

THE EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.

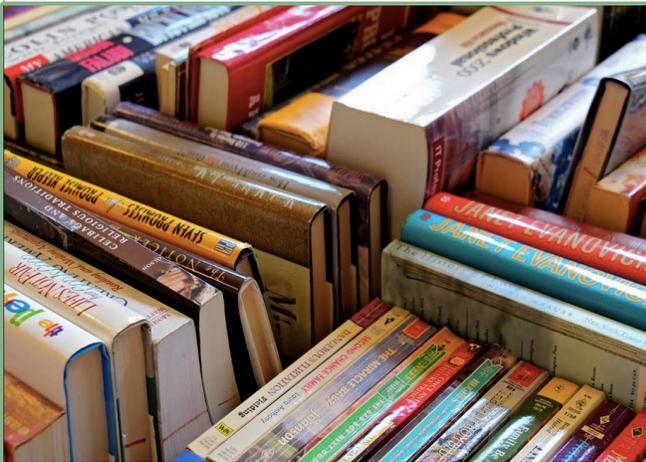
From the Rector

Dear Friends-

Every October we begin the shared work of asking for pledges toward our next year's budget. We ask each of you to fill out a card that lets us know how much you intend to give. Based on those pledges, we create a budget for the following year. Your generosity determines how much we can support our key ministries at St. Paul's, how much we can give to Outreach, and how effective we can make our communication with the wider Marin Community. Your pledge matters.

It's also a profoundly spiritual exercise. Many Christians struggle in their relationship with money. The testimony of many of us is that, when we reach a certain level of generosity, and the classic level of generosity is the tithe, or 10%, there is a feeling of spiritual freedom that comes over us, as well as a feeling of an expression of a benevolent spiritual power. St. Paul's is a generous community. 65 families have given towards the Hardin Courtyard and many have expressed a willingness to give more if needed. We have the resources and the heart to both complete the Hardin Courtyard, the legacy gift of our generation to future generations, and create a healthy budget for 2017. We can do this!

Faithfully,
Christopher (cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org)



Help with Set Up Volunteers are needed on Thursday, October 6 starting at 9:30am into the afternoon to help set up books for the sale. Help with heavy lifting will definitely be needed, but all helping hands--regardless of brawn-- will be welcome and put to work. Thank you!

St. Anne's Annual Book Sale

Saturday, October 8 10am-3pm &
Sunday, October 9 9am-Noon
Silent Auction of Literary Collectibles
Saturday 10am-12pm

Don't miss this one and only St. Anne's fundraiser for the year. You're sure to come away with some great books, and you'll be supporting the ministries of St. Paul's.

Mystery - Thriller - HISTORICAL FICTION

Hobbies - Cookbooks - Children's books
RELIGION - Self-help - SPORTS - Non-fiction -
Biography - Romance - How-to - Crime - Travel
Adventure - Graphic Novel - and more...

For more information please visit our website at StPaulsSanRafael.org.
Join the community on Facebook and Twitter. Church Office Phone: 415-456-4843.

New Sunday Afternoon Ministry

Our new combined Sunday afternoon ministry with Nativity and Redeemer, our sister churches from San Rafael, is off to a strong start. It begins at 5pm with a Eucharist that has a sweet, mellow and holy feel. At 5:45 the adults enjoy some snacks while the youth begin youth group. At 6pm we begin a colloquium, currently exploring the proper role of fear in faith. God says, in word and sacrament 'do not fear.' Yet 'the fear of the lord is the beginning of wisdom.' How are both true? These are every Sunday at Nativity and all is over by 7pm.



What is Your Next Spiritual Step?

- **Morning Prayer:** every Tuesday at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies:** Tuesdays 12:30-1:30pm: The Gospels
Wednesdays 10-11am: Numbers
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.
- **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.

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

How can I serve the least of these?

Teen Success Breakfast: Serve breakfast to at-risk youth. Contact Beverly Armstrong at 415.454.4015 or nevbev@sbcglobal.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. There is a particular need to lend support to the mother of one inmate who drives each weekend to San Quentin from Bakersfield. She routinely arrives on Saturday morning after a drive of nearly six hours and stays overnight on Saturday in order to see her son again on Sunday. If you would consider hosting her, even occasionally, contact Richard (415.259.9198 or ollipops@comcast.net).

Fellowship Opportunities in October

St. Paul's Book Club

Friday, October 21st at 7 pm in Duncan Hall. The book we will be discussing is "The Secret Chord" by Geraldine Brooks. This is a novelization of the story of David of the Bible. Everyone 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. We're working on scarves and children's sweaters which we'll offer the parish for sale, and the rest will go to Ritter. Bring your sandwich and we'll have tea and cookies. We have good conversation and enjoy one another.

St. Paul's History Corner

By Joy Moss

Leading up to 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.



Edwin T. Coman is memorialized by the two stained glass windows in the narthex (entrance of) St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Mr. Coman was a banker who began his career in Washington state. He lived in Colfax where he was the manager of the Colfax National Bank and President of First Savings and Trust Company of Colfax. Coman also served as a Senator for two sessions in the Washington Legislature, 1918-1922.

Moving to San Rafael in 1922, he lived at 141 Mountain View with his wife and three children. Mr. Coman continued his banking career at the Marin County National Bank which was bought by the American Trust Company. Mr. Coman stayed on as the bank President until he retired.

Always civic minded, Mr. Coman served as director of the Marin County Chapter of the Red Cross, President of the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Elks Lodge as well as Senior Warden at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

His funeral was held at St. Paul's July 22, 1947. Beside the two stained glass windows in the narthex of the church, the credence table to the right of the altar was dedicated to the memory of his wife, Eva Coman. A silver bread box was given in memory of his daughter, Catherine Coman Dean.

Children and Youth at St. Paul's

For school age children, during the 10am service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays we have Godly Play, and on the 3rd Sunday, music with Libby, followed by singing at the 5th Avenue Health Care center. The 1st Sunday is a family Sunday and children are encouraged to participate by being an usher, reader, or acolyte. Speak with Kati if your child would like to get involved: kdombrosky@gmail.com or 415-846-1700.

5th Sunday Coffee Hour

St. Paul's Family Ministry will be hosting the Coffee Hour on October 30th. Please let Kati know what treats you can bring.

For Middle and High Schoolers, Marin Episcopal Youth Group meets 5:45pm to 7pm on most Sunday nights at Nativity Episcopal Church in San Rafael. We hang out, enjoy snacks, play games, and "sharpen our prophetic edge" by learning about the Hebrew prophets. As we have been doing for years, we will conclude our meetings with a contemplative, candlelit prayer service (Compline). We will continue serving cookies and salad to the guests of the Street Chaplaincy Wellness Gatherings at First Presbyterian Church San Rafael from 5 to 6 PM on the second Tuesday of the month (October 11). For more information and the MEYG 2016-2017 calendar, see: facebook.com/MarinEpiscopalYouthGroup

For our littlest parishioners: Children of all ages are welcome to attend the worship services. During the 10am service we are pleased to provide younger children with a safe and nurturing experience in our lower pre-school classroom. Our wonderful child-care workers, Kristen (left) and Roxanne, love children and have extensive experience in caring for them. When they are not at doing so on Sunday mornings, they are studying pediatric nursing at Dominican.



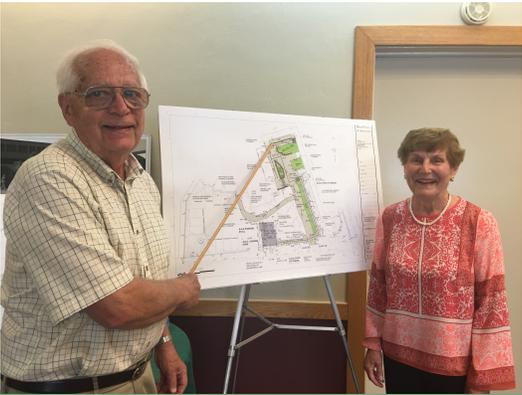
SPRIF III Update by Pat Curtis

Under the attentive eyes of the Vestry, Larry Santucci and Pat Curtis unveiled the Project Schedule and Architectural Plan for the Hardin Courtyard at the Community Meeting on September 24. Over 50 members of the St. Paul's Community participated in the meeting to understand the plan, discuss the challenges and ask questions. The work continues with the assembly of detailed construction plans for bidding the project and submission to the City of San Rafael for a permit. The schedule calls for receiving bids and permits in time to break ground after the rainy season, about May 1.

Planning with the Marin Day Schools begins in October. The Vestry will start to focus on a plan for assuring the safety of the school children during the construction period. Additionally, planning for Sunday Services and groups using Duncan Hall will begin. Larry and Pat will be in the 'Project Office' in the corner of Duncan Hall on most Sundays to facilitate participation by all of us in shaping our courtyard. Many decisions lie ahead. What color concrete? What should the surface be? What plantings should we choose? How can we help?

After careful consideration, the Vestry is leaving the pledge period open for SPRIF for 12 additional months to pay for this Restoration and Improvement Project. Some have asked: how much more do we need? Will my contribution make a difference?

We won't have precise numbers until bids are received. 65 families generously contributed \$200,000 for SPRIF. \$100,000 was spent on improvements to the school building, leaving a current SPRIF balance of \$100,000. We do know that the Restoration and Improvement needs plus maintenance work and one time expenses (like a new organ console) are substantial. Pledge forms are available in the entrance to Duncan Hall. Yes, all contributions will make a difference!



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