

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We follow Jesus, nurture ministries and welcome all.

Homecoming Sunday 15th Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 18, Year A September 10, 2023 at 10:15 a.m.

Online Bulletin

Service offered both in-person and online

Welcome! Sunday Services are offered each week at 10:15am. You have the option of attending in-person or online at: www.StPaulsVentura.org/live, www.YouTube.com/StPaulsVentura, www.Facebook.com/SaintPaulsVentura.

Safety Protocols –Because some among us are at higher risk and continue to want some additional distance, we've reserved the chapel side of the sanctuary for those with masks. Masks are optional on the Loma Vista side. We hope this will make it possible for everyone find a place in the church where they can feel safe and comfortable. Thank you for your understanding. You are a shining example of what LOVE looks like.

Whether this is your first visit, or you have been a member for years, we're glad you're here! This bulletin is designed to guide you through the service. We invite you to sing, pray and read along with us through the service. The words in bold are the ones we'll all say together. The best way to keep up with everything that's going on at St. Paul's is to subscribe to our Email Newsletter. If you don't receive it and would like to be added to the list, please come see us at the Welcome Table or contact the office.

By tradition, The Episcopal Church offers Holy Communion to all baptized persons. If you are not baptized, but wish to receive, we invite you to participate fully in the opening part of the service, called the Ministry of the Word, hearing God's word and reflecting on your life, enabling you to come to the table for communion, if you so choose, with a heart prepared to receive. We hope that if you feel touched by the word and sacrament and wish to learn more about the life-giving power of the Spirit of the Risen Christ, you will contact the church office to inquire about participating in Holy Baptism.

Our Sunday School program (for children ages 2 years-grade 5) begins at 10am. Children are invited to join Miss Cassidy and Miss Wendy to hear a Bible story and enjoy fun and engaging activities related to that story. Children return to the church to join their families for Eucharist.

Once again, welcome! We're glad that you're worshiping with us. Let us know if you have any questions, prayer requests or need the services of a priest. We are always glad to hear from you. Meanwhile, know that you are in our prayers. We wish you all a very safe and blessed week.



The angels are dancing again...

Listen carefully, you just might hear the angels dancing on the roof!

As things heat up, the beams in our beautiful church ceiling expand and creak. No worries! It's just part of this wonderful building's charm. For years, some of our members have said to each other, "Listen, the angels are dancing on the roof again!"

Today's flowers are given in loving memory of Carl Helms, Jr. by Tim and Kathy Helms.

If you'd like to arrange for flowers given in memory or thanksgiving, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Pageant Ceremonial March Philip Moore Andrew Fletcher

Processional

All creatures of our God and King v. 1-4

Hymnal 400

Please stand as you are able at the sound of the bell.

Cantor: Annelise Ebell

Opening Salutation

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) p. 355

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Now thank we all our God, v. 1

Hymnal 397

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you. **People** And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the reading of scripture.

As Episcopalians, our custom is to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest Holy Scripture. You are invited to do so right here in your bulletin.

First Reading Ezekiel 33:7-11

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel.

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Reader The word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 119:33-40

The response appointed for this morning is a portion of Psalm 119. We will read it verse by verse. I will read the odd-numbered verses. The congregation is invited to read the even-numbered verses.

- 33 Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; I shall keep it with all my heart.
- 35 Make me go in the path of your commandments, for that is my desire.
- 36 Incline my heart to your decrees and not to unjust gain.

- 37 Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; give me life in your ways.
- 38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, which you make to those who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, because your judgments are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; in your righteousness preserve my life.

Second Reading Romans 13:8-14

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn Day by day Hymnal 654

All stand as able to sing.

Holy Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

Remain standing and face the Gospel.

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon Drew Darby

All stand as able and together say

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic¹ and apostolic² Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Server

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the Church of God, that it may be filled with people dedicated to love, generosity and truth. **May your light guide us and shine through us.**

For the leaders of our nation, and the leaders of all nations; that the work they do may benefit all people. **May your light instill within them the desire to act justly and work for peace.**

For blessings on all human endeavors, and for the just and proper use of all you have created. May we be the instruments through which you reach out to the world.

For the sick in body, mind or spirit, especially (*The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud*). **May your light bring hope and healing to all who suffer.**

For all who have died, and for those who grieve, especially (The People may add their own petitions either silently or aloud). May light perpetual shine upon them.

Celebrant

O God, in your infinite generosity, you have created a world filled with resources to sustain all your children. Stir the generosity within each of us so that these resources may be shared. Inspire us when we step out from this place so that we may shine as the Light of Christ to the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray, **Amen.**

¹ universal; all embracing

² Relating to the Apostles, following their teachings

The Confession BCP p. 360

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *A period of silence is observed.*

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

A Prayer Honoring Lives Lost on 9/11

The congregation may remain seated.

O Almighty God, who brings good out of evil and turns even the wrath of your children towards your promised peace:

Hear our prayers this day as we remember those of many nations and differing faiths whose lives were cut short by the fierce flames of anger and hatred.

Hasten the time when the menace of war shall be removed.

Cleanse both us and those perceived to be our enemies of all hatred and distrust.

Pour out the spirit of peace on all the rulers of our world that we may be brought through strife to the lasting peace of the kingdom of your Son; Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Peace

All stand as they are able.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Announcements

Please be seated.

Blessings for Birthdays, Anniversaries and Other Special Occasions

Liturgy of the Table Holy Communion

Offertory Sentence

Through Christ let us continually offer to God the sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his Name. But do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:15,16



Thank you for your donation, and for your pledge.
Your generosity is appreciated!
We look forward to doing great things in the name of Christ with whatever you are able to give.

Presentation Hymn

Songs of thankfulness and praise

H135

Please stand as you are able.

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

The people remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People
Celebrant And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hymnal S128

The service music can be found in the front of the hymnal.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, whether spiritually or actually, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Spiritual Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

Please join us in praying with our siblings in Christ who are with us online and receiving communion spiritually.

Dearest Lord Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We love you above all things and long for you in our souls. Since we are not all together in our church today to receive the bread and wine made holy, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. Fill us with your light and nourish us all with your word and Spirit. Amen.

The Invitation

This is the Banquet of the Lord.

It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more.

So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little,
you who have been here often, and you who have not been here long,
you who have tried to follow, and you who fear you have failed.

Come, because it is the Lord who invites you.

It is his will that those who want him should meet him in this holy way.

For in-person worshipers: Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome at communion. Our custom is to stand or kneel at the altar rail to receive the Eucharist. If you are unable to come forward but would like to receive, please let an usher know and we will bring communion to you.

The Common Cup will be offered on the right side of the altar rail. Intinction (dipping) will be offered on the left (Loma Vista) side.

Regardless of which side you are sitting on, when you come forward, please go to whichever side is offering the wine in the way you prefer to receive it.

Those receiving by intinction are asked to help themselves to a small paper cup.

Please tell the priest if you prefer a gluten-free wafer.

You may also choose to return to your seat without receiving the wine.

Be assured that it is a sufficient experience of communion.

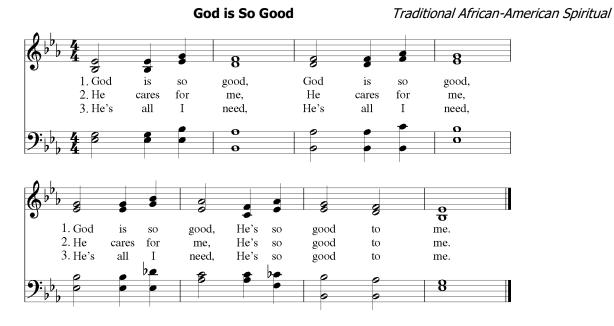
If you'd like to come forward but would prefer not to receive, please cross your arms over your chest and the priest will offer you a blessing.

Suggestion: Before or after Communion, see the Book of Common Prayer (BCP) pp. 833-834. You'll find some wonderful prayers there. Online worshipers can find it at www.bcponline.org

Communion Music

Andante cantabile from Sonata No. 10, K. 330

80 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart



Post Communion Prayer:

Please stand or kneel as you prefer.

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

When the Eucharist is being taken out to those who are sick or shut-in, we will pray together.

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we share one bread, one cup. Amen.

Blessing

May the peace which passes all understanding keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord: And may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit rest upon you and remain with you this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!

Hymnal 460

Please stand as you are able and turn to face the cross as it passes by.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

People Thanks be to God.

Postlude Carillon Scott Lamlein

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Check out next Sunday's readings at www.lectionarypage.net

Please join us in thanking whose who served today, including:

Servers:	Roger Crow & Drew Darby	Lectors:	Janet Koehn & Ted Andrews
Acolyte:	Rosie Dunlevy	Acolyte:	Pippa Darby
Chalice:	Virginia Hernandez	Ushers:	Dan Wakelee & Sally Weimer
Altar Guild:	Susan Talmadge & Roger Crow	Flower Guild:	Roger Crow, Virginia Hernandez & Bridget Wareham
Cantor:	Annelise Ebell	Welcome Greeter:	Joanne Wakelee
Video Production:	Patrick VanHorn	Lock-up Team:	Woody Bretz



Sun. 9/17 Make a Difference Sunday

How can we serve the Lord in the name of Christ?

Sat. 9/23 BBQ Line Dancing Fundraiser

Sun. 10/8 Blessing of the Animals

Sun. 10/15 Family Picnic at Foster Park

Sun. 10/29 Sunday School Halloween Party during Coffee Hour

Prayer Intentions for the Week of September 10, 2023

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury	Our Clergy: Susan Bek, Dick Swanson
Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop	President Joseph Biden, Congress, Federal Courts
John Taylor, Bishop Diocesan	Governor Gavin Newsom, Legislature, State Courts

HEALING IN BODY, MIND & SPIRIT:

Bert, Mary Morgan, Susan, Tessa, Gino, Barb, Noel, Pam, Brycen, all refugees, first responders, and everyone affected by COVID-19, gun violence, natural disaster, poverty, and injustice.

THOSE ENDURING A LONG-TERM ILLNESS:

Phil, Lynn, Audrey, Dennis, Maria, Baby Z, Carol, Rachel, Dave, Linda, Virginia, Michelle, Sheila, Kevin, Susan, Debbie, Vivian, Ulrich, Christian, Kristi and Helen.

IN THE DISCERNMENT PROCESS FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY:

Drew Darby, his wife Anna, and their family.

FOR GOD'S BLESSING ON:

- + The ministry of prayer, study and service of St. Paul's Men's Group, the Daughters of the King, Bible & study groups
- + U.S. Armed services personnel serving around the world and wounded warriors cared for in medical centers and those returned home
- + All who work, educate others, and pray to abolish the scourge of present-day slavery.

GIVE THANKS FOR:

- + Our partners in the Diocese of Los Angeles Deanery One in Santa Barbara County: St. Mary's, Lompoc; St. Mark's, Los Olivos; All Saints', Christ the King, Trinity, Santa Barbara; St. Peter's, Santa Maria; St. Michael's Mission & Campus Ministry at UCSB in Isla Vista, Mount Calvary Monastery & Retreat House, Santa Barbara
- + Our World Mission Companions: the Cathedral Church of the Ascension, in the Diocese of Wiawso, Ghana
- + The Ventura Interfaith Ministerial Assoc.: *Church of the Foothills, First Christian Church, Church of Christ*

IN MEMORIAM

Esther McClain and all those we love but see no longer.

Parish prayers for healing are listed for one calendar month but can be renewed if needed. Please contact the church office to add or extend a prayer request and to let us know how things are going.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Staff



The Rev. Susan Bek, Rector The Rev. Dr. Richard Swanson, Assisting Kara Craven, Parish Administrator Dr. Felix Eisenhauer, Music Minister Tara Eisenhauer, Choir Director Sara Edwards, Organist Joseph Wareham, Sexton

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St. Paul's Announcements September 10, 2023

Thank you for joining us today! Please contact the church office for more information. God bless you!

We invite you to join us again next Sunday.



Welcome to St. Paul's Episcopal Church!

Whether you're new, visiting or have been a member for years, we're so glad you joined us today. A warm welcome to you!

Our Sunday services are available online and in-person. Please let us know if we can do anything to support you on your spiritual journey.

We're always happy to hear from you!

We invite you to come back soon.



This is a brief overview of our weekly announcements. To learn about everything going on at St. Paul's and to receive weekly encouragement and ways to build up spiritual strength, please see our E-newsletter. If you don't receive it, please let us know. We'd be happy to add you to the list! You can reach us by emailing office@saintpaulsventura.org



Please join us in welcoming our guest priest today, the Reverend Canon Greg Larkin. And help us welcome back Drew, Anna and Pippa Darby!



Welcome to HOMECOMING SUNDAY!

This week we celebrate Homecoming Sunday and invite everyone who has ever had a connection to St. Paul's to join us for this special service. We look forward to seeing St. Paul's Church and Parish Day School teachers, students, parents, staff, friends, neighbors, and members. This week we also welcome back programs and people that took time off this summer. Those who attend in-person are invited to stay for some fun at fellowship at our All Star Hot Dog and Chili Bar after the service in Kahler Hall. During the sermon we'll look back on the past 133 years of mission and ministry for St. Paul's Ventura. We'll honor the lives lost on 9/11, and hear Jesus say, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Join us as we gather in his name. Come hear inspiring scripture, beautiful music and an uplifting message of hope and love. Come to church and get inspired!

and after church today...



Join us for a Special Homecoming Coffee Hour with our All Star Hot Dog Bar

In-person worshippers are invited to join us in Kahler Hall (just down the stairs) for our All Star Hot Dog and Chili Bar! This gives us the chance to sit and chat with one another. In the church, we call this fellowship. It's one of our favorite parts of being on this journey of faith together.

Come join in the fun. All are welcome!



Thank you for helping us share the Good News and keep the church growing...

Today is a BRING-A-FRIEND Sunday

A warm welcome to all of the friends who are joining us today. It is a pleasure to share the Good News of God in Christ with you. We are a welcoming and inclusive congregation dedicated to following Jesus, making a difference, and welcoming all. If you have any questions or would like to speak with our priest, please let us know. We invite you to sign up for our Email Newsletter. It's easy, just leave your contact information with the greeters at the Welcome Table. Take a look at the information about our next Church Information Series. We'd love to have you join us. Thanks, again, for coming. Please come back again. And thank you to our members who invited friends. We appreciate your help to keep the church we love going and growing.



Next Sunday, 9/17

We will welcome a very special guest preacher

Bishop Gomes is the former Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil and former Bishop Diocesan of the Diocese of Curitiba. The mission of the Episcopal Anglican Church of Brazil began in 1890 (that's one year after St. Paul's was established!), when the service was celebrated in Portuguese for the first time on June 1, 1890. He has some amazing stories we all can learn from. Rev. Canon Anthony Guillén will also be joining us, as the celebrant. An exciting Sunday!



Join us in serving the world in the name of Christ. Your generosity if appreciated.

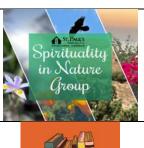
OUTREACH PROJECT - REACHING to Help the Homeless

This month we will collect items to help the homeless. These items will donated through Family to Family. You can help by donating any of the following items: razors and shaving cream, dental floss, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner and shower gel, mouthwash, bug spray for mosquitos, sunscreen lotion, bath towels and washcloths, heavy socks, canned food, small & large dog food and cat food, notepads, pencils and journals, books & board games, individual trash cans, buckets, PPE - masks and gloves, and heavy blankets. Red REACH bags are available in the Narthex for your convenience. Thank you for helping us put our faith into action.



Fair Trade Sales - Next Sunday, September 17th

St. Paul's is an Abolitionist Congregation, committed to ending the scourge of modernday slavery. We sell fair trade products through the Equal Exchange to support farm cooperatives around the world giving farmers a fair price and a better future. Locally our sales support ending human trafficking through the Abolitionist Committee. Please stop by our table outside near the fountain to check out delicious chocolate, coffee and tea! Cash and checks accepted. Please see Joanne Wakelee or contact the church office with questions.



Do you enjoy experiencing God in nature?

Spirituality in Nature Group - Sunday, October 15th

Do you find God in nature? The goals of the Spirituality in Nature Groups are to explore nature to better understand what it means to be stewards of God's creation, and to strengthen our connection with the amazing natural world around us. Join us for a family picnic after church at Foster Park (or Arroyo Verde if Foster Park remains closed). Plan to join us!



Book Club - Monday, October 2nd at 5:30pm on Zoom

The First Monday Book Club is open to all. Details about the next book will follow. Zoom Information – Meeting ID: 751 8208 5503 Passcode: 1stmonday



We are all called to be faithful stewards of our many blessings...

5-Week Workshop on Personal Financial Health begins Sept. 10th **- 11:45am-12:45pm** Join Financial Wellness Coach, Louise Bretz, for a free five-week workshop. Topics include: Addressing your motivations for wanting to change your money habits; getting to know your money; the power of planning your spending; how debt and credit work; saving and investing; managing risk through savings and insurance; legacy & benevolence. All are welcome. Preregistration is highly encouraged. All are welcome!



2024 Choir Pilgrimage Tour

St. Paul's Choir is embarking on an adventure, a life-changing journey and YOU are invited! Learn about the choir tour and pilgrimage to Italy and Switzerland in 2024, why we are doing this, and how to support us to make this dream a reality go to

https://sites.google.com/view/choirtour/home

HOW YOUR DONATION CAN HELP

Your donations will support the 2024 Music Ministry Tour & Pilgrimage and help to cover the cost of fundraising, as well as tour and travel expenses. Any remaining funds will support the music ministry in endeavors that may incur expenses beyond what the Music Ministry's regular budget can support. Examples would be tours, pilgrimages, performance opportunities that may have a fee, or expenses involved with traveling to sing at other venues/churches. When donating through PayPal or with a check, be sure to add the memo – for Choir Pilgrimage Tour. Thank you!

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



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