Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church

THE EPISTLE

A Letter to the Saints in Sparks

What's Happening at St. Paul's



Baptism Annie Rae Green



Love in action! Restart Bins for families recovering from wildfires. Please reach out to the office if you know someone in need.



Blessing of the Animals



Baptism of Brad York

Senior Warden Report

By Margaret Bouzek, Senior Warden



HAPPY November! I hope you are voting this year. It is not my concern for whom you vote but that you exercise your right to vote. It is a privilege many in this world do not have.

Each year the parish elects 2 people to the vestry. The term of office is 3 years. A person may serve 2 consecutive 3 year terms. This year Connie Swain and I will have completed our terms of office. I am not eligible to run for election as I am completing my second 3 year term as Senior Warden. Please consider if you would like to assume a role in planning and executing decisions for the parish. Connie Swain has decided to run again for vestry. It would be nice to have a couple people to join her. We also elect 2 people to attend Diocesan Convention. It will be held in Las Vegas next year.

The vestry is working on the budget for next year. Much of what we can do outside the parish is dependent on the ledges you make to St. Paul's. Please during our Pledge Campaign prayerfully consider your financial support. Thank you. ✠

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Amee Hartman, Parish Administrator
Margaret Bouzek, Senior Warden
Kathie Dixon, Junior Warden
The Rt. Rev. Elizabeth Gardner, Bishop
The Rev. Hannah Wilder, Rector

Caring for God's Creation

By Deb Stiver

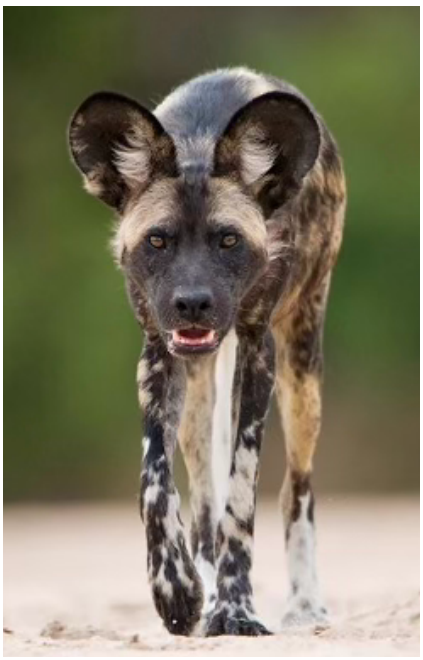
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT Missions (IDM) and the Katie Adamson Conservation Fund (KACF) want to give a big shout out to the people of St. Paul's for their generous support of IDM/KACF partnership projects that promote sustainable community growth, global wildlife conservation and habitat protection. Part of IDM's mission seeks to provide basic life necessities with the aim of stimulating spiritual, physical and economic growth in developing areas. KACF's mission is helping endangered animals by helping people – the organization's conservation imperative. The most successful initiatives work through education and community buy-in and cooperation.

Donations given by parish members during the recent presentation outlining conservation work in South Africa, provide direct support for our cooperative programs. An example is a rabies vaccination program currently taking place in the Laikipia district of central Kenya. IDM, in cooperation with KACF, has provided funding for the vaccination program since early 2025. The African wild dog (also called the spotted wolf) is critically endangered in much of its Kenyan habitat which includes the Laikipia area. Studies being conducted by researchers found a distinct link between rabies in domestic pets and infection in wild dogs. And critically, human rabies cases were common because of a lack of treatment availability in these rural locations.

In areas where domestic pets were protected by vaccination, human rabies cases were eradicated, and wild dog population decreases mitigated. The program also provided educational support for the local community, addressing disease transmission, preventative measures and the program links to wild animal conservation.

For additional information on how your donations support IDM/KACF programs, see the posters on the Eco-palian bulletin board near the Parish Hall and in the Narthex. Or contact Deb Stiver at stiver@unr.edu. ✠

THANK YOU ECO-PALIANS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



The African Wild Dog also called the Spotted Wolf

Phantom of the Opera Silent Movie

Friday November 6, 5:30 -11 PM

A costume gala will follow a screening of the 1929 silent film Phantom of the Opera on Friday, November 6, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. Dorothy Papadakos will provide live improvised organ music. The evening will also feature a silent auction, with proceeds supporting Trinity's Parish Hall Renovation. Guests are encouraged to dress up and enjoy an evening of music, mystery, and dancing.

Ingathering Sunday: Stepping out in Faith

Sunday, November 15

INGATHERING SUNDAY IS A joyful day of celebration at St. Paul's as we gather the pledges that will support our shared ministry in 2027.

A pledge is more than a financial commitment. It is an act of faith — a way of saying, "I believe in what God is doing here, and I want to be part of it." Together, our pledges make possible the worship, pastoral care, outreach, formation, hospitality, and ministries that help St. Paul's serve our congregation and our wider community.

On Ingathering Sunday, we will bring our commitments together and offer them to God with gratitude and hope for the year ahead.

Come celebrate with us as we give thanks for God's abundance, commit ourselves to the work before us, and step into 2027 with faith, generosity, and joy. ✠

Helping Hands Ministry

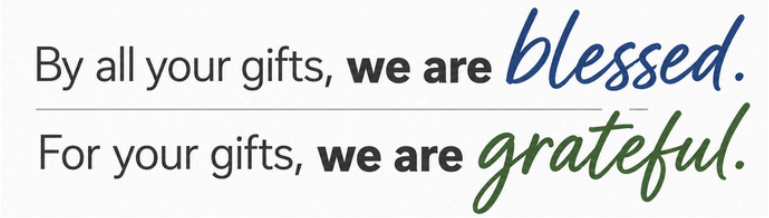
HELPING HANDS IS ONE OF THE the pastoral ministries of St. Paul's. The primary mission of Helping Hands is to assist parishioners and their families during times of need. The ministry is especially beneficial when a parishioner or parishioner's family is experiencing an illness or surgery or when there has been a death of a loved one.
During these times, Helping Hands volunteers are called upon to provide meals, rides, or other help. Helping Hands often arranges receptions in the Parish Hall for funerals or memorials.

The ministry can also be called upon during other occasions such as church functions or the birth of a child. No special skills are necessary to volunteer with Helping Hands. If you can cook or enjoy preparing food, can help with setup or cleanup, or are able to provide rides, your help will be greatly appreciated!

If you are a parishioner in need of help from the ministry, please contact the Parish Office. For information on being a Helping Hands volunteer, contact Deb Stiver at 775-636-1155 or email to stiver@unr.edu. A volunteer sign-up sheet is also posted to the bulletin board in the Narthex. ✠

Funding the Mission: November 2026

By Roger Towne, Treasurer



The third quarter financial results for 2026 were better than expected. Operating receipts totaled $62,041 and operating expenses totaled $80,879. This gave us an operating deficit for the quarter of $18,838 compared to the budget's predicted deficit of $33,951. We continue to receive pledge payments faster than we budgeted, and consequently these donations have accumulated to give us a 9-month surplus of just over $20,000.

In the expense area, we spent almost exactly what we budgeted for the third quarter. However, year to date, our expenses have exceeded our budget by just over $11,000. Building repairs and enhancements are the main cause. Our other expenses have held fairly close to their budgets.

I am still expecting us to run a significant deficit for the last three months of the year, which I believe will also result in a funding deficit for the full year. However, we can comfortably handle a deficit for 2026 as our "rainy day" savings fund currently sits at $240,144.

The monthly Financial Statement of Mission contains details on all our financial activity and is posted in the narthex. If you would like me to email you a copy, send me an email at the address below.

You can direct questions personally to myself or to any Vestry member or contact me by email at Treasurer@stpaulssparks.org ✠

Members of Our Vestry

Margaret Bouzek, Senior Warden, Rotating off 2026
Connie Swain, Member, Rotating off 2026
Kathie Dixon, Junior Warden, Rotating off 2027
Mary Lynch, Member, Rotating off 2027
Elyse Monroy-Marsala, Member, Rotating off 2028
Karl Riglesberger, Member, Rotating off 2028
John Hannah, Member, Rotating off 2028



Save the Date! 2027 African Dinner

Join IDM and friends at the 2027 African Dinner.
An evening of good food and culture celebrating good works.
Saturday, February 27, at St. Paul's Parish Hall

JOIN US FOR A

THANKSGIVING *Celebration*

Celebrate Gratitude, Love & Togetherness

Let's come together to celebrate the blessings of life, share delicious food, and create beautiful memories with family, friends, and our community.

NOVEMBER 26, 2026

Doors open 12:00 pm
Eat at 1:00 pm

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Sign up sheet in Narthex