

The Epistle

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

July, 2009

New Anglican Church Now a Reality!

The new Anglican province – the Anglican Church in North America – that was envisioned at the time the Diocese of San Joaquin withdrew from The Episcopal Church and realigned with the Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America has now become a reality. On Monday, June 22, in Bedford, Texas, delegates from throughout the United States and Canada approved a constitution for the new province, and then immediately broke into a spontaneous singing of the Doxology – “Praise God from whom all blessings flow.”

The Diocese of San Joaquin was officially represented by Bishop John-David Schofield, along with four members of the clergy and four members of the laity. Two of the lay delegates (Nancy Salmon and Suzette Peters) were from St. Paul's. In addition, Deacon Francie Levy and parishioner Jim Doe attended as registered observers.

In the time ahead, the parish will have an opportunity to learn first-hand some of the details of this first Provincial Assembly and of the exciting new endeavors that are being undertaken within the new Anglican Church in North America.

While St. Paul's is already a part of the new Anglican province by virtue of being a parish in the Diocese of San Joaquin, at the same time it will continue to be linked through the diocese to the Anglican Church of the Southern Cone of America.

This “dual citizenship” will allow the clergy and people of the diocese to maintain an official link to the rest of the Anglican Communion while the process of formal recognition for the new Anglican Church in North America moves forward.

Celebrating Freedom

In celebrating Independence Day, the citizens of the United States celebrate their attainment of freedom from England. But more than this, we celebrate freedom itself – something that is at the heart of our life as a nation.

Included in the freedoms we enjoy is the freedom of religion – a freedom that has allowed us to worship in the way we do, without interference from others.

With this in mind, our lessons on Sunday, July 5, will be those designated in the Book of Common Prayer for the celebration of Independence Day, and our hymns will be selected accordingly. In such a way we will be offering special thanks to God for all of the freedoms we enjoy!

Fourth of July Weekend

Friday, July 3

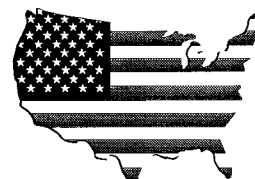
All day Church office closed
7:05 PM Rawhide baseball (meet at church at 6:30)

Saturday, July 4

All day Church office closed

Sunday, July 5

8:00 AM Holy Communion, Rite I
9:15 AM **NO** Sunday School classes
10:00 AM Holy Communion Rite II



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

Summer Office Hours

Monday-Thursday – 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM
Fridays – 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Summer Worship Schedule

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

Clergy and Staff

The Very Rev. Richard I. James, Rector
The Rev. Tancredo R. Pastores, Assistant
Antoinette Horsting, Financial Secretary
Elaine McKinney, Parish 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 to Diocesan Convention

Kathy Bernardi, Betty Blackmon,
Kim Robinson, Chet Smeds

Alternates to Diocesan Convention

Amy Gunn, Bill Nebe, Nancy Salmon



Coffee Hour Teams

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

8:00 AM

5 Manny & Paula Lucero
Jack & Judy Ramirez

12 Anne MacDonald
Carla Taylor

19 Chet & Cheril Smeds
David & Maureen Martin

26 Lawrence & Bonnie Chan
Bill & Shiela Roach

10:30 AM

Didi Hammond
Laurie Buhler, Gail Green

Merle and Judy Engleka
Cathy Guadagni

Greg & Amy Gunn
Dot Gunn, Peggy Johnson

Frank & Kate Rogers
Naomi Haas

Anyone able to help with coffee hours during the summer months is asked to call the church office at 732-4821.



Take Me Out to the Ballpark!

St. Paul's Church is going to the Rawhide baseball game on Friday, July 3 (or at least some of the parishioners are) and you can be among them. Tickets will be available during Coffee Hour on Sunday, June 28. First pitch is 7:05 PM. A fireworks show will be held after the game. Cost is \$7.50.

Summer School at St. Paul's School

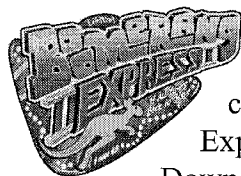


Every summer, St. Paul's School offers a variety of week-long classes for the students in the community. There are two one-week summer school sessions left this year: July 6 - 10 and July 13-17.

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. Interested persons should call the school at 739-1619 for more information.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

Vacation Bible School



This year, Vacation Bible School will be held July 20-24, from 9:00 AM to 12 Noon. Kids can hop on board the Boomerang Express for a tour of the "Land Down Under."

As kids get a glimpse of the amazing scenery and unique country of Australia, they will also discover that Jesus desires to have an amazing and unique relationship with them. The week will be full of stories, songs, games and crafts.

Registration forms are available in the bulletin on Sundays, and from the church office during the week. Please call Kashy Rowland-Smith for more information.



Don't miss the Boomerang Express!

Youth Group Activities

High school and college students are invited to meet with Fr. James and Fr. Pastores at 6:00 PM on Sunday, June 28, for a time of fellowship and study.

Youth Groups Swim Party

Students who will be in 6th grade and above this coming school year are invited to a swim party on Sunday, July 12. The party will be from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Fr. James' home. Food and refreshments will be provided.



Camp H2O

Camp H2O will be held July 19-25 at ECCO. This is a summer camp for high school students interested in becoming leaders among their friends, their church, or their school. Cost: \$325.

For more information, please speak with Fr. Pastores at 732-4821, or Daniel Marker in the diocesan office at 244-4828.

Camp San Joaquin

Two special camps are available for the parish's youth this summer at Camp San Joaquin. Each camp will have its own program and leadership.



Art Science Ecology Camp July 27 - August 1
Grades 7th through 12th

Enrichment Camp (led by the July 29 - August 1
faculty of St. Paul's School)
Grades 4th through 8th

Brochures and application forms are available from the church office.

Camp San Joaquin Day is August 1st

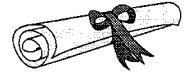
Camp San Joaquin Day is an opportunity to enjoy beautiful scenery, cool weather, recreational activities and great food, all free of charge.

Additional details will be provided as they become available, but parishioners are encouraged to mark the date on their calendars so as not to miss this great annual event.

Congratulations Graduates!



The clergy and people of St. Paul's Church
congratulate members of the parish who graduated this year,
and we offer our prayers for a bright and successful "next step"
whether it is toward more education or a place in the work force.



Middle School

Cayla Fox, St. Paul's	Mt. Whitney
Stephanie Gates, St. Paul's	Redwood
Travis Jacobson (Gordon and Betty Smith's grandson), St. Paul's	Redwood
Jarrett Haas, St. Paul's	Redwood
Alexandra Keyes, Valley Oak	Golden West
Miriam Sanders, La Joya	El Diamante

High School

James Bird, Mt. Whitney	College of the Sequoias
Justin Gambini, Central Valley Christian	College of the Sequoias
Sarah Gularte, El Diamante	College of the Sequoias
Parker Hallberg, El Diamante	College of the Sequoias
Spencer Hodgin, Redwood	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Melina Jahnigan, Redwood	College of the Sequoias
David Hunter (Darryl Smithey's Nephew), Monache	Porterville College
Natalie Nebe, El Diamante	California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Luke Utsler, El Diamante	College of the Sequoias
Teddy Voshall, Tulare Western	University of California, Berkeley

Colleges, Universities, and Graduate Schools

Erin Fox	B.A. (Liberal Studies) Chapman University
Robbie Havard	M.S. (Biomedical Science) Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science
John Higgins	Ph.D. (Earth and Planetary Science) Harvard University
Meytal Higgins	Ph.D. (Earth and Planetary Science) Harvard University
Kimberly Liu (Russ and Sally Williams' Daughter)	M.A. (Counseling) Chapman University
Heather Norton	B.A. (Communicative Disorders – Speech Language Pathology) California State University, Fresno
Suzanne Robinson	B.S. (Animal Science) California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Sarah Sanders	B.S. (Speech Language Pathology) California State University, East Bay
Danielle Smithey (Darryl Smithey's Niece)	B.A. (Social Work) California State University, Fresno
Taylor Theis	B.A. (Arts and Humanities) California State University, Fresno

Sister Ursula's Kitchen

St. Paul's Church continues its ministry to the poor by helping prepare and serve meals at the Good News Center on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. And, of course, parishioners help clean up afterwards!

Additional help with this ministry is always welcomed, so anyone wanting to be a part of it is asked to contact Don or Louise Ford or Fr. Tancredo Pastores.


From the Parish Records

Deaths – Robert Brower (Sue Piper's father)

Thank You's

St. Paul's Parish,

My thanks to those who sent cards, prayers and calls my way during my recent recovery. Also thanks for the beautiful Altar flowers.

Love,
Paula Lucero


To the Parishioners of St. Paul's Church,
Thank you so much for the lovely white flowers that my dear friend Esther Scovel carried to the hospital from your Altar. They brightened my room and my spirits, as did Esther!

I am happy to say I am home now and very much on the mend. Thanks again.

God Bless you all,
Anna Joy

Depositions, Lawsuits and Ordinations

An update from Fr. James

In response to questions from parishioners, here are some important facts:

Depositions

Bishop Lamb's action in "deposing" sixty-one members of the clergy of the Diocese of San Joaquin has no effect on the ecclesiastical standing of those who serve under Bishop Schofield. A letter from Archbishop Venables addressing this issue is printed on the next page.

Lawsuits

1) The legal action filed by Deacon Suzy Ward and her followers seeking the money left to us by Greeley and Chloe Togni is scheduled to be heard in December of this year.

Both Deacon Ward and Bishop Jerry Lamb filed false and misleading declarations to the court, which they will have to deal with when the case is heard.

2) The Episcopal Church's lawsuit against Bishop Schofield and the Anglican Diocese of San Joaquin is scheduled for February of next year.

3) Bishop Lamb and his lawyers recently threatened St. Paul's Parish with a lawsuit for its property, but no lawsuit has yet been filed.

Ordinations

Due to the illegitimacy of the Special Convention that approved the selection of Bishop Lamb and other leaders for local Episcopal diocese, the upcoming ordination of Suzy Ward to the priesthood will be sacramentally irregular.

However, because Jerry Lamb is a legitimate bishop (retired bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California), Deacon Wards' ordination to the priesthood will be valid in The Episcopal Church.

Letter from Archbishop Venables