

Church Calendar

Monday, February 10, 2025

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 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, February 11, 2025

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 5:00 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)

Wednesday, February 12, 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)

Thursday, February 13, 2025

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. – Thursday AA

Friday, February 14, 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, February 15, 2025

9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – El Nido Family Centers
5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – El Nido Children's Night

Sunday, February 16, 2025

10:00 a.m. – In-Sanctuary Service & Live Streaming
12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Sweet Sunday Event

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

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



February 9, 2025

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

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Color: Green
February 9, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Theme Ideas

Quite often, we feel inadequate to answer the call of God. Just as Jesus is about to call Simon Peter as one of his closest followers, Peter exclaims “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man” (Luke 15:8 NRSV). Paul confesses in 1 Corinthians 15: “I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God” (v. 9 NRSV). Similarly, Isaiah cried out to God: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips.” After grace has been given to Isaiah by a seraph, God asks, “Whom shall I send, and who shall go for us?” to which Isaiah responds, “Here I am; send me” (Isa 6:5, 8 NRSV). In this collection of scriptures, we sense that God’s call transcends our past actions and our shame. These texts nudge us to see our calling through the lens of God’s grace.

****Indicates to stand if able**

Prelude “Amazing Grace” Jacqueline Tringov

Invitation and Gathering

Centering Words

In this season of light, God’s grace has been given to strengthen and enlighten us. May our epiphanies and jolts of wisdom lead us to a path free from shame.

**Processional “Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around” St. Paul’s Choir

**Call to Worship Liturgist, Donald Metzger

L: Great is the grace and glory of God.

P: We give thanks with hearts of Joy.

L: Great is the strength and mercy of our creator.

P: We give thanks with heart of hope.

L: Great is the courage and hope of our Lord.

P: We give thanks with hearts of faith.

L: Great is the mercy and compassion of the Holy One.

P: We give thanks with hearts of love.

**Praise Medley “O Give Thanks” St. Paul’s Choir

FEBRUARY Birthdays

2/5 – Diane Jacobs
2/9 – Kathy Kovin-Pacino – Remembrance
2/15– John Fornadley
2/15– Jennifer Fornadley-Haquet
2/20– Alvin Perkins
2/21– Lukman Alli
2/21– Celine Ella
2/21– Maduka Nkuku
2/29– Irma Stom

If we are missing your birthday or anniversary, or you would like us to add someone else’s to the Birthday and/or Anniversaries list, please call 818-708-7068.



In Remembrance of Josephine Ajoke Alli
(March 10, 1933 – February 9, 2020)

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.

“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



Sweet Sunday

Please join us on February 16, after Sunday service for a Coffee Hour. Enjoy some fun and sweets with your church family!

Women's Support Group

Join Us for Empowerment, Encouragement, and Faith-Filled Fellowship!

Whether you're seeking support or looking to offer it, all ladies are welcome to come together in a spirit of unity and sisterhood. On February 23rd and March 30th, we invite you to share your perspectives and experiences as we build a loving, supportive community grounded in our shared faith in Christ. Each meeting will be an opportunity to connect, encourage one another, and grow in our faith journey together.

Bible Study 2025

If you are interested in joining Bible Study, we warmly invite you to reach out to our office at (818) 708-7068 to share your preferred time and date for this blessed opportunity. Our Sign-up period will start January 26 and end February 15.

Once we've gathered everyone's availability, we will announce the official schedule so you can join us at a time that works for you. Let us come together in faith and fellowship to deepen our understanding of God's Word.

We look forward to walking this spiritual journey with you!

Sending Forth

****Benediction**

Pastor Vernon Kemp

Fellow children of God: Go forth, recognizing God's grace on your journey. Go forth, discerning the Spirit's calling in your life. Go forth, identifying Christ as your guide. In this season of light, experience the steadfast love of God and sing the ways of our merciful Creator. Amen.

****Closing Song**

"This Little Light of Mine"

St. Paul's Choir

Lectionary Scripture Readings

Isaiah 6:1 – 8 (9 – 13)

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 15:1 – 11

Luke 5:1 – 11

Opening Prayer

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Divine Deliverer of compassion, you call us to follow your voice. "Whom shall I send?" you asked us. With hearts of hope and souls filled with courage, we respond, "Here I am. Send me." You evaporate our shame and joyously embrace our authentic selves. May we continue to open ourselves to you, and may we embrace our full humanity as you do. Amen.

****Hymn**

"Blessed Assurance"

UMH #36

Proclamation and Response

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Too often, we have clung to thoughts that we are too sinful for you. Too often, we have fused our shameful pasts with a closed future. From these beliefs, we condemn ourselves to an outlook without hope. "Go away from me!" we exclaim like Peter. "I am way too lost," we think like Isaiah. But you have something different in mind. You see us as so much more. You see our divine image, and our creator-bestowed gifts. Save us from our negative self-talk, that we may embrace your calling for our lives. *...time of silent prayer... Amen!*

Music Selection

"The Battle Is The Lord's"

St. Paul's Choir

Words of Assurance

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

The grace of God has molded us throughout our lives and will continue to do so until our final breath. God's grace is never in vain. Even as God embraces our past, God moves us into the future—a future filled with hope, and the fulfillment of dreams.

Passing of the Peace of Christ

Behold the children of God surrounding you. Through your words and your smiles, acknowledge the spark of the divine within them. See the presence of Christ in the faces of your neighbors, affirming that we are all treasured children of God. Turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of God.

Music Selection

"This is the Day"

St. Paul's Choir

Invitation to the Word

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Beloved Children of God, come and receive the good news that we can all embrace and live by. It is His word. Let us gather and listen quietly so we can all hear it.

****Scripture Readings**

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Luke 9:1 – 2, Luke 10:1, Luke 10:17 & 19, John 14:12, Matthew 8:23 - 24

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

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response to the Word

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Where might God be calling you?

Are you sure God is calling me?

Find the grace that accompanies God's call.

With God's grace, we will journey together.

Do not allow your past to stop you.

God's mercy will pave the way to the future.

Music Selection

“Goodness of God”

St. Paul's Choir

Song of Preparation

“The Anointing”

St. Paul's Choir

Sermon

“Why Are You Crying Out To Me?”

Pastor Kathy Huck

Altar Call/Invitation to Discipleship

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

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.

In Remembrance of Josephine Ajoke Alli (March 10, 1933 – February 9, 2020)

She has shown us that one of the best strategies for living life well is found in Proverbs 3:6: “Seek His will in all you do, and He will show you which path to take.” God knows every possible path laid out before you. He knows where each decision will take you. He knows the routes that will lead to fulfillment, joy, growth, and maturity. And He knows the dead-ends.

If you trust in Him and ask Him to guide you according to His will, He will help you make the most of your brief time in this world.

A life is short. Live it well. Life is short—live it well, as Josephine Ajoke Alli would tell us today, on this day of reflection and in remembrance of the legacy she left. She lived well, like the sunshine you see when her smile lights up the room. As the light flickers, you see the path she took. Her breath was like the breath of life, a remembrance of joy and love—a living spirit, a smile of God, reflecting her likeness upon each of us here today. Therefore, I wear white today to celebrate her life.

Her legacy, her love, is and was pure because it came from her heart, with the grace of God living within her spirit, a spirit she shared with all of us. A life of reflection, a life of direction, a life of inception.

Pastor Vernon

Music Selection

“Total Praise”

St. Paul's Choir

Invitation to the Offering

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

The Divine Deliverer of compassion and care is calling us to serve, and to share our talents and treasures for the good of God's realm. No matter how we have fallen short in the past, God's grace assures us a variety of gifts to contribute. How is God calling us to share today?

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

“Just Want to Praise You”

St. Paul's Choir

**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!”

****Offering Prayer**

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

Loving God, Deliverer of compassion, you call us to share our treasures and talents, and the work of our hands. With hearts filled with hope, we praise you for our bounty. Forever shall we sing of your generous ways, Holy One. **Amen**

Announcements

Liturgist, Donald Metzger

An Invitation from The Ali Family

The Ali family warmly invites you to join them for refreshments after today's service. In the spirit of community and gratitude, please come together with us in the garden to share in this time of fellowship. If the weather doesn't permit, we will gather in Cappleman Hall, where we can continue to celebrate in warmth and unity. May we all be blessed as we come together in the love and grace of the Lord.