

EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 13, 2022

New and Noteworthy

Save the Date for our Mardi Gras party on Sunday, February 27!

Before the somber season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, we celebrate all that is lively and joyous in the world on (the Sunday before) Fat Tuesday! From 11:30am-12:30pm on Sunday, February 27, we'll gather on the Great Lawn to let the good times roll. We'll decorate and eat King Cake, create some collaborative art, and sing our last "alleluias" before we put them away for Lent. Bring along your favorite musical instruments and joyful noise makers, your singing voice, and your festive spirit! Families with kids may also want to decorate a wagon, stroller, or other wheels for When the Saints Go Marching In. Bring a friend or neighbor to join in the fun! Email Pastor Casey (casey@churchofstmartin.org) with questions.

Re-Connect with Spiritual Practices this Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday

Lent begins with the observance of Ash Wednesday on March 2. Join us at 7am or 7pm for a worship service with the Imposition of Ashes. The morning service will be brief and solemn; the evening service will include Holy Eucharist. We will also be bringing back our Ash Wednesday Prayer Walk. Mark your calendars for 12 noon on March 2 or for after the 10am service on Sunday, March 6. Look for more details about our Lent programs soon!

Gradual Return to In-Person Services

As we continue to respond to the ups and downs of the ongoing pandemic, we are following the pattern of reopening that served us well last year. **This Sunday we are offering both an in-person 8am service and an online 10am service.** Both services are celebrations of the Holy Eucharist; the 10 o'clock service will feature our choir. Please remember to wear a mask to protect your fellow parishioners and take a moment to sign in before you enter the church.

Assuming that COVID case numbers continue to drop in our area, we will take the next reopening steps soon, including a hybrid (simultaneously in-person and online) 10 o'clock service. Keep checking our announcements and email for updates. Thank you to everyone for your patience during these difficult times!

Formation and Fellowship Opportunities

Zoom Coffee Hour—Invite, Welcome, and Connect for Lent

Join us on Sundays after the 10am service for Zoom coffee hour. Stick around to meet new people and catch up with neighbors, as well as learn about upcoming events and other formation opportunities. This Sunday, February 13, we will be talking about activities for the season of Lent that we can do together or that you can practice on your own. Do you have a favorite Lenten spiritual practice or discipline? Tell us about it! On February 20, we'll be talking more about the Invite, Welcome, Connect tools we've been learning about, specifically about re-connecting as we transition into more in-person spaces. You won't want to miss these conversations!

Sacred Ground begins Monday, February 28

Thank you to all who have shown interest in our newly-formed Sacred Ground Circle! Our first session will be on Monday, February 28 from 7:00-8:30pm via Zoom, and we'll gather every three weeks after that. Check the syllabus for the film-watching and article-reading to do in preparation.

If you would like to join and have not yet done so, please email Pastor Casey or Carole Hom to secure your spot and receive the syllabus and other details.

Godly Play this Sunday, February 13

Godly Play is this Sunday, February 13 from 9:15-9:45am via Zoom! The link went out via email earlier this week, but please reach out to Pastor Casey if you did not receive it. All kiddos are welcome! Our next Godly Play will be on Sunday, February 27, also from 9:15-9:45am via Zoom.

Two Discussion Groups during Lent: Save the Dates

Christian Formation at St. Martin's will offer two small group opportunities during Lent, one on Wednesday mornings and one on Wednesday evenings. The Living Well through Lent group, focusing on the theme of "letting go," will meet on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:45. The Wednesday evening group will organize its discussions around the book *Love is the Way* by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and will begin on March 9. Contact the office for more information or keep checking back in the announcements!

Additionally, our rector is going to begin "outdoor office hours" on Thursday afternoons during Lent. This will be a way to meet up with Pamela and other parishioners who stop in, without needing an appointment. Again, more details coming soon!

From the Office of the Bishop

The Diocese of Northern California: Connect with Us

Visit the Diocese of Northern California [website](#) and sign up to get good, updated information from the Diocese straight into your inbox.

Celebrate Black History Month

February is Black History Month! As we celebrate Black history this month, here are some book recommendations for learning more about the experience and contributions of Black Episcopalians:

Yet With a Steady Beat by the Rev. Harold T. Lewis.

This book will give the reader a better sense of the struggle of African Americans to find a place within the Episcopal Church, their contributions to it, and the need for more work to be inclusive. Since his recent death, this is an especially good time to pick up a copy in memory and celebration of Lewis's ministry.

Episcopalians and Race by the Rev. Dr. Gardiner H. Shattuck Jr.

A thoughtful analysis of the impact of the Civil Rights Movement on the Church grounds this book's reflection on the Episcopal Church's historic place in the struggle for equality and ongoing challenges to the full inclusion of people of color in the church and world today.

Radical Welcome by the Rev. Canon Stephanie Spellers

A practical and theologically rooted guide for those who sense the call to dig deeper and want to move from inclusivity to radical welcome. 15th Anniversary edition now available from Church Publishing.

Have you completed the Diocese's Annual Communication Survey yet?

The Annual Survey of Diocese Communications is now available online. Since it launched, more than 250 people have responded! Have we heard from you yet? Findings from the survey help the Office of the Bishop to better understand your needs and how we can improve communications across the diocese. Thank you for taking a few minutes to share your thoughts. Here is a link to the survey: <https://form.jotform.com/220186239166053>

Ways to Give and Get More Connected

A Cookbook on Offer

Linda Wallace has generously offered to donate a cute cookbook to anyone who may want it! It's a copy of *The Portly Padre* or *Brother Larry in the Kitchen, A Church Calendar Cookbook*, illustrated by Eldon Dedini. It was written and published by The Cookbook Committee, All Saints' Episcopal Church in Carmel, 1980. There are also two nicely framed illustrations from the book. These belonged to Linda's father, who was a member of All Saints' Carmel. Contact the office this week if you're interested.

Saturday Meal Reps Needed

For many years, St. Martin's Parish Hall has hosted community meals three times a week, which are prepared by volunteers working with Davis Community Meals & Housing (DCMH). Currently, hot meals are prepared in the kitchen and boxed up "to go." We are in need of Saturday meal representatives who are willing to dedicate a couple of hours on one Saturday per month to greet and organize folks who come by to get their meal to go, oversee clean-up, and lock up afterwards. The Saturday commitment is from 10:45 am to 12:15 pm. Please reach out to Diana Glick (email in the church directory) if you have questions or think you might be able to give some of your time to this worthy activity.

"Every person...Every week...One item of food"

The Social Justice and Outreach Committee reminds us that our local food banks are in great need, and we continue to support them with our collection of non-perishable items. We deliver these items to STEAC, The UC Davis Pantry, and Dixon Family Services on a weekly rotating basis. You have two options for where to bring your items: Janet Lane's front porch (address in church directory or contact church office for address)—you may leave items there any day and any time OR you can contact the church office to arrange an appointment to leave food items in the office OR bring it during the 8am in-person service. The food closets also need toilet paper and diapers. Thank you for your generous donations!!

Grace Garden Volunteering Opportunity Grace Garden (located on Anderson Road at the United Methodist Church) grows vegetables and fruits to help feed those in our community who are facing food insecurity. You, too, are invited to join in the fun on **Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays from 9:00am to 11:00am!**

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Social Justice and Outreach: Tuesday, February 15 at 7:00pm

Care for God's Creation: Thursday, February 17 at 7:00pm

Vestry: Sunday, February 20 at 12:00pm

Buildings and Grounds: Friday, February 25 at 4:00pm

Caring Ministries: Monday, February 28 at 7:00pm

All meetings are on Zoom at present; for a link, contact communications@churchofstmartin.org
If you wish to schedule a meeting on the calendar, contact the church office
info@churchofstmartin.org.

Ways to Stay Connected to the Larger Community

Healthy Davis Together: FREE COVID-19 Testing and Other Resources Available

Thanks to Healthy Davis Together, residents can get tested in less than 10 minutes at absolutely no cost. To do your part in regularly monitoring your COVID status, you can register [here](#) and schedule

an appointment. The test is also effective in recognizing new mutations of the COVID-19 virus. In addition to regular testing, Healthy Davis Together is encouraging all who are able to get the COVID vaccine to do so. For a variety of resources concerning vaccination, contact tracing, and other monitoring efforts, visit [Healthy Davis Together](#).

Notes from the Church Office

Prayer Requests, Celebrations and Milestones

If you would like to submit a prayer request, celebration or milestone to be read during Sunday services, please send it to Deacon Margaret at margaret@churchofstmartin.org by **5:00 pm on Friday**.

Virtual Office Hours

Our "virtual" office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. You can reach the office by calling us at 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org. The physical office space remains closed for the time being. If you need to come to the office to drop something off or pick something up, please contact the office in advance to schedule an appointment.

Church Grounds Open

Our grounds are open, and we continue to work hard to keep them up to our standards of beauty and safety. We are delighted to know that people are using outdoor venues like the labyrinth, the redwood path, and the meditation garden to find peace and comfort in these trying times.

Online Services and Communications Requests

Please note that our web page with online service information has a new title, streamlined content, and now includes a link to submit communications requests. See [Online Services and Communications Requests](#).