

EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF March 13, 2022

New and Noteworthy

Help for Ukraine

As the crisis continues to evolve in Ukraine, Episcopal Relief and Development is deeply engaged in the response and is addressing humanitarian needs. They are seeking immediate donations to assist them in providing cash, blankets, hygiene supplies and other needed assistance to families from Ukraine. If you wish to donate through Episcopal Relief and Development, you may [donate here](#). You will be pleased to know that Bishop Megan has directed a significant contribution from her discretionary funds for this humanitarian crisis.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Giving Out Handmade Shawls

St. Martin's Prayer Shawl Ministry is offering a "day of giving" to our congregation on Sunday March 20 at church after both the 8am and 10am services. They will have knitted, crocheted and fleece shawls in zip lock bags ready for you on tables outside the church doors. Please take one for yourself and/or offer to someone you know who needs one as a symbol of love and being loved. Each shawl has a St. Martin's label on it with the words, "Made for you by loving hands and caring hearts." The Prayer Shawl Ministry wishes everyone many blessings this Lenten Season.

Help Needed for the Altar Guild!

Are you interested in a quiet, contemplative ministry inside the church itself? The Altar Guild needs additional volunteers to serve once a month. Duties include setting up the altar for services, clearing the altar after the service or washing and ironing the altar linens. We would love to show you the ropes and/or talk to you about it if you just want information first. Please contact Carla Harris for details (get contact information in church directory or from the office).

Formation and Fellowship Opportunities

Godly Play TODAY on Zoom, 9:15 – 9:45am

Godly Play is meeting the second and fourth Sundays of March and will meet with Diane and Diana TODAY, March 13 from 9:15 – 9:45 on Zoom. A link should have been sent to you via e-mail if you are on our list to receive Godly Play information. But if you need the link or more information, please reach out to Pastor Casey (casey@churchofstmartin.org). The next Godly Play date after this Sunday will be March 27.

Starting Sunflowers at the Ranch: Join us TODAY, Sunday, March 13, from 4 to 6 pm

Have you noticed how many people are sharing pictures of sunflowers in support of Ukraine? That got me to thinking—why not plant our own sunflower patch at the Ranch? If it grows well, it will be a beautiful reason to come out to the property and invite others. So that is one of the things we will be planning for this Sunday. But please drop by even if you don't want to work on this specific project and just want an orientation to the property or to do a little wandering on your own.

We hope you'll join us for some fellowship and dreaming time together from 4 to 6pm. Our time will include worship and fellowship outdoors in a casual, rustic environment; you can come for all or part of it and stay for as long as you like. You're also welcome to bring food and have an early picnic dinner. Just remember that you will need to bring your own chairs or picnic blankets and wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Looking forward to seeing you there! –Pamela+

Ranch Address: 19100 County Road 86A, Esparto, CA 95627

Directions From Davis: Go west on Covell. Veer to the right where the road forks left to Winters. Pass 505. Go right at 89 (second right after 505). Go left at 25. Go right at 86A and the property will be on your left.

Parish Garden and Work Day, Saturday, March 26, 8:30 – 12noon

Join us to help make our grounds look their best for Spring and for Easter. The Buildings and Grounds Committee is hosting a parish *Garden and Work Day* on the morning of Saturday, March 26. The two Scout troops that meet at St. Martin's will be joining us. Can you spare an hour or two to help out? We have some tools but would also appreciate people bringing gardening tools of their own, if possible. We will have light refreshments. Hope to see some of you there!

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) or our rector, Pamela (pamela@churchofstmartin.org).

Living Well through Lent Wednesday Morning Discussion Group

Christian Formation at St. Martin's is offering a Living Well through Lent discussion group on Wednesdays from 10:00 - 11:15 am. The group meets on Zoom and is focusing on the theme of "letting go." For more information or to sign up, please contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or Helen Campbell (formation@churchofstmartin.org).

Discussion Group—Love is the Way Wednesday Evenings during Lent

On Wednesday evenings during Lent, 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...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.”

The group has only met once so far, and you're still welcome to join; you can contact the office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or Helen Campbell (formation@churchofstmartin.org) for information and/or for the Zoom link.

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

Our rector, Pamela, will hold "outdoor office hours" on Monday afternoons during Lent, approximately from 4 to 5pm. Last Monday's time was canceled due to wind; this Monday (March 14), Pamela will be in the library if the weather is inclement; so, please check in there if she is not outside by the prayer chalkboard. Also note that on Monday, March 21 there will be a Vestry meeting on 4:30pm, which means that office hours will switch to NOON that day. These Office Hours are a way to meet up with Pamela and other parishioners who stop in, without needing an appointment. See you there!

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Care for God's Creation: Monday, March 14 at 7:00pm

Social Justice and Outreach Committee: Tuesday, March 15 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
If you wish to schedule a meeting on the calendar, contact the church office info@churchofstmartin.org.

Prayers for Ukraine

We continue to pray for Ukraine. [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.

Ways to Give and Get More Connected

Readers Needed for All Services

If you are interested in reading the Scripture passages or leading the Prayers of the People (in person) at either the 8am or the 10am services, please contact us at info@churchofstmartin.org. If you have never read before, we would be happy to give you some tips and show you how to use the built-in microphone on the reader podium. If you just want more information about reading, we would love to talk with you. **You can also sign up to read by filling out the Doodle poll [here](#).**

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!**

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.

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 St. Martin's 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](#).