



April

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

775-358-4474

www.StPaulsSparks.org

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 12th Street)
P. O. Box 737
Sparks NV 89432

Place Label Here

Sr. Warden Report

It seems like Spring is trying to get here but as usual it has its false starts :)

We are doing several things around the church to keep our property in good condition. We have a contract with Clark Pest Control Services to address the problem we are having with pigeons and squirrels. Please be sure we are using humane systems for these issues.

We will also have a tree service company look at the 4 trees on the north side of our property to ensure they are healthy or removed as needed. All of this will cost money that we will be taking from our savings reserves. I want to assure you that we are being responsible with our resources. If you see something that needs attention, please advise a member of the vestry.

Easter will soon be here. Please see service times in other articles in the Epistle.

The Vestry continues to consider how we will move forward with replacing our rector. There are several options that we are reviewing. Bishop Elizabeth is involved in all that we are doing in this area.

I am excited to tell you that we have 2 new members of our preaching team. Gary Pope-Sears and Lori Sawdon have joined the team! Welcome Lori and Gary!

There is a lot going on at St. Paul's. Have you found an area you are interested in participating? We need new members in all the service support teams: Tech/Projection; Ushers; Lectors; Eucharistic Ministers and Altar Guild.

Margaret Bouzek
Senior Warden

Help Wanted

The church has need of a "chair" repair person. Our pew chairs on occasion need to be "reglued". The chairs in the parish hall might need to have screws adjusted.

Are you handy with these types of things? Please let Kathie Dixon know!

St. Paul's Girls Weekend 2025

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

When: Friday, April 25-Sunday, April 27, 2025

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. Limited scholarships are available- if needed, please chat with Tia. Payment is 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 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 2025 on the memo line. Hope to see you there!

Daughters of the King invite you to join in the following:

During Lent the National Episcopal Church Women promotes "Thursdays in Black". The World Council of Churches is promoting support of the global movement resisting attitudes and practices that permit rape and violence against women particularly women of color and indigenous women. Show your respect for women who are resilient in the face of injustice and violence by wearing black on Thursday during the season of Lent.

Worship Leader Schedule

The current worship Leader schedule can be found at www.StPaulsSparks.org under the ministries tab.

Creation Care At St. Paul's

At St. Paul's we love God, and we love God's world. As a parish, we do a great number of things to express our love. Sometimes our efforts are seen, sometimes they are not. Sometimes we want to do something positive for the world but feel overwhelmed by the daunting tasks laid before us. Creation Care provides opportunities to show our commitment to loving God through loving God's world.

The Creation Care journey is a long one. Where should we start? A bulletin board has been set up outside of the parish hall. Look here for upcoming community events which support loving God's world. Ecopalians will keep us updated with the latest ways to help protect the environment. We will keep a calendar of upcoming classes offered at St. Paul's focusing on Creation Care.

The next Creation Care planning session is May 4, 2025, at 11:15 am in the youth room. Everyone is welcome. We'll be talking about next steps/projects. If you have questions, please contact Deacon Mike mgoodmarge@gmail.com or Robin Towne robinatowne@yahoo.com.

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.

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 will meet on the **FIRST SATURDAY of each month at 9:00am.**

Margaret Bouzek and Linda Kennedy

Holy Week Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13th, 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday, April 17th 5:30 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18th

12:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross

(In-person worship only)

Good Friday, April 18th

5:30 p.m., Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Sunday, April 20th, 10:00 a.m.

Want Something in the Newsletter?

Email it to Office@StPaulsSparks.org by the 25th each month.

THE STORY BEHIND IDM – INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT MISSIONS

Water Is Life is a common phrase heard throughout the developing world. Communities without basic services like clean water, medical care and education cannot grow and prosper. In 2001, a few parishioners from St. Paul's, together with another from Grace Community Church decided to build a non-profit to assist communities in Kenya struggling with medical care and clean water resources. The St. Paul's parishioners were Ron Peterson and Teri Lait joined by Muthoka Mutua from Grace. To answer the call to mission, International Development Missions was founded with the support of then Nevada Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, the Rev. Britt Olson, Rector of St. Paul's, and the St. Paul's Community. St. Paul's helped administer IDM as an outreach ministry until it received non-profit federal 501 (c) (3) designation and status as a Nevada non-profit corporation. After incorporation, the congregation of St. Paul's

continued to be a primary support system for IDM and its projects.

The first mission trip to Kenya was launched December 2001 when Ron, Teri and Muthoka traveled to the Mua Hills of Kenya to start the process of building a medical clinic in a rural area where the closest medical care was some 25 miles away. After successful fund-raising, the clinic was opened in 2004. In addition to clinic operations, staff also supported public health by conducting traveling health care events and a mosquito net distribution project to reduce the incidence of malaria. The Mua Hills Clinic was designated as a HIV diagnosis and treatment center by the Kenyan Ministry of Health. The clinic became independent of IDM in 2015, and operations were turned over to the sponsoring African Inland Church.

IDM conducted or supported numerous clean water development projects throughout Kenya and Central America with the help of SAIWI (Student Association for International Water Issues), a student organization housed at the University of Nevada. SAIWI was devoted to hands-on training for students studying disciplines such as hydrology, environmental engineering, and ecological sciences. Numerous water sources were constructed by the SAIWI/IDM partnership including rainwater catchment units and hand dug wells. Ron was the initial mover and shaker for these projects. Sadly, Ron passed away unexpectedly in 2007, however, in Ron's spirit, IDM continued to develop water projects with the help of other practitioners and the SAIWI student volunteers.

The third mission of IDM includes support for education, both here at home and in East Africa. Volunteers traveling with IDM provided donated educational materials to numerous primary and secondary schools. IDM sponsored a donation program to collect books for Kenyan schools, which rarely have library resources. The books, donated by Northern Nevada residents were gathered and a container with the materials was shipped to Kenya in 2023.

To support its programs, IDM conducted two fund-raisers, the African Dinner and the Kenya Golf Tournament. The African Dinner, organized in cooperation with SAIWI students, provided a fun night with a buffet dinner featuring African cuisine, entertainment, silent auctions, and raffles. The dinner event was held in the parish hall for the first two years. Because of growth in attendance, IDM moved to larger venues after the second event, but St. Paul's continued to support the fund-raiser by providing its kitchen space to prepare the dinner. The African Dinner and Kenya Golf events were paused during and after Covid. Covid also unfortunately resulted in the disbanding of the SAIWI student group. In all, 14 African Dinners provided the primary financial support for IDM.

The Covid pandemic also disrupted IDM's projects in Kenya. In response, IDM directed its resources toward developing the IDM Endowment in Public Health at the University of Nevada, Reno. The IDM Endowment provides an annual scholarship to qualified students majoring in public health who plan to pursue a career in public health occupations. IDM has provided a scholarship annually since 2020 and has also supported other UNR graduate studies devoted to development.

IDM plans to increase the scholarship award and now has partnered with other programs to again deliver services to communities in need. In January, IDM and the Katie Adamson Conservation Fund (KACF) provided financial support for the Laipikia Rabies Vaccination Campaign, helping to reduce the incidence of rabies in poorer rural areas of Kenya. The disease is a substantial threat to communities dependent on agriculture for their subsistence. IDM would like to increase its support for similar projects that match its mission of public health programs, medical care, and education. With the support of St. Paul's, IDM is hoping to reprise the African Dinner in 2026. In the next few weeks, IDM will be conducting its "Donate It Forward" fund-raising book event in cooperation with KACF. KACF is devoted to wildlife

conservation and shares the mission of promoting sustainable community development with IDM. See the announcement in this Epistle. For additional information on IDM and KACF, refer to the following websites: internationaldevelopmentmissions.org and katieadamsonconservationfund.org

JOIN “DONATE IT FORWARD” BOOK SPONSORSHIP EVENT

FEATURING CONSERVATION BOOKS FOR CHILDREN

In April, IDM will be seeking donations to sponsor books for children written by the Executive Director of the Katie Adamson

Conservation Fund. There are four books in the series and parishioners can sponsor one, two, three books or a complete set. IDM will then donate your sponsored books to organizations that support education. Your donation will benefit the projects conducted by IDM, KACF, and the organization to which the books are donated. Examples of organizations include Camp Galilee, Carson City Library, and primary schools in Kenya where IDM and KACF operate. For more information, see the display on the Donate It Forward campaign in the narthex. Examples of the 4 books will be available for review after Sunday services on April 6 and 13. For more information, contact Deb Stiver at stiver@unr.edu or 775-636-1155.

Northern Nevada Spring Tea 2025

May 3, 2025

Noon til 2:00 pm

Doors open at 11:30 am

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

1135 12th St, Sparks, NV



\$20 per per person

cash or check payable at the door

Make your reservation by contacting Margaret Bouzek at

margaret.bouzek@gmail.com or 775-232-4712

Raffle prizes will be available.

Door prizes for Best Hat and

Best Table Setting

