



# The Evangel

January - February 2005

*St. Mark's Lutheran Church*  
*In the heart of the city for ministry to the world*

## Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 30, 2005  
One Worship Service, 10:00  
a.m.

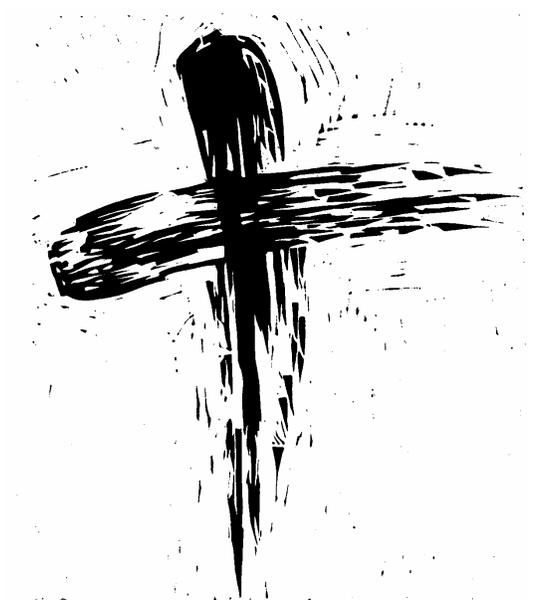
Meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Our annual Congregational Meeting will take place Sunday, January 30. We will have only ONE service which will begin at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will immediately follow the service (approximately 11:15 a.m.) and will be held in the Sanctuary. All are encouraged to attend this most important meeting.

### Agenda items include:

- Retrofit and Bond Financing Update
- Adoption of Church Budget
- Annual Report
- Election of Council Members
- Celebration of St. Mark's Ministries
- Capital Campaign Report
- Safe Congregation Policy

## Lent Begins



### Ash Wednesday Eucharists

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

Imposition of Ashes at both services

### Mid-Week Lenten Worship

Wednesdays in March

12:00 noon Worship

12:30 p.m. Light lunch & Fellowship

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper

7:00 p.m. Worship

## From Pastor Christian

The life of a pastor is full of surprises. One of the things I enjoy most being the associate pastor here at St. Mark's is exploring with people their spiritual journeys and together wrestling with some of the difficulties that our faith, church, or religion poses to us. I had such a conversation with one parishioner in the beginning of December. She shared with me her frustration that Christianity, especially Christianity outside the "mainline" spectrum, seems to have taken over in politics, defined what Christianity is and is not, and decided who is Christian and who is not.

Often the mainline churches—Presbyterians, Lutherans, Methodists, Episcopalians, Disciples, Congregationalists—are left out of the conversation and, more often than not, the mainline churches do not offer replies to the growing number of fundamentalist Christians in this country. As if Lutherans have no fundament! I think we must enter the discussions, not letting one version of Christianity define what it means to be a Christian and what it is to live a Christian life. Martin Luther made it clear that ALL we need is Christ himself. No more, no less. When we read the Scriptures, we read it as God's living address to us: How do the particular stories of the Bible speak into our context and how is Christ present in these stories?

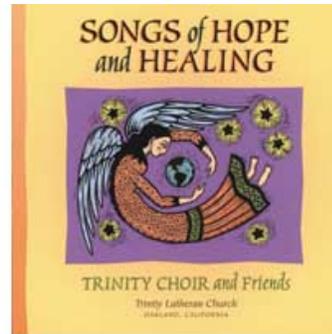
I think if we start to claim our "roots," if we start to claim that we follow the Way of Jesus and ask ourselves, "What DID Jesus do?," then we are already on the right path. Claimed and called by God in our Baptism, we Lutherans need not feel inferior to some loud-mouthed TV evangelist. We need not let others define what it means to be "Christian." As we follow in Christ's steps and heed his words, we live into the mystery of being Christians.

German pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote a poem from his prison cell to greet the beginning of the new year 1945.

*By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,  
and confidently waiting, come what may,  
we know that God is with us night and morning,  
and never fails to greet us each new day.*

May Bonhoeffer's words console us and give us hope for this new year, reminding us that it is always God's gracious power that gives us hope and strength in our lives and it is by this gracious power that we can boast that we are children of God. And remember, the one who screams loudest is not always right!

*Happy and Blessed New Year 2005!*



## Songs of Hope and Healing

What many of you may not know is that Pastor Christian was musically involved in a project by Trinity Lutheran Church in Oakland that started in the spring of 2000.

To share their music with a wider audience, to share the blessings of their music **Trinity Lutheran's** 12-member choir made *Songs of Hope and Healing*, a CD of spiritual music. Trinity gives away the recording to anyone who asks—which has turned out to be thousands of people. The CDs have been sent to people all over the world to offer comfort and blessings to those who need it. The songs on the CD, which are a mix of classic gospel tunes and modern works, include Amy Grant's "Breath of Heaven" and the spiritual "There Is a Balm in Gilead." Besides the music, the CD cover art has attracted attention. The design of an angel cradling the world was made by graphic artist Catherine Rose Crowther.

The third volume of "Songs of Hope and Healing" has been released just a few weeks ago. Pr. Christian has played the oboe on each CD. For more info on this project, please go to <http://www.thelutheran.org/0103/page26.html>. If you would like to receive a *free* copy of *Songs of Hope and Healing 1, 2, or 3*, please contact Pastor Christian at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 226 or ✉ [Jennert@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:Jennert@stmarks-sf.org).

## SAY CHEESE!

Put on your smiles and get ready to pose for the next St. Mark's Pictorial Directory. Starting Wednesday, December 1, volunteers will be calling you to schedule appointments to have your photo taken by Olan Mills here at St. Mark's at a time that is convenient for you. The photography team will be here during the **first week of February**. The pictorial directory is a wonderful tool for getting to know the people in your congregation. Every family receives a free 8x10" photo and a free directory. Don't miss out!

## Call for Office Volunteers

"And the song, from beginning to end,  
I found in the heart of a friend."

The Arrow and the Song (1845)  
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Would you be a friend by volunteering in the church office? Please call Marge Jencks at ☎ (510) 845-5404 or Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, if you can help.

**Thanks to all who gave  
blood at our blood drive  
Sunday, December 19.  
We donated 23 pints to the  
Blood Centers of the Pacific!**



## Hands-on Cooking Class

**Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity  
Friday, February 11, 2005 at 6:00 p.m.**

St. Mark's has been asked to help build a house for Habitat for Humanity-San Francisco as part of the San Francisco Interfaith Council. This house will be one of 12 houses built in Oceanview on DeLong Terrace with construction starting in early 2005. Join us for a hands on Cooking Class taught by our own master chef, Dean Atkinson to help raise funds and raise the roof. The menu will feature some classic French cuisine such as:

Salad: Asparagus Spears "Mimosa" in a White Wine Vinaigrette on a bed of Red Lettuce

Bulghur Wheat Rolls

Entrée: Boeuf Bourguignon

Creamed Potatoes (in the style of Joel Robuchon)

Haricots Verts (green beans) with Lightly Sautéed Shallots and a Concassée of Fresh Tomatoes

Dessert: Profiteroles filled with scoops of Chocolate Ice Cream and served with a warm Chocolate Caramel Rum Sauce

(Bring your own wine if desired)

**Cost per participant:** \$40 to Habitat for Humanity/San Francisco and \$10 to Dean Atkinson for food supplies. Come join us for a great class and a great meal! Please RSVP to Susan E. Stone at ☎ (415) 771-6923 or ✉ [stone@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:stone@stmarks-sf.org).

*Thank you from  
Pastor Elizabeth*

*Thank you for the lovely Christmas cards, gifts, and kind gestures of thoughtfulness you extended to myself and my family. We are grateful for your generosity and care. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

# Discipleship Classes

begin Sunday, February 20, 2005

10:00 a.m. in the Chapel

Are you interested in joining St. Mark's Lutheran Church? Have you wondered lately how you can become more involved, and want to explore the church, the Christian faith and our Lutheran tradition? Do you know of any people, friends or family members, who would like to join?

St. Mark's is offering a discipleship class series in February and March. Over the course of five weeks, we are going to journey together discerning God's call and presence in our lives and in this community. Whether you have already attended a new member class and want to refresh your memory, or you are considering becoming a member of this congregation, join us for our first meeting Sunday, September 19 at 10:00 a.m. in the Chapel of the Nativity in the basement of St. Mark's. Coffee and snacks provided! Everyone is welcome! We will meet five Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. for 45 minutes. You are invited. Come as you are! Topics for the five Sundays will be:

**February 20:** *What is a Disciple anyway?—Starting our Journey of Faith at St. Mark's*

**February 27:** *The Lutheran church—Its Beliefs, Creeds, and Traditions*

**March 6:** *The Bible—A Book of Life*

**March 13:** *The Gift of Time and Talents—Giving thanks to God in our lives and in our community*

**Palm Sunday, March 20:** *A Worshipping Church—Welcome to St. Mark's*

For more information on membership at St. Mark's please contact Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 230, ✉ Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org or Associate Pastor Christian Jennert at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 226, ✉ Jennert@stmarks-sf.org.



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is available for children three years old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Classes meet every Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. If you are interested in enrolling your child in Sunday School or have any questions, please call Gail Culp at ☎ (415) 647-0290.

## Tuesdays at 2:00 Bible Study



Bible Study, fellowship, conversation, sharing and goodies every Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. in the Brockie Lounge of Martin Luther Tower. Bring your Bible and your questions to this fun and stimulating time of learning. Classes are taught by Pastors Elizabeth Ekdale and Christian Jennert. **Everyone welcome!**

## YABS - Young Adult Bible Study

*“Reading 1 Corinthians”*

Sundays, January 9, 23 February 6, 20, 6:00 p.m.

The *Young Adult Bible Study* (YABS) will meet Sundays, January 9 and 23 and February 6 and 20 at 6:00 p.m. in the *Chapel of the Nativity* in the basement of St. Mark's. We will continue our journey with sacred scriptures and read together 1 Corinthians. You are invited!!! If you have not been to YABS, please join us for time of study, sharing, and prayer. **Coffee, tea and snacks provided!** Let's dig into the amazing world of the Scriptures and see how it connects to our own lives here in San Francisco.

YABS meets every other Sunday of each month. We look forward to having you join us for stimulating discussions and fellowship. No previous knowledge required! For more information, contact Shauna and Brent at ✉ YABS@stmarks-sf.org.

# ADULT FORUMS

## JANUARY - FEBRUARY

Members and friends of St. Mark's meet Sunday mornings at 10:00 in the Fireside Room (in the Urban Life Center) and we welcome all to join in learning and exploring together. Our forums for the coming months are:

**In Epiphany—  
Extending the Light of  
God's Love to All the World  
Everyday Christianity:  
Worship in the Work-a-Day World**

**Denise Burpee, Habitat for Humanity  
January 9**

Explore with the Social Ministries committee how we take the light and love of Jesus into the world. January 9, Denise Burpee, the Development Director for Habitat for Humanity in San Francisco will share Habitat's work in SF. She will focus on the 12 home development at DeLong Terrace with its Interfaith House and how we can help.

**Social Ministry Committee  
January 16**

January 16, the Social Ministry committee will lead us in reviewing what St. Mark's is doing and exploring where we feel called to serve such as in the area of peace and justice. It is the first Sunday of our homeless shelter and the Sunday that we will bless the quilt made by the women of St. Mark's and St. Paulus on its way to Lutheran World Relief.

**The Annual Budget  
Debra Varian, Treasurer  
January 23**

The annual budget is the most important financial tool used by the Church Council to carry out the programs and ministries of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in 2005. Please come to this adult forum

where the St. Mark's and Urban Life Center 2005 budget will be presented a week in advance of its adoption at the Annual Meeting. Pastor Ekdale, Council President Barbara Engmann, and Treasurer Debra Varian will be available to answer questions.

**No Adult Forum January 30  
Annual Congregational Meeting**

**St. Mark's Capital Campaign  
Greg Jahnke & Marge Okuley  
February 6**

Come join us at 9:50 a.m. or 12:20 p.m. IN THE SANCTUARY for an informative discussion on our upcoming Capital Campaign to help fund the retrofit of our historical sanctuary. This discussion will be led by our campaign co-chairs Greg Jahnke and Marge Okuley and committee members Marie-José Baum and Barbara Engmann. We will also have our campaign consultant John Clark of the James Company on hand to answer specific questions on the process.

**In Lent – A Season for  
Contemplation, Study  
and Personal Renewal**

**“Can You Drink The Cup?”  
Pastor Ekdale & Suzanne Smith  
February 13, 20, 27, March 6, 13**

During the season of Lent, we will explore Jesus' question, “Can you drink the cup that I am going to drink?” (Matthew 20:20-23). We will study the book, *Can You Drink the Cup?* by the late world recognized spiritual writer and priest, Henri J. M. Nouwen. Come and explore holding, lifting and drinking The Cup in our lives.

**There will be no Adult Forum Sundays, January 2 and 30, 2005.** If you have any topics that you would like covered, have a study that you would like to lead, or are interested in planning next year's program, please contact Suzanne Smith at [✉ AdultForums@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:AdultForums@stmarks-sf.org).

## ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

### ST. MARK'S ADULTS 'ROUND TOWN

**New Year's SMART Dinner  
at "Left at Albuquerque"  
Friday, January 28 at 6:30 p.m.**



### Parents with Kidlettes

### Raising an Ethical Child Workshop

**Saturday, March 5, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

St. Mark's will host Brother Steve Johnson, Director of Character Education from the Markkula Center for Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University. Brother Johnson will meet with parents, grandparents and anyone who cares for children to talk with us about how to raise an ethical child. He is known for his quick wit and sense of humor and has written articles such as: "Setting Limits: TV - Watching is not a Constitutional Right", "Cheating is not the problem" and "Talking to your Teen". Brother Johnson is an invaluable resource to everyone who cares about children. Save the date - Saturday, March 5, Heritage Hall at St. Mark's. Childcare and refreshments provided. For questions and to RSVP, contact Pastor Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 230 or ✉ Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org.

**Sunday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.**

Parents with Kidlettes group meets each Sunday morning\* at 10:00 a.m. in Heritage Hall. Come and meet other parents in a friendly, supportive atmosphere which includes refreshments! We have several brand new parents in our community plus many seasoned parents which will produce lively conversation, sharing and reflection on the joys and challenges of parenting. We meet in Heritage Hall at the round tables. Come and meet new friends. Pastor Ekdale or one of the many parents in the small group facilitates each week our conversation together. For more information, please call Pr. Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 230.

\*Parents with Kidlettes will not meet Sundays, January 2 nor 30.

Happy New Year's to all of you fellow SMART (St. Mark's Adults 'Round Town) folks! You are invited to this first SMART Dinner in 2005 at "Left at Albuquerque" on 2140 Union at Webster. "On weekend nights, you can find this place by the line out the door. The diners pile in presumably for the tequilas, which total more than a hundred. Any of the burritos are worth ordering, as are the specials. The appetizers—Southwestern gravlax with lime and onions, the poblano chiles on a flour tortilla, Gulf Coast cocktail with poached shrimp and scallops in a spicy broth—are more tantalizing than the entrées." Join us for good and spicy Tex-Mex food and nice people! If you have not been able to attend SMART events on a regular basis, or have yet to attend your first, do join us! This is a casual atmosphere that will be great for meeting others.

SMART is a ministry of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco. All events are open to members, friends, guests, partners and spouses. **See you there!**

If you are not on our SMART group mailing list, subscribe at [StMarksSMART@yahoo.com](mailto:StMarksSMART@yahoo.com).

### SMART Lenten Potluck & the Movie LUTHER

Join other SMART folks to watch this great movie! Elise & Mark Semonian offer to open their home for this SMART event during Lent. We will have a traditional Lutheran potluck and watch the movie together, hopefully having some time afterwards to talk a little about it. "Luther—the Movie" is a great story, a must for each Lutheran, don't miss it! Date and time will be announced, please check the weekly bulletin.

**ACTIVITIES FOR  
ALL AGES**

**St. Mark's  
Nursery News**

Nursery care is available every Sunday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Millie and Elvira are our wonderful, professional child-care attendants. Parents are welcome to stay with their child in the nursery until she/he is comfortable. Infants through children of nine years of age are welcome throughout the morning. Parents, please remember to sign in and sign out when you drop off and pick up your child. And please take your shoes off when you enter the nursery! The nursery is located underneath the sanctuary in Heritage Hall.



The Stitchers of St. Mark's create projects for needful friends. If you knit, crochet, needlepoint, embroider, or tat please join us Sunday mornings\* at 10:00 a.m. in Heritage Hall. Bring your own project or pull up a chair and work on a community project already underway—baby blankets, wash cloths, hats and other items needed by domestic crisis shelters. Drop in for socializing, learning needle-working skills (we'll gleefully teach you), refining your techniques, sharing ideas and celebrating the joy of creativity. We are a part of the Social Ministry of St. Mark's. \* There will be no Stitchers Sundays, January 2 nor 30.



**Saintly Lutherans  
Under Delusions  
of Grand Excursions**

SLUDGE hikes are scheduled every month or two, so if you're interested in joining us, contact Tom Benson to be placed on the SLUDGE email/phone list. Hikes are announced in advance at Sunday services and in weekly bulletins. For more details, email Steven Krefting and Tom Benson at [SLUDGE@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:SLUDGE@stmarks-sf.org).

**WELCA**



**An Invitation to  
All Women**

**Tuesdays, January 11 & February 8**

WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) ladies of St. Mark's and St. Paulus meet the second Tuesday of every month at 11:00 in the Fireside room of the Urban Life Center. After our discussion we enjoy lunch and fellowship. Please bring a sandwich. Refreshments and dessert are provided. Please join us Tuesday, January 11 and Tuesday, February 8. Watch weekly Parish Announcements for details.

Donna Dindia, President  
Shirley Capp, VP  
✉ [WELCA@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:WELCA@stmarks-sf.org)

*Thank you from  
Pastor Christian*

*Thank you very much and Dankeschön for the many Christmas cards and gifts in this holiday season. Your kind wishes, thoughts, and gestures are so very much appreciated. Peace and joy to all of you in the New Year.*

*In the heart of the city for ministry to the world.*

## Interfaith Homeless Shelter

**January 16 - 30, 2005**

The Interfaith Homeless Shelter for men will be held in the Urban Life Center Auditorium from Sunday evening, January 16 through Sunday morning, January 30. Social Ministry Committee members are taking sign ups after each service on Sundays for volunteers to help prepare and serve breakfasts and to assist with dinners in the evening. We will be serving approximately 65 men. Other churches and organizations, including Mission Delores and Noe Valley Ministry will be preparing and serving the dinners. We are still in need of volunteers. If you have not had an opportunity to sign up on a Sunday, you may call Jan Vreim at (415) 931-8135 to sign up.

We hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to serve the needy in our community. Volunteering at the shelter is also a good way to become acquainted with your fellow worshipers at St. Mark's and in the evening to become acquainted with members of other churches and organizations.

Donations of used clothing, toiletries, books for men, socks, etc. may be brought to the shelter to be given to our homeless guests.

—Jan Vreim

For more information, contact social ministry co-chairs John Elford and Susan E. Stone at [SocialMinistry@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:SocialMinistry@stmarks-sf.org).

John Elford & Susan Stone,  
co-chairs,  
Social Ministry Committee  
[SocialMinistry@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:SocialMinistry@stmarks-sf.org)

## Equipping for Peacemaking

The ELCA Task Force for the Decade for a Culture of Peace and Nonviolence is launching Equipping for Peacemaking, an exciting new process for greatly enhancing understanding of God's peace and the biblical foundations for justice and nonviolence. This pilot event will be held Friday through Sunday, April 1–3, 2005 at the Dominican University Institute for Adult Learning in River Forest, IL. They are looking for a diverse cross section of leaders from each ELCA region. All expenses will be paid. If you are interested in going to this event, contact Pastor Ekdale for an application. The deadline for applying is Friday, January 14, 2005.

## Read St. Mark's *Evangel* ONLINE!

We're moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century! If you would like to receive your Evangel church newsletter electronically rather than via snail mail (we all know how long that can take), please email your request to [admin@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:admin@stmarks-sf.org). Then when the Evangel is published (bi-monthly), you will receive an email with a link to the new edition of the Evangel on our church website ([www.stmarks-sf.org](http://www.stmarks-sf.org)). Not only will you be among the first to read it, you'll also save the church paper, postage and copying. The trees thank you and so do we!

## *Simply Giving* Makes Giving Simple!

Busy lives sometimes lead to forgetting to do certain things. *Simply Giving* is a help for those who would like their offering to St. Mark's to be regular but don't always have the time to do so. It is an electronic transfer of your offering directly from your bank account to St. Mark's. Consider *Simply Giving* as a tool to help you do the things you want to do. We currently have 34 families using *Simply Giving*—including both pastors, our treasurer Debra Varian and several council members! Forms are available in the church office. We will happily mail you one, just call the office at ☎ (415) 928-7770.

## Nominees for Church Council

The Council Nominating Committee is currently identifying members of St. Mark's interested in sharing their gifts of time, talent, and leadership by serving on Church Council. As the primary governing group for St. Mark's, the Council works closely with the Pastors, Committees, and members of the congregation to guide St. Mark's fulfillment of its mission as a growing Christian community reaching out in service to the community. Members interested in serving on Council may place their name on the ballot at any time prior to the January 30 Council elections. However, to be included in a sheet summarizing the slate of nominees distributed prior to the meeting, members must provide a short bio and photo to the Nominating Committee by Sunday, January 9.

To express your interest in serving, to recommend a candidate, or to ask a question regarding the process, please contact Randy Schieber ✉ [schieber@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:schieber@stmarks-sf.org), Kathy Jacobsen, or Paul Peterson ✉ [tewardship@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:tewardship@stmarks-sf.org).

## SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE: Sunday January 2 there will be no Sunday School, Confirmation Class, Adult Forum, Parents with Kidlettes, Stitchers, nor Junior Choir Rehearsal because of the holiday weekend. Happy New Year!

See the front cover for the detailed Sunday morning schedule of January 30—combined worship (10:00 a.m.) followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting.

- 9:00 a.m. HOLY COMMUNION with Children's Time in the Sanctuary followed by refreshments in the Narthex.
- 9:30 a.m. Children's Sunday School beginning in the Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Confirmation Class in Sunday School rooms, ULC
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Forum with coffee in the Fireside Room
- 10:00 a.m. Parents with Kidlettes in Heritage Hall
- 11:00 a.m. CHORAL EUCHARIST followed by Coffee Hour (12:15) in Heritage Hall.
- 12:30 p.m. Junior Choir rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Childcare provided  
the entire morning.

*We offer prayers of thanksgiving  
on behalf of the following members  
who celebrate their birthdays in  
January and February.*

**January**

- 1 Aiko Tominaga
- 2 Donna Dindia 📖 Debbie Sandoval
- 3 Robert Jackson
- 4 Charmaine Beckman
- 5 Lucille Fjoslien 📖 Diana Gomez  
📖 Mackinley Gruber
- 6 Patricia Shuman
- 7 Matthew Breice
- 8 Gail Culp 📖 Valaparla Sukanya
- 9 Akiko Kling
- 10 Charles Lewis 📖 Akihiko Tominaga
- 12 Susan Stone
- 13 Jacqueline Flaten 📖 David Wentker
- 14 Barbara Engmann
- 15 Laura Evenson
- 16 Amanda Morris
- 18 Tusan Murphy
- 19 Elana Ridley
- 20 Carrie Krehlik
- 21 Carol Quitmeyer
- 22 Jack Harmon
- 23 Eric Fazioli
- 27 Betty Wilshusen
- 31 Lindi Lindstrom

**February**

- 1 Suzanne Smith
- 2 Trudie Knight
- 3 Jill Gruber 📖 Christine McQuiston  
📖 Daniel Pharr
- 4 Karen Higa 📖 Joshua Leonard
- 5 William Dahl 📖 Gregory Johns  
📖 Churor Perryman 📖 Janice Vreim
- 8 Chadd Hermann
- 9 Amanda Gillet
- 10 Phyllis DeSpain 📖 Abigail Munn
- 12 Julia Martensen

**February continued**

- 14 Robert Geesey
- 15 Kevin Baum 📖 Tanet (Dom) Guntavong  
📖 Patrick Hurley
- 16 Stephen Hart
- 17 Roger Heller 📖 Erika Hidalgo  
📖 Steven Rausch
- 18 Mary Beth Weaver
- 21 Michelle Engmann 📖 Frederick Ohlrich
- 22 Sylvia Warden
- 23 Peter Lull
- 26 Heather Hermann 📖 Kurt Jaenike
- 28 Donald Haythornthwaite
- 29 Diana Pacini

*Sacred Acts at St. Mark's*

*November – December 2004*

**Baptisms**



Violet Hannesena Battaglia—  
daughter of Brandon  
Battaglia—was baptized November 21, 2004.

Halle Annika Bohlig—daughter of Aron Bohlig and  
Sheryl Squires—was baptized November 21, 2004.

**Funerals & Memorial Services**

Kay Isaacson—died October 8, 2004—memorial  
service November 13, 2004.

**Baptism Information**

We will be baptizing many infants during the season of Epiphany in our worship services. If you are interested in knowing more about baptism either for yourself or a family member or would like to schedule a baptism during January or February, please contact Pastor Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 230.

# 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Historic Ordination

Saturday, January 15  
St. Francis Lutheran Church, SF

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR GAVIN NEWSOM WILL SPEAK at the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the historic ordinations of Jeff Johnson, Ruth Frost and Phyllis Zillhart, the first openly gay and lesbian pastors ordained in the Lutheran Church. Saturday, January 15, St. Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church Street (at Market), SF, will host an open house beginning at 10:00 a.m. with archive displays and films recounting the ordination service and subsequent trial of St. Francis and First United Lutheran Churches by the ELCA in 1990. A brunch will be served at 12:15 p.m. followed by panel discussions in the sanctuary and a festive worship service featuring the 40 pastors and seminarians now on the Extraordinary Candidacy Roster at 3:30 p.m. That evening, starting with a cocktail hour and silent auction at 5:45 p.m. at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, VanNess Avenue at Post Street, Mayor Newsom will be the featured speaker at a banquet that will honor donors and advocates, including Rev. John Frykman, Marybelle Smith, Joe McMahon and Rev. David Kalke. For more information and reservations, call ☎ (415) 621-2635 or go to [www.llgm.org](http://www.llgm.org).

## *The Evangel* Deadline Thursday, February 10, 2005

Thursday, February 10 is the deadline for the **March-April 2005** newsletter. Think ahead to Holy Week and Easter (March 27), and spring events. Please submit all articles and event notices via email to ✉ [admin@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:admin@stmarks-sf.org) (plain text in the body of an email is best) or drop a hard copy off at the church office. The Evangel is published bimonthly.

## St. Mark's is a "Reconciling in Christ" Congregation

St. Mark's is one of over 285 congregations, 22 synods and 12 organizations across the ELCA and ELCIC (Canada) which have declared that lesbian and gay people are equally welcome to join fully in the worship and life of this Christ-centered community. For more information, please contact Steve Krefling at ☎ (415) 826-3124 or [krefling@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:krefling@stmarks-sf.org) or contact Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale at ☎ (415) 928-7770, ext. 230 or [Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org). Also visit the Lutherans Concerned RIC website at <http://www.lcna.org/ric.shtm>.

### CHURCH COUNCIL

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW  
ST. MARK'S EMAIL ADDRESSES!

Barbara Engmann, President  
(415) 346-0516  
[president@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:president@stmarks-sf.org)

Jonathan Ocker, VP  
(415) 831-1021  
[vicepresident@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:vicepresident@stmarks-sf.org)

Marcy Bahr, Secretary  
(415) 647-8482  
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Debra Varian, Treasurer  
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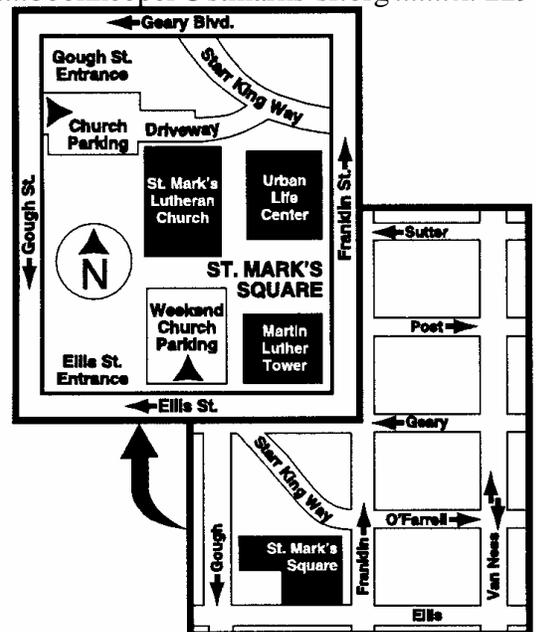
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

St. Mark's is a growing Christian community rooted in tradition and open to new expressions. Responding to God's compassionate love, we reach out in service to the community and the world. With openness of heart and spirit, we welcome all.

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Liu Liulaumea, Property Monitors		
Gail Culp, Sunday School Coordinator		
Elvira Markov & Mildred Orellana, Nursery Assistants		
Mary Beth Weaver, Teaching Parish Student		
David Hettlinger, Teaching Parish Student		

**Sister Parish:** Cordero de Dios (Lamb of God) Lutheran Church, Soyapango, El Salvador, Central America



**St. Mark's is a congregation of the**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
 The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop  
 The Rev. David Mullen, Bishop, Sierra Pacific Synod  
 The Rev. Daniel Solberg, Dean, San Francisco Conference