

EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF May 1, 2022

New and Noteworthy

Scouting Sunday, May 1—Welcome to Scouts from Troop 466

On Sunday, May 1, Scouts from Troop 466 will be on site before and after the 10am service. St. Martin's has sponsored Scout BSA Troop 466 for more than 20 years. In this troop, boys ages 11-18 develop leadership skills, enjoy time outdoors camping and hiking, and have fun together. Troop 466 has continued an active program throughout the pandemic, including when only virtual meetings were possible. Now fully back to meeting in person, the Troop enjoys weekly meetings on the grounds of St. Martin's as well as monthly outdoor trips, service projects, and other activities. Just this past weekend, they brought home the troop cooking award and spirit award from the annual Yolano District Camporee event. Way to go, boys! On Sunday at St. Martin's, the Scouts will offer a demonstration of Scout skills on the lawn following the 10am service. Please join us! The Scouts will also have 2022 Yolano Camp Cards available, a \$5 coupon card offering discounts at many local shops. This annual fundraiser helps scouts raise funds for summer camp.

Straw-bale Demonstration—TODAY, Sunday, May 1

Think you don't have space for a garden? Think again! If you have a spot in a parking lot, on a patio, or even on a bit of lawn that is big enough for a straw bale, you have space to grow food. Our rector Pamela will show you how with a brief demonstration and blessing of the bales on Sunday after the 10 am service. We have two bales set up in between the parish hall and the classrooms. Stop by during Coffee Hour, before or after you enjoy the scouting skills demo on the great lawn!

Belfry Lecture Hosted at St. Martin's: The Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer, Bishop of the ELCA

On **Monday, May 9 at 7pm**, St. Martin's is hosting the Rev. Dr. Megan Rohrer (they/he) for a lecture on "Gender Transgression in Early Christianity." Rev. Dr. Rohrer is Bishop of the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Bishop Megan was the first openly transgender pastor ordained in the Lutheran church and is the first openly transgender Bishop in a mainline Christian denomination. Bishop Megan is an award-winning filmmaker, musician and historian and has been featured on Queer Eye, Cosmo, People, and in Wittenberg, Germany for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. For more information about this event, please contact the Rev. Dr. Portia Hopkins at pastor@thebelfry.org. This event is sponsored by the Belfry. For more information about the Belfry, please visit www.thebelfry.org.

Spring is Springing at St. Martin's!

In this phase of regathering, we are excited to share with you the new life and growth at St. Martin's in our longstanding ministries, and some new activities and efforts getting started through our Invite-Welcome-Connect initiative:

- Godly Play is back in person! Currently, all children in grades TK-6 are welcome to join in-person sessions held twice a month at the 10 am service. Our fearless leader, Diane Bamforth, has held an orientation session to welcome new and returning Godly Play leaders and doorkeepers and if you think you might be interested in serving, please reach out to her.

- From the early days of the pandemic, St. Martin's Messengers have delivered bulletins, sermons and communion wafers to those in our congregation who are homebound, isolating or quarantining, or ill, and unable to connect with us virtually. Messengers faithfully continue this important work and are now delivering altar flowers as well!
- New cards in the pews! You may have noticed some new written materials in the pews, which are there to provide newcomers and others information about St. Martin's and ways to connect with us.
- Thanks to the efforts of our Hospitality Committee, we have been able to enjoy Coffee Hour again, which is a wonderful way to welcome newcomers and to connect with each other. We look forward to seeing you there!
- For those of you who join us on Zoom, there is also a Coffee Hour after our hybrid service! The new Digital Greeter program is working on ways to reach out and connect with new and regular online attendees.

Finally, we hope everyone will take a minute to fill out the Ministry Survey, available here: <https://forms.gle/rp7QU5HytY87RTpu7>

Your participation will help us gauge interest in various programs and will also give you an opportunity to learn about more ways to get involved!

Faith Climate Action Week Concludes on Sunday, May 1 with a Screening of YOUTH v GOV

The theme of 2022's Faith Climate Action Week, sponsored by Interfaith Power and Light, is "Sacred Trust: Our children's right to a livable future." During this season we are invited to examine our responsibility to safeguard our Earth for future generations, and how our faiths call us to respond with bold and just solutions to climate change.

"Our children and grandchildren will bear the brunt of climate change, and their voices have an outsized impact in the halls of power when they speak about how climate change affects their future. IPL invites you to lean into this sobering and hopeful paradox and work alongside the youth in your congregation or community to speak up for their rights to a stable climate."

Join us **at 4 pm on Sunday** for a FREE in- person screening of **Youth v Gov**, followed by a discussion. This film tells the story of the 21 young Americans who filed a landmark constitutional climate change lawsuit against the U.S. government and is made available to us through our friends at Interfaith Power and Light. No registration is necessary. Bring your own popcorn or snacks and be prepared for a must-see movie event. For questions, contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org).

Easter Offering—Thank You for Your Amazing Generosity

This year's Easter plate offering will be donated to Episcopal Relief and Development to provide critical assistance to those affected by violence in Ukraine. Thanks to the generosity of the St. Martin's community, **together we have raised more than \$13,000 for this much-needed cause!** We appreciate everyone who has made this possible. Thank you so much. To learn more about Episcopal Relief and Development's work in Ukraine, see the following link:

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/press-resources/press-releases/2022-press-releases/supporting-humanitarian-response-to-the-crisis-in-ukraine/>

Easter Season Devotional Available Online: Celebrate all 50 Days

Did you know Easter is a season? It lasts from Easter Sunday all the way until Pentecost, a full 50 days! AAPI Alive! offers an online daily devotional for this season, which you can find at the following link: <https://www.aapialive.org/devotionals>

Throughout the pandemic, the AAPI community (AAPI stands for Asian American and Pacific Islander) has seen a drastic rise in hate crimes. AAPI Alive! hopes that “through this devotional, we...enter into the Resurrection that brings us healing and celebrates who God created us to be – a diverse, vibrant, thriving community.” We are all, all children of God. Please check out this beautiful and important resource.

2022 Ministry Interest Survey

As part of our move into a practice of year-round stewardship, the Stewardship Committee, the rector, and several lay ministry leaders have collaborated to develop the 2022 Ministry Interest Survey. We see this as an invitation to all St. Martin’s parishioners to consider what other gifts – alongside the financial gifts that are pledged so generously each fall – we each have to offer.

In addition, this is also how we are going to update our church directory. We are really hoping for 100% participation in order to make sure that we have everyone’s current and correct contact information!

We invite you to take a few minutes to fill out the survey online:

<https://forms.gle/rp7QU5HytY87RTpu7> Hard copies are also available in the narthex for those who prefer them. Once completed, you may return these to the church office.

Please complete the survey by **Monday, May 16** so that we have time to collate responses prior to the ministry fair that we will be hosting on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. Thank you, in advance, for participating, and we hope you enjoy this chance to reflect of your own talents and interests as the gifts they are to our church community!

Formation, Fellowship, and Ways to Get and Stay Connected

Godly Play for May

Godly Play will meet in person on Sundays May 8 and May 22 in Classroom 4. The doorkeeper will meet you at the door a few minutes before the 10:00 service, and kiddos will return to church in time for communion. Pastor Casey will send an e-mail to families on the Godly Play List. Contact her if you are not on the list and want to be or if you have questions (casey@churchofstmartin.org).

Parents! Please join our Families Gathering Group on May 4 on Zoom

We have recently started a Families Gathering group on Zoom. We invite all parents or guardians of children 18 and under to join us to socialize and discuss anything from naptime to college applications. Our next Families Gathering will be on Wednesday, May 4 at 8:30pm. We also know a lot of us are “zoomed out” and want some in person gatherings. We plan to meet in May in person

at a park for a picnic, date TBD. For more information email communications@churchofstmartin.org.

Opportunity to Connect at Davis Farmers Market

As part of our efforts to Invite, Welcome and Connect (IWC) we will be obtaining a space at the Davis Farmers' Market to spread the word about what St. Martin's Episcopal Church is all about. The IWC committee will provide a sign and pamphlet material that we can offer to anyone who stops by our table. What we need now are volunteers willing to staff the table and serve as St. Martin's ambassadors. If you're interested, a member of the IWC committee will provide guidance; for now, just contact Tim Williams (info available through the directory) or send your interest to info@churchofstmartin.org and Tim will get back to you. Once we receive a group of initial volunteers, we will schedule a brief training session and schedule St. Martin's Ambassadors for Sat (8 am – 1 pm) and Wed (3 pm – 6 pm) at Central Park. We are open to 2 shifts on Sat and Wed so the time commitment is manageable for Ambassadors.

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).

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). Hot, sit-down meals have resumed. We are in need of Saturday meal representatives who are willing to dedicate a couple of hours on one Saturday per month to greet folks who come to the meal, oversee clean-up, and lock up afterwards. The Saturday commitment is from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please reach out to Diana Glick (email in the church directory) if you have questions or might want to participate.

"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 bring items during our in-person services on Sundays (8am and 10am). 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

Vestry: Monday, May 16, at 4:30pm

Social Justice and Outreach: Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00pm

Care for God's Creation: Monday, May 9 at 7:00pm

Ministry Council: Thursday, May 26 at 7:00pm

Buildings and Grounds: Friday, May 27 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.

Notes from St. Martin's Church Office

COVID Masking Update

As of April 22, 2022, masking is optional, although still recommended. We will continue to keep our windows and doors open to increase airflow and will be adding some air filters. We encourage you to wear a mask if you feel inclined; choir members and others will still wear masks. We understand that this move may be concerning to some and we will continue to offer our 10am online service on Zoom and on Facebook, or to view later on YouTube. If you have any questions or concerns about this change, please contact Pamela at pamela@churchofstmartin.org.

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**.

Church Office Hours

Our office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. **We are now open in person.** We still strongly recommend wearing a mask indoors and when visiting our office. You can also reach the office by calling us at 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org.

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](#).

Ways to Stay Connected to the Larger Community

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.

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 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](#).