

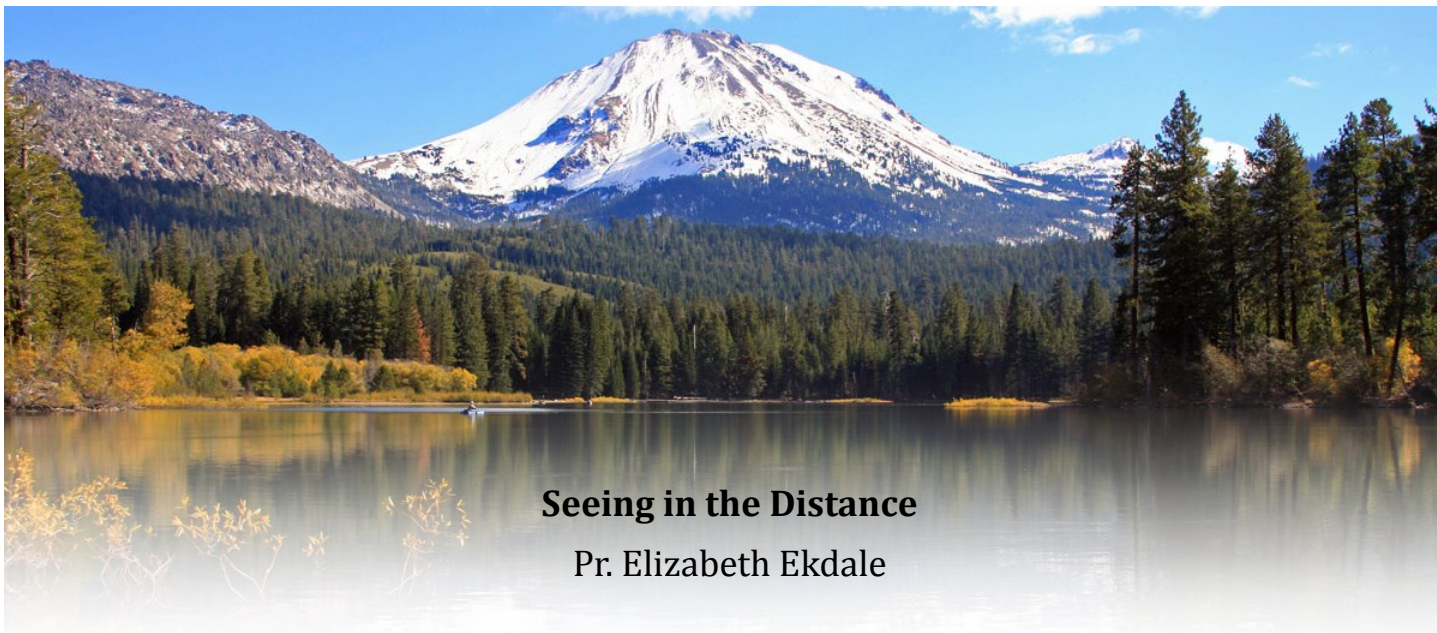


Painting by Leonid Afremov

St Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH
VOICE
QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF REFLECTION & NEWS



Fall 2015
September-November



Seeing in the Distance

Pr. Elizabeth Ekdale

I am a “mountain” person. I love to walk on them, climb them, and view them. Mt. Lassen is a mountain I visit frequently. As I hike above tree line, I can gaze miles out into the distance and see horizons I’m not able to see otherwise. The daily worries and concerns which burden me fall away as I imagine new possibilities and a bigger picture for my life and what God hopes for me.

Seeing in the distance and staying focused on the “bigger picture” are essential aspects of our faith journeys as disciples of Christ. Our lives have been entrusted into God’s loving care through our baptisms. We pray for God’s guidance and direction on the precarious and joyful pathways of our lives.

Both Pr. Christian and Pr. Bekah in their recent transitions have been powerful witnesses of seeing in the distance. Pr. Bekah is on her second round of radiation therapy for Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. Though the treatment effects have at times been debilitating, she sees the bigger picture and agreed to serve on the SF Night Ministry board. Her life is not defined by her illness as she shares her gifts of leadership.

Pr. Christian recently discerned a new calling. It takes tremendous courage and strength to leave a call – especially when everything is going well in the parish. He had perceived a new call on the distant horizon for many years and the time was right to move toward it. He is currently now serving as a Flight Attendant with Alaska Airlines and sees his vocation as hospitality ministry.

As we gather together around Word and Sacrament, I encourage us to stay focused on our mission as a congregation. Presiding Bishop Eaton writes, “God might be calling God’s people to examine what has a claim on our attention. Where is our energy being drawn? If the answer is anything else than to the intimate and complete love of God showing the crucified and risen Christ, then we are being drawn away from the source of our life as a people and as a church.”

Our mission statement assists us with keeping our eyes focused on the distance (where God is leading us) and on the “bigger picture” (what God is calling us to do). As we enter into the busyness of fall, let God’s mission be our guide in all that we do and who we hope to be as the Body of Christ at St. Mark’s.

St. Mark’s is a growing Christian community rooted in tradition and open to new expressions. Responding to God’s compassionate love, we reach out in service to the community and the world. With openness of heart and spirit, we welcome all.

With thanksgiving, Pr. Elizabeth





Volunteer Appreciation—Sunday Sept. 13

Thank you St. Mark's volunteers! Please join in celebration of all the volunteers who contribute to the success of St. Mark's ministries, committees and our community. The dedication, generosity, time and talents of our volunteers are greatly appreciated and their contributions are vital to sustain and grow our community. Please plan to attend services on September 13 when special recognition and thanks will be given to our volunteers and we will celebrate their contributions. Cake will be provided at the coffee hours and we hope you can join in fellowship and gratitude following the services.

Important Information Sessions and Special Congregational Meeting scheduled for Sept. 13 and Sept. 20

Sept. 13: There will be an information session following each service in Heritage Hall regarding the possibility of a Capital Campaign and the progress of our elevator, sanctuary flooring and stained glass art restoration projects. Specific details regarding costs, timeframe and scope of these projects will be presented. Please come and participate in these sessions in order to make an informed decision the following week at the Special Congregational Meeting at 10:00 a.m. between the worship services.

Sept. 20: The council has called a Special Congregational Meeting to have the congregation decide on whether to approve a three year Capital Campaign. If the congregation decides to move forward with a campaign, once the pledges are received, we will be in a better position to assess our ability to fund our much needed capital projects in the sanctuary, prioritize these projects, and pursue additional funding. Please come and make your vote count! Note, the meeting is in between services (10:00 a.m.) in the sanctuary





Date: Sunday, October 4, 2015

Time: 12pm – 3pm

Location: St. Mark's Square, 1111 O'Farrell St.



Join St. Mark's members & Martin Luther Tower residents for a celebration of German heritage and our life together on St. Mark's Square and in the community. Bring your good spirits and a friend for an afternoon of beer, fun, food and music!

There will be: a traditional German meal with vegetarian options

Libations ❖ Games ❖ Bouncy house ❖ Great fun!

❖ Lederhosen and German dress are encouraged ❖

If you have friends who may want to experience a faith community outside of the church walls, bring them along!

This event is free for Martin Luther Tower residents, with a suggested \$10 donation for St. Mark's members and friends of the community.

Save the afternoon of Sunday, October 4!

Kid Friendly, Friends Welcome!



BLESSING of the ANIMALS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 AT 9:00 AM

Stmarks-sf.org



A CELEBRATION OF ST. FRANCIS

Calling all friends, neighbors, coworkers, and animal enthusiasts alike! Everyone is welcome to bring their pet and celebrate Blessing of the Animals. All pets and their humans are welcome!

Please ensure that pets are safely in carriers or on a leash. Photos of animals unable to attend are also welcome.

Join us for this St. Mark's tradition on

Sunday, October 4, at the 9:00 am worship service!

St Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

1111 O'FARRELL STREET • SAN FRANCISCO

415-928-7770 • www.stmarks-sf.org

Sunday School at St. Mark's

Start of Sunday School – Sept. 27

All children are invited to join St Mark's teachers to experience how much God loves our world and our children.

Crafts, singing, bible stories, drama, games and snacks will be enjoyed by all children. Sunday School occurs every Sunday from 9:45 a.m. – 10:45 in the Sunday School rooms (first floor of Urban Life Center) unless otherwise noted.

Ages 3 years to 5th grade

Questions: contact Jenny Hart at hartx4@hotmail.com

St. Mark's Confirmation Ministry

We are inviting all 6th, 7th and 8th graders to gather for a new year of confirmation.

Pr. Elizabeth will be contacting all interested families about this upcoming year's schedule.

Questions: Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org



Property Work Day, Oct. 3, 9:00 a.m.—Noon

Volunteers are invited to prepare the building and grounds for the Oktoberfest celebration on the next day, October 4th.

Questions? Contact Gary Schilling at gary_schilling@yahoo.com

Property Team Ministry House Meeting, Oct. 11—10:00am

Gardening? Painting? Handy with tools? Or, maybe just looking for a fun opportunity to perform a hands-on service project with fellow members? If you enjoy special projects and would like to participate in the continued maintenance and improvement of our historic building and grounds, please join us in Heritage Hall on Sunday, October 11, between the two services (10:00-10:45 am) to discuss the Property Ministry at St. Mark's. Our group typically meets every 6-8 weeks on Saturday mornings to complete small projects that have ranged from painting to gardening; from small repairs to decorating Christmas trees. Holding this "House Meeting" at St. Mark's home will make it easy for you to attend and provide an on-site opportunity for you to suggest projects, implementation methods and other ideas for making our facilities even more supportive of St. Mark's goals. Please contact Gary Schilling, Property Team Chair, at 415-218-2778 if you'd like to learn more about the Property Team and our upcoming House Meeting.



Join Pr. Elizabeth and Pr. Hans for an 11 day excursion to experience Luther's Germany and the signature of the Reformation, Oct. 30 - Nov. 9, 2015

We have 26 participants signed up and there is room for more. Our faith will come alive and our appreciation for Luther's contributions to the world will deepen through exploring "Luther Country". If you'd like to receive a brochure about the trip, please contact Pr. Elizabeth to request one. She can be reached at Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org/415 928-7770 ext. 2300



St. Mark's and Reconciling Works at SF Pride

St. Mark's members and friends were joined by other Reconciling in Christ congregations at the 2015 LGBT Freedom Day Parade on June 28, 2015.



Annual Giving 2015

<u>Restricted Income Collected</u>	2015 YTD - JUNE
Bequests/Memorials/Honorariums	\$250
Sunday School	\$90
Social Ministry*	\$3,556 *
Included under SM	
Lenten Boxes*	*
El Salvador Sister Parish	\$208
Elevator Fund	\$102,100
ELCA World Hunger	\$850
Pastor's Discretionary fund (YTD 9/2/15)	\$4,245 **
Total	\$111,299

*Details of Particular Social Ministry**

*Lenten Boxes-Split between the "Always Being Made New" ELCA Campaign and Lutheran Social Services of Northern California \$1,379

** Pastor Bekah Medical Fund \$4,245

General Fund
of Pledges: 114 out of 193 possible
Total Pledged for 2015 \$401,400
Received thru 7/31/2015: \$261,210

St. Mark's and ULC Finances
1/1 - 6/30/2015

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual vs Budget</u>
Income			
St. Mark's	\$293,151	\$289,754	\$3,397
ULC	\$69,419	\$73,450	(\$4,031)
Total	\$362,570	\$363,204	(\$634)
Expenses			
St. Mark's	\$306,560	\$299,102	\$7,458
ULC	\$59,530	\$66,897	(\$7,367)
Total	\$366,090	\$365,999	\$91
Net Income	(\$3,520)	(\$2,795)	(\$725)



Feeling Welcome

Director of Music, Tim Zerlang

Last July I attended the national conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and the ELCA's Worship Jubilee in Atlanta. Thank you for this opportunity to worship and learn, and to get inspired, refreshed, and inspired. It is always good to connect and reconnect with colleagues from across the country, and to participate in a variety of worship experiences lead by wonderful musicians and clergy in different worship spaces and environments. Some worship highlights included services at Ebenezer Baptist Church, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, St. John's Episcopal Cathedral and Peachtree Avenue Methodist Church.

I do not often get the opportunity to visit other churches for Sunday worship, so before the conference began on Sunday I walked through mid-town Atlanta (enjoying the occasional sprinkle but not the 95+ degree heat) to worship at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church. On my walk I passed several churches: Catholic, Episcopal, Methodist, Presbyterian, and finally, Lutheran. I started to think about hospitality and how a visitor first engages with a worshipping community. It was mid-morning, Sunday. One of the churches I passed was completely closed - not an open door anywhere, even though I could hear the service going on inside. There was no one standing outside, but there was a sign saying "welcome." Two other churches I passed had open doors, one with greeters/ushers standing at them. Even though I made eye contact with the greeters, and was obviously dressed for church, not a word was said or a welcoming gesture offered. I walked into the other open church just to get a peek, and again, not a word was offered. When I reached my destination (30 minutes early - I wanted to hear the music!) the prior service was still in progress so I made my way to a beautiful interior atrium with coffee bar, etc., and a sign that read "Welcome Center" under which I sat at a table for 20 minutes, with no one saying a word to me.


I have been a part of many conversations over the years with other church folks about how we can make our facilities more welcoming, and how older facilities may not meet the changing expectations of today's worshippers. My stroll down Peachtree Street reminded me that buildings, and good intentions do not welcome people; people welcome people.

Dr. Timothy Zerlang

First Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 pm

A new choir season is upon us, and we will get off to a very fast start. Our first rehearsal will be on Wednesday, September 27, at 7:30 pm in the sanctuary, and we will be rehearsing anthems and psalm settings for the month of September and beyond, including items for the Hymn Festival with David Cherwien. David will be conducting the Saint Mark's choir together with guest singers from throughout the Bay Area in three numbers during the Festival. Other special events this Fall will include an Advent Vespers Service with the choir of Saint Mary's Cathedral (this year here at St. Mark's), and of course, special music for Christmas. If you ever considered serving in the choir, now is the time to give it a try.





The Birth of Martin Luther Tower

This is the 28th in a series of Tales from the Archives by Marge Jencks

During urban renewal in the 1960's when the old Victorian houses within a 40-block area met their fates with the wrecking ball (the last house to go abutted the east wall of the church), reconstruction



As the Square looked in 1966 with the tower completed.

began for transforming and expanding the Square. The project for a senior living tower with affordable rents was a prominent part of the overall plan. An FHA loan provided funds in the amount of about \$2.6 million for construction of Martin Luther Tower (MLT) and the Urban Life Building. A 1964 congregational meeting approved plans for the project, but quick turnaround for the permits was a problem—as the contractor had to begin by September to accept the bid. Nevertheless, bravely, a festive ground-breaking service was scheduled. I'm sure our member Fred Wentker, who has been a St. Mark's parishioner for well over 50 years and was on the "all male" Church Council at the time, remembers those times very well. Today the constructed tower

stands tall and still serves the community as affordable senior housing, remaining an important ministry of St. Mark's Church. Pet-friendly MLT features numerous amenities, including a prime location, free Internet access, parking, and a wonderful guest suite. The convenient city location in the center of San Francisco on Cathedral Hill provides excellent access to public transportation, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, and is only minutes away from the opera, ballet, symphony, Japantown, Asian Art Museum, and main library. We are fortunate to have MLT on the Square, and it remains a great asset to the community.

Reference: The Story of St. Mark's Square by Ross F. Hidy



Current brochure advertising MLT shows the Tower "looking well".

Holy Land Pilgrimage: June 10-20, 2016

Join Pastor Ekdale and other members of St. Mark's on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, June 10-20, 2016.

Encounter the land of the Bible in multiple ways. Spend time in the birthplace of Jesus, exploring sites commemorating his life, ministry, suffering and resurrection. Pilgrims will also learn about the ministries of the Lutheran church in the Holy Land. Among the sites pilgrims will visit are:

Bethlehem area

- ◆ Church of the Nativity
- ◆ Shepherds Fields
- ◆ Solomon's Wells

Jerusalem area

- ◆ Mount of Olives and Gethsemane
- ◆ Via Doloroso
- ◆ Golgotha and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher
- ◆ Lutheran World Federation's Augusta Victoria Hospital

Dead Sea / Galilee areas

- ◆ Massada
- ◆ Jordon River baptismal site
- ◆ Mount of Beatitudes
- ◆ Chapel of the Loaves and Fishes
- ◆ Primacy of Peter
- ◆ Capernaum
- ◆ Worship on a boat on the Sea of Galilee

Nazareth area

- ◆ Cana
- ◆ Basilica of the Annunciation



St. Mark's pilgrims in 2013 presenting gifts to the library of Dar Al-Kalima University

The anticipated cost for this trip is \$1,685 per person for a double occupancy, and \$2,025 per person for single occupancy. Airfare is anticipated to cost between \$1,500 and \$1,800 per person. Participation is open to everyone whether a member of St. Mark's or not.

More detailed and registration forms are available in the office or the narthex, and online at www.stmarks-sf.org/HolyLand2016 after September 13, 2015.

Women's Monthly Study Gatherings

All women are welcome to the *Gatherings*. There are three different groups meeting at different dates, times and using different study materials.

First Tuesdays from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Fireside Room

All women are invited to gather on the first Tuesday of the month from 6:30pm to 8:30pm in the Fireside Room. You are invited to come for dessert and fellowship for the first half hour and then discussion until 8:30.

Our books for this time are:

September 1 – *For Such a Time as This* by Kathryn Mary Lohre

October 6 – First half of *Transformative Lutheran Theologies: Feminist, Womanist & Mujerista Perspectives* by Mary Steufert

November 10 – Second half of *Transformative Luthera...*



Second Tuesdays from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Fireside Room

All women are invited to come for study at 11:00 and at noon to bring their sandwich or salad and share fellowship. Drinks and dessert will be provided. This fall our Bible study will center on the Women of the ELCA's Guide, *Slow Faith* by Liv Larson Andrews. Our program topics are:

September 8 – "Sabbath Keeping"

October 13 – "Make Haste O Lord"

November 10 – "Tempo Giusto"

NEW - Third Sundays Bible Study from 10:10 to 10:50 in the Conference Room

All women are invited to come for Bible study from the Women of the ELCA's *Gather* Magazine. Our topics are:

October 18 – "Make Haste O Lord"

November 15 – "Tempo Giusto"

If you have any questions, please contact Suzanne Smith at 415.285.7438 or suzathome@comcast.net.



San Francisco Interfaith Council

Celebrating our diverse faiths & spiritual traditions • Bringing people together to build understanding • Serving our community

MICHAEL G. PAPPAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • MGPAPPAS.SFIC@GMAIL.COM
P.O. BOX 29055 • SAN FRANCISCO CA 94129 • 415.425.9631

Interfaith Homeless Shelter at St. Mark's

From Saturday December 12– 16 and January 17– February 7 St. Mark's will host the SF Interfaith Council Homeless Shelter. Overnight housing, breakfasts and dinners will be provided for approximately 60 men each evening and morning in the Urban Life Center Auditorium. Be a part of St. Mark's Social Ministry...we look forward to serving with you! If you have any questions contact John Elford at jbruceelford@gmail.com.



Dream it! Make it happen! That was the theme for this year's Endowment Committee grant cycle, whose goal is to extend St. Mark's reach in doing God's work with our hands in San Francisco and around the world. Because the Endowment funds projects specifically outside of the congregation's annual budget, these grants help to innovate and bring new ideas to how we serve our community locally and globally. In this our second year of grant giving, we doubled the number of funding requests from two to four. We truly have a global reach with funding requests winging in from 3 continents—Africa, North America, and South America. Amazing! Grace! Grants up to a total of \$3,600 will be given in 2015 to fulfill local and global dreams.

DREAM IT; MAKE IT HAPPEN!

Watch this space to see the dreams come alive over the next few months.

Last year, the Endowment funded two projects—a workshop for Lutheran Volunteer Corps and St. Mark's El Salvador Gala. Here, in the words of those who received grants in 2014, is what happens when dreams come true:

Thank you so much for the \$500 you granted to fund a workshop for the Bay Area Lutheran Volunteers with Seminary of the Street. The day was fantastic. Our subject was Christian Hegemony. . . .This was one of the best workshops we've had in the Bay Area. It wouldn't have been possible without your generous donation to our program. Thank you again.
Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Bay Area

The \$1500 grant from St. Mark's Endowment Fund was used to purchase food for the St. Mark's Hymn-Fest and El Salvador Gala. After expenses, over \$21,000 was raised for the El Salvador Lutheran Pastors endowment fund. When fully funded (\$2million), the Pastors endowment will provide salary for all the pastors of the Salvadoran Lutheran Church. Thanks again for this grant. It helped St. Mark's do a very good thing!
St. Mark's El Salvador Committee

So, keep on dreamin' for it is in dreams that angels come.

Your Endowment Committee:
Becky Burad Stacy Cullison
Allana Helland Greg Jahnke
Marisa Louie Lee (Council Liaison)
Margaret McLean (Chair)
Robert Rathmell Randy Schieber
Debbie Varian
(Secretary and Fund Advisor)

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted" Matthew 5:4

Pr. Norma Castillo, beloved shepherd of Cordero de Dios in Soyapango, El Salvador and Assistant to the Bishop of the Lutheran Synod in El Salvador, died Aug. 25 after an extended illness. She was admired and deeply appreciated by all of us from St. Mark's who had the joy of meeting her and accompanying her, as well as the parish of Cordero de Dios.

We especially remember in prayer Pr. Rafael, her spouse, and her three daughters, Aurora, Gabriela and Daniela along with our friends in Christ at Cordero de Dios. On All Saints Day, November 1, we will remember and give thanks to God for all saints who died this past year.



*** Note: Daylight Saving time ends November 1st—Set clocks back one hour.**

ELCA Youth Gathering

Clovis Curl



The 2015 ELCA youth gathering in Detroit was an amazing experience. As the only member of St. Mark's to go, I stayed with the very welcoming youth from St. John's Lutheran Church in Sacramento. Being with 30,000 other youth with the same beliefs but different experiences was extremely moving, and I felt lucky to be there.

Each day consisted of different activities, new people, speeches, and songs, centered around the general theme of "Rise Up." As emphasized throughout the gathering, "Rise Up" did not mean that we were in Detroit to make it "better" or that the people of Detroit needed to rise up on their own to meet the rest of us. We were there from all over the country to rise up together, learn from each other, and help each other become a more strong and connected group of religious youth.

Because there were so many of us, each day we rotated, doing different projects and activities. My group spent our first day pulling weeds and moving tires for our Proclaim Justice Day. Our project was centered around a designated 100 blocks, largely abandoned, that the community needed help cleaning up. We worked with other members of the Sierra Pacific Synod. One assignment we had was to paint on large planks of wood used to board up the abandoned houses in the neighborhood. We were instructed to make art--nothing like graffiti--so it would brighten the houses up.

Each night, in the Ford stadium, we listened to talks from various leaders and influential people. One speaker who moved me was the Rev. Dr. Luke A. Powry. He reminded us that we should not be afraid to say Jesus' name, especially since He is really the one who connects us all as Christians. It was a powerful speech, that helped me feel more connected to my beliefs and the Church as a whole. Many of the speakers we had focused on the very current issue of racism and discussed recent events such as the horrible shooting at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston.

One of my favorite activities was on the last day, which we spent at COBO (a convention center in downtown Detroit). Our group wore t-shirts that asked "where do you stand?" on the back with a map of the United States. We were to walk around asking people to sign our shirts, with the goal of one signature from each state. This was a fun way to meet a lot of people in a short period of time, and I found quickly that there are a whole lot of Lutherans in the Midwest. It was also interesting to find a strong presence of people from Alaska, Hawaii and even Puerto Rico.



If you are wondering why Detroit was chosen to host the 2015 ELCA youth gathering, it was to bring business to the local community. All of the expenses needed to run the gathering create a ripple effect in the community, therefore helping in more ways than we may know. Each year the ELCA chooses a new inviting city to host the gathering based

on the city's needs. The next national youth gathering will be in Houston!

Although I will have aged out of these gatherings by 2018, I hope more youth from our Church will be able to go to Houston for the next national gathering and have experiences similar to the ones I have had.



Join us in remembering and giving thanks for the recent sacred events in our parish:



Holy Baptism

Audrey Dioli
Sofia Solka
Vivian May Lee

Memorial Service

George Elles

Marriage Ceremony

Sarah Wang and Jonathan Kleen





Council Meeting Minutes

February 2015

- Council elected its 2015 officers (Jeremy McClain as President, Matt Helland as Vice President, Marisa Louie as Secretary, Jane Borg as Executive Committee Member at Large) and appointed Shelly Taylor as Budget and Finance Coordinator.
- Helland discussed having house meetings (small group meetings) following our training with Joaquin Sanchez at Council retreat. Council decided to try this out with ministry teams and committees in the context of the Time and Talent Surveys.
- Council assigned themselves as liaisons to various ministry areas. A complete list is the Spring 2015 "Voice" newsletter.
- McClain provided an update about staffing in the church office.
- Council amended the motion regarding the specific designation of the cash salary paid to Pastor Davis as a housing/furnishings allowance.

March 2015

- Council accepted the Endowment Committee's recommendation to distribute 4.9% of the 12 year rolling balance, which is \$3,600, from the Endowment Fund for the 2015 grant cycle. Council also appointed Allana Helland and Becky Burad to 3 year terms on the Endowment Committee, and renewed Marisa Louie's appointment as Council liaison.
- Council approved hiring Ford Lighting Inc., Red Hawk, and Allied Mechanical to address (respectively) replacing lighting in the Urban Life Center, fire sprinkler work, and repairing the church boiler pump in an amount not to exceed \$12,000. This will be paid out of reserve or contingency funds.
- McClain previewed a proposal for The John Stewart Company to run the physical property of the Urban Life Center and to handle leasing agreements and marketing.
- Pastor Ekdale recounted recent discussions that kept VanNess Avenue from being closed over Easter weekend. Area faith leaders, through the Interfaith Council, convinced the Municipal Transit Agency to postpone the closure until after Easter.
- Sallach and McClain, who sit on the St. Mark's Square redevelopment task force, shared that an LOI (letter of interest) is being written with Crescent Heights.

April 2015

As quorum was not reached at this meeting, Council did not make or pass any formal motions.

- Council recapped Easter and Holy Week worship services and offered feedback for next year.
- Mary Ritter presented about PICO Rwanda and asked Council to lift up their ministries with prayer and opportunities for financial support. She also discussed a potential synod proposal regarding immigration issues.
- Other items were discussed pending approval at the May 2015 Council meeting.

May 2015

- Following a presentation by McClain and Pastor Ekdale about candidates for office staff, Council approved three proposed candidates for church staff positions and their compensation packages.
- Council approved a revised Allocation and Distribution Policy for the Endowment Fund.
- Viknesh Silvalingam, Jane Borg, and Cristin Owens were announced as those attending the Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly as voting members.
- Council approved Dr. Tim Zerlang's expense of 210 euros for a course at the Thüringische Orgelakademie during his sabbatical.
- Pastor Davis recommended that Council read her comments on the Pew Report (<http://www.pewforum.org/2015/05/12/americas-changing-religious-landscape/>) for further discussion in the fall.



Fall 2015 Concerts at St. Mark's

Sunday, September 13, 7:30 PM

Voices of Music - <http://voicesofmusic.org/>
A Celebration of Bach: The Bach Harpsichord

Sunday, September 27, 4:00 PM

Magnificat - <http://magnificatbaroque.com/>
Monteverdi: Il Combattimento

Thursday, October 8, 7:30 PM

Stavanger Cathedral Choir
Touring choir from Stavanger, Norway

Saturday, October 10, 2:30 PM & 7:30 PM

Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts - <http://omniconcerts.com/>
Dynamite Guitars – Kazuhito Yamashita

Sunday, October 11, 4:00 PM

Noe Valley Chamber Music - <http://nvcm.org/>
Premiere Saxophone Quartet

Friday, October 16, 8:00 PM

California Bach Society – <http://www.calbach.org/>
A Bohemian Masterpiece- Zelenka “Missa Votiva”

Sunday, October 18, 7:00 PM

San Francisco Performances - <http://sfperformances.org/>
Anonymous 4 - Anthology

Saturday, October 24, 6:00 PM

Golden Gate Symphony - <http://goldengatesymphony.org/>
Chichester Psalms

Sunday, October 25, 4:00 PM

San Francisco Early Music - <http://sfems.org/>
Archetti with Debra Nagy, Oboe
Bach and Handel: Concerti for Oboe and Strings

Saturday, October 31, 4:00 PM

New Esterhazy Quartet – <http://www.newesterhazy.org/>
Padre, Guida, ed Amico!

Sunday, November 1, 4:00 PM

Noe Valley Chamber Music - <http://nvcm.org/>
Telegraph String Quartet

Sunday, November 8, 4:00 PM

Volti – <http://voltisf.org/>
TBD

Sunday, November 8, 7:30 PM

Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts - <http://omniconcerts.com/>
D'Addario Performance Series

Friday, November 13, 7:30 PM

Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts - <http://omniconcerts.com/>
Duo Melis

Sunday, November 15, 7:00 PM

San Francisco Performances - <http://sfperformances.org/>
Anonymous 4 - 1865

Saturday, November 21, TBD

International Orange Chorale – <http://www.iocsf.org/>
TBD

Sunday, November 22, 4:00 PM

San Francisco Early Music - <http://sfems.org/>
Baltimore Consort
The Food of Love: Songs, Dances, and Fancies for Shakespeare

Saturday, November 28, 4:00PM

New Esterhazy Quartet – <http://www.newesterhazy.org/>
At the Opera II

Saturday, November 28, 8:00PM

Clerestory – <http://www.clerestory.org/>
Holiday Lights

Friday, December 4, 7:30 PM

Omni Foundation for the Performing Arts - <http://omniconcerts.com/>
Alvaro Pierri

Saturday, December 5, 7:00 PM

San Francisco Lyric Chorus – <http://www.sflc.org/>
TBD

Saturday, December 6, 5:00 PM

San Francisco Lyric Chorus – <http://www.sflc.org/>
TBD

Saturday, December 12, TBD

Sunset Youth Orchestra – <http://www.sunsetyouthorchestra.com/>
Holiday Concert

Saturday, December 12, 8:00 PM

SF Choral Artists - <http://www.sfca.org/>
Tales from Wales: A British Christmas

Sunday, December 13, 4:00 PM

San Francisco Early Music - <http://sfems.org/>
J.S. Bach: Mass for Advent

Saturday, December 19, 8:00 PM

Voices of Music - <http://voicesofmusic.org/>
Virtuoso Italian Concertos

St. Mark's Worship Schedule

Sundays

9:00 am.....**HOLY COMMUNION** with Children's Time
10:00 am.....Refreshments and Fellowship Hour
11:00 am.....**CHORAL EUCHARIST**
12:15 pm.....Refreshments and Fellowship Hour

Check our weekly Parish Announcements
(<http://www.stmarks-sf.org/blog/>)

For more events and activities at St. Mark's!

Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Staff

The Rev. Elizabeth E. Ekdale, Lead Pastor...x 2300...ekdale@stmarks-sf.org

Dr. Timothy Zerlang, Director of Music...x 2330...zerlang@stmarks-sf.org

Audrey Potts, Office & Finance Manager...x 2320...potts@stmarks-sf.org

Stefani Lawrence, Communications & Media Coordinator...
x2260...lawrence@stmarks-sf.org

Chiara DeJoy, Events Administrator...x2290 dejoy@stmarks-sf.org

Carl Storey, Security

Elvira Markov & Johanna Najera, Nursery Attendants

Jenny Hart, Sunday School Coordinator

The Rev. Chuck Lewis, Visitation Pastor

Jeremy McClain, Church Council President...mclain@stmarks-sf.org

Reconciling in Christ

St. Mark's is a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation. St. Mark's is one of over 500 congregations, synods and organizations across the ELCA and the ELCIC (Canada) which have declared that people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are equally welcome to join fully in the worship and life of this Christ-centered community. For more information, please speak to one of the pastors.

Other Important Numbers

Martin Luther Tower...(415) 885-1084

Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary...(510) 524-5264

Sierra Pacific Synod...(800) 275-3522

ELCA (national office in Chicago)...(800) 638-3522