



GROWING TOGETHER  
ST. PAUL'S OAKLAND 150 YEARS

Volume 16, Issue 9

November 2022

# THE GOOD NEWS

TO KNOW CHRIST BETTER AND TO MAKE HIM BETTER KNOWN

## Social Justice and Outreach at St. Paul's

Paula Hawthorn

### In This Issue:

Social Justice & Outreach  
at St. Paul's

Rector's Message

Advent is Coming!

Spirituality with Anne  
Jensen

Election Day Prayers!

Day of Love

Celebrating God's Gifts

Senior Warden's Message

Families and Children at  
St. Paul's

Faith and Mission history  
now available

Reading and Discussion  
Group

November Music Note

Environmental Steward-  
ship & Creation Care

Recognizing Legacy Socie-  
ty members

November Worship at St.  
Paul's

Vestry Highlights -  
October meeting

Treasurer's Report

Concerts at St. Paul's

Local Social Justice Initia-  
tives for You!

Windows of St. Paul's

Breaking News! Diocesan  
Convention report

The St. Paul's Social Justice and Community Outreach Committee is involved in three activities that will need your help in November. We will be putting together the gift lists for the **Center for the Vulnerable Child Giving Tree**; we will be walking with the community in **Friday Night Ceasefire Walks**; and we will be standing with the **Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere** at the **November Stand In**.

### Center for the Vulnerable Child

For several years St. Paul's has supported the Children's Hospital **Center for the Vulnerable Child (CVC)** family-to-family program where families in need are matched with people who can help them by providing Christmas presents. The CVC will pair St. Paul's with two or three families and will send us a list of the family members and what they want and need for Christmas. Our fun task is to take what can be vague requests, like "clothing size 3" and make gift tags to put on the Giving Tree with specific suggestions, like "Size 3 jacket." This assigning of specific gifts will be done the last days of November, so we can get the tree (branches, actually, since it is Advent) set up the first Sunday in December. The picture is of the presents so generously gifted by members of St. Paul's on their way to the CVC. If you would like to help with this fun task, please contact Paula Hawthorn, [paula.hawthorn@gmail.com](mailto:paula.hawthorn@gmail.com).



### Friday Night Ceasefire Walks

We just participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the **Friday Night Ceasefire Walks**. Pastor Mike McBride, one of the faith leaders who helped to organize these walks, says this is "a ministry of presence." And that presence matters: it matters to the people in the violence-impacted communities where the walks take place, and it matters to those who walk beside us, in solidarity, walking quietly and carrying signs that say "No more violence." People participating in a Night Walk meet at a church, receive instructions, pray, and then walk together. The Night Walks in November are 6PM Nov 4 at St. Columba Catholic Church



[Continued on page 16...](#)

## Rector's Message

### THANKS BE TO GOD!

**The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson**

At the end of almost every worship service in the Episcopal Church tradition, the gathered community exclaims the words *Thanks be to God*. We also repeat them after we have heard the proclamation of the words of scripture. Those two moments in the liturgy may seem unrelated, but the intent of the writers of our liturgies may have actually been to bring them together.

When we hear the words of the Bible proclaimed in our services, we express thanksgiving to God for the testimony given to us, through scripture, of the relationship that has existed between God and God's people since ancient times. It is their example and steadfastness that have prepared us to be witnesses in our own time.

The "Thanks be to God" at the end of the service represents our commitment to move about in the world as people whose relationship with God calls them to bear witness to God's good news. As Howard E. Galley writes in his book *The Ceremonies of the Eucharist*,\* "It is as people of God, and as members of Christ's Body, that the congregation goes forth. Their ministry in the world is a ministry of reconciliation."

The people of God, in their own time and place, are invited by a deacon (or the priest, if no deacon is available) to go out into the world to do Gospel work in the same way our biblical ancestors did. It is Gospel work that highlights the relationship we each have with God. The examples of Job, Hannah, Rachel, Moses, Isaiah, Noah, the Marys and Johns, and so many others for whom we are grateful, is not the end of the story of the presence of God. The story has lived on through the ages and into our time. It is now our turn to be grateful as well as the source of gratitude.

Let's think about it with a question. When each of us goes out into the world after proclaiming *Thanks be to God*, does our testimony in word and deed evoke a *Thanks be to God* from anyone with whom we come into contact?

Galley adds, "They are not sent forth into a world where Christ is absent. It is God's world, and in it Christ awaits them. They go forth to 'seek and serve Christ in all persons,' loving their neighbor as themselves, to 'strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.'"

Thanks be to God that we have been called to be God's witnesses in the world today. May we always feel God present with us as we do so, and see Christ's loving face in those we are called to serve, and know the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish God's purposes.

\*Galley, Howard E. *The Ceremonies of the Eucharist: A guide to Celebration*. Cowley Publications, Cambridge, MA, 1989. Pages 132, 133.



## Advent is Coming!

Starting on Sunday, November 27, St. Paul's is offering an online format from Living Compass titled "Practicing Simplicity with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind." Through reflections based on the readings for each Sunday, we can slow down and prepare our hearts to once again encounter how God came to live among us. You can download the entire booklet for free or sign up to receive a free daily email by going to <https://www.livingcompass.org/advent>. Scroll down to the form that you want to order.

## The Spirituality of Pilgrimage

The Rev. Anne Jensen

Shortly before Doug and I left on our trip to Ireland, a colleague wished me well on my pilgrimage. The word “pilgrimage” startled me. A pilgrimage is a journey taken with the expectation of meeting the Holy. As I lived with the idea of pilgrimage, I felt a shift and reframed the trip into a journey in discovering God’s presence in new and unanticipated ways.

Once we dropped our luggage at the hotel, we headed to Trinity College to visit our oldest granddaughter who is studying there. I asked Kit if we could go take a look at the chapel. When we arrived at the chapel, she bumped into a friend who sings in the choir and learned that Evensong would start in 15 minutes. The choir and the lectors are all students, and it was only the second Evensong of the semester. The student choir members were excited because they were so much better than the previous week, which they called a disaster. I loved that they sang a sacred service and as soon as they’d hung up their vestments, they headed to the upstairs room that serves as their lounge for sherry. No awkward standing around for this group—they were deeply engaged in clusters of conversation. A few of us, including the chaplain, Kit, her friend, and I enjoyed a cup of tea. The hospitality was all we could wish for—gracious, as God is gracious.



As we traveled westward across southern Ireland, the beauty of the landscape was a constant reminder of the magnificence of creation. Since around 10,500 BC, Ireland has been inhabited by people who practiced a set of beliefs unknown to us. This country seems rich with presence of these ancient peoples. Their response to mystery gave me a sense of depth that echoes through the ages. Awe and wonder are gateways to the majesty of God. The mists that settle in the rocky crags and wooded lakes extend an invitation to see and feel the mystery that moves without words.

For all the wonders of nature, I am most grateful for the gracious help of strangers. Not surprisingly, we found ourselves off-track and lost at times. In every instance people stopped what they were doing and did everything possible to get us going in the right direction. On established pilgrim routes the signage is usually very good, as it is on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. When your pilgrimage is less well-defined, such as looking for God wherever you are, gratitude pointed to the gifts of those who helped us on our way.

Ireland abounds in holy places. A Google search provided a list that went on for pages! At breakfast one morning we met a couple from Houston. The wife told me her sister was having cancer surgery that day and their guide was going to take them to a holy well. There are also churches that date to the Middle Ages where worship has been constant for 800 years. Church person that I am, we visited many churches, including Sunday Eucharist at Christchurch Cathedral in Dublin. This is where I found myself in deepest prayer, surrounded by others who find strength, solace and inspiration in the prayers and music of the church, where the mystery of the Eucharist touches the faithful and the traveler alike.

At the Church of Ireland Cathedral in Limerick, an enthusiastic greeter said clergy get free admission and then timidly asked if she might ask what denomination I was. When I told her, she clapped her hands and did a little jump, declaring, “Oh, you’re one of us!” Rarely have I had such an enthusiastic homecoming. After evensong at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Dublin I spoke to the clergyman at the door and said, “I bring you greetings from the Diocese of California.” He was startled, stumbling to find words for a second, and replied, “Please give them our greetings.” I assured him I would. And now you have received greetings from our Irish family.

## Election Day!

### Join evening Election Day Prayers online November 8th

As polls begin to close on Nov. 8 for the U.S. midterm elections, all are invited to join an Election Day Prayers gathering online hosted by The Episcopal Church Office of Government Relations.

Tune in from 8 p.m. to midnight EST (5 to 9 p.m. PST) via [The Episcopal Public Policy Network Facebook page](#) or [The Episcopal Church Facebook page](#). Viewers do not need a Facebook profile to participate.

At the top of each hour, special guests from around the church will offer 10-15 minutes of reflection and prayer. Participants are encouraged to engage in prayerful conversation in the comments. The gathering will also feature simple video feeds from parishes throughout the U.S.

Scheduled guests include Presiding Bishop Michael Curry; House of Deputies President Julia Ayala Harris; the Rev. Charles Graves IV, missionary for Houston Canterbury; the Rev. Donna Gleaves, an Episcopal Public Policy Network ambassador; and Willis H.A. Moore, an Episcopal Election Activator.

“We welcome everyone as we reflect on this key process of our common life and on the importance of fair elections for our democracy,” said Rebecca Linder Blachly, director of the Office of Government Relations. “We hope many voters will join us that day to pray for our leaders, neighbors, and country.”

The Office of Government Relations offers a [2022 Vote Faithfully Midterm Election Engagement Toolkit](#) and other resources for parishes interested in voter advocacy. [Learn more.](#)



## Day of Love—November 13, 2022



**November 13, 2022** is World Kindness Day. On that day, Episcopal Relief & Development invites you to join in highlighting good deeds in our homes, congregations, and our communities, focusing on the positive power and the common thread of love that binds us. November 13 will be a day devoted to the positive potential of both large and small acts of love.

Please join Episcopal Relief & Development by taking part in three acts of love.

**Check-in** with someone you haven't seen recently – a phone call, letter, text, e-mail to that friend, uncle, or cousin ...

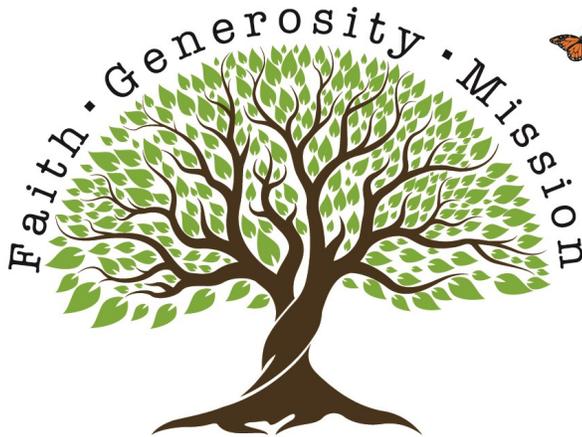
**Thank** someone special in your life – a family member, a teacher, a delivery person, perhaps

**Do** something for children – a treat for a child in your life and a donation to help children around the world through the [1000 Days of Love campaign](#) that brings hope to the least of these.

Check out a video invitation from Bishop Curry and ideas about how to celebrate with your family by clicking [here](#).

# Celebrating God's Gifts

Sharon Pilmer, Stewardship Chair



We celebrated Pledge Sunday on October 23. In his sermon Sunday, Fr. Mauricio spoke about how we manage the gifts that have been given to us: the gift of life, the time we have on earth, our skills and abilities, and yes, our money. He reminded us that all of this does not start with the pledge card. Rather, the pledge card and the commitment it represents is the result of a process that begins with prayer and intentional self-reflection on how God is calling us to use our gifts. If we hadn't already done that, he encouraged us to take the cards home and pray about

## CELEBRATING GOD'S GIFTS ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL GIVING 2023

it.



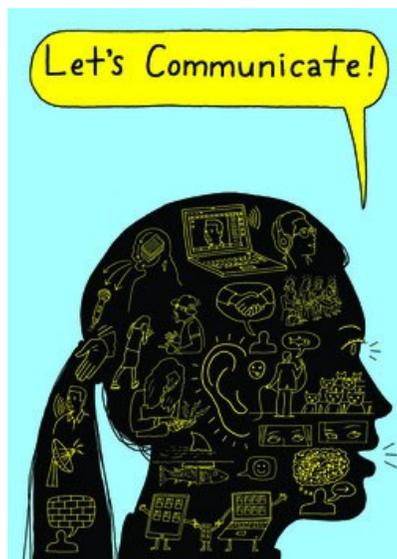
Sunday was a beautiful day. We had a wonderful worship service, moving testimony by Katie Lauter about why she gives to St. Paul's, and a festive brunch with great food and fellowship to follow the service at 10:00. 37 of you returned pledge cards on Sunday morning and recent additional pledges now total of \$157,180 from 47 pledgers—and more will come into the office, so we are off to a great start. Our target is about \$220,000 and 70 pledges. Thanks to all who have given, and will give, to support the life and ministry of St. Paul's!



## Senior Warden's Message

# Communication and Many Stories

Maura Lane



I love the monthly newsletter, the notices in the church bulletin, coffee hour, etc. Why? We are trying to communicate with one another, to inform, to share, to ask questions and tell our stories.

Have you noticed how much discussion there is about “clear” communication? “Effective” communication? “Timely” communication? Given the emphasis and importance of the topic, it makes me wonder why there are so many misunderstandings and lines drawn in the sand, the belief in one true way. For example, I don’t see a lot of communication between people who have one set of ideas and people who have a different set about the same topic. Politics are a good example. Religion is another. That failure to communicate is one of our biggest challenges. This can create what the author Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie calls the single story.



The risk of the “single story”, the one perspective, is that it can lead us to default assumptions, conclusions and decisions that may be incomplete, and may lead to misunderstanding. Operating from the context of a single story can prevent us from forming a more complex, nuanced view of a situation. Can the creation of the earth be both scientific and based on the story of God’s creation? Do things not exist because we don’t know about it or ask, rather than assume? The absence of information can result in false assumptions.

A single story is a one-sided point of view of something or someone. Single stories have the power to tell false interpretations of the actual story. Single stories can include stereotypes, ideologies, and what sociologists call cultural hegemony. Examples of this can be found in the way faith is presented. Another is the way different countries are portrayed by the media. What is good music? What is a spiritual? Is Bach the best music in religious settings? Who is a good Episcopalian? These stories can also have a malicious intent to suppress other groups of people due to prejudice.

The root of the word “communication” in Latin is *communicare*, which means to share, or to make common. Communication is defined as the process of understanding and sharing meaning . So – please stay for coffee hour and get to know another person. Ask about the church program that seems to be missing but might actually be quite active. Peruse the newsletter. There are many points of view from a variety of contributors. Share your story! See you in church!

## Families and Children at St. Paul's The Rev. Carolyn Bolton, Director of Children and Youth Ministries

The Youth Service was held on October 30, 2022. The youth served as acolytes, ushers, and readers; they preached, served on the altar and even sang during the service. It was a service to remember. I want to thank the parents and individuals who volunteered to assist with the service and our youth.

The next Youth Service will be on May 7, 2023.

### Upcoming events:

- Family Ice Skating – November 11, 2022. (See Deacon Bolton)
  - Deanery Overnight Camping – Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade, Memorial County Park, Pescadero, Ca. (See Deacon Bolton) – November 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2022
  - Holiday Food distribution and delivery – November 27, 2022
  - Sunday School officially starts – November 27, 2022
  - Day of Service – January 16, 2022
  - Black History Month Celebration and Pot Luck – February 2023
  - Acolyte Fest, Grace Cathedral – February 2023
- You can reach Deacon Bolton at: [cbolton730@aol.com](mailto:cbolton730@aol.com)



Youth Sunday, October 30th, was a great success! Here are some images from the worship service.



### *Faith and Mission, Liz Hook's history of St. Paul's, is available!*

You can catch Liz after a service or if you would like a copy mailed to you please contact Robert Knapp ([rcknapp2@gmail.com](mailto:rcknapp2@gmail.com)) and he will arrange this. The suggested donation is \$35 which goes far toward covering the actual cost of each book (\$46).

## Beyond the Word: A Reading & Discussion Group

Select Wednesdays @ 7pm on ZOOM

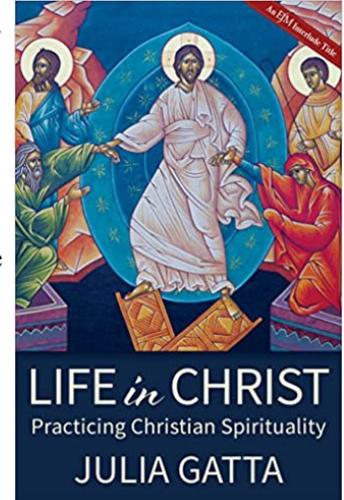
**Pam Buckingham, Co-Leader**

Our next book is: [Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality](#) by The Rev. Julia Gatta

Next Sessions are: Nov. 2 (Intro - Pg. 86) & Nov 16 ( Pgs. 87-207)

Our session about the second half of "[The Sabbath](#)" was a rich and joyful discussion, with 6 of us in attendance. We talked about the symbolism of the Sabbath as a wedding feast or a joyous celebration. We all agreed that this was a difficult book, as it used terms and phrases of the Jewish faith that were unfamiliar to us, which left us wanting to know more. We rounded out our discussion with each of us sharing our practices around the Sabbath and how they inform our spiritual lives, at home, in nature or at Church worshipping with our St. Paul's Family.

If you missed the last book, that's OK! Each book stands alone. Next we are reading [Life in Christ: Practicing Christian Spirituality](#) by The Rev. Julia Gatta. This wonderfully profound book is an introduction to the spirituality of Christian worship; the Paschal Mystery, Baptism, the Eucharist (Communion) and the observance of the Church Year. This book is widely available on-line.



## November on Music

**Ben Bachman, Director of Music**

In the month of November, St. Paul's, like many places, observes the harvest and close of the year with a season of remembrance and thanksgiving. Commensurate with celebrations of the Day of the Dead and similar holidays, we remember our beloved dead in the words and music of All Saints/All Souls services. A few of the pieces the choir will sing this month are reflections on the Saints and the world to come. We will offer a Solemn Evensong for All Saints at 4 PM on 6 November. This is a wonderful opportunity to come and remember your own beloved dead in this beautiful and musical worship.

Isaac Watts' text, "Give us the wings of faith", is a paean of thanksgiving to those who've "reached the promise rest". The music for this setting is by Ernest Bullock and is a standard piece in church music repertoire. Composer Edgar Bainton's setting of the Revelation text "And I saw a new heaven" is a beautiful musical depiction of the serene next world "for the former things are passing away." We also sing hymns like "For All the Saints" and "Soon and Very Soon" which are about the same things. What references do you notice in our readings and songs?

It has been such a great joy to get to know our amazing Austin organ. You may not realize this, but for an organist, an instrument is a relationship, and every player must learn the behavior, the personality, and peculiarities of each instrument. One surprise for me- it plays Bach and Baroque music really well. Our organ is ideally suited for English, American, and French music, particularly from the 19<sup>th</sup> century onward, so I was extra pleased that it can handle German music from an earlier time. I will be featuring some pieces by Bach and his contemporaries in the coming weeks.

At the end of month, we have our own national Thanksgiving, and when we return the following Sunday, it will be Advent. We'll have begun another liturgical year, and another season of anticipation and a story beginning. What may it have in store for us?

## Environmental Stewardship and Creation Care

Indira Balkissoon

Vestry Liaison for Environmental Stewardship



**Exciting news:** we had a monarch caterpillar at our monitoring location on Grand and Harrison! Also, I had one in my milkweed in my yard. It has now disappeared and I am hoping there is a chrysalis hidden somewhere in my yard.



This month, Liz Hook and I went up to the UC Botanical Garden for their annual native plant sale and picked up a few more plants for St Paul's, this time for

the Church's back garden (see photo). We planted natives to support both monarchs and swallowtail butterflies. Monarchs love narrow-leaf milkweed, and swallowtails love pipeline. Our original pollinator garden continues to bloom and grow.



The Pollinator Posse joined us at Homecoming and brought with them their butterfly museum (see photo). Also, we made butterfly finger puppets and decorated the St. Paul's Monarch Butterfly with more handprints and even a footprint (see photo).



We are still working on our [Creation Care 101](#) homework of calculating carbon footprints. I calculated mine using the CoolClimate Network calculator, and apparently my family generates 44 tons of CO2 equivalent per year. Honestly, I thought my family would have done better, but I am glad I have a specific number, and with CoolClimate Network suggestions, I have ideas of ways to improve. If you are interested in finding out your carbon footprint. Here is the link: <https://coolclimate.berkeley.edu/>

Our next Creation Care 101 will focus on Eating: Theology of Food.

## Recognition of Legacy Society Members, November 6<sup>th</sup> Doug Jensen

On the first Sunday in November, we will be recognizing the Founding Members of St. Paul's Legacy Society.

If you have been considering leaving a bequest to St. Paul's in your estate plans, now is the time to do it so you can join this select group.

Even if you haven't finalized your plan, let me know of your intentions, and we will include you and work out the details later. Either text me at [douglasjensen@me.com](mailto:douglasjensen@me.com) or call me at 510-316-5764



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## NOVEMBER WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP AT ST. PAUL'S

All events this month will be in person. For the latest schedule and any rules about COVID precautions, please check the church website: <https://www.stpaulsoakland.org/>.

Most services will also be live-streamed on the Church's Facebook page. For details, go to the church website.

## THANKGIVING IS NOVEMBER 24TH

**ENJOY THE DAY WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS!  
THERE WILL BE NO THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S THAT DAY.**

## Highlights from the October 2022 Vestry Meeting

Brian Stanke, Vestry Clerk

### Financial Report – Ann Goggins Gregory

Budget is tracking above expectation. Loss YTD is lower than expected. Pledges are exceeding target; plate is below expectation. The cost side is below budget because of previously open positions; Merrill-Lynch statements show investments down \$500,000. [Editor's note: for a fuller treatment, see the Treasurer's report on the next page of this newsletter.]

The Vestry discussed filling positions for the School and Choir director, and the budget for choir positions.

The mortgage payment will be going in at the beginning of the year.

2023 Budget – The Diocesan cost of living adjustment is 6.7%.

2023 Employee Benefits – Rev. M. presented the employee medical rate increase. A motion to approve medical benefits passed unanimously.

A draft 2023 budget will be ready for Vestry review before the November meeting.

### Stewardship Report – Sharon Pilmer

Pledge Sunday was Oct. 23. Sharon has been encouraged by responses. Vestry members thanked Sharon for her leadership of the Stewardship committee.

The Vestry discussed how stewardship can help with integrating new people into the parish; Maura will send welcome notes to new attendees.

### Buildings and Grounds Report – Will Cowart

Will is getting quotes on potential projects and seeking quotes on a blower, sewer lateral, electrical panel, and solar panels.

The Vestry discussed a path forward for creating a capital budget out of the priority projects.

The Vestry unanimously approved the recarpeting and repainting of the Mustard Seed room for \$3,500.

### Rector's Report - Rev. Wilson

Covid Protocols: Rev. Wilson will update the website and let the congregation know the new Covid Protocols, which follow Diocesan recommendations.

Vestry Replacement: Due to the limited time between now and the Annual Meeting, there will not be a replacement for the remainder of 2022.

### Unfinished Business

2023 Annual Meeting: The Annual Meeting is January 15th. At its next meeting, the Vestry will consider a change to the bylaws to increase flexibility on which weekend in January to hold the Annual Meeting.

2023 Vestry Elections: Vestry members will be gathering to review potential vestry nominations.

The next vestry meetings will be on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.

*Any member of the Parish may attend Vestry meetings, which are at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month, unless otherwise noted; the full minutes of the meeting are available to parish members upon request by contacting the parish administrator or a member of the Vestry*

**2022 VESTRY**

The Rev. Dr. Mauricio Wilson Rector  
 Maura Lane Senior Warden  
 Will Cowart Jr., Junior Warden  
 Brian Stanke, Clerk  
 Ann Gregory Treasurer

**VESTRY BY CLASS**

**Class of 2022**

Will Cowart  
 Ann Gregory  
 Sharon Pilmer

**Class of 2023**

-vacancy-

Brian Stanke  
 Maura Lane

**Class of 2024**

Indira Balkissoon  
 Matthew Schooler  
 Irene Plunkett

**DEANERY DELEGATES 2022**

Delegates

Melanie Blake  
 Jeanette Dinwidie-Moore

**Tom McGarrell**

Alternates

-vacancy-

## Treasurer's Report

### Ann Goggins Gregory

As of the end of September, pledge revenue has picked up and has exceeded budget the last few months; this increase balances out the slower-than-budgeted start to the pledge year.

More generally, we continue the trend of slightly below budget performance on both revenue and expenses. As you'll see in the table below, as we complete the third quarter, net income (loss, in this case) is better than what we had budgeted, at -\$121K vs. -\$139K. As a reminder, St. Paul's budgets a deficit most years, pulling from operating reserves in our investment accounts to cover the difference.

	Year-to-date actuals as of September 30, 2022	Year-to-date budget through September 30, 2022
Revenue	\$227,829	\$249,589
Expense	\$349,310	\$388,977
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$121,481)</b>	<b>(\$139,388)</b>

**REVENUE DYNAMICS:**

- Pledge revenue has been ahead of budget for the last few months, including \$2K over budget in September. After a slow first quarter, year-to-date pledge revenue is \$13K (10%) ahead of budget.
- However, plate remains considerably under budget by \$20K (50%). Plate is almost always a highly variable figure and often declines when pledges go up (as parishioners switch their gift to a pledge).

**EXPENSE DYNAMICS:**

- Personnel remains under budget year-to-date, largely because the Children & Youth Ministry Director role was open for much of the year. It is exciting that the role is now filled by Deacon Carolyn!

On the balance sheet / investment side of things, the financial markets continue their volatility. Since the beginning of January, our portfolio value has decreased by \$500K (~20% of initial balance of \$2.4M). We continue to monitor the market and are in frequent touch with our Merrill Lynch financial advisors.

As always, I'm available for your questions or comments at

[goggins.gregory@gmail.com](mailto:goggins.gregory@gmail.com).

## Concerts at St. Paul's



### THE PROMETHEUS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Celebrating 58 Years of Music Making

Saturday, November 20, 2022 3:00 PM

(Preconcert talk at 2:40PM)

Robert Schumann • *Symphony No. 4*



Hector Berlioz • *Les Nuits d'Été (Summer Nights)*

Raeeka Shehabi-Yaghami, Soprano



#### ADMISSION FREE

*There is no admission fee for our concerts, but donations are gratefully accepted.*

Tickets are required to attend this concert. Please go to [www.prometheussymphony.org](http://www.prometheussymphony.org) for ticket information.

Audience members must show proof of full vaccination including boosters for admittance. Masks are required when in the church. Families with children (all fully vaccinated) are always welcome and the facility is wheelchair accessible.

We will be recording the concert for later publication so if you don't have a ticket, you can still see the concert.

[See our website](#) for Covid protocols, updates, and parking details.

## 2022 Annual Report of the Diocesan Commission on Peace, Justice and Hunger

### Local Initiatives You Can Support

Paula Hawthorn

In the past, the Diocesan Commission on Peace, Justice and Hunger (PJH) used part of its allocation from the Diocesan budget to support members' trips to the General Convention to help organize and support resolutions in favor of Reparations and Justice for Palestine, among other kinds of advocacy for Peace and Justice. But in recent years, as the members have aged, even before Covid-mandated travel restrictions, the entire \$4,000 allocation from the Diocesan budget has been used to make \$500 minigrants to local organizations who are working for peace in our streets, and to improve food security. These are small organizations to whom that \$500 makes a great difference. The Diocesan budget of 2023 reduces the PJH allocation to \$1,000. Rather than argue for a reversal of that decision, which surely was made with great difficulty and prayer, and reflects the overall pressure on funding, we will use this one page we are allocated in this report to discuss the programs that PJH has funded and encourage others to donate to these wonderful groups.



PJH has made grants to [Vision Quilt](#) in the last several years. Vision Quilt has in the past asked for funding for their project that sponsors art projects in Oakland schools in impacted areas, where the children are encouraged to make banners representing their reactions to the violence around them. A picture of the banners is above. But for the 2022 minigrant, Vision Quilt is sponsoring a talented Black playwright, Jinho “Piper” Ferreira, to help him with expenses in his program to go into jails and work with the inmates, helping them to write and produce their own plays based on their “new script” for their lives post release from jail.

PJH minigrants have also gone to [Adamika Village](#) (based in East Oakland) and [Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere](#) (based in West Oakland). These are gun violence prevention groups who hold rallies, distribute literature, and help people on the streets see that there is a way other than picking up a gun.

To support those working to alleviate food insecurity, [St. Paul’s Pantry](#), a project of St. Paul’s, Oakland, is also a recipient of PJH minigrants, as is the [Gubbio Project](#), a mission of St. John the Evangelist, which houses the homeless.

PJH applicants this year also include [Serenity House](#), [Owning My Own Truth](#), and [A Dimond In The Ruff](#), groups supporting women who have been traumatized by domestic violence and other horrors. Serenity House offers a multi-faceted program including job training. Owning My Own Truth provides trauma-informed counseling. A Dimond in the Ruff is building an East Oakland resource hub for women and children needing help.

The members of the Diocesan Commission on Peace, Justice and Hunger are grateful for the support of the Diocese in helping fund these amazing organizations, and grateful that this support has brought us, the members, closer to the people who are devoting their lives to doing this work. They are in our prayers, and we hope in yours as well.

For more information on any of the above projects, please contact Paula Hawthorn, [paula.hawthorn@gmail.com](mailto:paula.hawthorn@gmail.com).

## The Windows of St. Paul's

### Robert Knapp

### St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia, patron saint of music, is at her organ. A wreath of roses, the saint's special flower, frames her head. At right, three angels offer accompaniment. A curtain drapes the left lunette while a column appears in the right lunette of the trefoil arches.

Cecilia lived in the early third century. From a noble family, she had taken up Christian teaching and a vow of virginity, but still her parents forced her to marry a polytheist. During the wedding, Cecilia sat apart singing to God in her heart, and for that she was later treated as musicians' patron saint although that association with music dates only to the fifteenth century. Tradition put her house in Rome across the Tiber; the fourth century church of Santa Cecilia in Trastevere is supposedly on the site of that house. Her feast day is this month, November 22<sup>nd</sup>.



Cecilia's face looks heavenward. The music pouring from her mouth as she plays is symbolized in the windows by the roses (left) and lilies (lower right) which often are associated with sweet words coming from good characters. Although she can appear with a variety of instruments, her association with the organ became primary during the seventeenth century, apparently from association with the singing to God that was in her heart. John Dryden wrote (in part):

But bright Cecilia rais'd the wonder high'r;  
When to her organ, vocal breath was giv'n,  
An angel heard, and straight appear'd  
Mistaking earth for Heav'n.

Although some traditions attribute the invention of the organ to Cecilia, in fact organs date back into Greek antiquity and ones essentially like those of today to the seventeenth century.

St. Cecilia has come to symbolize the importance of music in the liturgy. But along with this, she is also the patron saint of blindness because of a false etymology based on the Latin noun *caecitas*, blindness.

Text on the left-hand window: *To the glory of God and in memory of Mary Augusta Crandall.*

Text on the right hand window: *Sing unto the Lord and praise his name.* (Cf. Judges 5:3)

Text on plaque below: *In memory of Edwin Dunbar Crandall, choir master, 1898-1929*

Augusta Crandall was the wife of Edwin Dunbar Crandall. She was a noted singer in church services around the area. In 1925, she was killed in front of St. Paul's as, stepping into the street, she was struck by a truck. Edwin Dunbar Crandall was a singer and director well known in the Bay Area. He directed the St. Paul's choir for over thirty years. During that same time he was also director of Oakland's Orpheus Club, a male singers' organization of sixty members.

About 1929 Heaton Butler & Bayne created these windows. They are very much in the style of the Presentation windows described in last month's newsletter. The design draws on well-established tropes: St. Cecilia looks to heaven for inspiration while three angels provide heavenly accompaniment.

Continued from page 1...

[Back to page 1...](#)

6401 San Pablo; and, 6PM Nov 18, at the church At Thy Word, 8915 International. Both churches have parking lots and a lively group of fellow walkers. The picture is of a typical Night Walk. If you want to know what going on a Night Walk is like, please contact Scott Buckingham [b.scott.buckingham@gmail.com](mailto:b.scott.buckingham@gmail.com).

### **Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)**

**Soldiers Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE)** is a group that was formed in response to the last time Oakland had a surge in homicides, in 2011. SAVE has a Stand In every second Saturday, 11am – noon, on a street corner near where someone was killed. This is also a ministry of presence, but it is not quiet. We have bullhorns and great chants like “Increase the love, increase the peace, get these guns up off our streets”. We stand to make the statement that these homicides are not business as usual, that they are repugnant to the community, and that they must stop. The Stand In location for November 12 has not yet been decided, so please wait to hear the announcement. If you want to know what going to a Stand In is like, please contact Matthew Schooler [mwschooler70@gmail.com](mailto:mwschooler70@gmail.com).



## **Breaking News!**

### **Diocesan Convention**

#### **Tom McGarrell, St. Paul's Representative**

The Diocese of California held its 173rd annual convention, electronically, on Friday and Saturday, October 28 and 29, 2022. It made my heart sing to watch our diocese at work.

Our diocese is not a top-down, ruled-by-fiat organization. The clergy and laity have equal voices. For a vote to pass or a nominee to be elected, both a majority of the clergy delegates and a majority of the lay delegates must agree.

The Friday session was informational. The proposed 2023 budget and other financial matters were presented. Topics of diocesan concern were addressed in seven resolutions.

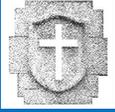
The session finished with an outline and timeline of the upcoming search for the next Bishop of California. A dedicated diocesan website will keep us further informed.

The Saturday session commenced with a collect and a heartfelt prayer for Paul Pelosi and the Pelosi family.

The resolutions were debated and voted on. Financial matters were discussed and voted on. Elections were held for various diocesan offices and positions. (Fr. Mauricio was elected an alternative deputy to the next national convention and will also serve as the Vice President of the Diocesan Standing Committee.)

All that was presented at the convention can be found at [www.diocalconvention.org](http://www.diocalconvention.org). The convention was recorded. Where it can be viewed will be shared when known.

If you have any comments or questions, contact St. Paul's lay delegates, (Jeanette Dinwiddie Moore or Tom McGarrell), or any member of our clergy.



# St. Paul's

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*Dear Readers:*

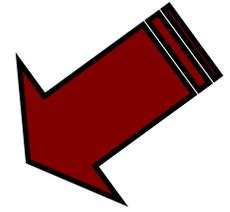
*Currently, the newsletter is not being distributed by regular post. If you know of someone who does not have access to the electronic version, please contact Parish Administrator at 834-4314, Ext. 501 or [admin@stpaulsoakland.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsoakland.org) She will make a hardcopy and send it.*

## 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 400 words to [csknapp@earthlink.net](mailto:csknapp@earthlink.net)

*The Good News* is a publication of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Oakland, California. Carolyn Knapp, editor, and Robert Knapp, composition and graphics.

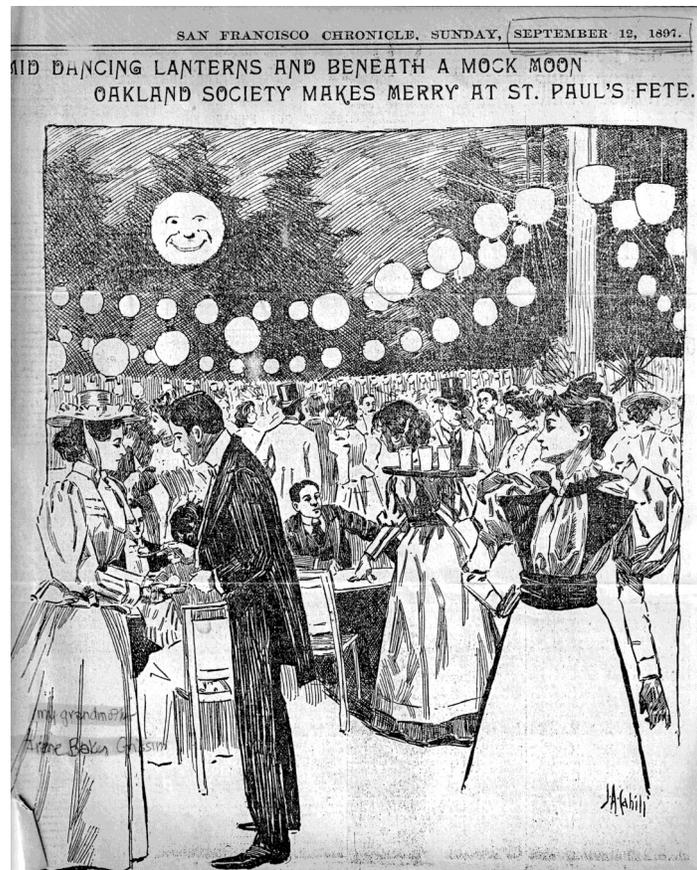
## From the Editors:



**Watch for December's *Good News!***

## St. Paul's 2023 Annual Meeting

St. Paul's 125 years ago...



A St. Paul's fête! Get out your tux and evening attire!