

What's New in New Ministries By Rev. Lydia Sohn

On Sunday morning, I preached about the gospel lectionary passage, John 6:1-21, where Jesus feeds 5000 people with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish. It is one of my favorite stories and it really gets to the heart of who our God is, who operates at a completely different level than us.

We calculate, we budget, we hoard so we can have more and others can have less. But in God's economic system, when I thrive, you thrive and when you thrive, I thrive. God's economy is abundance-based instead of scarcity-based, meaning that there is always enough, more than enough, for all of us.

As such, we no longer have to compete with one another to be the smartest person in the room, the greatest writer on a subject, the most talented employee, you get the idea. There is more than enough space for all of us to thrive in our own unique ways and even, in collaboration with one another.

With this thinking in mind, a couple of the pastors in our area and myself have been talking about a collaborative ministry that reaches out to the unchurched population. We all have strong youth groups and young family programs. It's the younger unchurched generation that we are all having difficulty with. What would it look like if we worked together, we wondered. Perhaps we would feel less isolated, less burdened, less cynical? Perhaps we could create something even more amazing and creative with three heads put together than just one.

There is a fear when we talk about something like this. A fear such as, but...where will the money go? Which of the three churches will newcomers end up going to? The ultimate question is...but how will it draw people to our single congregation?

And I will return to the gospel passage from this past Sunday, that teaches us that we do not need to be afraid that we will not have enough or that we will not succeed if the success is shared. If I thrive, you thrive and if you thrive, I thrive. We are all interconnected and we as United Methodists know this more than any other denomination as we are a connectional denomination where the greater success of the institution really does benefit all of the local churches and visa-versa.

That said, I still don't know what the new ministry will look like but exciting conversations abound at the moment and like always, I will keep you in the loop.

Pancake Breakfast

On the Second Sunday of every month, St. Mark's offers a FREE and delicious pancake breakfast from 7:30—9:15 in the Social Hall right before Sunday morning service.

Our amazing chefs provide pancakes, sausages, coffee, juice, water and more. ALL are welcome and parents, this is and especially wonderful opportunity as it is one breakfast you don't have to cook for your kids!

Church at the Beach

St. Mark's will celebrate another year of church outside at Tecolote Shores in Mission Bay. Join us on Sundays August 5, 12, 19, and 26, at 8:30 AM. Come and enjoy fresh air, fresh music, and fresh ideas of familiar bible stories. Bring your chairs, your blankets, and your neighbors..

Pastor's Sunday School

In Pastor's Sunday School we study the lectionary texts which follow the church calendar. For Sunday July 22:

- 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a
- Psalm 51:1-12
- Ephesians 4:1-16
- John 6:24-35

It's an informal study, *always open to all*, at 8:30 AM in the New Room, just behind the church office.

Never Miss a Sermon

Missed Sunday's sermon? You can watch Sunday morning sermons on video by visiting: stmarksumcsd.org/sermons. They can also be found on the St. Mark's Facebook Page.

Vacation Bible School August 20-24

Five Bible giants will be introduced at this summer's Vacation Bible School

All children everywhere are welcome to partake of the giant fun being prepared by the St. Mark's VBS team (see photo). Registration and information forms are in the church office and online at <http://www.stmarksumcsd.org/events/2018-vacation-bible-school>.

Sling shots and marshmallows included!

Questions? Karen Scanlon at kws-canlon@gmail.com or phone 858-583-4992.



Not pictured, Joy Lewis and Barb Vergith

Bake Sale

We are having a bake sale at the Yard Sale on August 3 and 4! Please stop by the bake sale table to pick up your favorite fresh baked goods. All Proceeds will go to UMW Missions Project.

Calling all Bakers! Please donate your favorite cookies, breads, cakes, and pies for the sale. (please no cream filling or cream pies)

St. Mark's Yard Sale

I Love the Yard Sale! You ask "Why?" Let me count the ways!

1. Like most people, I love a bargain!
2. It makes me clean out my closet, bookshelves, linen closet, etc.
3. I get to spend time with great people working together to benefit others!
4. We provide usable items at low cost to benefit our customers.
5. CCSA gets lots of jeans (and other stuff) to pass on to those in need.
6. Our leftovers help both DAV and our Methodist Neighborhood House in Calexico thrift shops.
7. St. Mark's benefits whenever we work together and get to know each other better – plus we earn money to help carry out our church's programs.
8. It's fun!

Please join us in preparing sale items Mon – Thurs and come to assist customers Fri & Sat, Aug 3 & 4. Several of us have pledged 35 hours or more. Can YOU give 2 or 3 hours to help? Sign up on the work chart in the office during the week or on the patio on Sunday .

PS. There will be special shopping for St. Mark's related people on Thursday, Aug 2 from 5-7 PM.

Community Christian Service Agency

CCSA has an immediate need of summer items, including sunglasses, sunscreen (small bottles), lip balm, sunburn relief lotion, bottled water, juice (capri sun, etc.), flip flops and men's and women's underwear (size small and medium),

Donations can be dropped off in the church office weekdays from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM or at their location, 4167 Rappahannock Avenue, San Diego, CA 92117.

GriefShare Sessions August 14 through November 6

GriefShare is for people grieving the death of a family member or friend. We understand that there are other losses in life that create feelings of grief. You might be experiencing a job loss, a divorce, estrangement from a child, or the loss of friends because of a move. This grief is real, but it is not the kind of grief discussed in GriefShare sessions..

GriefShare sessions will be held Tuesday, August 14 through Tuesday, November 6, at 6:30 PM

Lindsey Van Gorder, Licensed Social Worker, will lead video and workbook discussions. Sign ups are encouraged by visiting the office or calling St. Mark's at 858-273-1480

In Our Prayers

- ♥ Phil Currie
- ♥ Renee Pierce
- ♥ Lorraine Robinson
- ♥ Forrest Sedgwick
- ♥ Kelly Hopkins
- ♥ Rose Marie Pierce
- ♥ Phyllis Drewett
- ♥ Sherry Forrest
- ♥ Vera Morrison
- ♥ Al Johannesen
- ♥ Dolores Hall

our military personnel:

- ♥ Kris Brendal, Army
- ♥ Robert S. Chisholm, Navy
- ♥ Craig Clemans, Marines
- ♥ Paul Clemans, Air Force
- ♥ Blake Cross, Navy
- ♥ Samuel England, Navy
- ♥ Lenny Hezelett, Navy
- ♥ Amanda Hoadley, Navy
- ♥ Michael Hunter, Navy
- ♥ Brady Jackson, Army
- ♥ Jeremy Munson, Navy
- ♥ Milo Riegler, Marines
- ♥ Casper Stalnaker, Navy
- ♥ Nathan Streeter, Army
- ♥ Robert Tarango, Navy

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 Donna Newby

donewby@san.rr.com

Memorial Plaques

Now is the time to order a memorial plaque for your deceased loved one. Leave a permanent remembrance in our beautiful Memorial Garden for your family and the church family to see on a regular basis. The Memorial Garden Wall brochures can be found in the narthex and church office. Plaques may be ordered with one name, \$500 donation or two names, \$750 donation.

Orders and payments must be received by August 10 to be included in this year's All Saints Sunday Dedication on November 4.

Please pick up a brochure now. If you have questions, please call Ron or Donna Newby at 858-278-4482.



Next Week @ A Glance

Sunday, August 5, 2018

8:30AM Church at the Beach
Pastor's Sunday School/NR
Summer Choir/CR

9:30AM Church Service/Sanc
Baptism—Lila Sura Deo/Sanc

12:00PM Tongan Fellowship/Sanc

4:00PM Book Study/NR

Monday, August 6, 2018

6:45PM AA Meeting/RM 9

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

7:00AM Men's Breakfast/SH

6:30PM CCSA Advisory Meeting/NR
I/WE Meeting/Lib

7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9

7:30PM Trustees Meeting/Lib

Wednesday, August 8, 2018

5:30PM Bible Study/NR

Thursday, August 9, 2018

7:00PM Boy Scouts/SH

7:15PM AA Meeting/RM 9

Sunday, August 12, 2018

8:30AM Church at the Beach
Pastor's Sunday School/NR
Summer Choir/CR

9:30AM Church Service/Sanc

12:00PM Tongan Fellowship/Sanc

4:00PM Book Study/NR

CR=Choir Room Sanc=Sanctuary
Lib=Library SH=Social Hall
NR=New Room

**If you have any questions about or would like to add an event to the church calendar, please contact the church office at 858-273-1480
smumcsdoffice@gmail.com.*

St. Mark's Messenger

3502 CLAIREMONT DRIVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92117

July 31, 2018



Rev. Craig Dorval
Senior Minister



Sunday, July 29
9:30 AM Service
Rev. Craig Dorval

Child Care, Rooms 1&2

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE
SUNDAY JULY 29: 159



858-273-1480

Keeping In Touch

Vol. 45: Issue 28

Dear friends,

Some of us developed the church-going habit very early in our lives. We may have stepped away from that habit for months or years, but we found our way back. When I found my way back, I came to realize that I had learned in my early experience that the church was home for me. While every church is different, I knew what to expect. And, most important, I had learned that the church, while far from a perfect place, was full of good people doing good work in the world.

But whether someone has the church-going habit or not, and whether it developed early in their lives or not, all of us have some sense of spiritual curiosity. The question is, what do we do with it? Do we ignore it? Do we even recognize it? Maybe we think it's something else, like heartburn. Or maybe we are waiting or searching for some way to talk about and live into the meaning of our lives.

It is these people who are waiting or searching who present such a puzzle to the church. They are in every age group, and they are the majority of those under age 40. We are here to nurture and support these people in dealing with the biggest questions of their lives. How can we do it?

We will have church at the beach each Sunday morning in August at 8:30—in addition to the service in the sanctuary at 9:30. Maybe we can encounter those who walk, jog, or bike up to us on Mission Bay. If this August is like last year, a few of those who are out for some early-morning exercise will stop—for a bottle of water or out of curiosity. Or both. Will what they see and hear speak to their search for meaning and connection?

Or maybe it will happen at the St. Mark's community yard sale! I hope you had the chance to clean a few closets. And I hope that you'll bring your family, friends, and neighbors and come and browse on Friday and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

I will see you wherever St. Mark's is! Stay cool.

Craig

 Find us on
Facebook
Facebook : St. Mark's San Diego

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