



THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos
Lutheran Church

June 2025

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



SAVE the DATE!

Come join us!

Friday, July 4th

approx 7pm-930pm

to watch fireworks

in a family-friendly environment.

Invite your friends & neighbors!

We are currently accepting donations of cases of soft drinks and individual snacks. Volunteers needed to help the day of event.

Contact Pr Casey or Aimee in the office to help!

Save the Date

Sunday July 6th, 2025

11:15 am

Luther Hall

Upcoming Seminar: Navigating the Financial Impact of Losing a Spouse or Partner

Join us for a special seminar offering guidance and support for those facing the financial challenges that come with the loss of a spouse or partner. This informative session will cover practical steps for managing finances, understanding benefits, and planning for the future, and all in an understanding and casual environment. Whether you are recently bereaved or it's been a while, or you are supporting someone in this situation, we welcome you to attend this complimentary seminar.

Contact: Rob O'Carroll (760-410-8500) if you have any questions.

Let us walk with you through this difficult season with compassion, wisdom, and hope.

Securities offered through J.W. Cole Financial, Inc. (JWC) Member FINRA/SIPC.

Advisory services offered through J.W. Cole Advisors, Inc. O'Carroll Investment Management and JWC are unaffiliated entities.

"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." — Matthew 14:27b

Last month's Pacifica Synod Assembly was assembled around the theme *In a New Boat*. We were gathered in Dana Point, so the nautical imagery was easily woven throughout, including an actual little sailboat in the sanctuary where we were meeting! Those of you who have spent significant time in boats will lament my lack of seafaring knowledge, and I will do my best to avoid mishandling the metaphors.

The scripture our time was centered around was a pretty famous story of the disciples in a boat, as those fishermen often were—the one where Jesus walks on water. The disciples are already aboard, and Jesus has gone up a mountain to pray. By the time he returns to them, a fierce storm has blown in, and they are all afraid. Not just afraid of the storm, but of the figure they see walking toward them, as they have never seen a person walk on the sea before. But Jesus immediately comforts them, saying "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

To prove it's Jesus, Peter insists that he also walk on the water. We know that Peter is often the first to jump right into whatever is happening, so it should not surprise us that it is he who makes this demand. Often, we interpret the next part—where Peter falls into the sea—to be about Peter's lack of faith. But in his sermon, Bishop Dave invited us to focus instead on the courage it took for Peter to take the first step out of the boat. Jesus was outside of the boat, and Peter wanted to go to him. He believed that, with the help of Jesus, he could step out of the boat and into the unknown.

The suggestion that Bishop Dave made throughout the assembly was that we draw on that same courage to step out of the boats of our comfort zones and into the storm that surrounds us. The tumultuous nature of our nation and world is as treacherous as a stormy sea. We are much safer in our boats than out. But where is Jesus? And where is Jesus calling us?

Leaders from throughout our synod invited us to consider what kind of boat our congregation is currently maneuvering, and what kind of boat might be easier to navigate these waters. Some of us might think of our churches as steam ships—slow-moving and hard to change direction. Some of us might think of our churches as sailboats—subject to the whims of the wind and whoever is at the helm. Some of us might think of our churches as fishing trawlers—dragging a net behind us and hoping to catch something. I am sure that you can think of even more metaphors!

But it may be that the boats we've always been in, though excellent when we got into them, are just not the right vessel for the water we're in now. Maybe we need a kayak, agile and adept at rough water. Maybe we need a canoe, designed for reaching unreachable places. Maybe we need a catamaran, stable and sturdy.

There isn't a one-boat-fits-all answer to how each of our congregations will navigate the future. But as we look out at the stormy sea of our troubled world, it is clear that our old boats are not outfitted for the rapidly changing conditions. What can we do that keeps us afloat but isn't content with staying docked? What can we imagine that makes room for new passengers without making anyone go overboard? What can we design that travels far and makes it home safely? We're going to need all hands on deck.

The one thing we can know for sure is that in every boat, in every storm, God is with us. Jesus is reaching out a hand to invite us into the unknown, never leaving us marooned. We may not know where we are going, exactly, but we know *The Way*.

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: Cristen Mugford Choir Director: Max Chodos

Communications: Adriana Alfaro

Council Members

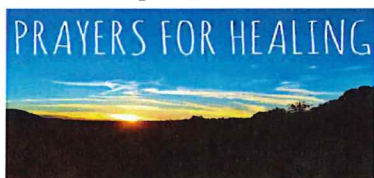
Dan Norris, President	Karla Strazicich-Cain
Kelly Van Jen, Vice Pres.	Ed Mossuto
Anne Voth, Secretary	Devin Hogan
Jan Parthemer, Treasurer	Br. Jack Anderson
	Tom Andreas

To contact any Council members, email
council@sanmarcoslutheran.org

San Marcos Lutheran Preschool
preschool@sanmarcoslutheran.org
(760)727-0326

Director: Ann Leong

Teachers: Roxy Maldonado, Marlene
Vazquez, & Elle Kim

**Remember in Prayer:**

Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check,
Eunice Choi, Steve Choi, Crystal, Jolene
Hanson, Bill Hanson, Mike Hudlow, Pete
Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Gary
Kloehn, Laura, Deborah McGregor,
Melinda Nelson, Alvar Roy, Vern
Soderstrom, Dawn Steele, Nick Torres,
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
- You want to plan a baptism, wedding, or celebration
- You moved or contact info has changed.

For urgent needs, contact Pastor Casey at cell:

442-222-1194

Lutheran Fellowship Lunch

Everyone is invited for good food and fellowship with First Lutheran of Vista. We will meet on Monday, June 9th 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!

**Saturdays of Sisterhood**

For Women. By Women. About Women. Bible study, self reflection, and finding community amongst the women of the Bible and those of SMLC!

Please plan on joining on June 7th at 10 AM

This month we will continue to get to know Ruth. Expect lively discussion, laughter, bible exploring, sharing of each other's thoughts, offering of prayers, and mutual support to occur. Coffee and tea will be served. No need to RSVP. Questions? Contact Karin at karinkupka533@hotmail.com

(Note we will not be meeting in July but resume on Saturday, August 2nd at 10 AM.)

Financial Update

End of April 2025 - 33.3% of Year

Income

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$109,957	33.99%

Expenses

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$105,216	32.53%

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

thank you
♥

Dear SMLC,

Thank you to all who donated a gift card (or 2) from our Wish Fish Bowl!

Your gift card donations will make a real difference in our Afternoon Summer Camps in July as we are planning and incorporating a very hands-on art and science component. Your kindness will allow us to purchase essential classroom supplies and materials for create-your-own-snacks as well as offer new enrichment opportunities!

We are so appreciative of your commitment to our students and their education~thank you again for your generosity!

You are o-FISH-ally awesome!

Ann Leong, Preschool Director

Social Action



All Saints Food Pantry:

The Food Bank has not had tuna lately, so donations of canned tuna or chicken would be especially appreciated. Thank you for continuing to remember those in need when you shop. We have new people every time, and they are so happy when they leave with several bags of food. The "regulars" also always express their gratitude for what is provided. Several come early and offer to help with setup. Do feel free to visit any 3rd or 4th Saturday of the month. Or call Doris Payne or Jill Adachi to volunteer some Saturday.

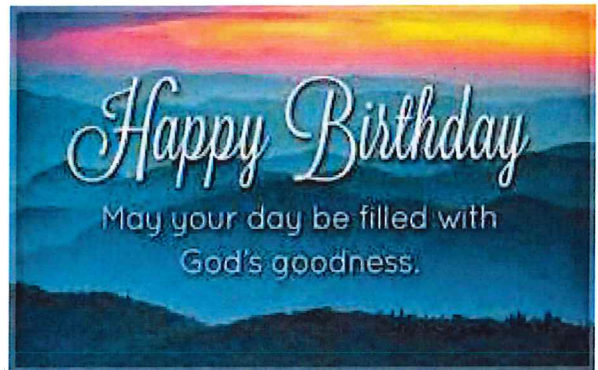
Council Update

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

The Council met on May 21 for our regular monthly meeting. The Council accepted and/or approved the submitted minutes and reports. The Council considered 2 items of business: 1) the Council approved the section from the Ministry Events Policy that described the Information and Marketing materials that will be available for use to organize and operate an event, and 2) the Council discussed and approved a plan to resolve a problem with the HVAC system for the office and sanctuary building. With summer on its way, it is important to make sure the air conditioner is functioning properly. Lastly, the Council discussed and drafted the policy for the use of our parking lots and the alcohol, tobacco, and substance use policy for ministry events. These policies will be considered for approval at the June council meeting and will provide additional guidance to Pastor Casey, the SMLC staff, and event volunteers as we continue to plan these events, such as the 4th of July parking lot celebration.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president for 2025 and for your continued support of SMLC, our Council, Pastor Casey, and the staff.

Daniel Norris, President



June 1

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Gospel:

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:16-34
Rev 22:12-14, 16-17,20-21
John 17:20-26

June 8

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Gospel:

Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21
Rom 8:14-17
John 14:8-17 [25-27]

June 15

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Gospel:

The Holy Trinity

Prov 8:1-4, 22-31
Rom 5:1-5
John 16:12-15

June 22

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Gospel:

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Isa 65:1-9
Gal 3:23-29
Luke 8:26-39

June 29

First Reading:
Second Reading:
Gospel:

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Acts 12:1-11
2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18
John 21:15-19

6/1 Lola Coker

6/2 Marianna Sathrum

6/3 Marilyn Pulver

6/8 Ezekiel Hansen

6/8 Katelin Murray

6/9 Jenna Phelps

6/13 Michael Johnson

6/17 Vicky Asmussen

6/19 Allison Liu

6/20 Kris Webster

6/22 Jodi Carreon

6/25 Danny Astl

6/28 Jane Murray

6/30 Remi Coker

6/30 Karen Johns

6/30 Jake Phelps

6/30 Pr. Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

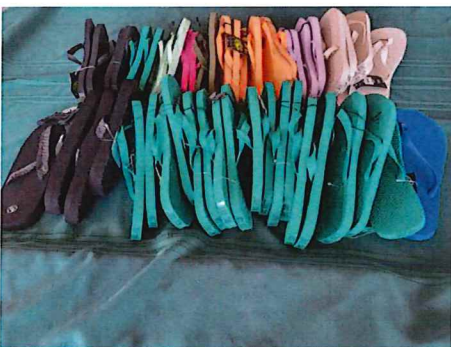
6/30 Vern Soderstrom

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

Social Action News!

In May, we held a drive to collect Shower Shoes for the homeless residents at Interfaith. About 30 pairs were collected and well received. Thank you all!

In June we will be collecting donations for Hygiene supplies, for Interfaith distribution.



At SMLC Community Time, after church service on April 27, we assembled 101 Blessing Bags. Thanks to all for supporting this important ministry. Please pick-up some bags and hand them out to our neighbors in need.



June is LGBTQIA+ Pride Month!

What does this mean for us as Lutherans? It means learning about the diversity of God's creation and beginning (or continuing) the holy work of affirming every person as a bearer of God's image. There are many resources available to you in this endeavor, and different points of entry based on your knowledge and comfort. Everyone deserves to start at the beginning, and there is no shame in being a beginner. And if you *are* a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, I'm so glad you're here!

Why are we talking about this at church? Because we bring our whole selves and our whole lives to God, we bring our whole selves and our whole lives to church with us. Our church needs to be a safe place for everyone's whole selves and whole lives. Perhaps you've followed news about gender-affirming medical care, how schools should protect vulnerable students, and which civil rights are afforded to whom; these are issues that affect us, our neighbors, our families, members of the San Marcos Lutheran Church community, and our society at large, which is why it is crucial that we understand them.

In the Apostle Paul's letter to the Romans, it is written: "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Our gender, our sexual orientation, and the ways we express those facets of ourselves are part of what make us **all** bearers of God's image.

Where do we start?

- I am available to speak with you, listen to your concerns, answer your questions, and connect you with further resources for support and/or learning.
- [ReconcilingWorks](#) is a ministry of advocacy for the "full welcome, inclusion, and equity of LGBTQIA+ Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community." They offer training, workshops, webinars, books, and other resources.
- The [North County LGBTQ Resource Center](#) has a website full of resources, including glossaries of terms and best practices for language.
- The [Transmission Ministry Collective](#) provides transgender Christians (and their loved ones) across the country with support groups, workshops, Bible studies, and other resources.
- The Association of American Medical Colleges answers "[What is gender-affirming care?](#)" and other questions you may have.
- You can read the entire ELCA Social Statement "[Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust](#)", available on the ELCA website, adopted at the 2009 Churchwide Assembly.
- These books are ready for you to borrow from me:
 - *God and the Gay Christian: The Biblical Case in Support of Same-Sex Relationships*, Matthew Vines, Convergent Books 2014.
 - *Outside the Lines: How Embracing Queerness will Transform Your Faith*, Mihee Kim-Kort, Fortress Press, 2018.
 - *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians*, Austen Hartke, Westminster John Knox Press, 2018. [I have one original and two updated and expanded 2023 editions]

How can we celebrate Pride Month this year? Right here in North County, you can join in the vibrant celebration of Pride by the Beach from 12pm-6pm on Saturday, June 7 in Oceanside. You can visit pridebythebeach.org for more information and see which organizations, vendors, and artists will be there!

San Diego Pride celebrates in July, and you can find out about all of their programming at sdpride.org/pride.



CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWS

June 2025

Ann Leong, Center Director

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

IT'S TIME FOR THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR ALOHA CELEBRATIONS~



The last days for the 2024-25 school year will be on **Thursday, June 12th and Friday, June 13th.** Every child will get a lei and a certificate of completion or a certificate of graduation. Feel free to dress up in your Hawaiian attire~ Thank you for a great year!!!

We will be closed at **NOON** on Aloha Days~ We will not be offering Lunch Bunch. **Mahalo!**

A Note of Thanks from Mrs. Leong...

On behalf of the entire staff we want to personally thank each family for your love and support of our program. On every level, the partnership between our families and the Preschool has resulted in our program being the preschool of choice in San Marcos and North County San Diego. Thank you for loving on us and taking care of us... Blessings for a Happy Summer from all of us at the Children's Center!

Ann, Marlene, Roxy and Elle



Birthday Celebrations

We will celebrate June Birthdays on Thursday, June 5th and Friday, June 6th!

DONUTS WITH DADS

We will be celebrating our Dads with donuts on Tuesday, June 10th and Wednesday, June 11th from 8-9am in the Children's Creek! Stay for a few minutes or take one to go! Happy Father's Day!



SUMMER CAMPS 2025

There are still some spaces available for Weeks 3, 4, 5~ First day of summer camp will start on June 23rd.

Happy Summer!

Learn  Live  Share  the Love of God



You're invited to a Life Line Screening event!

Where: San Marcos Lutheran Church
3419 Grand Avenue

When: Thursday, June 26th

Life Line Screening is the nation's leader in **Stroke and Cardiovascular Disease Risk** Screenings.

Trusted by over 10 million customers.

Screenings are simple and painless. Get peace of mind or early detection.

Who should attend:

Anyone over the age of 40

Special Member Pricing for \$159

- ♥ Carotid Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Atrial Fibrillation Screening
- ♥ Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening
- ♥ Peripheral Artery Disease Screening
- ♥ Plus a **FREE** Hypertension Screening

4 ways to book your appointment...

Call **888-814-0466** and use
promo code **HSCA001**

Visit  **LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA**



Text the word **"circle"**
to **216-279-1607**

These tests cannot detect all risk factors for all conditions, such as and including the presence of coronary artery disease. Those with abnormal results should discuss possible next steps with their family healthcare provider and ensure they understand the risk and benefits of any additional testing or procedures.

2025

JUNE

CALENDAR YEAR

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
01 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	02 12pm- AA- LH	03 12-330pm- St Joes, SC/LH 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	04 12pm- AA- LH	05	06 12pm- AA- LH	07 6-9pm AA- LH
08 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	09 12pm- AA- LH	10 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	11 12pm- AA- LH 6-8pm- AA Leadership Mtg-LH	12	13 12pm- AA- LH	14 6-9pm AA- LH
15 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	16 12pm- AA- LH	17 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	18 12pm- AA- LH	19	20 12pm- AA- LH	21 6-9pm AA- LH
22 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	23 12pm- AA- LH	24 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	25 12pm- AA- LH	26 830a-5pm- Lifeline - LH	27 12pm- AA- LH	28 6-9pm AA- LH
29 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	30 12pm- AA- LH	01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12