

The Epistle



ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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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

March 2017

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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...



I have never in all my life been so happy that it's time for Lent.

Happy for Lent? That sounds like horse pucky! It may sound like fake news, but it's true. I have never been so happy for the arrival of Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent.

I think the reason I'm so happy is because in all of my 46 years, I don't recall the whole of Christianity ever needing it so much. Lent is often compared to 40 days in the desert, but what I see all around me (including myself) is a people who are crawling across the dusty clay ground, grasping for something to pull us forward as our dry cracked lips long for the life-giving water of the well. Many of us have already been hanging out in the desert, but it's not where we belong.

What did it once mean to say we were followers of Jesus? Who have we, Christianity, become? Lent is a time for all of us to step back and do the work we need to do to answer these questions, but the questions don't stop there. Who have we become is immediately followed by... Who is God calling us to be?

Lent is not meant to be a time of putting away chocolate and caffeine. Lent is not an annual time frame to lose weight. If these things truly keep you from living into and living out God's love, then by all means go for it; but for many, such things are only distractions to keep us from the real work, the holy work of Lent.

What is keeping you from living into, and living out, the love of the Gospel?

If I can help you figure it out, you know where to find me.

Kirk

Ash Wednesday

Services at 12:05 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

"Love Does"

Wednesday Evening Lenten Study

Beginning March 8th.

6:15 p.m. in the church, following the soup suppers.

The study is called *Love Does*, and is based on a book by New York Times best-selling author, Bob Goff. (If you have read the book, that's great, but it's not necessary for you to have read it in order for you to participate.)

This study will offer us thought-provoking, meaningful, and sometimes humorous lessons that make faith in God simple and real.

When *Love Does*, life gets interesting.

Contact Fr. Kirk for more details.

Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers

Please join us at 5:15 p.m. on Wednesdays during Lent for soup and fellowship, beginning March 8th. If you want to bring soup, bread, or a dessert, look for a sign up in the narthex.

After the meal, you are also invited to join us for the Lenten study at 6:15 p.m. in the church.

Men's Study Group

The 7:00 p.m. men's Thursday evening study group is now using "The Wired Word". This is a resource that looks at current events in relation to scripture. Each week participants are emailed or given a print copy of news articles, scriptures, and other resources to explore. It is not required to read the information beforehand -- you can just show up for the group if you wish. This group is such that you may come every week, or participate when your schedule allows. If you would like to receive the topic each week before class, please contact kirk@stpaulsspark.org. For more information contact Mike Margerum at mgoodmarge@gmail.com.

Listen to Sunday Sermons

Sometimes we can't get to church, but we still want to stay connected to the Liturgy of the Word. Now we have the ability to read the scriptures for the week and listen to the Sunday sermon.

Go to our website, www.stpaulssparks.org and click on the "Sermon Podcasts" button in the upper right corner.

Recovery Groups at St. Paul's

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

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

Gam-anon Meeting@6:30 p.m.

Weekly Bible Study

Come and join us in the Choir Room for this ongoing Holy Spirit guided study of scripture. Make new friends and find new ideas and ways of looking at scripture. No homework required. This combined Men's and Women's Group meets Thursdays from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Volunteers to Photo Church Events

As my priorities have shifted to other projects, I am calling on all you other shutterbugs to show off your photography talents at church events by volunteering to bring your cameras and give us your eye's view of people and happenings. Jeannine Funk has generously offered to take over the responsibility of organizing the photos and putting them in the church album, but she is not able to attend all the events and would appreciate the contributions of anyone who would like to help. Please make 4"x 6" photos and give them to Jeannine or leave them in an envelope at the church office addressed to her. If you have any questions, please contact Jeannine 775-287-9424 jmfunk66@gmail.com. As they say, the more the merrier! Pat Entwistle

Sunday Flower Offering

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

"Hill Gang" Meeting

The "Hill Gang" is an informally structured men's fellowship group open to all male members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church. The "Hill Gang" holds "once-in-a-while" quarterly meetings.

The next meeting of the "Hill Gang" will be Monday evening March 13th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Boulevard Pizza, 1076 North Rock Boulevard in Sparks. The meeting agenda is to have fellowship, eat, and drink for about an hour and a half and then adjourn to a nearby theater to view a Class "B" movie. You know, something like an action/adventure film that your wife, girlfriend, or significant other would rather not see.

For more information, please contact Steve Smith at 626-3307.

Eucharistic Minister Training March 12th

If you have ever considered participating in the ministry of helping distribute the bread and wine during our worship services, now is the time to act! Join us in the church on Sunday, March 12th at 12:15. If you have questions contact Deb Stiver 356-6474 or Fr. Kirk at 358-4474.

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 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 5: Board Game Day!

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will eat lunch and then play a couple of fun board games as a group.

March 12: Growing with God

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will watch a video on Elijah: The get-er-done prophet. We will discuss and also eat lunch. Games to follow. Don't forget to set your clock forward for Daylight Savings.

March 19: EZ Air and Laser Tag

Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will then carpool to EZ Air to jump and play laser tag from 11 AM to Noon. We will return around 12:30 (ish). You must have a parent signed waiver on file to jump. If you have never been there, please look on their website and get that filled out beforehand.

March 26: Spring Break- No Meeting Today

Saturday, April 1: 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.

April 2: No Meeting due to African Dinner

Prayers of the People

Please help us keep our Prayer Chain List up to date. Let 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.

Diane, Pat, Barbara, Larry, Anne, Nanette, Philip, Ernest, Preston, Jameson Walker, Bill, Trudy, Lori, Dick, Keith, Ella, Patricia, Paul, Sixten, Mike, Ryan, Rev. Ken, Carol, Alyson, Penny, Craig, Victoria, Peggy, Mary, Frank, Chris, Matthew, Danny, Beau, Karen, Sven, Grace, Robert, Jill, Dorothy, Sharon, Trina, Harry, A.J., Kris' family, Mason, Stan, Stephanie, Joe, Jack, Shirley, Ellie, Jacquie, Char, Ruthie, Sue, Vedda, Steve, Michelle, Ava, Debbie, Donna, Everett, Elva, Amy, Jeannie, Doris, Sara's family, Jamie, Lynne, Linda, Marge, Mario, Elizabeth, Scott, Susan, Joey, Jennifer, Heidi, Dillon, Madeline, James, JoAnn, Tim, Barb, Dale, Bob, Carolyn, Connie,

Mary Lou, Susanne, Arlene, Craig, Andrew's family, Nancy, Bryan, Harrison.

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

March in the Food Pantry

"Let's Jam!"

Jam, Jelly & Peanut Butter.



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 6th) 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/73yrdw2umgtf74q8> 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



By Your Gifts We Are Blessed

Thank you to all who donated money to cover the loss of our Found Money jar. Because of your generosity, we were able to send a check for \$428.69 to Safe Embrace. Other donations for the month included \$25.00 to Prayers and Squares, \$30.00 to Daughters of the King, \$248.00 to The Community Food Pantry (this includes \$193.00 from the "Souper" Bowl fundraiser), and \$70.00 to Youth Ministries for their EYE trip.

Patti Stine, Assistant Treasurer

Monthly Receipt Summary



Funding the Mission

If you would like to have your pledge offering automatically deducted from your bank account through our online giving partner; Tithe.ly; you can get started by typing the following into your Internet browser's address bar and hitting enter:

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=37265>

In order to be sure you land at the correct St. Paul's, be sure you are typing the above into the address bar at the very top of your browser screen and not into the search box on Google or Yahoo. This same link is also on the St. Paul's website – just click on Donate near the top.

We have a short list of helpful hints on getting your user account set up properly. If you would like the hint sheet, send us an email and we will email the pointers back to you.

The monthly Financial Statement of Mission contains details of 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

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

Next Baptismal Day

Are you or a loved one seeking the Sacrament of Holy Baptism? If so, contact Fr. Kirk. Our next baptismal days will be Easter Vigil April 15th, and Easter Day, April 16th.

EYC Collecting Donations for “Blessing Bags”

The EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) will once again be collecting items for “Blessing Bags” and we need your help! A blessing bag is a Ziplock bag stocked with food, toiletries, and other items one might need while living on the street. The youth will distribute some of the bags to people in need in downtown Reno. On a future Sunday, the youth will also help the congregation assemble bags to take to their cars and be handed out when needed.

We are doing the donations a little differently this year. Like the tags we pull at Christmas for toy donations, we will have tags with suggested donation items. You can pick a tag and then bring your donation back to the church by the **deadline of Sunday, April 2.**

Toiletries should be travel or hotel sized, and food items should be in small, individually wrapped packages. The point is for them to fit into a gallon sized Ziplock bag.

Some of items that will be listed on the tags are: gallon sized Ziplock bags, granola bars, cereal bars, snack crackers, small peanut butter packets, small beef jerky packets, small almond packets, small boxes of raisins, applesauce cups/pouches, juice boxes, packets of trail mix, gum, bottled water, pop top meat or sausages, hand sanitizer, baby wipes, toothbrush/toothpaste, wash cloths, shampoo, lotion, comb, nail clippers, deodorant, socks, lip balm and travel sized tissues.

Dean Jeff’s Annual Visit

The Very Rev. Jeff Paul, the dean of our mission district, will be joining us on Sunday, March 12th.

Lenten Book Study

Sundays in Lent: 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Beginning Sunday, March 5th (6 weeks)

Getting Involved with God: Rediscovering the Old Testament by Ellen Davis

Book Study: Week 1 Assignment

Section 1, Pain and Praise: The Psalms as Common Prayer, Chapters 1-4

Stations of the Cross

Each Thursday during Lent, beginning March 2nd, The Stations of the Cross (The Way of the Cross) will be offered from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. This service moves the participants around our worship space (Nave), listening to and experiencing the scriptures from the arrest of Jesus to his crucifixion.

The Daughters of the King



Ladies - Ever wonder just what Daughters of the King actually do? Are you interested in spending a little bit of time in

study and prayer a couple of times a month? Are you interested in laughing and sharing in a safe environment? Are you looking for a way to be more involved with St. Paul’s ministries, but haven’t quite figured out what that way is? Please come and learn about this ministry tradition for yourself. We can’t wait to share with you.

Contact Connie Patterson or Margaret Bouzek for information.

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(See Exodus 16)

03-16-2015

WHEN YOU ARE READY FOR EQUALITY IN THE FORM OF WOMANNA, YOU LET US KNOW

Coming Events



March 2017

Wednesday	Mar. 01, 2017	Ash Wednesday Service	12:05 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 01, 2017	Ashes to Go...	1:30 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 01, 2017	Ash Wednesday Service	6:00 pm
Thursday	Mar. 02, 2017	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 04, 2017	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 04, 2017	Card Night	6:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 05, 2017	Outreach Meeting	12:30 pm
Sunday	Mar. 05, 2017	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 06, 2017	Pinterest Interest Group	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 08, 2017	Lenten Soup & Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 09, 2017	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Sunday	Mar. 12, 2017	The Very Rev. Jeff Paul's visit	
Sunday	Mar. 12, 2017	<i>Daylight Saving Time begins (Spring forward)</i>	
Sunday	Mar. 12, 2017	Eucharistic Minister Training	12:15 pm
Sunday	Mar. 12, 2017	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 13, 2017	"Hill Gang" Meeting (Blvd. Pizza)	6:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 13, 2017	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 15, 2017	Lenten Soup & Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 16, 2017	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 18, 2017	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	Mar. 19, 2017	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Monday	Mar. 20, 2017	Stewardship Meeting	5:30 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 22, 2017	Lenten Soup & Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 23, 2017	Stations of the Cross	5:30 pm
Saturday	Mar. 25, 2017	Prayers & Squares	9:00 am
Saturday	Mar. 25, 2017	Epistle Deadline	12:00 pm
Sunday	Mar. 26, 2017	Lenten Book Study	3:00 pm
Wednesday	Mar. 29, 2017	Lenten Soup & Study	5:15 pm
Thursday	Mar. 30, 2017	Stations of the Cross	5:30 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

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

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

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 Group, "The Wired Word", Thursday Evening at 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. **Unless otherwise noted.**

*Fourth Wednesday of the month in the morning the SNAP program & Food Bank Truck are here.

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Phone: 775-358-4474

Fax: 775-313-0806

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., 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