



December

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. 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...



Advent is here, an intentional time of preparation for the birth of God into the world. During Christ's Mass, a.k.a. "Christmas", we will celebrate that birth by remembering a poor newborn baby, how he was swaddled in scraps and placed in a feed trough.

As we work through Advent, we can prepare ourselves to make a decision as to whether we will respond to the baby as if he was our own child. If we claim him as our own, we'll scoop him up and comfort him even if he falls out of the feed trough and lands in a fresh pile of dung.

Now, if at the end of Advent, you don't want to claim the dung covered baby as your own, at least have the common decency to hand him back to his mother.

Kirk

2019 Pledge Cards

St Paul's Vestry and Stewardship Committee are very grateful for all the 2019 pledge cards returned so far. Your pledges to fund the mission of the church allow Vestry to make a 2019 budget. It's not too late to turn in a pledge card. Pledges turned in before January 14th will be included in the 2019 budget. If you need a pledge card, they are available in the Narthex or contact the parish office Robin@StPaulsSparks.org or 358-4474.

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.

Angel Tree: Due December 9th

The Salvation Army Toy Angel tags and Senior Silver tags are due back to St. Paul's on Dec. 9th. If you are unable to return them on time, please contact Barbara Papadakos at Barbara.jee.papadakos@gmail.com or (775) 750-1575. Thank you,

December in the Food Pantry

"Holiday Trimmings!"

Give food for Holiday Gatherings!



Laundry Love

Laundry Love is booming! We have PLENTY of laundry soap, but we will continue collecting quarters (or other \$\$ that we can turn into quarters :-)) Donations can either be handed to Linda Devon, or designate it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate.

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

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, Fr. Mike & Pastor Jody, Ella, Patricia, Paul, Ryan, Alyson, Mary, Frank, Barbara, Jill, Steve, Ruthie, Vedda, Eileen, Marge, Dillon, Madeline, Bob, Brock, Vickie, Katie, Vicky, Alex, Matthew, Lerae, Julia, Kathleen, Ken, Patti, Candi, Susan, Ann, Dorothy, Sue, Nick, William, Nancy, Ruth, Dee, baby Bo, Hailey, Zac, Nolan, Ted, Al, Sharon, Peggy, Stan, Bonnie, Jaemmie, Michelle, Janice's family, Rae, Debby, Jeff, Mike, Olga, Mary Lou, Frank & family, Val, Emily, Julie, Sandy, Irene, Bethany, Emerson, Zavie, Everett, Brianna, Alyssa, Don, Michael, Kathy, Rita, Ana, Cate, Mac, Dawn, Joe, Jerry, Gerry, Christy, Joy & family, Carol, Rocky, all those involved with CA fires, Michele, Katheryn, Beth Ann, Gina & family, Charlotte, Rita, Dr. Chafin.

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

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 Mittelstadt at 775-722-3329 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:

Sunday, December 2: No Meeting due to Diocesan Convention

Sunday, December 9: Service Project- Picking up garbage around the Church property
Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will eat lunch and then pick up garbage. Bring work gloves.

Sunday, December 16: Christmas Shopping
Meet in the youth room at 10:15 AM. We will carpool to Meadowood Mall. Bring money to eat lunch in the food court. You will have time to do some Christmas shopping for your friends and family if you like- so bring extra money if you plan on shopping. We will also do a short, fun Christmas photo scavenger hunt to do while you are shopping. We will return around 1:00 pm.

Saturday, December 22: Help with Food Pantry Christmas Dinner Giveaway

Meet at 8:45 am to help with The Community Food Pantry Christmas Dinner Giveaway. Bring hats, gloves, scarves and mittens for kids

and adults to give to people in line. We will also be serving hot chocolate to those in line.

December 23: No Meeting- Merry Christmas
December 30: No Meeting- Happy New Year
January 6: No Meeting

Scarves for Children and Adults

The EYC will be collecting new adult and children's hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves over the next few weeks. These items will be given to people waiting in line to receive Christmas food items from the Community Food Pantry on Saturday, December 22. There will be a box for donations in the Narthex, so please bring them to the church on or before **Sunday, December 16** or drop them off at the church office before the 22nd. If you'd rather give money, just earmark it for this project. Thank you!!

Christmas Flowers

A donation to the flowers is a wonderful way to remember loved ones and to give thanks for God's blessings. Envelopes for the Christmas flowers are in the Narthex.

Time to Restock Coffee Hour

Our freezers that were once so graciously full of sweets are now empty. If you would like to donate cookies, etc., please bake up those heavenly morsels, mark them for Coffee Hour, and put them in the bottom white freezers. Bless you.

Christmas Offering: Paradise, CA.

The Christmas offering this year will be split between St. Paul's general fund and the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California Disaster Relief Fund. 100% of donations that we send to this relief fund will go directly to assist victims of the Camp Fire in Paradise. **Here is how to make your Christmas donation:**

#1 Put your cash donation in the special Christmas Offering envelope and put it in the offering plate. This can be done on any Sunday between now and the end of the year. Envelopes for the Christmas Offering and for Christmas Flowers are located in the Narthex.

#2 Make a check out to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and put "Christmas Offering" or "Disaster Relief" in the memo line. Put your check in the offering plate on any Sunday between now and the end of the year. Checks that are designated in this way don't need a special envelope.

#3 Put cash in the offering plate during any of the three Christmas services. If you would like us to record a cash donation on your giving statement, please put it in a Christmas envelope and fill out the information.

"Blue" Christmas Service

Sunday, Dec. 23rd, 5:00 p.m.

Is Christmas time hard for you? There are numerous reasons why so many people struggle during this time of year. If you are someone that experiences more pain than joy around the holidays, you are not alone. Come and worship the Christ Child with others in the struggle. Come to our Blue Christmas service and invite those you know who might want to join you.

Special Holiday Worship Times

Sunday, December 23rd

10:00 a.m. Advent Lessons & Carols
(only 1 morning service)

5:00 p.m. Blue Christmas Service

Christmas Eve, December 24th

5:30 p.m. Praise Service

10:30 p.m. Traditional

Christmas Day, December 25th

10:00 a.m. Traditional (No music)

Sunday, December 30th

10:00 a.m. Praise Service

5:00 p.m. Traditional (No music)

Prayers and Squares Ministry

Prayers & Squares 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.

New Gratitude Committee

Thanksgiving is over, but thanksgiving and gratitude never end. At the heart of stewardship is gratitude for God's salvation, love and blessings. To recognize this truth, our Stewardship Committee will from now on be called the "Gratitude Committee". The gratitude committee will meet monthly in 2019 to plan gratitude activities for the parish, and will also be studying and planning ways to care for creation (earth stewardship). If you are hearing a call to join our Gratitude Committee, or would like to learn more about it, contact the committee chair Jon Mittelstadt at jon.mittel@gmail.com or 771-8356.

By Your Gifts We Are Blessed

Sales from the Prayers and Squares craft fair totaled \$389.00. The money will be used to buy quilting fabric and supplies.

Other donations received were as follows:

\$ 75.00 - Prayers and Squares quilt ministry
\$100.00 - School Supplies Fund
\$ 30.00 - Laundry Love ministry
\$190.00 - The Community Food Pantry
\$105.00 - Cuba Pension Fund
\$246.60 - United Thank Offering (UTO)
\$150.00 - Memorial Fund in memory of the Margerums

Patti Stine, Assistant Treasurer

Help Needed for Holiday Dinner

The Outreach Team will be preparing and serving a holiday meal for the residents of the Lincoln Way Senior Complex on December 15th at 1:00 p.m. If you would like to help prepare or serve the meal, please contact Margaret Bouzek at 775-232-4712.

Thank you.

Coming Events



December 2018

Saturday	Dec. 01, 2018	New Food Pantry Mobile Unit * see below	11:00 am
Saturday	Dec. 01, 2018	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Sunday	Dec. 02, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	12:15 pm
Sunday	Dec. 02, 2018	Outreach Meeting	12:30 pm
Wednesday	Dec. 05, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	1:00 pm
Sunday	Dec. 09, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	12:15 pm
Monday	Dec. 10, 2018	Vestry Meeting	6:00 pm
Wednesday	Dec. 12, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	1:00 pm
Saturday	Dec. 15, 2018	D.O.K.	10:00 am
Saturday	Dec. 15, 2018	Outreach Lunch Lincoln Apts.	1:00 pm
Sunday	Dec. 16, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	12:15 pm
Wednesday	Dec. 19, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	1:00 pm
Saturday	Dec. 22, 2018	Prayers & Squares CXL	9:00 am
Sunday	Dec. 23, 2018	<i>Advent Lessons & Carols</i>	10:00 am
Sunday	Dec. 23, 2018	<i>Advent Study</i>	11:15 am
Sunday	Dec. 23, 2018	Blue Christmas Service	5:00 pm
Monday	Dec. 24, 2018	Christmas Eve Praise Service	5:30 pm
Monday	Dec. 24, 2018	Christmas Eve Tradition Service	10:30 pm
Tuesday	Dec. 25, 2018	Christmas Day Service	10:00 am
Tuesday	Dec. 27, 2018	Epistle Deadline (changed deadline)	12:00 pm
Wednesday	Dec. 26, 2018	Church Office Closed Dec 25th – 28th	
Thursday	Dec. 27, 2018	Laundry Love (Laundromat on Oddie Blvd.)	6:00 pm

Recurring Events

Worship times, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

Mid-Week Holy Eucharist with Anointing for Healing Wednesday at 12:15 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)

Wednesdays Bible/Book Study @ 1:00 p.m. in the Choir room.

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

Last Thursday of the Month, Laundry Love Ministry – Laundromat on Oddie Blvd. 6:00 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**

NEW*Food Pantry Mobile Unit, Saturdays 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

***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



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