#### Church Calendar

#### Monday, December 30, 2024

Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers 8:00 p.m. - to 9:00 p.m. AL-Anon

#### Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. – Pacific Discussions (AA)

#### Wednesday, January 1, 2024

Office Closed

3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Remain Teachable (AA)

#### Thursday, January 2, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Thursday AA

#### Friday, January 3, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers 7:00 p.m. – 9:45p.m. – Youth Al Anon 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – AA Group (Farsi)

#### Saturday, January 4, 2024

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

#### Sunday, January 5, 2024

10:00 a.m. – In-Sanctuary Service & Live Streaming

## **Church Leadership**

Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank Bishop in Residence

Rev. Garth Gilliam North District Superintendent

> Rev. Vernon Kemp Pastor

Jacqueline Tringov Music Director

Evelyn Arnold-McJimpson Administrative Assistant

## St. Paul's - Leadership Team

**Diana Bruno** - Administrative Chair/ Lay leader to Conference

**Deborah Davies** – Staff Parish Relations Chair

**Linda Graul** – Finance Chair

**Donald Metzger** – Team Member

Jackie Adams – Team Member

Vacant - Trustee Chair

## Saint Paul's United Methodist Church

5619 Lindley Ave., Tarzana 91356 Office Phone: 818-708-7068

Church Email: st\_paulschurch@icloud.com
Church Website: stpaulschurchtarzana.org

**f**@stpaulstarzana



@saintpaulsunited

For online giving and support, please go to: <a href="https://www.stpaulschurchtarzana.org/donate">https://www.stpaulschurchtarzana.org/donate</a>
To donate via Zelle, please use our email, st\_paulschurch@icloud.com.

You can find today's livestream and past livestreams by visiting our YouTube page: https://www.youtube.com/@saintpaulschurch7968/streams

Pastor Vernon's Email: V\_kemp2000@yahoo.com Pastor Vernon's cell phone: 323-864-5967



December 29, 2024 10:00 a.m. Pastor Vernon Kemp

Our Mission is to be: The Beacon of the Valley **Lighting** 'The Way' of Jesus

**Growing** Disciples and Community in God's Love and **Sending** the Hope and Joy of Jesus into the World



The Beacon of The Valley

## 1st Sunday after Christmas

Color: White/Gold December 29, 2024 10:00 a.m.

\*\*Indicates to stand if able

Prelude "The Prayer" Jacqueline Tringov

Gathering Words Pastor Vernon Kemp

\*\*Hymn "Love Lifted Me"

\*\*Call to Worship

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

L: Children of God, Jesus Christ is born!

- P: God has come to make a home among us!
- L: Yet the story is not over. After birth comes the ordinary and mundane growing, maturing, and discovering, even for the Christ Child.
- P: In the ordinary and mundane, God has come to make a home among us.
- L: And sometimes, in the midst of the everyday, something surprising happens, and we discover anew just what God is up to in our midst.
- P: In the surprising and spectacular, God has come to make a home among us.
- L: Children of God, let us worship the God who dwells with us in all things and all seasons.
- P: We come to make our home with God who makes a home among us. Amen.

\*\*Music Selection

"King of Glory"

## **Christ the King Candle**

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

We give thanks for the light of love—hot and holy. The love of Christ comforts and challenges. Now let us light the Christ candle as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Thank you, God, for your light in this world through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn "O How I Love Jesus"

## **Prayer of Confession**

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

UMH #170

- L: Most Loving God, because you knew how twisted and corrupted our humanity had become, you sent us your Holy Son—
- P: We name him Jesus, our Savior, for he has saved us from our sins.
- L: Because you have stood in our shoes and understand how difficult it is to live by the rule of law in an often cold, unfeeling, and ruthless world—
- P: We name him Jesus, our Savior, for he is this very day saving us from all our sins.
- L: Because you have given us a gracious spirit, forgiving those who sin against us, and you call us to a ministry of reconciliation in a fractured world—
- P: We proclaim him Jesus, our Savior, for he will save our world from its many sins.



If you are seeking prayer and would like your name to appear on the prayer list, please contact the office no later than Wednesday noon via telephone or email.

# Let us keep the following in prayer and please reach out to them for care, comfort, and prayer:

Rowena Anderson Miracle Wright-Lindo Ellie Harrison Jae Se	essions
Anthony Basuto Marianne Crosby John & Shirley Hawkins Virgin	nia Perry
Rosanna Harden Bentley Ella Bonnie Jay Troy	Turner
Marina Bezinovir Celine Ella Bill Lashbrook Effie I	Baidoo
Deanna Borque Florence Ella Gwendolyn Smith Pat Fe	ellers
Diana Bruno Jennifer Fornadley Roberta Lanning Seque	ece Jones
Dean Brown John Fornadley Gwinn Lavery & Family Coni	Balogh
Megan Carson Alvin Perkins David & Connie Barlow Cynth	nia Teamer
David Cox & Family Cathy Green & Family Mildred Porter & Family Twyll	la Johnson
Maria Costa Jessie Haquet Alicia Nance Georg	gette Hurt
Terry Doherty Carol Paola Warren Walker & Family Gil &	Joan Goodwin
Jada Jones Wright-Lindo Family Jamorea & Cameron Jones Phele	ta Santos

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."

**James 5:16** 





12/3 – Tuli Taufahema

12/5 – Tammy Lacock

12/11 – Deborah Ruiz

12/13 – Jackie Adams

12/19 – Maxwell Nkuku

12/21 – Kim Gatewood

12/21 – Lisa Nkuku

12/22 – Catherine (Cat) Russell

12/26 – Franklin Davis

12/26 – Mildred Porter

If you would like to add your name to this month's Birthdays and/or Anniversaries list, please call 818-708-7068.

Lectionary Scripture Readings

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 Psalm 148 Colossians 3:12-17 Luke 2:41-52 Music Selection "Because of Who You Are" Dr. Kira Taylor

Words of Assurance

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

The messenger has been sent to you, proclaiming that there is One who is Coming to Provide Hope, give us peace, to fill us with Joy and to give Love. Know that these are great gifts from God, who has always and will always love you. Amen.

Music Selection

"Sweet Baby Jesus"

Deborah Davies

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

Look around. This place is now occupied with those who have come to give thanks to God for this day with you. By the Lord's grace and compassion, extend a hand and heart to your neighbor, with acknowledgement of the Holy Spirit who fills us with joy. Share the peace of Christ Jesus with one another. Peace be with you, and also to you, Amen.

Music Selection

"Give Thanks"

#### **Invitation to the Word**

Come children of God and be still, open your minds, hearts, ears and souls to receive today's word. Let it feed us for the renewing of our hearts and minds. Be tranquil, be of consciousness and readiness...it is here.

\*\*Scripture Readings

Luke 2:49-52 & Colossians 3:12-17

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

## Response to the Word

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

Living Word of God, live within us, live within our hearts. Let your light of Love, hand of Peace, and guidance of Hope overflow more and more each day as we await your coming. Amen.

Music Selection

"Walk in the Light"

St. Paul's Choir

Song of Preparation

"Grateful"

St. Paul's Choir

Sermon

"New Year, New Chance: A Renewal for New Life"

Pastor Vernon Kemp

## Altar Call/Invitation to Discipleship

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

If you would like prayer, you may kneel at the altar and a prayer warrior will pray with you. You are also welcome to light a candle.

Music Selection "Total Praise" St. Paul's Choir

#### **Invitation to the Offering**

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

The Lord is coming. Prepare the way! Prepare to welcome the messiah! Welcome the redeemer with your very lives. Know the Lord's tender mercy. Let all that you are become an offering pleasing to God.

Now is the time for us all to offer our tithes and gifts to Almighty Christ by placing them in the Love Offering box. Those who are worshiping with us online, you may mail your offering or send it via Zelle using our email. St. Paul's is most grateful to each of you for your financial support.

Praise Song "Every Praise" Dr. Kira Taylor

\*\*Doxology "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

**UMH #94** 

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

### \*\*Offertory Prayer

Liturgist, Kemi Alli

Lord of Light and Love, we offer these gifts with hearts transformed by the miracle of your son's birth. As the shepherds returned with joy and praise, may these offerings spread your joy and love. Use them to bless those in need, to bring hope and peace, and to further your kingdom here on earth. In this season of Advent, may we continue to glorify and praise you in all we do. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Announcements Liturgist, Kemi Alli

\*\*Benediction Pastor Vernon Kemp

Beloved, may God bless you with transformation, because together we have encountered the incarnate Christ who makes a home among us and sends us home never to be the same again. Amen.

\*\*Closing Song "Just Want to Praise You"

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

"LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART, MIND, AND STRENGTH," DEUT. 6:5

"DO NOT FEAR, FOR I AM WITH YOU; DO NOT BE DISMAYED, FOR I AM YOUR GOD." ISA. 41:10

"LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF" MATT. 22:39

"YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN; YOU WERE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE, THEREFORE GLORIFY GOD WITH YOUR BODIES" 1 COR. 6:20

"SET YOUR MINDS ON THINGS ABOVE, NOT ON EARTHLY THINGS." COL. 3:2

"TAKE DELIGHT IN THE LORD, AND HE WILL GIVE YOU THE DESIRES OF YOUR HEART." PSA. 37:4

"SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU AS WELL." MATT. 6:33