



The Marker

vol. 46 no 3
February 13, 2019

790 Marion Street NE • Salem, Oregon • 503.588.0141 •
stmarksalem.org

SUNDAYS AT SAINT MARK

8:30AM

Celebration Service
(Lounge)

9:45AM

Forum, Sunday School
& Godly Play

11:00AM

Traditional Service
(Sanctuary)

New Members Orientation

We are offering an Informational Luncheon on Sunday, February 17th, for anyone interested in affiliating more closely with Saint Mark. We will gather in the Library following the 11:00 service (usually around 12:15) to enjoy a meal and conversation together. If you know anyone interested in the ministries here, please let Pastor or Deb know. New members will be received on Sunday, March 3rd.

Lenten Fair

Sunday School families are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, March 3rd, for a Lenten Fair in preparation of Lent which begins on the following Wednesday. During the Educational hour (9:45-10:45), several stations with activities will be offered including crafts and a special project. Come explore the symbols and meaning of Lent!

Pastor's ReMarks ...

As many of you know, one of my favorite Christian writers is the Franciscan Richard Rohr. Last summer (July 13, 2018), he sent this meditation that I think is appropriate for our time. He offers a brief introduction and then a prayer. He writes:

Several years ago, I wrote this simple prayer on the anniversary of the September 11 attacks. I recognized how our fears had shaped the way we see brown and Muslim faces—not as images of God, but as terrorists (even though most “terrorists” in the United States are white men wielding guns). We need grace to change our thinking and seeing so that we can work for the good of all rather than demonizing the “other”:

*God of all races, nations, and religions,
You know that we cannot change others,
Nor can we change the past.
But we can change ourselves.
We can join you in changing our only
And common future where Love “reigns”
The same over all.
Help us not to say, “Lord, Lord” to any nationalist gods,
But to hear the One God of all the earth,
And to do God's good thing for this One World.*

As the immigrants and asylum seekers and refugees from below our southern borders continue to be denigrated for political gain, let us remain steadfast in God's love so that by God's grace, the people of our country may be changed from fear to working for the good of these suffering brothers and sisters.

Shalom,
Pastor Charles

Annual Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, January 27, 2019, Saint Mark will held it's annual Congregational Meeting at 9:45 a.m. Approved was a 2019 General Fund budget of \$438,617.76; 2019 Child Development Center budget of \$320,300.00; and new Council members: Jean Baumann, Verne Deplois, Gretchen Flesher Moon, Kay Mitchell, and Joanne Sandhu, (one person will be filling in a 2-year unexpired term). Synod Assemble delegates elected: Ben Howden, Janet Opdahl and Jim Walker and 2019 Nominating Committee: Hal Boyd, Lili Harris, Alisa Higgins, Charles McGee, and Tonja Snyder. Annual Reports are available and can be sent to your home if you call the church office and request one.

2018 Statements

Year-end statements were mailed to all those who contributed during 2018. If you have not received a statement and should have, please contact Carol Keefer, our financial secretary, who monitors the contributions and records. Carol also asks that you please look them over as soon as possible to help catch if there are any discrepancies between our records and your records. Thank you to everyone that met or exceed their commitment for 2018. Your generosity and commitment is greatly appreciated.

Forums January

Forums are generally held in the lounge at 9:45 a.m.

February 17 -- "Searching for the Scriptures in Pursuit of the Word of God: How to Read the Bible today" -- Calvin Steck will be our presenter. We will be discussing hermeneutical principles in light of contemporary issues.

February 24 - Year End Financial Update - with John Anderson, Finance Committee chairman as our presenter.

March 3 - To Be Announced

March 10 - Habitat for Humanity

Lenten Lunch Servers Needed

During most of Lent, we will be offering a soup luncheon following the noon service. If you are available to assist Deb in set up, clean up, or serving, please sign up on the bulletin board near the offices. Thank you for helping make this happen (March 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10).

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, February 21st, at 9:30 a.m. They meet in the lounge for Bible Study followed by fellowship. All women are welcome.



Women's Retreat 2019

We are now accepting reservations for the Women's Retreat!

The 12th annual Women's Retreat will be held the weekend of March 8-10 at Bella Beach on the Oregon Coast. Our theme for the weekend is "Finding Joy" - in our daily lives, in challenging times, and through our community. Deaconess Deb Mantey will be our facilitator. We are now accepting reservations - \$160 is due by March 3rd. Brochures are available from the church office, the west narthex, as well as a download from the Saint Mark webpage. Don't miss this fun and educational weekend on the coast - with great food and fellowship, time for personal reflection, and laughter!

ART IN WEST SALEM AND KEIZER:

PAULA CARLSON "BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH"

Watercolor and Acrylic Landscapes

February 2019 in Balcony Gallery @ Peace Lutheran Church, 1525 Glen Creek Road N.W., Salem, OR 97304 (across from West Salem fire station)

Coming to Balcony Gallery in season of Lent 2019: ICONOGRAPHY!
Watch for details.

JOEL NICKEL "BACK AND FORTH" Paintings and Enamels

February – March 2019- Keizer Community Center Gallery, 930 Chemawa Road N.E., Keizer, Artist's Reception: Saturday, February 9, 5-7 pm

Further information: Ed Brandt, for Peace Lutheran Church Visual & Liturgical Art Committee, voice / text 503-917-1326, email edgarbrandt@g.com

Camp Lutherwood Annual Meeting

Thank you to Verne Deplois and Alisa Higgins for representing Saint Mark at the annual meeting of Camp Lutherwood on Saturday, January 26th, in Albany. In a historic moment for the Camp Lutherwood Association, it was voted unanimously that the association should move forward with our three-year capital campaign and begin its **"Phase 1"**: building the first building of our retreat center, upper cabin bath house, and a covered pavilion.

Men's Bible Study New Study Series

The Men's Bible Study on Tuesday mornings at 6:45 a.m. in the lounge will be starting a series in Lent called "Becoming the Story We Tell". Coffee and "breakfast" (generally simply donuts provided by various members of the group) are available! All are welcome!

Interfaith Advocacy Day!

Join everyone on Monday, March 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. here at Saint Mark for Interfaith Advocacy Day!! There is strength in knowledge and strength in numbers. Join with others from around the state in "Raising Diverse Voices of Faith to Strengthen Oregon Communities." We make it easy for you. Attend issue briefings and workshops on advocating for compassionate legislation on climate justice, criminal justice reform, gun violence prevention, health care, house, hunger and immigration. Then join in a march to the State Capitol (from Saint Mark), where we will make our faith voice heard in meetings with our state legislators. We provide talking points and make all necessary appointments for you. Together we can build a just, inclusive and hope-filled future for all Oregonians. Register at emoregon.org (News and Events tab) or by calling Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon at 503.221.1054. Deadline to register is Feb. 25.

Coffee, Anyone?

A big THANK YOU to Kristen Williams who has coordinated coffee hour hosts over the past year and got us a little more up to date with doing some of it online. We appreciate your help. A thank you, too, to Peggy Walker who has offered to be the next coordinator. Please check in with Peggy or the black notebook on the buffet in the Lounge for a time to share and create some smiles.

For those serving, the items for coffee fellowship need not be elaborate; we appreciate your willingness to take a turn. Your treats can bring another area of interest and variation to the way in which we are community! (Thank you also to Carol Keefer who makes our coffee each week!)

What about Deb Mantey During the Sabbatical?

Deb plans to continue her work through most of this period. She asked Personnel Committee for a one-month (unpaid) leave of absence so that she can join Pastor Charles for the time in Greece and on the Pilgrimage, and that leave was recommended to Council and granted. She has arranged for some volunteers to cover part of the work she would be doing at this time of year (including Saturday Saint Mark-It! and the every-Sunday spotting and greeting of visitors that she does).

Worship Information**Worship Attendance:**

Sunday, January 27 - 8:30 a.m.: 38
Sunday, January 27 - 11:00 a.m.: 78
Sunday, February 3 - 8:30 a.m.: 38
Sunday, February 3 - 11:00 a.m.: 78
Sunday, February 10 - 8:30 a.m.: 28
Sunday, February 10 -11:00 a.m. 54

BUS DRIVER - February

Miriam Lowrie

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On the Web:

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Welcoming
ALL IN CHRIST

Journeying
TOGETHER IN FAITH

Reaching
OUT IN SERVICE



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