland.

IMPORTANT DATES

January 3, Welcome Sunday

10:00 am in the Church

January 10, The Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord

Festive reception to follow

January 17, St. Paul's Annual Meeting

During the 10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

January 24, Feast of St. Paul

Festive potluck to follow service

CLUB 456

JOIN THE CLUB!

FIRST MEETING JANUARY 10, 2015

Who: All 4th, 5th, and 6th graders

When: Every 2nd Sunday of the month
5:30pm-7:00pm

Where: Parish Hall, St. Paul's Episcopal Church
114 Montecito Oakland

Bring: \$5 for pizza

RSVP: amertz@spes.org

1/10 Acolyte Challenge

Do you have what it takes to acolyte at St. Paul's? Join us for dinner, get to know you games, and the "acolyte olympics."

2/14 Lenten Service Project

This week we'll learn about this famous saint and show some love for our neighbors by making snack packs for the Pantry of Hope.

3/13 B.A.R.F. (Bring A Rowdy Friend) Night

Invite a friend for a night of silly games in the parish hall. Plus get your exclusive Club 456 Holy Week Passports!

4/10 Broom Ball

Bring a broom for the new sport that's "sweeping" the nation! Wear tennis shoes and athletic clothes, and bring a water bottle.

5/8 Comedy Club Night

Bring your favorite joke and get ready for a night of laughs and improv!

6/4-6/5 Overnight

We'll bring Club 456 to a close with a night of fun and memories. Then we'll go to church on Sunday in our pajamas!



Dear Readers:

In an effort to reduce paper waste and printing/ mailing expenses, we are asking anyone who gets the online 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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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*)

TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS

8-8:30 a.m. *Morning Prayer*
in the Chapel

WEDNESDAYS

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

MILKING MAIDS

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people of faith. We may not be able to turn water into wine, heal the sick or raise the dead. This is not what God is calling us to do (that job has already been taken by Jesus). However, like Jesus, we are called to be agents of transformation in the lives of people everywhere, especially those who are in the greatest need of knowing or remembering that they are loved by God. That they have not been forgotten or abandoned, but that they are in fact ever surrounded by God's grace, manifests through the work and ministry of God's people in whom and through whom the Word is now manifest.

Let's get started... "Twelve drummers drumming, eleven pipers piping, ten lords a-leaping, nine ladies dancing, eight maids a-milking," all of God's people ministering, praying, giving...