

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF November 17, 2024

This Week

St. Martin's Night at The Belfry, November 21, 6:30pm

One of the really special aspects of our community is our deep, relational connection with the Belfry, the Lutheran-Episcopal Campus Ministry. We hope to see a great turnout on Thursday, November 21, for "St. Martin's Night at the Belfry." The evening will begin with Holy Eucharist at 6:30pm, followed by dinner for those who wish to stay. The Belfry is providing dinner and would welcome St. Martin's bringing Thanksgiving-themed desserts, if possible. **RSVPs directly to the church office would be very helpful!** Parking is extremely limited, so carpools are encouraged. We will have carpools leaving from St. Martin's parking lot at 6pm. We can drop people with limited mobility right at the door. If you need a ride and can meet us at St. Martin's parking lot, or can be a driver for others, please let the office know in advance. **The Belfry Address: 216 A Street in Davis.**

Seeking Singers for Lessons and Carols

If you are a confident singer, quick learner, and enjoy both vocal jazz with close harmonies and Renaissance polyphony, you might enjoy taking part in our Lessons and Carols service on December 8 at 4pm (dress rehearsal December 5). **We will have readings from Scripture and the writings of John Muir, and will be joined by a viol (gamba) consort.** Even if you can't commit to joining the choir on a permanent basis, please feel free to join us at 7pm on Thursdays; we will begin our rehearsals with the Advent music for December 8, so you don't have to stay for the whole time.

Music Notes for Sunday, November 17

You may have noticed we have been choosing a lot of American music lately! This morning, our offertory anthem by Denise Foster Kimble is an arrangement of the 19th-century hymn "The Morning Trumpet," which originated in the shape-note singing tradition and can be found in the shape-note collection **Sacred Harp**. The tune is powerful and solemn, characterized by a haunting, martial quality. There are ten verses in the original hymn (attributed to B.F. White), tying together many biblical references of the Last Days and signs of the second coming of Christ. Composer Denise Foster Kimble has chosen to set four verses, using a musical style respectful of the hymn's origins. This anthem amplifies our Gospel reading, in which Jesus warns his disciples of trials to come. The text of "The Morning Trumpet" reflects the gravity of Jesus' words, while simultaneously expressing joyful anticipation at the prospect of his coming. In keeping with our theme of American music, our postlude includes the hymn "Down to the River to Pray." This hymn is not of shape-note origin but is African American. The earliest version, "The Good Old Way," was included in the 1867 collection **Slave Songs of the United States**.

Last Chance! Donate to the Christine Blanchard Thanksgiving Project

So far, we have raised \$4,500 toward our goal of \$8,000 in funds which will be used to purchase grocery store gift cards for families and individuals in need for the holidays. This year, we are distributing the gift cards to local organizations that serve families with school-age children, undocumented UC Davis students, and seniors. To donate, write checks to the Episcopal Church

of St. Martin with “Thanksgiving Project” in the memo line, or use the blue GIVE button on St. Martin’s website (www.churchofstmartin.org). **Deadline for donations: November 17.**

Author Kim Stanley Robinson to Give Climate Update, November 17, 3-5pm

Join Cool Davis online or in-person at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis (27074 Patwin Road in Davis) to hear a climate update by Kim Stanley Robinson, Davis author of *The Ministry for the Future* (2020). After Robinson speaks, a panel of local elected officials will discuss the topic: Where We Are Now with Climate Change? Refreshments and conversation will follow. Donations to Cool Davis are welcome! Register at <https://www.cooldavis.org/2024/09/26/kim-stanley-robinson-save-the-date-nov-17th/>

Save the Date! Las Posadas during 10am Service on December 1

At the 10am First Sunday service at 10am, we will celebrate Las Posadas. Las Posadas commemorates the journey that Joseph and Mary made from Nazareth to Bethlehem in search of a safe place to have the baby Jesus. All the children will be able to participate in a music-filled procession. After the service, stay for a festive coffee hour. If you can bring cookies, homemade or store-bought, please do.

A Weary World Rejoices: Group Study and Conversation on Sundays during Advent

From 11:30am to 12:30pm on **December 1, 8, 15, and 22**, we’ll gather in Room 6/7 to discuss **A Weary World Rejoices: A Journey Towards the Promise of Christmas**. This resource is from acclaimed author and podcaster Kate Bowler, known for facing the hard realities of life with humor and faith. As Kate puts it, “Advent calls us to live in the tension between the ‘already’ and the ‘not yet.’ It’s a season where we hold on to the fragile hope that everything broken will be made whole, that every sorrow will find joy, and that every deep longing will be met with love. It’s about sitting with the messiness of life while holding onto the promise of what’s to come. This year, we invite you to embrace Advent and Christmas as they truly are—imperfect, beautiful, and real.” Join us for any or all the sessions during Advent as we explore the themes of truth, compassion, restoration, and justice. **No homework required**—just come as you are, when you can. All are welcome!

Additional Announcements

In Loving Memory

With sadness, we announce the recent passing into eternal life of parishioner Gail Gong. A memorial service for Gail will be held at St. Martin’s on Sunday, December 15 at 4pm with a reception following in the parish hall. Please keep her husband Mike Hannon, her sons Alex and Nate Hannon, and their entire family in your prayers. *Loving God, we pray to you for all those whom we love but see no longer. Let perpetual light shine upon them, and grant to them eternal rest. Amen. (BCP, p. 498)*

A Change in Communion Bread at 10am Services

Beginning on December 1, the first Sunday of Advent, we will be offering ONLY homemade gluten-free bread at the 10am service instead of the option of wheat wafers and gluten-free wafers. The two stations for Communion will remain the same—on the left, the gluten-free bread will be dipped in the wine and placed on your hand; on the right, you will receive the gluten-free

bread and then go to drink from the chalice, if you wish. Parishioner Carla Harris and a very small number of others will be baking the bread, using gluten-free areas and utensils with no cross-contamination. If you have questions, please reach out to Rev. Pamela (pamela@churchofstmartin.org).

Practicing PEACE With All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind

You're invited to join a *Living Compass* Advent group to discuss scripture, prayers, and reflections around the theme of Peace. The Rev. Anne Dryden McKeever will lead the Zoom group Mondays from 12pm - 1:30pm on December 2, 9, 16, and 23. Please email the office (info@churchofstmartin.org) to be put in touch with Rev. Anne and to receive the Zoom link.

Pre-Christmas Events at St. Luke's, Woodland

Christmas Bazaar and Bake Sale: Saturday, December 14, 10am - 2pm

Holiday Organ Concert: Sunday, December 15, 2pm, \$25 at the door or in advance at <https://stlukeswoodland.org/events>

Walk in Love Stewardship Season

We have received 106 pledges to date. You can see our progress on posters at the front of the parish hall. **If you haven't submitted your pledge, you can still do so.** Fill out a pledge card and put it in the offering plate. Or you can email us your pledge at stewardship@churchofstmartin.org. St. Martin's is supported almost entirely by the financial gifts of our parishioners and friends. We are very grateful for all pledges and for all of you who are considering pledging.

Every Person. Every Week. One Item of Food.

The Social Justice and Outreach non-perishable food item collection is one way you can help those in need. We deliver food to four locations on a weekly rotating basis: Dixon Family Services, The Belfry and CA House, STEAC, and the UC Davis Pantry. For The Belfry, please bring toiletries, such as toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other such items. Our motto is *Every Person. Every Week. One Item of Food.* Thanks for your support!

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

Sunday, December 1: First Sunday and Las Posadas at 10am Service. Festive coffee hour afterwards. Bring cookies if you wish.

Sunday, December 8: Advent Lessons and Carols at 4pm with reception following.

Sunday, December 22: Greening of the Church for Christmas after the 10am service.

Sunday, December 22: Blue Christmas service at 4pm with reception following.

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve. 3pm Christmas Eucharist with Pageant; 7pm and 10pm Festive Choral Christmas Eucharists.

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist with Christmas Carols at 10am.

Sunday, December 29: Holy Eucharist at 10am; one service only.

Prayer Opportunities on Weekdays

Morning Prayer: Wednesdays, 8:30am in Room 8. Join Rev. Pamela and others for this 25-minute service.

Centering Prayer: Wednesdays, 5pm in Room 6/7. Join Kim Andrup and others for this 60-minute session.

Compline: Fridays, 8:30pm on Zoom. Join Deacon Margaret and others for this 20-minute service. Find the Zoom link on our website under “Worship.”

Meetings and Office Hours

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Vestry: Monday, November 18 at 7pm in the church library

Choir Practice: Thursday, November 21 at 7pm in the Dona Brandon Room

Social Justice & Outreach: Monday, November 25 at 5:15pm on Zoom

Buildings & Grounds: Tuesday, December 17 at 4pm on Zoom

Rector’s Office Hours

Rev. Pamela holds office hours on Mondays. Her next office hours will be **Monday, November 18, from 4:15 to 5:30pm (note time change for the week)**. If you’d like to meet with Rev. Pamela at a different time, you can email her (pamela@churchofstmartin.org) or the office (info@churchofstmartin.org).

Prayer Request Submissions

If you would like to submit a prayer request, go to <https://tinyurl.com/StMsPrayerRequest> 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 emailing info@churchofstmartin.org.