

Church Calendar

Monday, September 23, 2024

Closed

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

Tuesday, September 24, 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 25, 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 26, 2024

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Thursday AA

Friday, September 27, 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. – 9:45 p.m. – Youth Al Anon
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – AA Group (Farsi)

Saturday, September 28, 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 29, 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



@saintpaulunited

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

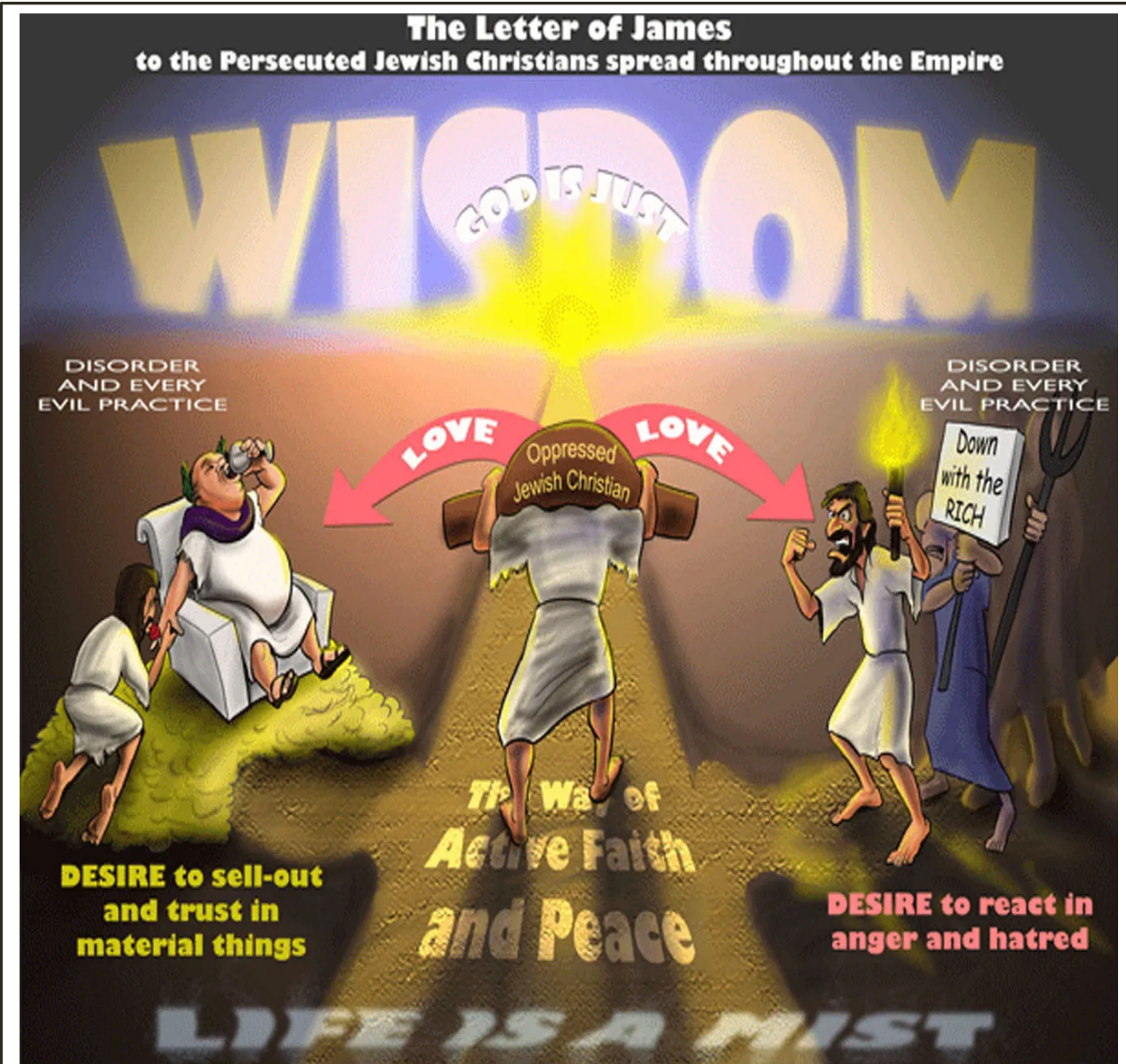
To donate via Zelle, please use our email, st_paulschurch@icloud.com.

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



September 22, 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

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Color: Green
September 22, 2024
10:00 a.m.

****Indicates to stand if able**

Theme Idea

This Sunday's texts speak about a way of seeing and interacting with the world—a way that comes from God. Each text bids us seek this divine perspective in our human lives. Recent scholarship on the Proverbs text links the “good wife” (better translated “woman of strength”) with Woman Wisdom (Proverbs 1–9). Choose as your partner in life, Proverbs advises, the Wisdom of God, for only she can bring you a life of security, honor, and mercy. While the previous chapters of Proverbs have instructed us how to find this partner, Psalm 1 (a Wisdom psalm), puts it all in a nutshell: seek God and meditate on God's ordering of the world. James continues this look at wisdom, speaking of this gift as something that comes “from above” and bears “good fruits” in our lives. While Proverbs and Psalm 1 speak of the prosperity that wisdom can bring us, Jesus and James remind us that to embrace this divine perspective is to put aside the usual definitions of success and honor.

Prelude “Blessed Assurance” Jacqueline Tringov

INVITATION AND GATHERING

Opening Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

Good morning, brothers and sisters in Christ! Those of you who are worshiping with us via live stream, we warmly welcome you to this worship service. As we gather today for a time of renewal, reflection, and revival, we invite you and your family to prepare your hearts for a meaningful service filled with the Word, worship, prayer, and the breaking of bread.

We will be celebrating communion today, so please take a moment to prepare the elements to participate when we reach that part of the service. Now, let's join together for the Call to Worship.

****Call to Worship** Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

L: Who is wise and understanding among us?

P: Those who seek wisdom and understanding each and every day.

L: Those who delight in God and meditate on His law. Come, learn more about the wisdom from above, a wisdom that yields a harvest of righteousness.

P: O God, your wisdom is more precious than jewels! We draw near to you.

****Praise Song** “Let It Rise” St. Paul's Singers

Opening Prayer Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

We draw near to you, O God, Source of all understanding, and ask you to draw near to us. Teach us your wisdom from above, that we may bear good fruit in our lives. Root us beside the streams of your wisdom, that the green leaves of our goodness, fed by your insight, may not wither. Amen.

PRAYER list...

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
Rosanna Harden	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	Alvin Perkins	Troy Turner	Cynthia Teamer
David Cox & Family	Cathy Green & Family	Mildred Porter & Family	Twylla Johnson
Maria Costa	Jessie Haquet	Alicia Nance	Georgette Hurt
Terry Doherty	Carol Paola	Warren Walker & Family	Gil & Joan Goodwin

“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

9/30 – Melanie Guerrero

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

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1

James 3:13–4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

Music Selection

“Goodness of God”

St. Paul’s Singers

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Unison Prayer of Confession

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

O God, we live our lives as best we can— dealing with difficult relationships and situations, putting failures and disappointments behind us, and moving into each new day with as much energy, goodwill, and optimism as we can muster. But here, right now, we seldom have the right answers, we seldom seek your higher wisdom in our lives, we just move ahead. Forgive us for not asking for your insight. Fill us with your wisdom, so we may live lives of goodness and peace. Amen.

Music Selection

“Fill Me Up”

St. Paul’s Singers

Words of Assurance

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

When we come before God in humility and honesty, God draws near to us with forgiveness and renewed blessing. Thanks be to God!

Hymn

“O How I Love Jesus”

UMH #170

**Scripture Reading

James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

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

We ask for your wisdom, O God, not the earthly wisdom that we hear and see every day. Let your understanding flow through our lives like a stream, so that we may bear the good fruits of welcome and compassion. Teach us that our true dignity is found in honoring you by serving others. Amen.

Song of Preparation

“Total Praise”

St. Paul’s Singers

Sermon

“How Are You Living? Destiny Is Determined”

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.

Music Selection

“Amazing Grace”

St. Paul’s Singers

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

The writer of Proverbs teaches that God's Wisdom is present and active in our lives in this way: "She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy." Jesus lived this wisdom in his life and called his disciples to this same generosity. Let us give out of this same generous wisdom—a wisdom that seeks a presence and purpose in our lives on behalf of 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 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.

Music Selection

"The Lord Is Blessing Me"

St. Paul's Singers

**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 Love and Mercy, we bring these offerings with grateful hearts, honoring your enduring guidance in our lives. Just as Wisdom works with willing hands and provides for those in need, may these gifts be used to nurture and uplift our community. Inspire us to follow your teachings of kindness and generosity. Transform our contributions into acts of love and justice, spreading your light in the world. May we always give credit to your divine wisdom and grace. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Announcements

Liturgist, Effie Baidoo

Prayer Request

Let us keep Mr. Warren Walker and his family in our prayers following the passing of Mrs. Carol Walker last week. The details for the Celebration of Life service will be announced soon.

A Special Note of Thanks

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Reverend Vernon Kemp, Jacqueline Tringov, Effie Baidoo, Diana Bruno, Brad Goodwin, Abraham Metzger, Cat Russell and Anna Collins for their support during last week's Music Ministry Outreach Bilingual service. We are also most grateful to Pastor Alex Gonzalez, Dilcia Mendez, Misión Evangelica El Buen Pastor Church, and their musicians for joining us in worship as we celebrated the first day of Hispanic Heritage Month.

SENDING FORTH

**Benediction

Pastor Vernon Kemp

L: We are planted by the streams of God's wisdom.

P: We meditate on the desires of God, taking delight in the laws of God.

L: Sink your roots deep into the soil and draw on God's wisdom.

P: For God will nourish us every day with insight.

L: Go forth, knowing that God watches over you.

**Closing Music

"The Blessing"

