

EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF March 27, 2022

New and Noteworthy

Growing Roots at the Ranch: Two Opportunities Coming Soon

On Monday, March 28, from 12:30 to 3:00pm, we'll welcome back Diana Almendariz, Patwin Wintun Culture Bearer and Elder, for a hands-on learning opportunity. Diana has collected over 100 small soaproot plants for us to grow at the Ranch. Soaproot is a native plant that once covered much of the area, and Indigenous people living here used different parts of the plant for soap (a sticky substance in the root), food, hunting, medicine, and fire. You are invited to come to the Forbes Ranch in Esparto to be part of this restorative planting project. Come if you can to join in the fun doing hands-on learning! Please let Carolyn Chamberlain, Ann Liu, or the church office know if you would like to participate.

Then on **Friday, April 1, from 5:30 to 7:00pm**, we'll gather for prayer and a picnic dinner with our special guest Brian Sellers-Petersen, the agrarian ministries leader in the Episcopal Church. RSVP to the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or to Pamela directly (pamela@churchofstmartin.org) if you want to come to the Ranch on Friday night; we can accommodate about 20 people. We welcome both those who have been part of the dreaming and planning process at the Ranch already and those who want to learn more and discern how they can get involved. We'll share the address and simple directions with everyone who RSVPs.

A reminder that "the Ranch" or "Forbes Ranch" is what we call the 15 acres of land in Esparto that we are leasing from Stan Forbes as part of our effort to develop a strong land-based ministry and create opportunities for connecting with neighbors in other parts of Yolo County, as well as those who are interested in worshipping and gathering outside in nature rather than within the walls of the church. The best way to get to know this land and understand our efforts is to come and see!

Registration Open for Episcopal Latino Ministry Competency Course

Registration is open for upcoming sessions of the Episcopal Latino Ministry Competency Course, an innovative intensive course, designed for diocesan staff, clergy, lay leaders, and seminarians to gain practical knowledge and cultural competency for Latino/Hispanic ministry.

Virtual May 16 – 20, 11am to 5:30pm, \$300

In Person at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee
August 15 – 22, \$1600 double occupancy; \$2000 single occupancy

May's five-day virtual course includes 20 hours of online classroom presentations, worship services, and group dialogue, with breaks and lunch factored in, from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT each day. The eight-day, in-person August course will be at the School of Theology of the University of the South in Sewanee. These popular sessions are offered by The National Episcopal Church's [Office of Latino/Hispanic Ministries](#) and taught by seminary faculty, clergy, and lay leaders with extensive experience in Latino and intercultural ministry. The courses will be taught in English.

“Combining academic learning with hands-on experience, the purpose of this multifaceted intensive course is to provide cultural competency of the history, culture, socio-demographic, and religious aspects of the Latinos/Hispanics in the United States,” said the Rev. Canon Anthony Guillén, Episcopal Church missionary for Latino/Hispanic Ministries. “Also, this course will provide the foundational tools necessary for church leaders to discern and explore the type of Latino/Hispanic ministry that best fits a congregational setting and its context.” For more information, email [Anthony Guillén](mailto:Anthony.Guillen@episcopalchurch.org) or call (212) 716-6073.

Godly Play Is Back In Person!

Godly Play is back on campus, in **Classroom 4** from **9:45-10:30am this Sunday, March 27th!** Please bring your children (masked, regardless of vaccination status) to meet Sheri and Diane before heading into the 10:00 service; they'll rejoin you in time for communion. We'll maintain this schedule on April 10th and 24th as well. Questions? Contact Pastor Casey at casey@churchofstmartin.org

Time-Sensitive–Deadlines Almost Here

Growing! Conference Registration Ends Monday, March 28

This one-day event at St. Martin's on April 2 will bring people together from around the Diocese. Our day will include sharing gardening information, theological inspiration, praying with Bishop Megan Traquair, meeting our churchwide agrarian leader Brian Sellers Petersen, plus an opportunity to begin shaping how "Growing!" might develop as a movement to honor, network, and support gardening and agriculture in our region.

In addition to our keynote speaker and our Bishop, presenters include Jim Schaal, offering theological reflection in the morning, and Pamela, who will help us end the day on a contemplative note. Ann Liu will be leading us in a tour of Grace Garden. It is wonderful to have this opportunity to connect with others who are doing work that honors the Earth, our common home, as well as feeding the hungry and collaborating with those who are without access to land or fresh produce.

Please register before the Monday deadline, even if you are planning to volunteer with the hospitality team, so that we know how many lunches to provide. If you need help registering or need a scholarship for the registration fee, just let Pamela+ or Michael in the office know and we'll get things sorted out. Thank you! You can register here:

<https://form.jotform.com/220465127986160>

Easter Special Offering—Nomination Deadline is Today, March 27

St. Martin's has a tradition of donating the Easter offering (also known as the “Easter plate” or “special offering”) to a worthy organization, either within our community or beyond, that helps in a variety of possible ways, such as combating the effects of poverty, assisting refugees, supporting people with mental illness, and much more. (We give away our Christmas offering as well, and this past Christmas the offering went to Opening Doors, an organization assisting refugees in the Sacramento area). The generosity of our community and those who worship with us on these special holy days always provide a much-needed boost to an organization that is doing God's work in a way that extends the reach of the parish beyond what we can do on our own.

You are invited to submit recommendations for worthy organizations to receive this year's Easter offering. If you would like to nominate an organization (one nomination per person), please email the office (info@churchofstmartin.org) and provide the following:

- (a) Name of the organization
- (b) Key contact/s (e.g., executive director) including contact information (e.g., website, email/s)
- (c) In no more than one paragraph, your rationale for nominating this organization

We need nominations of recipient organizations by the end of the day on Sunday, March 27.

If you have questions, contact our Rector, Pamela, or one of our co-Senior Wardens, Kimo Kimokeo and Neil Willits. Thank you for your consideration and for your generosity.

Formation, Fellowship, and Ways to Get More Involved

Coffee Hour Brought to You By: Your Friends on the St. Martin's Vestry!

You already know that your Vestry are whizzes when it comes to finances and governance, but did you know that they are also committed to acts of service and hospitality? Under the supervision of your Junior Warden, Maria Acuna-Feldman, they will be coordinating Coffee Hour for the next two Sundays, starting today! We are striving to bring back some of our beloved pre-pandemic traditions and maybe can even make some of them better and more inclusive than they were. So, if you feel like you could help out once a month or so with some basic gestures of hospitality, please consider stepping forward. Maria would be happy to talk with you about what's involved, as would other members of the Vestry and the Invite, Welcome, Connect team. And if we've already reached out to you, please say "yes"—or, as we Episcopalians like to say, "I will, with God's help!" Thank you! And many thanks to your Vestry for their leadership.

Godly Play Volunteer Training

In order to enrich the return to in-person Godly Play this spring, we are seeking interested volunteers for storytelling and doorkeeping roles. If you would like to receive training from Diane Bamforth, our longtime leader, please come to **Classroom 4** after the **10:00 service on Sunday, April 4th**. Diane will introduce you to the classroom set-up, demonstrate a story, assist you in practicing, and answer questions you may have about the program. Please let Pastor Casey know you intend to come by emailing casey@churchofstmartin.org and including whether or not your Safe Church certification is up-to-date (within the last 5 years) so you can recertify as needed.

Help Needed for the Altar Guild!

Are you interested in a quiet, contemplative ministry inside the church? 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 this ministry if you just want information first. Please contact Carla Harris for details (get Carla's contact information from the church directory or the church office).

What We Can Do 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 via their website: <https://support.episcopalrelief.org/ukraineresponse> You will be pleased to know that Bishop Megan has directed a significant contribution from her discretionary funds for this humanitarian crisis and Pamela will be committing discretionary funds as well.

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

Our rector, Pamela, is holding “outdoor office hours” on Monday afternoons during Lent. **This Monday’s office hours (March 28) will be from 4 to 5 pm, near the prayer chalkboard on the Hawthorn side of the church office.** She will be in the library if the weather is inclement; so, please check there if she is not outside by the prayer chalkboard. 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

Caring Ministries: March 28 at 7:00pm

Worship Commission: Wednesday, March 30 at 8:00am

Care for God’s Creation: Monday, April 11 at 7:00pm

Social Justice and Outreach: Tuesday, April 26 at 7:00pm

Buildings and Grounds: Friday, April 29 at 4:00pm

Meetings are on Zoom unless otherwise noted; for a link, please 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.

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, but we are working on reopening soon. 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.

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](#).