



THE CHURCH
OF ST. PAUL IN
THE DESERT

May 7, 2009

PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE



Dear Fellow St. Paul Family Members,

Stock Market up. Stock Market down. Foreclosures up. Foreclosures down. Unemployment up. The President says there may be a glimmer of hope in our economy but it is clear that we have a long way to go. A recent magazine article advised that perhaps we should cut back on just how much news we read and watch. That may not be such a bad idea. It seems that the more we learn the higher our stress level. Your Parish Vestry and Clergy want you to know that while we are vigilantly monitoring our parish's financial condition we are also striving to keep our stress levels in check and our eyes on the Abundant Life.

The Rt. Reverend
James R. Mathes, Bishop

The Reverend
Andrew Green, Rector

The Reverend
Stephanie Parker,
Associate Rector
Director of Programs

Nathan B. Ensign
Organist/Choirmaster

Carol A. Cunningham
Parish Administrator

In this joyous season of Easter we would like to share at least a little additional good news. Presently we are spending slightly less than our greatly pared-down budget calls for and all our generous gifts to Christ's mission are slightly up. Overall, we are still behind on the year and as we continue into our always-slow summer months in the desert this will be an increasing issue. Please continue your support! (There is nothing to prevent you from adding a little extra either.) Your treasure is never wasted at St. Paul's and many little additional equal one big plus. You all love this parish as much as we do and we thank God for your generosity in these tough times.

Our 2009 budget included a predicted deficit, which has been significantly reduced, and we have some reserves to cover that if need be. However, if we are unable to return to our formal levels of giving, we may be facing some tough decisions for next year, decisions that will greatly impact the way we understand ourselves as a parish. Hopefully, the economic glimmer we see now will at least become a glow later this year. That may ease some of that crunch. We are living as frugally as we can while continuing to share the Good News of Christ's resurrection here in Palm Springs. Turbulent economies aside, we trust that all of you will join us in looking toward a vibrant future, a future in which we not only recover from these current budgetary woes, but we shine with new purpose and new life. Let's continue to offer both our hearts and our treasure to Christ's mission. With God all things are possible! This Good News is the one and only thing in which we place our complete faith and trust.

In the name of Our Risen Lord,

Rev. Andrew Green
Rector

Jan Heller
Senior Warden

P.O. Box 1139
Palm Springs, CA 92263-1139

125 W. El Alameda
Palm Springs, CA 92262

760-320-7488
760-416-2441 fax
www.stpaulinthedesert.com

For the Clergy and Vestry of the Church of St. Paul in the Desert

God has invited us to share the Abundant Life of Jesus Christ through the Church of St. Paul in the Desert, by serving Christ in others and gathering to Praise and Thank God in Worship. We are a Welcoming, Empowering, Supportive Community.