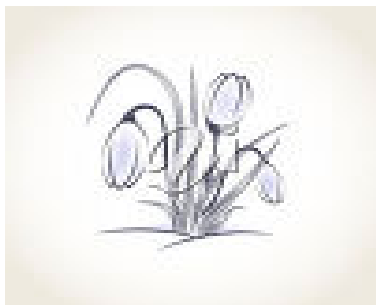


The Epistle



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1135 12th Street

PO Box 737

Sparks, Nevada 89432

775-358-4474

www.StPaulsSparks.org

The Rt. Rev. Dan Edwards, Bishop

The Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff, Rector

The Rev. Chip Arnold,
Associate Priest

The Rev. Sherryl Netzler,
Assistant Priest for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Mike Margerum, Deacon

The Rev. Linda Smith, Deacon

March 2016

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WHO ARE WE?

We, as St. Paul's, are a theologically diverse community who seeks to embrace our diversity in order to live through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a place of belonging for all people.

From the Pile on Fr. Kirk's Desk...



Do you struggle with the words Gay and Christian being compatible?

Or...

Do you believe that people can be Gay and Christian, however you would like a deeper historical and theological understanding of your belief?

The Episcopal Churches of Reno/Sparks, invite you to attend the first of our series called Education Saturdays. It will take place at Trinity Episcopal Church, 200 Island Avenue, Reno on Saturday, **April 23rd 2016 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm.** Lunch is included.

Kathy Baldock, a Reno local who speaks nationwide, will be opening the series. This is an excellent learning opportunity on a critical current issue being addressed in many faith communities – inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender believers.

The free all day seminar entitled "Untangling the Mess: Separating the Truth and Mistruths about What it Means to Be LGBT and Judeo-Christian".

Baldock has diligently researched this topic and has written a book titled "Walking the Bridgeless Canyon" (2014). She is a straight Evangelical Christian mother of two straight adult children, and serves on the Advisory Board of The Gay Christian Network, the Board of The Reformation Project, as well as the director of her own non-profit organization.

Here is the general outline for the 10:00 am till 4:00 pm session, including lunch:

1st Hour:

- Same-sex behavior and homosexuality in history and in the culture

- Early understanding of same-sex behavior
- The "discovery" of heterosexuality and homosexuality How did heterosexuality become the "good" sex?
- Historical terms about same-sex attracted people and the link to views on women How did homosexuality come to be understood as a mental illness?
- The beginnings of reparative, or change therapy
- Gays in the American culture from the 1940s to the 1960s

2nd Hour:

- Religion and Politics
- The roots of Fundamentalism
- The need to galvanize unregistered blocs of Fundamentalists in the mid-1970s
- Conservative voters and gay activists rise in response to actions by Anita Bryant
- The AIDS crisis in the 1980s and the response of the American public and the faith community

3rd Hour:

- Science
- What is sex? What is intersex?
- Understanding gender Understanding transgender
- The science of sexual orientation "Gay sex" — so, do the parts fit"?
- 4th Hour: Same-sex behavior in the Bible
- Leviticus 18 and 20
- Romans 1
- 1 Corinthians and 1 Timothy
- Deuteronomy 22:5
- Civil marriage and biblical marriage

5th Hour:

- LGBT Believers and their allies
- Trying to “fix” gay believers and the rise of the Exodus-type ministries
- Mixed orientation marriage where one spouse is straight and one is gay
- The beginnings of the gay Christian movement

**Each section includes Q & A.
ALL questions are welcome.**

I have read Kathy Baldock's book and highly recommend it to everyone.

We, as St. Paul's, believe in being a church where everyone belongs. This knowledge will help us in our journey.

RSVP by contacting Trinity Episcopal Church at (775) 329-4279 or Office@TrinityReno.org

Peace,

Women's Lenten Reflection



The Daughters Of the King Lenten Reflection will be held on March 12th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at St. Paul's Parish Hall.

The program will conclude with lunch and Communion. We will be making Anglican Rosaries and learning prayers to accompany them.

Cost of the event is \$25 for the beads.

All women are invited to attend. You do not need to be a member of the Order of the Daughters of the King.

Funding the Mission February 2016



For the 2016 year, our pledges and expected unpledged income is estimated to be \$214,346, and should average \$4,122 per week from those sources.

31-Jan	\$1,217.00	7-Feb	\$1,439.00
14-Feb	\$4,827.00	21-Feb	\$2,619.00
		Online	\$4,860.00
January Totals			\$14,962.00

For the period, our budget target was (4 x \$4,122) \$16,488 so we are \$1526 under the projection for this period, and \$987 under for the year.

The monthly Financial Statement of Mission contains detail on all our financial activity, and is posted in the narthex.

We are in the process of phasing out the dick@stpaulssparks.org email address. Please begin using Treasurer@stpaulssparks.org to email the treasurer's office. You can also direct questions personally to any Vestry member, Roger Towne, or Patti Stine.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE: By all your gifts, we are blessed. For all your gifts we are grateful.

Outreach Report



Money collected from our can tab fundraiser and “Souper Bowl”, totaling \$167.64, was donated to St. Paul's Community Food Pantry. Other donations for the Food Pantry totaled \$180.00 which included \$50.00 donated in

memory of Gene Carse. The “Found Money” jar total announced at the Annual Meeting was \$256.85 and will be sent to Honor Flight Nevada. Money collected from the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Ash Wednesday services, Lenten Soup Suppers, and half of the Easter Offering will be sent to our sister diocese in Makeuni, Kenya to help with the roof project on their new Christian and Social Training Center. Money sent to date totals \$814.85. Other donations received included \$650.00 to our Memorial Fund in memory of Gene Carse, and \$83.00 to Youth Ministry for EYC.

Patti Stine, Outreach Committee

Easter Flowers

Since flowers are not used during the Lenten season, the contributions received during this time will be used for the purchase of the lilies that decorate our altar at Easter. This is a wonderful way to remember loved ones and to give thanks for God’s blessings.

Easter Offering

This year’s Easter Offering will be split between St. Paul’s General Fund and our sister diocese in Makeuni, Kenya, to help support the roof project of their new Christian and Social Training Center. After completion, the center will provide vocational training as well as training for clergy and lay ministers.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Easter Sunday, March 27, immediately following the 9 AM service in the Memorial Garden. Children ages toddler through 5th grade are invited to participate. The EYC will be filling the plastic Easter Eggs on Sunday, March 20. Please bring individually wrapped candy to the church by the 20th. If you would like to take home plastic eggs and fill them yourself, that is also appreciated.

St. Paul’s Prayers & Squares

Prayers and Squares will not meet during the month of March.

Our sewing team wants to thank everyone for their donations to our account. We appreciate your support.



Prayers of the People



Prayer Requests

Robin in the office know each month if we are to continue to pray for your special people. Thank you.

Please help us keep our Prayer Chain List up to date. Let someone in the Prayer Chain Group or

Forrest, Diane, Russ, Pat, Barbara, Larry, Anne, Philip, Nanette, Preston, Jameson Walker, Jaemie, Rev. Bill, Fiona, Robert, Bill, Dick, Keith, Brett, Ella, Diana, Curt, Patricia, Sophia, Paul, William, Amber, Brian, Eileen, Connie, Sarah, Bev’s family, Sixten, Hynes family, Scott, Victoria, Shannon, Jeannine, Graham, Ryan, Amanda, Cathy, Stan, Bobbie, Lorraine, Sharon, Rev. Ken, Gene’s family & friends, Bill’s family, Holly, Adrienne, Susan, Lucia, the Marcel family, Gill’s family, Donna, Charlie, Shirley, Ashley, Sally, Marlys, Nancy, Bob, Tricia, Danny, Christopher, Matthew, Kathy, Vernice, Jack, David’s family, Marilyn, Steinhardt family, Patty, Roberta, Linda, Rita, Trudy, Al, Walt, Dillon, Jan, Joe Ann, Jacob, Matt, Debbie, Sabrina, Maureen, Phil, Dollie, Vel, Jennifer, Brett & Kevin.

Military: Andrew, Ryan, Jeffrey, Sierra, Owen, Brian, Jordan, Evanne, Carl, Alex & Suzanne.

March in the Food Pantry

“Can’t have one without the other!”
Peanut butter and jelly!!!



Youth Group: EYC



EYC is an Episcopal Youth Community where all youth (and

their friends) who are in grades 6-12 are invited to come and participate. The focus will be different each week, but you can count on whatever the EYC is doing it will stimulate our growth with God and with each other, and our growth in serving Christ in the world. We invite you to come join us for food, fellowship and fun! If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Woodliff at triciawoodliff@hotmail.com or Tia or Jon Mittelstadt at 775-722-3469 or by email at tia.mittel@gmail.com.

EYC will meet in the youth room from 10:15 AM until 12:15 PM unless listed differently in the schedule. Please join us for the following activities:

March 6: Blessing Bag Handout

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will carpool to downtown Reno to hand out the Blessing Bags. We will eat lunch when we return to the church. We should be finished by 12:30.

Saturday, March 12: Volunteering at the IDM African Dinner Fundraiser

Meet at the church at 4:20 PM to carpool to the California Building at Idlewild Park. We need 5 or 6 youth to help out. We will be helping with serving and busing tables. Please wear comfortable shoes, black or dark pants and a white or light colored shirt. The dinner goes until 9 PM and then we will be helping clean up. Hopefully we will be back at the church by 10 or 10:15 PM. We will have youth call their parents when we are leaving the event. A donation to the youth program will be made for our efforts. If your youth can help out, please let Tia or Tricia know so we can make sure to have enough volunteers. Also, contact us if you have any further questions.

March 13: No meeting due to African Dinner

No meeting today.

March 20: Fill Easter Eggs for the Children's Easter Egg Hunt to be held on Easter Sunday

Meet in youth room at 10:15 AM. We will eat lunch, and then fill plastic Easter Eggs with candy.

March 27: Happy Easter!

No meeting today. Enjoy time with your family!

Shrove Tuesday Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner by coming out and eating pancakes and other yummy food! We served approximately 65 people. Thank you to those who lent us griddles and electric fry pans. Please be sure to take yours home if you haven't already. They are in the kitchen. Thanks also to all the youth and parents who helped out. Special thanks to Jeff Devon, who came to help us out of the goodness of his heart! The \$156.00 raised will be sent to the Diocese of Makueni in Kenya to support their roof project on the new Christian and Social Training Center.

Pinterest Interest Group

Come join us in the parish hall on the first Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. for food, fellowship, and fun crafts! (March 7th) Here's how it works, someone brings dinner, someone else brings dessert and someone brings the craft. To sign up, follow this "doodle" link. If you want to volunteer to bring food or your best crafty Pinterest idea you can do that at this link too. <http://doodle.com/poll/q664e2y38vfqckk5>

You can also contact Barb Monroy to sign up or to get some more information about this fun evening. 775-742-4856 or bmonroy0216@gmail.com

We Are Thankful...

With all my heart,

I praise the Lord!

I will never forget

how kind he has been. (Psalm 103:2)

Watch this space in the Epistle each month for stories of gratitude and belonging. This month we are thankful Adrienne Conley shared her reflections with us.



How long have you attended St. Paul's?

I have attended St. Paul's for 20 years and Marc has been here since he was 7 (a little more than 20 years ago 😊)

What about St. Paul's makes it a church home for you?

Since Marc grew up at this church it was only natural for me to be baptized here, for us to be married here and have our children baptized here. However, it was after Rev. Britt left and I was trying out other churches that I realized how special St. Paul's is; everyone is so open, friendly and welcoming. After Father Kirk and his family came I decided to come and try out the "new preacher man" and for me it was coming home, we haven't left since.

What is one thing about St. Paul's you are most thankful for?

I like the fact that it is still a small church, that there are people who not only remember my kids from when they were babies, they remember Marc and I getting married and there are still a few that remember when Marc was a kid. I love the fact that when you run into other church members at the store they will wave and say hi or even stop and chat. It is the community of St. Paul's I am thankful for, knowing that I am known both inside the parish and outside in daily life.

Please share a favorite story about your time at St. Paul's and/or tell a little about one of your favorite church activities.

My favorite story involves Father Kirk when we had just started coming back. Avery was 3 years old and attending Summit for preschool; one Sunday after the service she walked up to him and very solemnly asked him if he was Jesus. Kirk got right down to her eye level and just as solemnly said, "No, but I do work for him." I knew right then and there we were home.

Thanks for sharing your St. Paul's experiences with us Adrienne!

St. Patrick's Day: March 19th

Come out and celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 19th. Beginning at 5:00 pm a "traditional" Irish meal of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots along with rye bread and an assortment of deserts will be served. Oh, did I forget to mention that there will be home brewed beer available? We always serve non-alcoholic beverages as well. Please invite others to attend. Get you tickets on Sunday.

Adults \$15, Children \$5, or Families \$30

If you are interested in helping organize or contribute to the Silent Auction, please call Margaret Bouzek at 424-3767.

All money raised by the event will go toward the parish budget.

Need Baked Goods for a Special Party? Meeting? Birthday?



Sally Sue's Bakery is run by our very own Sarah and Hayley Lightfoot. ALL proceeds go to St. Paul's Church. For orders and questions call Sarah or Hayley 626-8519.

Coming Events



March 2016

Wednesday	Mar. 2, 2016	Lenten Soup Supper and Lenten Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 3, 2016	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 5, 2016	Vestry Retreat	9:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 5, 2016	D.O.K	10:00 am
Sunday	Mar. 6, 2016	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 7, 2016	Pinterest Interest Group	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 9, 2016	Lenten Soup Supper	5:15 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 9, 2016	Lenten Study	6:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 10, 2016	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 12, 2016	D.O.K. Quiet Day	9:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 12, 2016	African Dinner (see Deb Stiver)	6:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 13, 2016	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 14, 2016	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 16, 2016	Lenten Soup Supper & Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 17, 2016	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 19, 2016	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 19, 2016	St. Patrick's Dinner	5:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 20, 2016	Palm Sunday	
Sunday	Mar. 20, 2016	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 23, 2016	Lenten Soup Supper	5:15 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 23, 2016	Tenebrae	6:00 pm
Thursday	Mar. 24, 2016	Maundy Thursday Liturgy	6:00 pm
Friday	Mar. 25, 2016	Good Friday: Stations of the Cross	12:00 pm
Friday	Mar. 25, 2016	Good Friday Liturgy: Bishop Dan Preaching	6:00 pm
Friday	Mar. 25, 2016	Epistle Deadline	12:00 pm
Saturday	Mar. 26, 2016	Holy Saturday Liturgy (enter through garden)	9:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 26, 2016	Easter Vigil	8:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 27, 2016	Easter Sunday (no 5:00 p.m. service on Easter)	

Recurring Events

Winter Worship Hours in effect - Worship times, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

EYC meets every Sunday @ 10:15 a.m. in the Youth Room. (no EYC Mar. 13th & 27th)

Rector's Sabbath is every Tuesday

AA No longer meets here @ St. Paul's, call 355-1155 for other meeting venues.

Choir Practice 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays or (Check with your Team Leader)

Praise Team 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays or (Check with your Team Leader)

AA (Women's group) meets Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

Alanon meets every Thursday at 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

Lectio Divina – Bible Study meets Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m.

Healing Service with Holy Eucharist Thursday Evening at 6:00 p.m.

Men's Bible Study Thursday evenings @ 7:00 p.m.

Food Pantry is open Wed. 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. & Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

*Fourth Wednesday of the month in the morning is the SNAP program & Food Bank Truck **ONLY**.

*Second & Fourth Wednesday of the month the Pantry is open from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Gam-anon meets every Thursday 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Choir Room

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
(1135 12th Street)
P. O. Box 737
Sparks NV 89432

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Phone: 775-358-4474

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E-Mail: office@stpaulssparks.org

Web Site: www.stpaulssparks.org

Place Label Here

*St. Paul's
Episcopal Church*



Walking Together in Faith

- Sun., 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Contemporary*
Sun., 9:05 a.m. Children's Sunday School
Sun., 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Rite II, Traditional
Sun., 5:00 p.m. Traditional Holy Eucharistic, No Music
Wed., 12:30 p.m. Healing Service with Holy Communion
Thur., 6:00 p.m. Healing Service with Holy Communion