

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF November 6, 2022

Happening This Week

Día de los Muertos This Sunday, with a Special Coffee Hour

This Sunday, November 6, we celebrate **Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead)**. We will have both an indoor and outdoor *ofrenda* (an altar of remembrance of our loved ones who have departed). You are welcome to bring photos or mementos of loved ones to place on the *ofrenda*. Please put your name on the back so that we can return items to you. After the 10:00am service, join us for a special festive coffee hour with pan dulce and a piñata. For more information, see our article on "Día de Los Muertos and How it Relates to All Saints' Day" at this link: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/DayoftheDead>. We will also be celebrating the Feast of All Saints and reading the Necrology (a list of our loved ones who have passed away in the past year) at both services on November 6.

First Sunday 10am Service—All are welcome to join the Family Choir for a day!

This Sunday is a first-Sunday service. First Sunday services are a bit more informal than other Sunday 10am services, with music and other features designed for all ages. The children's area up front has some special new books, including one in Spanish and English about Día de los Muertos. This Sunday, the Family Choir will sing a song in honor of the holiday. To be part of the Family Choir, come to church at 9:30 to practice the song with our music ministers, Suzanne and Jeffrey. All ages and abilities welcome! The Sanctuary Choir will sing an anthem for All Saints' Day.

This Sunday's Stewardship Speaker and Returning Your Pledge

On Sunday at both services, former Sr. Warden Bob Polkinghorn will share his thoughts on Stewardship during announcements. His talk follows talks by Co-Senior Warden Neil Willits and Vestry members Diane Bamforth, Ben Guthrie, and Chris Reynolds. Find transcripts of all the stewardship talks [HERE](#). Keep in mind that St. Martin's is supported entirely by the financial gifts of our members and friends. We are very grateful to those who provide regular financial support to our ministries, as well as special gifts and bequests. **You may return your pledges to us in one of several ways:** mail or bring your pledge to the church office, send in your pledge to our confidential Stewardship email address (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org), or **bring your pledge to church for our ingathering next Sunday, November 13, when we celebrate the Feast of St. Martin!** Thank you one and all!

Half Day Work Party with Sierra Service Project—This Sunday after 10am Service

Tim Williams and others will leave after Communion this Sunday to participate on a Sierra Service Project (SSP) half workday in Sacramento from 11am to 4:30pm. They will help build a community garden for families in transitional housing. Talk to Tim to join the group on Sunday or to join future groups.

Time Change This Sunday–Fall Back

Remember that this Sunday at 2:00am marks the end of Daylight Saving Time. We “fall back” one hour as we return to Standard Time.

Thanksgiving Gift Card Project Benefits Local Families

For over 30 years, St. Martin's has collected donations at Thanksgiving to help families in Yolo County purchase an abundant Thanksgiving meal. As in the past few years, we will purchase and distribute grocery store gift cards, which allows the families and students who receive them to purchase the food that they want and to serve it on their own time. Last year, we were able to provide \$100 gift cards to 88 families and \$25 gift cards to 32 UC Davis students.

If you are able to give this year, please send a check to St. Martin's Episcopal Church, 640 Hawthorn Lane, Davis, CA 95616 and write in the memo line “Thanksgiving Project.” You may also use the green “GIVE” button on the [St. Martin's website](#). After you click the “GIVE” button, select “Thanksgiving Project” from the drop-down menu. **The deadline for donations is next Sunday, November 13.** For questions or to get involved, talk to Social Justice and Outreach Committee members at their table after both Sunday church services or contact Jerry Hulbert, Bob Polkinghorn, or Diana Glick. Thank you for participating in this program that has helped so many!

Happening Soon

Spirituality in Nature Gathering on Saturday, November 12 at Forbes Ranch

A recent nationwide survey of American spiritual and religious practices confirmed what most of us already know: people connect with the Holy when they spend time in nature. We are planning monthly Spirituality in Nature Gatherings (known as SINGs!) at various locations in the area, where we can learn from the earth and from one another. Generally, these will take place on the second Saturday of each month. Look for a schedule to come out soon. Meanwhile, we would love to see you on Saturday, November 12, at Forbes Ranch, from 11am to 1 pm. Bring a pack lunch and an open heart. We will explore gratitude practices, take a walk toward the beautiful coastal range, and give thanks for the land that supports so many trees and other beings. There might even be a chance to pick pomegranates and other fruit in season now. **The address and directions to the Ranch are located on our website [HERE](#).** For questions, contact Stan Forbes, Jim Schaal, or Rev. Pamela.

The Feast of St. Martin, Next Sunday, November 13

Next Sunday, November 13, we celebrate the feast of our patron saint, St. Martin of Tours. This is also our stewardship ingathering day, where we ask you to bring your 2023 pledges to church to submit them in person and have them blessed (if you have not done so already). Stay after the 10am service for a special coffee hour featuring French-themed foods and goose-shaped cookies. Why French food? Because St. Martin was from Tours, France. (Bien sur!) And why goose-shaped cookies? Well, come to coffee hour to find out!

Upcoming Seeds of Justice, Program Year 2, Speaker, November 13 at 4:00pm

“How Manifest Destiny Changed the Color of Labor.” John M. Liu, Professor Emeritus in the Departments of Asian American Studies and Sociology, UC Irvine.

Register in advance for Zoom participation: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/ColorofLabor>

The registration link above is NOT the Zoom meeting link; once you register, that information will be given to you. If you have any problems with registering online, please reach out to the office so we can assist you.

New Sacred Ground Circle Starting in November

Sacred Ground is a discussion series on race, grounded in faith and developed by the Episcopal Church. Small groups use films and readings to walk through chapters of America's history of race and racism, while weaving in threads of family story, economic class, and political and regional identity. The Rev. Ernie Lewis and Carole Hom will co-facilitate a new Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle that will meet in person on Sunday afternoons, starting in late November, and meet approximately every two weeks (with breaks for holidays) until the last session in May. Interested? Contact Ernie or Carole (contact info in church directory) or the office to help you connect (info@churchofstmartin.org).

A Conversation about Housing, November 17, 6:30pm, Congregation Bet Haverim

On Thursday, November 17, at 6:30pm Interfaith Housing Justice Davis and The League of Women Voters Davis Area invite you to a discussion about solutions, in our own communities, to undo racial segregation and begin to repair the harms it has caused. Leah Rothstein will set the stage with her soon to be published book, *Just Action: Creating a Movement That Can End Segregation Enacted Under the Color of Law* by Richard Rothstein and Leah Rothstein. She will provide descriptions and examples of strategies and policies a community can use to challenge racial segregation and promote inclusive housing. Davis Mayor Lucas Frerichs will make opening remarks. There will be audience Q&A and refreshments.. To reserve a seat and/or make a donation, go to bit.ly/JustActionHousing. All proceeds will go to the City of Davis Housing Trust Fund. In-person at: Congregation Bet Haverim, 1715 Anderson Road in Davis.

Advent Wreath Making in Godly Play on November 27

Children in Godly Play will have an opportunity to make an Advent Wreath on November 27. We will do this during class time and then bring our creations into church to be blessed. Materials will be provided and we will plan for one wreath per family. Donations of \$5 for candles would be appreciated but not expected. If you think that your children or grandchildren will be attending on this day please let the office or Diane Bamforth know by November 21 so that we can plan to have enough materials. All parishioners are welcome to bring their own wreaths to church to be blessed at the end of the service.

Journeying the Way of Love: Advent Formation Opportunity beginning on November 27

All are welcome to join us on Sunday, November 27, after the 10 o'clock service to learn about our upcoming class on Journeying the Way of Love in Advent. We'll spend an hour together getting acquainted with the curriculum and learning about the seven spiritual practices in the Way of Love, what we mean when we talk about a Rule of Life, and how the scripture passages we associate with Advent can help us draw closer to God and one another. Come to this first gathering and then decide if you want to participate in the four Wednesday night sessions that will follow. Either way, go home with a special Advent calendar! To check out the Advent curriculum we will be using, you can find it here: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/journeying-way-love/>.

Save the Dates for December Special Services

Blue Christmas, December 11 at 4:00pm: A service specially designed for those who might be experiencing grief or may not feel joyful during this Christmas season.

Advent Lessons and Carols, December 18 at 4:00pm: We join the Sanctuary Choir in singing songs of Advent and reading lessons.

Las Posadas, December 18 at 5:00pm: A traditional Latin American service commemorating the journey Mary and Joseph took from Nazareth to Bethlehem looking for shelter and a place for Jesus to be born. We will walk around the church grounds going door-to-door and end with a celebration and caroling in the Parish Hall.

Other Noteworthy Updates

We Need Your Help with Coffee Hour Hospitality!!

Do you enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship during coffee hour after the 10:00am service? Could you consider helping host coffee hour once every month or two? You can sign up on SignUp Genius here for the date(s) you wish to host.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e49acaa2ea3fecf8-hospitality>

Hosting coffee hour involves coming to church a little early to make coffee and staying to clean-up. Tables will be put up for you. We also need people to sign up to bring snacks. Let's continue to have a great coffee hour, with everyone's help!

Eucharistic Visitor Ministry Replaces Shared Home Communion

Shared Home Communion (the distribution of pre-consecrated wafers for consumption at the appointed time while participating in a live-streamed service of Holy Eucharist) was a pastoral response to the public health emergency that required churches to stop holding in-person worship services due to the threat posed by COVID. But fortunately we are in a different phase of the pandemic and have resumed not only in-person worship but also our Eucharistic Visitor ministry. We are thus ending the Shared Home Communion program, with deep gratitude to all who made it possible. Hybrid worship, the St. Martin's Messengers, and other ways to stay connected to those who can't be at church in person are all continuing and, in some cases, may even expand as needed. To request a Eucharistic Visitor visit or to learn about the St. Martin's Messenger packets, contact the church office (530-756-0444 or info@churchofstmartin.org). For a fuller explanation, please see a letter from Rev. Pamela posted on our website: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/communion>

"Revive" and All Parish Retreat Postponed to the New Year!

We have postponed these offerings and will start Revive small groups in the New Year. The retreat will be nearby (or maybe onsite) and not require an overnight. This will also help accommodate people who still need to be extra careful about COVID precautions, or for whom a long drive is not feasible. It will also cut down on expenses. Stay tuned for details.

Staying Connected with Each Other

Encouraging All to Wear Name Tags

Now that we have returned to church in person in larger numbers and since many joined us during the pandemic lock-down, we hope all will wear name tags so that we can learn each other's names. If you need a name tag (new or replacement), just put your name on the list on the welcome table at church. Your new name tag will be available the following Sunday. In the meantime, we have stick-on name tags at the welcome table.

A Note about Our Website

There are changes afoot with the website! We are working on making the website more up to date. It's not quite done, so please bear with us. If you have any questions, please email communications@churchofstmartin.org.

Rector's Office Hours Moving to Wednesday

Rev. Pamela holds office hours most weeks on Wednesday, 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the church library. **Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, November 9.** If you would like to meet with Pamela at a different time, just email her or contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) to set something up.

Parish Prayer List Requests

Do you have a prayer request? Please know that people you have placed on the Parish Prayer List are being prayed for. Please see the information on our website about how to make a prayer request (i.e., to have someone put on our written prayer list). You will also find other useful information, such as how long we keep people on the prayer list. [HERE](#) is the link (scroll down to the section that says "Do you have a prayer request?").

Prayer Requests, Celebrations and Milestones for Sunday Services

If you would like to submit a prayer request, celebration or milestone to be read during Sunday services, please send it to Pamela at pamela@churchofstmartin.org by 6:00 pm on Friday.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Choir Practice: Thursday, November 10 at 7:00pm (in the church)

Vestry: Monday, November 14 at 4:30pm

Worship Commission: Tuesday, November 15 at 5:15pm

Invite, Welcome, Connect: December 1 at 7:00pm

Buildings and Grounds: Friday, December 2 at 4:00pm

Ministry Council: Thursday, December 8 at 10:00am (church library)

Caring Ministries: December 13 at 7:00pm

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.

Ways to Become More Involved

Volunteers are essential to most of our ministries. Would you be interested in serving in one of the ministries below? We are always willing to answer your questions and show you the ropes. Help us make our ministries shine by getting involved!

Readers, Ushers, EMs, Crucifers We need an array of liturgical ministers every Sunday for worship at both the 8am and 10am services. We have a signup system for volunteers that allows you to pick the days and ministries in which you would like to volunteer. Here is the link:

<https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/worshipsignup>

Altar Guild Members 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. Contact Carla Harris for details (contact information in the church directory or the church office can help connect).

Notes from St. Martin's Church Office

COVID Masking Update and Clarification

Masking is optional, although strongly recommended, in church. We have multiple air filters in the sanctuary and office building. We also post signs showing Yolo County's COVID-19 transmission level (currently LOW). We encourage you to wear a mask when inside any church building and have high quality (KN95) masks and medical masks to offer. Choir members will continue to mask. We will continue to offer our 10am online service on Zoom and on Facebook, or to view later on YouTube. For questions or concerns, please contact Rev. Pamela (pamela@churchofstmartin.org).

Church Office Hours

We are open in person Monday-Friday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. 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

Do you know what to do if you have communications requests, such as an event announcement or blog post? We have a deadline of 9am Thursdays for inclusion in that week's Friday eblast and/or the Sunday bulletins and announcements. Please submit your request to <https://bit.ly/3iLlpYW> or email the details to <mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org>. To see more information on how to join our online services, please see our [Online Services and Communications Requests](#).

How to Stay Connected to the Diocese

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.