



Meet our Bishop Megan Rohrer and family

Sunday, February 6, 2022

9:30 a.m. Worship

10:30 a.m. Conversation

The entire morning will be in-person and live-streaming.

Getting to know them:

Bishop Megan Rohrer is married to their wife, Laurel (she/her), and lives in San Francisco with their two children, Makayla (they/she) (7) and Dominique (they/them) (9). Makayla and Dominique are two spirit-filled, bubbly children who love to visit different congregations with their parents and share in the Kid-dom of God. If the kids are present for worship, they delight in participating in the liturgy. Both Makayla and

Dominique ask that you please do not touch their hair during their visit.

Biographical Information

The Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer (they/he) is Bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Bishop Megan has a Master of Divinity and a Doctorate of Ministry from the Pacific School of Religion. They received an honorable mention as an Unsung Hero of Compassion from Wisdom in Action with His Holiness the Dalai Lama, received an honorary doctorate from Palo Alto University and had their theology featured in the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in Wittenberg, Germany.

Bishop Megan has an active Facebook presence with weekly prayers and news of their visits around the Synod. They also post sermons and they have their own web site: <https://www.revrohrer.com/> for more information.

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Recently, released a podcast with the San Francisco Chronicle

(<https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cDovL3RoZWJpZ2V2ZW50LnNmY2hyb25pY2x1LmxpYnN5bnByby5jb2OvcnNz/episode/YzVkZjEwNDgtN2EyYi0xMWVjLWJjMTYtMWIzNmM5MDVkn2Rh?hl=en&ved=2ahUKEwimOKW96Mv1AhXMIUQIHYYi6DgkQjrkEegQIGRAH&ep=6>)

Karen Stetins, Pastor



Congratulations
newly elected
leaders!

Thank you for stepping up!

On Sunday, January 30 we elected the following members to positions of leadership:

Council Officers and Members (2-year positions)

- Congregation/Council President June Johnsen
- Congregation/Council Vice President Jim Hanser
- Congregation Council Member at Large Tom Lingel

Other Elected Leader

- Property Management Committee Chair Les Johnsen

Other 2022 Positions (1-year positions)

Nominating committee:

- Michael Chernock (outgoing council member)
- Jennifer Counihan
- Janelle Jolley
- Dave McCallum (outgoing council member)
- Marilyn Nelson
- Karen Perkins

Delegates to Synod Assembly 6/1 -6/4/22 June & Les Johnsen

Elected leaders continuing in their positions:

- Congregation/Council Secretary Ann Hefner-Gravink
- Congregation/Council Finance Chair Nancy Huston
- Congregation Council Member at Large Marilyn Killian
- Congregation Treasurer Dan DiSano
- Congregation Financial Secretary Pam Lyons
- Congregation Personnel Committee Chair V-Anne Chernock

All leaders are invited and encouraged to participate in an Installation Service on Sunday, February 6 at 9:30 a.m. We will install newly elected members and re-commission those who will continue to serve.

In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

February 2022



Our members

Lew Broschard, Richard Ehman, Lynn Hallahan, Jim Hanser and family, Eva Lipke, Karen Mullin, Marilyn Nelson, Cheryl Rasmussen, Josephine Lord-Traugher and Jerry Zaier.

Our homebound members

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

Our friends and loved ones

Alex, Sue Aperan's mom, Bree Assaker, Bruce Atkinson, Alec Barrett, Makita Bond, Michael Boyle, Alyssa Buch, Deanna Cantrell, Carmen Chow, David Corr, Karen Digman, Tom Eckhart, Firefighter Ryan, Steve Lamb, Fred MacMillian, Annette Murphy, Martha Peña, Wayne Poulsen, Helen Powell, Wendy Ramirez, Arlette Sciortino, Dennis Sweeney, Weldon Tunnel, Ann Turek, Mary Vigliezone, Aidan Volk, Ida Volk, Mickey Volk, Lorna Walter, and Laurie Ziegler.

Those who are mourning

The family of Larry Moen (father of Tammy Bojorquez) who died on Jan 23.

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.

Outreach and Welcome and Witness



In response to the November 2021 Council Questionnaire, Pastor Karen will be looking for folks passionate about reaching out into our community and exploring ways of touching the lives of more people with the love of God in Jesus. Working together, we will explore tough questions like “how can we meet the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our neighbors?” and “what does the future of ministry look like in this place?” These are indeed tough questions and we will explore resources available, what other congregations are doing, and what do we need to do as a congregation in the months ahead. If you are passionate about growing the family of God and touching the lives of people in our community, please be in touch with Pastor Karen.



We wish you a Happy Birthday!!!

Jared Jolley 02/17
Kathy Doty 02/18
Thomas Lingel 02/21
Cheryl Hurd 02/24
LuLu Eager 02/25



We wish you a Happy Anniversary!!

Helen & Howard Bergoust 02/09
Carl & Sarajane Hakenen 02/15



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)

Anita East
1836 Virginia Street
Fairfield CA 94533

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

Coming this Lent!



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, February 10

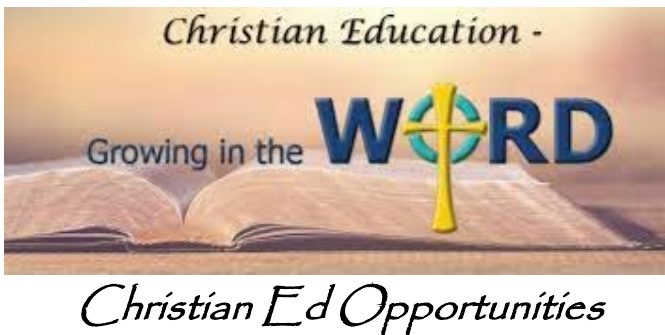
Thursday, March 10

Thursday, April 14

Thursday, May 12

Here's the link: Join Zoom Meeting

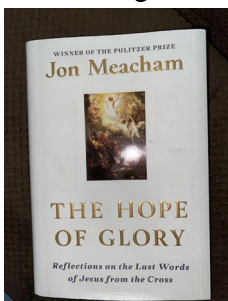
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88688857937>



Wednesday Bible Study ~ TBA

Starting up again in January, the group discusses the readings for the next Sunday. Jim sends out the readings so you have a chance to read them in advance. To be added to the invite list contact Jim Hanser: hanserjames@comcast.net.

Tuesday Book Study



New time: 11:00 a.m.

New book: "The Hope of Glory: Reflections on the Last Words of Jesus from the Cross" by Jon Meacham

Same Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87130437154>

You are welcome to attend in person or on Zoom.

The Psalms, Songbook of the Bible, led by Paul Theiss.

February 13, 20, 27, March 6

10:45-11:45 a.m. in the Digerud Room and Zoom

(<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81948315531>)

The Psalms have inspired and comforted believers for thousands of years. Jesus quoted them often. They're the source for many of our favorite hymns. Come and enrich your life with God!

February 13: Praise Songs

February 20: Songs of Sorrow and Anger

February 27: Songs of Security

March 6: National Songs



Friends in Christ:

1. St. Mark's Council met in person on January 11, 2022, in June Johnsen's home for dinner. A very lengthy meeting focused on the nominations for 2022, the budget, and the mechanics of the upcoming Annual Meeting.
2. Nominations were readily accepted. New additions include June as President, Jim Hanser as Vice President, and Tom Lingel as Member at Large. In addition, Michael Chernock and Dave McCallum will be departing the Council as of the Annual Meeting of January 30, 2022. (Note: the complete list of nominees and returnees for 2022 was sent to everyone in the Annual Meeting packet.)
3. The budget was reviewed at great depth with lengthy consideration focused on upgrading and simplifying as well as the distribution of expected funds. (The final product was subsequently reviewed at two open meetings with our congregants with two small changes.) We are still working on an audit, but a professional auditor has estimated costs between \$4000 and \$7000. That is based on the common understanding that Non-Profit audits are incredibly more complex than personal or for-profit audits. It is still clear that it is necessary for this effort to be made POST-Pandemic due to the complexity.
4. Finally, much effort was expended on the upcoming Annual Meeting. Although there is a mandatory agenda, it had to be supplemented due to the fact that we are still in Pandemic and many members will attend online. We think we have covered all the possibilities for an open meeting that will review the issues and allow ALL attendees to express their comments as well as take honest and inclusive votes.
5. You might remember that the Council ends their meetings with the question: "What is the best thing that has happened to you this month?" We all agreed, hands down, that the winner was the blessing that Marilyn's auto accident did NOT cause significant injuries, and she was able to attend the meeting (albeit moving a little slowly, cautiously, and gingerly...)

This brings me to the elephant in the room. By the time you read this newsletter, I will no longer be your President. I thought long and hard about what to say about that and have concluded that my most important contribution at this time would be to ask you all to give the same support and love to June that you gave me. I know that is already a "given" with this Congregation, but I can't possibly express how complicated the Council and President's job is, especially during a PANDEMIC! I know June, Jim, and the rest of the Council will provide wise and "considered" leadership, but your support is absolutely mandatory – and I sleep well knowing without a doubt that you will all give it.

As for the completion of the "Daily Smiles... naturally, part of me is deliriously happy for not having to create the **six hundred and ninety-first** Daily or getting up in the middle of the night to send them so they would arrive each day before morning coffee. But part of me is also terribly sad about losing the daily links and updates to family and friends. For the record, I have already found that I have to wean myself off the massive daily research and creation associated with Dailies and have replaced them with the writing and publishing of my first book. It will be about my experiences in San Quentin. (And no, no, no... it was not as a prisoner, it was as a church volunteer... although I do admit to being chained to the experience after my first visit!)

So God Bless you all, and I look forward to our next chapter... whatever that might be.

Michael Chernock,

Ex-President, St. Mark's Lutheran Church






Your Hands
and Heart Are
Needed for
Worship!

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 out of safe and drawer, count, and deposit. (Training available). Contact Pamela Lyons (LorineCaldwell@aol.com) or Linda Frogget at lfrogghr@comcast.net. Training is available.





JESUS LOVES ME

During the month of February, Pastor Karen and Miss Sharon will be sharing the stories of Jesus. As we go through his stories, we will learn about how much Jesus loves us and how we can share that love with others.

PRESENTED BY GENESIS

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.

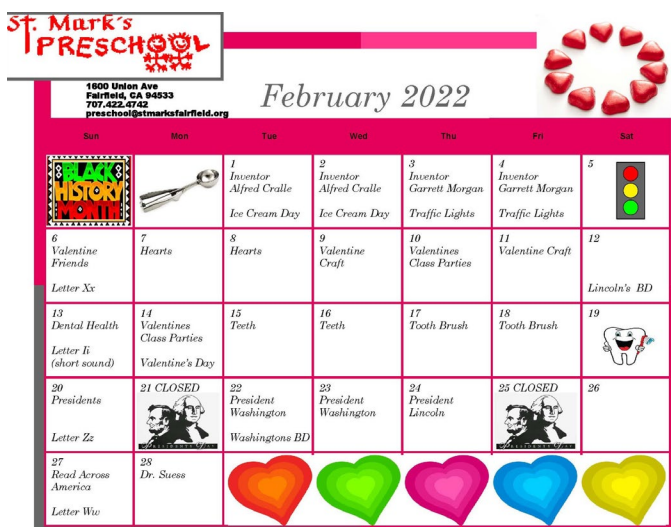
Train up a child

in the way he should go and when he is old
he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

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.



February is dental health month and though we can not have a dentist visit this year the teachers will be doing some fun dental activities with the children and talking about keeping those pearly whites healthy.

Happy Valentines Day Everyone from:
Miss Lucille, Miss Sarah, Miss Salina, Miss Barbara,
Miss Alyssa Miss Karen, Miss Myung and Miss
Linda.

February 2022



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 January we served 1828 people and were blessed with 244 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

(income eligibility requirements apply)

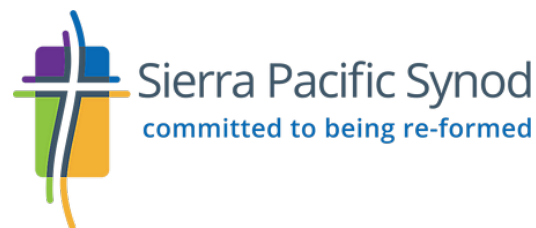
2nd Wednesday

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.



The Fairfield Clergy Action Network met on Tuesday, January 25 via Zoom. The meeting was originally planned for a full day visit to Travis Air Force Base to talk with residents and leaders about how the worshipping communities of Fairfield might be of service to them. Due to COVID, that meeting has been postponed. However, the group did meet and discuss various items happening in the city. Here is a brief recap:

1. **CAN – PAL Food Box Program** - Heather Sanderson from the Police Activities League (PAL) presented the **CAN – PAL Food Box Program**. CAN is partnering with PAL to provide food boxes for 30 students that truly need food assistance. Each box would feed a family of four. For the boxes in the presentation, BayNorth Church bought the waffles, and the PAL provided the rest. Thank you, BayNorth! We received a spreadsheet with upcoming projects that we can consider helping out with. This and other options will be considered by the Outreach Team as St. Mark's in the coming weeks.
2. Police Chief Cantrell spoke about community policing and the programs the police department has in place (and being created) to engage with the community.
3. At next month's meeting 2/22, Fire Chief Luckenbach will be speaking to the group about the fire department's community engagement efforts. We hope to be meeting in person next month, but we will let you know as we get closer to the date.
4. Also at the 2/22 meeting, we will be creating a strategic plan for the CAN for 2022.



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](#)

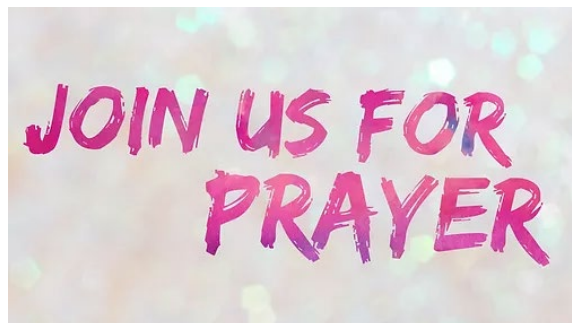
[California State University, Fresno](#)

[University of California, Davis](#)

[University of California, Santa Cruz](#)

Donate here:

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



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 prayers 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

January 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. Book Conversation w/ Pastor
- 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, 2nd 3rd Wednesday)
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon (Digerud Room)
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Room)

Friday

- 7:00 p.m. Ebenezer Mission

Saturday

- 5:00 p.m. Holy Family (Community Center)

Additional Events

February 1

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

February 3

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)

February 9

- 7:00 p.m. Solano Symphony Board (Digerud Room)

February 10

- 10:00 a.m. Seeker's Circle (Zoom)
- 5:30 p.m. Council Meeting

February 14

- 7:00 p.m. Solano Symphony Audition (Worship Center)

February 17

- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting (Pastor's Office)

February 22

- 3:00 p.m. Fairfield CAN

February 24

- 9:15 a.m. Preschool Board Meeting

February 27

- 3:00 p.m. Capitol Valley Conference Meeting (for lay and clergy) (Zoom)

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