

The Epistle

Newsletter of St. Paul's Church
A Parish in the Diocese of San Joaquin
Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America

February, 2009

"Tea with Cookie" on February 7th

As a way of gathering women together for fellowship and at the same time raising money for community outreach, St. Paul's Anglican Church Women have planned a special event for Saturday, February 7.

The event is being called "Tea with Cookie," and it will start at 10:00 in the morning, and continue through lunch, which will be provided. During their time together, the women will hear Carolyn "Cookie" Wagenman speak on the topic: "Don't Worry!"

Cookie is a talented and energetic speaker who operates her own business as a fashion consultant. She holds classes on image improvement, color, body analysis, personality, makeup, hair style, accessories and wardrobe planning.

Cookie also shares God's word while providing some very interesting and humorous help to everyone present.

Tickets for this special event are \$12 each, and are still available from guild leaders Carol Whiteside and Dorothy Neeley, ACW president Betty Peters, or from the church office.

Women of the parish are encouraged to be a part of this special event, and to invite a friend as well.



"Tea With Cookie"

Speaker - "Cookie" Wagenman
"Don't Worry"
Saturday February 7, 2009
10am Lunch Included
St. Paul's Church · Riviera Hall
\$12 Donation to Aid Local Charities

The Start of Lent

While the Church is still in the season of Epiphany, which focuses on the manifestation of Jesus of Nazareth as the Holy One of God, soon the church's worship and devotion will center on the themes of Lent. Of course, before Ash Wednesday, which is the first day of the Lenten season, there is Shrove Tuesday. And, as in past years, there will be a special *Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper*.

Parishioners are invited to share good food and fellowship – and to support the youth group – by coming to the dinner, which will be in Rivera Hall on Tuesday, February 24. A variety of pancakes and sausages will be served from 6:00 to 7:00.

Shrove Tuesday is also known as Fat Tuesday, because of the practice of using up foods with oils and fats (such as pancakes and sausages) before beginning the traditional Lenten fast. Of course, sometimes more than just fatty foods are consumed, as witnessed by the wild celebrations held in many places.

Cost for the pancake supper is \$6 per person, but children 6 and under are free. Parishioners are encouraged to attend, and to bring a friend.

Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 25

9:30 AM and 7:00 PM

(child care provided at 7:00 service)

Stations of the Cross and Prayers for Healing

6:00 PM – Every Friday in Lent

St. Paul's Church

120 North Hall Street
Visalia, California 93291
Church Office: (559) 732-4821
Rivera Hall: (559) 732-4822
Internet: www.spvisalia.com

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Communion Services

Sundays at 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Wednesdays at 9:30 AM and 5:30 PM

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Richard James, Rector
The Rev. Tancredo Pastores, Assistant
The Rev. Francie Levy, Assisting Deacon
Elaine McKinney, Parish Secretary
Antoinette Horsting, Financial Secretary
Melvin Morris, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

2009

Kathy Bernardi, Kris Bratton,
Randy Hammond, Kim Robinson,
Chet Smeds

2010

Amy Gunn, Mary Murray
Jack Ramirez, Kashy Rowland-Smith,
William Winn

2011

David Francis, Monica Norton
John Peters, Harry Tow, Larry Wilds

**Delegates and Alternates to
Diocesan Convention**

Kathy Bernardi, Betty Blackmon,
Amy Gunn, Bill Nebe, Kim Robinson,
Nancy Salmon, Chet Smeds

Coffee Hour Teams

Thank You!

A big thank you is due everyone who has responded to the call for help with the Sunday morning coffee hours. Cathy Guadagni and Barbara Melton have assumed responsibility for organizing the coffee hour teams, and numerous people have agreed to serve. Thanks!



Here are the teams for February.

8:00 AM	10:30 AM
1 Michael & Kathie Shannon	William & Paula Linihan Kevin and Jill Geaney
8 Ellie Dennis Barbara Melton	Glen & Betty Blackmon Larry Akey
15 Don & Louise Ford Mark and Amy Cave	Didi Hammond Laurie Buhler Gail Green
22 Dave and Cathy Francis Inez Morse	Merle and Judy Engleka Cathy Guadagni

Annual Congregational Meeting

St. Paul's Annual Meeting was held Sunday, January 25, 2009, following an excellent brunch sponsored by the Sequoia Deanery Medical Mission Team.

At the meeting, elections were held for Vestry Members and for Delegates and Alternates to Diocesan Convention.

Elected to the Vestry were David Francis, Monica Norton, John Peters, Harry Tow and Larry Wilds.

Elected to be Delegates to Diocesan Convention were Kathy Bernardi, Betty Blackmon, Kim Robinson and Chet Smeds. Alternate are Amy Gunn, Bill Nebe and Nancy Salmon.

Anglican Church Women

Fund-raiser Tea

On Saturday, February 7, beginning at 10:00 AM, the ACW will host a tea with Carolyn "Cookie" Wagenman. Details of the event are found on the front page of this edition of *The Epistle*.

Board Meeting

The next meeting of the Board for the Anglican Church Women of St. Paul's Parish will be held at 1:00 PM on Monday, February 9. The meeting will be held in the Guild Room, and is open to all.

St. Paul's Guilds

St. Paul's has two guilds for women of the parish. These guilds allow women opportunities to participate in a variety of activities and ministries in addition to those that are offered by the parish as a whole. Any women is welcome to join one of the guilds – no special invitation is required.

St. Mary-Agnes' Guild will meet at 10:00 AM in the Guild Room on Monday, February 16. Guild leader is Carol Whiteside.

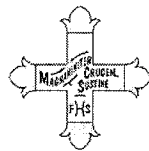
St. Anne's Guild will meet at 11:45 in the Guild Room, on Monday, February 16. Guild leader is Dorothy Neeley.

Spring Card Party

The annual ACW Spring Card Party and Salad Bar Luncheon has been set for Monday, April 20. Anyone who would like to help with this fun event is asked to contact either Esther Scovel or Carol Whiteside.

Daughters of the King

The Daughters of the King will have their next meeting at 10:00, Thursday, February 12. Women interested in learning about the order are invited to attend.



Wednesday Nights at St. Paul's

"Wednesday Nights Out" at St. Paul's continue every week. The centerpiece of the evening is the dinner held at 6:15, featuring foods from around the country. However, there are activities both before and after dinner. Nursery care is provided all evening.

The adult program is as follows:

5:30 – Holy Communion in Rivera Hall

6:15 – Dinner in Rivera Hall

7:00 – Adult Class, as listed below

During the remainder of Epiphany, the adult class will be studying the Ten Commandments, using curriculum from the Kerygma program. Led by Fr. James, the class will meet from 7:00 to 7:45 each week.

The schedule for children and youth is as follows:

5:30 – Junior Bell Choir (or Holy Communion)

6:15 – Dinner (regular menu or PB&J sandwiches)

7:00 – Special Activities

Soup Suppers

Beginning Wednesday, March 4, a soup supper will be served on Wednesdays at 6:15. As in years past, different groups within the church are asked to help provide soup. This year's schedule is as follows:

March 4	Choirs and Bell Choir Members
March 11	Acolytes, Lectors and LEM's
March 18	Bible Study Classes and Groups
March 25	Outreach and Mission Groups
April 1	Women's Groups

Of course, anyone is invited to bring soup on any Wednesday, whether or not they are a part of one of the groups listed above. Other items will be provided by the *Heaven's Kitchen* team.

Children's and Youth Ministries

Youth Convention 2009

On January 16-17, Melina Jahnigen, Spencer Shannon, Jamie Bird, Michael Jasso, Jarrett Haas, Zachary Genova and youth from all over the diocese came together for the tenth annual Diocesan Youth Convention at St. James' Cathedral in Fresno.

The event welcomed Heather Dunbar from "War Cry", Tulare and Joseph Sampson's band from Bakersfield. It also featured once again comedian Daren Strelow from Minnesota. Worship and laughter filled the community building both Friday and Saturday.

The theme for this year's convention was "One Thing: Most live for themselves. God's plan is different." Heather Dunbar gave a powerful message on Saturday morning about how to live a true life in Christ. Her message encouraged, challenged and stretched kids to examine their lives and seek out who God wants them to be.

Worship was led by Joseph Sampson's band both Friday and Saturday. Kids joined with joyful hearts in the awesome worship. This was the band's first year at Youth Convention, but they didn't hesitate in teaching the youth new songs to sing unto God.

Comedian Daren Strelow gave all the youth a laugh on Friday night that left everyone in tears and side aches. Once again his comedy act and message of hope were exciting. His blend of humor and quick wit left everyone in hysterics.

Congratulations to Michael Jasso. His team of four placed third in the XBOX 360 game "Rock Band" competition.

A big thanks goes out to Kathie Shannon and Naomi Haas for volunteering as chaperones.

Fr. Pastores

Sunday School Classes Continue

Sunday School classes for children and youth continue to meet from 9:30 to 10:15 each Sunday morning.

Wednesday Nights at St. Paul's

"Wednesday Nights Out" at St. Paul's continues each week. The schedule for children and youth is as follows:

5:30 – Activities / Holy Communion

6:15 – Dinner (regular menu or PB&J sandwiches)

7:00 – Special Activities

Youth Ice Skating

All Junior High and High School students are invited to go ice skating on Monday, February 16, at Gateway Ice Center in Fresno. The group will meet at the church at noon, ice skate from 1:00 to 3:00, and return to St. Paul's around 4:00. Cost:\$7 (including skate rental). Bring extra money for snacks.

Please RSVP to Kathie Shannon by Tuesday, February 10. Help is needed for driving and supervising this event. Volunteers are asked to call Kathie.

Lenten Prayer Pals

St. Paul's is once again offering the opportunity of linking children and youth with the adults of the parish through a Lenten "prayer pal" program.

Adults who participate are given the name of a child or youth in the parish, and are asked to pray for that person. In addition, the adult may occasionally send a note or card to his or her prayer pal. The identity of the adult prayer pal remains a secret until Easter Day, when the adult reveals his or their identity.

Parents who want their child to participate are asked to speak with Fr. Tancredo Pastores.

Grief Recovery Group

The Grief Recovery Group will be meeting at 10:00 on Tuesday, February 17. Anyone who has suffered a loss of a loved one through death or divorce, or has experienced the loss of a job or some other such experience, is invited to participate.

Anyone wanting more information about the group is asked to contact Betty Peters or Fr. James at 732-4821.

Volunteer Positions Available

Parish Archivist

St. Paul's was established in 1887, so there is a great deal of historical material that has been collected over the years. Unfortunately, some of the this material has been damaged, and much of it is unorganized.

So as not to lose the history of the parish, this material needs to be sorted, cataloged and properly stored, so there is a need for a parish archivist.

Anyone who can help with this project is asked to speak with Fr. James.

Flower Delivery

Each week, the Altar flowers are made into small bouquets after the 10:30 service, and then taken to those who cannot come to church. These parishioners may be in the hospital, a nursing home, or their own home. Help is needed in getting the flowers to these people.

This ministry can be done on a Sunday by Sunday basis, with no on-going commitment required. Anyone who can help during the month of February is asked to check at the kitchen window in Rivera Hall to see if help is needed that Sunday morning.

New Prayer Ministry Being Formed

While all Christians are called to be people of prayer, some people are called to a special ministry of prayer, including prayer for those who are sick or have a special need. Moreover, there is always a need for prayer, especially for those who are facing difficult circumstances.

With this in mind, St. Paul's is forming a prayer team that will minister to parishioners who wish to have special prayers offered for them following the 10:30 service. In other words, those who wish to have prayers for healing or for a special need will be invited to remain in church until the others have left, and then to come forward for prayer. The prayers will be offered by members of the prayer team, who will serve under the guidance and direction of the clergy.

Anyone who would like to be considered for this special ministry should contact Fr. James.

In the meantime, special prayers will continue to be offered during the 9:30 service on Wednesday mornings, and will also be offered after the Stations of the Cross on Friday nights.

From the Parish Records

Confirmations

Jose Antonio Alvarez
Renee Marie Brisson
Daniel Robert Carpenter
James Ernest Doe
Stuart Charles Shannon

Reaffirmation

Thomas Vern Brisson

Deaths

Chris Casey – Dee Manley's nephew
