



# January

## ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

775-358-4474

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

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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...



**On Vacation...  
Happy New Year!**

*Kirk*

### Pastoral Emergencies

If you have a pastoral emergency while Fr. Kirk is away, please contact the parish office between 10:00 and 1:00 at 775-358-4474. Rev. Rick Millsap will be covering pastoral care issues, and the office staff will contact him for you. If your need is not during office hours, please contact Sr. Warden Margaret Bouzek at 775-232-4712 and she will contact Rev. Rick.

### Sr. Warden Report

**A FAREWELL PARTY** for The Very Reverend Kirk Woodliff and Tricia Woodliff.

**Where:** St. Paul's Episcopal Church Parish Hall  
**When:** January 17, 2025 6:00 p.m.

Light refreshments and beverages will be served.

Please join us in wishing Fr. Kirk and Tricia a fond farewell as they prepare to move to Norman, Oklahoma where Kirk will be the new rector at St. John's Episcopal Church.

**RSVP appreciated** but not required to [Margaret.bouzek@gmail.com](mailto:Margaret.bouzek@gmail.com)

### Annual Parish Meeting

**January 26th at 10:00 a.m.**

On Sunday, January 26th we will have our annual parish meeting blended into our 10:00 a.m. worship service. Every member is **HIGHLY** encouraged and/or expected to attend. We hope you will join us. **This will be Fr. Kirk's final service as Rector of St. Paul's.**

### Seeking Members of the Vestry

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

There will be three slots to fill during the coming Vestry election during the January 26th annual

parish meeting. Since Fr. Kirk is leaving St. Paul's, the role of the Vestry will shift a bit, taking on more of the everyday operations and vision of the church.

We are seeking members to serve on the Vestry who have good listening skills, are a team player, and are willing to roll up their sleeves and do the work of this important ministry.

The position of Vestry is a three-year term. During the next three years, the Vestry will work with Bishop Elizabeth to select our next Rector. Do you have the gifts to help us both keep St. Paul's the unique Christian community it is and help guide the congregation to where the Holy Spirit might be calling us to go?

The canonical requirements to service on the Vestry are you must have your baptismal information recorded at St. Paul's, you must have been Confirmed or Received in the Episcopal Church, you must be an active member in good standing and have given financially to the church.

If you would like to help lead St. Paul's during this transition, please complete the following questions on this Vestry Nomination Form and email them to our Sr. Warden, Margaret Bouzek at [margaret.bouzek@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.bouzek@gmail.com) by January 15th.

### St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry Nomination Form 2025-2027 Term

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?

What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?

What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?

Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?

## Current Vestry Nominations

### St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry Nomination Form 2025-2027 Term

**Name: Mary Lynch**

#### **What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?**

To me, St. Paul's means a truly safe place where all are welcome and can come for community, worship and spiritual growth.

#### **What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?**

"I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the

body, and the life everlasting".

I like this part of the Baptismal Covenant because the Holy Spirit is the part of The Trinity that I feel most connected to.

I often rely on the Spirit to guide me in the correct direction when I am unsure.

#### **What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?**

I am hard working, detail oriented and able to research projects. I care about learning and expanding my knowledge of the ministry

need(s) in order to better serve.

I am very used to working within groups and can help with planning of useful and practical solutions.

#### **Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?**

St. Paul's has been a home to me from the first day I came through its doors. I love this church and would be very glad for the opportunity

to continue supporting the Vestry with the knowledge I have gained over the last 3 years and with my personal skills/abilities.

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### St. Paul's Episcopal Church Vestry Nomination Form 2025-2027 Term

**Name: Rachael Pitts**

#### **What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?**

St. Paul's Church is my family. I am comforted that I live nearby, participate in the ministries, and attend services. St. Paul's has a diverse congregation, and we work together to accomplish God's work. Each year is a journey through the church calendar, but also a time of spiritual and social growth. As much as any member gives, they also receive -- love, support, challenges, and instruction. It is a giving church with open hearts.

#### **What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?**

Baptism is a coming together of the congregation to welcome infants as well as adults into the congregation. I don't remember mine because I was an infant. Learning about the life of Jesus and reading his words has been my foundation to grow as a Christian and a church member. Beliefs, ritual, and everyday actions build a relationship with God. Wrong actions call for repentance to stay on the right path, not an easy thing to do. I feel fortunate to be part of the Altar Guild Ministry. The Baptismal Covenant asks us to break bread together. This tradition of the Christian Church is very beautiful. It reminds us each time of the last days of Jesus' life. He asked us to remember him and his message.

#### **What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?**

I accept Jesus as my teacher and my savior. He loved his disciples and the people he reached out to, without judging. To love was his greatest example, and I try to do that too. When I pray I ask God to help me be more like Jesus -- loving, compassionate, generous, and willing to sacrifice. I can never be pure, but I can try to be better. This is what I try to convey in my words

and actions regarding what Christianity can be. People should be able to regard their church as a home and sanctuary, where they can do God's work and be loved. That is my message.

**Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?**

I am a capable person, a veteran, a retired city program director, with supervisory experience, and I am accustomed to working with people who may have very different priorities. I am computer literate and like to take advantage of software programs that make life easier. I have experience writing meeting minutes, letters, reports, and completing other information management tasks such as creating spreadsheets.

I hope I am now mature enough to work in a complex social and religious environment to solve problems, and map out the future in a way that helps the congregants meet their spiritual goals. I owe a debt to all the Christians who have helped me along the way, and serving in the Vestry might help me to repay that debt, and keep the spiritual flame burning at St. Paul's.

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**St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Nomination Form  
2025-2027 Term**

**Name: Karl Riglesberger**

**What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?**

Saint Paul's is a warm, loving, and diverse community where folks are allowed to be themselves and find out their place and calling in Christ's Church. There is acceptance within our diversity, while maintaining the historical traditions, practices and theology. For me, it a safe place to grow and serve while developing relationships with others. I love the balance and mix between the old and new, praise and traditional, orthodox and progressive, and the sacred and communal. I like that I can continue to grow in my faith tradition while also learning

new ways of thinking and living out my faith. It has become a spiritual home for me.

**What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?**

For me, I love two components of the Baptism Service which includes the Baptismal Covenant: 1. When the Congregation commits to supporting and fostering spiritual growth and maturity of the newly baptized candidates/members. 2. When the Congregation members reaffirm their baptismal vows (The Baptismal Covenant) as a constant reminder of our Christian heritage, ongoing calling and commitment to live out our faith in communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ. For me, there is no "favorite" part, as this "Apostle's" Creed is fundamental to our faith and heritage. Having said that, I do love the last three sections, as they align with my core values: "proclaiming by word and example," "seeking and serving Christ in all persons," and "striving for justice and peace."

**What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?**

Maturity, empathy, listener, servant's heart, well-rounded theology.

**Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?**

I do not have a specific calling, per se, to serve on the Vestry. I feel my calling is to support the congregation and ministry of Saint Paul's Episcopal Church when called upon, as needed, or as directed by leadership and the Holy Spirit.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Vestry Nomination Form  
2025-2027 Term**

**Name: Connie Swain**

**What does St. Paul's Episcopal Church mean to you?**

St Paul's means to me everything. Life, family, faith, learning, building my relationship with God, the village that means so much to my Kenny...EVERYTHING!

**What is your favorite part of the Baptismal Covenant and why?**

The reminder that I am God's child, belong to Him, and am created for Him.

**What do you perceive as your gifts for ministry?**

Prayer and service to others.

**Why do you want to serve on the Vestry of St. Paul's Church?**

St. Paul's gives me so much. I want to continue to give back to my home...my people...the village that is helping to raise my Kenny. My gifts are used in the Vestry.

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**Friday Bible Study on Zoom**

**Special Note**

The Friday Bible Study is on a break. **We will not meet** during the month of January. We expect to resume our Bible study on Friday, February 7th.

**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.

**Prayers and Squares Ministry**

Beginning in January, Prayers and Squares will meet on the **FIRST SATURDAY AND the FOURTH MONDAY** of each month.

We will focus on making quilt tops during the Saturday meeting and on putting completed quilts together on the Monday meeting.

Sewing times begin at 9:00 a.m. both days. Bring a lunch as we may sew into the early afternoon.

We hope all interested persons can come to the events.

Here are the next few months dates:

January 4 and January 27  
February 1 and February 24  
March 1 and March 24

Margaret Bouzek and Linda Kennedy

**Returning Financial Pledge Cards**

If you haven't already returned your financial pledge card for 2025, please do so as soon as possible. You can place it in the offering plate on Sunday, January 5<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>, or mail it to St. Paul's PO BOX 737 Sparks, NV 89432, or drop it off at the office.

Having your pledge card helps the Vestry set next year's budget. Thank you!

**Laundry Love**

Laundry Love is taking a hiatus for 3 months / the foreseeable future.

**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).

**Want Something in the Newsletter?**

Email it to [Office@StPaulsSparks.org](mailto:Office@StPaulsSparks.org) by the 25<sup>th</sup> each month.