



February

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

775-358-4474

www.StPaulsSparks.org

The Very Rev. Kirk A. Woodliff, Rector

Sunday Worship Information

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

Contents

From the Pile on Fr. Kirk's Desk.....	2
Sr. Warden Report.....	2
2023 Tax Giving Statements	2
Snow Day Drop Off.....	2
"Blessing Bags"	3
Donate Last Year's Palms	3
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper.....	3
Ash Wednesday Services	3
Lent Book Study Begins Feb. 18 th	3
Lenten Soup and Study.....	4
The Philadelphia Eleven	4
Confirmation and Adult Baptism.....	4
Empty Bowls 2024.....	5
St. Paul's Girls Weekend 2024.....	5
Closed Captions: Installment Five.....	6
Prayers and Squares Ministry	6
Laundry Love	6

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

Place Label Here

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

Baptism and Holy Communion



In the Episcopal Church many believe that the sacrament of Holy Baptism leads a person, or draws a person, to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. I must admit that I believe this to be true as well, but if you spend even one Sunday with me you know that I believe there is more to it. Holy Communion can also lead a person, or draw a person, into the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

At St. Paul's, we know the Holy Spirit works in us and through us. Who are we to decide if the Holy Spirit is calling someone to consume the real presence of Christ as we experience it in Holy Communion? Most Sundays, or during most seasons of the Church year, you will hear this invitation when it is time to come up to receive Communion:

“Come and be fed;
you who have much faith,
and you who are seeking more;
you who come here often,
and you who are new among us;
you who have done well,
and you who have stumbled along the way.

All of you are welcome and belong here at Christ's table. So come as you are, for it is Christ who invites us to meet him here, and these sacred gifts are for you.”

I truly believe that Jesus Christ invites us to meet him in the sacraments of blessed/consecrated bread and wine. Do you feel called to consume this nourishment? I certainly do. It's like an Episcopalian altar call each week.

If you are drawn to receive this nourishment and you have not been baptized, or you have not claimed your infant/child baptism from your parents and Godparents, I think the Holy Spirit is at work in you. I believe the sacredness of Holy Communion is calling you into the sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation.

If you have not been baptized or made a mature commitment to Christ through Confirmation,

please come and visit with me. You will always be invited to receive Holy Communion, no matter what, but let's explore what the Spirit is up to. Our next adult baptismal day as well as Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation will be on April 21, 2024.

Sr. Warden Report

Happy Valentine's Day and Happy Lent!

There is a lot going on in February! Be sure to check the calendar for all the activities.

On Feb. 13 we will have our Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. The Vestry will be your cooks. Proceeds will go toward our Lenten Offering. Please come and invite your friends for a good meal and time to share together. A suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$15 per family, under 13 free.

Ash Wednesday is on February 14th and marks the beginning of Lent. Easter is on March 31 this year. We are exploring having the Lenten Soup Suppers again so watch for announcements if this is going to actually occur.

As I mentioned in my address at the Annual Meeting, I will be having one more surgery. I have a suspicious nodule in my thyroid so removal of the right half of my thyroid is planned for March 11. I should not need a long time to recover. Once again, your prayers are appreciated.

Thank you,
Margaret Bouzek, Senior Warden

2023 Tax Giving Statements

The 2023 tax statements were mailed Feb 2nd. If you do not receive your statement soon, please notify the office at 775-358-4474 Office@StPaulsSparks.org.

Snow Day Drop Off

If you are dropping someone off before you park, circle around the building clockwise and stop at the paver sidewalk in front of the North red doors. We will ensure a clear path into the building and provide some help too.

“Blessing Bags”

EYC Collecting Donations for 2024



The EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) will be collecting items for “Blessing Bags”, and we need your help! A blessing bag is a Ziplock

bag stocked with food, toiletries, and other items one might need while living on the street.

Tags with suggested donation items will be on a tree in the Narthex beginning **Sunday, February 4**. You can pick a tag and then bring your donation back to the church by the deadline of **Sunday, February 25**.

Toiletries should be travel or hotel sized, and food items should be in small, individually wrapped packages. The point is for them to fit into a gallon sized Ziplock bag.

Some of items that will be listed on the tags are: gallon sized Ziplock bags, granola bars, cereal bars, snack crackers, small peanut butter packets, small beef jerky packets, small almond packets, small boxes of raisins, applesauce or fruit cups/pouches, juice boxes/pouches, packets of trail mix, gum, small and regular sized bottled water, pop top meat or sausages, hand sanitizer bottles or wipes, baby wipes, toothbrush/toothpaste, wash cloths, shampoo, lotion, combs, nail clippers, deodorant, socks, lip balm and travel sized tissues.

Donate Last Year’s Palms

Did you take home a blessed palm frond from last year's Palm Sunday service? If so, bring them to the church on a Sunday February 4th and 11th. They will be burned and used for the ashes on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14th.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Please join us on February 13th between 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. for our annual pancake supper. The vestry will be preparing and serving the pancakes and accompanying eggs, sausage and bacon as well as coffee, juice and milk. A suggested donation is \$5 per person or \$15 per family, under 13 free.



Ash Wednesday Services

February 14th 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Holy Eucharist with Imposition of Ashes.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent! Come and join us.



Lent Book Study Begins Feb. 18th

What: Jesus' Alternative Plan - The Sermon on the Mount by Richard Rohr

When: Sundays, February 18th - March 17th

Time: 11:45 p.m. to 12:45ish

Where: Youth Room or other location

Cost: Check wherever you buy your books

Review: "Acclaimed spiritual leader and Franciscan priest Richard Rohr explores the implications of this vision in Jesus' Alternative Plan. In this book, Rohr goes through the teachings of the sermon, explaining the historical and cultural context of each verse and offering guidance for what it means for Christians today. The result is a clear, yet challenging look at the alternative plan laid out by Jesus for all to see."

This year for our Lenten study we will be going through the Sermon on the Mount. The study will go on for 5 weeks, each Sunday after church beginning February 18th and ending March 17th.

The study will be as follows:

February 18th - Introduction: How to Read the Bible and Part One: Ready to Hear Jesus. (Please read before the 18th)

February 25th - Chapters 1 - 3: Jesus' New world Order, Not Business as Usual and Finding the Jesus Who Preached the Sermon

March 3rd - Chapters 4 - 5 and Part Two: Understanding the Social Order and Table Fellowship in the Christian Scriptures Part Two - Understanding the Sermon

March 10th - Chapters 6 - 8: Joining Heaven and Earth, The Path of Transformation and The "Happy Attitudes": Salt and Light

March 17th - Chapter 9 - Epilogue: Bridges and Boundaries: Liberals and Conservatives

I hope you will consider joining us. This way of looking at a scripture that we all understand, will show us how much we can still learn by digging in just a little deeper.
If you have questions contact Connie Patterson at cp4675@att.net.

Lenten Soup and Study



Wednesday Lenten Soup Suppers will begin Feb. 21. There will be a sign-up board for soups, breads or desserts to bring for supper. Soup Suppers are from 5:15 pm to 6:00 pm. Followed by the study portion.

Lenten Study after Soup!

Wednesdays in Lent, February 21-March 20 at 6:00 p.m. following the Soup Supper.
The Historical Jesus: The Evolutionary Challenge of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant, with Dr. John Dominic Crossan.

The Philadelphia Eleven Documentary at St. Paul's, Sparks Save the Date April 20th 1:00 p.m.

In an act of civil disobedience, a group of women and their supporters organize their ordination to become Episcopal priests in 1974. The Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia welcomes them, but change is no small task. The women are harassed, threatened and banned from stepping on church property.

In this feature-length documentary film, we meet the women who succeed in building a movement that transforms an age-old institution, and challenges the very essence of patriarchy within Christendom.

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.

Confirmation and Adult Baptism Class Begins in March!



**Sundays 11:30–12:30,
March 17, 24, & April 7, 14
(No Meeting on Easter Sun., Mar. 31.)**
(ALSO OPEN TO THOSE WHO WISH TO BE RECEIVED
OR RENEW BAPTISMAL VOWS.)

Are you a young adult ready to make a mature commitment to the Episcopal Church? Are you an adult who would like to be baptized or are already baptized and want to join the Episcopal Church, or just curious about us? This class is for you!

Confirmation/Adult Baptism classes will be taught by Rev. Rick after Sunday worship 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on the four Sundays above. This class is for ages 16 through adult.

- **Who should attend?**
 - Young adults baptized as children who wish to make a mature commitment to Christ.
 - Adults who want to be baptized or who were baptized in faith traditions that did not include laying on of hands by a bishop.
 - Adults baptized or baptized and confirmed in traditions that include laying on of hands by a bishop (Roman Catholic, Episcopalian, and Orthodox) and wish to be “received” into the Episcopal Church by our bishop.
 - If you want to renew your Baptismal Vows.

Empty Bowls 2024



Exciting changes for Empty Bowls 2024
It's Year 15!!!!

Save the Date: 9/18/24

Location: The Generator Reno

The bowls can be painted at **The Hot Spot - Located @ Legends in Sparks**. They are very excited to be part of this event. They are open M-Sa 10a-9pm and Sunday 10-5pm. There will be two sizes for your selection this year. The larger bowl (which is what we have painted before) is \$20 and a smaller bowl for \$12. All bowls will be auctioned at the event. I know many of you already have great plans for bowls this year. Painting can begin anytime.

St. Paul's Girls Weekend 2024

Save the Dates for: May 3-5, 2024

St. Paul's Girls Weekend 2024 will be held Friday, May 3, Saturday, May 4 and Sunday, May 5 at Camp Galilee, Lake Tahoe.

Who: Women of all ages and their friends are invited.

When: Friday, May 3-Sunday, May 5

Where: Camp Galilee, Lake Tahoe

Why: Come enjoy the beauty of Lake Tahoe, walk on the beach (the camp is steps from Lake Tahoe), get to know other women from our church, eat delicious food, have great conversations, play games, watch movies, enjoy an art project or two, go to South Lake Tahoe to shop or see a movie, and relax!

Price: \$200 per person. (Galilee raised their per person price and took away the Diocesan discount.) Limited scholarships are available- if needed, please chat with Tia. Payment due before the event.

The weekend will begin with dinner on Friday night. Everyone attending will contribute a food item for Friday dinner. All meals on Saturday

- If you're just curious about the Episcopal Church and would like to learn more.
- **Questions we will explore:**
 - What does it mean to be part of the Jesus Movement known as the Episcopal Church?
 - What is "The Way of Love" Jesus taught?
 - What do we believe about Human Nature, Sin, Redemption, and Baptism?
 - Why are the Book of Common Prayer, Sacraments, and the Creed important?
 - How are Learning, Prayer, and Worship part of Jesus' "Way of Love?"
 - Who is God?
 - What is Love and how does it relate to ministry?
 - Receiving the gift of God's grace, peace, and restoration.
- **Prerequisites:**
 - Having been baptized in the Episcopal Church or any other traditions (for Confirmation, Reception or Renewal), or if you are just curious about the Episcopal Church. (If you have not yet been baptized, please speak to Fr. Kirk before the class.)
 - Committing to attend all four sessions and if seeking Confirmation, Reception, Renewal, or Baptism, also attending the Bishop's visitation on Sun., Apr. 21.
- **How do I sign up?**
 - Go online to bit.ly/spconfirmationclass (no caps) on the web and sign up. Please do not call the office to sign up. We need this form filled out for the class.
 - Questions? Please contact Rev. Rick at RMTRINITY@GMAIL.COM or speak to him at worship services.

and breakfast on Sunday are included and prepared by Camp Galilee staff.

For more information or to confirm your attendance, you can call or email Tia Mittelstadt at tia.mittel@gmail.com or 775-722-3329; or Erin Anderson at erin@trinity-ai.com or 775-250-2699. Checks can be made out to St. Paul's Episcopal Church and please note for SPGW 2023 on the memo line. Hope to see you there!

Closed Captions: Installment Five Yep...Even 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:

Goodness of sand = forgiveness of sins
My blood is good = My heart is
Hollywood be thy name = hallowed be thy name
Gus says the Lord = Thus says the Lord
Far beer = Far be it
Turnatarian = Trinitarian
Stenken the work = strengthen the work
Conscious pilot = Pontius Pilot
Bigot = Begotten

Thank you, Mary, for bringing us a smile!

St. Paul's Prayer Team

Please call or email a prayer request to Rita at 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.

Prayers and Squares Ministry

Prayers and Squares is off to another great start. We finished 12 quilts in January. Thanks goes to the wonderful volunteers that worked together to make this happen.

Beginning in February, we will be meeting on the fourth Saturday of the month. We will begin at 9 am and work until about 1 or 2 pm. Please come join us in the parish hall, even if you don't sew, and bring a bag lunch.

If you have any questions, contact Linda Kennedy at 775-722-1657 linda.kennedy.nv@gmail.com or Margaret Bouzek at 775-232-4712 margaret.bouzek@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 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.



2024 Diocesan Convention Delegates

Thank you everyone for your willingness to represent St. Paul's!

Delegates (In alphabetical order)

Kathie Dixon
Richard Dixon
John Hannah
Connie Patterson

Alternates (In alphabetical order)

Peggy Hannah
Barbara Monroy
Connie Swain

Calendar at a Glance

Feb 02, Bible Study resumes
Feb 10, "Neighborly" Dinner
Feb 11, Return Last year's Palm Fronds
Feb 13, Shrove Tuesday Pancakes
Feb 14, Ash Wednesday Services
Feb 18, Lenten Book Study Begins
Feb 21, Wed Lent Soup and Study
Feb 24, Prayers and Squares