



The Epistle

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

May, 2010

The Power of Pentecost

Of the three most important feasts in the life of the Church, Pentecost is certainly the least celebrated and the least appreciated. The proof of this statement is known by simple observation – the church will not be filled to overflowing on Pentecost as it is for both Christmas and Easter.

Perhaps part of the reason for this is that the latter two holidays are associated with events in the life of Christ, whereas Pentecost is not. Rather, Pentecost is associated with an event in the life of the Church, namely, the pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples.

According to the Acts of the Apostles, it was during the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, when the disciples were gathered for worship, that Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to the disciples, empowering them to preach the good news to all nations.

From this time on, the disciples had a new perspective. Fear and anxiety were replaced by confidence and enthusiasm. Timid disciples became bold witnesses, and the power of God was manifested through them in both word and deed.

It is for this reason that the Feast of Pentecost is sometimes referred to as the birthday of the Church, and thus Pentecost is an important feast because it celebrates the beginning of the Church's mission – and the Holy Spirit's guidance and power in fulfilling that mission.

By celebrating Pentecost, we again open ourselves up to the Holy Spirit, making possible his working through us. By celebrating Pentecost, we again

focus on the role of the Holy Spirit in giving power to the people of God so that the truth and love of Jesus may be known throughout the world.

This year, Pentecost is Sunday, May 23. It is my fervent prayer that parishioners will fill the church on Pentecost, and that they will allow their hearts to be filled with the Holy Spirit. In this way, we will be able to take our rightful place in the life of the Church as those who continue to make known the Good News of God, as known in and through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Spring and Summer Graduations



St. Paul's Church would like to recognize and honor those who are graduating this year. *Recognition Sunday* will be on Sunday, May 23. Graduates will be acknowledged and honored during the 10:30 service.

So that no one is overlooked, those who are graduating, or who have a family member graduating from middle school, high school, junior college, college or graduate school are asked to notify the church office at 732-4821. *Thank you.*



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 Ian James, Rector
The Rev. Jim Rouse, Assisting
Elaine McKinney, Parish Secretary
Antoinette Horsting, Financial Secretary
Melvin Morris, Sexton

Members of the Vestry

2010

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

2011

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

2012

Larry Akey, Mark Cave, Sue Nyberg,
Sue Piper, Ed Robinson

Delegates to Diocesan Convention

Kathy Bernardi, Betty Blackmon,
Kim Robinson, Chet Smeds

Alternates to Diocesan Convention

Cindy Hoover, Nancy Salmon



Coffee Hour Teams

Thanks are due to the following people who have volunteered to be on a coffee hour team in May:



8:00 AM	10:30 AM
2 Franco & Kathy Bernardi Diane Hyde	Dennis & Brooke Mack Millie Moody Dorothy Neeley
9 Darryl Smithey, Rich Shaw Janet Smithey, Wendy Johns	Marylyn McInnes Bernardo & Patty Lawrence
16 Bob & Loretta Murray Cathy Guadagni	Tom & Monica Norton Ross & Sarah Bailey
23 Jerry & Darlene Hallberg	Cathy Guadagni
30 Michael & Kathy Shannon	Bill and Kathy Nebe

Anyone who can help, either on a regular or an occasional basis, with this ministry is invited to call Cathy Guadagni or Kathie Shannon.

Summer Celebration

The Community Service Committee is sponsoring the parish's annual Summer Celebration on Sunday, June 6.

This year's celebration will be an "All-American Brunch" with traditional American food and drink served during a brunch in Rivera Hall following the 10:00 service.

In addition to great food, there will be entertainment in the form of a talent show presented by children and youth of the parish. There will also be a number of raffles held.

All of the proceeds from the Summer Celebration will be used to support programs helping those in need in Visalia and the surrounding area.

Women's Ministries

Anglican Church Women Picnic

The annual ACW picnic will be held at 11:45 on Monday, May 3, in the courtyard at church. A box lunch will be served. Music will be provided by St. Paul's School Choir.



Everyone is invited to this event. Cost is \$10.

ACW Guilds and ACW Board

St. Paul's ACW Guilds and the ACW Board will have a summer hiatus, and will begin again in September.

Daughters of the Holy Cross

The Daughters of the Holy Cross will have their next meeting at 10:00, Thursday, May 13.

The Daughters of the Holy Cross are women who have committed themselves to serve Jesus through prayer, service, study and evangelism.



Questions may be addressed to Betty Blackmon.

Altar Guild Conference

The theme for this year's Conference is "Raise Your Banner High!"

This year the Diocesan Altar Guild Conference will be hosted by St. Paul's Church on May 14 and 15, in Rivera Hall.

All Altar Guild members are welcome to hear the guest speakers, listen to special music, eat great food and join in making banners. Registration forms are located in the church office and must be turned in before May 3.

Grief Recovery Group

The Grief Recovery Group will meet at 11:00 AM on Tuesday May 18, at the home of Kashy Rowland-Smith, 2743 W. Harvard Avenue, Visalia. This group will continue to meet throughout the summer months.

The group is studying *Understanding Your Grief* by Alan D. Wolfelt, who serves as the Director of the Center for Loss and Life Transition in Fort Collins, Colorado.

For more information, interested persons should call Kashy Rowland-Smith or Betty Peters.

Honduras Medical Mission

Rummage Sale May 7-8

The Honduras Medical Mission team will be holding a rummage sale May 7-8 in Rivera Hall. The team will be collecting donations on Thursday afternoon, May 6.

Parishioners are asked to save and donate any suitable items. Money raised will help purchase medicines and supplies for this summer's mission.

This year the mission will be in Matzanas, Honduras July 1-11. Please pray and support this mission and those going there.

Questions may be addressed to Betty Blackmon, Sue Nyberg or Jim Doe.

Enchilada Sale

Home-made enchiladas will be available during the mission's rummage sale. Advance orders are being taken during the coffee hours following Sunday services.

Fine Arts Festival

St. Paul's Church will be hosting a fine arts festival on the Feast of Pentecost, Sunday, May 23. Items created by parishioners will be displayed during both coffee hours, so the parish is looking for members willing to display their artistic endeavors including oils, pastels, ink, sketches, photography, sculptures, woodwork, et cetera.

The festival is intended to provide both encouragement to those involved in the arts and an opportunity for them to show their work. It is hoped that a wide variety of arts and artists will be represented.

Sign-up sheets are in Rivera Hall. Please include your name and category for your art. For more information please call Kris Bratton or Betty Blackmon.

Sister Ursula's Kitchen

St. Paul's continues its ministry to the poor by helping prepare and serve meals (and clean up afterwards) at the Good News Center on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. There are two shifts each day – one from 9:45 to 11:15 to prepare food, and the other from 11:15 to 12:45 to serve and clean up. No particular skills are required, except a loving a caring disposition.

Those interested in helping are asked to call Jim Doe or Barbara Melton.

Altar Flowers

Anyone wishing to donate Altar flowers during the month of May or on the first Sunday of one of the summer months is asked to call the church office at 732-4821. Cost is \$35.

Youth Sunday

This year, Youth Sunday will be on Sunday, May 9, which is also Mothers Day. For Youth Sunday, the youth of the parish will read the lessons and prayers, and will serve as ushers and greeters. Anyone wanting to participate in Youth Sunday in this way is asked to contact Fr. James.

Children's and Youth Talent Show

The children and youth of St. Paul's Church are invited to perform in a talent show during the church's annual Summer Celebration on Sunday, June 6.

Children of all ages may participate, so anyone who can sing, dance, recite a poem, tell a joke, play a musical instrument or present any other talent is welcome. Parents of interested students, or the students themselves, should contact Betsy Gates as soon as possible.

Vacation Bible School

The life of St. Paul the Apostle will be the focus of this year's Vacation Bible School, which will be held from 9:00 to noon, Monday, July 19 through Friday, July 23.

Last year, approximately thirty-five children attended a fun-filled week of lessons, songs, stories, games, crafts and snacks, and just as many students are expected this year.

Volunteers are now being recruited for this special week. No special skills are necessary – just enthusiasm and time (a little or a lot).

For more information or to volunteer, please call Kashy Rowland-Smith.

Foyer Groups

This past year, St. Paul's Church started a number of foyer groups – groups of eight to ten people who gather in each others' homes for dinner on a monthly basis.

After the first "round" where each person or couple had a chance to host their group, there was interest in continuing the program.

With this mind, new groups are being formed for the summer. Anyone who would like to be a part of a foyer group, whether they were in one of the previous groups or not, is invited to participate.

Interested persons should call Judy Ramirez, Cheril Smeds or Noreen Siebenaler.

Summer School at St. Paul's School



Every summer, St. Paul's School offers a variety of week-long classes for the students in the community.

These classes are open to all, and are intended to provide opportunities for the students to explore new topics and to learn in a fun and engaging way.

There will be five separate one-week sessions, each with a variety of topics being offered. Catalogs with a description of the course offerings are available from the school which is located at 6101 W. Goshen Avenue. Their number is 739-1619.

- Session 1 – June 7-11
- Session 2 – June 14-18
- Session 3 – June 21-25
- Session 4 – June 28-July 2
- Session 5 – July 12-16



From the Parish Records

Baptisms

Christopher Anthony Hernandez
Marcus Roland Hernandez

Confirmations and Receptions

Leslie Collier Byerlee
Tommy Lee Byerlee
Robert Hernandez
Joyleen Patricia Phillips Hodde
Eugene Joseph Leal
Victoria Lynn Leal
Joe John Macedo
Marilyn Elizabeth Macedo
Phillip Joseph Prull

Marriages

Ashley Robinson and Jeffrey Barker

Deaths

Alan McDonald – Betty Blackmon's brother
Augusta Holder

Directory Additions and Changes

Byerlee, Tom and Leslie
411 N Fairway
Visalia, CA 93291

Hernandez, Bobbie and Carin
Christopher and Marcus
738 S. Redwood Drive
Visalia, CA 93277

Leal, Eugene and Victoria
4720 W. Tulare Avenue
Visalia, CA 93277

Arlene Roberts
c/o Leslie Sheehan
P.O. Box 3756
Hailey, Idaho, 83333