



“We are one in the spirit  
We are one in the Lord...  
And we pray that all unity will one day  
be restored”

**What is it? And why are we celebrating?**

The words of this old favorite hymn, “They’ll Know We are Christians by our Love” is the reason we talk about, share stories, and experiences of Juneteenth.

“Juneteenth is a holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It recalls how the states of Louisiana and Texas heard the news that President Abraham Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863. Slavery continued in those two states for more than two years after the proclamation was signed because the word had yet to travel there. Texas and Louisiana finally got the good news on June 19, 1865. Former slaves broke out in spontaneous celebration. These were dangerous times. Even in the face of resistance and threat, the formerly enslaved Africans found ways to give voice to the wide range of thoughts and emotions at the announcement of the end of legalized slavery in the United States of America.” (ELCA Resource for Worship 2019)

In response to our continuing look at history and its effects on God’s people and our country today, the ELCA created worship resources and a study guide for its predominately white members to help us all learn more about the effects of slavery on our sisters and brothers of color and on our whole country. A few members of St. Mark’s engaged in that study during April and May. (For those interested, please go to: [https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8128?\\_ga=2.124223630.564697815.1653511284-820988456.1537304296](https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8128?_ga=2.124223630.564697815.1653511284-820988456.1537304296)).

The title of this study is "Now Is the Time." “Now is the time for white members of the ELCA to face their own resistance and fear. Now is the time to name uncomfortable truths. Now is the time to let go of guilt and embrace responsibility. Now is the time to uncover silence and complicity. Now is the time to acknowledge the depths of systemic racism and white supremacist culture and thinking. Now is the time to recognize how our lives and history are interwoven and how white lives also cry out for liberation from the demeaning impact of racism. Now is the time for repentance, and the time to trust God’s liberating grace, which gives us courage to face an uncomfortable past and walk boldly into a new future of racial justice and reconciliation, and of structural change.” (Now is the Time, ELCA 2019)

The group was left with questions like “so, what do we do?” One of the things we can do is to continue to educate ourselves. Our worship service on Sunday, June 19 will include rituals and prayers from the African American tradition that help us to learn more through a slightly different experience of worship. This is not an attempt to appropriate the traditions and culture of our brothers and sisters of color, but a tool to continue

educating ourselves and listening to the stories of others. It is only when we listen to each other's stories that we can truly "walk with each other" "hand in hand" to "spread the news that God is in our land."

We encourage everyone to consider a special offering on that day to Hidden Genius Project – Richmond, Oakland, CA (<https://www.hiddengeniusproject.org/>) or a not-for-profit of your choice that supports and uplifts our brothers and sisters of color.

We can also support the Fairfield CAN's (Clergy Action Network) first annual Juneteenth celebration on Saturday, June 18. Churches from across Fairfield – all denominations, all cultures, and all ethnicities – will come together to celebrate freedom from slavery. Come join us!

*Karen Stetins, Pastor*



## In Our Thoughts and Prayers...

### Our members

Ivonne Bradford, Lew Broschard, Richard Ehman, Lynn Hallahan, Gabby Hansen, Jim Hanser and family, Eva Lipke, Sonja Maclay, Karen Mullin,

Gerda Reid, Sherri Scarrott, Josephine Lord-Traugher and Jerry Zaier.

### Our homebound members

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, Alyssa Buch, Deanna Cantrell, Bernadette Carter, Carmen Chow, David Corr, Karen Digman, Tom Eckhart, Pastor Lynne Morrow, Annette Murphy, Martha Peña, Kim Poulsen-Smith, Wayne Poulsen, Helen Powell, Wendy Ramirez, Arlette Sciortino, Dennis Sweeney, Martin Theiss, Weldon Tunnel, Ann Turek, Mary Vigliezone, Aidan

Volk, Ida Volk, Mickey Volk, Lorna Walter, and Laurie Ziegler.

### Those who are mourning

The family of Sylvia Buringrud (Member) who died on May 4.

The family of Allen Samuel (Sarajane Hakenen's brother) who died on May 24.

*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](mailto:office@stmarksfairfield.org).*

**Never doubt  
the power of  
prayer.**



## Remember our Homebound Members

Bonnie DeMuth  
Legacy of Bear Creek  
200 Keller-Smithfield Rd. South Unit 210  
Keller, Texas 76248

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  
Rio Vista, CA 94571

Barbara Patterson  
1078 Meadowlark Drive  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Barbara Tenorio  
266 DeSoto Drive  
Fairfield, 94533  
*(Note: this is a corrected address)*

Shirley Quinn  
11 Lemon Tree Circle  
Vacaville CA 95687

Our homebound members deeply appreciate your cards, notes, and calls. We remember especially this month, Judith Eckhart who is recovering from knee replacement.

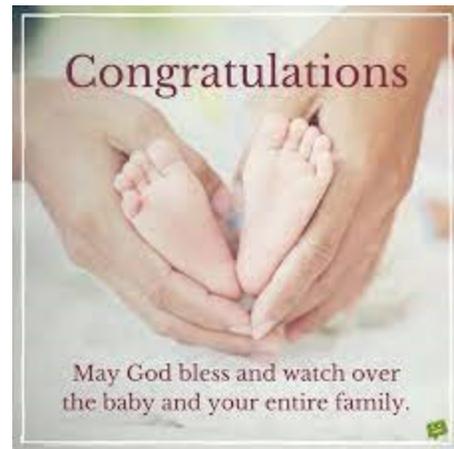


## We wish you a Happy Birthday!!!

Dakota Gravink 06/01  
Chris Lindauer 06/02  
Chuck Huston 06/03  
Stew Irwin 06/05  
Trevor deRosier 06/07  
Elsie Edgeman 06/20  
Karin MacMillan 06/20  
Paula Esparaza 06/22  
Jacob Jolley 06/22  
Josephine Traughber 06/26  
Isabella West-Magill 06/26

## We wish you a Happy Anniversary!!!

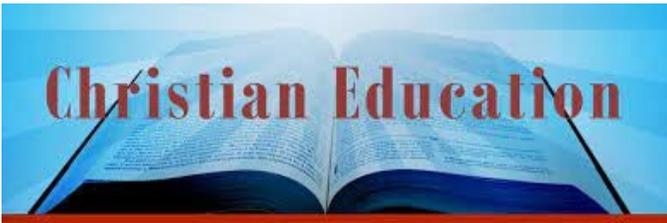
Carole & Richard Greeley 06/01  
Les & June Johnsen 06/13  
Dave & Toni McCallum 06/21  
Tracy & Mike Camara 06/26



We celebrate with Carole and Richard Greeley on their birth of grandchild #6!

Aria Greeley, was born on May 19. Aria's father, Todd Greeley, was confirmed at St Mark's. He and his wife Brandy live in Albany, Oregon. Aria joins brothers Logan and Connor.

*Christian Ed Opportunities*



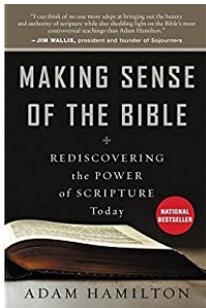
## Seeker's Circle

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

Upcoming dates: Thursday, June 9  
Thursday, July 14



## Adult Education

### Hour

### Sundays

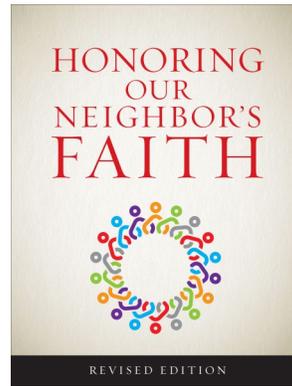
11:00 a.m.

In June we will look at "Making Sense of the Bible: Rediscovering the Power of Scripture Today" by Adam Hamilton – available from Amazon in Kindle, hard cover, paperback and audio cd. It is likely available from other sources as well.

We will meet in the Digerud Room and on Zoom (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81948315531>). We will start the Zoom a few minutes earlier so we can chat and say "hello" to one another. The study will begin at 11:00 a.m.

- June 5 – Making Sense of the Bible
- June 12 – Making Sense of the Bible
- June 19 – (Father's Day) – no class
- June 26 – Making Sense of the Bible

June 2022



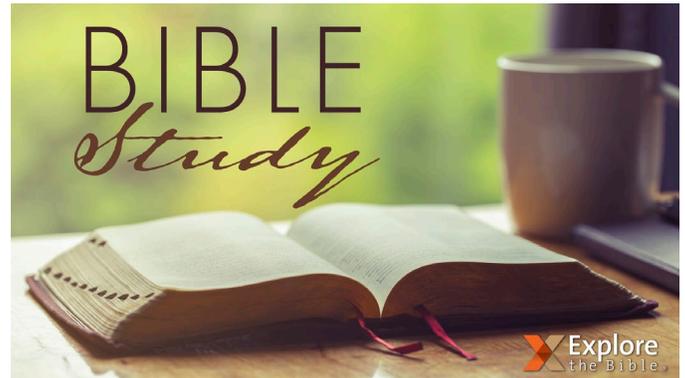
## Tuesday Book Study

11:00 a.m.

You are invited to join Pastor Karen on Zoom or in person in her office.

The Zoom link is:

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



## Wednesday Bible Study

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

### Zoom

From Jim Hanser: For those of you not at last week's (May 18) Study, thanks again to all for the well thought out and eloquent answers to my question on how we should continue this Bible Study. Everyone agrees that they like it in the current format, so we will continue with that. Also, we all want to continue meeting for this on Wednesday evenings by Zoom. We will be taking short breaks off and on over the summer, partly due to my being out of town a few times and partly just to take some breaks! Thanks again. See you tomorrow night, Wednesday.  
In Christ. Jim H.



You're Invited to

A celebration of the amazing art of LSS participants and an opportunity to support them as they build stable lives

**Refreshments included**

**SACRAMENTO**  
Sunday, June 26, 2022  
1:30-4:30pm  
2114 P Street  
Sacramento CA

<https://e.sparxo.com/Art-for-Life-Sacramento>

**Tickets: \$25**

Raffles held every 45 minutes.

**Special Wine Raffle in which one lucky winner will receive at least 20 bottles of assorted wines. Tickets for the Wine Raffle are \$50 each, with only 100 tickets sold.**

**Winner need not be present to win.**  
[Wine Raffle Tickets](#)

**Art for Life's Sake**

Donate at: <https://www.lssnorcal.org/get-involved/give/donate.html>



Remember to support St. Mark's Lutheran Church every time you order from Amazon! Sign up for Amazon Smile at: [smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2635284](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! From October 1 through December 31, 2021 St. Mark's received \$45.60! Let's keep up the good work!



Congrats  
Ben & Judi  
Reid

Congratulations to Ben and Judi Reid as they begin their new life as husband and wife. They were married on Thursday, May 5. We wish them God's richest blessings today and always.

Thank you

Our sincere thanks Linda Lindauer who has been sending thank you notes on behalf of St. Mark's to everyone who sends a memorial gift to the church. She and Chris will be moving out of state soon. Linda's words are always kinds and gracious on our behalf.



We are also grateful to Cheryl Hurd who has stepped up and agreed to carry on Linda's ministry. Cheryl has already begun her ministry of sending cards thanking people for their generous donations to St. Mark's. Everyone has gifts – everyone has a part in the whole of our ministry. Thanks be to God!



## Your Hands and Heart Are Needed for...

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:vacamccallums@gmail.com)).



## Council Highlights

The council met on Thursday, May 12 at 6:15 p.m. in the Digerud Room.

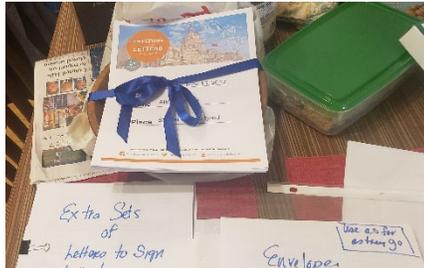
- After opening with prayer, we welcomed Sharon Hermosillo Magaña, our Youth and Children's Ministry Director. Sharon requested permission to raise funds to provide Vacation Bible Camp scholarships children from the neighborhood. Council voted to approve raising up to \$1,200 for scholarship.
- Minutes were approved.
- We did not have a financial report due to a computer problem.
- Council members discussed a meeting with our Finance Team to get a clearer understanding of our various processes.
- The ACTS for Vitality leadership survey was discussed; members requested additional information before making a decision.
- Council voted to contribute \$500 from Congregational Life funds to the Fairfield CAN (Clergy Action Network)'s First Annual Juneteenth celebration on June 18. The funds will be used to sponsor a food truck for the event.
- Council voted to suggest a special offering on Sunday, June 19 to Hidden Genius Project (or another organization of the donor's choosing) that supports African American people.
- Council voted to submit an ad to the Daily Republic for their July magazine "How to." The advertising budget will cover the cost of \$350 for this one-time opportunity.
- Proposed updates to the Constitution and Bylaws we put on hold until further review of the documents.
- Council voted to hire Patricia Jones as a Preschool Teacher in support of the Preschool Board's recommendation. It was also noted the Ms. Barbara, a long-time teach will retire at the end of May.
- Songs & Suds plans are moving along. Information will go out in the June newsletter and by special emails.

Next meeting is Thursday, June 9 – 6:15 p.m.



### God's Work. Our Hands.

The hands of St. Mark's members provided more than 84 letters to our elected leaders



supporting Bread for the World's work to be sure no one goes hungry.

Thanks to Paul Theiss, Diane Metz, Ann Hefner-Gravink and many others for making this happen.



### Update May 2022

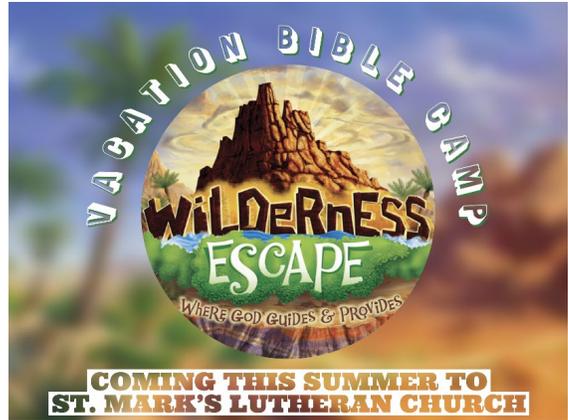
- We focused on the plans for reopening the PAL (Police Activities League) at it's new location on North Texas Street.
- All churches were invited to considered hosting an event for the National Night Out Against Crime on August 2.
- Updates were offered on the plans for the June 18 Juneteenth celebration.
- Our next meeting is Tuesday, June 28 at 3:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers



Sharon, a great artist and teachers "paints the stories" form the Spark Children's Bible each week for our preschoolers. She shares her creations for

all parents and grandparents to explore on our Genesis Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTTNSNDqB BYHKwNZuqDm1HQ>



### God takes care of God's people, even in the wilderness!

At St. Mark's Vacation Bible Camp for 2022, students will join the Israelites as they escape Egypt and follow God into the wilderness. To get through, they'll learn trust, faith, strength, salvation and guidance from the one true God!

Dates: Monday through Friday, 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



Wednesdays

6:30 p.m.

Join Miss Sharon for fun, fellowship, bible lessons and more.



*Congratulations!*

**Class of 2022**



On Thursday, May 26, 2022, 37 of our students "graduated" from Preschool to area kindergartens. This was the 45<sup>th</sup> graduation event for our Preschool!!! We are blessed to have so many loving families return with second and third children as well as grandchildren. God bless them all!

We are so grateful to our teachers and staff:

Lucille Bowers, Director

Sarah Riley, Head Teacher

Salina Soto, Teacher

Barbara Embrey, Teacher (retired as of 5/31)

Alyssa Robinson, Teacher

Karen Vaca, Teacher

Myung Yoo, Substitute Teacher

Patricia Jones, Teacher

Linda Fernandez, Office Assistant



Summer camp registration has begun! Registration packets are available on the table in the narthex, but calling the church office (707-422-4741) or the Preschool office (707-422-4742). We will be offering two 3-week sessions (one in June and one in July). The sessions will run Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday each week. There will be 24 spaces available for each camp.

- June 7 – 23: "Science/Cooking"
- July 12 – 28: "Adventure/Beach"

A big thank you from the St. Mark's family as a whole, we love our teachers, Thank you!

We walk with these children, often for several years, and then we let them go knowing that God does with them wherever they are and that God loves them just the way they are!

P.S. Don't forget we take all empty ink cartridges to recycle so don't throw them in the trash.





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 May we served over 2,000 people and were blessed with over 250 hours of volunteer commitment.

We were delighted to receive a grant of \$6,000 to be used from April 1, 2022 – February 28, 2023 for the food we purchase from the Contra Costa Solano Food Bank!

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

Mark your calendars!



### Sierra Pacific Synod News

Pastor Karen and our elected voting members to the 2022 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly will be in Sparks, NV from June 2-4. We will hear speakers, worship in great numbers, attend workshops and build relationships with other congregations. For details about the Assembly, visit: <https://www.spselca.net/synodassembly>.

### Sierra Pacific 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.

Donate here:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted\\_button\\_id=CFFP9AN3VBM9S&source=url](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=CFFP9AN3VBM9S&source=url)

**JOIN US:**

**JUNETEENTH**  
**A CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM**

**FAIRFIELD CAN**

**(Clergy Action Network) Presents:  
THE FIRST ANNUAL FAIRFIELD  
JUNETEENTH FESTIVAL**

**EMCEED BY COUNCILMEMBER PAM BERTANI**

**JUNE 18, 2022 | 12-5PM**

**FOOD • LIVE MUSIC • GAMES**

**SOLANO COUNTY LAWN  
675 TEXAS STREET  
FAIRFIELD CA, 94533**



Sign up to be a part of this community event and support St. Mark's!  
Send an email to [pastorkaren@stmarksfairfield.org](mailto:pastorkaren@stmarksfairfield.org) with the time and task you would like to help with. You can sign up for an hour or 5 😊 All hands and hearts will be appreciated.

Games (children's games – all equipment/supplies, etc. supplied)

St. Mark's information Table (noon – 5:00 p.m.)

Set-up (11:00 a.m. – noon)

Clean-up (5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

*What's Happening at St. Mark's*

# May 2022 – Calendar of Events

## Weekly Events

### Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. SMLC Worship (Worship Center/Live Streaming)
- 11:00 a.m. SMLC Education (See page 4)
- 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 Study (Pastor's Office & Zoom)
- 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)
- 1:00 p.m. Al-Anon (Digerud Room)
- 5:30 p.m. Contemporary Music Team Rehearsal (Worship Center)
- 6:30 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Group (Youth Room)

### Thursday

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

### Friday

- 7:00 p.m. Ebenezer Mission (Community Center)

### Saturday

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

## Additional Events

### Wednesday, June 1

- 1:15 p.m. Education Committee (Zoom)

### Thursday, June 2

Pastor Karen, Les Johnsen & Jim Hanser at Synod Assembly until June 4.

### Saturday, June 4

- 12:00 p.m. Community Choir Rehearsal (533 Jackson Street)

Preschool Camp – June 7 – 23 (see page 8)

### Tuesday, June 7

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

### Wednesday, June 8

- 7:00 p.m. Solano Symphony Board

### Thursday, June 9

- 6:15 p.m. Council Meeting

### Saturday, June 11

- 12:00 p.m. Community Choir Rehearsal (533 Jackson Street, Fairfield)

### Monday, June 13

- 11:00 a.m. Solano Symphony Audition (Worship Center)

### Saturday, June 18

- 10:00 a.m. Sylvia Buringrud Memorial (Worship Center)
- 12:00 p.m. CAN Juneteenth (Fairfield Community Lawn)

### Thursday, June 23

- 9:30 a.m. Preschool Board Meeting

June 27 – July 1 – Vacation Bible Camp

Join us for worship every Sunday  
9:30 a.m. for in person & live streaming service  
on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SMLCFairfield](https://www.facebook.com/SMLCFairfield) (or click [HERE](#)) and on YouTube at  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-E3czfy\\_c-Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-E3czfy_c-Y) (or click [HERE](#))

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

Rev. Karen Stetins, Senior Pastor  
Sharon Hermosillo Magaña, 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