



October

**ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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

Contents

From the Pile on Fr. Kirk's Desk.....2

When Will We Open?2

Attention Worship Leaders2

The Need for Holy Communion.....3

The Community Food Pantry4

From Deacon Mike.....4

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

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



When Will We Open?

The Diocese has approved our plan to reopen for Indoor face to face worship. This is a good thing. I have submitted my plan for outdoor worship, but I am still waiting to hear about it.

Though our Indoor opening plan has been approved, there are still some things that need to happen before we will gather in person.

The To-Do-List: Want to help with it?

Deep clean the church, narthex, and bathrooms. This is on the schedule and will take a couple weeks to complete. This will include the removal of everything from the backs of the pew chairs including all prayer books and hymnals.

Once the deep cleaning is complete, the floors will need to be marked for social distancing.

Social Distancing signage and Mask and Hygiene signage needs to be displayed.

Health Prescreening signs need to be made and displayed.

Disinfecting and PPE stations need to be created.

New Usher Teams and Greeter Teams need to be established and trained.

Volunteer Cleaning Teams need to be established and trained.

Live Stream Video Teams need to be established and trained.

THEN...

The last major step is that I have to decide if it is safe for us to actually open.

I don't know what levels it will take for me to be comfortable to expose the parish to one another for an indoor service, but I know it is not there right now.

As of today, the Washoe County infection rate has crept back up into the High category and the number of Daily New Cases is approaching the critical stage and has been in the High category since the end of June.

The only way for the numbers to come down is to follow all the social distancing guidelines, which we, holistically as Washoe County residents, are not doing all that well.

For now, we will work on our check list and offer prayer for good health.

Blessings,

Kirk+

Attention Worship Leaders

(Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers, Projection Team, Healing Ministers)

When we do open up again, each of us will have to decide if we are personally ready to return to indoor face to face worship. For some, it will be prudent to continue to self-isolate due to your own health concerns, or that of your family. Depending on your current exposure to others outside of your family bubble, choosing not to attend face to face worship may be the best option for you, in order not to asymptotically expose other members of the church.

When you do choose to return to face to face worship, I want to ensure that it is because you feel safe and that you are not returning out of obligation to serve on your Sunday morning ministry duties. In order to help with this, I am wiping the worship ministry slate clean for a fresh start. As of this moment, there are NO Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Acolytes, Ushers, Projection Team, or Healing Ministers.

Our Sunday morning worship leaders list is starting from scratch.

When I have a date for us to worship again face to face, I will extend an invitation to the congregation for new worship leaders. For those who are ready to return to face to face worship you can sign up for your worship leader ministries at that time. Please note, that when we do return, there will not be, at least for a while, any Eucharistic Ministers or Healing Ministers. We will however be in need of extra Ushers and Greeters to insure we are maintaining proper social distancing and we'll need cleaning teams to disinfect the church prior to the next service.

For now, stay safe, be well, and serve others as Christ would.

Kirk+

The Need for Holy Communion

Home Aumbry and the Real Presence of Christ

There is an aumbry behind the altar in the church sanctuary. It houses all things blessed – chrism for baptisms, healing oil, blessed communion wafers & wine. Hanging above it is our sanctuary lamp (aumbry light/candle) which we inherited from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Reno, when it closed. When you walk into the Nave and look up towards the sanctuary, you see the candle burning. When lit, it signifies not only the presence of all things blessed within the aumbry, but it indicates the presence of something even greater...inside the aumbry beyond the veil is the sacred, real presence of Jesus. I envision this holy essence of Christ waiting patiently to nourish our lives when we are ready to consume it and once we do, we become carriers of the real presence to nourish and heal the world.

It has been too long for some of us...we have forgotten what it means to be in communion with one another and forgotten that we are carriers of the real presence of Christ.

So, I invite you to Christ's table in a new yet still sacred and holy way.

On Sunday, October 11th, we will make Communion together, me and my "plus one" at the church, and you at home watching on Zoom.

Following the service, you can email Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org to request Communion for you/your family.

(If you don't have an email, call the parish office: 775-358-4474.)

You can pick up your Communion Wednesday-Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. (later pick-up times by special arrangement).

An important note:

This Communion is not for immediate consumption and with it comes great responsibility. What you are taking home is the real presence of Jesus. It should be treated as such, which is why we store Communion in an aumbry...an intentional place set aside for respect and reverence of all things blessed. If you can't wait

If you wish to partake in Communion, you will need to create your own aumbry per se, an intentional place set apart for the respect and reverence of the holiest of holies, the real presence of Christ.

Since Communion is created in community, consumed in community, and lived in community, you will need to attend our Zoom Sunday service and wait until the proper point in liturgy at which time we will receive Communion together. Each Sunday I

will consecrate more wafers which will again be picked up by you and held in your special home ambry space until the next Sunday service.

If you don't have a computer that's okay. There was a time in our history that families gathered around the radio and listened. You can do that now, not by radio, but by phone. If you don't have a computer, you will be given a special phone number to call with special login information. You will be able to call in and listen to the service and share in Communion. I will not mail out the Body of Christ, however if you are shut-in and unable to drive to the church to pick it up, we can arrange for it to be delivered to you.

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite Two Sundays on ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82412364013?pwd=bkgwK0QwOXNYcGQzTHI4SFNmSWgvUT09>

Meeting ID: 824 1236 4013

Password: 308693

Dial by your location +1 669 900 6833

If you need to call in and listen by phone, here is what you do:

Dial this phone number:

+1 669 900 6833

When prompted enter the

Meeting ID: 824 1236 4013

When prompted enter the

Password: 308693

Blessings, Kirk+

Worship Information

10:00 a.m. Sundays on ZOOM

8:00 p.m. Wednesdays on Facebook

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

The Community Food Pantry

Watch this wonderful piece on The Community Food Pantry.

<https://vimeo.com/452987635/c01872e3b6>

From Deacon Mike

I am writing this to update all of us on Patricia Unruh's living situation. **There is no change in her housing status.** Patricia will still lose her apartment at the end of November and be on the streets, or in a shelter, unless we can help her come up with an alternative solution. Because of her fragile health, a shelter or at worst the streets, would be very bad for her.

She is on the waiting list for several apartment complexes in Reno, however, most have a minimum income requirement that is higher than what her SSI pays her. Because of the housing shortage in Northern Nevada the waiting lists are several years long. She is also on a waiting list to get a "section 8" housing voucher from HUD. This list is also several years long.

One possible solution would be to find a room where Patricia could share the monthly rent. **Do you know of a room in someone's house that would be available to her?**

Please pray for her and her situation. If you know of anything available please contact Patricia at lavendarme11@icloud.com, Fr Kirk at 358-4474 Kirk@stpaulssparks.org or me.

Please spread the word.

Thank you

Deacon Mike Margerum

mgoodmarge@gmail.com