

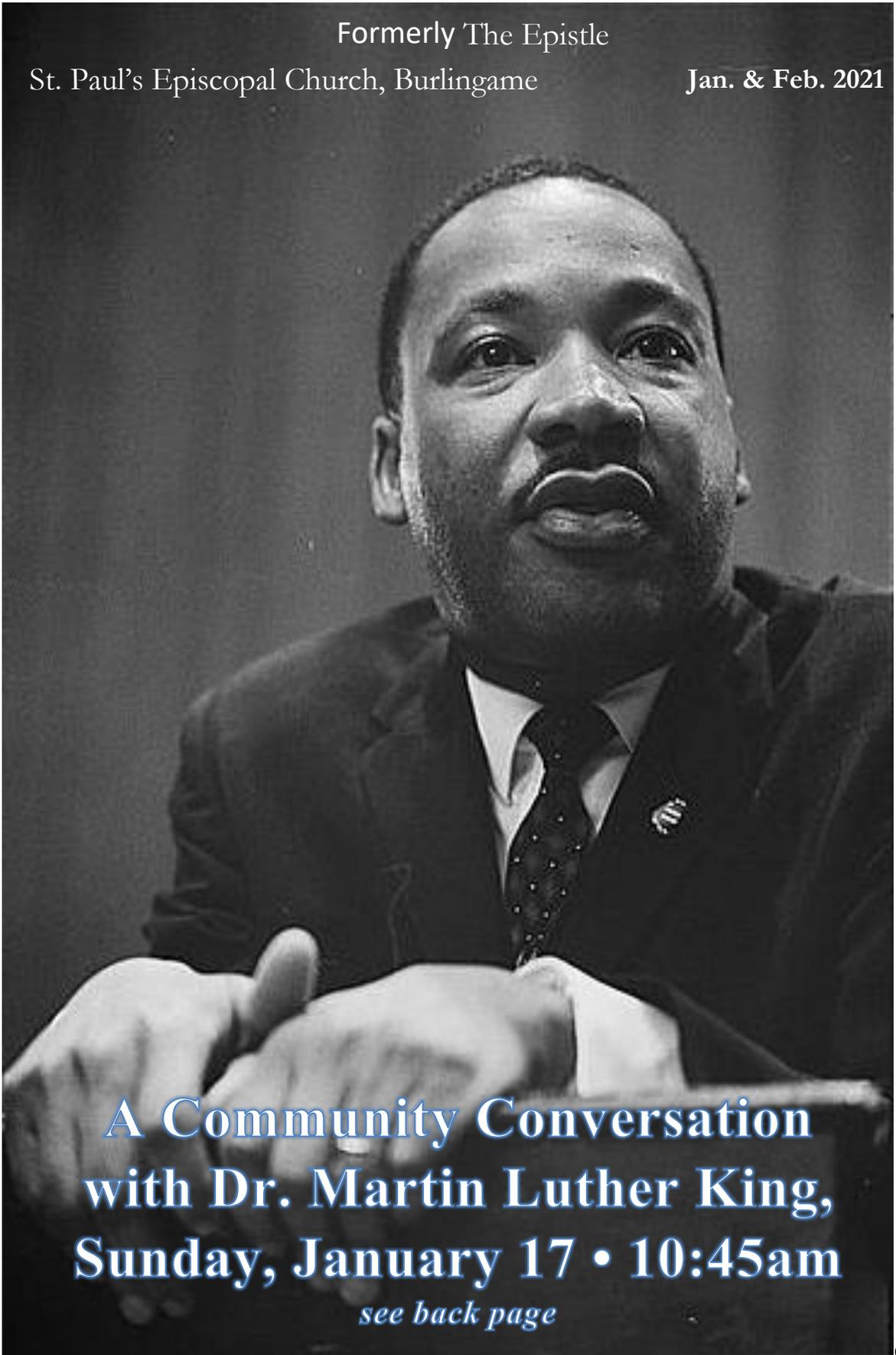


# ON THE PATH

Formerly The Epistle

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

Jan. & Feb. 2021



**A Community Conversation  
with Dr. Martin Luther King,  
Sunday, January 17 • 10:45am**

*see back page*

## Gratitude and Hope

While most of us are glad to bid the pain and chaos of 2020 farewell, there are things that we can be deeply grateful for as a parish community.

- 1) Participation remains strong. Though we have been living in real community through electronic means for over eight months, our St. Paul's community continues to gather for worship, prayer, learning, support and ministry. We have both missed connecting in person, and found out that meeting online can be enriching and graceful. And, more people than ever are involved in leading parts of the service.

Our weekly service gets about 130 views. At Christmas we had 515 views of our service, and 318 for the pageant. We can't tell how many people that represents, but we know many view the services as couples or families. In the new year we will continue to offer engaging worship, and when regathering in person becomes safe again, video access to worship will continue.

Each month more than 70 people gather for learning and prayer. These opportunities include Bible study, Enneagram for Christian growth, Racial justice, a weekly prayer service for the world, night prayer and more. The Choir School continues to offer preparation and learning for our young singers each week.

In the new year, we will continue to connect in ways that enrich our souls.

- 2) Last spring, when the George Floyd killing jolted the nation, our church committed to a process of learning and prayer about ways that St. Paul's could be active in making the Beloved Community a reality. Learning groups throughout the parish have been engaged in gaining a greater understanding of the ways racism functions in society. In the new year we will invite even more people to be a part of the process of this learning. Informed by our ongoing learning, our parish will discern ways to respond in healing and reconciling ways to places in our church and in society that are still broken.
- 3) This past year saw an outpouring of generosity for those in need. Through our partnership with Samaritan House we have provided backpacks for students, coats and gift cards at Christmas, and have provided lunches for Samaritan House workers twice per month. Though we cannot house Home & Hope guests, our team still provides meals during our scheduled week. We participated in a gift cards give away with the City of Burlingame. Through your generosity a new home was constructed for a family in Tijuana. In the new year, needs may be even greater. Our parish will continue to

find ways to respond to the emerging needs of our community.

What have we learned?:

- We can feel connected online, maybe more connected in some ways in terms of opportunities to engage. And these connections can be meaningful and grounding. Gathering in person is in some ways limiting: time wise, emotionally. Online has also allowed us to include people who are at a distance.
- People are hungry to engage the brokenness of the world, as shown by our conversations on racism. People are hungry to engage in prayer and learning in ways to matter. Perhaps this time of less distraction has created some space.
- Generosity continues to flow, and perhaps in an increased way. People want to contribute to compassionate causes. Again, things that matter.
- Our commitment to turn outward and go deeper has been surprisingly achieved, though in ways that we perhaps could not have imagined a year ago, offering a new vitality for many.

*(continued on page 3)*

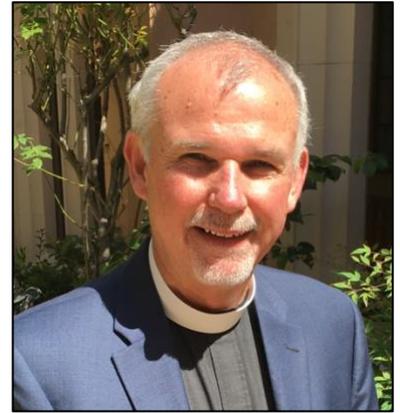
## FROM THE DESK OF THE RECTOR (cont'd)

As our parish community slowly emerges from this pandemic, there is no doubt some things will not be the same. I believe working from gratitude, and learning from our journey on the path this past year, we will emerge with new strengths and new ways to witness to the light of Christ in the world.

In the meantime we continue on the slow path toward a new life. May we find ways to truly be with one another as we patiently wait and watch together.

Peace,

Thomas



## MLK JR DAY of Service Reimagined

Monday, January 18, 2021 • 8:30am

<http://pmcmlk2021.eventbrite.com/>

As in past years, St. Paul's is proud to support the Peninsula Multifaith Coalition on Martin Luther King, Jr Day of Service. Due to COVID-19, this year's Day of Service is being thoughtfully reimagined. Projects have been developed so some can be prepared at home, in addition to those that can be safely done in person. The day begins at 8:30am with an opening ceremony on Zoom featuring: Congresswoman Jackie Speier and Rev. Lorrie

Owens, president of San Mateo NAACP, speaking about the importance of celebrating Dr. King in 2021. Following the ceremony, volunteers will break into groups to work together (online or in-person) on various projects that benefit our local community. Some community projects are participating in a book or magazine drive, card making for senior centers, face masks, fleece blankets, knitting project, lunches for Safe Harbor, Mercy Center

clean-up projects, paracord bracelets and sandwich making. New this year, is an alternative educational project featuring a reading of "Letter from Birmingham Jail," written by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Most projects will start at 10am and end by noon. Just go to <http://pmcmlk2021.eventbrite.com/> to learn more details about each of the projects and to sign up.

## Tea 'N' Talk Plans a "Look Back in Time"

Tea 'n Talk has met the challenge of sheltering-in-place with some fun and nourishing deliveries and quick chats since March as well as some Zoom treats as almost all of our guests were able to gather with us online and enjoy some special programs and opportunity to share time together in addition to learn about what's happening around St. Paul's.

We have more in store for 2021 and are ready to adapt as needed. To kick off the year, we're planning a "look back in time" at a special part of San Francisco that

we're confident that all have enjoyed over the years. Look for more details in a forthcoming invitation from us to those on our Tea 'n Talk mailing list. If you'd like to receive an invitation, please email

[info@stpaulsburlinagme.org](mailto:info@stpaulsburlinagme.org).

St. Paul's Tea 'n Talk Team

Tea 'n Talk Team members get Christmas deliveries ready for masked drop offs for TNT guests.



# Learning and Soul Work in Epiphany

## Watch & Pray

Storytelling through film has a way of capturing our attention in a renewed and refreshed way. Our film series will feature a recent film that holds promise for a faithful and prayerful conversation. The chosen films will explore how centralizing personhood ultimately leads us to right relationship with one another.

Three steps:

1. Watch, read, or listen to a common text
2. Pray with and study it yourself
3. Join a conversation

Learn from the movies below and join a conversation on the listed Monday dates at 7:30pm on Zoom. Meeting ID: 503 656.8822.

**January 25:** Selma, A chronicle of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965. 128 minutes.

**February 22:** Harriet, Based on the thrilling and inspirational life of an iconic American freedom fighter, Harriet tells the extraordinary tale of Harriet Tubman's escape from slavery and transformation into one of America's greatest heroes. Her

courage, ingenuity, and tenacity freed hundreds of slaves and changed the course of history. 126 minutes.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Jocelyn A. Sideco, pastoral associate at [jsideco@stpaulsburlingame.org](mailto:jsideco@stpaulsburlingame.org).



## On Sacred Ground: Dialogue Circles for Racial Healing and Justice A new dialogue circle is forming in February!

*A film and reading based journey for those seeking to increase compassion and understanding about race. Ten sessions meeting every other week beginning the week of February 1. Meeting times will be determined when group is formed.*

St. Paul's first Sacred Ground dialogue circle is well under way. Participants have been deeply moved by our time together and the surprising deepening of our understanding around issues of race in our country. We have found that each session opens our eyes in new ways that are both challenging and at the same time we find witnesses to hope.

In these extraordinary times of a cultural awakening to the effects of race and racism in our culture, you're invited to expansive conversations of learning about race. Rich documentaries and reading materials

and conversations will help each participant expand their understanding and compassion for others, and help them discern what action they can take to be a healing presence in the world.

“But the end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the beloved community.” ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

*From the Sacred Ground program guide*

The vast majority of white Americans have sworn intentional racism. The challenge is to look at how good, well-intentioned people still can have unconscious habits of mind and emotion that reproduce bias, can have systemic advantages in terms of life prospects that others don't have, and can be looking the other way as harms are reproduced.

### What is a Sacred Ground dialogue circle like?

In preparation for each meeting participants watch films and read short articles around a particular area of racial history and justice. This preparation takes about two hours over the two week intervals, and you can watch the videos on your own device at home.

You can sign up on our website [StPaulsBurlingame.org](http://StPaulsBurlingame.org) under the Grow tab, scroll down to On Sacred Ground: Dialogue Circles for Racial Healing and Justice. It will be on the right-hand side.

If you have questions contact The Rev. Thomas Skillings by emailing [revtskillings@gmail.com](mailto:revtskillings@gmail.com) or Jocelyn Sideco at [jsideco@StPaulsBurlingame.org](mailto:jsideco@StPaulsBurlingame.org) for more information.



## Prayer Vigil for Healing & Systemic Racism for the World Continues Wednesdays • 4:30pm

*“Let us seek wisdom to know our calling to bring healing, to bring peace, to bring justice. This we ask through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.”*

– Thanksgiving prayer

In April after we were shut down by the pandemic of COVID-19, the Healing Ministries Team began a Healing Prayer service every Wednesday at 4:30pm, a vigil for the healing of our world. At first we thought this was temporary, only needed a few weeks, okay months, but to date it continues.

We began praying for the healing of the COVID-19 virus and its effects,

then in late May after the murder of George Floyd by the Minneapolis Police, the prayer vigil for healing added the second pandemic that was revealed in this tragedy — the systemic racism in the fabric of our society. We pray for every African American who has been killed by police by name. Then we prayed for the terrible fires of August and September. We prayed for our election and the healing of our national divide.

Every Wednesday at 4:30pm people show up to keep the prayer going, even during the summer vacations. And yes, even during Christmas

holidays. And all of us who gather to pray for that 15-minutes, sometimes 20 depending on how much needs to be named, receives the power of the Holy Spirit. We ourselves are healed from the day’s burdens and heartaches and are able to continue on with our week.

The Vigil is open to everyone. Not only St. Paul’s members need to keep the vigil for the healing of our world. ALL ARE WELCOME! Join us Wednesdays, 4:30pm, <https://zoom.us/j/99471513814> or by calling 669-900-9128 Meeting ID: 994 7151 3814 Passcode: 024222

**2021 Pledge Update: Thank you to the 150 households who have made a pledge commitment to support St. Paul's Operating Budget for 2021. As of January 1, 2021, 149 households have pledged or given \$ 548,911. We are 96% toward our dollar goal for 2021. If your household has not pledged yet, there is still time — go to [www.stpaulsburlingame.org/support](http://www.stpaulsburlingame.org/support) to make a pledge.**

Raymond & Suzanne Abold  
Peter & Bonnie Adams  
Rob Adams & Beth Beisecker

Nicholas & Amy Akers  
John & Brigitte Anderson  
Margaret Aubry

Wade & Suzanne Aubry  
Rob & Paige Austin

William Bakun  
John & Marty Beater

Serina Beauparlant & Lisa Rehman  
Jake & Sandy Blair

Chip & Kristi Blundell  
Tom & Cyndy Bodenlos

Betsy Bogel  
Leslee McLennan Bonino

Lisa & John Borgeson  
Michele Bosschart

David & Kim Bottoms  
Karl & Tom Breice

Lynn Bruce  
Jim & Tish Busselle

Vic & Gayle Carboni  
Anne Casscells & Susan Ketcham

June Castelli  
Mo & Janet Cheston

Jeffrey & Joan Cleary  
Sarah Coleman

Bryce Dakin  
Cara Bakun Dakin

Richard & Barbara Dedo  
Brian & Kathleen Douglas

Jeff Turnbaugh & Elizabeth Duff  
Bob & Penny Edwards

Peter & Cynthia Ehrhorn  
Tim & JJ Elliott

Chip & Kay Filak  
Mary Flesher

Rosemary Fordwood

Reese & Sally Foster  
Raul & Sandy Galindo  
Laura Gardner

Peter & Joanne Garrison  
David Gasca & Tanya Khakbaz  
Robert Ghoorah & Sarah Solum

Ron Goerss & Edith Foothorap  
Tim & Cheryl Graczewski

Keith Gray  
Steven & Susan Group

Cisca Hansen  
Dean & Lynn Harman

Mark & JoAnn Hartley  
Ruth Haynes

Jack & Nina Herndon  
Tim & Sara Heston

Bev Hock  
Steven & Betsy Holquist

Robert & Carolyn Hutter  
Candice James

Jay Janton & Gayle Miller-Janton  
Simon Jones & Julia McMillan-Jones

Steve & Dolores Kessler  
Michael Kimball

Craig & Anne Klemp  
Sue Knight

Pat Ko  
Brad & Amy Koch

Kim Koivisto & John Gier  
Nick Kolatkar & Jennifer Minihan

Phil & Jenny Kuhn  
Norma Ladvienka

Doug & Amanda Laidlaw  
Ben Lambert

Jenny Lau  
Steve & Janet Laurie

Chris & Dee Leach  
Phil & Jill Lighty

Steve & Vanessa Lo

*continued*

*John Lockton  
Becky Loewy  
David Long & Rue Richey  
Guy & Anne Longworth  
Mia & Mark Malhotra  
Jay & Sarah Maloney  
Dan March  
Walt & Jean Marcus  
Jack & Kathy Martin  
James & Candace Martin  
Susan Matthews  
Donna McCartney  
Karen McCormick  
Linda McLaughlin  
Mark & Sandy Moore  
Carolyn Mulliken  
Donald & Dawn Mulliken  
Sherrick & Allison Murdoff  
Penny Newall  
Gail & Artem Nezvigin  
Robert Niehuser & Anne Purcell  
Donald & Chris Parrish  
Fusi Pauli  
Bob & Ellen Peck  
Nick & Virginia Pegley  
William Phillips & Jill Hopkins-Phillips  
Stephen & Hope Pilch  
Sherry Plambeck  
Gerard & Mary Page Platerink  
Roger & Rosemary Posch  
Tom & Margi Power  
Scott Power & Anita van Kimmenade  
Jeff & Kristen Ramseyer  
Gordon & Alexandra Readey  
Siggy & Chris Roesch*

*Molly Schembri  
Dean Scholl & Marian Chin  
Elizabeth Sennett  
Peter & Cindy Shanholt  
George Simon  
Jackie Simoncini  
Carlos Siqueiros & Nivanka Paranaivitana  
Thomas Skillings & Julie Graham  
Leslie Smith  
Denora & Andy Smith  
Douglas & Judith Sobolik  
Jessica Sobolik Willey  
Jim Steichen  
Bill and Judy Steul  
John & Katie Storey  
Raju & Alexandra Subramanian  
Suzanne Sullivan  
Andrew & Taryn Sutton  
Bill & Mary Swing  
Fifi Taumoepeau  
Polly Taylor  
Miriam Thacker  
Bob & Cariad Thronson  
Roger & BeBe Trinkner  
Ted & Jen Ulllyot  
Bryan & Andrea VanderLugt  
Silvana Vincon  
Charles & Chris Warden  
Sara Weaver & Peter Galvin  
Kimberly Wickam  
Karl & Sarah Wiley  
Matt & Linda Willey  
Jeff & Katharine Wilson  
Brad & Julie Wilson  
Natalie & Terry Wu  
Leo Yu*

If anyone has been inadvertently omitted, please accept our deepest apologies and contact our Treasurer at [info@stpaulsburlingame.org](mailto:info@stpaulsburlingame.org).

# ON THE PATH

Volume II • Issue 1

## COVER

Martin Luther King, Jr. photographed by Marion S. Trikosko, 1964. LC-DIG-ppmsc-01269 Source: Library of Congress

A Community Conversation with Martin Luther King, Jr., Sunday, January 17 at 10:45am – see back page

<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Page</b>	<b>Ministries (cont'd)</b>	<b>Page</b>
From the Desk of the Rector	<a href="#">2</a>	JOIN THE CHOIR SCHOOL IN 2021	<a href="#">2</a>
MLK JR DAY of Service Reimagined	<a href="#">3</a>	The Circle Continues to Meet Virtually	<a href="#">2</a>
Tea 'n Talk Plans a "Look Back in Time"	<a href="#">3</a>	The Welcome Ministry Team On the Path	<a href="#">12</a>
<i>Learning and Soul Work in Epiphany</i>		The Campaign to Fund the Roof Replacements is Underway	<a href="#">13</a>
Watch & Pray	<a href="#">4</a>	Thank You to All Who Created & Served in the Christmas Online Services	<a href="#">13</a>
On Sacred Ground: Dialogue Circles for Racial Healing and Justice	<a href="#">4</a>	Thanksgiving for a Christmas Like No Other	<a href="#">14</a>
Prayer Vigil for Healing & Systemic Racism for the World Continues	<a href="#">5</a>	Closing out St. Paul's Giving Tree 2020	<a href="#">14</a>
		THANK YOU! from Susan Jane Matthews, Director of Music	<a href="#">15</a>
<b>Features</b>	<b>Page</b>		
Pledge donors	<a href="#">6</a>		
A GREAT HOST OF BLACK WOMEN COMPOSERS	<a href="#">10</a>		

## JOIN THE CHOIR SCHOOL IN 2021

Anchored in the Royal School of Church Music (RSCM) training program, the Choir School continues robust online offerings in January 2021 for grades K - 12, including both small group rehearsals and individual sessions with the director.

In the Winter and Spring of 2021, we will be preparing for two very special recording opportunities:

1. Choir School Concert ~  
March 6  
The Fleeting Year, A Musical Calendar
2. Compline for the RSCM National Virtual Summer Training Course ~ July 15

Hosted by Duke University and National Cathedral

The youth of the Choir School will continue to perform virtually with the full Choir of St. Paul's and, carefully following current safety guidelines, record in small groups in the beautiful nave of St. Paul's. We look forward to a July 2022 residency at Wells Cathedral, England.

Contact Director of Music, Dr. Susan Jane Matthews at [smatthews@stpaulsburlingame.org](mailto:smatthews@stpaulsburlingame.org) for more information and for an online audition. Details at [www.stpaulsburlingame.org/choirschool](http://www.stpaulsburlingame.org/choirschool). Need-based tuition scholarships are available. Membership at St. Paul's is not required.

Rehearsals resume online on Tuesday, January 12, 2021.



## The Circle Continues to Meet Virtually

Charlotte continues to host Circle Zoom gatherings on Fridays, 10:30am. Here's the new 2021 Zoom information:

**Meeting ID:** 963 9278 7157

**Passcode:** 162184

**Call in by phone:** (669) 900 - 6833

Thank you to all members and friends who have inquired about Rummage donations. We remain unable to accept these donations until further notice.

Stay, Safe & Healthy  
Happy New Year!

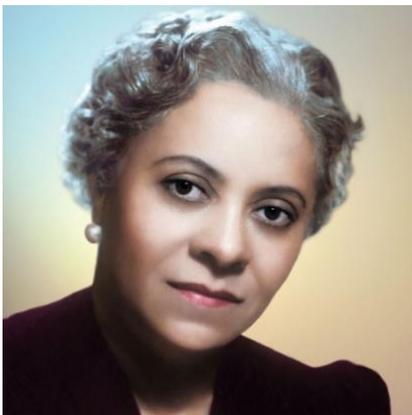
The Ladies of The Circle

## A GREAT HOST OF BLACK WOMEN COMPOSERS

By Susan Jane Matthews  
Director of Music

As we continue to highlight the music of women composers at St. Paul's, it has been a blessing to research and enrich our repertoire with the music of several black women. You may **listen** to the video recordings we make of their music in the YouTube playlist "A Great Host of Black Composers" at [www.youtube.com/SusanJaneMatthews](http://www.youtube.com/SusanJaneMatthews) or look for the link on St. Paul's website. Here is an introduction to four of these women who persisted to share their song.

### Florence Price (1887-1953)



Florence Price is regarded as America's first significant black woman composer. The premiere of her *Symphony in E minor* by the Chicago Symphony in 1933 marked the first performance of a large-scale work by a black woman by a major American orchestra. She received her first musical training from her mother, gave a first public recital at age 4, and at age 11 sold a composition to a publisher. She studied at the New England Conservatory earning diplomas in both organ and piano.

She composed over 300 works, was sought after as a teacher, and worked both as a church organist and as a theater organist.

In the Fall, I recorded the *Toccata* of her *Suite No. 1 for Organ*, a favorite of Price's *oeuvre* of twenty organ works and a testimony to her own organ technique and improvisations as a theater organist. I am now preparing to record the final movements of her *Variations on a Folksong* and her *First Sonata for Organ*. The former will appear in the January 17<sup>th</sup> service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend that includes a choral arrangement of the spiritual *Peter, go ring them bells* by the English baritone Roderick Williams (b. 1965), the "folksong" that Price quotes. The latter is for the postlude on the Last Sunday after the Epiphany, February 14, 2021. In 1904, Florence Price was selected to play Alexandre Guilmant's *Sonata No. 1 in d minor* for a student recital at New England Conservatory for the visit of this esteemed French organist and composer. Guilmant in turn publicly expressed his congratulations on Price's accomplished performance. Composed in 1927, Florence Price's *First Sonata* clearly is a tribute to Guilmant as she modeled the work after his own *First Sonata*.

Read more about Florence Price in: *The Heart of a Woman, The Life and Music of Florence B. Price*. Rae Linda Brown, University of Illinois Press, 2020.

### Undine Smith Moore (1904-1989)



The granddaughter of slaves, Undine Smith Moore persisted through many obstacles of life in 20<sup>th</sup>-century United States in her pursuit of a vocation as a musician to become known as the "Dean of Black Women Composers." Undine studied at Fisk and Columbia University, and taught at Virginia State University and Carleton College. She delivered the keynote address at the first National Congress on Women in Music at New York University in March 1981. While she composed over 100 works, including spiritual arrangements, art songs, chamber music and major works for choir and orchestra, only 26 were published during her lifetime. Undine Smith Moore was an accomplished classical pianist and improviser, these talents reflected in her compositional style.

St. Paul's *oeuvre* is overflowing with the music of Undine Smith Moore: *Come down, Angels; Is there anybody here that loves my Jesus?; We shall walk through the valley of peace; Daniel, Daniel, Servant of the Lord; Bound for Canaan's Land; I believe this is Jesus; Christmas Alleluia; and Variations on Nettleton*.

(continued on page 11)

## A GREAT HOST OF BLACK WOMEN COMPOSERS (CONT'D)

On March 12, 2020, a quintet from the choir recorded her *We shall walk through the valley of peace* in St. Paul's, what was to become the last choral work sung from St. Paul's until recording with small choral ensembles resumed over five months later on August 27, 2020.

### Margaret Bonds (1913-1972)



Chicago composer Margaret Bonds studied at Northwestern University and with composers Florence Price and William Dawson. (Dawson's many well-known spiritual arrangements include *There is a balm*, *Ain't that good news*, *Ezekiel saw de wheel*.) Margaret Bonds was the first black person to be a soloist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Her compositions reflect her brilliance at the piano as a concert artist and improviser. St. Paul's

recordings of the music of Margaret Bonds include: *Troubled Water for piano*; *He's got the whole world*; and *You can tell the world*.

Read more about Undine Smith Moore and Margaret Bonds in: *From Spirituals to Symphonies, African-American Women Composers and their Music*. Helen Walker-Hill, University of Illinois Press, 2007.

### Melanie DeMore (b. 1955)



Born in the Bronx, raised in Anchorage, and after some time living in Texas and New Mexico, Melanie DeMore came to Oakland, California where she has found a home from which to tell the world of her exuberance for her vocation as a vocal activist. She worked at the St. Paul's Episcopal School in Oakland for 21 years, and now focuses on performing, composing, and giving choral workshops throughout the

country, from *Stick Pounding* and *Sound Awareness* to *Full Body Forward* and *From the Page to the Stage*. You may learn more about Melanie DeMore at [www.melaniemore.com](http://www.melaniemore.com) (composer website); [www.conversations.org/story.php?sid=319](http://www.conversations.org/story.php?sid=319) (interview by St. Paul's School, Oakland); [www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQlg-UomM8k](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQlg-UomM8k) (brief documentary on the art of stick pounding).

I discovered Melanie DeMore through a colleague in England, Louise Stewart, who has published Melane DeMore's *Blessed Be!* in the third volume of her *Multitude of Voices Anthology of Sacred Music by Women Composers*. To the best of my knowledge this work has not been recorded yet. The Choir of St. Paul's is preparing to virtually delight you with Melane DeMore's *Blessed Be!* for choir and walking stick for the online service on February 7.

*Blessed be! Blest be the Living Tree that grows within you and me.*

*Steady and true, Rooted in love. Shelter and peace below and above.*

*Sing to the sky, Rise from the earth. Seasons come round again, Death to rebirth.*



# BLESS OUR SAINTS!

Worship Online at  
[www.StPaulsBurlingame.org](http://www.StPaulsBurlingame.org)

HOPE - FAITH - SERVICE



## The Welcome Ministry Team On the Path

*Empowering St. Paul's to ring out the Good News of the Light of the Christ which pierces even the deepest darkness through finding ways to Invite, Welcome and Connect in a Good New relationship.*

We hope you have noticed the banners on El Camino Real — which offered the joy and comfort of Christmas while inviting people to our online worship and ministries. If not, take a look below.

The picture above is a preview of what this month's banner.

The team is committed to offering comfort and joy with words and images to our community during these stressful times.

The Welcome Ministry is always at work to find ways to Invite, Welcome and Connect us and anyone seeking some spiritual “food” and friends.

Who is on this ministry team? **YOU!** All of us who are called to Invite, Welcome and Connect anyone and everyone to the hope and love of God.

**Invite** people to view the service and send them links to:

- The 8:45am Sunday Zoom Coffee chat
- The 12:30 Sunday Bible Study
- The Tuesday Teens

- The Monday Women's Bible Study at 1pm
- The Wednesday Healing Prayer Vigil at 4:30pm
- The Sandwich making for Samaritan House workers on Tuesday and Thursdays

**Welcome** people by listening to them about their own story and what they are seeking. Yep, this might mean more social zooming — or stopping while you're taking your garbage out. **Connect** people — send them the links to all these ways we gather together. Or have a second conversation. **Meet** a friend for a socially distanced chat on our church grounds. **Remember** our church campus is open 24 hours a day seven days a week with the Parking Lot Labyrinth, Prayer stones in the Columbarium and a Free Little Library book exchange in front of the Parish House.



The holiday banners that were posted in front of St. Paul's.

## The Campaign to Fund the Roof Replacements is Underway — Can You Help?

As reported in late 2019 and early 2020 by the Property Committee in several articles in The Epistle, several of St. Paul's roofs had exceeded their life expectancy by many years and were beginning to fail. You may recall last fall/winter that the walkway on the south side of the Parish Hall had to be closed due to some slate tiles coming loose and falling to the ground. After much deliberation by the Property Committee and the Vestry, the decision was made to replace the roofs that were in need of replacing for both safety reasons and to protect the buildings themselves now and for future generations.

The biggest part of the roof replacement project headed by

Ron Goerss, was the replacement of the tile roof over the Parish Hall.

While we've been away from St. Paul's the roof work was completed for \$275,000 which the Vestry borrowed from other Restricted Funds on St. Paul's balance sheet. Thanks to an initial gift by the van Oppen family in thanksgiving for their time at St. Paul's and in honor of Ann van Oppen who died in 2019, the Roof Repair Fund was kicked off and has been growing thanks to donations from several St. Paul's families for whom we are very grateful for helping to get the Roof Fund launched.

We have about \$50,000 left to raise to ensure that the roof

replacement/repairs are paid in full. St. Paul's community is so generous — if you can help, please send a check to St. Paul's Roof Fund, 415 El Camino Real, Burlingame 94010.

Our goal with everyone's help is to close the Roof Campaign by the beginning of March at which time all of the contributors will be recognized. A contribution of any amount is welcome as is a commitment of a future gift.

For more information about the Roof Campaign, please contact either of us who as Vestry members took this challenge on.

Treasurer

[info@stpaulsburlingame.org](mailto:info@stpaulsburlingame.org)

## Thank You to All Who Created & Served in the Christmas Online Services

What a wonderful and moving worship we had with our filmed Christmas Pageant worship service.

Please reach out with your thanks to the Cast and Crew

### CREW

**Director:** Kate Luedtke

**Assistant Director:**

Jane Palladino

**Sound:** Grace Ghoorah

**Camera:** Johnny Willey

**Video Editing:** Kate Luedtke,

Jocelyn A. Sideco

**Costumes:** Ella Giere, Grace Ghoorah, and Jessica Sobolik Willey

### ACTORS

**Narrator:** Olivia Long

**Child:** Lexie Long

**Angel Gabriel:** Cynthia Thacker

**Mary:** Dylan Ghoorah

**Joseph:** Ronin Thacker

**Elizabeth:** Claire Heston

**Zechariah:** Alex Faavae

**Shepherds:** Connor Heston, Miles Maloney, Owen Maloney, Henry Maloney, Nathan Faavae, Ariel Faave

**Angels** Lauren Maloney and Darcie Maloney

**Baby Jesus:** Fiona Flor, A'nali Sideco, & Sophia Anne Valentino

You did a wonderful job. You all gave the best Christmas gift you could give.

Yes, I encourage us all to send out notes of "hugs and thanks" to these young people!

xoxoxoxo

– The Rev. Julie Graham





## Thanksgiving for a Christmas Like No Other

For the first time in the history of St. Paul's there was no Christmas service at 415 El Camino Real. Instead hundreds of people celebrated in their own homes online. Deep thanks for those who worked so hard to bring our community together virtually for Christmas. For all who participated in the recorded services. For those who sent cards and delivered candles. For the singers and musicians who brought such joy. For pageant creators and actors. For the Altar Guild who created a beautiful

space for recording in our church. For our clergy and staff, and especially for our budding technical ministers, Jocelyn Sideco who stitched all the music together and Elizabeth Kimble for crafting the music videos.

I have heard so many words of gratitude for the opportunity to celebrate Christmas in such a lovely and rich way. And so to all of you: Thank you!

~Thomas



## Closing out St. Paul's Giving Tree 2020

**You may have seen this math problem in the last few weeks: "What does 177 + 266 equal at St. Paul's? Did you figure it out? If not 177+266 equaled 443 moments of Christmas joy for those families who are struggling in San Mateo County. Yes, St. Paul's Giving Tree (with a twist in 2020 to protect the safety of everyone including Samaritan House's clients) resulted in an unbelievable 266 Target gift cards and 177 new jackets for children**

and teens. Once again, the generosity of St. Paul's community in helping families in need shined brightly and provided yet another example of "using our gifts to make a difference for others!"

Yes, it was a different Giving Tree this year but a successful one for others! Thank you to all who participated by purchasing Target gift cards (using Roonga or making your own purchases) and/or jackets — it took two loads to take all of the jackets to

Samaritan House (thank you Jack Martin for providing the second sleigh) — and person power or sending cash gifts to help with these purchases. It took one of four SUV-loads it took to deliver the jackets. Just as valuable but certainly taking less space were the 266 Target Gift Cards.

Bouquets of gratitude to all who were able to participate in St. Paul's Giving Tree with a Twist for 2020!

## THANK YOU! *from Susan Jane Matthews, Director of Music*

My heartfelt thanks for the **Great Host of Supporters** of Music at St. Paul's throughout the Fall and Winter of 2020.

Thank you to the **40 singers** from the Choir of St. Paul's, from age six through adults, who recorded for 12 virtual choir videos from September through December, and for the special music offerings of the October Evensong, Advent Lessons & Carols, the Christmas Concert *Joy to the World*, and the Christmas Eve Service. The Christmas Concert grossed \$4,670 in tickets and donations in benefit of the Choir School. Thank you to poet and Choir School parent **Mia Malhotra** for writing an exquisite new Bidding Prayer for the Advent Lessons and Carols service.

Through the generosity of **28 Choir School Sponsors**, we received \$41,250 in support of the Choir School, and were able to surpass the fundraising goal of \$40K, allowing us to close the gap between expenses and the income of affordable tuition rates. Thank you to our **Choir School Parents** who helped the young children of

the school continue their chorister training from their homes, setting up microphones, scanning workbook pages, printing scores, celebrating birthdays, and becoming their camera crew on weekends.

Thank you to our dedicated and talented **Staff Quartet**, the first singers to venture back into the nave to sort out a way to safely make recordings for St. Paul's: Elizabeth Kimble, Akane Ota, David Kurtenbach Rivera, Jason Harvey. You are a blessing. Thank you to **Elizabeth Kimble**, now also employed by the Choir School as audio and video engineer, for her amazing skill and creativity in bringing together the singers of St. Paul's as a choir.

Thank you to the **Altar Guild** who provided flowers, wreaths, trees, frontals and candles for our recordings at St. Paul's, often spanning through three different seasons in one evening's recording session.

Thank you to the members of our **Music and Wells Residency Committees** who have

thoughtfully helped guide our way musically through 2020: Cyndy Bodenlos, Anne Casscells, Jennifer Minihan, Jim Steichen, and Esther Wong. (Yes, we are still planning on the choir's residency at Wells Cathedral in July 2022!)

Thank you to the **6 Choir School alumni** who continue to share their incredible talents in making recordings with the choir. Thank you to 11-year old Chorister **Haruka Ota** for her beautiful offerings of cello music, what a gift to see you blossom as a musician. Thank you to the **18 youth of the Choir School** whose dedication and enthusiasm for striving to be the best musicians they can, to sing with both spirit and understanding, is a weekly light of inspiration for their director.

**Thank you to all** who listen to our song, we so hope it brings joy to your life.





415 El Camino Real, Burlingame, CA 94010  
650.348.4811 • [www.stpaulsburlingame.org](http://www.stpaulsburlingame.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE:**

**Sunday:** Online Worship  
Posted by 4pm Saturdays

The Rev. Thomas Skillings, Rector  
The Rev. Julie Graham, Associate Rector  
Ms. Jocelyn A. Sideco, Pastoral Associate  
Dr. Susan Matthews, Director of Music

---

## A Community Conversation with Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday, January 17 at 10:45am

Via Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81108878403>) or look for the link on St. Paul's website

Join with others in the St. Paul's community for a lively discussion with Martin Luther King, Jr. As individuals and as a church community we wonder what the right way is to respond to the tenacious sin of racism. Together

we will engage the wisdom of King's Letter from a Birmingham Jail. Below is an excerpt from his letter or read the letter in its entirety through links on St. Paul's website or simply come to engage with others about how this letter,

written over 50 years ago, still prods Christians to action.

For more information contact Thomas at [revtskillings@gmail.com](mailto:revtskillings@gmail.com) or [jsideco@StPaulsBurlingame.org](mailto:jsideco@StPaulsBurlingame.org) to contact Jocelyn A. Sideco.

I have traveled the length and breadth of Alabama, Mississippi and all the other southern states. On sweltering summer days and crisp autumn mornings I have looked at the South's beautiful churches with their lofty spires pointing heavenward. I have beheld the impressive outlines of her massive religious education buildings. Over and over I have found myself asking: "What kind of people worship here? Who is their God? Where were their voices when the lips of Governor Barnett dripped with words of interposition and nullification? Where were they when Governor Wallace gave a clarion call for defiance and hatred? Where were their voices of support when bruised and weary Negro men and women decided to rise from the dark dungeons of complacency to the bright hills of creative protest?"

Yes, these questions are still in my mind. In deep disappointment I have wept over the laxity of the church. But be assured that my tears have been tears of love. There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love. Yes, I love the church. How could I do otherwise? I am in the rather unique position of being the son, the grandson and the great grandson of preachers. Yes, I see the church as the body of Christ. But, oh! How we have blemished and scarred that body through social neglect and through fear of being nonconformists.

Letter from Birmingham Jail, April 16, 1963  
Martin Luther King, Jr.