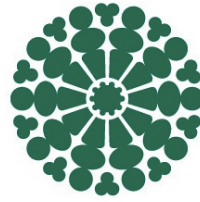


THE EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.

From the Rector

Dear Friends-

You may wonder, why are we hosting a retreat this month from Friday, the 23rd to Sunday the 25th?

We have become a different church over the last dozen years. We now have seven of these small groups called Discipleship Groups and it is gradually, almost imperceptibly, changing us. Last week, before the 10am service, over 20 people came to share stories with Bishop Marc, his wife Sheila and Margaret, an Archdeacon in the Diocese. The personal stories of our Outreach ministries was profoundly moving, not just for our guests, but for those of us around the circle. We didn't know how much we have learned and how much we've taken to heart Jesus' teachings.



This month's PrayWorshipServe Retreat has the potential to be both an experience of discovery for our guests from around the country and an experience of self-discovery for us, much like the conversation with our Bishop. Even those not yet in Discipleship Groups have stories to tell of our Seven Core Christian Practices of prayer, worship, service, generosity, learning, listening for call and joining small groups. Any member from St. Paul's can attend the retreat for free provided they attend it all. Anyone who volunteers (by sending an email to Judy at JLRowliffe@comcast.net) can come to the debut of my performance piece, called Pelican, on Saturday afternoon and then come to the feast in Duncan Hall afterwards.

Please pray for the dozen of us who will be actively leading the retreat and for all the participants. Even better, jump in too! Your voice and presence will only add to the life of the weekend.

Faithfully,

Christopher (cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org)

Annual Meeting
Sunday, February 4, 2018
11:30
Duncan Hall
Lunch will be served, Childcare provided

Lent Begins February 14
Ash Wednesday Services
7:30 AM
NOON
6:30 PM



For more information please visit our website at StPaulsSanRafael.org.
Join the community on Facebook and Twitter. Church Office Phone: 415-456-4842.

This is what Service looks like!

For the second year in a row, parishioners from St. Paul's, Nativity, and Redeemer came together pack 10,000 meals for Rise Against Hunger.



St. Paul's Book Club

Friday, February 16 at 7 p.m. in Duncan Hall.
 The book we will be discussing is "The Lost City of the Monkey God" by Douglas J. Preston. This is a modern day archaeological adventure story set in Honduras. Beware there are snakes! There are plenty of copies in the Marin County Library. Anyone who wants to join is welcome. For information contact Joy Moss (415)479-6930.

St. Anne's Guild weekly lunch

St. Anne's would be delighted to have anyone who would be interested in our group. Join us on Thursdays. We start at 11:00 in Duncan Hall and some of us knit. Bring your sandwich and we'll have tea and cookies. We have good conversation and enjoy one another.

How can I serve the least of these?

- Teen Success Breakfast:** Serve breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Ginny Horton at 415.785.7011 or hornlocker@comcast.net.
- San Rafael Health Care:** Help lead a simple worship service with prayers and songs for the residents at the 5th Ave. Health Care center. 11:00 – 11:25 on 1st and 3rd Sunday. Children are welcome. Contact Sue Adamson at 415.461.1798.
- Prison Ministry:** Members of our congregation have committed themselves to a range of service associated with St. Paul's Death Row Ministry, including correspondence and visitation with inmates and hosting family members of inmates coming from out of town for visits. Contact Richard (415.259.9198 or ollipops@comcast.net).

What is Your Next Spiritual Step?

- **Morning Prayer:** Tuesday at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies** Wednesdays 10-11am: Gospel of Luke
 Thursday 6:15-7:15pm: Letters of Paul
- **Spiritual Forum:** Sundays 9-9:40am-Exploring the soul. Duncan Hall.
- **Christian meditation:** 2nd & 4th Sunday at 7pm in the Upper Room.
- **Afternoon 20-minute meditation in the church:** Tuesdays at 5pm
 Thursdays at 5:45
- **Discipleship Groups:** small groups with a longer term commitment focused on spiritual maturity and loving community with the poor. Talk to Christopher about joining a group.
- **PrayWorshipServe Retreat** Whether or not you're already in a Discipleship group, this 3-day retreat at St. Paul's will support you in taking the next step in your life as a Christian. Learn more on Page 4.

St. Paul's offers many ways for you to learn, pray and grow spiritually

St. Paul's History Corner

By Joy Moss

As we celebrate St. Paul's 150th anniversary, let's take a look at some of the former church members who are memorialized with their gifts to the glory of God and in remembrance of loved ones.

Rev. William H. Stoy was rector of St. Paul's Church from 1880 to 1892. He had two daughters and two sons. His younger daughter, Anna was active in St. Paul's choir and played the organ. She had many acquaintances and enjoyed an active social life. However, she was hiding her depression and on April 1, 1892 she hung herself in her home. The shock waves spread throughout the community as friends and church members heard the news. Her father and sister who found her body were crippled with grief. Funeral services were held at St. Paul's on April 7th led by Bishop Nichols. The church was decked with flowers and the congregation spilled out the doors of the church. A coroner's jury established that death was by suicide and was caused by temporary insanity. Anna's mother and brother had both been institutionalized for insanity. On April 21, Rev. Stoy resigned from St. Paul's and he and his surviving daughter went to Honolulu to recover. Later Rev. Stoy took up the ministry at St. John's in Marysville. Rev. Stoy died in 1906 after suffering a fall when boarding a train.

Anna Stoy is memorialized at St. Paul's by the baptismal font. The font is inscribed "To the Glory of God. Blessed are the pure in heart. In Memory of Anna Gasmann Stoy."

Rev. Stoy is memorialized on the brass plaque on the former pulpit that is now hung on the wall in Duncan Hall.



Rev. William H. Stoy,
rector at St. Paul's 1880-1892

Children and Youth at St. Paul's

For more information please contact Kati Dombrosky ,
kdombrosky@gmail.com 415-846-1700

Children are important members of our congregation, and there are a variety of ways that they can learn to be Christian at St. Paul's. On the first Sunday of the month, we encourage families to attend the 10AM service together. On the 2nd and 4th Sundays, we offer Godly Play in a mixed-age classroom. This Montessori based Christian Education program uses storytelling in a prepared environment to teach Bible stories and the vocabulary of the faith. Children hear a story, and have time to respond by doing quiet, contemplative work of their choosing. They return to the church in time to share communion with their families. The 3rd Sunday usually involves singing with Libby, but on February 18th there will be no children's program because of Winter break.

Marin Episcopal Youth Group

Our Middle and High Schoolers meet most Sunday nights from 6:00-7:30 pm, for fun, prayer, and fellowship with youth from other Episcopal churches in Marin. On second Tuesdays, they serve and share dinner with the homeless at 1st Presbyterian. We are excited to announce two new leaders, David Hardin and Gerry Caprio, who will be joining Diana Singer, who has been a faithful leader with Daniel for years. They bring extensive experience, a love of working with youth, and first-hand knowledge of how significant a great youth group can be in the lives of teenagers.

PrayWorshipServe

A Lenten Retreat for Lay Leaders
and Clergy at St. Paul's
February 23-25, 2018

Join Christians nationwide in this three day Lenten retreat, exploring how to become better Christians in this increasingly secular world through The Restoration Project (TRP). At the heart of TRP are small Discipleship Groups nurturing love of Jesus by regular practice of three Christian traditions: prayer, worship and service through seven scripture-based vows. Led by lay leaders and clergy, the retreat offers seven workshops over three days along with delicious meals. This retreat is free for St. Paul's parishioners when you commit to the entire retreat. We only have a few spaces left so sign up soon at: [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)—Enter PrayWorshipServe Retreat, and at ticket purchase page scroll down to St. Paul Parishioner.



ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1123 Court St.
San Rafael, CA 94901