

# The Epistle



## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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PO Box 737  
Sparks, Nevada 89432  
775-358-4474  
[www.StPaulsSparks.org](http://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. Hal Woomer, Jr.  
Assistant Priest

The Rev. Mike Margerum, Deacon

The Rev. Linda Smith, Deacon

## September 2016

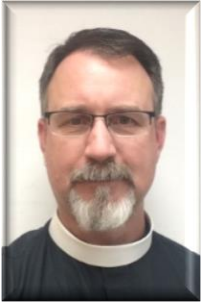
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### WHO ARE WE?

St. Paul's is a theologically diverse community seeking to embrace their diversity in order to live through the Gospel of Jesus Christ and be a place of learning and belonging for all people.

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



In case you were not here, Fr. Hal used a phrase in a recent sermon, it was, "We need to get off our comfort." The word comfort is not the word I was expecting at the end of "We need to get off our....." I like the word comfort here much better than the word I expected. We need to get off our comfort, it's a Jesus thing. You see, Jesus did not say, "Come, follow me and I'll make your life comfortable." The reality is that Jesus was about discomfort. I hear you saying to me, "No Fr. Kirk, Jesus is about Love." Why yes he is, and if you have ever experienced love you'll attest that love is not comfortable. Love is ever-changing, it's sacrificial, it's hard work. Love, the kind of love that Jesus teaches us about the nature of God, is both holy and wholly; it's both sacred and all encompassing.

The love Jesus teaches us is a love that takes the "I" and "me" out of the equation and it does the same for the "us" and "we". The love, the discomforting love that Jesus teaches takes the "I" and "me" and the "us" and "we" and he wraps it all together with the "those" and "them". This mesh of "I" and "me", "us" and "we", and "those" and "them" is what we call the children of God. It is this mesh that is both holy and wholly...the living breathing discomfort of love.

In the narthex you can find the pledges we have made to make a difference in the world around us. In church a couple of weeks ago, I passed out \$1 bills that were to be used to make a difference in someone's life. One dollar does not sound like much, but some of the \$1 stories that have been shared with me are life changing and priceless.

As we continue to live into the uncomfortableness of being the children of God, we need to explore and experience a multitude of ways in which to get off our comfort and be God's love in the world. Some of us will feel drawn to helping the neighbor next door. Some of us will feel drawn to join our new ministry of being reading mentors at the neighborhood elementary school. Some might feel drawn to help me start a new ministry that restores dignity to those in need by hosting a free wash night at the laundromat. Some will feel drawn to help in a food pantry or a soup kitchen. God is vast, as are our possibilities to serve.

Some will even feel the discomfort of Jesus' love and be drawn to join other members of our parish and the other Northern Nevada Episcopal Churches as we help relocate a refugee family from Syria. Our Vestry unanimously supports, knowing that the world is wholly holy and there is nothing more scriptural in either the Old Testament or the New Testament than welcoming in a refugee as if they were your own.

On Sunday, September 11th, St. Paul's is having a ministry fair. During this time there will be booths set up that promote our current ministries and even new ones; ministries that take place both inside the church and beyond our walls. Please join us on that day from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to explore how and where God may be calling you to live into the active nature of Christianity.

Peace and Discomfort,

Fr. Kirk



## Refugee Resettlement Ministry

"When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself." *Leviticus 19:33-34*

As the Refugee Resettlement Program begins in the Reno-Sparks area, our Episcopal churches, Trinity, St. Patrick's, St. Catherine's, Coventry Cross, and St. Paul's have joined together to co-sponsor a Kurdish family from Syria. The Albadawi family of six will be arriving in early September. They have two girls, 14 and 13, as well as two boys, 8 and 2. An apartment has been obtained for them by the Northern Nevada International Center. The job of our five churches right now is to prepare their apartment for their arrival. Trinity is providing new beds and bedding. St. Patrick's will prepare the bathroom necessities. St. Catherine's will gather the miscellaneous items, fill their food pantry and provide an ethnic meal for their arrival. St. Paul's is furnishing the kitchen. With your help, the list of needed supplies has been filled in record time. Thank you, thank you, thank you! Please deliver your to the church Sunday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>, or contact St. Paul's member Kathie Dixon to make other arrangements. 775-747-4485

If you would like to serve on the St. Paul's refugee team or do hands on ministry with the refugee family, contact Kathie as well. We will have a table at the Ministry Fair on September 11th with more information about the project and help needed.

## Ministry Fair: Sept 11th

On September 11th from 8:00 to 1:00, we will have a St. Paul's Ministry Fair. On this Sunday, ministries from the church will have booths in the Parish Hall. Stop by the booths to explore what ministry is right for you.

## September in the Food Pantry

**"Soup's On!"**

Canned and boxed soups  
– any kind of soup will do!



## Outreach Donations

In addition to the school supplies brought in by parishioners, we have received \$345.00 in cash donations. Other donations for the month include \$26.84 to the Community Food Pantry, \$140.00 in memory of Evie Arnold, and \$25.00 in memory of Dorothy Wright.

Patti Stine, Assistant Treasurer

## Youth Group: EYC



EYC is an Episcopal Youth Community where all youth (and their friends) who are in grades 7-12 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 are new to St. Paul's we welcome you to join us. If you have any questions, please contact Tricia Woodliff at [triciawoodliff@hotmail.com](mailto:triciawoodliff@hotmail.com) or Tia or Jon Mittelstadt at 775-722-3469 or by email at [tia.mittel@gmail.com](mailto:tia.mittel@gmail.com).

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

September 4: Labor Day Weekend - No Meeting - Enjoy your long weekend!

September 11: New School Year Kickoff Meeting!

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 a.m. We will do some get acquainted activities, brainstorming for activity and program ideas, eat lunch and have fun!

September 18: Service Project- Cleanup

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 a.m. We will be doing a service project for the church. We will clean up the playground area at the back of the church and also pick up trash in-between the church parking lot and Sparks High School field. Lunch and games too!

September 25: Miniature Golf at Coconut Bowl/Wild Island

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 a.m. We will eat lunch and then carpool to Coconut Bowl and play a round of outdoor miniature golf. Bring \$5 for golf.

## Prayers of the People

Please help us keep our Prayer Chain List up to date. Let someone in the Prayer Chain Group or Robin in the office know each month if we are to continue to pray for your special people. Thank you.



### Prayer Requests

Forrest, Diane, Russ, Pat, Barbara, Larry, Anne, Philip, Nanette, Ernest, Preston, Jameson Walker, Jaemie, Rev. Bill, Robert, Bill, Trudy, Lori, Dick, Keith, Brett, Ella, Patricia, Sophia's friends & family, Paul, Sixten, Mike, Scott, Graham, Ryan, Donna, Rev. Ken, Holly, Marilyn, Kay, Carol, Karen, Jennifer, Alyson, Penny, Mary Lou, Craig, Tim, Pam, Victoria, April, Peggy, Ed, Bill's family, John's family, Linda's family, Milt, Chip & family, Mary, Maureen, Yesika, Gene, Michael,

Bethany, Frank, Chris, Matthew, Danny, Beau, Jessica, Wade, Joy, Sandy, Edith, Mike & family, Karen, Brian, Nancy, Dan, Eileen, Eryn, Nolan, Taryn, Janice, Tammy, David, Stacey, Reed, Phillip and all community service personnel, Madison & family, Duane, Yvonne, Kim, Gladys & family, Leia, Serwind, Cathy, Ashley, A.J., Jill, Tom, Gabriella, Dorothy, Cate, Sharon, Don, Everett's family, Mac, Kristen, Trina, Linda & family, Harry, Arden, David.

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

## Monthly Receipt Summary



### Funding the Mission August 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.

24-Jul	\$1,068.00	31-Jul	\$3,580.00
7-Aug	\$3,223.00	14-Aug	\$2,675.00
21-Aug	\$1,372.00	Online	\$6,910.00
August Totals			\$18,828.00

For the period, our budget target was (5 x \$4,122) \$20,610 so we are \$1782 under the projection for this period, and \$7719 over for the year.

The monthly Financial Statement of Mission contains detail on all our financial activity, and is posted in the narthex. You can also direct questions personally to any Vestry member, Roger Towne, or Patti Stine. Or contact us by email at [Treasurer@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Treasurer@StPaulsSparks.org)

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



## “Wow Cards”

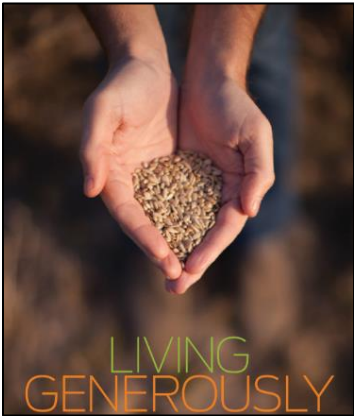
### Coming to a Pew Near You

If Jesus came to St. Paul's, what might we do to make him say,



WOW!? Vestry is asking for ideas for new ministries and activities at St. Paul's. If you have an idea or a light-bulb suddenly goes off during worship, write down your idea on a “WOW Card” (found in the pews) and place it in the offering plate. This fall we will display all the “WOW Cards” in the Narthex.

### Annual Giving Campaign



The start of our annual giving Campaign will be Sunday, October 19. The theme for this year's campaign is “Living Generously”. Generous living is much more than what we do with our money. Jesus

showed us the way by welcoming the outcast, healing the sick, teaching, forgiving, and by ultimately giving his life so that all may have life abundant.

On **Sunday, October 19th**, we embark on our annual, five-week giving campaign. Please mark this day on your calendar and join the celebration! Watch next month's Epistle for more information.

### Adult Formation Class

#### **Pro/Claim: Engaging the Baptismal Covenant.**

Fr. Kirk will be offering a 5 week class on Sundays beginning Sept 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 2:30. This class is for everyone from longtime

Episcopalians to brand new attendees. This class is also for anyone who wishes to join the worship ministries of Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and Lay Eucharistic Visitor. This class is called *Pro/Claim: Engaging the Baptismal Covenant*. Please sign-up in the Narthex or email [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org).

### Are You an Official Episcopalian?

If your answer is no... Do you feel connected and experience a sense of belonging here at St. Paul's Episcopal Church? If you are an adult and have never been baptized or never officially become an Episcopalian, then I invite you to attend the upcoming class *Pro/Claim: Engaging the Baptismal Covenant* beginning Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>. Bishop Dan will be here on November 6<sup>th</sup> and he will officially welcome you into the Episcopal tradition through confirmation or reception.

### What is Adult Baptism?

### What is Confirmation and Reception?

### What about Reaffirmation?

**Confirmation:** Confirmation is the affirmation of one's baptismal vows. It is a sacramental rite in which baptized persons make a mature commitment to Christ and receive strength through the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop. Confirmation is not required to become full members of Christ's Body; baptism takes care of that. But for those who were baptized at an early age they are expected, when mature and ready, to make a public affirmation of their faith.

**Reception:** Persons presented for Reception are those who have been baptized with water in the name of the Trinity, have previously made an adult public affirmation of faith in any other Christian Tradition (either at their adult Baptism or on a separate occasion) and now desire to live their faith within the fellowship of the Episcopal Church.

**Reaffirmation:** Reaffirmation is suitable in a variety of situations for persons who have previously been Confirmed or Received. Have you returned to church after a period of being gone? Have you recently experienced some transition in your spiritual or church life that has changed your perspective? Was your Confirmation so long ago that it is time to reaffirm it? Were you so young that you don't feel you were mature at your Confirmation? Reaffirmation is a repeatable rite of renewal.

**Adult Baptism:** Holy Baptism is the sacrament by which God adopts us as his children and makes us members of Christ's Body, the Church, and inheritors of the kingdom of God. The outward and visible sign in Baptism is water, in which the person is baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The inward and spiritual grace in Baptism is union with Christ in his death and resurrection, birth into God's family the Church, forgiveness of sins, and new life in the Holy Spirit.

Contact Fr. Kirk for more information.

## The Daughters of the King



Are you not quite sure who The Daughters of the King are and what it is they do? Contact Connie Patterson at 359-4675.

## Pinterest Interest Group

Due to Labor Day, Pinterest Interest will not meet in September.

## Prayer-Walk

The purpose of Prayer-Walking is to seek God's guidance and transformative power for the community and for ourselves as God's servants. Patricia Unruh and Jon Mittelstadt invite all to join us for our next Prayer-Walk from 10:00 am to 11:30 am on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. We will meet in the Garden at 10 am for a moment of prayer and everyone

will also be given a brochure that teaches how to pray-walk. We will walk a route around St. Paul's neighborhoods in groups of 2 or 3. If interested in hearing about our previous walks, feel free to come to our next Outreach Committee meetings at 12:30 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month.

In Peace, Patricia and Jon

## Movie Night at Trinity

Friday, September 23, 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Church Parish Hall

200 Island Ave, Reno

As Reno begins to welcome refugees, Trinity is inviting all parishioners to join them in September to view the Movie "THE GOOD LIE" starring Reese Witherspoon. This is a story of "The Lost Boys" from the Sudan, Survival and triumph to life. This film highlights the relationships that are formed and the transformational effects of them.

## Empty Bowls Fund Raiser

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Empty Bowls Fund Raiser to benefit

The Community Food Panty

Simple Soup Supper

Silent Auction-Bowls-Raffle

Tickets are \$30

Wednesday September 28, 2016

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Eldorado Hotel & Casino

345 N. Virginia St Reno

Tickets available at church or can be purchased on line Eventbrite:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/o/empty-bowls-2016the-community-food-pantry-6923319351>



For more information contact  
Barbara Monroy 775-742-4856

## Recovery Groups at St. Paul's

Wednesdays: Women's AA @ 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Ala-Non Meeting @ 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays: Gama-Non @ 6:30 p.m.

## Lectio Divina Bible Study

Come and join us in the parish hall for this Holy Spirit guided study of scripture. Make new friends and find new ideas and ways of looking at scripture. No homework required ☺

### Combined Men's and Women's Group

Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Contact The Rev. Mike Margerum for more information. [mgoodmarge@gmail.com](mailto:mgoodmarge@gmail.com) or 775-229-2695.

## St. Paul's Prayers & Squares



Prayers and Squares is a ministry that is dedicated to making and gifting lap quilts to persons who are ill or in need of special prayer. There is no charge for the quilts.

Those who participate in the ministry gather on the second Saturday of the month in the Parish Hall from 9-noon to work on the quilts. We have a lot of fun working on the quilts.

Interested people are invited to join us to learn how they can share in making the quilts (and have a fun time too!). You don't need to be proficient with a sewing machine as there are lots of other tasks involved.



## Need Baked Goods for a Party or Meeting?



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. Visit the website for a pricelist and pictures of their past works. Check out Sally Sue's Bakery at [www.sarahlightfoot.blogspot.com](http://www.sarahlightfoot.blogspot.com)

## Eco-palian Shorts

A few Green eco-labels are explained here:

*Energy Star:* Environmental Protection Agency Department of Energy-certified products that will reduce your energy bills.

*USDA Organic:* Foods produced without using synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, irradiation or genetic engineering.

*USDA Certified Grass-Fed:* Meat from ruminant animals raised on a diet of 100% grass and forage.

*Rainforest Alliance:* Products made by methods that do not add to global deforestation and environmental destruction.

*Compostable:* Plastic products that biodegrade quickly and completely.

*Fair Trade Certified:* Imported foods that meet international environmental, labor, and development standards.

## Coming Events



### *September 2016*

Saturday	Sept. 3, 2016	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Saturday	Sept. 3, 2016	Funeral: Adam Bass	11:00 am
Sunday	Sept. 4, 2016	No EYC	
Sunday	Sept. 4, 2016	No Outreach Meeting	
Monday	Sept. 5, 2016	No Pinterest Interest Group	
Monday	Sept. 5, 2016	<i>Labor Day – Church Office closed</i>	
Sunday	Sept. 11, 2016	Ministry Fair (8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.)	8:00 am
Monday	Sept. 12, 2016	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Tuesday	Sept. 13, 2016	Choir Practice starts again	5:30 pm
Saturday	Sept. 17, 2016	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	Sept. 18, 2016	Prayer Team Meeting	12:30 pm
Sunday	Sept. 18, 2016	Pro/Claim: Engaging the Baptismal Covenant	1:00 pm
Sunday	Sept. 18, 2016	Deadline to paint bowls @ Playful Potter	
Monday	Sept. 19, 2016	Stewardship Meeting	5:30 pm
Wednesday	Sept. 21, 2016	Pantry Board Meeting	5:30 pm
Saturday	Sept. 24, 2016	Prayers & Squares	9:00 am
Sunday	Sept. 25, 2016	Epistle Deadline	12:00 pm
Sunday	Sept. 25, 2016	Pro/Claim: Engaging the Baptismal Covenant	1:00 pm
Sunday	Sept. 28, 2016	Empty Bowls Dinner (at the El Dorado)	6:00 pm

### Recurring Events

#### 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

#### **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) (Postponed until Sept. 13th)

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. (postponed until further notice)

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.

\*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 12<sup>th</sup> Street)**  
**P. O. Box 737**  
**Sparks NV 89432**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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Place Label Here

*St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church*



*Walking Together in Faith*

*Sun., 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Contemporary*  
*Sun., 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Traditional*  
*Sun., 5:00 p.m. Traditional Holy Eucharistic, No Music*  
*Thur., 6:00 p.m. Healing Service with Holy Communion*