



# October

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

775-358-4474

[www.StPaulsSparks.org](http://www.StPaulsSparks.org)

The Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff, Rector

### Sunday Worship Information

10:00 a.m. In-person and on Zoom  
Holy Communion Service

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

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



By the first Sunday in October the parking lot should be ready and open for use. I can't wait! We still have some things to do to complete what we set out to accomplish. This includes concreting any dirt around the edge of the parish hall,

education classrooms, and pantry. The ground squirrels continue to dig out our foundation, which won't end well. The concrete should help. After the concrete is done, we will purchase a small shed to house things that should not be stored in the furnace rooms. It's been a heck of a summer.

Happy Fall Y'all

## Senior Warden's Report

Welcome Fall!

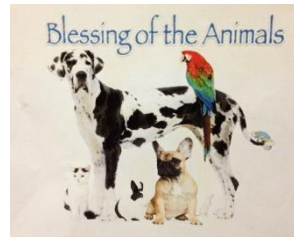
First, I want to thank each and everyone of you for your sacrificial gift to improve our parking lot. You are incredible! When the newsletter is published, the project should be complete. Rest assured that the vestry will prayerfully consider how to use any remaining funds to further enhance the parking areas.

Dorothy Papadakos will be accompanying the Nosferatu Silent Film on November 3 at Trinity Cathedral. Please encourage your friends and family to attend. It is an awesome event! Many thanks to Peter and Barbara Papadakos for the work they put in to make this event successful.

Personally, I am scheduled for a colon resection on Oct. 16th. The surgeon and my oncologist tell me that this will allow them to access the lymph nodes to check for any disease progression but both feel confident that this will be all the treatment needed. I will be taking 6-8 weeks for recovery. I thank you all for your prayers. My family will be providing care for me for the week following surgery. I will let Helping Hands know my needs beyond that.

Margaret Bouzek  
Senior Warden

## Pet Blessing: 11:00 a.m. Oct. 14th



If you would like your beloved pet blessed this year, our annual pet blessing will be held on Saturday Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. This is not a drive thru this year.

Please gather in the memorial garden!

## Eucharistic Minister Training October 15th

Are you feeling called to serve as a Eucharistic Minister? Eucharistic Ministers (EM's) assist in the distribution of the Eucharist/Communion during worship. They typically serve a Communion chalice and sometimes the Communion wafers/bread. If you would like to get trained, or you simply want to hear more, please stick around after worship on October 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Trunk-or-Treat Volunteers Needed

We are planning to offer Trunk-or-Treat again this year to the neighborhood kiddos, as well as those kids from St. Paul's, from **6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>.**



To make this successful, we need enough trunks and tailgates!!! Please email [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org) and let us know if we have enough volunteers who are willing to serve candy from their trunks and maybe even dress up and decorate a little.

If we have enough volunteers this will be an outdoor event only...no indoor games this year. Watch the weekly email announcements to see if we are having Trunk-or-Treat.

## All Saints' Day: November 5th

This is a time when we remember our family and friends who have died. The All Saints' book is on a stand at the back of the church on the north side. Please clearly print the full names of those you wish to remember on that day.

You can also email the names to [office@stpaulssparks.org](mailto:office@stpaulssparks.org) and we will write them in there for you.

## Ben's on Sabbatical

Ben, our organist/pianist, is on a bit of a sabbatical to allow some lingering wrist issues to heal. Please pray that he heals quickly! He will be missed. For the time being, we will be in good hands (and wrists) with Alissa on the piano.

## Christmas Wreath Sales

Sale runs through 11/5 with proceeds going to Laundry Love. Wreaths will be available at church on Sunday, 12/3. Wreaths are from Sherwood Forest Farms in Washington state and promise to be fresh and lovely. Can be shipped anywhere in the US except Alaska and Hawaii (no PO Boxes). See Linda Devon at church or call her at 775-750-4029 or email at [lsd4764@hotmail.com](mailto:lsd4764@hotmail.com)

## Meet Ryan McKenzie

Ryan comes to us from St. Patrick's Episcopal Church Incline Village. Ryan has been assigned to St. Paul's for a year by Bishop Elizabeth. During this time Ryan will get to experience the St. Paul's perspective of life and ministry.

### RYAN MCKENZIE (HE/HIM)



Ryan always seeks to stay connected to the soul of the world by finding God in the dirt. Nourished and inspired by a lifetime of awe and wonder within the embrace of God's magnificent Creation, Ryan's faith was deeply shaped by the

history and theology of the early Celtic Church in (what is today) Ireland and Scotland. He earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Nevada, Reno and a Masters degree in Theology with an emphasis in contextual Biblical Studies from Fuller Seminary. Education and experience fuels his deep love for historical context, contemplative worship, and the exploration of the human relationship to God, Creation, each other, and ourselves. He has worked in professional ministry within the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) for over twenty-five years in Youth and Family Ministry, Hospital Chaplaincy, and Camp and Conference Ministry. For Ryan, coming to the decision to pursue the priesthood within the

Episcopal Church follows years of discernment, prayer, therapy, and conversations with trusted friends and former mentors deeply familiar with his journey. His mission has always been to nurture and encourage the Covenant Community to participate in the healing and restoration of all of Creation in and through Jesus Christ, and becoming a priest resonates with that mission. Ryan steps into his nomination year encouraged by his partner Kristen, his three children: Naomi, Adelaide, and Caelum, and his 95 lbs Bernese Mountain Dog, Henley.

## Recovery Group at St. Paul's

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

## Cyber Security Awareness October 22<sup>nd</sup> After Worship

The internet can seem like a scary place: we've all heard of scammers preying on our faith, trust, and the goodness of our hearts. As technology advances, so too do the ways people try to access our information and data. BUT, there are things we can do to prevent this from happening, and still enjoy the wealth of information and communication the internet has to offer.

Most of you will know Ben Gallagher as the resident organist, but for the past 10 years he has worked in cyber-security stopping people from doing bad things to good people. Join him **after church in the Parish Hall on October 22** for a short class in best practices on how to stay safe online. This would be a great time to invite some friends, and bring any questions you may have about email, internet, and computer security.

## Sunday Book Study

October 8-November 12, 2:00pm to 4:30pm

*Misreading Scripture with Western Eyes: Removing Cultural Blinders to Better Understand the Bible* by E. Randolph Richards and Brandon J. O'Brien.

Email Connie for more information: [cp4675@icloud.com](mailto:cp4675@icloud.com)

What was clear to the original readers of Scripture is not always clear to us. Because of the cultural distance between the biblical world

and our contemporary setting, we often bring modern Western biases to the text. Getting beyond our own cultural assumptions is increasingly important for being Christians in our interconnected and globalized world. Learn to read Scripture as a member of the global body of Christ.

## Closed Captions: Installment Two More Lost in Translation

If you have ever joined our worship on Zoom you may have noticed that the closed captions does not always get things correct, and at times it can even be comical.

Mary English has kept track of some of these missed translations. Here are some additional ones from her list:

Told them a peril = Told them a parable

Gospel according to food = Gospel according to Luke

Ascended into heather = Ascended into heaven

Geiger church = guide your church

Here our pearl = Hear our prayer

The gospel of the war = The Gospel of the Lord

In tinkering = intinction

Comedy = Come and see

Points at us = poinsettias

Sing your bed = Sing your praise

For the good news of sins = For the forgiveness of sins

You are the bottom = You are the potter

If you missed last month's epistle list of missed translations from our Sunday Worship Zoom Closed Captions, take a look at them under the "newsletter" tab at [StPaulsSparks.org](http://StPaulsSparks.org).

## Altar Guild

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the Altar Guild Team. If you are interested, please contact either Sue Schultz at 775-626-5814 or the church office at 775-358-4474. Training is provided.

## Mid-Week Visits with Fr. Kirk

Would you like some time to visit with Fr. Kirk? This could be in the office, at your home, at a coffee shop, for lunch, etc. If you want such an opportunity, please contact him at 775-358-4474 or [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org).

## Silent Movie Fundraiser



Have you ever watched a silent movie the way they were originally experienced? Come and experience *Nosferatu* and Dorothy Jean Papadakos within the beautiful architecture of Trinity Cathedral in downtown Reno, **November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 7:00 p.m.** A reception at 5:30 p.m. with light hors d'oeuvres and wine is also available. Tickets for both can be purchased by searching St. Paul's Sparks on [Eventbrite.com](http://Eventbrite.com) or from the St. Paul's office.

A little bit about Dorothy Jean: She is an American concert organist, composer, lyricist, playwright, and author. She is the former organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City (1990–2003), the first female organist to hold that post. She was also organist for the Paul Winter Consort at the Cathedral's Easter and Christmas services and performed with the ensemble on their Grammy Award-winning album *Silver Solstice*, released in 2005. In 2005, Papadakos co-produced *Pompeii the Musical*, for which she wrote the book, music and lyrics. The production was well-received, breaking box office records when it premiered in Wilmington, North Carolina.

In 2017, her first novel, *The Kingdom of Winter*, was published. Using fantasy characters to address climate change concerns, the book is now used in a science and literature curriculum for middle-school students.

## UFO Days November 5-8

UFO Days (UnFinished Objects Days) is three and a half days of fun crafting and sewing held on November 5-8. The cost to participate is \$100. Proceeds go to building improvement fund. Contact Linda Kennedy to register [linda.kennedy.nv@gmail.com](mailto:linda.kennedy.nv@gmail.com).

Prizes are needed for raffle baskets. What we really need are consumable contributions, for example: coffee, tea, candy, wine, gift cards. Please leave in blue box in Narthex by Oct. 22.

## 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 be sealed in special Laundry Love envelopes and placed in the offering plate. If you have any questions or interest in helping with ministry, contact Linda Devon at [LSD4764@hotmail.com](mailto:LSD4764@hotmail.com).



## Friday Bible Study on Zoom

Come and join Fr. Kirk on Friday mornings from **11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** We are currently studying the Sunday Gospel lesson for the week. If you would like to join the bible study on **ZOOM**, first email [Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Kirk@StPaulsSparks.org) so you can receive the scriptures for the day and then join by using this link. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86365786953?pwd=ZzkwME9iYy9FZWVxbSs0d3NaOFIrlUT09>

## School Supply Drive

Daughters of the King has started its School Supply Drive. This year we have added another at risk school to our giving.

We will supply Robert Mitchell and Agnes Risley Elementary, which have mostly low socio-economic children enrolled. Both schools serve the Sparks Community served by St. Paul's.

With the excitement and joy around getting the new parking lot done now, we felt that the best way to serve the schools would be for the second semester after Christmas. Teachers have told us many times in the past that after Christmas break the cupboards are bare. The need for school supplies is often harder for parents/caregivers at that time of year, and we have decided to fill the need.

We will be accepting school supply donations through January 15th. If there is no designated box in the Narthex, please put them on the bench next to the parish office door, or if you don't shop, we will be happy to shop for you! Please contact Connie Patterson

[cp4675@att.net](mailto:cp4675@att.net) or call the church 775-358-4474 for any questions you might have.

Our sincere thanks to everyone for making this School Supply Drive possible. We are so blessed. Connie Patterson

## Donate Your Old Computers

The Lion's Club is taking donations of old retired but usable Windows computers as well as old broken trash computer equipment. Working computers will be repurposed for those in need and the broken ones will be recycled.

You can bring these computers to the church for pickup by Dick Schori. If you have questions, contact him at [richard.schori@gmail.com](mailto:richard.schori@gmail.com).

## St. Paul's Prayer Team

Please call or email a prayer request to Rita at [honda07rita@gmail.com](mailto:honda07rita@gmail.com) or 775-971-4775. Prayer requests for your special people will be on for about 2 months unless you need a longer date. Your special people will be lifted to our Lord each day. Thank you for the privilege of praying for you and your special people.

## "In Memory of" Memorial Service November 1st

There are often times when we are unable to attend the funeral or memorial service of a friend or family member. There are also times when there is not a public service at all. When we are unable to attend such a service, we may struggle to find a sense of closure, or allow ourselves to begin the healing process.

On **Wednesday, Nov 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** we will have an "In Memory of" memorial service. During this service we will remember and celebrate those family and friends. We will have a special table for pictures if you would like to bring one for that service.

If you would like to have the memory of a loved one included during this service, please contact the parish office at [Office@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Office@StPaulsSparks.org), [775-358-4474](tel:775-358-4474).

## United Thank Offering Ingathering November 5th

Through the spiritual discipline of gratitude, the United Thank Offering for 2022 brought in \$1,079,600.54 worldwide.

In 2023 the funds were fully awarded to projects addressing all aspects of the worldwide incarceration crisis. A total of 22 awards ranging from \$1,207 to \$56,000 were granted worldwide. The 2023 United Thank Offering Ingathering will provide grants in 2024 focusing on "the stranger" Jesus mentions, offering welcome and inclusivity.

For the past 6 months, we at St. Paul's have been practicing the discipline of gratitude. Our United Thank Offering Ingathering will take place on Sunday, November 5. During the Offering, our Blue Boxes and Envelopes will be gathered and presented in gratitude. Boxes are still available in the church narthex. If you would prefer to write a check, envelopes are also available for that purpose. If you have any questions, please call Kathie Dixon, 775-747-4485.

## **The Very Rev. Jeff Paul to Retire**

*A letter written to his congregation on Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.*

Dear people of St Peter's,

Today I announce my retirement. The last Sunday will be October 29th & the last day in the office will be Tuesday October 31st 2023.

When I landed in Carson City in the summer of 1995, the only thing I wanted was to be part of a healthy, loving, active faith community. It took some work – blood, sweat, tears, laughter. At some point in our common life, we managed to eke out some trust and some confidence in our ministry and mission.

St Peter's has become a safe, secure place for all people to worship and engage the work of God. I trust that will continue.

When I reflect on the years – all the Wardens, the Vestries, the committees, task forces, teams, office administrators and individuals who have engaged the work of God – I live and breathe in gratitude. An outward & visible sign of inward & spiritual grace is the church campus, which has never been in better shape, or more beautiful and more welcoming than now. Another equally important sacramental sign is our work in the community – CIRCLES and FISH and NOTS, our Ecumenical and Interfaith

friends & companions & allies, the efforts at community organizing we've made, our relations with the Diocese and the Bishops who led us through the desert, the parishes in the Northwest Mission District – all manifestations of God's compassionate heart.

When I landed in Carson City, I was convinced that parish work was not in my future, that it was all some kind of cosmic joke. Here we are twenty-eight years later. It's good to know God has a wide and wicked sense of humor.

At a recent interment in the Memorial Garden, a beloved parishioner shared this quote from Elizabeth I, the real historic founder of the Anglican tradition, "Grief never ends... it changes. It's a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith... it is the price of love."

We have struggled, we have celebrated, we have worshiped, we have groused & grieved, we have laughed, we have loved. I'll be grieving in the days, weeks, and months to come.

Be a place, be a people, where every person's relationship to God is sovereign, where all are valued and loved with the compassionate heart of God – tender in the face of suffering, fierce in the face of injustice, mischievous in the face of resistance. Marietta and I will give it our best as we move into our unknown future, our next adventure.

Farewell. Be well. Be blessed. Be a blessing.

Jeff+

## **Calendar at a Glance**

October 5-7, Diocesan Convention in Ely, NV  
October 08, 2:00 p.m. Book Study Begins  
October 09, 6:00 p.m. Monthly Vestry Meeting  
October 14, 11:00 a.m. Pet Blessing  
October 15, 11:15 a.m. Eucharistic Minister Class  
October 22, 11:30 a.m. Cyber Security Class  
October 26, 4:30 p.m. Men's Pizza Night  
October 26, Laundry Love  
October 29, 6:00 p.m. Trunk-or-Treat  
November 1, 6:00 p.m. "In Memory of" Service  
November 3, 5:30 p.m. Nosferatu Reception  
November 3, 7:00 p.m. Silent Movie Nosferatu  
November 5, UTO Ingathering Sunday  
November 5, All Saints' Day