



July

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1135 12th Street
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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. Hal Woomer, Jr.
Assistant Priest

The Rev. Mike Margerum, Deacon

The Rev. Linda Smith, Deacon

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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...



People (some people) join gyms to get in shape, to become healthier. In order for this to work, you actually have to go to the gym regularly. Once you get to the gym, you have to engage in different tools/equipment that addresses different parts of your body. One day would be leg day and the next day is your arms. One day your focus is on your core strength, and don't forget the cardio! To be healthy, you have to be persistent in your gym attendance, and you have to maintain some sense of balance with the right food/fuel to nourish your body.

The same is true with our spiritual health. Attending worship once or twice a month is not enough to expect growth in our lives. If all we do is attend Sunday worship, even if it's every week, it isn't enough either. We have way too many distractions in our lives. In order to stay focused on what really matters, we need to come together for worship each week, *and* we need to engage daily in some form of spiritual practice.

Spiritual practices come in all shapes and sizes. For some, you might try praying the daily offices in The Book of Common Prayer. Maybe if you prefer quiet time, you should try the sacred emptying of Centering Prayer or some other guided meditation practice. The thing about spiritual practices is that you can really make anything into a spiritual practice. The key is to do something with the intentionality of strengthening your relationship with God. Do you take a daily walk or run? When you do, try looking at things with new eyes. Intentionally acknowledge the beauty of God's creation while you do it. If you see someone, pray for them to get what they need; pray they experience God's love.

Read something with the intent to get closer to God. Dig in the garden with the awareness of God's creation. Play music with the intention to share the song as an offering to God. While you eat, pray for those who grew the food, harvested it, shipped it, sold it, and prepared it. Be grateful for the nourishment that fuels *your* body which reflects *God's* image.

Finding a spiritual practice is not hard. You just need to be intentional about it, and do something that creates a deeper connection with God each and every day.

Kirk⁺

Budget Visioning Check-In July 8th

Please join Vestry members in the Parish Hall between the 9 and 11 am worship services (10:15ish) on Sunday, **July 8th** for an update on the status of St. Paul's 2018 budget and to check in on goals for 2019 and beyond. Please bring your dreams for community outreach, Christian education, stewardship, etc., to share at this meeting. This is the first step in developing our 2019 budget. All are invited.

Sunday Summer Book Study

The next book is ***The Dream of God* by Verna Dozier**. We will begin Sunday, July 8th from 3:00 to 4:30 in the Youth Room.

Mid-Week Holy Eucharist

We now have a mid-week Communion service on Wednesdays at 12:15 p.m. We are no longer offering the Healing Service on Thursday evenings. We do, however, offer special prayers for healing and laying on of hands with anointing, which may be received at the rail following the Wednesday Communion.

Recovery Groups at St. Paul's

Mon, Tues, Fri: Spanish Ala-non @ 6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

July in the Food Pantry

“The “Canned” Festival”

Canned goods such as
Veggies, fruit, chili, tuna etc.



Paint a Bowl for Empty Bowls

Arrive at The Playful Potter during open hours (1351 E. Prater Way, Sparks, NV). Tell them you are there for Empty Bowls, and they will assist you. Paint as many bowls as you wish at \$10 per bowl.

The Empty Bowls event is the major fundraiser for The Community Food Pantry at St. Paul's.

Empty Bowls: September 26th

The Empty Bowls event is the main fundraising opportunity for The Community Food Pantry. It will be held on Wednesday, September 27 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Grand Sierra Resort. Tickets are \$35 for a fun evening of food, fun, raffle and silent auction. Tickets can be purchased on Sunday or in the parish office during the week. Come join the fun!

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, Larry, Anne, Nanette, Philip, Ernest, Preston, Jameson Walker, Trudy, Lori, Dick, Barbara's family, Ella, Patricia, Paul, Ryan, Alyson, Victoria, Mary, Frank, Barbara, Jill, Ruthie, Linda, Vedda, Eileen, Marge, Dillon, Madeline, Bob, Brock, Vickie, Katie, Vicky, Alex, Matthew, Lerae, Mark, Julia, Ebert, Kathleen, Ken, Patti, Candi, Susan, Ann, Dorothy, Jack, Sue, Nick, Michael, Suzette, William, Lisa, Nancy, Ruth, Dee, Ana, baby Bo, John, Doris, Celine, Pattie, Hailey, Zac, Mikey,

Rita, Don, Cate, Dylan, Nolan, Cindy, Danny, Matthew, Kirk E, Jason's family, Al, Ted, Maeghan, Bruce, Grayson & family, Brennan, Deonne's family, Dale's family, Sharon, Peggy, Jody, Craig, Stan, Stephen, Bonnie, Mata family, Frankie, Keith, Kelly, Sandi, Kay, Jimmy, Tammy, Jason, Toni, Peter & family, Jaemie, Michelle, Tom.

Military: Andrew, Ryan, Jeffrey, Sierra, Owen, Brian, Evanne, Alex, Suzanne, Mason, David, Paul, Roger, Shylo, Alberto.

Laundry Love



Are you looking for a new ministry? Laundry Love might just be a great fit for some of us here at St. Paul's. What's it take to participate in Laundry Love?...a roll of quarters, a box of laundry soap, some cookies, a couple hours once a month, and a little love.

We currently have enough laundry soap, but we certainly need all the quarters we can get! (or other \$\$ that we can turn into quarters :-)

Money can either be handed to Linda, or designate it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate.

If you have an interest in helping start this monthly ministry at St. Paul's, contact Linda Devon at LSD4764@hotmail.com.

Piano Concert: July 29th

Come and enjoy the beautiful sounds from Alissa and Adam Teachout, Ben Gallagher, and others. July 29th, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the church.

Circle of Connections Phone Tree

Do you live alone? Would you like a daily phone call to check on you? If so, we are creating a Circle of Connections Phone Tree for you! Those who wish to participate will both make a phone call and receive one each day. Each set of partners will arrange between themselves the time frame of the call. The expectation of the call is that it be just a quick check-in; however if a friendship forms and you talk a little longer, that's okay too.

If you are interested in participating, contact Fr. Kirk and he will give you more details. 775-358-4474 Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org

Neighborhood Prayer Walk

Our next prayer walk will be Saturday, July 14 at 9 -10:30 am. Prayer walks are a way to connect with St. Paul's neighbors and listen for God's call.

We'll meet in The Garden at 9 am and have a group prayer before we leave. As we walk St. Paul's neighborhood, we look for signs of hope and need, and how God calls us to both. We pray either silently or aloud softly. We don't draw attention to ourselves, but we do stay open to interaction with people on the way. Afterwards, we meet back in The Garden to share our prayers and observations. Contact Jon Mittelstadt or Patricia Unruh with any questions. Everyone is welcome!

By Your Gifts We Are Blessed

Hope everyone is having a good summer, now that it's finally here!! The following are donations received for the month of June:

\$500.00 - Northern Nevada Pride

\$25.00 - Prayers and Squares quilt ministry

\$10.00 - Laundry Love

\$96.00 - The Community Food Pantry

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. If you have any questions, please contact Tia Mittelstadt at 775-722-3329 or by email at tia.mittel@gmail.com.

EYC: Summer Schedule:

EYC are taking a summer break. 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 9: Regular Meetings Begin

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

Prayers and Squares Ministry

Prayers & Squares is an interfaith outreach organization that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. The purpose of Prayers & Squares is not to make and distribute quilts, but to promote prayer through the use of quilts. Our motto is: "It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers." The idea behind these prayer quilts is simple. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to tie with a knot. The quilt is blessed at one of the services and as each knot is tied, a silent prayer is offered for someone in need. What makes each quilt unique is not the pattern,

color, or workmanship, but the fact that prayer is symbolically tied into each one. These "comforters" are a statement of faith, and a testimony to our belief in God and in the power of prayer.

Our group meets in the Parish Hall on the 4th Saturday of each month, where quilts are cut out, sewed, and prayer threads inserted. Knowing how to sew is not necessary as there are many other tasks involved in making the quilts. Everyone is welcome. When the quilts are completed they are placed in the new Quilt Cabinet in the Narthex. Anyone can view and select a quilt for someone in need.

To request a quilt, contact Margaret Bouzek at margaret.bouzek@gmail.com, Peg Bibby at ragladypeg@att.net, the Parish Office, or any member of Prayers & Squares.

PRIDE July 28, 2018

Build Our Center presents:



St. Paul's will walk in the Northern Nevada PRIDE parade. We will also have a booth at the festival, passing out water. And for those that ask us, we will tell them about St. Paul's and what they would experience if they came. Come and walk with us and/or come and help out in our booth.

(ps... We need water donations)

United Thank Offering

Do you remember the parable of "The Widow's Mite"? Well, now we have the chance again to make a difference with our own "mite boxes".

United Thank Offering (UTO) is a national ministry of the Episcopal Church. It provides much-needed grants for schools, homeless shelters, clinics, libraries, family counseling

and much more; UTO is involved, not only in our church, but in our world!

We are all encouraged to recognize our blessings as we make a thank offering and drop a coin into our blue mite boxes.

Jori Trimbell will hand the boxes out after the July 1st services. They will also be available on a table in the narthex. The boxes will be collected later in the fall. Thank you!

Education for Ministry (EfM)

Interested in an in-depth bible study class? EfM (Education for Ministry) is a 4 year course sponsored by Sewanee, The University of the South. It is open to anyone interested in learning more about the Christian faith. Year One is a study of the Old Testament. Year Two is a study of the New Testament. Year Three covers the history of Christianity, and Year Four focuses on Christian ethics. There are weekly small group meetings that combine students from all years. The cost is \$360 per year. You can check out their website for more info <http://efm.sewanee.edu/>. The commitment is only 1 year at a time. We meet for 36 weeks of the year, with time off at the holidays and for Holy Week. Connie Patterson is the mentor for this course. If you have an interest in learning more about where our Faith comes from, please contact Connie for more details (cp4675@att.net) or 771-1264.

St. Paul's Men's Escape Weekend

The annual St. Paul's Men's Escape is upon us. The dates are Friday evening August 17th through Sunday afternoon, August 19th. The location is Camp Galilee at Lake Tahoe. Those of you who have attended in the past are pretty comfortable with the strict agenda we follow, which is:

WE DO NOT HAVE AN AGENDA
(unless relaxation and fellowship constitute an agenda)

Undoubtedly, some will hike Spooner Lake, some will swim and tan, some will kayak, some will play horseshoes, many will read, several will play cards or board games. We will all have time to visit, spin tales and tell lies, laugh and get to know each other a little better. It is totally a worthwhile experience and in one of the prettiest places on God's blue marble.

The fee is \$155.00 and includes lodging and 6 great meals.

I know people have busy lives, but if you can fit this in I think you will be glad you did. If you can commit now I would really appreciate it, but if your plans are still fluid just let me know as soon as you can. Payment can be made as late as August 10. Make checks payable to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and reference Men's Escape in the memo line. I'm not the guy to ask, but the techies among you can probably do this through our online service, Tithe.ly. And even though you pay, it would be helpful if you would let me know either personally or by email. realstuff775@charter.net

In love and faith,

Dick Stufflebeam

Episcopal 101

Sundays July 15th – August 5th.

10:20 a.m. to 10:50 a.m.

This is a casual meeting with Fr. Kirk about the basics of our faith tradition. We will gather in the St. Paul's Lounge.

Adult Class: Confirmation, Reception Reaffirmation, Adult Baptism

September 5 through October 10, 2018.

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Are you new to the Episcopal Church and want to dig in and explore? **This class is for you.**

Have you been around for a while but have never been Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church? **This class is for you.**

Have you never been baptized? **This class is for you.**

Have you been confirmed, but you would like to reaffirm/renew your commitment to Christ through St. Paul's? **This class is for you.**

Would you just like to come and learn more about the Episcopal Church and what it means to live out your faith? **This class is for you.**

This class is an adult preparation class for Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation and Adult Baptism.

What are Confirmation, Reception, Reaffirmation and Holy Baptism?

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.

The Bishop Search Update

The Revs. Victoria Warren, chair and Carol Walton, committee member

June 29, 2018

The Bishop Search Committee is moving forward with a strong group of qualified candidates.

As reported in our last Update, the Bishop Search Committee received a good amount of applications from potential candidates for the position of 11th Bishop of Nevada. Several members of the committee conducted interviews with the Bishops of each candidate. At the same time, every committee member reviewed the applications, including the responses to four essay questions. We used a blind screening process for our review of the essays. This ensured that all candidates were evaluated based on their responses to the questions without regard to any identifying characteristics.

The committee then met in mid-June for prayer, discussion, and discernment. Through

application review and screening we selected a strong group of candidates to invite into the next phase of the process. Background checks, phone interviews, and reference checks are being completed by the committee. In addition to these efforts, Oxford Document Management Company has been asked to do a professional, in-depth background check.

Phone interviews through video conferencing calls will also be conducted with each candidate. Then the Search Committee will again prayerfully discuss and discern which candidates will be invited to attend the Discernment Retreat in mid-August at Camp Galilee. Preparation and arrangements for the retreat are underway as well! After the retreat, the Search Committee will present a slate of candidates to the Standing Committee. At this point in time our work is done. The Standing Committee will then review, approve, and announce the slate of candidates.

Your prayers have always been an important part of the process. Please faithfully continue to hold the search process in your prayers.

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, Good Shepherd of our souls, govern and direct your Holy Church and especially this Diocese of Nevada as we choose a new Bishop to lead and care for your people. Guide the minds of the members of our Standing Committee and Search Committee that we may receive a faithful servant who will support us in our ministries, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Episcopal Night at the Aces

Friday August 17th, 7:05 PM

Reno Aces –vs- Salt Lake City Bees

Tickets are \$16

Sales start June 24th!

If you want tickets or have questions, see Daniel Villanueva after a service.

You Are the "Imago Dei"

Adapted from *Richard Rohr: Essential Teachings on Love*, eds. Joelle Chase and Judy Traeger (Orbis Books: 2018), 71-72.

Searching for and rediscovering the True Self is the *fundamentum*, the essential task that will gradually open us to receiving and giving love to God, others, and ourselves, and thus to live truly just lives. Grace builds on nature; it does not avoid or destroy nature. You are created in the image of God from the very beginning (Genesis 1:26-27). This is the basis for God's justice: Since everyone is made in the image of God, then we need to recognize, honor, and respect the image of God in everyone. No exceptions.

You (and every other creation of God) begin with your unique divine DNA, an inner destiny as it were, an absolute core that knows the truth about you, a true believer tucked away in the cellar of your being, an *imago Dei* that begs to be allowed, to be fulfilled, and to show itself. "You were chosen in Christ before the world was made—to stand before God in love—marked out beforehand as fully adopted sons and daughters" (Ephesians 1:4-5). This is your True Self or soul.

Jesus revealed and accepted a paradox: human and divine are not separate, but one!

Why do we resist this destiny? For most of us, this seems just too good and too dangerous to be true. There is so much contrary evidence! Are we afraid to bear the burden of divinity? It is precisely the divine part of you that is great enough, deep enough, gracious enough to fully accept the human part of you. If you are merely human, you will tend to reject your embarrassingly limited humanity.

Maybe we realize subconsciously that if we really recognized our True Self—which is the Divine Indwelling, the Holy Spirit within us—if we really believed that we are temples of God (see 1 Corinthians 3:16, 6:19; 2 Corinthians 6:16), then we would have to live up to this incredible dignity, freedom, and love.

Paradoxically, immense humility, not arrogance, characterizes the True Self. You simultaneously know you are a son or daughter of God, but you also know that you didn't earn it and you are not worthy of it. You know it's entirely a gift (see Ephesians 2:8-9 and throughout Paul's writings). All you can do is thank Somebody Else, occasionally weep with joy, and kneel without any hesitation.

The single and true purpose of mature religion is to lead you to ever new experiences of your True Self. If religion does not do this, it is junk religion. Every sacrament, every Bible story, every church service, every sermon, every hymn, every bit of priesthood, ministry, or liturgy is for one purpose: to allow you to experience your True Self—who you are in God and who God is in you—and to live a generous and just life from that Infinite Source.

<https://cac.org/category/daily-meditations/>

Coming Events



July 2018

Sunday	July 01, 2018	St. Paul's Campout ends today	
Wednesday	July 04, 2018	Fourth of July – Food Pantry & Church Office closed.	
Wednesday	July 04, 2018	Mid-Week Holy Eucharist	12:15 pm
Saturday	July 07, 2018	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	July 08, 2018	Mid-Year “Check-up” with the Vestry	10:15 am
Sunday	July 08, 2018	Outreach Meeting	12:30 pm
Sunday	July 08, 2018	<i>Sunday Book Study “The Dream of God”</i>	3:00 pm
Monday	July 09, 2018	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday	July 11, 2018	Mid-Week Holy Eucharist	12:15 pm
Saturday	July 14, 2018	Neighborhood Prayer Walk	9:00 am
Sunday	July 15, 2018	Episcopal 101 10:20 to 10:50am St. Paul's Lounge	10:20 am
Sunday	July 15, 2018	<i>Sunday Book Study “The Dream of God”</i>	3:00 pm
Wednesday	July 18, 2018	Mid-Week Holy Eucharist	12:15 pm
Saturday	July 21, 2018	Community Organizing Training (9 to 4 with lunch)	9:00 am
Saturday	July 21, 2018	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	July 22, 2018	Episcopal 101 10:20 to 10:50am St. Paul's Lounge	10:20 am
Sunday	July 22, 2018	<i>Sunday Book Study “The Dream of God”</i>	3:00 pm
Wednesday	July 25, 2018	Mid-Week Holy Eucharist	12:15 pm
Wednesday	July 25, 2018	Epistle Deadline	12:00 pm
Saturday	July 28, 2018	Pride Parade & Festival	9:00 am
Saturday	July 28, 2018	Prayers & Squares	9:00 am
Sunday	July 29, 2018	Episcopal 101 10:20 to 10:50am St. Paul's Lounge	10:20 am
Sunday	July 29, 2018	<i>Sunday Book Study “The Dream of God”</i>	3:00 pm
Sunday	July 29, 2018	Piano Concert in the Church	6:30 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. Wednesdays 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

Spanish Alanon group meets, Mon. Tues. & Fri. 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

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

Mid-Week Holy Eucharist Wednesday at 12:15 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.**

Food Pantry open the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (now through September)

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

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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Fax: 775-313-0806

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Web Site: www.stpaulssparks.org

Place Label Here



Sun., 9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Praise
Sun., 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Traditional
Sun., 5:00 p.m. Traditional Holy Eucharistic, No Music
Wed., 12:15 p.m. Mid-Week Holy Eucharist