



THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos
Lutheran Church

April 2024

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



Celebrate Earth Day at SMLC on Sunday April 21st! Martin Luther said, "God is wholly present in all creation, in every corner, behind you and before you. Do you think God is just sleeping on a pillow in heaven?" Earthkeeping is a term used by many people of faith to describe the nature of our responsibility to care for creation. It comes from our wonder, awe, and gratitude for God's wisdom, creativity, and blessings that fill the natural world. Curious to learn how YOU can be an earthkeeper? Please join Karin Kupka during the Community Time after worship to learn more. She will bring scripture and inspiration, ideas and samples of how each of us can do something small to make a big difference for our Mother Earth.



Wow, Team Holy Week!!!!

Thank you, Team Holy Week! Now that we have celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord, it is time to say THANK YOU to all of the volunteers who helped Pastor Casey prepare for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. All of the behind-the-scenes work—like setting up dinner tables and stuffing Easter eggs and putting batteries in candles and washing dishes and stapling bulletins and so much more—would not have happened, or would not have happened as smoothly and successfully, without the 15+ people who signed up to help and to recruit others to help. Thanks also to our regular team of folks—the SMLC staff, the choir, and the ushers—for their extra service at these extra services. As your solo clergywoman, Pastor Casey has not yet figured out how to be in multiple places at once, and for this reason is deeply grateful for the teamwork that made Holy Week sacred, meaningful, and welcoming to all who joined in the celebrations. Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

He has been raised; he is not here. – Mark 6:16b

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!**

What a delight that we get to shout these words of great joy for the next several weeks. Having abstained from hallelujah, alleluia, and whichever creative spelling appeals to you for the season of Lent, it is all the more joyful to shout our praises to God in this glorious season.

What once was dead is alive again. It is easier, in the riotous green of springtime, to believe this.

For me, the other sign of hope and joy and goodness in the world, second to Easter, is the beginning of the Major League Baseball season. Yes, beloveds, Opening Day of the 2024 season was on Maundy Thursday, March 28th. When Opening Day is not during Holy Week, it is a day I take off of work in order to fully celebrate. I wear my baseball earrings and my t-shirt that says Baseball Is My Favorite Season, drink my coffee out of my baseball mug, and sit down in the middle of the morning (thanks, Eastern Time!) to truly marinate in all 15 games that are played around the country throughout the day. This ritual action tells me that spring is well and truly here, and that life is good.

Throughout the long winter of the off-season and the 40-day journey of Lent, we have waited in darkness for the light to change as the days lengthened. We have faced our grief and our laments, speaking aloud to God the most desperate desires of our hearts. This has been a good and holy time of dormancy and expectation, but Easter calls us to abundant life.

For the 50-day season of Easter (which began on Easter Sunday), we celebrate that abundant life, reveling in the freshness of spring and the potential inherent in all of us. In baseball, we do the same! We have a 162-game, 8-month season in which to do this, but it all begins with one day. When one kid yells “Play ball!” into a microphone for the first time since November. When the whole stadium takes a collective breath before the first pitch, when everything is possible.

One of my favorite baseball writers, Stacey May Fowles, puts it this way: “Each spring, without fail, [baseball] offers renewal: as everyone’s stats roll back to zero, we’re given the opportunity to begin again. There’s no guarantee that last year’s champion will be triumphant; every hero will make room for another, and every underdog will be rife with potential. There’s something about the pace of play in baseball that suggests that you have all the time you need, and something about the feeling it conjures that says, win or lose, it’s enough that we’re here.”

Whether or not you are a baseball fan, the promise of Easter is that it’s enough that you are here. God has done the work of making all things new—including you. You are a beloved child of God, as you are and as you are becoming. The paradox of Easter is that, though we know the whole story, we are surprised again each year by the power of God to bring forth life in the midst of death.

Hallelujah! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!**

Peace,

Pastor Casey

San Marcos Lutheran Church

3419 Grand Avenue San Marcos, CA 92078

(760) 727-1509

office@sanmarcoslutheran.org

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 Musician: Justin Hershey

Bookkeeper: Eunice Hanson Choir Director: Max Chodos

Council Members

Dan Norris, President

Kelly Van Jen, Treasurer

Anne Voth, Secretary

Kelly Black, Vice President

Tom Andreas

Brother Jack Anderson

Karla Strazicich-Cain

Karen Johns

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
preschool@sanmarcoslutheran.org
(760)727-0326 Director: Ann Leong

Teachers: Roxy Maldonado,
Marlene Vasquez, Elle Kim



Remember in Prayer: Eleanor Adcock, Christine Buma, David, Donna Huber, Mike Hudlow, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Gary Kloehn, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Alvar Roy, Larry Serafin, Roy Smith, Vern Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Louise Testerman, Megan Toler, Nick Torres. Let us pray for our homebound members: Dottie Black, Beverly Gift, Janice Phillips, and Carol Schwartz.

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
- You want to plan a baptism, wedding, or celebration
- You moved or contact info has changed.

For urgent needs, contact Pastor Casey at cell or email:

442-222-1194 or pastor@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Lutheran Fellowship Lunch

Everyone is invited for good food and fellowship with First Lutheran of Vista. We will meet on Monday April 8th, at 12pm at PEGAH's Kitchen at 955 S Santa Fe, in Vista. It will be order from the menu and they have a great selection. Any Questions contact Bill Hanson, 760-805-4565.

Hope to see you there!

New Email Addresses

Please update your address books and do not worry about a phishing scam, there are new SMLC email addresses. If you receive emails from these addresses, it really is us. Our previous addresses are still active, but we are transitioning to using these, and you can help us make that change:

Pastor Casey

pastor@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Council President Dan Norris
council@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Preschool Director Ann Leong
preschool@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Office Manager Aimee Hudlow
office@sanmarcoslutheran.org

Financial Update

End of February 2024 - 16.67% of Year

Income

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$310,704	\$61,828	19.90%

Expenses

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$310,704	\$54,226	17.45%

Thank you for your generous gifts which support the mission and ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church!

Council Update

Hello SMLC! Here are the updates for the March Council meeting.

The Council met on March 16 for our annual Council Retreat. The Council did not conduct any business at this meeting, and will accept and approve reports for March at the April meeting.

The retreat focused on 3 items. The first was an overview of the responsibilities and duties of the Council based on our recently updated constitution and bylaws. The second and third items were focused on service and relationships both within and external to the congregation. Overall, it was a well received retreat and has set a foundation for the Council to lead SMLC into the future as we focus on building sustainable ministries.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president for 2024 and for your continued support of SMLC, our Council, Pastor Casey, and the staff. Please feel free to contact the council, or me directly, with any questions using the email address:
council@sanmarcoslutheran.org.

Daniel Norris, President



Social Action

Food Donations

ALL SAINTS FOOD PANTRY

Thank you for regularly bringing food to the shopping cart. We are happy to receive any shelf-stable items. In April we'd like to suggest donations of cereal and crackers. If you are interested in volunteering on an occasional Saturday, please contact Jill Adachi or Doris Payne. Our volunteer times are the 3rd and 4th Saturdays of each month from 10:30am-12:30pm. Our food pantry is located at All Saints Episcopal Church, corner of Civic Center Drive and Eucalyptus Avenue in Vista.

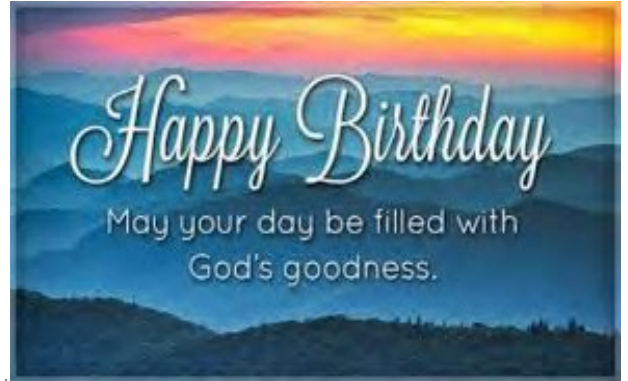


Social Action Update

Thanks to all of you who participated in the assembling of Sack Lunches for Interfaith. During Community Time, after the church service on March 24, we met to assemble Sack Lunches for the folks at Interfaith. We made over 100 sack lunches. What a blessing! Great work everyone!

Join us on April 14th, after the church service, at 11:15 am in Luther Hall, to assemble Blessing Bags. These will be distributed by the congregation to those in need in North County.

The Social Action Committee meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, at 1:30 pm in Luther Hall. New members are welcome. Questions? -ask Karla Strazicich 760-201-5313.



April 7 Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35
Second Reading: 1 John 1:1-2:2
Gospel: John 20:19-31

April 14 Third Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 3:12-19
Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-7
Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 4:5-12
Second Reading: 1 John 3:16-24
Gospel: John 10:11-18

April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 8:26-40
Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-21
Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:4

- 1 Shauna Hagan
- 2 Eleanora Hansen
- 5 Daniel Rasmussen
- 8 Devin Hogan
- 8 Donna Hansen
- 12 Eric Foster
- 14 Landry Armstrong
- 16 Diana Arney
- 18 Victoria Garcia
- 21 Adam Young
- 25 Marilynne Smith
- 26 Susan Agonia
- 27 Dave Schilke
- 30 Dottie Black- 100 yrs young!

**The next Newsletter article deadline
is April 15th**

Outdoor Office Hours

WITH PASTOR CASEY



**Thursday, April 18
10am-12pm**

**Ryan Bros Coffee
133 N Twin Oaks Valley Rd**



Lutheran Lobby Day

Registration now open!

Sign-up by Tuesday, May 7th

Wednesday

May 15th, 2024

8:30 am - 4 pm

Sacramento, CA

And what does the Lord
require of you but to **do**
justice and to **love kindness**
and to **walk humbly** with your
God?

-Micah 6:8

lutheranpublicpolicyca.org

Questions? Email sjorgensen.loppca@gmail.com



CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWS

MARCH/April 2024



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

Greetings and Blessings for a Happy Spring from Mrs. Leong~

Dr. Seuss Celebrations, Amazing Race Days, St. Patrick Days, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and Easter Egg Hunts...OH MY! We start March by wishing Dr. Seuss a very Happy Birthday and we will end with Easter Egg Hunts in the Children's Creek before we go on break. Thank you for continuing to support the Children's Center through buying books through Scholastic, donating items from our Wish-List and telling your friends about us. I continue to be amazed at the generosity from our Preschool families as well as the community we serve...hold onto your hats, the next few months will fly by! *Hugs to you!*



Upcoming Events:

2/29 (Thurs) & 3/1 (Fri):
Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!

3/7 (Thurs) & 3/8 (Fri):
Amazing Race Days

3/10 (Sun): Daylight Saving Time begins;
Spring forward your clocks!

3/12 (Tues) and 3/13 (Wed): St. Patrick's
Day Celebrations...Wear **GREEN**

3/13 (Wed): Cares Closet Open 11am-1pm

3/14 (Thurs) and 3/15 (Fri):
*Parent/Teacher Conferences (no
school these days)*

3/21 (Thurs) & 3/22 (Fri):
Birthday Celebrations for March kiddos!

3/27 (Wed) and 3/28 (Thurs):
Easter Chapel & Egg Hunts in the Creek- No
lunch bunch these days

3/29 (Good Friday)-4/5: School Closed!!

4/11 (Thurs) & 4/12 (Fri):
Spring Pictures with Loree from Life Images



Spring Picture Days:

**Thursday, April 11th &
Friday, April 12th**

All enrolled children will be
photographed! Siblings welcome~
please coordinate with Mrs. Leong

Summer 2 ☀️ **2 4**

Week #1: 6/17-6/21

Summer Spanish Immersion

Week #2: 6/24-6/28

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

Week #3: 7/1-3, 7/5*

JAW-SOME Shark Week

Week #4: 7/8-7/12

Barnyard Banter

Week #5: 7/15-7/19

We are the Dinosaurs!

Week #6: 7/22-7/26

Planes, Trains & Automobiles

Week #7: 7/29-8/2

Put Me in the Zoo

Summer Hours: 8:30am-12:00pm

Summer Rates: \$225/week flat rate for **FIVE** half days
(except for Week #3) and tuition will be by electronic
debit only. Fees are non-refundable.

Learn Live Share the Love of God

2024

CALENDAR YEAR

APRIL

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	01 12pm- AA- LH Preschool closed this week- Spring break	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 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time 2:00pm- Celeb. of Life	08 12pm- AA- LH	09 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	10 12pm- AA- LH	11 2:30pm Soc Act. Mtg- LH 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	12 12pm- AA- LH	13 6-9pm AA- LH
14 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	15 12pm- AA- LH	16 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	17 12pm- AA- LH	18 10am-12pm- Pr Casey's Coffee Hour 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc. 6-8pm- Cub Scouts- LH	19 12pm- AA- LH	20 6-9pm AA- LH
21 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	22 12pm- AA- LH	23 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	24 12pm- AA- LH 1:30pm- Wedding Rehearsal	25 7-9pm Choir Practice- Sanc.	26 12pm- AA- LH	27 12:00pm- Wedding- Sanc/LH 6-9pm AA- LH
28 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	29 12pm- AA- LH	30 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11