EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 20, 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 Worship and Spiritual Practices this Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday

Lent begins with the observance of Ash Wednesday on March 2. Join us at 7:00am or 7:00pm 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 and for after the 10am service on Sunday, March 6.

Return to In-Person Services Continues

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 8:00am service and an online 10:00am service. Both services will be celebrations of the Holy Eucharist; the 10:00am service features our choir.

When you come to church in person, 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 open up the 10:00am service to in-person worship on **Sunday**, **February 27**. This will be a hybrid service (in-person and online simultaneously). Remember that one thing that makes a return to in-person worship possible is having enough **people willing to help out in various ministry positions**—readers and ushers, especially, but also Coffee Hour volunteers and so on. Please consider giving of your time to these important ministries as often as you possibly can. Thank you to everyone for your patience during these difficult times!

Formation and Fellowship Opportunities

TYGMOS Movie Night This Sunday, February 20

On Sunday, February 20 at 5pm TYGMOS (our middle- and high-school youth group) will gather online for a movie night! The votes are tallied and we're watching *The Prince of Egypt (1998)*. If you or your teen are not currently receiving emails with TYGMOS updates, email casey@churchofstmartin.org to get on the list—that's where you'll find the Zoom link!

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, starting on Ash Wednesday, March 2. The Wednesday evening group will organize its discussions around the book *Love is the Way* by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry and will run from 7 to 8:30pm, beginning on March 9. Both groups will meet on Zoom. Contact the office for more information or keep checking back in the announcements!

The Rector is In! (Or out, actually, depending on how you look at it)

Our rector is going to begin "outdoor office hours" on Monday afternoons during Lent, approximately from 4 to 5pm, beginning on Monday, March 7 (NOTE the change from Thursday). This will be a way to meet up with Pamela and other parishioners who stop in, without needing an appointment. See you there!

From the Office of the Bishop

The Diocese of Northern California: Connect with Us

Visit the Diocese of Northern California <u>website</u> and sign up to get good, updated information from the Diocese straight into your inbox.

Subscribe to Racial Reconciliation

February is Black History Month, but the Church's work to repair the breach caused by racism goes on year-round. Why not add these Episcopal newsletters to your inbox so you can stay informed and engaged too?

The Brave Space News - Dr. Catherine Meeks
From the Absalom Jones Center for Racial Healing
Subscribe here
View past newsletters here

Racial Reconciliation Ministry
From The Episcopal Church
Subscribe here

Becoming Beloved Community
From the Commission for Intercultural Ministries
Subscribe here

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

The Annual Survey of Diocese Communications is now available online. Since we launched it last Thursday, more than 250 people have responded! Have we heard from you yet? **The survey is closing soon!** 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 2 nicely framed illustrations from the book. These belonged

to Linda's father, who was a member of All Saints' Carmel. Contact the office right away 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 three options for where to bring your items at this time: 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 you can bring items during our in-person 8:00am service on Sundays. The food closets also need toilet paper and diapers. Thank you for your generous donations!!

<u>Grace Garden Volunteering Opportunity</u> 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

Vestry: Sunday, February 20 at 12:00pm

Buildings and Grounds Meeting: Friday, Feb. 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.

The church office will be closed on Monday, February 21, 2022 in observance of Presidents' Day.

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 <u>Online Services and Communications Requests</u>.