

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Ventura, California**

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Medical Center)*

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The Reverend Canon
Jerome E. Kahler
Rector

The Reverend Canon Doug Edwards
Assisting

The Rev. Anthony Guillen
Assisting

The Rev. Ed Steever
Deacon

Ms. Julia Neufeld
Music Director & Organist

Jennie Whaley
Treasurer

Christine Wied
Senior Warden

Kathleen Jensen
Junior Warden

Apostle's Postscript

September 2009



We follow Jesus, nurture ministries, and welcome all

The Sparkle of Diamonds--120 Years of Ministry in Ventura

By Jerome E. Kahler

Why is the number 120 significant? Because it's a double diamond occasion, and who doesn't enjoy the sparkle of diamonds! Queen Victoria named the 60th anniversary of her enthronement a diamond jubilee, so St. Paul's members ought to celebrate with much hoopla the doubling of as many years. Plus it's always good to give thanks!

There have already been a couple of moments this year in which we have taken stock of the richness of God's grace evident among the people of St. Paul's, Ventura. At the January parish meeting a revised and updated history of our congregation was presented in a PowerPoint collage of old photos marking the early history of Ventura, the mission period, and the establishment of Old St. Paul's at Oak and Santa Clara Streets and on to the relocation to Loma Vista Road. Then, on the final day of our Parish Day School in June, another PowerPoint collage of the thirty-seven year ministry of the school was made. The latter was a more solemn occasion because the closing of a ministry is measured in relationships that evoke both joy and sorrow. Yet in the enduring ministry of the Body of Christ the day school was an active expression of the grace of God through education that has formed leaders for our community and the world.

On Sunday, September 13, the community is invited to celebrate our 120th year of ministry with the Rt. Rev. Chester L. Talton, Bishop Suffragan of Los Angeles, presiding at Confirmation and the commissioning of our ministries in Ventura. There will be an 8:00 am Holy Eucharist as usual. Bishop Talton will be joining us for the 10:15 am service. There will be a variety of music for the liturgy, including Temple Forte. Lunch will follow with a menu of tri-tip sandwiches and grilled vegetables. Child care providers will offer special activities for the children. On display in Kahler Hall will be a new scrapbook that chronicles our past as well as an array of old photos and memorabilia.

Come add your sparkle to our double diamond jubilee!

A Little of this, a Little of that

Visit our website at stpaulsventura.org and watch us grow.



P.S. Deadline for Oct 2009 Issue:

Please turn in your articles and information for the Oct P.S. to Stephanie by **Sept 21, 2009**. You may FAX your articles, e-mail them, or write them out.

Seminarians Return to Classes

Bill Knutson

Jim Lee and Bill Knutson, St. Paul's parishioners seeking to be ordained as priests in The Episcopal Church, have returned to their second year of studies at The Episcopal Theological School at Claremont (ETSC), also known as "Bloy House." They successfully completed their initial instruction in New Testament Greek, Western philosophy, Christian doctrine, and Hebrew Bible (Old Testament) and now turn to church history, contemporary theology, ethics, and New Testament.

In addition to coursework, potential priests are required to undertake clinical pastoral education (CPE) in which they work in a hospital or other setting as a chaplain for 400 hours under the supervision of a trainer. Jim recently completed his CPE at Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles, an experience he describes as both "exhausting and exhilarating." To make his summer even more interesting, Jim, his wife Julie Cho, and their daughter Sona packed up their house and prepared to move to Irvine, where Jim has accepted a new position as professor of Asian-American studies at the University of California. Jim is slated to move into the role of chair of the department, which is the largest Asian-American studies program in the country. Though Jim is leaving the Ventura area and regular attendance at St. Paul's, he remains "our" seminarian, sponsored by the parish on his continuing journey to ordained ministry.

Bill recently stepped into the part-time position of Christian Formation Coordinator (CFC) for St. Paul's, where he is working to enhance and establish activities and programs supporting the spiritual growth of our children, youth, and adults. Bill continues to work as a technical writer at QAD in Santa Barbara as he pursues his studies and parish commitments. At the request of the new ETSC dean, the Very Rev. Dr. Sylvia Sweeney, Bill and his wife Carin (coordinator of St. Paul's Sunday School program) will, on October 2, present to the Bloy House community a family-oriented worship service based on the "Messy Church" and Sunday morning programs developed here at St. Paul's. Any St. Paul's people willing to make the journey out to Claremont are welcome to participate.

Our seminarians' studies are partially supported by the Diocese and St. Paul's. In the wake of the worldwide financial crisis, diocesan scholarships to seminarians were cut in half this academic year, making the support of the local faith community much more vital. The undesignated offerings gathered on the third Sunday of each month go to the Seminarian Scholarship Fund, but designated offerings to that fund are gratefully received at anytime. Please continue to support our seminarians with your prayers and encouragement, as well as your gifts.

Candidates for the election of two bishops suffragan for the Diocese of Los Angeles

At the annual convention of the diocese on December 4th and 5th two bishops suffragan will be elected to serve in the place of bishops Talton and Carranza who have announced their plans to retire. A bishop suffragan is a bishop elected by a diocese to serve as an assistant to the bishop diocesan. A bishop suffragan does not have right of succession, but does not automatically resign when the diocesan retires or dies.

A nominating committee has been hard at work since February. It has submitted six candidates:

- The Rev. Canon [Diane M. Jardine Bruce](#), rector, St. Clement's by-the-Sea Church in San Clemente, California;
- The Rev. Canon [Mary Douglas Glasspool](#), canon to the bishops in the Baltimore-based Diocese of Maryland;
- The Rev. [Zelda M. Kennedy](#), senior associate for pastoral care and spiritual growth, All Saints Church in Pasadena, California;
- The Rev. [John L. Kirkley](#), rector, St. John the Evangelist Church in San Francisco (Diocese of California);
- The Rev. [Silvestre E. Romero](#), rector, St Philip's Church in San Jose, California (Diocese of El Camino Real); and
- The Rev. [Irineo Martir Vasquez](#), vicar, St. George's Church in Hawthorne, California.

These clergy will be personally introduced at a diocesan gathering at Campbell Hall School in North Hollywood on Saturday, September 19th. This will be the only opportunity to hear the candidates speak publically before the election. The event is open to everyone. Carpooling is suggested. Reserve a box lunch for \$9. Please call the office for arrangements.

Adult Christian Education at St. Paul's

This fall there are four offerings for growth in the Christian life particularly for adults.

- Sunday evenings – “Come and see, follow me” – an eleven week study of John's gospel will be convened by Bill Knutson starting September 13th. This is the newest study to be announced. The place and time will not be finalized until participants have been surveyed. Contact: Bill Knutson, 644-9893.
- Monday evening , 7:00 pm.– A book study of “Home By Another Way” by Barbara Brown Taylor will be undertaken by the study group that meets in participants homes. Contact person: Katie Weldon, 643-3095, for the weekly location.
- Wednesday morning, 10:30 am – Gooden Center – Fr. Kahler leads a Bible study of Paul's letter to the Philippians. An ongoing study group that follows the 9:30 am Holy Eucharist.
- Wednesday evening, 7:00 pm – “What Are We To Do? – Living the Sermon on the Mount” by David Yount. This ten week study will convene on September 16th at the home of David and Jennie Whaley, 658-6436, and conclude just before Thanksgiving.

NEW Adult Bible Study Begins Sunday, September 13!

The invitation from Christ is: “Come and see, follow me”. Experience the magnificent passages in John including the “I am” statements (I am the truth, the life and the way, I am the living water and more). Revisit stories only told in John's gospel including Nicodemus, Mary Magdalene, and the raising of Lazarus.

During the weekly video segments, travel into the scripture as you hear the Word, experience the grand artwork connected with each story and interview the scholar. Each week wraps up with a small group discussion on video to spark your own conversation. Participants for this Invitation to John do not have to have an in-depth knowledge of the Bible to enjoy and benefit from participation. Reading just two chapters of John a week, they will discover the life-altering stories that will invite them to follow Christ as true disciples. This eleven-week study includes a participant book outlining daily reading assignments for group preparations.

Under the leadership of Bill Knutson (ETSC seminarian and Christian Formation Coordinator), Invitation to John meets for 60-90 minutes on Sunday evening. The first meeting date will be September 13. The series wraps up November 22. The cost is \$10 (includes the participant guide) and scholarships are available.

SUMMARY OF THE VESTRY MEETING – August 25, 2009

- Finance** – Overall, revenue is slightly ahead of budget and expenses are slightly under budget. Total income through the month of July was \$193,570 with expenditures of \$199,740 leaving a deficit of \$6,169 which is less than projected from the first of the year. Pledges are almost on target year to date.
The audit committee recommendations are being addressed by the finance committee which meets next on Tuesday, September 1 at 9:00 am.
The Summer Life program ended with a surplus of \$4,506. The director took no salary. The vestry approved a donation to Heifer Project of \$1,000 in thanksgiving for her work.
- Youth Center** – Our youth groups presented a detailed proposal to convert the junior high building into a youth center serving all age levels of our current program and allowing expansion in design and activities. The first phase will renovate the southern most room and kitchen area for immediate use. Later the science room will be reconfigured for the youth program. Once the space is prepared the youth will no longer use the Gooden Center. The vestry gave unanimous consent. \$4,000 was approved to be spent on preparing the first phase room interior. A re-introductory barbecue is scheduled for September 20th.
- Christian Formation** – The Sunday evening intergenerational gathering and welcoming for the community, Messy Church, will continue on first Sundays in the Fall.
- Outreach** – Kingdom Center project at the former City Center Motel has announced a calendar of worship and work events for the sponsoring churches and the homeless community beginning with a potluck this weekend with worship bands from 10 churches.
- Social Justice** – Several food ministry opportunities were discussed. A request was made for a list of prospective programs to select a program(s) that best fits our mission and available financial and volunteer resources.
- 120th Celebration** – the planning committee reported on the features of the day and activities that will engage the congregation and friends including: Confirmation, worship music, lunch, child care for young children, etc.
- Parish Day School closing** – inventorying of curricula and equipment; preparation of classrooms for new uses for the Sunday school, youth, and tutoring; all progressing a little slower than expected because of Mrs. Cloninger's recovery from surgery and chemotherapy. Summer Life concluded last week which also delayed the removal of equipment and supplies. Some classrooms will be used for storage of valuable equipment. Rooms will be readied for reuse as necessary.
- Little Tree Preschool** – the required second exits for the two leased rooms were completed last week and licensing obtained. Today was the first day children occupied the second room.
- Hospitality** – the J2A Pilgrims will provide a reception and presentation of the pilgrimage 2009 following both services on August 30th. Suggestion: alert the congregation to put cell phones on silence at the beginning of services.
- Long Range Planning** – under the heading “welcoming” plans to install wall mounted baby changing stations in the Kahler Hall restrooms were approved. Further refurbishment of the restrooms is the primary goal of the M&Ms for the next month. Consideration of an awning at the west Kahler Hall entrance is underway.



Calendar of Regular Events

AA

Acolytes

Altar Guild, 2 thu, YR 10am

Brotherhood, 2 Sun 9:15 am, YR

BSA #179, 2,3,4 Tu, PH 7 pm

Bell Choir Wed. 7 pm CR

Bible Study,

Mon 7 pm off until 4-27

Wed. 10:30 am GC

Wed. 7:00 pm (Whaley's)

Friday 6:30am Men's group

Fri. 9:30 am, Womens group

Celebration Singers

Choir, all Thur 7 pm CR

Child Care

Church Services

Chapel daily 8:00am

Wed. 9:30 am Holy Eucharist/Healing

Sun. 8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:15 am Holy Eucharist W/Nursery

Daughters of the King

1st Sat, 10 am YR

Episcopal Church Women

1st Tu 10 am, GC

Eucharistic Prayer Ministry

Family to Family

Floral Arts Guild

Lectors, LEMs

School Board, 3rd Tu, 7pm GC

S.P.I.R.I.T. Groups

Sunday School

Ushers, 8 am

Ushers, 10:15 am

Vestry, 4th Tu, 7 pm GC

Contact office, 643-5033

Marianne Romo, 985-9441

Carol Brewer, 643-0281

Rod Weldon, 643-3095

John Salemi, 847-912-1613

Julie Neufeld, 643-5033, 967-5965

Katie Weldon, 643-3095

Fr. Jerry, 643-5033

David Whaley, 658-6436

Rod Weldon, 643-3095

Suzanne McCombs, 658-0826

Ruth McCool, 639-3082

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Office, 643-5033

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Ruth McCool, 639-3082

Roger Mann, 658-2325

Beth Kahler, 659-3005

Ralph Armstrong, 815-3513

Katie Weldon, Chairperson
643-3095

Katie Weldon, 643-3095

Carin Knutson, 644-9893

Carl Helms, 647-9070

Deacon Ed Steever, 642-9058

Office, 643-5033

BULLETIN BOARD PHOTOS

Your photos of St. Paul's events are appreciated and will be posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Please leave them in the box in the office labeled "Bulletin Board - Marjorie Cole". Attach a note detailing name of event, date, photographer's name and any other pertinent info. Also, please make it clear if you want them returned. Sometimes a collage is made and photos are cut so more may be included. If you do not want the pictures cut, please note that too.



Church July Finances

The treasurer reports that overall, revenue is slightly ahead of the budget and expenses are slightly under budget. Total monthly income through the month of July was \$193,570 (60.6%, with 58% of the year elapsed). Expenditures to date totaled \$199,740. The gap year to date of \$6,169 is smaller than the projected deficit at the beginning of the year (\$31,653). Pledges received are just under the year to date plan (YTD budget: \$140,649 – actual: \$139,572). Many thanks go to our pledgers who consistently keep their accounts current.

September Food Pantry

The St. Paul's community responded very generously to recent requests for food for our Food Pantry and for Project Understanding. Thank you!

We continue to need canned foods (pop-top preferred), including meats, fish, hearty soups and chili, fruits and vegetables. Single serve juice drinks (with straws attached), granola bars and peanut butter and jams/jellies also would be appreciated.

In the Fall months Project Understanding welcomes sweatshirts, and crew socks. Toiletries and gently used towels and wash clothes are needed throughout the year. A more complete list of items requested by Project Understanding is posted outside the kitchen in Kahler Hall.



New Youth Center, Programs Showcased at Barbecue September 20

The youth of St. Paul's are invited to a barbecue on Sunday, September 20 to celebrate the launching of the revamped youth program. A key part of the festivities will be a tour of the new Youth Center, located in the old junior high school building of the former Parish Day School. While there is a lot of work to be done to convert the building into a top-notch facility for the young people of St. Paul's and the Ventura community, the Vestry has already granted seed capital for the initial work, with the remainder to be raised through a combination of "sweat equity" and generous contributions from the St. Paul's community. The Youth Center is envisioned as a safe, fun place for young people with a mix between classroom, kitchen, and "hang out" spaces for a wide range of activities.



Messy Church Returns

Bill Knutson

Due to popular demand, the summer run of Messy Church, St. Paul's Sunday evening program, has been extended to two nights in the fall: October 4 and November 1. Messy Church is a lightly structured (yet purposeful) evening in which the social and the spiritual flow naturally into one another. Everyone in the parish family is invited - though there's plenty for kids to do, it's not just for them. The gathering begins with live music and hor d'oeuvres, then, when the time feels right, segues into a simple, short worship service led by the children of the parish. We then share community work: doing crafts or preparing and serving a simple supper for all to enjoy. Everyone pitches in for clean-up to cap a refreshing evening. The gathering time begins at 4:30 (and lasts 30-45 minutes). The evening concludes between 6:30 and 7:00 PM. This is a marvelous opportunity to share with your friends who might be interested in St. Paul's what we're about as a community in a pleasant, uplifting, and informal environment.



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Weekly Worship	Bible Study	Looking Ahead
<p><u>Sunday</u>, 8:00 a.m., Holy Eucharist (Rite I)</p> <p><u>Sunday</u> 10:15 a.m., Holy Eucharist (Rite II)</p> <p><u>Wednesday</u>, 9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Healing Liturgy</p>	<p><u>Monday</u>, 7:00 p.m., Home Bible Studies; contact Katie Weldon at 643-3095.</p> <p><u>Wednesday</u>, 10:30 am. Philipians; Gooden Center. 7:00 pm Home Bible Study, contact Jennie Whaley, 643-5033.</p> <p><u>Friday</u>, 6:30 am, Men's group, Rod Weldon, 643-3095. Women's group at Suzanne McCombs, Ventura. 658-0826</p>	<p>Sept 4-7, Epiphany Ministry</p> <p>Sept 12, Stewardship conference (VCCF in Camarillo)</p> <p>Sept 13, 120th Celebration of our parish, Bishop Talton will be here for Confirmation.</p> <p>Sept. 19, Bishop Candidates @ Campbell Hall in North Hollywood.</p> <p>Sept 21, Family to Family</p>
<p>Sunday School begins at 10:00 a.m. Ages 3 through pre-K meet in the Ark; K-5th grades meet in the Church; Rite 13 (6th-8th grades) J2A (9-12 grades) meets in the Gooden Center. Childcare is available in the nursery for children younger than three. Activity bags for children are available in the church narthex.</p>		