



Lent 2022

As Lutheran Christians, we look forward to the season of Lent. Not because we enjoy the story of Jesus' misery on the way to the cross, but because we need to hear the whole story to truly prepare for the amazing, joyous celebration of Easter.

This year, St. Mark's will be taking a Lenten journey with several paths to the cross. We invite you to join us as you are able to hear again the story of God's love as written in John 3:16: ***For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.***

Signs of Lent – Ash Wednesday and Sundays in Lent



This series of worship services for Lent, based on the concept of road signs and how their messages apply to our life in Christ during the season of Lent

Ash Wednesday – March 2 – 7:00 p.m. – U-Turn

Like signs we see along the roads that tell us what to do, we see signs along the way on our Lenten journey that show us the way to Christ. In our Ash Wednesday worship this week, we are reminded to make a U-Turn, turning away from our sins and turning back to God through our Lord Jesus Christ.



Sunday, March 6 – First Sunday in Lent - Stop

The signs of Lent are everywhere! In our Lenten worship today, we remember how Peter tried to put a Stop sign in front of Jesus on his way to the cross. But Jesus helped him (and us) to see that he could only stop when he reached the cross to save us all.

Sunday, March 13 – Second Sunday in Lent - Merge

In our Lenten worship today, we are reminded to merge our lives with long history of the story of salvation that began in the Garden of Eden, continued with the Children of Israel at Passover and is revealed in the sacrifice of the promised Messiah.



Sunday, March 20 – Third Sunday in Lent - Yield

In our Lenten worship today, we are reminded to yield to the Father's will for us in our lives, just as Jesus yielded to his will when he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Not my will, but yours be done."



Sunday, March 27 – The Fourth in Lent – One Way

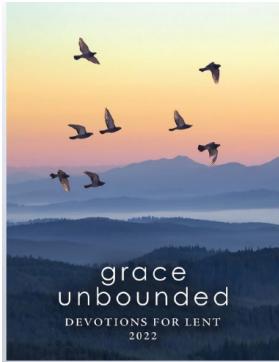
In our Lenten worship this week, we are reminded that there is only One Way to God and only one name by which we can be saved. That Way and name is Jesus.



April 3 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – Dead End

In our Lenten worship today, we are reminded that, unlike other paths in life, Jesus is not a dead end, but a start to life everlasting.

Also, this Lenten season: Grace Unbounded: Devotions for Lent 2022



Join us for Tuesday soup and devotions at 11:00 a.m. starting March 8.
Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87130437154>

Grace Unbounded provides daily devotions for each day from Ash Wednesday to the Vigil of Easter (traditionally known as Holy Saturday). Devotions begin with an evocative image and a brief passage from the Gospel of Luke (the gospel focus for 2022, year C in the Revised Common Lectionary). The writers then bring their unique voices and pastoral wisdom to the texts with quotations to ponder, reflections, and prayers.

The devotional booklet can be purchased from Amazon or Augsburg Fortress. A few free copies will be available, also (talk to Diane Metz to get one).

We will follow this weekly devotion with a time of conversation and fellowship. Diane Metz has promised to share some of her fantastic soup recipes so we can sip and talk (coffee or hot chocolate work, too 😊).



And, a journey to the cross...

The Way of the Cross (also known as Stations of the Cross) will be offered this year.

The Way of the Cross will take participants on a journey with Jesus in his final hours. With visual art, readings, music, and thought-provoking reflections and prayers, we will put ourselves on that road to Golgotha.

This opportunity for prayer and meditation will be available in several ways:

- A YouTube version: There will be a link on our website (stmarksfairfield.org) and our YouTube station <https://www.youtube.com/c/smlcfairfield>. This version allows the participant to take the journey at their own pace. Perhaps you want to do just one station at a time – you can pause and resume whenever it is convenient for you. You may wish to visit all 8 stations in one sitting. It is up to you.
- Good Friday journey - The Worship Center will be open from noon – 2:00 p.m. and from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (just before Good Friday worship) for participants to experience the art, music and devotions. Each station will be set up with a chair and images. The devotional book will be available onsite.
- By appointment – If these times do not work for you and you would like to experience the journey, contact Pastor Karen to set up a time – she will be glad to open the Worship Center for you and lock it up after you are finished.

There is no specific amount of time for this experience. If you wish to go slowly through each station, stop at any time and come back, you are welcome to experience it in your own way. We pray that it will be a poignant time for anyone who wishes to check it out.

I pray that you join us for this very special time in the church year to experience anew Jesus' amazing love for us.

Pastor Karen



In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

Our members

Lew Broschard, Richard Ehman, Lynn Hallahan, Jim Hanser and family, Eva Lipke, Karen Mullin, Cheryl Rasmussen, Gerda Reid, Josephine Lord-Traughber and Jerry Zaier.



Our homebound members

Sylvia Buringrud, Judith Eckhart, Bob Evans, Alice Freeman, Larry Nelson, Barbara Patterson, Shirley Quinn, Barbara Tenorio.

Our friends and loved ones

Alex, Bree Assaker, Bruce Atkinson, Alec Barrett, Makita Bond, Michael Boyle, Alyssa Buch, Bernadette Carter, Deanna Cantrell, Carmen Chow, David Corr, Karen Digman, Tom Eckhart, Steve Lamb, Pastor Lynne Morrow, Annette Murphy, Martha Peña, Wayne Poulsen, Helen Powell, Wendy Ramirez, Arlette Sciortino, Dennis Sweeney, Maudie Sylhman, Weldon Tunnel, Ann Turek, Mary Vigliezone, Aidan Volk, Ida Volk, Mickey Volk, Lorna Walter, and Laurie Ziegler.

Those who are mourning

The family of Fred MacMillan (Karin MacMillan's husband) who died on February 9.

The family of Anita East who died on February 5.

The family of John Grady (Patti Irwin's father) who died on January 31.

Please help us keep our prayer list up to date. Especially the friends list. If a someone is doing well, please let us know. If you would like to add someone, please call the office (707) 422-4741 or email office@stmarksfairfield.org.



Chris & Linda Lindauer 03/21
Gordene & Ronald Pienovi 03/28



Begin March 9 at 7:00 p.m.

This year's Midweek Service will, once again, be a Zoom gathering. Each week we will experience the beautiful music of Holden Evening prayer and focus on *Practice Gratitude, Ritual of Promise, Open Invitation, Welcome Grace, and Gracious Ministries*. The Zoom Link will be the same each week: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83180388194>



Remember our Homebound Members

Sylvia Buringrud
631 Whitehall Circle
Fairfield, CA 94533

Bonnie DeMuth
Legacy of Bear Creek
200 Keller-Smithfield Rd. South Unit 210
Keller, Texas 76248
(Note: this is a corrected address)

Judith Eckhart
2113 Alturas Court
Fairfield CA 94534

Bob Evans
1113 Quail Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533

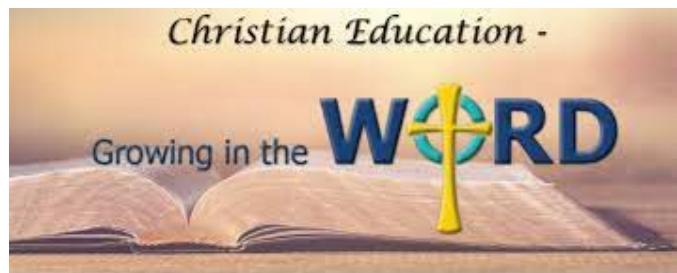
Alice Freeman
1073 Flicker Lane
Fairfield, CA 94533

Larry Nelson
770 Pinehurst Drive
Tio Vista, CA 94571

Barbara Patterson
1078 Meadowlark Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533

Barbara Tenorio
2448 Baltic Drive
Fairfield, CA 94533

Shirley Quinn
11 Lemon Tree Circle
Vacaville CA 95687



Christian Ed Opportunities

Wednesday Bible Study – TBA

During Lent, starting AFTER Ash Wednesday (3/2), so **3/9, 3/30, and 4/6** we will meet from **6:00-6:50**, maybe concentrating on 2 of the readings, as the Lenten service (with Holden Prayer) will be streaming at 7:00. I'm glad we will be able to get together during Lent! See you then. Please email Jim Hanser at hanserjames@comcast.net if you would like the Zoom link



Seeker's Circle

The following link is for this group through June. Reminders will be sent (God willing) each month. Dates are listed below if you want to add to your calendars.

If you have questions about 'how' to get on, call Diane Metz at (707) 208-7228. If you want to invite someone, please let her know. We'll be discussing how to get more members to attend the Tuesdays with Pastor Karen book study too. If you have suggestions, please bring them on Thursday.

Epiphany Blessings,
Diane

Upcoming dates:
Thursday, March 10
Thursday, April 14
Thursday, May 12

Here's the link: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88688857937>



The Psalms, Songbook of the Bible, led by Paul Theiss continues until March 6.

In-person in the Digerud Room and on Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81948315531>



We all know that many hands make light work.
We need people to help keep the important
ministries on the move.

- **Ushers** – arrive by 9:10 on Sunday morning and greet folks. Count the number of people in the worship center (including A/V tech, pastor, organist, children – everyone) and write that number of the attendance sheet in the hallway with a circle around it. At the end of the service take the offering into the sacristy, put it in an envelope with the date on it and put it into the safe. (Envelopes and pens are the drawer under the safe; to the left of the refrigerator). Contact Stu Reid (stuktu@yahoo.com)
- **Reader** – Read the first and second readings for the day and lead the Psalm (responsively with congregation). Readings are sent out early in the week before your Sunday and a large print copy will be on the reading stand. We are working on including our online community as readers. If you are interested in recording the readings for Sunday morning, please let us know. Contact Stu Reid (stuktu@yahoo.com)
- **A/V Techs** – We need three A/V techs each week – sound board, slides, and cameras. We

are working on a training manual and training is available. Contact Stu Reid (stuktu@yahoo.com)

- **Altar Care** – Set up and clean up communion for Sunday worship (a binder and training are available). Check water in font and other tidying up duties for the month. Contact Toni McCallum (vacamccallums@gmail.com).
- **Counters Needed** – work with a partner to set up time and day that is convenient (preferably no later than Tuesday early morning). Take money our of safe and drawer, count, and deposit. (Training available). Contact Pamela Lyons (LorineCaldwell@aol.com) or Linda Frogget at lfrogg@comcast.net. Training is available.

Council Highlights

The SMLC Council met with our new members for the first time on February 10. Here are some highlights:

- Approved the minutes of January 11, 2022.
- The Finance Chair let us know that several large annual bills paid in early February. The Financial Report was approved.
- Pastor shared information about the upcoming focus on congregational growth over the next year.
- We were informed that the date of the Golf Tournament (fundraiser for Youth Mission work) date was changed to May 7.



Guest from Bread for the World

On Sunday, April 3, we will welcome David Gist from Bread for the World. David will share all that this organization is doing to fight hunger in our world.

Children & Youth Ministries

JESUS TEACHES KINDNESS

During the month of March, Pastor Karen and Miss Sharon will be sharing the stories of Jesus from the New Testament. As we go through his stories, we will learn about how to be kind and loving to others, no matter who they are.

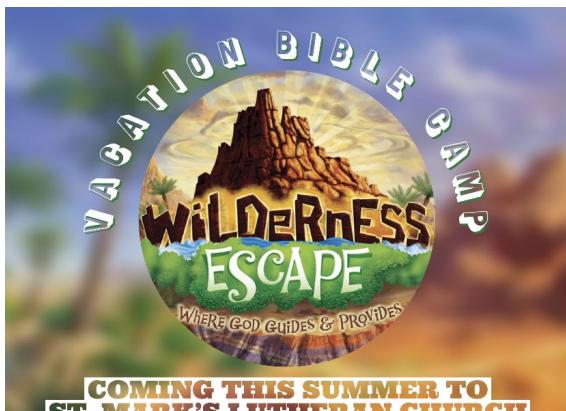
GO TO YOUTUBE.COM/C/SMLCFAIRFIELD FOR GENESIS STUDIOS AND OUR WORSHIP SERVICES

Instagram

We are starting a new private Instagram for the preschool to post some of our fun activities. All children faces will be covered up.

Instagram @stmarks.preschool

Genesis Link:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTTNSNDqbBYHKwNZuqDm1HQ>



God takes care of His people, even in the wilderness! In St. Mark's Vacation Bible Camp for 2022, join the Israelites as they escape Egypt and follow God into the wilderness. To get through, you'll learn trust, faith, strength, salvation and guidance from the one true God!

Dates: M-F June 27- July 1

Time: 9 AM - 12 PM, drop-off is 8:30

Registration Opens in May

Registration Fee: \$60

Sharon Munoz, Youth Director

St. Mark's Lutheran Church and Preschool

Our Youth Group meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. for fun, fellowship, bible lessons and more.



Get to know our preschoolers!

It's that time of year already to start planning the 2022-2023 school year. We will have priority registration on Wednesday, March 2nd, 2022 for all of our current families. Alumni/Church registration will begin on Wednesday, March 9th, 2022 and open registration starts on Wednesday, March 16th, 2022. So be sure and register before March 9th 2022 to get the spots you want for your child(ren) for the next school year. We want all our current families to get first choice. The registration forms will be at the check in stations and Miss Lucille's office as well as the church office.

Wednesday, March 2nd is national "Read Across America Day" and Dr. Seuss's birthday. We will be reading Dr. Seuss books all week, making green eggs and ham, (yummy) having crazy sock and silly hair days to celebrate his birthday. Monday, February 28th and Tuesday, March 1st will be the "Crazy Sock Days" and Thursday, March 3rd and Friday, March 4th we will have the "Silly Hair Days".

"See's Candies" Fundraiser

See's Candies will give the Preschool 13% to 50% of all profits depending on the item. The chocolate eggs, marshmallow eggs and bunny box gives us the 50%! If you would like the Preschool to receive 100% of your donation, you can just write a check instead ☺ The money will be used to purchase fine motor manipulative items.

When: Starting Monday, February 28, 2022

Due Date: Tuesday, March 23

Delivery date: Approximately Friday, April 1, 2022.

Please make checks payable to St. Mark's Preschool. Order forms can be found in the narthex.



ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant

Our thanks to the ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant Program! Our Manna Food Pantry was awarded \$10,000 to support our ministry to our neighbors. We will receive \$6,000 in 2022 and \$4,000 in 2023. We are grateful to all who support this ELCA ministry throughout the year.



The Manna Food Pantry

The Manna Food Pantry is a ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church and Preschool. Food pantry hours are every Tuesday from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. There are no requirements for receiving food. All are welcome!

In February we served over 1400 people and were blessed with over 438 hours of volunteer commitment.

Thanks to your generosity, the Food Pantry has enough bags and egg cartons to last for a while. Your donations of non-perishable food items are always welcome.



Solano Food Bank Programs

Schedule for 2022

at St. Mark's, Fairfield

Seniors Program

1st & 3rd Wednesday

9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m.

~~Food Assistance Program~~

~~NO LONGER AVAILABLE~~

~~(income eligibility requirements apply)~~

~~2nd Wednesday~~

~~9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.~~



Free Tax Service Hosted at SMLC

Thanks to Fairfield Vita and the "EARN it KEEP it Save it" program, we are once again able to host free tax services for our neighbors. The VITA volunteers will be working out of the Bethel Room every Saturday throughout this tax season. Records indicated that we have been hosting the service for 15 years! If you know of anyone who could use the service, please have them contact fairfieldvita@gmail.com or call 707-689-9960 for an appointment.



A message from MaryAnne

Dear Friends,

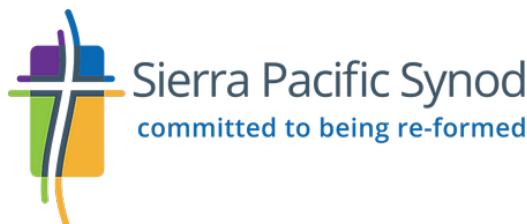
I will be leaving Fairfield and St. Mark's in March. Life takes funny turns and this one is mine since I didn't think I would ever leave

Fairfield, but God changes our plans all the time and so I will be going to Colorado Springs where my daughter Julie lives. I will miss all of you so much. St. Mark's and you have been my church family and home since 1980. I will be joining Julie's church, Bethel Lutheran but it won't be the same! I am looking for a house in Colorado Springs so as soon as I find one I will send on the address so we can keep in touch. In the meantime, my cell number is 707 718-6270 if you feel like chatting. mejordan57@comcast.net

God bless and keep you all. You are always be in my prayers.

With love,

MaryAnne Jordan



Sierra Pacific Synod Mission Partners

Every month, our Synod partners with a different nonprofit organization that embodies the spirit of Christ and cares for community members in diverse ways. Below you'll find a list of our current mission partners and when we encourage you to support them.

[Stanford University](#)

[University of California, Berkeley](#)

[California State University, Monterey](#)

[California State University, Fresno](#)

[University of California, Davis](#)

[University of California, Santa Cruz](#)

Donate here:

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=CFFP9AN3VBM9S&source=url



Remember to support St. Mark's Lutheran Church every time you order from Amazon! Sign up for Amazon Smile at

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2635284>. Let them know that you want .5% of qualifying purchases to be given to St. Mark's. This is a great way to support our ministry and doesn't cost you a cent! We received \$135.36 in 2021! It may not seem like a lot, but every little bit helps. And we know more of you are shopping on Amazon!!! Let's get everyone signed up in 2022!



Bishop's Prayer Livestream

Every Wednesday at 6:00pm PT

Livestreamed via Synod's Facebook and YouTube

Join Bishop Megan Rohrer in prayer on livestream - watch live on both the Bishop and the Synod's social media pages. Lift up public prayers in the comment sections. Send private payers through DM or email: bprohrer@spselca.org. Watch via Facebook here:

<https://www.facebook.com/SPSELCA>

Watch via YouTube here:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/SPSELCA/videos>

What's Happening at St. Mark's

March 2022 – Calendar of Events

Weekly Events

Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. SMLC Worship (Worship Center/Live Streaming)
- 10:30 a.m. SMLC Fellowship (Worship Center/Zoom)
- 11:00 a.m. SMLC Education
- 11:00 a.m. Pentecost Temple (Community Center)
- 2:30 p.m. Ministerios Ebenezer (Community Center)

Monday

- 12:00 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting (Digerud Room)

Tuesday

- 9:15 a.m. Preschool Chapel (Preschool Bldg)
- 11:00 a.m. Soup and Devotions (Zoom and in-person) (Pastor's Office)
- 3:30 p.m. Manna Food Pantry Distribution

Wednesday

- 9:15 a.m. Preschool Chapel (Preschool Bldg)
- 9:30 a.m. Solano Food Bank Program (Food Pantry 1st & 3rd Wednesday)
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon (Digerud Room)
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Room)
- 7:00 p.m. Mid-Week Lent Worship (Zoom) (Starting March 9)

Thursday

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meetings (1st & 3rd) (Pastor's Office)

Friday

- 7:00 p.m. Ebenezer Mission

Saturday

- 9:00 a.m. Free Tax Service (Bethel Room)
- 5:00 p.m. Holy Family (Community Center)

Additional Events

March 1

- 5:30 p.m. Worship & Music Committee (Zoom)

March 2

- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship

March 9

- 6:30 p.m. Parent's Meeting (Youth)
- 7:00 p.m. Solano Symphony Board (Digerud Room)

March 10

- 10:00 a.m. Seeker's Circle (Zoom)
- 6:15 p.m. Council Meeting

March 14

- 10:00 a.m. Solano Symphony Audition

March 22

- 3:00 p.m. Fairfield CAN

You may also see the calendar of events on our web site (stmarksfairfield.org) for the latest information.

Join us for worship every Sunday
9:30 a.m. for in person & live streaming service
on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SMLCFairfield (or click [HERE](#)) and on YouTube at
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-E3cZfy_c-Y (or click [HERE](#))

St. Mark's Mission: To Nurture Discipleship, Communicate the Gospel and Serve the Community.

St. Mark's Vision: To transform each church member into Christ-led disciples, nurtured and equipped by God's Word, whose purpose is to build up the Body of Christ in Solano County and the world.

St. Mark's Welcoming Statement: Adopted January 19, 2020

"We are St. Mark's Lutheran Church where everyone is welcomed and everyone is loved. We invite all into the grace, love and acceptance we have from God. We welcome YOU: who you are, as you are.



- All who are single, married, partnered, divorced, with or without children
- All sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions
- All racial, ethnic, and social backgrounds
- All who are homed or homeless
- All who are struggling with addictions or other personal hardships
- All ages and levels of physical and mental health and abilities
- All faith backgrounds, those questioning their faith and those new to faith

We invite you to fully participate in the life and ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church where we seek to share God's love and grace through word and action."

St. Mark's Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

1600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533

707-422-4741

office@stmarksfairfield.org; www.stmarksfairfield.org

Sharon Munoz, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

Gregori (GiGi) Merriweather, Office Administrator

Semyon Lohss, Accompanist, Choral Director

Lucille Bowers, Preschool Director

Michelle Aas, SMLC's bookkeeper

Council Members

June Johnsen (President), Jim Hanser (Vice President), Ann Hefner Gravink (Secretary),
Nancy Huston (Finance Chair), Marilyn Kilian & Tom Lingel (Members at Large).

Elected Leaders

Pam Lyons (Financial Secretary), Dan DiSano (Treasurer)

V-Anne Chernock, Personnel Committee Chairperson, Les Johnsen, Property Committee Chairperson