



# THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos  
Lutheran Church

October 2025

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



## Important Dates in October

### Saturdays of Sisterhood

Saturday, Oct 4th  
10am-1130am

### Palomar Chorale & Palomar Chamber Singers Concert

Saturday, Oct 4th  
2pm-4pm

### Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, Oct 5th  
12:30pm

### Cares Closet & Bake Sale

Wednesday, Oct 15th  
10am-12pm

### Preschool Photosessions

Saturday, Oct 18  
5pm-7pm

### New Member Welcome

Sunday, Oct 26  
10am

### Lifeline Screenings

Tuesday, Oct 28  
830am-430pm

*Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! — Psalm 100:1*

If you joined us for worship on Sunday, you know that it is officially Stewardship Season at SMLC. We are marking this month with A Chorus of Generosity, meant to bring out the harmonies in our life of faith together. You received the fall campaign materials via email (if you're reading this via email), and/or you picked up your print copy on Sunday—it'll still be here this coming Sunday for you—or we're mailing yours to you because we know that's your preference! If somehow we have missed you, please let us know.

During the month of October, we're making plans for how we'll be good stewards of the resources God has given to us in the coming year. Our formal stewardship campaign happens each fall, as we prepare for the winter season of budgeting. But God calls us to be good stewards year-round. There is never a time when we should spend foolishly or hoard miserly—keeping our resources flowing keeps our ministry moving.

And while the fall campaign is primarily focused on stewardship of our financial resources, we are a congregation with an abundance of other gifts. As you'll notice throughout the month, the music we make together is a particular joy in our community. You'll hear from some members of the congregation about their favorite hymns on an upcoming Sunday, and you'll keep sending me your favorites, which we'll keep making room for in the calendar.

We are also blessed to have a chorus of generous volunteers—it takes so many people working together to do the work that God has given us to do. You probably play multiple roles in the community, depending on the time and talents you have given over the past year. Consider what your 2026 looks like, and if there's a new way you'd like to make a joyful noise. Maybe you've never been a reader during worship and you'd like to try; maybe you've been curious about what the evangelism committee actually does; maybe you want to try baking the bread for communion; maybe you're ready to hand off a long-held role to someone ready to learn; maybe you read the description in last month's newsletter and think that serving as the Treasurer doesn't sound as scary as you thought. God only knows where you'll lend your voice!

Your generosity doesn't begin and end on the church campus, either. This community reaches far and wide to love and serve our neighbors. Have you started the 30 Days of Generosity challenge included in the stewardship campaign? Adriana is sharing the prompts on the church social media so that you can share with each other how it feels to reach out to others in these small but powerful ways.

Today's prompt (if you're reading this on October 1) is to write a note to someone and tell them why you're grateful for them. Beloved children of God, I am so grateful for you! I see your generosity every day as we live out the gospel together—from organizing God's Work Our Hands projects, to welcoming visitors to worship, to filling the Food Pantry shopping cart, to lending your voice to the choir, to meeting and exceeding our emergency SDG&E fundraising goal in just over a week, to simple and everyday kindness. There are so many ways to share the love of God with one another and with the wider community, and you are doing it.

As you move through these 30 days of generosity, I hope that you find joy in the giving. That you connect more deeply with your friends, neighbors, and the strangers you encounter as you go about your days. Because connection and community is what all of this is really all about.

Peace,  
Pastor Casey

**San Marcos Lutheran Church**

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(760) 727-1509

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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 nor 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	Tom Andreas
	Br. Jack Anderson

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:** Susan Agonia, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Eunice Choi, Steve Choi, Crystal, Celia Genishi, Bill Hanson, Jolene Hanson, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Joy Kirkland, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Larry, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Leanne Pohrman, Alvar Roy, Jean Russell, Jake & Sarah Simpson, Marilynne Smith, Dawn Steele, Stephanie, 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, Oct 13th 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**

Saturday, October 4, 2025 from  
10-11:30 AM in Luther Hall

A Bible study for women about women  
Please join Karin Kupka as she leads a small bible study focusing on a woman of the bible.  
Coffee and tea will be provided. No need to

RSVP. Questions? Email  
karinkupka533@hotmail.com or call  
760-415-2525.



## Financial Update

End of August 2025- 66.7% of Year

### Income

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$202,115	62.48%

### Expenses

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$213,201	65.91%

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

*thank you*  
♥

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our SDG&E fundraiser. We were overwhelmed by the response and your contributions. We met and exceeded our goal and are happy to announce we are able to cover the entire bill. THANK YOU!!!

## Social Action



### All Saint's Food Pantry:

In October, we're requesting rice: brown rice, white rice, Minute Rice – any kind. We're no longer getting any from the Food Bank. Salad dressings are also always welcome. Thank you for continuing to be a part of this mutual ministry with All Saints Episcopal Church in Vista. We're always looking for volunteers to give our "regulars" a break. Contact Doris Payne if you'd like more information.

### Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 5 at 12:30pm

In honor of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and whose feast day is October 4th, it is time for the annual Blessing of the Animals! After church, head home to collect your (friendly, safe around other animals and people) pets and come back at 12:30 to have them blessed by Pastor Casey. All furry, scaly, winged, and otherwise beloved critters are welcome, as are stuffed animals or photographs, especially of your dearly departed pets. The blessing will take place outdoors, and animals may not join you in the sanctuary during our regularly-scheduled worship service.

## Council Updates:

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

The Council met on August 20 for our regular monthly meeting. The Council accepted and/or approved the submitted minutes and reports.

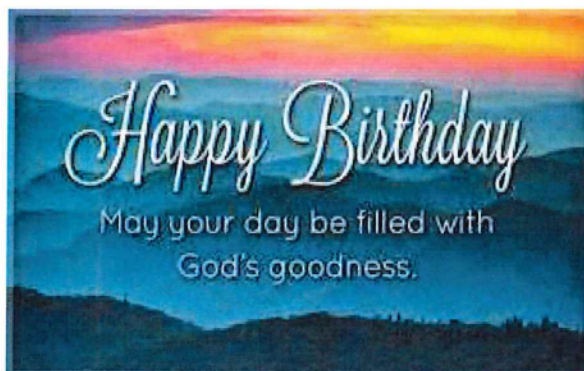
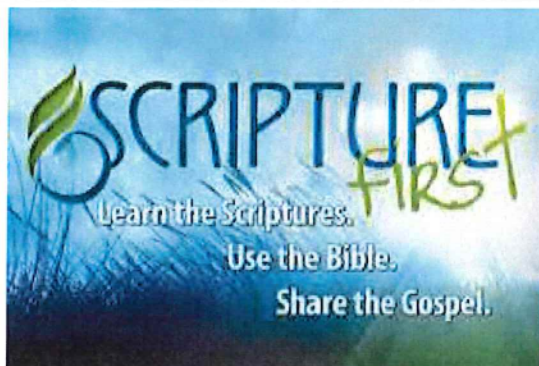
The Council considered 2 items of business:

- 1) The Council appointed members to the Nominating committee to identify the slate of persons up for election in December.
- 2) The Council appointed members to the Budget committee to begin work in setting the 2026 Budget.

Lastly, the Council discussed the Stewardship campaign "A Chorus of Generosity" and the plans the Stewardship committee has put in place for the month of October.

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.

Dan Norris, Council President



**Oct 5**                      **17th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 First Reading:        Hab 1:1-4; 2:1-4  
 Second Reading:    2 Tim 1:1-14  
 Gospel:                Luke 17:5-10

**Oct 12**                    **18th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 First Reading:        2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c  
 Second Reading:    2 Tim 2:8-15  
 Gospel:                Luke 17:11-19

**Oct 19**                    **19th Sunday after Pentecost**  
 First Reading:        Gen 32:22-31  
 Second Reading:    2 Tim 3:14-4:5  
 Gospel:                Luke 18: 1-8

**Oct 26**                    **Reformation Sunday**  
 First Reading:        Jer 31:31-34  
 Second Reading:    Rom 3:19-28  
 Gospel:                John 8:31-36

10/1 Birgitte Noesgaard  
 10/1 Nathan Young  
 10/3 Gracelyn Szepe  
 10/3 Eliana Walenta-Young  
 10/8 Iris Garcia  
 10/8 Colin Hagan  
 10/8 Freida Tseng  
 10/9 Sheri Mossuto  
 10/11 Ed Mossuto  
 10/11 Patty Pulver  
 10/13 Jim Kent  
 10/14 Evelyn Walenta  
 10/18 Vicki Petsche  
 10/19 Bob White  
 10/20 Savannah Szepe  
 10/21 Dean Fawcett  
 10/22 Cobey Armstrong  
 10/24 Kelly Van Jen  
 10/25 Bette Soderstrom  
 10/29 Vance Finney  
 10/29 Wanda Giuliano  
 10/30 Valerie Shoup  
 10/30 Liz Starr

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