

Church Calendar

Monday, September 2, 2024

Closed

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

Tuesday, September 3, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 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, September 4, 2024

Office Hours: 12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, September 5, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Thursday AA

Friday, September 6, 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, September 7, 2024

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

Sunday, September 8, 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

Cathy Green – 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



@stpaulstarzana



@saintpaulunited



@saintpaulsunited

For online giving and support, please go to: <https://www.stpaulschurchtarzana.org/donate>

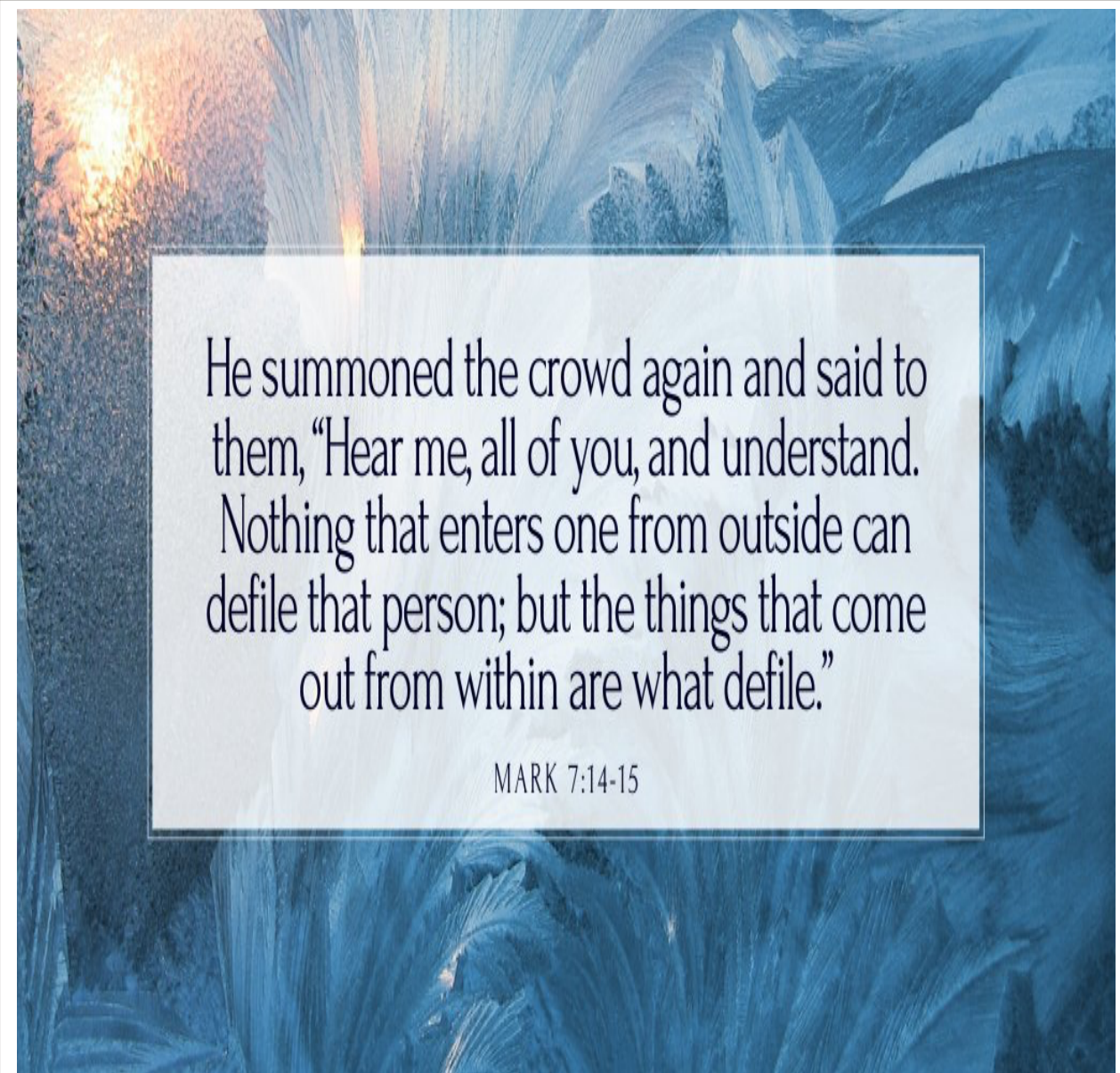
To donate via Zelle, please use our email, st_paulschurch@icloud.com.

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



He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile."

MARK 7:14-15

September 1, 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

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Color: Green
September 1, 2024
10:00 a.m.

****Indicates to stand if able**

Theme Idea

Luscious imagery unites the passage from the song of Solomon with the psalm. We smell the fragrance of flowers and oil, hear birdsong and music, and see the beauty of God’s world and the king’s court. We are invited to come and be anointed with the oil of gladness. A world of such abundance calls us to live faithful lives filled with righteousness and equity—hating wickedness and all evil intentions, speaking carefully, and caring for those in need. God calls us to respond, not with outward ritual, but with a deep dedication of our hearts, embodying God’s word in our actions.

Prelude “Amazing Grace” Jacqueline Tringov

**Gathering Words

**Hymn “Lord, Prepare Me”

**Call to Worship Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

L: Every generous act of giving is a tribute to God’s love for us.

P: Lord, let us be people of generous and abundant gifts for others.

L: Be ready to listen and slow to react in anger.

P: Lord, prepare us to be peaceful people.

L: Keep your hearts and spirits ready to serve the Lord.

P: Lord, open our hearts to hear and respond to your words of life in ministries of hope and peace.

L: Summer wanes and the autumn draws close.

P: Lord, help us to be ready for opportunities of service.

L: We have felt the refreshment of time-away.

P: Lord, give us spirits of joy for the times ahead.

L: Come, let us celebrate God’s eternal presence and love.

P: Let us open our spirits to receive God’s direction for our lives. Amen.

**Praise Song “You Deserve It”

**Prayer of the Day Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

Lord of mercy and abundant love, we have gathered here this day to hear your healing words of compassion and to be transformed by your love. Help us to become more faithful servants in our thoughts, words, and deeds. Just as the fields produce their harvest, cultivate us within your love and help each of us grow within, so we too may produce a harvest of love, hope, and joy. It is in Jesus’ Name, we pray. Amen.

Music Selection “The Anthem”

PRAYER

list..

This is a time of renewal, reflection, and rejuvenation. 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 & Family | Jae Sessions |
| Anthony Basuto | Marianne Crosby | John & Shirley Hawkins | Kamonie Wright |
| Donna Beers | Bentley Ella | Bonnie Jay | Marilyn Wright |
| Marina Bezinovir | Celine Ella | Bill Lashbrook | Effie Baidoo |
| Deanna Borque | Florence Ella | Henry Lindo | Pat Fellers |
| Diana Bruno | Jennifer Fornadley | Roberta Lanning | Pastor Joy & Family |
| Dean Brown | John Fornadley | Gwinn Lavery & Family | Coni Balogh |
| Megan Carson | Terry Doherty | Troy Turner | Cynthia Teamer |
| David Cox & Family | Cathy Green & Family | Alicia Nance | |
| Maria Costa | Jessie Haquet | Mildred Porter & Family | |

“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

September Birthdays

9/5 – Shirley Hawkins

9/8 – Cathy Green

9/11 – Erica Tartt

9/13 – Niloufar Mozaffari

9/16 – Nikki Pemberton

9/18 – Michael Vincent

9/21 – Mehrdad Khanisanij

9/22 – Terry Doherty

9/23 – Deborah Davies

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

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalms 45:1-2, 6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Unison Prayer of Confession

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

God of mercy, you know us so well. We like to think that we can hide from You, but we are just kidding ourselves. You have offered to us new life, characterized by honesty, compassion, joy, and peace. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but we have far too often turned our back on opportunities for service and witness to your transformational love. Forgive us for our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to your words of hope. Remind us again that you require compassion and mercy in all who serve you; so you will guide our steps and our lives. Give us courage to truly be your witnesses in this world. Amen.

Music Selection

“Lean On Me”

Words of Assurance

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

L: Even if you have transgressed and done what you know to be wrong, remember that God will

P: heal and forgive you,

L: sending you on your way to become a person of peace, hope, love and justice.

P: Be at peace. God is with you. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

L: You are God's beloved children. Look into one another's face to see the beauty of God's presence.

Share the Lord's peace with gladness. May the peace of Christ be with you.

P: And also, with you.

L: Let us share signs of peace with one another.

Music Selection

“If I Can Help Somebody”

Invitation to the Word

L: The universe proclaims God's truth. God's knowledge flows night and day!

P: We open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive.

**Scripture Reading

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Response to the Word

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

God of abundant love, you delight us with your grace— grace expressed in the beauty of our world. God of truth and light, you challenge us to live faithful lives—to turn away from evil, to follow your ways, to serve your people. May your word of truth grow within us this day, so we may bring forth a harvest of peace. Amen.

Music Selection

“More Than Anything”

Song of Preparation

“Order My Steps”

St. Paul's Singers

Sermon "Christ-Like or Worldly: Who Are You?" Pastor Vernon Kemp

Altar Call/Invitation to Discipleship Liturgist, Effie Baidoo
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.

Hymn "I Surrender All" UMH #354

Thanksgiving and Communion

The Great Thanksgiving UMH #13
The Lord's Prayer UMH #270
The Apostles' Creed UMH #881

Invitation to the Offering Liturgist, Effie Baidoo
Every generous act of giving, as with every perfect gift, is from above. May God's word of truth, implanted within us at birth, bloom in acts of loving faithfulness. May that word shape our lives so that we become doers of the word, using God's gifts for all.

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 watching via stream, you may mail your offering (mailing address can be found on the back of this worship guide), or send it via Zelle using our email. St. Paul's is most grateful to each of you for your financial support.

****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! Alleluia!*

****Offertory Prayer** Liturgist, Effie Baidoo
God of light and beauty, every gift is from you. Even our ability to give is a blessing of your love. We offer you what we have and what we are. Use our gifts to give birth to a world of righteousness where none are in need and where all draw close to your grace. Amen.

Announcements Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

St. Paul's End-of-Summer Night Market

Our **End-of-Summer Night Market is this Saturday, September 7th, from 4pm to 9pm!** Make sure to come out to connect with neighbors, do some shopping from local small businesses, grab a bite to eat from one of delicious food trucks, and support our wonderful event.

You can help us promote this event by distributing flyers. Extra flyers are available in the Narthex—grab some and share them with friends and local businesses! We're also in need of enthusiastic volunteers for various roles throughout the day. Check out the volunteer sign-up list in the Narthex and choose a position that resonates with you.

Search for Room

As some of you have already heard, our brother in Christ, Davis Keys will be starting a chaplaincy training program at Providence Cedars-Sinai Tarzana Medical Center and urgently needs a place to stay. Davis will be dedicating himself to crucial work and will be a blessing to many through his efforts. If anyone has a room available or knows of one, please contact the office so we can inform him.

Matching Challenge

As you are aware, we recently sent out a letter and received communication from Pastor Vernon regarding our need to raise \$100,000 for operating costs by the beginning of the year. We are excited to share that we have already secured a \$20,000 challenge grant towards this goal – hallelujah!

We encourage you to explore ways you can contribute to meeting this challenge. Rest assured, you are not alone in this effort; we are also connecting with our community partners, local groups, and all friends connected with this family to support this initiative. Thank you, as always, for your support and generosity.

Sneak Peek at Our Upcoming Events!

We have some exciting things happening behind the scenes! Here's a preview of what's coming up:
- Fellowship Hour: After Sunday service to connect with your church family, unwind before the new week, and enjoy each other's company with some light refreshments.
- Thrift Store: TBA

****Benediction** Pastor Vernon Kemp

As Christ has fed and redeemed your life, now go into the world in peace and love offering ministries of hope and justice. Go in peace and may the peace of God always be with you. Amen.

****Closing Song** "Soon and Very Soon"