



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

October 2018  
Volume 12 Issue 9

# THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

## HALLOWEEN ALREADY!?

By the Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson



It was sometime in the middle of August when I walked into Costco and realized that they were already starting to sell Halloween paraphernalia. It was

even more shocking a month later to see Christmas items in their aisles. As I was going deeper and deeper into my judgements on my most frequented 'retailer' I realized that if they were already selling Halloween and Christmas, that meant that I would soon begin the church's annual tradition of selling pledging, most of the time with the use of the word stewardship as our guiding post. To be honest, I have grown to dislike the way we use those two words as quasi synonyms, for though both are important in the lives of the followers of Jesus, they mean different things. It is as if we were to say that Halloween is the same as Christmas.

In the coming weeks, the leadership of St. Paul's will be addressing the fact that our community depends upon the commitments that each one of its members make towards the upkeep and management of the organization that is S.P.E.C.; no outside entities are going to come to our rescue to bail us out of a potential financial chasm. That's something we have to do on our own, and the only way it can happen is if we do it together. Unlike the National Football League (NFL) and its likes, we are a truly non-commercial, non-governmental not-for-profit. There is no question that we, the community St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oakland, need each of our members to consider and hopefully make a financial commitment to the current needs and operations we face.

Stewardship is different. A simple way of getting to understand what stewardship is about is to go to the definition of a steward. According to

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## SAVE THE DATE: INSTALLATION OF MOTHER ANNIE PIERPOINT MERTZ

You are invited to attend the installation of Rev. Annie Pierpoint Mertz as Rector of St. Paul's Church in Benicia, CA on Friday, November 30 in the evening. Time will be confirmed soon.



## FUNDRAISING THIS AUTUMN: POP-UP GARAGE SALE

*"Sell your possessions and give alms"*

*Luke 12:13.*



### PANTRY OF HOPE

#### Item of the month

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

#### October

Bottles of juice

#### November

Bottles of juice

#### December

Bottles of juice

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

Thanks!

Yep, its time for garage sale fundraising at St. Paul's! We will have a "multi-family" style garage sale on Saturday, October 27. The proceeds of the garage sale will be applied to our parish ministries. The set up time will be between 7am and 9am. The sale 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 several 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).



### Episcopal Impact Fund Night of Light 2018

Celebrate Episcopal Impact Fund's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and our 2018 honoree, Diane B. Wilsey, with dinner, drinks, dancing, and an inspirational program! As the outreach arm of the Diocese of California, Episcopal Impact Fund serves organizations that address the root causes of poverty in the Bay Area.

Inspired by the teachings of the Gospel, we share a vision of a Bay Area without poverty.

**When:** Friday, November 2, 6 p.m.

**Where:** The Four Seasons Hotel, San Francisco, 217 Stevenson Street, San Francisco

**Cost:** \$350 per ticket, sponsorships available for tables of 10

**Contact:** Ann Morris, [amorris@episcopalimpact.org](mailto:amorris@episcopalimpact.org), 415.869.7835

## BEGINNINGS: GENESIS

St. Paul's is offering a new adult class this fall. We will be reading the stories of creation and of Abraham and Isaac. 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 co-facilitators most weeks. Books will be available September 30 after church and from the office after that. The cost of the book is \$15.

When: Sundays in October and November, starting October 7.

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: Email or call Rev. Anne Jensen, [annehj@aol.com](mailto:annehj@aol.com), cell phone 510-917-3630

## DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour on Saturday night before going to bed.



## NEWCOMERS MEET & GREET

**Save the Date: November 4, 4:00 to 6:00 PM**

If you are new or newish to our St. Paul's Family, please join us for an informal gathering to get to know one another better and learn a bit more about our community. We will meet at the home of Rev. Anne & Doug Jensen for wine cheese and a social time. Please RSVP to [pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:pamela.kruse.buckingham@gmail.com).

## 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

### SPECIAL MUSIC IN OCTOBER

**Sunday, October 7, The Twentieth  
Sunday after Pentecost**

**10 a.m. Choral Eucharist**

Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Elgar, *Allegretto pensono*; Near, *A Prayer of St. Francis*; Walton, *Set me as a seal*; Bridge, *Allegro marziale*.

**4 p.m., 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.

With St. Paul's Men's Choir.

Christopher Kula, Director.

**Sunday, October 14, The Twenty-  
First Sunday after Pentecost**

**10 a.m. Choral Eucharist**

Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Charles Lloyd, *sitar*; Halloway (arr.), *Witness*; Howells, *Psalm 121*.

**Sunday, October 21, The Twenty-  
Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**10 a.m. Choral Eucharist**

Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Sven Edward, organ.

Langlais, *Prélude modal*; Howells, *I heard a voice from heaven*; Willan, *O Sacred Feast*; Peeters, *March—Christus Vincit*.

**Sunday, October 28, The Twenty-  
Third Sunday after Pentecost**

**10 a.m. Choral Eucharist**

Christopher Kula, Music Director.

Bach, *Air on the G String*; Moore, *O, rise and shine*; Purcell, *Thy word is a lantern*; Buxtehude, *Toccata in F*.

**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 25th of the month previous to publication.*

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



## ALL SOULS REQUIEM MASS

At 7:00 p.m. on All Souls' Day, Friday, November 2, we welcome you to attend a service featuring the Requiem of Herbert Howells (1892-1983) as well as his extended anthem "Take him, earth, for cherishing," sung by the chancel choir of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. During the course of the service attendees will be given the opportunity to light a candle in memory of a loved one.

Significant parts of the Requiem, originally penned in the early 1930s, found their way into his choral-orchestral work *Hymnus Paradisi*, which was composed in memoriam his son Michael who passed away suddenly in 1935. The piece itself was only rediscovered and premiered in the 1980s, instantly becoming an essential work of English sacred repertory. Most of the piece is in English, though two movements set the same Latin text: *Requiem aeternam, dona eis requiem....*

Take him, earth, for cherishing sees Howells at the fullest extension, in terms of both complexity and length, of development of his unique choral language. The text, in translation, is by the ancient Roman poet Prudentius (348–c. 413). The work was commissioned in memory of John F. Kennedy and premiered in Washington D.C. on the first anniversary of his assassination.

## ALL SOULS' REMEMBRANCE

As part of the observance of the feast of All Souls' on Friday, November 2, and All Saints' on Sunday, November 4, are invited to bring pictures of your loved ones who have departed to be one of those remembered in our prayers. Alternatively you may add your loved one's name to a card which will be provided at the service.



*May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

## CHILDREN'S CHOIR: LESSONS & CAROLS

Christopher Kula will be offering a short-term class to children interested in participating in the parish's service of Lessons and Carols on Sunday morning, December 2nd.

Music will include a selection from Bach's *Cantata 140*, "Sleepers, wake", and an Advent carol composed by Chris specifically for this occasion, as well as congregational hymns and other pieces. Advanced students will have the opportunity to audition as well for the performance of the full *Cantata 140* to be sung with orchestra at the 10:30 p.m. Prelude Concert on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.

Classes will take place in the St. Paul's choir room on Thursday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. starting October 25. There is no charge for this course.

## 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.

## SAINTS OF THE MONTH

### FRANCIS OF ASSISI, FRIAR, 1182-1226

#### 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.



Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in harmless revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory.

Various encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, and he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. Despite his father's intense opposition, Francis totally renounced all material values, and devoted himself to serve the poor. In 1210 Pope Innocent III confirmed the simple Rule for the Order of Friars Minor, a name Francis chose to emphasize his desire to be numbered among the "least" of God's servants.

The order grew rapidly all over Europe. But by 1221 Francis had lost control of it, since his ideal of strict and absolute poverty, both for the individual friars and for the order as a whole, was found to be too difficult to maintain. His last years were spent in much suffering of body and spirit, but his unconquerable joy never failed.

Not long before his death, during a retreat on Mount La Verna, Francis received, on September 14, Holy Cross Day, the marks of the Lord's wounds, the stigmata, in his own hands and feet and side. Pope Gregory IX, a former patron of the Franciscans, canonized Francis in 1228, and began the erection of the great basilica in Assisi where Francis is buried.

Of all the saints, Francis is the most popular and admired, but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. Francis left few writings; but, of these, his spirit of joyous faith comes through most truly in the "Canticle of the Sun," which he composed at Clare's convent of St. Damian's.

The Hymnal version begins:

Most High, omnipotent, good Lord,  
To thee be ceaseless praise outpoured,  
And blessing without measure.  
Let creatures all give thanks to thee  
And serve in great humility.

*Most high, omnipotent, good Lord,  
grant your people grace to renounce  
gladly the vanities of this world; that,  
following the way of blessed Francis,  
we may for love of you delight in your  
whole creation with perfectness of  
joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.*

## VIDA DUTTON SCUDDER, EDUCATOR AND WITNESS FOR PEACE, 1861-1954



Vida Dutton Scudder was born on December 15, 1861, the child of Congregationalist missionaries in India. In the 1870's, Vida and her mother were confirmed in the Episcopal Church by Bishop Phillips Brooks. After studying English literature at Smith College and Oxford University, Scudder began teaching at Wellesley College. Her love of scholarship was matched by her social conscience and deep spirituality. As a young woman, Scudder founded the College Settlements Association, joined the Society of Christian Socialists, and began her lifelong association with the Society of the Companions of the Holy Cross in 1889, a community living in the world and devoted to intercessory prayer.

In 1893, Scudder took a leave of absence from Wellesley to work with Helena Stuart Dudley to found Denison House in Boston. Stresses from teaching and her activism led to a breakdown in 1901. After two years' recuperation in Italy, she returned renewed and became even more active in church and socialist groups; she

started a group for Italian immigrants at Denison House and took an active part in organizing the Women's Trade Union League. In 1911, Scudder founded the Episcopal Church Socialist League, and formally joined the Socialist party. Her support of the Lawrence, Massachusetts, textile workers' strike in 1912 drew a great deal of criticism and threatened her teaching position. Though she initially supported World War I, she joined the Fellowship of Reconciliation in 1923, and by the 1930's was a firm pacifist.

Throughout her life Scudder's primary relationships and support network were women. After retirement, she authored 16 books on religious and political subjects, combining her intense activism with an equally vibrant spirituality. "If prayer is the deep secret creative force that Jesus tells us it is, we should be very busy with it," she wrote characteristically, adding that there was one sure way "of directly helping on the Kingdom of God. That way is prayer. Social intercession may be the mightiest force in the world." Vida Scudder died on October 9, 1954.

*Most gracious God, you sent your beloved Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Raise up in your Church witnesses who, after the example of your servant Vida Dutton Scudder, stand firm in proclaiming the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. 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](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org). Many thanks.**



# St. Paul's

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## Services

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### 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*)

Webster's dictionary, a steward is 'a person who manages another's property or financial affairs; one who administers anything as an agent of another or others.' This implies that the administrators do not own the things that are under their care, whatever that may be. So, when we use this term in conversation in faith communities, we do so under the assumption that nothing we have belongs to us but rather they belong to God, and that our role—the role of every human being—is to be a steward or administrator of all creation. The way we live with each and all of creation should be a reflection of our knowledge of this fact and followers of this faith. Though there is great debate among us

Episcopalians regarding the issues of Stewardship, tithing and pledging (and many others topics), there is some consensus around the fact that we are not meant to keep everything God puts under our care for our own use and benefit but rather that we are called to share them, particularly with those in need.

Here's my bottom line statement as your rector: the stewarding of what God has placed before you should be based on your discernment of God's will and the movement of the Spirit in your life. But also do some deep prayer and reflection as to how you are called to participate and to develop and sustain the ministries God has called St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Oakland.