Bv bvccc bvcvb ## A close up of flowers

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**July 20, 2025**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Pastor Vernon Kemp**

**Church Leadership**

Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo-Frank

*Bishop in Residence*

Rev. Garth Gilliam

*North District Superintendent*

Rev. Vernon Kemp

*Pastor*

Jacqueline Tringov

*Music Director*

Eloisa Mondragon

*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

**Marianne Crosby**– Team Member

**Evelyn Arnold-McJimpson**– Team Member

**Vacant** - Trustee Chair

***Church Calendar***

**Monday, July 21, 2025**

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers

7:30 p.m. - to 8:30 p.m. AL-Anon

**Tuesday, July 22, 2025**

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Women’s Farsi Al-Anon

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.­ – Pacific Discussions (AA)

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Balance & Mobility Classes

**Wednesday, July 23, 2025**

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 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)

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, July 24, 2025**

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

3:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Thursday AA

**Friday, July 25, 2025**

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, July 26, 2025**

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers

**Sunday, July 27, 2025**

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

Coffee Hour After Service

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

A hand reaching out to a person's head

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A close up of a logo

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**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 Icon

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**For online giving and support, please go to: https://app.tithely.com**

**To donate via Zelle, please use our email,** [**st\_paulschurch@icloud.com**](mailto: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](mailto:V_kemp2000@yahoo.com)

Pastor Vernon’s cell phone: 323-864-5967

***6th Sunday After Pentecost***

Color: Green

July 20, 2025

10:00 a.m.

***Theme Ideas***

*In a world full of noise, distractions, and injustice, God calls us to slow down and refocus. The prophet Amos warns of spiritual famine, not of bread but of hearing the Word of the Lord. In contrast, Luke invites us to sit at Jesus’ feet like Mary, choosing presence over performance. Paul reminds us that Christ is not just part of our faith — He is the center, the image of the invisible God, holding all things together. As we worship today, may we root ourselves in Christ, listen with open hearts, and choose what truly matters.*

***\*\**Indicates to stand if able**

**The United Methodist Hymnal = UMH (Red Book)**

**The Faith We Sing = TFWS (Black Book)**

Prelude Pianist Selection Michelle Mayne-Graves

***I. Invitation and Gathering***

**Gathering Words** Pastor Vernon Kemp

\*\*Processional **“In the Beauty of Holiness”** St. Paul’s Choir

**\*\*Call to Worship**  Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

**L:** Come on in—let's stand strong together in the power of God.  
**P:** We’re putting on God’s armor so we can face whatever comes our way.

**L:** God’s Spirit is here—He’s called us to bring hope, healing, and freedom.  
**P:** We’re here to speak life, lift the broken, and bring good news.

**L:** Jesus came to break chains and bring sight to the blind—He still does that today.  
**P:** We want to be part of what He’s doing—restoring, freeing, healing.

**L:** In Christ, everything is made new. We’re not who we used to be.  
**P:** We are God’s people—His messengers of peace and restoration.

**All Together:** Let’s worship God with open hearts and bold faith!

\*\*Praise Song **“Bless The Lord”** St. Paul’s Choir

**Opening Prayer** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

God, Thank You for bringing us together today. We’re here because we need You—we need Your strength, Your peace, and Your truth. Fill us with Your Spirit. Open our ears to hear You, and our hearts

to respond. Use this time to shape us, challenge us, and refresh us. **We’re ready to meet with You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

*A birthday party schedule with balloons

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Music Selection **“Trust Me”** St. Paul’s Choir

***II. Proclamation and Response***

**Prayer of Intercession**

God of mercy, we lift the broken places in our world—places where people are hurting, scared, hungry, or forgotten. We pray for healing where there’s sickness, peace where there’s conflict, and love where there’s loneliness. Help us be part of the solution. Show us how to serve, how to care, how to love like You do. **In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

**\*\*Prayer of Confession*…(Congregation)*** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

**Lord, We’re sorry for the times we’ve ignored You, gone our own way, or let pride, fear, or anger guide us. We haven’t always lived the way You’ve called us to. Please forgive us. Clean us up, reset our hearts, and help us live in step with You again. Thank You for Your grace. Amen.**

Music Selection **“Worth”** Dr. Kira Taylor

**Words of Assurance** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

Here’s the good news: God isn’t holding your past against you. In Jesus, you are forgiven. You are loved. You are made new. **Let’s walk in that freedom. Amen.**

**Passing of the Peace of Christ** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In the midst of a noisy and divided world, we are invited to be bearers of that peace—rooted in love, grounded in Christ, and open to the Spirit’s leading. As we continue in worship, let us share a sign of God’s peace with one another. Not just a greeting, but a blessing. Not just a handshake, but a reminder that we are united in Christ.

Piano Selection **“Piano Solo”**  Michelle Mayne-Graves

**Invitation to the Word** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

Come now, people of God, and prepare your hearts to hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. In a world filled with noise and endless demands, we often find ourselves distracted—torn between what is urgent and what is truly important. But here, in this sacred time and space, we are given a holy invitation: to pause, to listen, and to receive. The prophet Amos calls us to be attentive—not just to the words of Scripture, but to the cries of the world around us. Psalm 52 reminds us of the steadfast love of God that endures even in the face of injustice. Paul lifts our eyes to Christ—the image of the invisible God, in whom all things hold together. And in Luke’s Gospel, we hear of Mary, who chose to sit at Jesus’ feet

and listen, while Martha was busy with many things. Today, we are invited to be like Mary. To choose the better part. To open our hearts to God’s Word—not just to hear it, but to be transformed by it.

A prayer list with a cross

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So, let us quiet our minds. Let us still our souls. And let us receive the living Word of God with joy and expectancy.

Music Selection **“You Have Called Me Higher”** Deborah Davies

**\*\*Scripture Readings Ephesians 6:10 – 18 & Isaiah 61:1 – 3**  Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

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

**People: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Response to the Word** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli Gracious God, we thank You for the truth of Your Word, spoken through prophets, psalms, letters, and the life of Jesus. May what we have heard today not stay in our ears but move into our hearts and out through our hands. Send us to be doers of the Word—bold in compassion, faithful in justice, and grounded in love.

Song of Preparation **“The Battle is Not Yours”** Michelle Mayne-Graves

**Sermon “To A Don the Uniform of Protection in Amidst of Chaos”** Pastor Vernon Kemp

***III. Thanksgiving and Communion***

**Altar Call/Invitation to Discipleship** Liturgist, Nikkie 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. Lighting a candle is a sacred way to lift a special prayer, remember a loved one, or seek comfort and clarity during difficult times.*

**Invitation to the Offering** Liturgist, Nikkie Alli

Even in times of uncertainty, we are called to give freely—of ourselves, our time, and our gifts. Let us bring our offerings with joy and gratitude, supporting the work of Christ among us.

*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*

Pianist Selection **“Cast All Your Cares”** Michelle Mayne-Graves

\*\*Doxology **“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”** UMH #94

**A paper with lines on it

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*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, Nikkie Alli

Holy and Reconciling God, in Christ, you have made the invisible visible, bringing us home with love beyond measure. As we offer these gifts, may they reflect our gratitude for your presence in our lives. Use them to build your kingdom, to restore what is broken, and to remind the world of your grace. May our giving be an act of thanksgiving, a sign of the ordinary magic of your love at work among us. In all things, may we live to your glory. Amen.

**Announcements**

***Flowers***

Each week, beautiful floral arrangements help bring life and grace to our sanctuary.If you would like to dedicate the Sunday flowers in *honor or memory* of a loved one or simply contribute to the beautification of our worship space, you may do so through the church office.The cost is $60 per arrangement — a meaningful way to celebrate someone special, mark an occasion, or offerthanksgiving, while supporting the church.Please reach out to the office to reserve a date and share your dedication message. Let’s continue to fill our sanctuary with beauty, love, and remembrance.

***Fellowship***

We’re inviting anyone who would like to help host After Service Fellowship after Sunday service to please

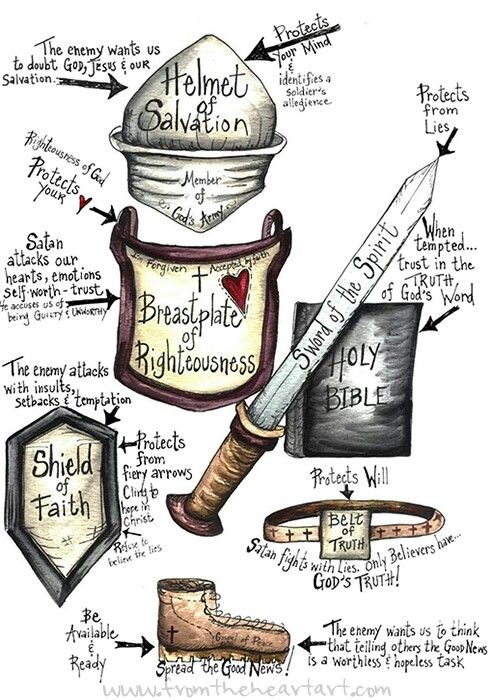
contact Diana Bruno & Jackie Adams asap. We are calendaring for the month of July, and we are seeking invitations of your stewardship for hosting. Whether you’d like to bring snacks, help set up, or just lend a hand in creating a welcoming space—your participation is appreciated!

***Night Market***

Join us for an evening of fun, food, and community at the **Poppin Shops Night Market** hosted right here at **St. Paul’s UMC** on July 19, from 4:00pm – 9:00pm.Come support local vendors, discover handmade goods, enjoy delicious food, and spend a joyful night with friends and neighbors. It’s a wonderful opportunity to celebrate small businesses and connect with our surrounding community.

***Church Directory***

We are excited to share that we are working on creating a **new St. Paul’s Church Directory** to help our church family stay connected and informed. To make this possible, we kindly ask that you **submit your contact information** (name, phone number, email, and address) to the church office **at your earliest convenience**. Deadline to submit information July 31st.

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***Coffee Hour***

Join us after service for **Coffee Hour** on **Sunday, July 27**! This week’s gathering will be graciously hosted by **Kathy Huck and her family**. Come enjoy some fellowship, light refreshments, and a time to connect with one another. We look forward to seeing you there!

***Bible Study***

We’re excited to share that **Bible Study has officially started**! If you’d like to join us, please reach out to the church office for further instructions.Sessions will be held **every Thursday at 6:30 PM via Zoom**, and all study worksheets will be delivered ahead of time so you’re ready to follow along.

Topic: St. Paul's UMC Bible Study

Time: Jul 17, 2025, 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89200849026?pwd=iSPQGiaOoyieh1jZPkiCG6TXuwPtbc.1>

Meeting ID: 892 0084 9026

Passcode: 795882

**Please note:** In-person Bible Study will begin **after July 24**—stay tuned for updates! We look forward to studying and growing in faith together.

***Church Leadership and Management***

We are currently seeking **several committed members and young adults** who feel called to serve as part of our **church leadership and management team**.If you have a heart for ministry and a desire to help guide the vision and operations of our church, we would love to hear from you.

If you're interested or would like to learn more, please reach out to **Pastor Vernon** or **Diana Bruno** as soon as possible.Let us continue to grow together in faith, service, and leadership.

***IV. Sending Forth***

**\*\*Benediction** Pastor Vernon Kemp

For just a moment, take a deep breath. That breath is restorative. It is bringing freshness and relaxation to your life. Go from this place in peace and may God’s peace be in your hearts. AMEN.

**\*\***Pianist Selection St. Paul’s Choir

*Lectionary Scripture Readings*

Ephesians 6:10 – 18

Isaiah 61:1 – 3

Luke 4:18 – 19

2 Corinthians 5: 17 – 19

Romans 12:17 – 21

**A poster with text and armor and sword

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