



St. Paul's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

May 2012

Volume 56 Issue 5

THE GOOD NEWS

To know Christ better and to make Him better known

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New St. Paul's pantry to serve local 'residential poor'

St. Paul's outreach ministry will extend further into helping people in the downtown Oakland community to meet basic needs with the opening in June of the St. Paul's Food Pantry.

"The easy thing to do would be to send people elsewhere for food," said Fr. Mauricio Wilson, "but the need is right here. We're in an area with major unemployment, and we're accessible by bus."

Deacon Carolyn Bolton, who came up with the idea for the pantry, said it will be located in the former basement storage room adjacent to the door to the Parish office. The space has been remodeled with a



Deacon Carolyn Bolton during remodeling of the basement to become a pantry for the poor.

grant from Episcopal Senior Resources funded by a former Senior Resources client, she said.

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Alleluia, Christ is Risen! Oh no! Christ is gone!

by The Rev. Mauricio Wilson

On Thursday May 24th, 40 days after Easter, we observe the Feast of the Ascension. We remember the occasion on which the Gospel writer tells the story of the risen Jesus ascending into the sky before the eyes of his disciples. On the day of the crucifixion, Jesus' disciples found themselves in a place of great sadness and hopelessness. Things change when the resurrected Jesus appeared to them; their hope and joy are restored, and then he is taken from them once again.

Today we see the ascension as a wonderful event in the history of redemption. However, for the first

disciples it was most likely not a happy moment. The son of God (Man), their friend, had returned. The rebuilding of the temple in three days is complete. They probably had dreams about what they would accomplish now that death could not hold him. So why is he leaving, where is he going and what do we do now? These are questions that probably swirled in the minds of Peter, Thomas, James, John and the other disciples. This is my own speculation in trying to immerse myself in the mind of one of those looking up, because, according to the accounts in the Books of Luke and

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Sequence hymns and history

by Dr. David Farr

Among the treasures of Latin hymnody are the Sequences or hymns developed during the Middle Ages for singing prior to the Gospel. Hundreds were composed, commemorating events and people celebrated through the Church Year. It is said that the relative importance of monasteries and cathedrals was judged in part by the number of Sequences composed for a particular place.

Sequences eventually provided the backbone of liturgical dramas which became a basis for developing

of opera of the baroque era. Meanwhile, one of the liturgical reforms of the Council of Trent (1545) was to eliminate all but five of the thousands then in use. Those that remained, and are still used today, are:

- **Dies irae** (Day of wrath! O day of mourning [funerals] –*Hymnal 1940* No. 468)
- **Lauda Sion** (Zion, praise thy Savior, singing [Corpus Christi; Maundy Thursday] --Hymn 320)
- **Stabat Mater** (At the cross her

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Bach Boot Camp, for boys ages 8-13 July 16-20

St. Clement's Church,
2837 Claremont Blvd,
Berkeley

Talented boy singers are invited to join our Evensong choir for a one-week program focusing on the music of J.S. Bach and Handel's *Messiah*, with vocal and string instruction, music theory classes, field trips, rehearsals, and other fun activities.

AUDITION NOW.

Space is limited!

Christopher Kula, Artistic Director. Erika Miranda and Shauna Fallihee, Instructors.

Info at

www.PacificCollegium.org, email info@PacificCollegium.org or call 510.473.7736.

Bye again, for a while

by the Rev. Anne Jesne

It was such a joy to return to St. Paul's last year after completing an assignment as the interim rector at Christ Church, Alameda. I loved seeing old friends and returning to worship with a community I already knew and treasured. I've enjoyed getting to know new members as well, and I delight in the ongoing

life at St. Paul's. Thank you for the warm welcome.

Starting on Pentecost, May 27, I will be continuing in my itinerant role as an interim specialist, returning to Alameda as a short-term interim for a period of three to six

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Pacific Collegium a cappella concert May 19

Pacific Collegium will present Frank Martin's *Mass for Double Choir* Saturday May 19, at 7:30 p.m. in the church.

Artistic director Christopher Kula conducts Chapel College Men and Boys Ensemble, in a varied program of a cappella pieces featuring Martin's masterful *Mass*, as well as the world concert premiere of a newly commissioned Magnificat and Nunc dimittis by English-Portuguese composer and Greek Orthodox priest Fr. Ivan Moody, entitled *Pacific Canticles*, and anthems by William Byrd, Johann Sebastian

Bach, William Henry Harris, and Herbert Howells.

Specializing in vocal-instrumental chamber music, the Pacific Collegium is Artist-in-Residence at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

General admission is \$30, \$25 for San Francisco Early Music Society and MusicSources members, \$20 for seniors, \$10 student / consideration. For advance tickets and more information:

www.pacificcollegium.org

A Call to Action

by Marion Sayer

What is “Ministry to the Community”? To me, it’s the opportunity to fulfill, to the best of my ability and God-given gifts, my responsibility to those with whom I come in contact, either in person or by knowledge of their needs. Part of this responsibility is to our own church community. The other is to those not in our congregation and who are not as fortunate in many ways.

St. Paul’s has been active in the past and present in many facets of ministry. We’ve been instrumental in building housing projects for the elderly at St. Paul’s Towers, in responding to needs of the developmentally disabled with Clausen House, and in sharing our facilities with Senior Resources, Senior Center Without Walls, and St. Paul’s Episcopal School.

Currently, many of us serve meals at St. Mary’s Center, which provides multiple services to impoverished seniors, and we make and distribute meals to those seeking work in the Fruitvale district of Oakland. Our facilities house several 12-step groups (OA, NA, AA). Our Rector is working with St. Paul’s School to respond to needs in Haiti and with Oakland Hispanic clergy to assess and respond to local needs. Deacon Carolyn is instrumental in helping us respond to hunger in our immediate area, as well as globally.

I propose taking another step forward. None of us can do it all, nor should we. Individually we can strive to make an impact, however small. We may not know the needs nor how we can help. Many of us, however, are interested or involved in some manner that we could share.

Here’s my story: many years ago I was the chief financial officer for the Mission Neighborhood Health Center in San Francisco, which delivered primary health services to the Spanish-speaking poor in the Mission district. I became aware of the struggles that they encountered in meeting basic human needs. Recently, I have helped pack sack lunches for day laborers seeking work to support themselves and their families. This program may not continue for lack of a coordinator, but I have found another that serves the same population and others — the Street Level Health Project, a grassroots organization whose mission is to improve the health and well-being of underserved urban immigrant communities in the Bay Area. I have visited their facilities on International Boulevard and have been impressed with how well they provide critical services to those who come in the door. I intend to assist them by sharing with you what they provide to those in need and how we can help, both financially and with personal action.

I am volunteering to be a contact person to share information involving service to the community. If you are interested in the Street Level Health Project, assisting in feeding the hungry, in further information about Haiti’s needs, or any other outreach project, please let me know. We can share our information and resources. You may be involved in a very exciting ministry that none of the rest of us know about, or you may not be doing it in the name of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, but it might be something that the rest of us could support in some way. Let’s take action!

MUSIC IN MAY

As events occasionally change, please check each group’s website to confirm dates, times, and program information.

5/6 @ 10am,

Choral Eucharist

Salvation is created, by Tschernokoff and Elgar’s *Aver verum Corpus*, sung by St. Paul’s Choir

5/6 @ 4pm, Evensong

Chapel College Men and Boys Ensemble
Christopher Kula, Director.

5/13 @ 10am,

Choral Eucharist

Though I speak with the tongues of men, and This is my commandment, sung by St. Paul’s Choir

5/19 @ 7:30pm, Concert

Chapel College Men and Boys Ensemble
Tickets and information at www.pacificcollegium.org

5/20 @ 10am,

Choral Eucharist

God is gone up, and Ascendens Christus, sung by St. Paul’s Choir

5/20 @ 3pm, Concert

Prometheus Symphony
Fifth Season Concert.
Maurice Ravel, *Daphnis et Chloé Suite No. 2*, Ludwig van Beethoven, *Symphony No 2 in D Major*. Eric Hansen, Music Director.
FREE. Information at www.prometheussymphony.org

5/27 @ 10am,

Choral Eucharist

The Spirit of the Lord, and *Loquebantur variis Apostoli*, sung by St. Paul’s Choir

5/27 @ 8pm, Compline

Candlelight and Gregorian Chant.

From the Archives**Vestry confronted familiar problems in 1920s**

by Liz Hook

One day, in our vault, I found the Vestry Minutes from 1920 to 1932 and just started reading. Nationally, it was a period between world wars. Social and style changes were happening across the country. Women bobbed their hair, took off confining corsets and showed their ankles. Locally, plans were being made to build a bridge across the bay to San Francisco. I found that past Vestry minutes tell much about the life of the parish and the neighborhood.

In 1922, the new church building was 10 years old and needing repairs. The bricks needed to be waterproofed at a cost of \$360. Then the Vestry entered a contract to change the old furnace to gas, \$633. Steam was also considered.

The city of Oakland was growing and making big plans. In 1926, the city proposed a setback ordinance on Bay Place, which if adopted, would put a considerable portion of the church building on new sidewalk. It established “6' sidewalks in front of the church and 8' sidewalks on Bay Place with a 17' setback”. The entire Vestry stormed City Hall forcing the city to drop the setback line on the church side, making 72' between curbs. Protest rescinded!

Next the city of Oakland proposed to change the zoning on the NE corner of Montecito and Bay Place (where St. Paul's Towers is now). The city's plan was to permit retail stores on the property. The Vestry appointed a committee to attend the city commissioners meeting and requested the opportunity to address the meeting, “believing that such a change would be detrimental

to the best interests of the city and the neighborhood.” The city backed down.

In 1928, one of the original parish members was tragically killed in an accident (possibly an automobile accident). She was Mary A. Hawley, who is listed as member #81 in the register of original communicants in 1871. She was a member for 51 years and was the first woman to whom a gold medal in scholarship was awarded by the University of California. She gave many years of service in the fields of religious education and social services. Mary was corresponding secretary and historiographer of the Diocesan Women's Auxiliary. There is (was?) a Mary A. Hawley Memorial and a Mary A. Hawley Case at Oakland City Hall. Our beautiful marble altar rail is affectionately dedicated to Mary Hawley.

In November 1928, in recognition of the Rector, Alexander Allen's valuable years of service, the Vestry wished to increase his annual salary, but the state of the finances made it impossible. So, Vestryman Stanley Dollar of the Dollar Steamship Lines pledged \$25 per week more to increase the Rector's annual salary to \$5000. One year later saw the Stock Market Crash of 1929. Pledges plunged and people suffered great losses. Fortunately, three months before the crash, the Vestry had electric plugs installed in the church for the new electric vacuum cleaner!

Once again in 1931, the city of Oakland had a new plan to widen Bay Place and sent the parish an assessment for the proposed work. The Vestry agreed the matter should be deferred until the terminus of the

Volunteer Opportunities**Worship Volunteers**

Lay participation in worship is a cornerstone of the Episcopal Church. From acolytes to lectors to ushers, there is a role and a need for you! Speak to one of the clergy about serving at worship (this includes Wednesdays, Evensong and Compline!).

Sack Lunch Ministry

*On the 4th Tuesday of each month at 9 a.m., we make lunches for day laborers. For many of them, this is their only meal of the day. Please come and help. For more info speak with **Marion Sayer** or contact her at **763.5270 / sacklunches@stpaulsoakland.org**.*

Knitting Ministry

*On the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. we knit, talk, laugh and knit some more. We give our handiwork to the hospitals for newborns and cancer patients, and to the Seamen's Church for Christmas gifts to seafarers far from home. Contact **Deacon Carolyn** for more info at **deacon@stpaulsoakland.org / 834.4314 x504***

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Family Ministry Corner

Godly Play brings children into the story

by Carolyn Knapp

“Godly Play” is what the Faith Quest kids at St. Paul’s engage in on Sunday mornings.

It begins with community. From the moment they process down the aisle under the Faith Quest banner, the children are made to feel part of a special group. After they reach the entrance to the parish hall and the school, they line up quietly and write their names (some with help) on the sign-in sheet as they are greeted by the Doorkeeper, an adult assistant. Then they sit in circle on the floor of a large, carpeted room.

Kathy McClelland, the Storyteller the day I visited, greeted them by name until about 10 children were gathered around. No one is a stranger here.

Story time is a goodly portion of a Godly Play morning. Kathy began by reviewing/ retelling the life of Jesus (the theme for this season), using pictures placed on a purple runner that slowly unrolled across the diameter of the circle. The last picture was the story of the day: Jesus healing a blind man.

The Faith Questers were attentive but clearly looking forward to the next part: participating in the story. Kathy invited them, one by one, to go to the cabinet and select a



symbol to put next to one of the pictures. Some of them were predictable: a baby doll next to a picture of Jesus as a baby. But others were less so: a cross next to Jesus in the wilderness. Each child had an explanation for her/ his decision.

Kathy encouraged the children to put themselves into the story of the day. How would they feel about seeing the healing of the blind man? Oscar admitted that he would be scared. Michael thought the story was about bringing a surprise.

Next each child makes a decision about what work it is they will do that day. This could be taking out materials from a previous story and retelling it, drawing a picture, playing with clay, or reading a book. When children have finished they gather again for “the feast” (set out somewhat like communion and begun with a prayer of Thanksgiving).

For the Faith Quest children, Godly Play means being part of the story.

*Continued from Page 4***1920s Vestry**

Oakland Bay Bridge was settled. The Vestry protested the assessment saying that the widening of the street was a city burden, not a church burden. Once again the city backed down.

It doesn’t matter if it’s 1926 or 2012, our Vestry members must be vigilant and stay on top of the issues that affect the parish, caring for our people, property and finances.

Thank you Vestry.

**Faithquest Family****Fairyland Outing May 20**

Everyone liked our Faithquest October outing to Fairyland so much that we are doing it again! Please mark your calendars for May 20. We will walk over from church at 10.

This is an event for all Faithquest children *and their families*--please plan to attend with your children for a fun time and a chance to get to know each other better. Don't worry about missing the 10 o'clock service because we will once again be worshiping in the tiny chapel at Fairyland!

To cover the cost of the group ticket and the pizza picnic, we are requesting \$10/person. Please respond and give your money to Karla or me by May 13. If you have a Fairyland membership let us know.

Some volunteers are needed to pick up pizzas, stake out a picnic spot, etc. Please let us know if you can help.

Allison Sass
(Naomi's mom)

allison_sass@yahoo.com

Saint of the Month:

Frances Perkins, Servant and Prophetic Witness, 1965

Frances Perkins was born in Boston on April 10, 1880. In 1902 she graduated from Mount Holyoke College with a BA degree in physics and chemistry and earned a master's degree in political science from Columbia. While Perkins taught at Ferry Hall School, (1905-1908) which became Lake Forest Academy (Chicago) she participated at Hull House in the social programs, adding to her family's deep-seated interest in social and employment equality. She was confirmed in 1905 at Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest and remained an active and faithful Episcopalian the remainder of her life.

After moving to New York, she became an advocate for industrial safety and reform of labor laws, which she considered unjust. This activity gained the attention of two of New York's governors, Al Smith and Franklin D. Roosevelt in whose state administration she took part as State Industrial Commissioner. In this position New York became the leader in workers' rights, with

increased workplace inspections and her advocacy for minimum wage and employment laws. In 1929 when Roosevelt was elected President he asked her to become Secretary of Labor. She refused until he promised to stand up for workers' rights, she agreed and became the first woman to hold a cabinet post.

In her 12 years in this position, Perkins had a major role in the development of the "New Deal" and chaired the committee that wrote the Social Security Act. She had a major role the Federal Emergency Relief Act and the Civilian Conservation Act. She was the most outspoken proponent of the National Labor Relations Act, which gave the workers the right to organize.

During her years of public service Francis Perkins depended on her faith, her life of prayer and the guidance of the church for the support she needed.

Frances Perkins died in 1965 and is commemorated on May 13.

Anne Jensen on the move

months. One never knows exactly what's ahead, but at this point I plan on returning to St. Paul's when I am through with this appointment.

Doug will continue his role as head usher for Team 2, which means he will be at St. Paul's once a month, so you will still see him from time to time.

Thank you to Fr. Mauricio Wilson for inviting me to be associated with this congregation and sharing in his ministry. I have enjoyed

reconnecting with Fr. Christian and Deacon Carolyn; they are wonderful partners in that ministry. My work in adult spiritual formation, pastoral care, preaching and celebrating the Eucharist has been fulfilling and a pleasure. Thank you to all those who participated in the various classes. I love our discussions!

I will keep you and St. Paul's in my prayers.

In Christ, Anne+

Newsletter Submissions

The deadline for each edition is the 15th of the month previous to publication.,

Please send your comments, submissions and ideas to halice@pacbell.net.

We are interested in hearing from writers and photographers; please email us if you would like to donate your talent.

Hold in Your Prayers

"Prayer is not an old woman's idle amusement. Properly understood and applied, it is the most potent instrument of action."

- Mahatma Gandhi

During your prayers, please remember to pray for the parishioners, family and friends on the St. Paul's prayer list.

To add someone to the prayer list, please contact Maura Lane, our prayer list coordinator, at pray-er@stpaulsoakland.org.

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Sequence hymns and history

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- vigil keeping [Holy Week; Stations of the Cross --Hymn 159)
- **Veni Sancte Spiritus** (Come, thou Holy Spirit bright [Pentecost/Whitsunday] --Hymn 226)
- **Victimae Paschali Laudes** (Christians to the Paschal victim [Easter] --Hymn 183).

All but Dies irae are in our current hymnal.

We sang Victimae Paschali Laudes, which is Hymn 183 (Christians, to the Paschal Victim) at the Vigil and morning services on Easter this year, immediately preceding the Gospel. The words recount Mary Magdalene's discovery of the empty tomb and her excited proclamation of the Resurrection to the disciples – and the world. Its message is, of course, at the center of our faith, in spite of its brevity. I like to perform it with great excitement: fast and loud.

Our hymnal and most sources

attribute the words to Wipo of Burgundy in the eleventh century, although that is primarily because he is the source of what appears to be the earliest copy. Similarly, the music is normally attributed to Wipo, although without certainty. Victimae Paschali Laudes was quickly copied in many places and frequently performed as part of a traditional extralitururgical Easter drama. By the twelfth century, the dialogue was expanded in German-speaking lands to incorporate the hymn "Christ ist erstanden." Two important German hymns are based on Victimae Paschali Laudes: Christ ist erstanden (Christ the Lord is risen again! – Hymn 184) and Martin Luther's Christ lag in Todesbanden (Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands – Hymn 185).

This one hymn proves again that we can learn a great deal of church history just by studying its hymnody.

Christ is risen, oh no, he's gone

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Acts, if they had doubts, they did not show it: *And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God. (Luke 24:52-53)* Though they stopped for a moment and watched in awe, they then went out and proclaimed.

They finally seemed to understand what this was all about. As with the crucifixion, Jesus' departure was not their end, but was in fact only their beginning. The teacher completed the course and was now ready to allow the followers to put into practice what they learned. It was absolutely necessary for Jesus to leave to allow his friends to

live fully into their potential with the empowerment and guidance of the Holy Spirit. We too have been given this great gift and power and must strive everyday to live into our potential as children of the Most High God.

In faith we celebrate the ascension of Jesus as we remember that the powers of this world did not triumph by raising him high on the cross; the power of death did not triumph by cold – stone shut - tomb; but indeed God triumphed in removed stone and empty tomb, and by Jesus raising high above the sky, into God's kingdom on the day of the Ascension.

**Register for Escript
to support St. Paul's!**

Electronic Scrip Incorporated (ESI) is a California-based corporation dedicated to providing resources to organizations and projects that support children and communities. St. Paul's has registered an account that anyone can use. Signing up is easy – just go to <http://www.escrip.com/> and click "Sign up." You can register your store cards from Safeway, Macy's, Barnes and Noble and other popular retailers. Proceeds from each sale will go to benefit St. Paul's Church. You will need to know the number of your store card to register. St. Paul's eScrip Group ID is 151348991.



St. Paul's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH OAKLAND

114 Montecito Avenue
Oakland, CA 94610

Phone: 510.834.4314
Fax: 510.834.0166
E-mail: admin@stpaulsoakland.org
Web: www.stpaulsoakland.org

Services

SUNDAYS

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10 a.m. Choral Eucharist

4 p.m. Evensong
Chapel College
Men & Boys Ensemble
(1st Sunday only)

8 p.m. Compline
Gregorian Chant,
Polyphony and Candlelight
(4th Sunday only)

WEDNESDAYS

12:10 p.m. Holy Eucharist
(with Healing prayer on
the 1st of the month)

St. Paul's pantry

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The pantry is meant to benefit what Fr. Wilson calls “the residential poor,” people who have a place to cook and store food but don’t have the means to buy it. To that end, St. Paul’s will be seeking donations of non-perishable foods like rice, beans, baby food, cereal, and canned products, as well as Ensure, disposable diapers, soap and toilet paper. Bolton said the pantry will affiliate with the Alameda County Food Bank next year, when the agency is in its next application cycle.

The food pantry is in addition to the current Sunday food bag program, which is aimed more at homeless people, and is mostly food that doesn’t require additional prepara-

tion.

The pantry will be open only on Friday evenings and weekends, when St. Paul’s Episcopal School is not in session. Clients will have to register by phone, submit shopping lists and pick-up pre-packaged food bags during scheduled appointments.

“It won’t be a drop-in center,” said Bolton, adding that volunteers will be needed to stock the pantry, select food and package orders.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Deacon Carolyn at deacon@stpaulsoakland.org or (510) 444-0243.