

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

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Ventura, CA 93003
(Across from the Ventura County
Medical Center)

Telephone:
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stephanie@saintpaulsventura.org

Website:
stpaulsventura.org

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

October 2009



We follow Jesus, nurture ministries, and welcome all

A Double Diamond Jubilee Observed

By Jerome E. Kahler

If Queen Victoria could declare a diamond jubilee to mark the 60th anniversary of her coronation and plan festivities celebrating her long reign, St. Paul's could express double the joy upon reaching the 120th mark in our parish life. Sunday, September 13, 2009 was set aside for our parish party and we enjoyed ourselves with our friends. We are grateful that Bishop Chester L. Talton could be with us. He confirmed the class of eight adults and youth at the 10:15 am service, and after commissioning them for their journey in the Christian life he commissioned the whole congregation for the work of Christ in and for our community. We were blessed with wonderful music by the choir and by Temple Forte, our parish band.

Following the service the congregation gathered in Kahler Hall decorated with streamers and banners to view displays of photos, artifacts that document significant moments in our parish history, colorful vestments, reminders of our parish day school ministry, and a slideshow of early Ventura and St. Paul's past. Many were thrilled to see and touch some of the early record books, awed by the penmanship so characteristic of the age. Some noticed entries of baptism, confirmation, marriage and death of persons who were influential in civic as well and parish life. Seldom are such books on display. It was like uncovering a treasure trove.

Food and fellowship made for an inviting experience for members and visitors alike. The "Body of Christ," an actual reproduction of the head and heart, hands and feet of Christ in us for the world, demonstrated the many and varied ministry applications of our members currently and over the years. Patricia Watling produced a new scrapbook for the church that beautifully portrays our witness in the community, with the benefit of expansion as succeeding years roll on. The music of Labyrinth (a former worship band) and Temple Forte serenaded us at meal time on the patio on a comfortably warm afternoon. The children enjoyed activities and games near the library. Everything was coordinated by the 120th Celebration committee chaired by Chris Wied, senior warden.

Our 120th Celebration, much like the Centennial Celebration on All Saints' Day 1988, the year I became rector of St. Paul's, was an occasion to be savored. We did. And we give thanks to God for the profound blessings received and shared in this part of the Lord's vineyard.

A Little of this, a Little of that

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

Visit www.stpaulsventura.org for the current church calendar and programs, sermons, pictures and stories.



IT IS TIME TO MEASURE OUR STEWARDSHIP

By Jerome E. Kahler

Financial stewardship, our accountability before God for the resources placed in our care, also involves an assessment and commitment of a portion our wealth for the work of the church. At St. Paul's this is a necessary activity each Fall. The vestry will be sending to all our members a request for a monetary pledge to the operating fund for 2010. Pledge cards will be mailed early in October. Please consider your pledge or, if you have not been in the habit of pledging, making a pledge to the work of the church. We ask you to bring your pledge card with you to church on November 1, Celebration Sunday, to be dedicated as part of our corporate worship. That evening the vestry will host a dinner for the parish so that we may rejoice in God's gifts committed to support the ministry of the parish.

P.S. Deadline for Nov. 2009 Issue:

Please turn in your articles and information for the Nov P.S. to Stephanie by **Oct 23, 2009**. You may FAX your articles, e-mail them, or write them out.

MISCONDUCT PREVENTION TRAINING SESSION

Saturday, October 17th, 8:30 am – 1:00 pm

An annual workshop on the prevention of child abuse and the prevention of sexual misconduct will be offered at St. Paul's on Saturday, October 17th, from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm. The approximately four hour session will provide training on issues pertaining to child abuse, sexual harassment and exploitation. It will cover all pastoral relationships, dealing with healthy boundaries, high-risk situations, abuse of power, accountability, ethical and theological concerns. The diocesan policies and procedures for insuring safety in our parishes and their ministries will be reviewed.

Diocesan policy requires this training, renewable every five years, for all clergy and all employees; paid and unpaid educators, including Sunday school teachers, staff musicians, volunteer pastoral care providers (visitors, Eucharistic ministers, and counselors), volunteers who supervise children and youth activities, chairs of parish organizations and vestry members. The church's concern is to have everyone who is in leadership or is in service to others on behalf of the church to be aware of their appropriate interpersonal and legal responsibilities. This is information everyone needs to know. All are invited; for some it is required.

Fr. Kahler will be the trainer at this session. A \$5.00 fee for materials and refreshments is requested. Please RSVP to St. Paul's (office: 805-643-5033, or email stpaulsventura@aol.com) by October 15th.

MINISTRY TO THE HUNGRY AND HOMELESS

St. Paul's has a long practice of serving those in need in Ventura. Our budget provides operational support for Project Understanding and Family to Family. During the year parishioners generously respond to appeals for the hot meals served once a month on the Avenue. Many adults and youth have supported this ministry for over 30 years with their time and energy.

Our vestry social justice committee has helped us see other opportunities for service. As a result the vestry approved our participation in the Kingdom Center project to convert the old City Center Motel into a transitional housing shelter to provide 30 more badly needed housing units in the city. The committee is also working in support of the Sleep Safe Ventura initiative approved by the city council in concept to authorize three to four parking lots for legal overnight parking of occupants in their cars (a maximum of 15 cars overall).

The announcement box below appears every Sunday morning in the bulletin to remind us that there are small things each person can do to alleviate the need others have for food. Please pick up an item on this list, or the longer list posted in Kahler Hall. Bring it with you on Sunday and place in the narthex (church lobby) baskets. Jesus said, *As you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me. (Matthew 25:40)*

Christmas Gifts Needed

Please check your supplies for unused hotel toiletries such as lotion, shampoo, soaps, and other grooming items to be used for Christmas gifts for our December Family to Family guests. Sample fragrances, lipstick, makeup, toothbrushes, floss and small toothpastes also make good gifts. Helper parishioner elves in the past have even supplied manicure items, travel size shaving creme, razors, combs, brushes and deodorant which are very much appreciated by our guests.

Last year more women guests attended than usual and fortunately we had just the right number of gifts for them. We always anticipate twice as many men as women and this year due to the economic crisis we will most likely see increasing numbers of both women and men.

Volunteers from Breast Cancer Friends (formerly our support group) will meet to wrap all the items. Larger bags of donations may be left in the office with Stephanie and smaller items can be placed in my box labeled Marjorie Cole - Bulletin Board or may be given to me at church.

I appreciate anything helper elves can give, Marjorie Cole

“VCCB” Women of Faith Go to Anaheim!

Our third annual trip to the two day Women of Faith conference in Anaheim began auspiciously with a spectacular sunrise as many of us drove down early Friday morning for the kickoff speakers. The Women of Faith conference is presented in thirty cities around the nation featuring inspirational Christian speakers. The focus of this year's conference was “A Grand New Day,” how God's mercies never end and are new each morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). Featured speakers this year included Patsy Clairmont, Luci Swindoll, Sandi Patti, Stephen Arterburn, Sheila Walsh, Christian comedian Anita Renfroe, fantastic singing by the Women of Faith musical worship team, the energetic Ayeisha Woods and Grammy award winner Steven Curtis Chapman.

Our “Ventura County Church Babes” (“VCCB”) group began almost three years ago with the Friday morning women's bible study group which includes members of St. Paul's and several other churches in the area. Each year we grow as friends are caught up with our enthusiasm for studying scripture and sharing a common ground in fellowship. This year we were twenty-six strong, and we rejoiced in new friendships and renewed and unexpected connections. We have reserved our tickets for the 2010 conference September 10th-11th at the Honda Center in Anaheim. You won't want to miss out on this inspirational and uplifting weekend of Christian fellowship. If you'd like to learn more, talk to Paula Robertson, Suzanne McCombs or Ruth McCool. We'd love to have you join us!

Summary of the Vestry Meeting – September 22, 2009

- 1. Treasurer's Report** – Overall, revenue is slightly ahead of budget (YTD actual: \$214,396 - budget: \$212,919) and expenses are slightly under budget (YTD budget \$238,134 – actual: \$230,841). Pledges are slightly below projections (YTD budget: \$160,742 – actual: \$155,029), but only off by 2%. The deficit in the approved budget (\$37,832) is beginning to show in these waning months of the year. The accumulated monthly deficit is now \$16,445. In addition to normal operating expenses in the past month funds have been drawn from the Vanguard account to build and network three new computers (\$7,500) for the office, for the pilgrimage and renovation of the youth center (\$5,000), and a grant to the Kingdom Center transitional shelter project (\$5,750).
The Finance Committee has been addressing the recommendations of the Audit Committee; the number remaining is small.
A CPA has been hired to review the Day School books to finally cease operations.
- 2. Youth** – The Youth Center, in the former junior high building, was inaugurated with a BBQ on Sunday, September 20. In addition to Sunday morning classes for youth, one Sunday evening a month a youth program reaching beyond the parish will be offered.
- 3. Messy Church** – next gathers on Sunday, October 4, to invite the community to fellowship and worship.
- 4. Communication** – The 120th anniversary celebration with photos by Don Anderson made the cover page of the Episcopal News Update. St. Paul's website offers a wealth of information about the parish and our ministries. It is a valuable tool for communication between parish groups and their members as well, i.e. Christian Formation, youth.
- 5. Social Justice** – Roger Mann is our parish point person to the Kingdom Center project committee. Progress is being made to convert the former City Center Motel into transitional housing for the homeless. Two fundraisers are planned. St. Paul's is offering a Wine and Cheese fundraiser for Friday, October 9 to support our ongoing commitment. An on-site community-wide fundraiser is set for October 25.
RoseAnn Hill is point person for homeless issues and will attend a meeting on the Sleep Safe Ventura (sleeping in cars initiative) on Sept 28 with Fr. Kahler.
- 6. Repairs and Maintenance** – We are receiving proposals to fix the Kahler Hall casement windows that will not open. Approved up to \$5,000 to freshen up the Gooden Center public spaces with carpet, vinyl and paint now that the youth have a new meeting space.
- 7. Long Range Planning** – meets next, Sunday, October 25 between services.
- 8. 120th Celebration** – Chris Wied (chair) expressed appreciation for all who made such a wonderful day for the parish a reality. Our pilgrimage through our past, present and looking to the future included confirmation of eight adults and youth by Bishop Talton.

Calendar of Regular Events

<u>AA</u>	<u>Contact office, 643-5033</u>
Acolytes	Marianne Romo, 985-9441
Altar Guild, 2 thu, YR 10am	Carol Brewer, 643-0281
Brotherhood, 2 Sun 9:15 am, YR	Rod Weldon, 643-3095
BSA #179, 2,3,4 Tu, PH 7 pm	John Salemi, 847-912-1613
Bell Choir Wed. 7 pm CR	Julie Neufeld, 643-5033, 967-5965
Bible Study,	
Mon 7 pm off until 4-27	Katie Weldon, 643-3095
Wed. 10:30 am GC	Fr. Jerry, 643-5033
Wed. 7:00 pm (Whaley's)	David Whaley, 658-6436
Friday 6:30am Men's group	Rod Weldon, 643-3095
Fri. 9:30 am, Womens group	Suzanne McCombs, 658-0826
Celebration Singers	Ruth McCool, 639-3082
Choir, all Thur 7 pm CR	Julie Neufeld, 643-5033, 967-5965
Child Care	Office, 643-5033
Church Services	
Chapel daily 8:00am	Office, 643-5033
Wed. 9:30 am Holy Eucharist/Healing	
Sun. 8:00am Holy Eucharist	
10:15 am Holy Eucharist W/Nursery	
Daughters of the King	Kathleen Jensen, 644-7141
1 st Sat, 10 am YR	
Episcopal Church Women	Katie Weldon, 643-3095
1 st Tu 10 am, GC	
Eucharistic Prayer Ministry	Ruth McCool, 639-3082
Family to Family	Roger Mann, 658-2325
Floral Arts Guild	Beth Kahler, 659-3005
Lectors, LEMs	Ralph Armstrong, 815-3513
School Board, 3 rd Tu, 7pm GC	Katie Weldon, Chairperson 643-3095
S.P.I.R.I.T. Groups	Katie Weldon, 643-3095
Sunday School	Carin Knutson, 644-9893
Ushers, 8 am	Carl Helms, 647-9070
Ushers, 10:15 am	Deacon Ed Steever, 642-9058
Vestry, 4 th Tu, 7 pm GC	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.



OCTOBER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: Place in the narthex (church lobby) baskets.

Canned (pop-top preferred) food: including soups, beans, beanie weenies, tuna, fruit and vegetables; granola bars, single juice drinks (with straws), 18 oz. (or smaller) peanut butter and jams and jellies.

Project Understanding: disposable razors, shaving cream, shampoo and conditioner, laundry soap (powder), towels and wash cloths in good condition. Sleeping bags, sweatshirts, crew socks and jackets.

Messy Church

Sunday, October 11th

On the Patio (Weather Permitting)

The social and spiritual weave together in this evening of worship, fellowship, and fun. Our gathering time begins at 4:30 p.m. and features snacks, drinks, and live music by Temple Forte. Sometime after 5:15 p.m., the children and youth lead us in a simple Evening Prayer service, featuring a "felt art" Bible story. We greet each other with the peace of the Lord and then share community work: crafts or preparing a light supper. We enjoy our meal together, all pitch in to clean up, then are on our way around 6:30 p.m.

Messy Church is for everyone in our parish family – not just kids!
Invite friends who might want to get to know St. Paul's.

RSVP on the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall and bring a beverage to share.



Christmas Pageant Slated for December 20

The Christmas Pageant, a dormant St. Paul's tradition, is being revived for 2009. Using a script prepared by noted Episcopal educator Gretchen Wolff Pritchard, "Tidings of Great Joy" will harness the talents of the parish's children and youth to re-create the wonderful and ancient story of the Savior's birth. Rehearsals will begin in November. Look for an opportunity to volunteer in a range of capacities in the near future.

SAVE THE DATE !!!

Acolyte Kayaking Party in Channel Islands Harbor either Sun. afternoon 10/11.

Please call Mrs. Romo, 985-9441, if one is better than the other for you and we'll go with the date that will have the most participants. Potluck and swimming to follow at Romo house nearby.



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3290 Loma Vista Road
 Ventura, CA 93003-3002
 805.643.5033

stpaulsventura.org

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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. Philippians; 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>Oct 11, 2-5pm Acolyte Kyaking Party with the Romo's.</p> <p>Oct 11, 3:30 pm Ventura TowneHouse Vespers</p> <p>Oct 11, 4:30 pm Messy Church</p> <p>Oct 12, Family to Family</p> <p>Oct 17, 8:30 - 1:00pm Child abuse, Sexual misconduct class.</p> <p>Oct 24, 9-4 pm Choir rehearsal in church.</p> <p>Oct 25, 2-4 pm Choir rehearsal in church.</p> <p>Nov 1 Celebration Dinner</p> <p>Nov 8, 3:30 pm TowneHouse Vespers.</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>		