

THE MARKER

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
3051 Putnam Blvd. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

July 2018

Dear Friends of St. Mark's,

Greetings from the ELCA Houston youth gathering! I am here with five youth from St. Mark's plus twelve more people forming our community with Holy Shepherd in Orinda and Our Savior's in Lafayette. The ELCA Youth Gathering 2018 gathering theme is "This Changes Everything," based on Ephesians 2:8, "By grace you have been saved..."



Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

All of you reading this reflection have played a role in getting these youth to Houston through your prayers and your generosity.

Thank you,

Pastor Bekah

ELCA Youth Gathering 2018 in Houston



Council News: *Highlights from the June meeting*

St. Mark's giving has been way down this year and hoping that trend changes soon.

Pastor Bekah and youth will be at the Youth gathering in Houston June 28-July 1st



May Financials

	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Offering	14,144	17,988	81,856	89,940
Monthly Outreach Giving	560		3,308	
Total Expenses	14,704	17,988	85,164	89,940

Current financial statements and council minutes are available in the binder on the shelf in the back of the sanctuary.



JULY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday

8:30 am Worship (Traditional with Choir & Organ or Piano)

Social 9:30 am in Saint Mark's Center

10:30 am Worship (Contemporary with Guitars & Drums)

10:30 am Sunday School

11:40 am Confirmation Class

This Month

July 8th, 12:00pm Council Meeting, SMC

July 10th, 10:00 am Social Ministry Meeting, MR

July 22nd, Combined Service at 10:00 am with Jared Wilson Confirmation
and Luca Boragno's Baptism

1st Tuesday of the Month Martha Circle 1:30 pm MR

2nd Tuesday of the Month Social Ministry Meeting 10:00 am MR

Wednesday Crafty Ladies 10:00-2:00 SMC

Thursday Night Choir Practice 7:30 pm in SAN

Friday Morning Adult Bible Study 10:00 am SMC

Saturday Worship Band practices at 10:00 am in the SAN

Upcoming Events

August 6th—10th, 5:30pm, Serving Dinners at Shelter Inc.

August 12th, 12:00 pm, Council Meeting

Sept. 16th, 7:30 pm, Taize` Service in St. Mark's Sanctuary



JULY BIRTHDAYS

DATE

7	DOROTHY	ENGLUND
10	CELESTE	NELSEN
14	ANNA	ENGLUND
15	MARK	BACHOFER
16	NICHOLE	COGGIOLA
18	LINDA	QUIMBY
18	JAKE	WILSON
20	PATRICK	COLEMAN



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

23	DAINIS & ROXANNE ZULGIS
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Sharing Social Ministry for July

Our Social Ministry Outreaches for the month of July are **Lutheran Social Services** and **Lutheran World Relief**. If you would like to make a monetary contribution, please indicate this on your offering envelope.

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Northern CA

Lutheran Social Services (LSS), as part of a network of nearly 300 Lutheran social ministry organizations across the country, strives to promote stability and honor the dignity of those they serve by providing supportive housing services that lead to self-sufficiency. Every year, LSS helps thousands of individuals with acute needs, including the elderly, young families, people with mental illness or disabilities, the chronically homeless, victims of domestic violence, individuals fighting addictions, people living with HIV/AIDS and young people who are struggling to transition from the foster care system to independence.

(from the LSS webpage)

Lutheran World Relief (LWR)

We often hear about LWR during a short-term response to a specific disaster, however, LWR has a long history of building the resilience of vulnerable communities by assisting communities around the world in achieving long-term sustainable development. Their approach is to develop and implement both relief and development projects by partnering with local institutions and equipping them with the tools and capacities needed. They are working on agriculture projects, water supply issues, and management of natural resources in many countries including Uganda, Mauritania, Haiti, Syrian refugees in Jordan and Iraq, India, Indonesia, South Sudan, and the list goes on. You can support LWR through a donation or shopping through the LWR Gift Catalog.

Looking Ahead to August

Mark your calendars for our annual week of meal support for **Shelter, Inc**, to take place the week of **August 6th – 10th**. **Please sign up to make meals and serve them.**



Lutheran World Relief
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. LASTING PROMISE.



Lutheran
Social Services
— of —
Northern California

Pastor Bekah & Rob Forrest's wedding in Granada, Spain



Puppets of Praise Theater Needs Cast Members

The Puppets of Praise are in the planning stages of their next Musical production titled **"Dorothy in Wonderland"**. This production would be scheduled for performance dates late 2018 early 2019 at the Leshner Theater in Walnut Creek and possibly the Campbell Theater in Martinez. This musical will be based on the original Musical Dorothy in Wonderland and requires a larger cast for production.

We are therefore looking for youth 6th grade and older through adult age to help with casting, voices, controls and production. We are trying to expand our involvement for this production and are looking for additional avenues for recruiting and promoting. Please let us know if you are interested in helping, auditioning for a part or providing ideas for recruiting.

Contact Mark Pitzlin via text 925-286-8127 or puppetsofpraisetheater@gmail.com. Thank you! Puppets of Praise



You are invited to the 27th Annual Swing for SHELTER INC. golf tournament and dinner on Monday, July 23rd at Round Hill Country Club. This is our only flagship event of the year and it helps raise critical funding for all of our programs for individuals and families experiencing homeless and for those at-risk due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g., death in family, job loss, illness).



This event may be of interest to golfers, potential sponsors and to anyone who supports our mission of preventing and ending homelessness.

There is more information online or they are free to contact me. We will mail our invitations soon and we can include anyone from St. Mark's who expresses an interest.

Thank you,

Aydee Sandoval Ferguson
SHELTER, Inc.
(925) 957-7572



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

3051 Putnam Blvd. Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

(925) 934-6114 ▪ www.sm-lc.net ▪ officeadmin@sm-lc.net

Pastor: Bekah Davis

Cell: (415) 335-3599

Office Administrator: Cheryl Wight

Directors of 2nd Service Music: Sherry & Mike Doyle

Choir Director/Organist: Joyce Porter

Weekly Adult Bible Study

Please join us for a weekly Bible Study at 10 am on Friday mornings, open to all. We have begun studying the Book of Mark, which is also the focus of the current lectionary. Please contact Lisa Farnitano (lisa.farnitano@gmail.com) or Nicole Coggiola for more information.

Martha Circle Study –Tuesday,

July 3, 2018 ~ 1:30 p.m.

At such a gathering are multiple opinions.

Share yours with the group.

Please join us in the meeting room.

All are welcome.

For Prayer & Visitation

We pray for Bob; Glen; Tom; Jan; Sean; Steve's mom & dad, Ruth & Ernie; Pastor Marv; Ann's niece Sherry; Jonah, grandson of Laurel & Gordon; Gordon's brother Ted; Sharon's sister Barbara; Patti's friend Yvonne; Ron's friend George; and Geoff's family.

If you would like to be included in the prayer chain or if you have a prayer request, you can email the office at:

officeadmin@sm-lc.net