



THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos
Lutheran Church

January 2024

Our Mission: "To know, accept and live the love of God and share it with others"

Sunday, January 7th, 2024

as we celebrate



Sunday, January 14th at 4pm
San Diego Renaissance Singers



Thursday, January 18th
10am-12pm
Pr. Casey's Office Hours at
Ascend Coffee



Coming....February 15th

Lifeline Screenings

8:30am-5:00pm
Luther Hall

The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
 To find the lost,
 To heal the broken,
 To feed the hungry,
 To release the prisoner,
 To rebuild the nations,
 To bring peace among others,
 To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

If you are reading this in the first week of January, it is still Christmas! The twelve days of Christmas begin on Christmas Day and end with the Epiphany, when we celebrate the arrival of the magi at the home of the Holy Family. There is still feasting to do—though you may be feasted out from your end-of-December celebrations.

As we enter 2024, the adage “begin as you mean to go on” rings loud and clear.
What are our intentions for this year of ministry together at San Marcos Lutheran Church?
What are your intentions for this year as a child of God?

If you are the type to set resolutions for the new year, be gentle with yourself as you consider what a “new and improved” you might entail. Remember that you are already a beloved child of God, just as you are. No diet plan, household reorganization, career ambition, relationship status, or other goal will make that any more or less true. When Jesus invites us to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves, we tend to jump immediately to the love of God and neighbor without considering how faithfully we love our own selves. One of the ways to love God is by loving what God has created and called good—you.

As personal resolutions make the rounds in our conversations with friends and family this month, consider what collective resolutions you might make. If the pressure of self-improvement is not your favorite way to spend January (I’m with you!) perhaps think about how you can make a difference in your community and with your community this year.

I included the powerful poem “The Work of Christmas” from the great 20th-century Black American theologian Howard Thurman as a reminder and an inspiration to us as we finish out this Christmas season together. One of our Christmas Eve scripture readings encouraged us to be “zealous for good deeds” (Titus 2:14). The miracle of Christmas inspires goodness in us because the God who created the heavens and the earth, the entirety of the cosmos, also created each one of us with great love.

Together, we have the opportunity to do the work of Christmas all year round.

Peace,

Pastor Casey

Financial Update

FROM YOUR TREASURER

Income November- 91.67% of year		
Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$331,059	\$236,679	71.49%
Expenses		
Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$331,059	\$275,279	83.15%

Thank you for the gifts which make our mission and ministry possible!

Social Action



THANKS FROM INTERFAITH for the generous donations for our sponsored family of five. Diana Arney, Karla Strazicich-Cain, and Doris Payne took everything to Interfaith on Dec. 8th where they joined others in wrapping/bagging gifts. An impressive 277 families received gifts through this year's program.

OUR FOOD PANTRY clients received \$25 Target gift cards on December 16th, thanks to the designated funds from All Saints Episcopal Church! Each was enclosed in a Christmas card as a surprise Christmas gift. Thank you to all who donate food for this outreach ministry. Any non-perishable food is welcome. We've gotten a good supply of peanut butter, so now we would like to ask for jam or jelly to go with it. If you could stop by on the 3rd or 4th Saturday of the month with a bag of onions or carrots, that would be appreciated. If you have questions, please talk to Jill Adachi, Doris Payne, or Donna Huber. Come join us any time

Council Update

Hello SMLC and Happy New Year! Here are the updates for the December Council meeting.

The Council met on December 13 for our regular monthly meeting. We welcomed our new incoming council members who were able to attend the December meeting before officially joining the Council in January. Beyond accepting minutes from previous meetings, submitted and verbal reports, and financial statements, the Council considered 5 items of new business. First, the Council formally approved Eloise Nimmer, Beda Farrell, and Jerry Farrell as new members of SMLC. Welcome Eloise, Beda, and Jerry! The Council reviewed and recommended changes and updates to the constitution and bylaws from the Bylaws committee based on the suggestions from the Pacifica Synod. These updates will be reviewed again by the synod and provided to the congregation for review at least 30 days prior to our February Annual Congregation meeting for congregation vote and hopefully approval. The Council has approved February 10, 2024 at 11:15 am for Part 2 of our Annual Congregation meeting. Please plan to attend as we will have many items of business. The Council also approved the 2024 Housing Allowance for Pastor Casey (pending Congregation budget approval). This business is an IRS requirement to allow proper tax filing for Pastor Casey and her husband. Lastly, the Council reviewed and recommended congregation approval of a new continuing resolution regarding the administration of the parsonage lease. The Congregation will vote on this continuing resolution at the February meeting.

The council also thanked Jan Parthemer for her years of service on the Council. The December 13th. meeting was her final council meeting before her term ends December 31, 2023. Thank you, Jan! Thank you for your continued support of SMLC, our Council, Pastor Casey, and the staff.

Daniel Norris, President

San Marcos Lutheran Church

3419 Grand Avenue San Marcos, CA 92078

(760) 727-1509

smlc3419@sbcglobal.net

www.sanmarcoslutheran.org



All are Welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female." (Galatians 3:28)

Pastor Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Office Manager: Aimee Hudlow

Bookkeeper: Eunice Hanson Choir Director- Max Chodos

Council Members

Dan Norris, President

Kelly Van Jen, Treasurer

Kelly Black, Vice President

Anne Voth, Secretary

Jack Anderson

Tom Andreas

Karen Johns

Karla Strazicich-Cain

Ed Mossuto

Devin Hogan

Alvar Roy

To contact any Council members, Call the Church office and we will forward to the appropriate member. 760-727-1509

San Marcos Lutheran Preschool

www.smlcchild@sbcglobal.net

(760)727-0326 Director: Ann Leong

Teachers: Roxy Maldonado,

Marlene Vasquez, Elle Kim



Remember in Prayer: Dan Adcock, Don Arney, Christine Buma, David, Bernice, Grace, Deborah Finney, Gary Haldeman, Mike Hudlow, Pete Johnson, Linda Kent, Gary Kloehn, Sid Kranenberg & family, Madeleine Marshall, Anne McDaniell, Deborah McGregor, Craig Pollard, Alvar Roy, Larry Serafin, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Megan Toler, Nick Torres, and Kelly Van Jen.

PLEASE CONTACT US!

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and inform the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the Church Office (760)727-1509 when:

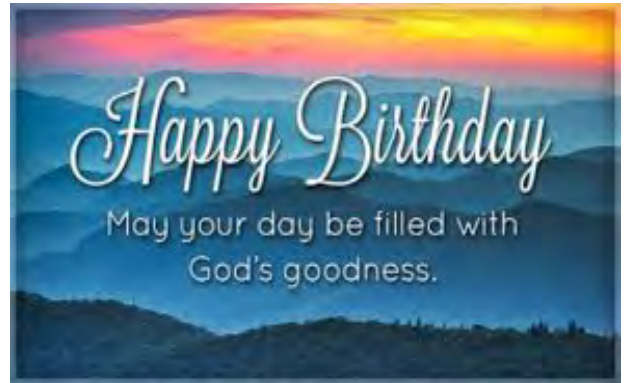
- A loved one or someone you know dies
- You, or someone you know, is ill or grieving
- You, or someone you know, is in the hospital
- To plan a baptism, wedding, or celebration
- You moved or contact info has changed.

For urgent needs, contact

Pr. Casey at cell (442)222-1194 or email:

pastorcaseykd@gmail.com

Lutheran Fellowship Lunch Hour will meet on Monday, Jan. 8th. at 12pm. at PEGAH's Kitchen at 955 S. Santa Fe, in Vista. We invite everyone to join us! It will be an order from the menu, have lunch and fellowship. See Bill Hanson for questions!



Jan 7 Baptism of Our Lord

First Reading: Gen 1:1-5
 Second Reading: Acts 19:1-7
 Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

Jan 14 Second Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: 1 Sam 3:1-20
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 6:12-20
 Gospel: John 1:43-51

Jan 15 Third Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 7:29-31
 Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Jan 22 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Deut 18:15-20
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 8:1-13
 Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

Jan 29 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Isa 40:21-31
 Second Reading: 1 Cor 9:16-23
 Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Jan 5 Maggie Riley-Hagan

Jan 7 Susan Walsh

Jan 14 Louise Testerman

Jan 17 Holly Kepler

Jan 18 Kerri Nolan

Jan 18 Richard Preuss

Jan 21 Kris Rasakatla

Jan 23 Grant Carreon

Jan 23 Fran Iverson

Jan 25 Rose Marie Etherton

Jan 27 Haylie Murray

Jan 27 Rob O'Carroll

Jan 31 Wanda Luckey

**The next Newsletter article deadline
 is Jan. 15th**



SMLC Children's Center News

JANUARY 2024



3419 Grand Ave, San Marcos 92078 • 760-727-0326 • smlcchild@sbcglobal.net

Happy New Year & Welcome January!

Thank you for your tremendous generosity in remembering the entire staff during the holidays. We all have been deeply touched by your love and kindness!

Blessings, Mrs. Leong & Children's Center Staff

Dates to remember:

January 10th (Wed): Cares Closet open from 11am-1pm

January 15th (Mon): Preschool is closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 25th (Thurs) & 26th (Fri):
Celebrating 100 days of school!



Time to change out the clothes!

With the weather a little colder and the children a little bigger, this is a great time to change out your child's Ziploc bag of extra clothes and make sure they have at least a light weight jacket at school. Don't forget to label your child's belongings :)

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR FALL 2024

PRIORITY Enrollment for returning families will begin as early as

January 16th. If you have plans on having your child join us for the 2024-25 school year, please let me know! As a reminder, if you sign up for Fall, you will be eligible to sign up for Summer Camps 2024.

New Family enrollment will begin on February 1st. Tell your friends! Packets will be available mid-January. Registration is \$175 (non-refundable) to secure your spot!



Winter Wishlist

Kleenex
Clorox/Lysol wipes
Baby wipes (for faces & noses)
White Copy paper (they love to draw!)
Magic Erasers
Markers
Lysol spray

Learn  Live  Share  the Love of God

THE NORTH COUNTY CLERGY COALITION INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE

A NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

FEATURING GREG ANGLEA, CEO
INTERFAITH COMMUNITY SERVICES

JANUARY 25, 2024
6:30PM

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
890 BALOUR DRIVE, ENCINITAS

Support our unhoused neighbors by bringing hygiene items for children and adults: deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, razors, soap, shower gel, menstrual products





**PACIFICA SYNOD
DAY OF THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION 2024**

Peace at the Last: Visitation with the Dying

A day of theological exploration, learning, and practice for
pastors, professional end-of-life caregivers, and lay persons
interested in ministry with the dying.

February 22, 2024

9:30 A.M. - 2:30 P.M

**General Registration: \$60
ELCA Non-Rostered (Lay) Rate: \$20*
Hawaii & Distance Participants: \$25***

**Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church
10842 Fury Ln., La Mesa, CA 91941**

*This event has been made possible for ELCA Lay Persons at the reduced price with generous support from the Pacifica Synod's Cathryn Wright Fund. Zoom meeting details will be made available upon registration for those who are unable to participate in person. General and Non-Rostered registrations include lunch and materials.

2024

CALENDAR YEAR

JANUARY

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	01 12pm- AA- LH	02 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	03 12pm- AA- LH	04 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	05 12pm- AA- LH	06 6-9pm AA- LH
07	08 12pm- AA- LH	09 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	10 12pm- AA- LH	11 1:30pm- Soc. Action Mtg.- LH 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	12 12pm- AA- LH	13 6-9pm AA- LH
14 3pm- SD Renaissance Singers- Sanctuary	15 12pm- AA- LH	16 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	17 12pm- AA- LH	18 10am-12pm- Pr Casey's Office Hrs- Ascend Coffee 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc. 6-8 Cub Scouts- LH	19 12pm- AA- LH	20 6-9pm AA- LH
21 11am- Blessing Bag Assembly	22 12pm- AA- LH	23 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	24 12pm- AA- LH	25 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	26 12pm- AA- LH	27 6-9pm AA- LH
28	29 12pm- AA- LH	30 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	31 12pm- AA- LH	01	02	03
04	05	06	07	08	09	10