

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## May 2019 Newsletter



*Christ is Risen! Alleluia!  
Christ is Risen, indeed!  
Alleluia!*

Oh, how I love to hear these words each Easter season! Christ is alive! We rejoice and give thanks. I don't believe that it is by accident that our celebration of Christ's resurrection comes at a time of the year when new life is springing up all around us. The trees and flowers remind us that winter greys and browns are not the whole story. The bright colors of spring give us renewed energy and joy.

The Preschool students and teachers are watching butterfly larvae grow each and every day – first becoming caterpillars, then cocoons, and eventually beautiful butterflies. What once was wrapped in the darkness breaks into light – beautiful and renewed. Butterflies are a very powerful symbol of new life and resurrection.

As we begin the 50 days of Easter, we seek renewal in our lives and our ministry together in this place. We ask ourselves questions – individually and corporately – who is God calling us to be in this place at this time? How do we respond to that call?

The best way to answer these questions is in community – the community of faith. We come together for worship to hear the Word of God, to share the peace of Christ with one another, and share in the Holy meal. As we pray together, we find direction and guidance from the One who is all knowing, all loving and has *all* the answers. Join us!

*Karen Stetins, Pastor*



Stewardship – the task of taking care of something. This is but a brief description of what it means to be a steward. God calls us to take care of all the gifts we receive as children of God. Our bodies, our financial life, our spiritual life, our earth, our worship spaces, our ministries and so much more. It is not a once a year thought. It is a way of life that leads to peace and wholeness. Stewardship is not about paying the bills, although we must do that in order to continue our ministry. It is about the heart – having a heart for God and celebrating God's love for us. When we put God first in our lives our care and use of our time, talents and treasures follows.

Giving to make ministry possible for the long-time members and those who have not yet walked through our doors is a vital part of who we are as God's people. You are encouraged to give online as an ongoing, faithful act of stewardship. You can go to our web site and sign-up (<https://www.stmarksfairfield.org/>). Not tech savvy – no problem. Watch the bulletin in the coming weeks for the dates that assistance will be available after worship.



## Summer of favorites

Do you want to sing your favorite songs in worship? Now is the time to let us know just what those songs are.

For the next couple of weeks there will be a card in your bulletin on Sunday to fill out and return to the Worship & Music Committee.

Starting June 16, we will spend the summer sing all our favorites. If you can't be in worship, just email Pastor Karen with your favs!



## So many people to thanks....

What a wonderful Lent, Holy Week and Easter we have had! All these wonderful things could not happen without the loving hands and touch of so many people.

Thank you to...

- ✚ Our **Convicted** participants:
  - ❖ Mike Chernock
  - ❖ Larry Nelson
  - ❖ Marilyn Nelson
  - ❖ Stu Reid
  - ❖ Carole Greeley
  - ❖ Jeff Thoma
  - ❖ Sam Mullin
  - ❖ V-Anne Chernock
  - ❖ Jim Hanser
  - ❖ MaryAnne Jordan
  
- ✚ Leaders and participants in the Midweek Worship Series – Sensing the Gospel.
- ✚ Our wonderful choir and Contemporary Worship Team
- ✚ Janelle Jolley and Ann Hefner-Gravink for reupholstering our café furniture and spring cleaning in the sanctuary and nursery.
- ✚ Our Outreach team for the beautiful Easter signs
- ✚ Those who had their feet washed on Maundy Thursday: Josephine Lord-Traughber, Dennis Digman, Helen Bergoust
- ✚ Our dedicated Altar Guild especially Nancy and Chuck Huston who had a BIG job in April; Josephine Traughber for her constant work to make our worship space beautiful.
- ✚ Dave McCallum for providing all the beautiful Palms for Palm Sunday.



## Pentecost Sunday One Service & Church Picnic

Holy Family will join us as we celebrate the birthday of the Christian Church with worship at 10:00 a.m. followed by an all church picnic at Rush Ranch (3521 Grizzly Island Rd, Suisun City, CA 94585).

Bring a dish to share, lawn chairs, a pop-up canopy if you have one, and outdoor games. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Don't forget to wear your favorite red clothes!

### *Preplanning...*

*The Most Important Thing  
You Can Do For Your Family.*

## Celebration of Life Preplanning

One of the best gifts we can give our loved ones is to plan ahead. You can plan your Celebration of Life worship service. In the narthex you will find a planning guide and form to complete. You may keep it on file at home for your loved ones and bring a copy to the church office for our files. Pastor Karen would be happy to meet with you and discuss your plans. If you are unable to make it to church to pick up a guide and form, just let the church office know and we will send it to you.



## Our 2019 Directory is here!

If you had your picture taken (or submitted) there is a directory in the narthex with your name on it. If you are unable to pick it up, just let the church office know and we will get it to you.

If you did not have your picture taken but would like one of the extras, please sign the list in the narthex or call the church office. There is a limited number of extras so we distribute them on a first-come, first-served basis.

Many thanks to Dave McCallum for his work in getting the photography set up and to Marilyn Kilian for designing the directory. It is a wonderful way to get to know each other and keep in touch.

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

You can 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 .05% 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!



### **Volunteers Needed to Assist the Homebound Elderly**

Faith in Action is hosting a volunteer orientation training on Saturday, May 4, 2019, from 9:00am-3:00pm, for caring individual interested in assisting homebound seniors throughout Solano County. Volunteers are needed to make phone calls, home visits, run errands, assist with grocery shopping, or provide Senior Peer Counseling or transportation to medical appointment and pharmacies. Volunteers for handyman projects are also needed.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS are of greatest need, as transportation is our most frequent request! Our next Orientation Training will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 1600 Union Avenue in Fairfield.

### **Neighbors Helping Neighbors**

Reach out through Faith in Action to make a difference in the life of an isolated senior in Solano County. Advance registration is requested. To register, or for additional information, please call (707) 469-6675 or send an e-mail to:

[VolunteerRecruiter2@FaithInActionSolano.org](mailto:VolunteerRecruiter2@FaithInActionSolano.org).



### **"Finding your Center through Simplicity of Life"**

**What:** Women's Retreat

**When:** May 4, 2019, 8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

**Where:** Shepherd of the Hills Church

Cost: \$30 for breakfast and retreat and special gift, optional \$12 lunch

**Who:** You!

**Why:** Brie Johnson will speak to us about simplifying our lives so we can find our center and focus on being a faithful follower.

Register no later than April 30, one of two ways:

- Click for Google Forms
- Paper copies available at church.

Return forms and payment to Shepherd of the Hills Church, 580 Trinity Drive, Vacaville, 95688-Attention: Financial Secretary.

*You will be contacted confirming your registration. If you do not hear from Laura Barton (707) 761-0203 or Martha Pierce (707) 685-1465 by May 2, contact the church office at 448-8599.*



### ***Seekers Circle Continues Monthly on Second Thursdays***

May 9<sup>th</sup> this the next meeting 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. -- Digerud Room

- 9:30 a.m. – Fellowship, Prayer and Business Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. -- Bible Study. Linda Lindauer is the May Study leader

Fill Your Cup—Retreat for Women

Being planned as a brunch and study on Saturday morning in August. Sponsored by the Seekers Circle. Let Linda Lindauer or Diane Metz know of your interest.



### **Adult Sunday Ed. Hour: May 2019**

**Time:** Adult Class begins at 11:15 a.m.

**Location:** Digerud Room.

**Sundays, May 5<sup>th</sup>, May 12<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup> and May 26<sup>th</sup>** –Topics have not been decided by Education Ministry Team, so all are ‘To Be Announced’ for now. Practices of Faith may continue, or other speakers will be lesson leaders.

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### *Prayer Request*

**We are praying for...**

#### **Our members:**

Kedrin Armenta, V- Anne Chernock, Jenn Counihan, Bev Duncan, Judith Eckhart, Bob Evans, Lynn Hallahan, Jim Hanser and family, and Josephine Traugher.

#### **Our homebound:**

Sylvia Buringrud, Charles Christian, Anita East, Alice Freeman, Margaret Heins, Lillian Manning, Nina Pfiefer, Roger & Shirley Quinn, Doris Sams, Etta Sivertson, Norm Skoglund, Louie & Doris Trean & Betty Waters.

#### **Those who are mourning:**

June Bohr’s Family.

#### **Our friends and loved ones:**

Michelle Aas, the Dean Family, the Devine Family, Karen Digman, Rhonda Francis, Tori Francis, John Grady, Jackie Gregory, Robert Johnson, Tim Lingel, Clancy Long-Sheek, Dave Smith, Gabbie & Gary Ludwig, Jack McPike, Kirk Metz, Jonathan Quinn, Arthur Raygoza, Maudie Syhlman, Mary Vigliezone, Dom Villegas, Robert Williamson and family.

*Please help us keep our list up-to-date. 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](mailto:office@stmarksfairfield.org).*



## Big Day of Giving (Big DOG) to support LSS youth programs

I serve on the board of directors for LSS of Northern California, an organization that works to break the cycle of homelessness. LSS does so by providing each person entrusted to our care with a safe place to call home and compassionate guidance to assist each person in rebuilding their life after months or even years of being homeless. We are participating in the Sacramento area's Big Day of Giving (aka, Big DOG) online fundraising campaign on Thursday, May 2 to raise \$20,000 for 100+ youth in our supportive housing programs. These programs primarily serve former foster youth, who have high incidences of homelessness due to their lack of stable family and social networks and their highly dysfunctional, chaotic childhoods. We want to continue our good work with youth, which has an exceptionally strong track record of helping youth find permanent, stable housing; staying in school and obtaining employment.

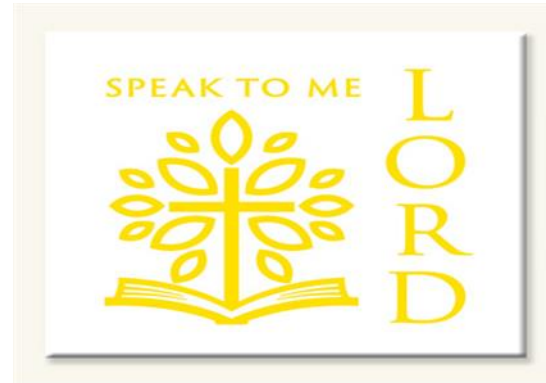
As a board member, I am committed to making a gift that will create a challenge or matching fund. Several of the LSS vendors are doing the same. Will you help us reach our goal? Visit <https://www.bigdayofgiving.org/LSS> to make your donation on May 2, preferably between 10 and 11 a.m. to help us win prize money. You can also schedule your donation in advance if that is more convenient. Throughout Northern California, LSS assist more than 3,300 formerly homeless adults, seniors, youth and families with children every day in rebuilding their lives after months or years on the street, living in a car or couch surfing.

Thank you for supporting my passion to end homelessness for good.

P.S. Check with your employer, as many have matching programs, which may double or even triple your gift! God's blessings to you all....

V-Anne Chernock  
Member, Board of Directors

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## Upcoming Scripture readings

### May 5-Third Easter

Acts 9:1-6  
Psalm 30  
Revelation 5:11-14  
John 21:1-19

### May 12-Fourth Easter

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30

### May 19-Fifth Easter

Acts 11:1-18  
Psalm 148  
Revelation 21:1-6  
John 13:31-35

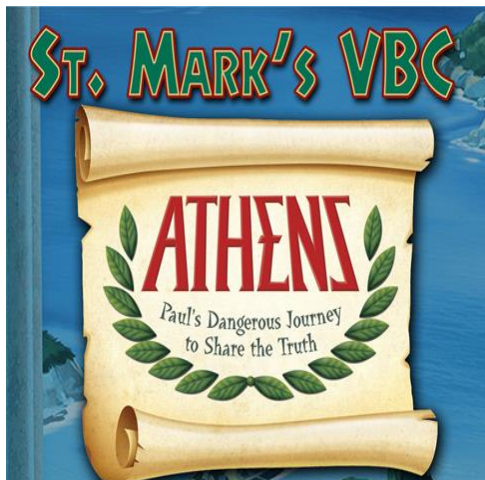
### May 26-Sixth Easter

Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5  
John 14:23-29 or John 5:1-9



We now have a Kids' Corner in the sanctuary. A place for kids to go during worship to color and play during worship.

Our thanks to our Outreach Team for setting this up.



**VBC 2019 Mandatory Training**  
Monday, June 17 5:00 to 6:30pm  
At St. Mark's in the Youth Room

This is a mandatory training event on safe congregation policies for all VBC volunteers. This training is open to anyone interested in volunteering at VBC this year! This event is also open to all parents of VBC participants interested in learning more about our safety protocols. Please Join us.

**VBC 2019 Athens**

June 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
At the St. Mark's Campus  
1600 Union Avenue  
Fairfield CA, 94533

Learn the jaw-dropping story of the Apostle Paul straight from Paul himself! In an ancient "anything goes" culture, Paul will inspire kids to share the truth of God's immeasurable love today. At VBC Athens your kids will enjoy music, crafts, games, bible stories and of course our annual water play day. Camp runs from Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. and is \$55 per student which includes snacks and lunch each day. Sign up at the preschool and church offices.



*We wish you all a happy Birthday!!!*

- 05/02 Sciortino, Madelene*
- 05/05 Alston, Carol*
- 05/05 Gravink, Michael*
- 05/06 Mullin, Sam*
- 05/10 Johnston, Audrey*
- 05/12 Gilliam, Tania*
- 05/13 Demuth, Bonnie*
- 05/13 Gilliam, Jaquez*
- 05/18 Bojorquez, Rene*
- 05/20 Quinn, Shirley*
- 05/30 Traughber, Larry*
- 05/31 Duncan, Beverly*

# YOUTH NEWS



On behalf of all the Youth and adults planning to go on our mission trip this summer, I would like to recognize and thank the following sponsors of this year's Crab Feed whose combined contributions totaled \$6,122.00 towards our 2019 St. Mark's Mexico Mission Trip.

Telstar Inc.	Delta Reality,
The Spot,	TCGEP Designs
7 Flags Car Wash	Vacaville Ice Sports
Delta Graphics	Costco Vacaville
Costco Fairfield	Scandia Golfland
Hard Rock Café	Sacramento River Cats
Safeway	Rock Creek Vineyards
Walmart	See's Candies
Meyer Corporation	Driven Raceways

Your donation not only enables youth and young adults from Solano county to attend our annual mission trip to Mexico, but it also directly contributes to the construction supplies used to build houses for families in need living in the Tijuana-Rosarita area which has a severely diminished standard of living. Many people in the area are homeless, living in cars or under scaffolding. Your donations help provide a secure place to live with access to clean water and is truly a blessing in this region where many families struggle to live on less than \$50 a week. Once again, our congregation has shown their wonderful and generous hearts as you continue to support youth ministries at St Mark's and in our local community.

Thank you so much!  
Ron Armenta and the St. Mark's Youth



**Mexico Mission Leader's Meeting**  
Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
At St. Mark's (Digerud Room).

This meeting is for team leaders to discuss site organization and logistic planning for this year's mission trip to Mexico. This meeting is also open to all parents of participants that are minors. Please Join us.

**St. Mark's 5th Annual CHILI Cook-Off Fundraiser**  
**May 18th, 2019**  
 Tasting Begins At 4:30pm

**FREE TO ENTER**  
 Prizes for:  
**The Best Chili and The HOTTEST Chili**  
 Come Enjoy Live Music and Fellowship  
**\$10.00** to Taste each Chili & Vote for your Favorite Chili  
**\$15.00** to Taste each Chili, Vote & get a Bowl of Your Favorite!  
 Proceeds go to 2019 Mexico Mission & Youth Ministries  
 Don't cook chili but still want to help?  
 Donate corn chips, cornbread, shredded cheese, chopped onions, bowls, utensils, napkins or beverages leaded and unleaded.

Just want to make a donation?  
 Annotate if your donation is for Mexico Mission or SMLC Youth Ministries or Both!



**Mexico Skills Rodeo**  
**Wednesday, May 8, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.**  
**St. Mark's in the Courtyard**

This event is a competition to hone participants skills used during our mission to Mexico. Please come out to cheer on our participants and try out the skill challenges yourself. There will be hotdogs, soda/water and chips available for a freewill donation. Please R.S.V.P. with Ron Armenta at [ron@stmarksfairfield.org](mailto:ron@stmarksfairfield.org) by May 1, 2019. Again, thank you for your continued support of youth ministries here at St. Mark's!



Phone (925) 771-1303 or (707) 421-9777 x 205



**Manna Food Pantry**

Manna Food Pantry is in need of paper bags and canned fruit, please feel free to drop off bags during office hours Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Holy Family Old Catholic Church  
Food Pantry  
Every 2nd Saturday at 9:30 a.m. -  
10:30 a.m.

**Fairfield Senior Food Program**  
**Distribution Schedule for 2019**  
**At St. Mark's, Fairfield**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday  
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

May 15  
June 5 and 19  
July 3 and 17  
August 7 and 21  
September 4 and 18  
October 2 and 16  
November 6 and 20  
December 4 and 18

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Building Use**

**May 2019 (Pacific Time - Los Angeles)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	Ron's Vacation					
			9:30am - Solano 10am - Staff 11am - Bishop's 11:30am - Al-Anon 6pm - Healthy Start 6:30pm - Youth	6pm - Confirmation 7pm - Music Team	5pm - Youth Soccer	8am - Faith in 8am - Faith in 5pm - Holy Family
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ron's Vacation 9:45am - Worship @ 11am - Pentecost 11:45am - Worship	5pm - Mexico	10:30am - Bible 3:30pm - Manna 7pm - Choir Practice	11:30am - Al-Anon 5pm - Mexico Skills 6:30pm - Youth	9:30am - Seeker's 5pm - Council 7pm - Music Team	5pm - Youth Soccer	9am - Holy Family 5pm - Holy Family
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:45am - Worship @ 11am - Pentecost 11:45am - Worship		10:30am - Bible 3:30pm - Manna 7pm - Choir Practice	9:30am - Solano 10am - Staff 11:30am - Al-Anon 6:30pm - Bible 6:30pm - Youth	5:15pm - Mutual 7pm - Music Team	5pm - Youth Soccer	4:30pm - Mexico 5pm - Holy Family
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:45am - Worship @ 11am - Pentecost 11:45am - Worship		10:30am - Bible 3:30pm - Manna 7pm - Choir Practice	11:30am - Al-Anon 6:30pm - Bible 6:30pm - Youth	2pm - Dr. Valerie Lui 7pm - Music Team	5pm - Youth Soccer	5pm - Holy Family
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:45am - Worship @ 11am - Pentecost 11:45am - Worship		10:30am - Bible 3:30pm - Manna 7pm - Choir Practice	11am - Dynasty Dine 11:30am - Al-Anon 6:30pm - Bible 6:30pm - Youth	7pm - Music Team	5pm - Youth Soccer	

Join us for worship...  
Sundays  
9:45 a.m. Traditional Service  
10:45 a.m. Fellowship  
11:45 a.m. contemporary Service



### 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 Lutheran Church



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

1600 Union Avenue, Fairfield, CA 94533  
707-422-4741

[office@stmarksfairfield.org](mailto:office@stmarksfairfield.org); [www.stmarksfairfield.org](http://www.stmarksfairfield.org)

#### Pastor Karen Stetins, Senior Pastor

Ron Armenta, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

Semyon Lohss, Accompanist, Choral Director

Alicia Henderson, Office Administrator

Lucille Bowers, Preschool Director

Michelle Aas, SMLC's bookkeeper

#### Council Members

Janelle Jolley (President), Dan DiSano (Vice President), Jeff Thoma (Secretary),  
Nancy Huston (Finance Chair), Dave McCallum & Ruth Sweatt (Members at Large),  
Linda Frogget (Financial Secretary), Lew Broschard (Treasurer)

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