

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF November 19, 2023

This Week

Rooted in Abundance Stewardship Season - Intake Sunday, November 19

You may have noticed two lighted trees in the narthex. The leaves on these trees represent the number of pledges we have received so far during this stewardship season—a total of 65. We are hoping to receive at least double that number, so **if at all possible, please submit your pledges by Sunday, November 19**. Pledges are an important tool in helping us plan our ministry budget for 2024. As our treasurer Jessie Ann Owens mentioned in her message last week, we are potentially facing a serious budget shortfall, so your generosity is more important and appreciated than ever.

In the past few weeks, we have heard a number of parishioners speak about what St. Martin's means to them. If you wish to read scripts of these short talks, please go here:

<https://churchofstmartin.org/2023/10/17/all-stewardship-2023-posts/>.

In order to pledge, just fill out the pledge card sent to you or write to our confidential stewardship email address to tell us your pledge amount (stewardship@churchofstmartin.org). We are very grateful for all pledges and donations given to the church and will be giving out small gifts to all on Sunday in celebration of the conclusion of our fall campaign.

Music Notes for Sunday, November 19

Choosing music to support the lectionary can be difficult when the readings themselves are difficult. On November 19, our first lesson is an alarm call; our second is foreboding, and the Gospel parable is stern. The Psalm interrupts to remind us that God is both merciful and in charge. Our music was chosen to move us through the readings from despair to hope. Jeffrey chose an atonal prelude (which subtly foreshadows our recession) to reflect the chaos of modern life, setting the foundation for our rather dark opening hymn. But our Communion hymns remind us that God is with us and is in control. Our recessional hymn is that familiar beacon of hope, "O God Our Help in Ages Past." The offertory anthem, "Reap What You Sow," is by Pepper Choplin, a composer with the ability to set hard lessons in ways that are enjoyable to hear as well as fun to sing.

Thank You for Your Generosity - Thanksgiving Gift Card Project

The Social Justice & Outreach Committee would like to thank all who donated to help raise \$8,463 for the Thanksgiving gift card project. The gift cards will be given out next week to families in need in Yolo County, to students who use the AB540 Undocumented Student Center at UC Davis, and to families in need identified by St. Martin's clergy and the Davis Joint Unified School District. Thank you all for your generosity!

Volunteer Opportunity This Week - DCMH Thanksgiving Meal

Davis Community Meals and Housing will be holding a special Thanksgiving meal in St. Martin's parish hall at 2pm on Thursday, November 23. DCMH is seeking volunteers to help cook on Wednesday, November 22 (slots open most of the day) and Thursday, 8:30am - 11am. They are also seeking volunteers to set up on Thursday, 11:30am - 2pm and volunteers to serve

and clean up on Thursday, 2pm - 4:30pm. If you are interested in helping, please contact Harmony Scopazzi, Volunteer Coordinator for DCMH at volunteers@dcmah.org.

Opportunities for Worship, Fellowship & Formation

SING Community Walk and Hot Cocoa on Sunday, December 10, at 4pm

Take a break from the pre-Christmas stress with a neighborhood walk and some relaxed time with your parish family. We'll meet at Sycamore Park at 4pm, walk through the neighborhood—with a couple of stops for thought-provoking poetry and Bible passages—and end at St. Martin's for a cup of cocoa and conversation about nature and spirituality in the winter months.. The event will wrap up with (optional) Evening Prayer at 5:30; you'll be done in time for dinner or whatever errands, parties, or other events your night holds! Please let us know if you're coming so we're sure not to start the walk without you. Contact Rev. Pamela, Rev. Debbie, or the office to RSVP.

Advent Living Compass Class

Helen Campbell will offer an Advent series using *Living Compass* materials on four Tuesdays at 10:30am in Advent—November 28, December 5, December 12, December 19. The class will meet on Zoom and last about an hour. You are welcome to attend all four sessions or drop in when you can. The focus of this Advent is on *wonder*. We have booklets in the Narthex, or Helen can send you a PDF version. If there is enough interest in a Tuesday evening group, she'll also offer that, so be sure to sign up with the church office at info@churchofstmartin.org by Nov. 25 if you are interested.

The Belfry Weekly Offerings - All Are Welcome!

On Tuesdays at 5:20pm, the Belfry offers Evening Prayer/Evensong. This service lasts 20 - 30 minutes. On Thursdays, the Belfry offers Holy Eucharist at 6:30pm followed by dinner, if you would like to stay. Address of the Belfry: 216 A Street in Davis.

Volunteer Opportunities

St. Martin's Flower Guild Needs You

If you enjoy arranging flowers, we'd love to have you join the St. Martin's Flower Guild. We'll train you and reimburse you for flowers. For more information, please contact the flower guild chair, Carole Hom, or the church office.

Other Announcements and Updates

Choir Seeking People to Play Small Drums, Shakers, Sticks for Lessons and Carols

The choir is learning an interesting work from 17th-century Guatemala, and we need people to play percussion (small drums, shakers, sticks). If you know how to read rhythm and are interested in helping us out on Sunday December 3 at the 10am service for Advent Lessons & Carols, please let Suzanne or Jeffrey Jubenville know as soon as possible. We are meeting with the instrumentalists on Monday, November 27 at 7pm, and we would need the percussionists there, but of course we would practice with you before then.

In Loving Memory—The Rev. Mark Allen

With great sadness but in the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection, we share the news of the death of former St. Martin's rector The Rev. Mark Allen. Mark served as rector here from 2004 to 2016, when he retired and moved to Happy Valley, Oregon. A memorial service for Mark will

be held on December 18 at 2pm at Christ Church, Lake Oswego (in the Portland, Oregon area). Please keep Mark's wife, Nancy, and his whole family in your prayers. May Mark's soul and the souls of all the departed rest in peace.

From the Treasurer's Desk

From the outside, everything looks fine: music, worship, a well-cared-for campus, a whirlwind of activities every week, an active and loving congregation passionate about living into the baptismal covenant. But I am staring at a budget projection for next year that shows a deficit of \$38,000. The Budget and Finance Committee, the staff and the Vestry will work hard to find ways to close this gap—yes, even looking under cushions. But if every individual, every family could increase their pledge by 10%, we'd balance the budget. We know that not everyone is in a financial position to make this increase; whatever increase or one-time gift you can afford will be most appreciated and put to good use. —Jessie Ann Owens

Nursery Open

Our nursery is open on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30am for infants through age 5. Children of all ages are also always welcome in church too!

Save the Dates for St. Martin's Advent and Christmas Events

Sunday, December 3: Advent Lessons and Carols with Communion at 10am. Las Posadas, a reenactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging, after the 10am service.

Sunday, December 10: SING Community Walk, starting at 4pm in Sycamore Park

Sunday, December 17: Blue Christmas Service at 4pm

Sunday, December 24: 8am Advent Eucharist; 3pm Christmas Eucharist with Pageant; 7pm and 10pm Festive Choral Christmas Eucharists.

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist with Christmas Carols at 10am. One service.

Sunday, December 31: Holy Eucharist at 10am. One service.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Social Justice and Outreach: Monday, November 27 at 5:15 on Zoom

Choir Practice: Monday, November 27 at 7pm in the church

Buildings and Grounds Meeting: Friday, December 1 at 4pm on Zoom

Vestry Meeting: Monday, Dec 4, at 7pm in the church library

Rev. Pamela's Office Hours

Rev. Pamela's office hours are on Wednesday. **Her next office hours will be on Wednesday, November 29 from 4 - 5pm.** If you would like to see Pamela at a different time, please contact her directly (pamela@churchofstmartin.org) or contact the church office.

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm. Stop by in person or contact the office by calling 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org

The Church Office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 23 - 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.