

St. Mark's Messenger

3502 CLAIREMONT DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

January 19, 2021

Keeping In Touch

Vol. 48 Issue 2



Rev. Darin Arntson
Lead Pastor



Sunday, January 24, 2021

9:30 a.m. Streaming on
YouTube, on our
Facebook page and at
stmarksumcsd.org



858-273-1480

It wasn't until I lived in the South, that I realized the kind of courage it took for the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to respond to God's call the way he did. It wasn't until I went to his memorial in Atlanta, and explored the historical sites; until I listened to preachers who shared in his history telling his story and revealing his thoughts, that I learned what personal sacrifice he made to become the face and voice of the Civil Rights movement of the 60s.

He was threatened daily. His life, and the life of his family, were ever at risk. And not in some theoretical way by the quiet sentiments or ideology of otherwise polite folks, but in a physically imposing, personally dehumanizing, violent way. A way that eventually cut his life short.

And yet his message to those unlike him was never hate. He voiced a call to accountability, which is the same as the prophet's call to God's people. He called persons out of quiet complicity to vocal support or denouncement. He called people to stand in the way of oppression and abuse, which is not unlike the call of discipleship we receive from Jesus.

The prophet Jonah was also called to bring a voice of accountability to the people of Nineveh. And perhaps knowing their reputation—the persecution he would face—he ran the other way. Until, of course, he was cornered by a whale. And when he finally did as God called, the city repented. They not only heard Jonah, they changed their ways, and God showed them mercy.

Whether we are the ones God is calling to repent, or the ones God is calling to bear God's prophecy, the outcome for each of us is the same: forgiveness and reconciliation. And whether our hard work is changing ourselves or rising in opposition to violence and oppression, the work will not be easy to arrive at transformation. But it will be well worth the effort, if we accept our call in faith. It will be well worth the effort if peace, not judgment nor vindication, is our aim.

I pray for our nation this week as we transition into new leadership. I pray for our communities this week, as our fears and frustrations are kindled. I pray for God's presence to calm our nerves and steady our hearts, to listen again to the truth of our neighbors that we may seek, together, the good of all.

In hope,
Pastor Darin

Pastor's Bible School Wednesdays @ 1 p.m.

Join Pastor Jeri Wednesdays in January at 1 p.m. via Zoom as we explore the Lectionary Passages of the week. A Zoom link will be sent by email each Wednesday morning.

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

- Deuteronomy 18:15-20
 - Psalm 111
- 1 Corinthians 8:1-13
 - Mark 1:21-28

In Our Prayers

Please keep all those in prayer who are experiencing grief, chronic illness, addiction, loss of direction and disenfranchisement. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Our military personnel:

- ♡ Brook Bossen, Coast Guard
- ♡ Kris Brendal, Army
- ♡ Robert S. Chisholm, Navy
- ♡ Craig Clemans, Marines
- ♡ Paul Clemans, Air Force
- ♡ Blake Cross, Navy
- ♡ Nathan Streeter, Navy
- ♡ Lenny Hezelett, Navy
- ♡ Henry Hoadley, Navy
- ♡ Milo Riegle, Marines
- ♡ Adam Shelar, Navy
- ♡ Robert Tarango, Navy
- ♡ Dylan Weitzman, Army



You are invited to participate in the St. Mark's prayer chain via email. Prayer requests will be sent to you via an email account you provide; you will not be asked to do anything other than offer your private prayers for requests you receive.

To participate, please email Carol Brown at carol.brown@cst.edu.

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Young People Ring in the New Year

January 24: Cooking with Sandy @ 11a.m.

Join Amanda and Sandy as we cook something simple together over Zoom.

Note to On-Line Givers at St. Mark's

For our regular on-line givers set up for auto debit, a set of 2021 Envelopes are being delivered or mailed to you, to use for those "Special Giving Sundays" this upcoming year. These can be mailed or dropped off in the mail slot at the church office front door.

If you should ever want to make a "one time" automatic gift for a Special Donation it can be done for you, please contact Millie McKibbin at 619-407-0256 or Millicentmckibbin@outlook.com. Thank you for your support!

Next Week @ A Glance

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

1:00PM Pastor's Bible School/Zoom

Sunday, January 24, 2021

9:30AM Worship broadcast from St. Mark's

11:00AM Cooking with Sandy/Zoom

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

6:00PM Worship Committee/Zoom

7:00PM Trustees Meeting/Zoom

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

1:00PM Pastor's Bible School/Zoom

Sunday, January 31, 2021

9:30AM Worship broadcast from St. Mark's

While staff continues to work from home, we ARE working! Feel free to send an email or leave a voice mail message. We will get back to you!

Thank you for understanding that the paper Messenger will be only twice a month during this time.

Please return your communications survey, too. Snail Mail, Email or a quick phone call works. Thank you!