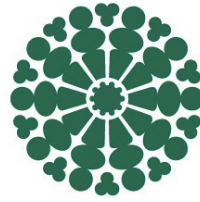


# THE EPISTLE



ST. PAUL'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

*Following Jesus together in prayer, worship and service.*

## From the Rector

Dear Friends-

We are starting our 150th Anniversary year with great gusto. The first two months of the year are filled with gatherings that express the best of who we are and who we are becoming. Stay alert and jump in.

In January, whether its the Rise Against Hunger event on Sunday the 21st, where together we package 10,000 meals for the most hungry, the Evensong on the feast of St. Paul's on Thursday the 25th, or the Dance and Dinner party on the 27th, there's at least one event for you.

February continues the forward momentum. On Super Bowl Sunday, the 4th, we have our Annual Meeting where, among other things, we will be sharing with you the vision of New College of Christian Practice, a vision I invite you to share for the future of St. Paul's. Valentine's Day, February 14th, is Ash Wednesday, when we begin the annual pilgrimage of Lent. Finally, on the long weekend of Thursday the 22nd to Sunday the 25th, we host the PrayWorshipServe Retreat, a natural and powerful expression of the ministry we've developed together over the last fourteen years.

We are blessed. We have exciting work and joyful play before us. Let's get to it!

Faithfully,  
Christopher (cmartin@stpaulssanrafael.org)

# 1868 ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018 SESQUICENTENIAL

### Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 7pm Choral Evensong

With The Right Reverend Marc H. Andrus  
and the St. Paul's Chancel Choir  
followed by Reception with English Desserts  
in Duncan Hall  
**Please join us!**

### Saturday, January 27, 2018 Dinner and Dancing

6:00 No Host champagne/wine bar and hors d's  
7:00 Dinner served with complimentary wine  
7:30-10:30 Dancing to Doc Kraft's Band  
\$50 per person  
*RSVP by January 17 to [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)  
or return your completed invitation to the church*

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

**The New St. Paul's Library**  
By Thomas Witt

St. Paul's is populated by all sorts of bright people with colorful minds and interesting backgrounds. You knew that. What you might not know is that one of them has just generously donated several hundred books to us from his lifelong collection.

Thanks to our erudite friend Donn Downing, St. Paul's now has a new library on the second floor.

This collection is both vast and varied, covering a wide array of knowledge and genres from history and art, to global politics and international law. One of Donn's personal favorites is Phillip Bobbitt's book, *The Shield of Achilles*, a work esteemed by Henry Kissinger himself. As Donn shares: "Bobbitt is notable to me for personal and intellectual reasons. He is the grand nephew of Lyndon Johnson. And as it happens, I covered LBJ in the White House for *Time* magazine."

In the next few weeks, Donn will be finalizing a curated grouping and bibliography. This library will serve to help deepen our knowledge and enrich the intellectual and spiritual life of our congregation.

We are fortunate to have this collection here at St. Paul's and are most grateful to Donn for this generous gift.

*Fiat lux!*

**St. Paul's Book Club**  
Friday, January 19th at 7 p.m. in Duncan Hall.  
The book we will be discussing is "The Stars are Fire" by Anita Shreve. This novel begins with a devastating fire where the heroine loses everything. A timely story after the Northern California fires. 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. 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.

**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).

**Special Service Project**  
Join us on  
Sunday January 21 for  
Rise Against Hunger  
See Page 4 for details

**What is Your Next Spiritual Step?**

- **Morning Prayer:** Tuesday at 7:30am in the church.
- **Bible Studies**
  - Wednesdays 10-11am: Gospel of Luke
  - Thursdays 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.

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

## St. Paul's History Corner

By Joy Moss

As we begin the celebration of our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, let's take a look at **how St. Paul's got started.**

In the beginning a small congregation gathered in the schoolhouse in San Rafael. In 1866, Bishop W.W. Kip visited San Rafael and held services. Later when Bishop Kip came to consecrate St. Paul's Church, he remembered, "Years ago I was accustomed to come to this place to hold services when this church was almost



*The Marin County Courthouse in 1868*

entirely unknown...

It seemed almost hopeless

to expect the formation of a parish or the erection of an edifice of worship" But the congregation persisted and a vestry was chosen and they commenced searching for a rector.

The Rev. William H. Dyer was their choice. He was a thirty-four year old native of Vermont. He boarded in a hotel on Fourth St. He began holding services in the old adobe courthouse that had originally been built by Timothy Murphy as a home. Being the largest building in town, it was chosen to serve as the courthouse.

In May of 1868, Rev Dyer went to San Francisco to attend the Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California. There St. Paul's Church was admitted in union with the convention on May 6, 1868. That is how St. Paul's Church began 150 years ago.

## Children and Youth at St. Paul's

For more information please contact Kati Dombrosky ,  
[kdombrosky@gmail.com](mailto:kdombrosky@gmail.com) 415-846-1700

We welcome little ones to participate in our worship services and children's program, which helps them to grow as Christians through learning about the scriptures, songs and traditions, and to develop their own relationship with Jesus through prayer and service. Nursery care is available during the 10 am service in the classroom down the stairs across the courtyard from the church.

January 7th- Epiphany Pageant

January 14 - Community Service Sunday - We will read about Martin Luther King Jr. then make Valentine's cards for the residents at San Rafael Healthcare and Wellness Center

January 21 - Music Sunday with Libby. 1:00 Service Project--See Page 4 for Details.

January 28 - Godly Play (learn about St. Paul)

February 4th - Family Sunday (no Sunday School)

## Marin Episcopal Youth Group

Sunday, January 7, the MEYG will meet at Redeemer church for a final Youth Group with our amazing leader, Daniel London. They will reflect on what they have learned in the last 6 years together, and end the evening, as usual with a Compline service. Stay tuned for next steps as the Youth Group transitions to new leadership. Thank you, Daniel, for showing Christ's love to our youth!



## Multi-Parish Service Project: Rise Against Hunger Sunday, January 21 at 1:00 pm in Duncan Hall

Bring your family and friends, and join members of Redeemer and Nativity churches and the Marin Episcopal Youth Group for our 2nd



Annual service project. Last year we packaged 10,000 meals ready to eat to ship overseas. It was a wonderfully joyful and productive experience!



### Death Cafe

Sunday, January 7 4-6 pm Duncan Hall

All are welcome for an open and uplifting conversation about death and dying, life and living. Refreshments will be served. RSVP to [chloedmartin@comcast.net](mailto:chloedmartin@comcast.net)

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1123 Court St.  
San Rafael, CA 94901