



The Epistle 2020

July

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1135 12th Street
PO Box 737

Sparks, Nevada 89432
775-358-4474

www.StPaulsSparks.org

The Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff, Rector

The Rev. Chip Arnold,
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Mike Patterson
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hal Woomer, Jr.
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Jody Lediard
Assisting Priest

The Rev. Mike Margerum, Deacon

The Rev. Linda Smith, Deacon

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WHO ARE WE?

St. Paul's is a reconciling, affirming, and inclusive Christian community. No matter where you are on your journey of faith, you belong here. Our understanding of belonging extends to those who are single, married, divorced, separated, or partnered. Belonging here has no boundaries of age, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, economic condition, physical or mental ability. We believe that God delights in the diversity of creation and so do we. You are worthy, so come as you are.

Need Toilet Paper?

Contact the church.

Need Food?

Contact the church.

**If you need anything,
contact the church.**

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



Dear St. Paul's,

Are we fully in the GREEN?

Can we gather in person to worship?

Answer: No, not yet. We are still in the Red.

Things still have to happen before we will reopen for public worship.

#1 Governor Sisolak has to permit it

In phase 2, the Governor has okayed 50 people or less to gather for worship, as long as 6 feet can be maintained between congregants.

#2 Bishop Waggoner has to permit it (It's no longer the Bishop making this decision)

We have been given guidelines, not from Bishop Waggoner, but by the President of the Standing Committee of the Diocese. We have to submit a detailed plan to the Diocese stating how we will reopen safely. That plan has to be approved by the President of the Standing Committee and the Diocesan Chancellor. Some benchmarks that have to be met before we can meet in the church:

- **A 14-day downward or perfectly flat trend in COVID-19 cases is reported in Washoe County as reported by the State of Nevada in its update beginning on Tuesday morning, June 16, 2020.** (If we reach this benchmark, we can only stay open as long as this benchmark remains)
- **Testing is reasonably available and being practiced in the city in which the parish is located.**
- **The nearest major hospital or regional medical center which would treat a positive**

case is doing so without yet being in "crisis mode." (This benchmark has to be maintained)

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER: The more people that don't follow social distancing guidelines including wearing a mask while around people they don't live with, the longer it will take for us to re-open.

#3 Submit our Plan for Re-opening

Some of the details in this plan are guided by the Diocese, but will be a bit different for each parish. We are working on this plan, but is a mute point until we reach a 14-day downward or perfectly flat trend in positive cases.

#4 Our plan has been approved by the President of the Standing Committee and the Chancellor of the Diocese.

#5 After all this,.. Fr. Kirk has set our re-opening date!

Once we get the green light from the Diocese, I (Fr. Kirk) will prayerfully consider if it is safe to proceed.

We will survive. The Gospel will continue. Love will prevail. Be the Good in the world. Reach out to your friends and neighbors. Give them a call, they need to hear from you.

Blessings,

Kirk+

Worship Information

10:00 a.m. Sundays

8:00 p.m. Wednesdays

Details can be found on under the online worship tab at www.StPaulsSparks.org.

Lament Writing Workshop

Holy Anger Unleashed

How can we pray when we're hurting?
How can we come before God with our raw, honest emotions?
How can we wrap all of the feelings swirling around in our big hearts into prayer?

The ancient biblical writers have given us a gift in the form of laments. About one third of our Psalms are lament, and other biblical writers, especially the prophets, offer prayers of pain and distress to God.

God hears our pain and suffering. There's no need to hide it; no need to sugar-coat things with God. In these times of heart-breaking struggle, we can bring before God all of our honest emotions, worries, rages, and concerns.

Join the Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent, from the Diocese of Central New York for an hour long workshop on writing our own Psalms of lament. We'll gather by Zoom at 5:30 p.m. (pacific time) on July 15th. We'll learn about the biblical witness of lament, we'll talk about identifying our emotions, and we'll work on each writing our own Psalm of lament.

You don't need to be a "good" writer to participate; this is more about the process than the product. You just need a desire to connect with God and your emotions.

The Rev. Carrie Schofield-Broadbent is an Episcopal priest who, though she works for the Church full-time, considers herself bi-vocational as she follows her calling as both as a mom and as a priest. After studying Peace & Conflict Studies and Spanish in college, Carrie had a career as a conflict resolution trainer and consultant before beginning her masters at

Virginia Theological Seminary. Building on many years in parish ministry, Carrie serves as the Canon of Transition and Church Development on the Bishop's executive staff in the Diocese of Central New York.

RSVP at Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org

Zoom information
Lament Writing Workshop
Holy Anger Unleashed
July 15, 2020 at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83449287492?pwd=TEhxaei9TQ2pzSmJudTlwTGFTekJlQT09>

Meeting ID: 834 4928 7492

Password: 306159

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,83449287492#,,,,0#,,306159#
US (Tacoma)

+13462487799,,83449287492#,,,,0#,,306159#
US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 834 4928 7492

Password: 306159

Prayers of the People

This is such a trying time for everyone. We cannot emphasize enough the power of prayer. We are not praying for anyone specific but everyone as a whole. With this outbreak of COVID19 virus, all of our lives have been touched adversely in some way, so everyone needs prayers now more than ever.

Please keep all family, neighbors, co-workers and people in your community in your everyday

prayers and keep positive thoughts that we will be able to return to our lives as we knew them before this event took place. We need to remain vigilant in our everyday life to maintain a healthy existence physically, mentally and spiritually.

What's your favorite Worship Song?

We are taking music requests for Sunday Zoom worship! If you have a favorite Praise Song or Traditional Hymn, please email the name to Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org. We can't promise to get to them all, but we'll try.

The Community Food Pantry

If you are in need of food, we will be open EVERY WEDNESDAY from 530-7pm until further notice. We are practicing social distance, but we will be able to get you some food. Please message us if you need further information. Location 1135 12th Street Sparks, NV (behind the Library). Our normal Wednesday 10:00 to 12:00 and Saturday 9:00

to 11:00 are still operational this is just an additional opportunity.

We might very well be in need of some volunteers for food pick-up and shelving the food, as well as pre-bagging before distribution days. If you want to help, email Barbra Monroy bmonroy0216@gmail.com.

Laundry Love

This once-a-month ministry helps people do their laundry so they can use their limited funds on medicine, rent, etc. Doing a load of laundry is expensive, so we continually collect quarters (or other \$\$ that we can turn into quarters). Monetary donations can either be handed to Linda Devon or designate it in an envelope and put it in the offering plate. If you have any questions or interest in helping with this ministry, contact Linda Devon at LSD4764@hotmail.com.

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Place Label Here