

# EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF May 15, 2022

## *New and Noteworthy*

### A Note from the Rector

Pretend for just a minute that you're answering a survey and respond to this question:

“Which of the following activities do you find most spiritually fulfilling?”

- A. Prayer
- B. Giving to charity
- C. Being outdoors or in nature

(Notice that “all of the above” is not an option, although of course all three are good and holy things!)

In a major survey conducted by the Episcopal Church and the Ipsos research group that was released in March of this year, almost half of Americans (45%) chose **being outdoors or in nature** as the single most spiritually fulfilling activity. Prayer was a close second (42%), followed by giving to charity (28%).

The response was so strong across all demographics, from people of different faiths and even those who do not consider themselves as religious, that the authors of the survey concluded that **“Outdoor activity is the common ground for spiritual fulfillment.”**

Common ground! Isn't that something we all are seeking these days? And how wonderful that we can find it in a simple, free, accessible way—being outdoors, enjoying God's good creation.

A whole year before this survey came out, we at St. Martin's received a grant from the Bishop's Book of Dreams fundraiser to create a living classroom outside on the Hawthorn Street side of our campus, alongside the parish hall and office building. The prayer chalkboard was a first step in trying to utilize that space in a way that is inviting both to those already in our congregation and to the neighborhood. So far, it's been a rousing success.

Now we're taking a next step. Alessa Johns and Chris Reynolds donated some beautiful wood (from a beloved tree at their home that had to be taken down) and we have moved it to our campus. We're now entering a period of discernment—of living with the wood and listening to the space—as we decide on the best placement and use of this generous donation. The largest stumps may eventually be used as an altar or pulpit, or perhaps even as benches. It could become a place for contemplative prayer, for outdoor scavenger hunts with our children, for lectures and book circles, even for movie screenings. We'll see how the Spirit moves us!

At a practical level, we still have money left in that fund to continue to work on this area and shape it in a way that invites a wide variety of uses and users—or better, co-creators!

I hope you'll all find a moment to visit the space, enjoy the shade, and maybe talk with a neighbor who happens to be walking by. Who knows what common ground you might find? And, weather permitting, I'll be out there for my office hours on Tuesday, and I'd love for you to stop by.

### **Join Us for an In Person Family Gathering!**

On May 22, after the 10am service, we invite families with children 18 and under to join us in rooms 6/7 to socialize. We will have the doors open and utilize the patio space as well. Some snacks will be provided but if you would like to bring a snack, we would appreciate that as well. The soccer goals will be set up so that children (and willing adults!) can play. For those of you who can't make it, our next zoom gathering will be on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 8:30pm. For more information, please email [communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:communications@churchofstmartin.org).

### **Godly Play Continues This Month on Sunday, May 22!**

Join us in person in Classroom 4 before the 10:00 service; your kiddos will join you back in the sanctuary in time for communion. Our final Godly Play will be on Sunday, June 5—this is a departure from our 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday pattern, as it is in celebration of Pentecost and the end of the program year for the summer. Reach out to Pastor Casey ([casey@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:casey@churchofstmartin.org)) with any questions.

### **New Volunteer Sign Up System!**

We have a new sign up system for volunteers that was rolled out last week. At the end of each month we will open up dates for the next month, allowing you to pick the days and ministries in which you would like to volunteer. Here is this month's list.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49aaa2ea3fecf8-may2022>

At the link, you will find a Signup Genius form with several dates and times. Under each date/time option, there is a list of ministries for which we are looking for volunteers and the number of volunteers needed for each ministry.

If you would like to sign up for one of the slots, please click on the box next to the words "Sign Up." (Please note that Eucharistic Visitors and Eucharistic Ministers must be trained and approved to serve in this ministry.) Once you have selected what you would like to volunteer for, look at the very bottom of your screen for the words "Submit and Sign Up." Click that and you will be directed to the submit screen. Put in your name and email address, then click sign up now. You do NOT need to log in to sign up. You'll be reminded of your sign up automatically two days before the service.

Thanks so much for your willingness to try this new system and for your continued participation in these important ministries. You help make our liturgies shine!

If you might be interested in serving in one of our ministries but want additional information, we would love to talk with you. Contact Gabe at [communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:communications@churchofstmartin.org).

### **Last Call to Fill Out 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. We invite you to take a few minutes to fill out the survey online [HERE](#). 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 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!

### **Day Camp Registration ENDS this Sunday, May 15!**

If your 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grader wants to join other Davis kids for a week of day camp June 13-17, make sure to register this week! Camp will be run by staff from Mt. Cross Ministries (a Lutheran camp in Santa Cruz, CA) and hosted at Lutheran Church of the Incarnation in Davis. Contact LCI's Youth and Family Minister Lindsey Burns ([lmburns512@gmail.com](mailto:lmburns512@gmail.com)) for registration information.

### **Join us for Worship at the Ranch on May 21**

The sixth Sunday of Easter is also known as Rogation Sunday in Anglican and Episcopal churches. Rogation Sunday is part of an ancient springtime tradition of blessing fields and seeds and recognizing the importance of the land on which we worship. We will “beat the bounds” after church on Sunday, May 22! Additionally, we will hold a Rogation Service and picnic at the Ranch in Esparto on Saturday, May 21, at 5:30 pm. Look for more details next week; if you can help with setup on Saturday, please email [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org) or call the office ASAP.

### **Save the Date: Pentecost Sunday is June 5**

Join us for a single service at 10 am as we bring the whole parish together to celebrate the “birthday of the church” and the joy of worshiping, serving, and learning together. After church, enjoy fun activities for all ages as we renew our commitment to our many important ministries and reconnect with our parish family at the Ministry Fair. Our 10am Eucharist (again, the only service that day!) will be in church; all other activities will be out on the lawn or the patio. Invite friends, bring the kids or grandkids, and let’s make it a grand celebration! And don’t forget to wear RED!

### **Trinity Sunday, June 12**

We are planning outdoor worship for Trinity Sunday to welcome the start of the summer season and enjoy our beautiful Great Lawn together. The 8am service will remain inside; the 10am service will move outside and be picnic-style—bring your own lawn chairs or blankets if you can, wear comfy clothes and shoes, and don’t forget your sunscreen. We will provide some chairs for those who need them. More details soon!

### **Calling on Readers in Languages of the World for Pentecost, June 5**

For Pentecost, it has been our tradition to have parishioners read in as many of the languages of the world as possible. If you would like to be one of these readers at the 10am service on June 5, please contact the church office ([info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org)) or Carole Hom (contact information in directory). Let us know the language and we will get you the short passage. We would appreciate hearing from you by Monday, May 23 at noon.

### **Air Filters in Sanctuary and Church Office**

Notice new equipment in the sanctuary? In addition to keeping our windows and doors open for ventilation, we have added several high-quality yet quiet HEPA air filters to the church. We've also placed one in the church office/library. The filter in the office was designed by air quality specialists at UC Davis and can be made by individuals for their homes at relatively low cost (see <https://cleanaircrew.org/box-fan-filters/>).

### **Fellowship, Fun, and Ways to Get and Stay Connected**

#### **Creatives! We need you for a one-time project**

If you have ever taken pride in your science-fair posterboard prowess, we have an opportunity for you to relive your glory days! We are in need of an eye-catching tabletop display for our Farmers Market table, which we hope to start later this month. We can pay for any necessary supplies, help with finding photos, and so on. We just need some good old-fashioned artistic (but not fancy!) skill and we know it must be out there.

#### **Croquet set needed for TYGMOS May 22**

Spring is here—the perfect season for lawn games! Do you have a croquet set in your garage that TYGMOS can borrow? We plan to play on the Great Lawn after the 10:00 service on Sunday, May 22. Please contact Pastor Casey to coordinate pickup/dropoff. Thank you!

#### **Rector's Office Hours**

As the office and church are now both fully reopened, I too will be making more formal in-person hours available. My outdoor office hours this Lent were a great success, so I want to keep those going; they will now be on Tuesdays from 4 to 5 pm. **Outdoor office hours will resume on Tuesday, May 17, at 4:00pm.**

I am also available at other times by appointment, as I have been throughout the time of COVID restrictions (although not always in person). The best ways to reach me to make an appointment are:

- Email me and I will email or call you back (let me know which you prefer) and set something up.
- Call the church office. If I'm not there, leave a message.
- Call my cell phone. The number is and has been in the directory for the last (almost) five years and is the very best way to reach me, especially if something is urgent.

I'll be exploring other ways to make appointments and other times to have drop-in hours, so stay tuned for more information. It is so wonderful to see people face-to-face again! And, I am very comfortable meeting via Zoom if that is best for you due to reasons of health or convenience.

Blessings, Pamela+

#### **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. If you attend online and might want to be a digital greeter, we would love to talk with you. Contact [communications@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:communications@churchofstmartin.org).

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!

### **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 \$13,500 to date 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.

### **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](mailto: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 (8am – 1pm) and Wed (3pm – 6pm) at Central Park. We are open to two 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 17 at 7:00pm

**Caring Ministries:** Monday, May 23 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](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).

### **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 we have added a number of air filters in the sanctuary and office building. We encourage you to wear a mask if you feel inclined; choir members and others will still wear masks for the time being. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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**

#### **31 Ways to Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in Northern California**

Join Asia Society Northern California in May for 31 Ways to Celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Highlighting live programs—both in-person and virtual—local initiatives, community partners, and previous Asia Society offerings, their calendar features Bay Area events and activities, as well as virtual selections from our New York and Texas Centers. Download the calendar [here](#).

For more wonderful information about ways to connect with and support the beautiful diversity of cultures within our Diocese, please contact Lynn Zender, Chair of Intercultural Ministries for the Diocese of Northern California, and ask to be added to the CIM newsletter list!

#### **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 encourages all who are able to get the COVID vaccine. For a variety of resources concerning vaccination, contact tracing, and other monitoring efforts, visit [Healthy Davis Together](#).