

Wednesday Night Prayer Group

Prayer is an essential element of Christian life. We pray every day, sometimes in a structured way, such as daily devotions or thanks before a meal; sometimes in random moments, such as on the way to a doctor's appointment or before a history exam. Prayer is always an appropriate response, no matter what the situation. We can all benefit from prayer, whether we are doing the praying or we are the ones for whom prayer is being offered. St. Mark's is starting a weekly prayer and praise group to pray for and with each other. The format will be informal and no one is required to "pray out loud!" This group will meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:30pm in the Prayer Room. You can come every week, once a month, or drop in as you are able. When you've been on the receiving end of prayer, you realize just how important and profound it can be.

Reconciling Anniversary

This year, we are celebrating five years of St. Mark's being a reconciling (inclusive) congregation. The GLBTI community is very grateful to be part of a congregation that is so accepting and supportive. This thank you celebration will be on Sunday, June 5, as a part of the Sacramento Gay Pride Weekend. Two committees have been formed to plan the celebration and our presence at Pride on Saturday, June 4. Volunteers are needed to: serve in worship, prepare/serve brunch, man the booth at Pride, and many other tasks. The GLBTI community welcomes support from our straight allies. There are many things to do and funds needed to complete them. If you're interested in being involved, either physical or financial, please contact Cath in the church office at cbrown@stmarksumc.com or 483-7848. Thank you for loving us!



It's Almost Here!

Yep, Summer Sunday School is right around the corner and you are invited to join us in our one room multi-age classroom as a teacher or a helper. The curriculum and activities are preset and ready to go, so you just need to sign up and then show up on your scheduled day and time. Look for the bright yellow poster in the Patio on any Sunday and volunteer to join us.

Volunteer Opportunities

If you did not notice, there is a new page on the St. Mark's web site. This page shows some of the many volunteer opportunities here at St. Mark's. Go ahead and give it a look at www.stmarksumc.com/volunteer.

Volunteers!



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A Reconciling Congregation
2391 St. Marks Way, Sacramento, CA 95864-0626

Phone: (916) 483-7848 Fax: (916) 483-7840 Online: www.stmarksumc.com

TODAY at St. Mark's

8:45am	Chancel Choir-CR
9:30am	Faith Pilgrimage-E25
9:30am	Worship Service -SA
9:30am	Youth Sunday School-GC
9:30am	Sunday School-E1-4, 21-23
9:30am	St. Mark's Singers-CR
9:45am	Worship Band Rehearsal-E26
11:00am	Quest Class-E24
11:00am	Worship Service -SA
11:00am	Jesus Seminar Class-E25
11:00am	Sunday School-E1-4, 22-23
11:00am	Science and Religion-E21
12:30pm	Graduation Celebration-MH
2:00pm	Seasoned Companions-E24
4:00pm	Youth Group-GC
6:00pm	Spiritual Companions-E24

Science and Religion Class

For centuries, there have been intense conflicts between science and religion. These continue today both in this country, and worldwide. Popular opinion generally assumes an antagonistic relationship between science and religion, but modern scholarship increasingly reveals this is a one sided view "that is not only relatively recent, but also self-servingly propagated to this day by extremist voices in both the religion and science camps." Science and theology turn out to have more in common than is generally believed. This class will feature a DVD by award winning Professor Lawrence M. Principe of Johns Hopkins University. This class will be moderated by Roger Stoughton, who is a retired civil engineer with 26 years spent in applied research, and a 43-year member of St. Mark's. The class meets on Sunday mornings, at 11:00am, in Room E-21, from May 15 to June 19. The DVD includes 12 lectures, each one-half an hour long. We will hear two lectures each class period and have a ten or fifteen minute discussion after each lecture. All are invited.

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday, May 16

Office Closed

7:30pm Home Bible Study-Off Site

Tuesday, May 17

10:00am UMW Bible Study-E5

7:00pm NSP Groups-E24

7:00pm Finance Committee-SR

Wednesday, May 18

9:00am UMW Sewing & Craft Circle-E5

7:00pm Adult Education Cte.-E21

7:00pm Education Commission-E5

7:00pm ACT Board Meeting-E24

7:00pm Grace in Motion-SA

7:30pm Prayer Group-PR

Thursday, May 19

9:30am Men's Group-GC

7:00pm Ministry in Action-E5

7:00pm Chancel Choir-CR

Friday, May 20

11:00am Membership Care Cte.-E25

Saturday, May 21

10:00am Bereavement Group-PR

10:00am UMW Fund Raiser-MH

7:00pm Mark Twains Group-Off Site

Sunday, May 22

8:45am Chancel Choir-CR

9:30am Faith Pilgrimage-E25

9:30am **Worship Service-SA**

9:30am Youth Sunday School-GC

9:30am Sunday School-E1-4, 21-23

9:30am St. Mark's Singers-CR

9:45am Worship Band Rehearsal-E26

11:00am Quest Class-E24

11:00am **Worship Service-SA**

11:00am Jesus Seminar Class-E25

11:00am Sunday School-E1-4, 22-23

11:00am Science and Religion-E21

2:00pm Seasoned Companions-E24

4:00pm Youth Group-GC

6:00pm Spiritual Companions-E24

Remember In Prayer

Susanna Aaltonen
(Blythe's friend)

Nancy Aldrich

Paul Allen

Sue Bailey

Ginny Baldauf

Kevin Jenkins and family

Jennine & Olivia Jones

Mary Kasai

Agnes Lappia

Mary Jane Linn

(Pam Kepler's mom)

Jimmie Poxon

Tim Rowe

Dick Smith

(Anne's husband)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Scott and Jessica Morrison on the birth of their son, Zachary Daniel Morrison. Zachary was born on May 9, at 9:56pm. He weighed in at 8 lbs. 7oz. and 21" long.

Just Cup Café

Please come over to the *Just Cup Café* following the service for refreshments and fellowship. We offer regular and decaf coffee as well as tea and juice.



Help with Worship

Would you like to help with the production of Worship? Contact Kevin W. in the church office at 483-7848 if you would like to learn more.

Family Promise

Family Promise will be returning to St. Mark's Sunday, May 15 through May 22. We will be asking for help with food, evening hosting and overnight hosting. Monetary donations are always helpful. Watch for your chance to sign up to help this worthy project. Contact Sharon Meyer at 961-0229 or Joyce Estes at 481-0418.



Bereavement Group



St. Mark's Bereavement Group will be meeting on Saturday morning, May 21, at 10:00am in the Prayer Room. The group meets every third Saturday of the month from 10:00am to 12:00pm. Some of you have experienced your losses very recently (spouses, children, parents, family members...), and for others, it has been awhile. But there is no timeline on the grief experience. Ruth Reynolds, a trained Spiritual Director, is the coordinator of this group, and she offers a great deal of experience and compassion. If you are able to attend or if you have questions regarding the group; please e-mail her at ruthbranch@sbcglobal.net.

Family Promise Fund Raiser

The Valley Choral Society and Orchestra, www.valleychoral.org, will present a concert of traditional, modern and gospel music, Saturday, May 21 and Sunday, May 22, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Avenue (26th and Capitol in mid-town Sacramento) at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$10 for students and seniors and are available at the door or by e-mailing tickets@valleychoral.org. The concert is a benefit for Family Promise of Sacramento.

Emergency Contact Forms



Please fill out and return your Emergency Contact Forms to the office. Please include any allergies you may have as well. Need a form? There are blank forms in the Narthex and on the St. Mark's website.

Summer Brunches

Summer Brunches will begin on July 10 and continue through August 28. We are looking for individuals or groups to host each of these Sunday events. If you would like to host or help at a brunch, please call Sandy Allen at 784-9376. It is always a good time for both those preparing and those eating.

