

## EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27, 2022

### *New and Noteworthy*

#### **Growing Faith, Food, and Community, A Conference of the Diocese of Northern California**

Join us for a one-day gathering to explore and celebrate the use of church grounds for growing food, whether through community gardens, soup kitchens, beekeeping and more. The keynote speaker will be Brian Sellers-Petersen, author of *Harvesting Abundance* and consultant to the Presiding Bishop's Good News Garden Initiative.

The conference is being put on by the Diocese of Northern California **and will be held at St. Martin's on Saturday April 2, 9:30 - 3:00pm**. It will take place in-person only with limited space. Registration is \$25. You can [register here](#) to attend. We hope to see many of you there!

Also, if you are interested in helping out with the conference at St. Martin's please contact the church office ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)) or our rector, Pamela.

#### **Join Our Mardi Gras Party Today, 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 today, 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](mailto:casey@churchofstmartin.org)) with questions.

#### **Schedule for Ash Wednesday, March 2**

Lent is a wonderful time to reconnect with worship and spiritual practices, and it begins with the observance of Ash Wednesday on March 2. Please join us for any or all of the following Ash Wednesday offerings:

- 7am: A brief, indoor service with the imposition of ashes. This will not be livestreamed.
- 12pm: A brief, indoor service with the imposition of ashes, followed by a self-paced Prayer Walk around our church campus. Those who wish may start directly with the Prayer Walk.
- 7pm: A Holy Eucharist with the imposition of ashes. This will be a hybrid service, held in person inside the church and also livestreamed via Zoom and Facebook.

**More about the Prayer Walk:** This self-paced, guided tour of five prayer stations around our church grounds was created last year when gathering indoors was impossible, even for worship. We are bringing it back this year because of the overwhelmingly positive response to it.

The tour begins at the welcome station under the main awning in front of the sanctuary. Each station will include a reflection, activity, and optional listen-along podcast (bring your "device" and headphones if you want to listen to the recordings). **Station 3 will include take-home packets of ashes** – participants may go straight to this station for pickup even if they are unable to spend time at the other stations. Masks and social distancing will be required.

The Prayer Walk will also be available on Sunday, March 6, from 11:30 to 1 pm for anyone who was unable to join us on Wednesday or would like another opportunity for this practice.

## **Prayers for Ukraine**

As we continue to follow the news of war in Eastern Europe, please remember to find trusted and reliable journalistic sources, and take care when sharing information online that contains graphic images or videos. [Presiding Bishop Michael Curry](#) and our diocesan [Bishop Megan Traquair](#) have shared messages of solidarity and hope. We offer this prayer:

Almighty God, Prince of Peace, we pray for our siblings in Ukraine who are under siege. We ask for your comfort and protection over them as they cower underground, weighing impossible decisions in the darkness. For those who choose to gather their belongings and their children and flee their homeland, we ask that they find refuge in the open arms of their neighbors around the world. For those who remain, to stand and defend, we ask for courage and perseverance in the long nights ahead. You call us all to turn our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks, to sow seeds of justice and freedom rather than destruction and despair. Change the hearts of those who roll their tanks through others' gardens; transform their lust for power into love of neighbor. Change our hearts, O God, whenever we turn away from the suffering of your beloved children. Embolden us to speak truth to power, renouncing violence and instead waging peace on earth. In the name of your Son, refugee and redeemer, we pray. Amen.

**Tonight, Friday at 8:30pm, we have Compline on Zoom.** Please join us if you wish to pray in community for those affected by the Ukraine crisis. The Zoom link is on our website.

## **Formation and Fellowship Opportunities**

### **Mark Your Calendars for Another Outing at Forbes Ranch on Saturday, March 12**

Stay tuned for more details in next week's announcements, but for now please mark your calendars for an outing and orientation to the Esparto property, from 11:30am to 1:30 pm. Our time will include worship and fellowship outdoors in a casual, rustic environment.

### **Living Well through Lent Wednesday Morning Discussion Group—Starting on Ash Wednesday**

Christian Formation at St. Martin's will offer a Living Well through Lent discussion group on Wednesdays from 10:30 - 11:45 am, starting this coming Wednesday, Ash Wednesday. The group will meet on Zoom and will focus on the theme of "letting go." For more information or to sign up, please contact the church office ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)) or Helen Campbell ([formation@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:formation@churchofstmartin.org)).

### **Love is the Way Wednesday Evening Discussion Group—Starting on March 9**

On Wednesday evenings beginning March 9, a group will meet from 7 - 8:30pm on Zoom to discuss the book *Love is the Way* by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry. Here's some more information about the book and the author, from the publisher:

**“Walk the path of love with one of the warmest, most beloved spiritual leaders of our time, and learn how to put faith into action.**

As the descendant of slaves and the son of a civil rights activist, Bishop Michael Curry's life illustrates massive changes in our times. Much of the world met Bishop Curry when he delivered his sermon on the redemptive power of love at the royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle at Windsor Castle. Here, he expands on his message of hope in an inspirational road map for living the way of love, illuminated with moving lessons from his own life. Through the prism of his faith, ancestry, and personal journey, *Love Is the Way* shows us how America came this far and, more important, how to go a whole lot further. The way of love is essential for addressing the seemingly insurmountable challenges facing the world today: poverty, racism, selfishness, deep

ideological divisions, competing claims to speak for God. This book will lead readers to discover the gifts they need in order to live the way of love: deep reservoirs of hope and resilience, simple wisdom, the discipline of nonviolence, and unshakable regard for human dignity.”

It would be great to know if you're planning to attend; please contact the office ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)) or Helen Campbell ([formation@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:formation@churchofstmartin.org)) and let us know.

### **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 [website](#) 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](#)

### **Ways to Give and Get More Connected**

#### **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 might want to participate in 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 services on Sundays. 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**

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

Ministry Council: Monday, March 7 at 7:00pm

Vestry: Monday, March 21 at 4:30pm

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

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