

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
EXTENDED ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS WEEKEND AND THE
WEEK OF DECEMBER 25, 2022

This Weekend's Schedule of Christmas Services

Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24

3:00pm Children's Service: An interactive service for families with young children (or, yes, those who are young at heart!). In person only.

7:00pm and 10:00pm: Festive Choral Eucharist with Christmas Carols. In person and online.

Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25 at 10:00am

Holy Eucharist with Christmas Carols followed by coffee hour. One service. In person only.

New Year's Day, Sunday, January 1, 2023 at 8:00am and 10:00am

We will have our two Sunday services with coffee hour following. As on most Sundays, our 8:00 service will be "in person" only and our 10:00 service will be available both in person and online.

Christmas Offering Goes to Yolo Crisis Nursery: It is a tradition at St. Martin's that we give away all our "plate" donations on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. This year, a committee of parishioners reviewed your nominations and, after careful consideration, chose Yolo Crisis Nursery to be the recipient of your generosity. Yolo Crisis Nursery is an organization that provides voluntary and free childcare for ages birth through five years, along with wraparound services for families in crisis. For more information: <https://yolocrisisnursery.org/>

If you put a check (or cash) in the offering during one of our services, we will assume it is for Yolo Crisis Nursery unless there is a memo or note saying otherwise. If you use our online giving system, you can choose to give either to the General Fund, which sustains our mission and ministry throughout the year, or to the Christmas Offering. Thank you and God bless you, everyone

Prayer Trees in the Narthex: The two prayer trees in the narthex will stay up throughout the Christmas season, until January 8 when we celebrate the Baptism of Our Lord. Feel free to place your prayers on them—intercessory prayers, prayers of thanksgiving, or anything you'd like God to hear. Just take a tag from the nearby basket and add your prayer—you can even draw your prayer! Hang your tag on the tree or take it home with you. Place as many prayers on the tree as you wish.

For Children and Families

Godly Play and First Sunday Services in the New Year

We are pleased to announce that in 2023 we will hold **Godly Play three times a month – the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays – during the 10:00am service**, with the first Sunday of the month designated as a "First Sunday" intergenerational service. In January, though, we'll have a slight shift in the schedule. Due to the New Year's holiday, we'll hold our "**First Sunday**" intergenerational service on **January 8** at the 10 o'clock service, and then **Godly Play** on January 15, 22, and 29. If you have children but have not joined us in Godly Play, we would love to see you! Please contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) or Sheri Reynolds with questions.

Nursery Will Reopen Sunday, January 1

The nursery will be closed Christmas weekend but will reopen on Sunday, January 1. We invite parents to bring infants through age 5 to Room 2 on Sundays between 9:30 and 11:30am. Our nursery care staff will welcome you and answer any questions you may have. If you'd like to come take a look at the nursery anytime, just let us know and we'd be happy to show it to you. You can also talk to Rev. Pamela—and don't worry, children of all ages are always welcome in church!

New Year Service Opportunity

Providing Evening Meals for the Davis Winter Shelter, January 1 – 7. Can you help?

The city of Davis and Davis Community Meals and Housing Winter shelter is open and housing 10 guests and two staff from November 27 – March 31. Faith groups and other organizations have signed up to provide dinner on a weekly rotating basis. **St. Martin's will provide dinner every night for the week of January 1 – 7. Would you be willing to sign up for one of these nights? Start the new year with this service opportunity!**

The evening meal can be sandwiches or a hot meal (such as meatloaf and potatoes, lasagne, enchiladas, mac and cheese). Vegetarian options are also great, and fresh salads too. All utensils and plates are already there, so all you have to do is deliver your meal for 12 people at the shelter on the corner of Second and B Streets between 6 and 6:15pm. Meals can be homemade or purchased. Please contact Janet Lane or the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org) if you would be able to take one of St. Martin's nights.

Learning and Growing Together

Peace and Justice Film Series: Next Discussion Coming up on December 28

Two Episcopal churches, Messiah in Santa Ana and St. Martin's, are collaborating monthly to discuss documentaries that have social and environmental justice themes. The movies are available on Netflix. After viewing the selection independently, participants join on Zoom for about an hour-long discussion on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. The next movie is **We Steal Secrets – The Story of WikiLeaks** (2013, 2hr 10min.). Biff Baker (Russian Studies) and John M. Liu (Asian American Studies and Sociology), two professors emeriti from UC Irvine will facilitate a discussion on Wednesday, December 28 at 7:00pm on Zoom. NOTE: The Zoom meeting is a discussion of the film. The film itself will not be shown; please watch it prior to the discussion. **Zoom info:** Meeting ID: 830 7864 9652 Passcode: 401133

Sacred Ground Circle New Start Date, January 8

Sacred Ground is a discussion series on race, grounded in faith and developed by the Episcopal Church. The Rev. Ernie Lewis and Carole Hom will co-facilitate a new Sacred Ground Dialogue Circle. We will meet in a hybrid format at St. Martin's on Sunday afternoons, starting on January 8th, with meetings approximately every two weeks (with a break around Easter) until the last session in June. Interested? Contact Ernie Lewis or Carole Hom or email the church office at info@churchofstmartin.org.

REVIVE! SIGN UP NOW for “Revive” on February 24 - 25 and throughout Lent 2023!

It's time to sign up for an opportunity to be part of a small group committed to helping our spiritual lives deepen, renew, and thrive. “Revive,” is designed to give lay leaders the chance to be re-energized with new ideas and to learn about yourself and the God we all love and serve. The program begins with a retreat on **Friday, February 24** from 6 to 9pm and all day on **Saturday, February 25**, here at St. Martin's.. After the retreat, the program meets on Wednesday evenings for six consecutive weeks. **Please call or email the church office by January 15** if you want to participate in the retreat—this does not obligate you to take the Wednesday night class. If you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Pamela. She'd love to talk with you about it!

Registration Open for Sacramento Racial Reconciliation Workshop—January 21

The next racial reconciliation one-day workshop, “I Will, With God's Help: Journey Toward Racial Healing and Justice,” will be held at Trinity Cathedral in Sacramento on Saturday, January 21, 2023. Registration is now open and is limited to 30 participants. This one-day in-person workshop was specially developed for the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California by the Commission for Intercultural Ministries. Renew your Baptismal Covenant as we learn about forms of historic and contemporary racism and how to engage in ministry with sensitivity and respect for all. Register: <https://forms.gle/tAa9a3Wmij2e3PsL9>

Other Updates

A Huge Thank You!

We would like to thank all who helped with the greening of the church for Christmas: Jerry Hulbert, Aris Sun, Carla Harris, John Dolan, Rev. Pamela, Carole Hom, Neil Willits, Bob Holm, Janet Lane. We also offer sincere thanks to Scout Troops #466 and #139 for donating three Christmas trees to the church. The church looks beautiful!

Episcopal News Service Covers Lessons & Carols and Las Posadas as Lead Article

On December 19, the lead article in the Episcopal News Service email blast was on St. Martin's Lessons and Carols and Las Posadas services. The service featured the reading of scripture interspersed with music sung in a variety of languages including Spanish, Quechua, Nahuatl, and Mono Paiute. Las Posadas began afterwards, with a procession, led by Mary and Joseph, going door-to-door looking for shelter and a place to have their baby. See the link below for the article: <https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2022/12/19/northern-california-church-holds-multicultural-advent-celebration-with-indigenous-hymns-mexican-pageant/>

Matthew 25 Fund Recipients Announced by Vestry

The Vestry is pleased to announce the recipient organizations of this year's Matthew 25 funds. A combined total of \$28,000 will be given to these organizations by December 31 from the 2022 budgeted Matthew 25 money (\$24,000) as well as \$4000 from the Linda Hoff Frost fund designated for outreach. These organizations were chosen by a subcommittee consisting of a Vestry member, a Social Justice and Outreach Committee member, and three parishioners at large. The subcommittee selected these organizations from those nominated by parishioners.

Davis Community Meals and Housing (DCMH): \$5,000

Dixon Family Services: \$5,000
The Center at St. Matthew's: \$5,000
Short Term Emergency Aid Committee (STEAC): \$5,000
Empower Yolo: \$3,000
Paul's Place: \$3,000
Episcopal Relief and Development: \$1,000
NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness) Yolo: \$1,000

A Stewardship Message

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to the 113 individuals and families who have already given us their pledge for 2023. **If you haven't pledged yet, you can still do so** by filling out a pledge card and mailing or bringing it to the church office, by putting it in the plate at church on Sunday, or by writing to our confidential stewardship e-mail (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org). Your pledge helps us plan as accurately as possible for next year's budget and ministries. If you have questions about stewardship and pledging, you can reach out to a Vestry member. The office can help you connect. Thank you!

New Yolo County Masking Recommendations and Signage

Yolo County is now recommending that everyone two years of age and older wear a mask indoors this Winter as several respiratory viruses are spreading, including influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and COVID. The County has also changed their signage to reflect that masking recommendations are now based on combined respiratory virus levels rather than a single virus. Based on County guidelines, masking is recommended only at St. Martin's. We have masks available for anyone who wants one (medical and KN95 masks). For more information from Yolo County: <https://www.yolocounty.org/Home/Components/News/News/13197/4918>

Help Needed

We Need Your Help with Coffee Hour Hospitality!!

Do you enjoy coffee, snacks and fellowship during coffee hour after the 10am service? Could you help host coffee hour once every month or two? You can sign up on SignUp Genius for the date(s) you wish to host: <https://stmartinsdavis.tiny.us/hospitality> Tables will always be put up for you in advance. We have 3 different sign-up slots for volunteers a) Make coffee and put items out on the coffee and snack tables starting at 9 or 9:15am; b) Bring snacks; c) Clean up after coffee hour (starting about 11:45am). Let's continue to have a great coffee hour, with everyone's help!

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 sign-up 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>

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.

Rector's Office Hours - Wednesdays 4:00 - 5:00pm

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, January 4.** If you would like to meet with Pamela at a different time, just email her or contact the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org).

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 want 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 6:00 pm on Friday.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Choir Practice: Thursday, January 5 at 7:00pm (in the church)

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

Worship Committee: Tuesday, January 10 at 5:00pm

Ministry Council: Thursday, January 12 at 10:00am

Buildings & Grounds: Friday, January 20 at 4:00pm

Social Justice & Outreach: Tuesday, January 24 at 7:00pm

Vestry: Monday, January 23 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.

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.

Upcoming holiday office closures include Monday, December 26 (in observance of Christmas) and Monday, January 2 (in observance of New Year's Day).