

# The Epistle



## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1135 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
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

## June 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...



Summer is fast approaching. There was a time when it was said that Episcopalians were the only ones God trusted enough to take the summer off. If that was ever true, I can assure you that this is no longer the case.

There is an old story floating around, and I have no idea where I heard it. I want to share it with you. It goes something like this:

A new church congregation was being formed. They started meeting in a tent in the park. The Gospel they experienced when they gathered was awesome. The preaching was pretty good, the sacraments were Divine, and the fellowship was warm and welcoming, which created a sense of belonging for all people.

Each of the members grew in their faith and they began living incredible discipleship. They actually became reflections of the light of Christ in the world.

The membership grew to a point where they needed their own building. The stewardship, outreach, and building committees joined forces. They decided to not only raise enough money to build their church, but to raise enough money to also build a homeless shelter/community center.

The money was quickly raised. The homeless shelter/community center was built first. After it was completed, the church was built.

It came time to hold their first worship service in the new building; the service was the Great Easter Vigil. This service started in the dark with just a few candles lit. When it came time to turn on the lights, candles were passed out and lit from the Paschal Candle. The church members spread the light across the

pews. Like tongues of fire, the holy flames filled the church.

Every bit of darkness was gone. Everyone could see each other as they all experienced for the first time, the sacredness of their new church.

The priest got up to preach. She said, "Look what you have done. You found the love and grace in Jesus and shared it with each other. You then shared it with the world by building a safe place for the homeless and are providing them with community resources for success.

Jesus did not build a community by himself. It took each disciple being and sharing the Light of Christ. Look around this new holy worship space and what you won't see are light fixtures. Yes, we had the money to buy some, but the truth is we could not afford to rely on them to see.

You know, what we created, we did together. The Light in this room comes not only from the candle you hold, but from Christ's Light within you. In order for this community of Jesus to continue to be successful, each of us has to be here when we gather for worship.

We need each other's Light in order to see. We need each other to see the truth of the Gospel and to see the work God is calling us to do.

Each of us has to be here in order for new people to see and experience the Light of Christ, until they too reflect it themselves.

When one of us is not here, there will be a hint of shadow. What do you think will happen to the shadows when many of us are not here?....."

God continues to send visitors to St. Paul's. They come seeking the Light you have to share. And it's not just the new people who need you here, we all do.

*Kirk*

## Bishop Dan's Retirement

In this 10th year of my time here, I continue to enjoy you, the Diocese of Nevada, more than I can say. I have found you as a



people to be delightful and I trust God has used me and continues to use me to do some good in our beloved mountains and deserts. More and more these days, people are asking me when I will retire. The answer is: not quite yet.[i] The horizon is in view but I feel I have a few more miles left on me and there is something I'd like to do for Nevada before I go.

I want to use my closing years productively. There is more we may yet do to the glory of God and for the sake of God's Kingdom. One way I hope to use this time is to offer you the gift of a smooth, orderly, self-aware, and minimally anxious transition. There is a normative way bishops close out their ministry and pass the crozier to their successor. That has not happened often (if ever) in Nevada and certainly has not happened in a long, long time.

When the bishop's chair is vacated suddenly, for whatever reason, the interval between bishops is challenging. No matter how able the Standing Committee and Provisional Bishop may be, there is a period when authority is a little scattered and uncertain. It then takes the new bishop time to resolve the irregularities that invariably arise. I intend to stay fully engaged and serve the Diocese of Nevada faithfully until the day your next bishop takes office. But beginning now, I will also be holding the space for the Diocese to prepare to elect my successor.

I have asked the Standing Committee to form a Search Committee with a view toward electing a new bishop in October 2018 to take office in 2019. The Search Committee's work will begin

by exploring the identity and mission of the Diocese. That identity and mission will be summarized in the Profile. Potential candidates for the election and the voting delegates will read that Profile. The identity and mission discernment stage is crucial not just to inform the candidates but also to help the Diocese know itself and hear God's call.

Next, the Search Committee will receive names of candidates and select finalists for an election. We are in a strong position to attract good candidates. I am confident you will have your choice of some outstanding candidates for 11th Bishop of Nevada.

While you are discerning the future path, we will have the ordinary ongoing mission of being the Church here and I will continue to do my part in that mission. But the sitting bishop does not play a role in your discernment. My job is to keep the ship as steady as possible while you do the discerning. It may seem odd both to you and to me that I will be here but will not be involved in the main thing happening. But now that I have gotten adjusted to the idea, I am looking forward to a ministry that is less about the project and more about the people. I hope that by being a caring, curious person, I can contribute to the spirit of inquiry without slanting the answers. Do not doubt that I care very much about your future. I care enough to exercise a discipline of restraint so that I do not interfere.

Again, I'm not gone yet. I will continue to exercise oversight of the Church here until sometime in 2019. I will just be exercising that oversight in a different way.

Blessings on you now and always.

+Dan

[i] "Not quite" is an allusion to Monty Python & the Holy Grail "Not quite dead yet" skits.

## Annual BIBBYQ June 4<sup>th</sup>

All are invited to the 9th Annual BIBBYQ on Sunday, June 4th, after the 10am Pentecost service. Adults are \$15 and Youth are \$5. This year's proceeds go to the Youth Group for their summer trip.



## Do you speak Spanish?

If so, I need your help to share the Gospel with our neighbors. As a parish located in a neighborhood, the vestry and I believe it is important that we share the Gospel and Holy Communion with those who live here.

We hope to in the near future, offer a Spanish language worship service. We will need Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers, Worship Leaders, and even Lay Preachers.

Please don't be shy. Sharing the Gospel is not always easy, but we can do this together.

We don't have days/times yet, but please contact me and let me know if you can help.

Gracias,

Padre Kirk

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Activities Going on Hiatus

The following activities are taking the summer off, or until further notice.

**Card Night**

**Thursday Bible Study**

**Thursday Men's Study Group**

**Pinterest Interest Group**

**11:00 Choir**

## Listen to Our Sermons Online

at <http://stpaulssparks.org/sermon-podcast/>  
They are normally posted on Tuesday of each week.

## Earth Stewardship Potluck Dinner

**LIVE GENEROUSLY**

The Bible graciously calls us to be responsible stewards of creation while serving and caring for one another. How can St. Paul's best respond to this calling with passion and imagination? Let's discuss this! On Saturday, July 15, there will be a potluck dinner in the Parish Hall where we will discuss and brainstorm ways to be responsible stewards of the earth. The event will start at 5 pm. Details for the potluck and some guest speakers will be announced soon. For now, please mark your calendars for Saturday evening, July 15, 5 pm.

## 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, *June 19th, 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.



## Wesley Bell Ringers

The Wesley Bell Ringers, a hand bell choir from Salt Lake City, Utah, will perform at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1135 12<sup>th</sup> Street, in Sparks on Saturday, June 10 at 7:30 PM. The concert will be the first concert on the choir's 52<sup>nd</sup> annual concert tour, and will feature 15 teenaged ringers playing more than 150 hand bells and hand chimes.

In 1963, The Wesley Bell Ringers, a music ministry of Christ United Methodist Church in Salt Lake City, UT, began with 9 youth ringers and 25 bells. Fast forward 54 years; the 15 current ringers are the most recent of the 482 youth who have participated in the choir. Over the years, the choir developed a reputation for musical excellence that continues to open doors to exciting opportunities.

The previous 52 summer tours have taken the choir to all 50 states and most of the Canadian provinces. They have performed at the US Capitol, Cathedral of the Pines National Monument, Mt. Rushmore, George Washington Masonic Memorial, Disneyland and Disneyworld. The choir has participated, as the featured choir, at numerous hand bell festivals around the United States, and performed for The National Music Educators convention. Performances with The Mormon Tabernacle Choir and The Utah Symphony Orchestra have been repeated honors over the choir's history.

The 2017 concert includes the music of Claude Debussy, Camille Saint-Saens, and notable handbell composers Cynthia Dobrinski and Jason Krug, as well as exciting selections from the 2016 Christmas season.

Admission to the concert is free, and a free will offering will be collected.

If you would like to learn more about the choir and hear their music, visit their webpage at [www.wesleybells.org](http://www.wesleybells.org)

## Prayers and 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 fourth 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.

Margaret Bouzek

## Men's Study Group on Hiatus

The 7:00 p.m. men's Thursday evening study group is taking the June off, maybe July too.

## Weekly Bible Study on Hiatus

The weekly Thursday morning bible study is taking the summer off. Don't let this stop you from reading the scriptures!

## Card Night on Hiatus

Card Night is taking a summer break and will return in September.

## Pinterest Interest Group on Hiatus

The Pinterest Interest Group has had a lot of fun over the years, but will taking a hiatus until further notice.

## 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 Mittelstadt at 775-722-3329 or by email at [tia.mittel@gmail.com](mailto: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:

### **Saturday, June 3: Help with Bibby BBQ**

Meet at the church at 4 PM to help set up tables and chairs for the Bibby BBQ.

### **June 4: Bibby BBQ after the 10 AM Worship Service**

Worship is a combined service at 10 AM. During the worship the graduating seniors will be recognized. After the service, the EYC will be helping with the BBQ and also helping to put away tables and chairs after the event. Proceeds from the Bibby BBQ will benefit EYC.

### **Saturday, June 10: Wesley Bell Ringer Concert at 7:30 PM**

The Wesley Bell Ringers are a youth handbell choir from Salt Lake City, Utah. They will be performing their concert at 7:30 PM at St. Paul's. Come enjoy this free and fun concert!

### **Summer Schedule:**

EYC will take a break during the summer. We will meet for a fun event. Watch for details in your email and on Facebook.

### **Painting Bowls at Playful Potter**

In August we will get together after church to go to lunch and then to Playful Potter to paint bowls for the "Empty Bowls" fundraiser for the Community Food Pantry at St. Paul's. The date will be announced in the Epistle, by email and on Facebook.

### **September 10: Regular Meetings Begin**

EYC will meet at 10:15 AM in the youth room. Watch for more details later.

## **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.

Diane, Pat, Barbara, Larry, Anne, Nanette, Philip, Ernest, Preston, Jameson Walker, Bill, Trudy, Lori, Dick, Keith, Ella, Patricia, Paul, Sixten, Serwind, Ryan, Rev. Ken, Alyson, Victoria, Peggy, Mary, Frank, Karen, Sven, Grace, Robert, Jill, Sharon, Harry, Stan, Stephanie, Joe, Ruthie, Vedda, Elva, Doris, David, Eileen, Marge, Dillon, Madeline, Bob, Carol's family, Brock, Anita, Vickie, Robbie, Katie, Vicky, Taylor, Cate, Chris, Matthew, Danny, Beau, Alex, Jeff's family, John, Mike, Dwight, Mae & family, Carolyn's family & friends., Al, Sue, Carol, Greg, Gayle, Dave, Jeanette, Nancie, Dana, Lerae.

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

## June in the Food Pantry

**“Let’s “Can” this month!”**

Food items that come in a can... veggies, fruit, chili, tuna, Spam, etc.



## The Daughters of the King



The Order of the Daughters of the King is asking for donations of tote bags and gently used purses along with women’s personal hygiene items. Such items include shampoo, deodorant, feminine pads/tampons, soap, hair products, motel bathroom bottles, toothbrushes, hairbrushes, barrettes, etc. There will be a barrel placed in the narthex to collect the items. If you do not have items to donate but want to help, write a check made out to St. Paul’s Episcopal with DOK in subject line. They will gladly shop for you. For questions, please contact Connie Patterson at [775-771-1264](tel:775-771-1264).

## Recovery Groups at St. Paul’s

Wednesdays: Women’s AA @ 6:30 p.m.

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

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

## Vegetable Garden Needs Volunteers

It’s time to tend our vegetable garden! We are looking for volunteers to help plant, water, weed, tend, and harvest. All of the produce goes to the Food Pantry! Mary Gonzales has volunteered to organize and labor for the garden this season. To volunteer, find the sign up sheet in the narthex. You can contact Mary if you have questions or ideas for the garden, 505-730-7722.

## Tithe.ly (Online Giving)

Do you sometimes forget to bring your pledge offering to Sunday service and then have to remember to double up the **next** week? Our online giving partner, Tithe.ly, can solve that problem by automatically withdrawing the money from your checking or credit card on a schedule that you choose.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this service, 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 insure 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 list of helpful hints for setting up your account properly. If you would like the hint sheet, send an email to [Treasurer@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Treasurer@StPaulsSparks.org) or look up Roger Towne or Patti Stine and they we will email the pointers back to you or help you personally.

## Prayer for the Election of a Bishop

(BCP page 818)

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## By Your Gifts We Are Blessed

The Lenten season and Easter offered many opportunities for outreach at St. Paul's both inside and outside the parish. This list includes donations for April and May.

Episcopal Relief and Development Disaster Relief (from Lenten Soup Suppers) - \$730.52

Jerusalem Church (from Maundy Thursday and Good Friday) - \$609.00

Eddy House (one half of Easter collection ) - \$929.68

United Thank Offering (UTO) - \$98.13

Western Missionary Museum (for Nevada's Mother Church St. Paul's the Prospector in Virginia City) - \$300.00

The Community Food Pantry - \$280.00

Prayers and Squares - \$215.00

Youth Ministries for EYE - \$200.00

Youth Ministries for EYC - \$400.00

Memorials were received for the following:

Jeri Taylor - \$100.00

Jan Enzler - \$100.00

Dorothy O'Boyle - \$100.00

Tom Stringer - \$100.00

Patti Stine, Assistant Treasurer

## Summer Piano Players Needed

Do you play the piano? Would you consider playing the piano for some of the 11:00 worship services this summer?

Ben is taking every other week off this summer in order to spend some time with his family.

You could sign up to play one Sunday, or multiple Sundays.

Please contact Fr. Kirk ASAP if you want to help. [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org) 775-358-4474  
Thank you.

## Kenya Golf Tournament

**CALLING ALL GOLFERS  
(AND THEIR FANS)!**



Join your fellow parishioners and others at International Development Mission's

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Kenya Golf Tournament**  
**Saturday, June 10**  
**at Somerset's Canyon Nine**  
**Executive Course** (par 3 course)

Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m. with a Shotgun Start at 9 a.m.

Closest to the Hole Event at 8:30 a.m.

**Cost: \$30 for Golfers (includes lunch);  
\$10 for Lunch Only**  
**Both Single Golfers and Groups are  
Welcome!**

**Great Raffle Prizes  
are Available at the Event.**

**NOT A GOLFER?** Join Us for Lunch Only  
OR

**SPONSOR A HOLE** - Minimum Sponsorship is \$30

All Sponsorships are Tax-Deductible as Allowed by Federal Tax Law

**For Information, Contact Deb Stiver at  
636-1155 or [stiver@unr.edu](mailto:stiver@unr.edu)**



## Coming Events



### June 2017

Saturday	June 03, 2017	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	June 04, 2017	<b><u>Pentecost</u> Wear RED (Worship in the Garden)</b>	10:00 am
Sunday	June 04, 2017	Bibby-Q	11:30 am
Sunday	June 04, 2017	Northern NV Episcopal Picnic ( <i>Idlewild Park</i> )	12:30 pm
Monday	June 05, 2017	NO Pinterest Interest Group ( <u>postponed for a while</u> )	
Saturday	June 10, 2017	Wesley Bell Ringers	7:30 pm
Monday	June 12, 2017	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Saturday	June 17, 2017	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Monday	June 19, 2017	Stewardship Meeting	6:00 pm
Monday	June 19, 2017	Hill Gang Meeting (Blvd. Pizza)	6:00 pm
Saturday	June 24, 2017	Prayers & Squares	9:00 am
Sunday	June 25, 2017	Blood Drive (9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.)	9:00 am
Sunday	June 25, 2017	Epistle Deadline	12:00 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**

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

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

Bible Study meets Thursday mornings at 11:00 a.m. **(On Hiatus)**

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. **(On Hiatus)**

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.

## Blood Drive at St. Paul's

Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>

9:30 to 12:30

Sign-up in the Narthex



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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

Phone: 775-358-4474

Fax: 775-313-0806

E-Mail: [office@stpaulssparks.org](mailto:office@stpaulssparks.org)

Web Site: [www.stpaulssparks.org](http://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*