

July - August 2005

# The Evangel

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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

### ***In this Issue***

<u>Events</u>	p. 2-3
<u>Activities</u>	
Seniors	p. 4
Families	p. 5
Adults	p. 5-6
<u>Education</u>	p. 6-7
<u>Worship</u>	p. 8
<u>Church Life</u>	p. 9-11

Dear Friends in Christ:

Let us give thanks for this church building which was dedicated on March 10, 1895 for the ministry of God's Word and Holy Sacraments. The worship services held in this sanctuary have touched the lives of thousands of men, women and children through the sacrament of Holy Communion and Baptism, weddings and unions, funerals and memorial services, Holy Week and Festival liturgies, evening prayer services and welcoming of new members.



**Procession from the Sanctuary, June 19, 2005**

God's people. This building served as a refuge for victims in the 1906 earthquake and fire and has been in constant service for the sake of the gospel to the wider community for these many years.

In 1971, the city of San Francisco declared St. Mark's Church building a San Francisco landmark. Many

have appreciated the beauty of the light when flowing through the stained-glass, the intimacy of the sanctuary's seating, the curve of the pews, and the smell of the incense.

The building has welcomed strangers and visitors from around the world into this sacred space for the worship of the Triune God. Music and liturgy have fed God's people – support groups, bible studies, child-care, senior activities, youth overnights, ministry with Gay and Lesbian persons and fellowship events all of which have taken place in this building have also fed and cared for

Today we commend this church building to the care of Plant Construction and ELS architects under the watchful eye and care of the Holy Spirit. The St. Mark's community is committed to providing a safe and seismically reinforced building in order to expand and broaden our ministries and services to the wider community. We are located in the heart of San Francisco for ministry to the world and



# Events

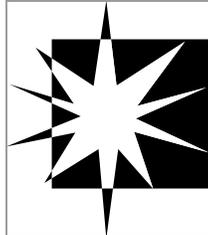
## FROM PASTOR ELIZABETH (cont.)

(cont.) are committed to serving all those in need, welcoming all who come through the doors, and reaching out with God's message of love and mercy for another 150 years of ministry.

Today we vacate this church building for 12 plus months for this very purpose while we watch the retrofit and renovations take place while worshipping in the auditorium across the square. We are grateful for all those who have led this congregation forward in faith to accomplish this building project.

*[Liturgy of Thanksgiving and Leave taking on Sunday, June 19, 2005—final worship service in the sanctuary until 2006 after the completion of the retrofit.]*

- Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale

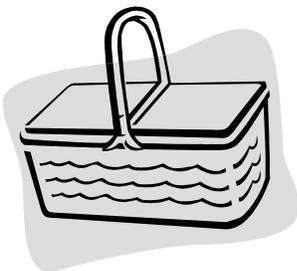


## - *Retrofit Update* -

On Monday, June 20, Plant Construction Company started their mobilization for the retrofit project. Plant cooperated with the salvagers and in other move out activities. Pews were removed (placed in storage for reinstallation), finishes inside the church were protected, and limited demolition started. Soil grouting test holes were dug and test grouting completed. A walk-through with ELS, architects and Plant took place to review finishes and fixtures to be retained or discarded. The first three days were very productive.

Looking forward to the next week: Plant's project trailers will be moved onto the site; and temporary power, water and telephone will be installed. Trees will be trimmed and installation of protective fencing around the church will begin. Inside the church, doors, windows and frames will be removed and temporary lighting installed. Retrofit updates will be printed in our weekly Parish Announcements, the Evangel newsletter and on our website at [www.stmarks-sf.org](http://www.stmarks-sf.org).

- Herb Lembcke



## St. Mark's Church Picnic & Rally Day



Sunday, September 11

12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

Sunday School begins for  
3 year-olds to 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

Adult Education at 10:00 a.m.

Picnic lunch, ice cream, games and fun

for all ages right here on St. Mark's Square! Mark your calendar now!

# Events

## HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERFAITH BUILD

St. Mark's is helping to build a house for Habitat for Humanity, San Francisco as of this spring. Construction should start in the very near future for the first phase of twelve single-family homes to be built in the Oceanview area of Daly City. St. Mark's is working in collaboration with other members of the San Francisco Interfaith Council on the Interfaith Build. Some of the faith organizations working with St. Mark's on this project include Grace Cathedral, Congregation Emanu-El, St. Ignatius Catholic Church, San



Francisco Islamic Society, Metropolitan Community Church, Calvary Presbyterian, St. Francis Lutheran Church, St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church and the Interfaith Chapel at the Presidio. This second Interfaith Build in the US has already received enthusiastic response from the Mayor's office and several corporate and charitable sponsors. The family that will eventually live in the first Interfaith house has already been selected and are already performing some of the "Sweat Equity" necessary to help build their new home. There was a

terrific article in the March issue of 7x7 magazine about this exciting community project. More details regarding volunteer days at the construction site will be announced soon. No construction experience necessary! Look for details in the Sunday Parish Announcements. For more information, contact John Elford at [socialministry@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:socialministry@stmarks-sf.org). If you wish to make a donation or sign up as a volunteer, contact Denise Burpee at Habitat for Humanity, San Francisco, (415) 406-1555, ext. 111.

## 2005 AIDS Walk—July 17

St. Mark's will be fielding a team in the 2005 AIDS Walk San Francisco. This annual event benefits the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and 36 other Bay Area AIDS services organizations. This year's 10-kilometer walk takes place Sunday, July 17 in Golden Gate Park.

Last year, the St. Mark's team raised over \$12,000.00. This year, let's shoot for at least \$15,000.00! The team leader for St. Mark's will be Mr. Dana Utz (a member of the Social Ministry Committee).

If you would like to take part in the fundraiser as a team walker, contact Dana at (415) 586-7130 or [utzdana@comcast.net](mailto:utzdana@comcast.net). If you are unable to take part in the walk, but would like to make a financial pledge, you can contact a team walker. During upcoming coffee hours, we'll have a poster up and information on how you can make a pledge.



In July 1981, reports of a rare "cancer" among 41 gay men in New York and California signaled the beginning of a new disease. However, at the time few people imagined that an epidemic of

monumental proportion was imminent. As of 2004 almost 22 million men, women and children worldwide have died of AIDS, and an estimated 40 million people are living with HIV. AIDS impacts people of all ethnicities, genders and sexual orientations.

The annual AIDS Walk helps raise urgently needed funds and sends the message that the AIDS crisis is not over. Participants in the event include individual walkers as well as members of more than 700 corporate and community teams. In its 19th year, the charitable event has raised over \$50 million dollars.

—Dana Utz

There will be a Hands-On California Asian Grill Class held on Friday, August 5th at 5:30 p.m. in the Urban Life Center. The class will be taught by Chef Dean Atkinson as a Fundraiser for AIDS Walk San Francisco. The teaching will be donated and all proceeds will support the AIDS-Walk Campaign for St. Mark's. To sign up, contact Dean at (415) 931-6684 or call the Church Office.

# Activities



## ST. MARK'S AND MARTIN LUTHER TOWER SENIOR MINISTRIES



### Trip to the Vacaville Premium Outlets on Friday, July 1

You are invited to shop at the Vacaville premium outlets on Friday, July 1. With over 100 stores featuring famous high quality name brands, one can find savings of 25 to 65% off regular retail prices! Lunch is available at several locations in the mall. You'll need to buy your own lunch. We leave at 9:30 a.m. and return to SF at 3:00 p.m.

### Trip to the Anchor Steam Brewery, Wednesday August 10

Anchor's seven unique beers, including its world-famous Anchor Steam®, are all made in Anchor's handcrafted copper brew house, a veritable museum of the simple, traditional breweries of old. The rich history of Anchor Brewing can be traced all the way back to the Gold Rush, when German brewer Gottlieb Brekle arrived in San Francisco with his wife Marie and infant son Frederick. Brekle applied for citizenship in 1854, and his brewing and business acumen would soon lead to his ownership of a little San Francisco brewery on Pacific, between Larkin and Hyde, which would one day become known as Anchor. Join other seniors on a trip to the Anchor Steam Brewery on Wednesday, August 10. Discover the history of San Francisco's famous brewery—sampling included! The tour departs at 12 noon and returns at 3:30 p.m., and is limited to 10 people. It is free of charge, and involves 1.5 hours of walking. You'll need money for souvenirs or snacks.

### Winchester Mystery House in San Jose Thursday, September 8

In 1884, a wealthy widow named Sarah L. Winchester began a construction project of such magnitude that it was to occupy the lives of carpenters and craftsmen until her death thirty-eight years later. The Victorian mansion, designed and built by the Winchester Rifle heiress, is filled with so many unexplained oddities, that it has come to be known as the Winchester Mystery House. Sarah Winchester built a home that is an archi-

techtural marvel. Tour through 110 of the 160 rooms and look for the bizarre phenomena that gave the mansion its name; a window built into the floor, staircases leading to nowhere, a chimney that

floors, open onto and upside No one to explain that exist



rises four doors that blank walls, down posts! has been able the mysteries within the

Winchester Mansion, or why Sarah Winchester kept the carpenters' hammers pounding 24 hours a day for 38 years. Join us for a tour and lunch at the perplexing Winchester Mystery House in San Jose! The cost for this trip (entrance fee, guided tour and lunch) is approximately \$ 22.00 per person. Departure is at 10:00 a.m.

**All tours and trips** start from the lower (Ellis Street) parking lot unless noted otherwise. The trips are open to residents from Martin Luther Tower and seniors from St. Mark's Lutheran Church, on a first come, first served basis. Times are subject to change. Please check posters and weekly announcements for the latest information. To reserve your seat, please sign up at the MLT sign-in sheet or call Barbara Bock at 415.928.8639. For more information please contact Pr. Christian @ 415-928-7770 x. 226.

### Senior Luncheons August 17 and September 15

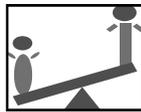
The St. Mark's/Martin Luther Tower Senior Center lunches are offered on Wednesday, August 17 and Wednesday, September 15 in the auditorium. The lunches start at 12 noon, and the cost is \$4.00 per person. All lunches will serve 60 people and are prepared by our own master chef Dean Atkinson. Please sign up early to reserve your seat! Sign-up sheets are available at MLT offices or call Pr. Christian at 415.928.7770 x. 226.

# Activities

## NURSERY NEWS

Nursery care is available every Sunday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Gladys and Elvira are our wonderful, professional child-care attendants.

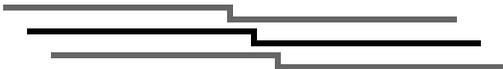
Parents are welcome to stay with their child in the nursery until she/he is comfortable. Infants through children of nine years of age are welcome throughout the morning. Parents, please remember to sign in and sign out when you drop off and pick up your child. The nursery is located off of the auditorium lobby on the O'Farrell street side.



## Parents with Kidlettes (to resume in September)

Sunday Mornings at 10:00 a.m.

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



## Sunday School

Sunday School is available for children three years old through 6th grade. Classes meet every Sunday beginning September 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium. If you are interested in enrolling your child in Sunday School or have any questions, please call Gail Culp at (415) 647-0290.



## SMART (St. Mark's Adult 'Round Town) Events in July and September

### SMART Summer Dinner at Foreign Cinema, Friday, July 29 at 6:30 p.m.

Foreign Cinema (2534 Mission Street), one of San Francisco's premier destination restaurants, is open for dinner every night featuring California/Mediterranean and a new menu daily! Foreign Cinema is a very unique restaurant where foreign films are shown on the side of a building during dinner. The restaurant was rated "best new" by multiple newspapers in San Francisco so expectations are high for our meal. Join SMART for a summer night out in the exciting and sunny Mission district!

### SMART and Parents with Kidlettes Dinner at Park Chalet

Friday, September 9 at 6:30 p.m.

Join SMART and parents and their children on September 9 --the Friday before Rally Sunday-- at the Park Chalet (1000 Great Hwy. at Fulton). The Park Chalet provides a wonderful outdoor-indoor setting that captures the best of San Francisco. This restaurant is kid-friendly with a wonderful outdoor grassy area where kids can play. "Even when the windows are closed, diners can feel as if they're communing with nature." American cuisine in a wonderful surrounding—if you come to the Park Chalet, you know you have arrived in San Francisco! We look forward to seeing you there!  
(Parents, let's meet on the grass behind the Park Chalet at 6:00 p.m.)

**All SMART events** are open to members, friends, guests, partners and spouses! If you are not on the SMART group mailing list yet, subscribe at [StMarksSMART@yahoo.com](mailto:StMarksSMART@yahoo.com). For more info on the SMART events check your evites or call Pr. Christian at 415-928-7770 x. 226.

For more info on **Parents with Kidlettes** contact Pr. Ekdale at [Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org).

# Activities & Education

## SLUDGE...

(Saintly Lutherans Under Delusions of Grand Excursions)

We've nailed down the next hike of our SLUDGE (Saintly Lutherans Under Delusions of Grand Excursions) group. It will be on Sunday, July 17th after church, departing at 1:00 p.m. and heading for who knows where (Steven is seriously contemplating our destination as I type...) Mark your calendars and anxiously await further news regarding Steven's contemplations...

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).

## STITCHERS OF ST. MARK'S

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. Bring your own project or pull up a chair and work on a community project already underway—baby blankets, washcloths, hats and other items needed by domestic crisis shelters. Drop in for socializing, learning needle-working skills (we'll gleefully teach you), refining your technique, sharing ideas and celebrating the joy of creativity. We meet in the Urban Life Center — watch the weekly Parish Announcements for details.

## 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!

## ST. MARK'S SECOND OUTREACH AND EVANGELISM RETREAT

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20,

9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

*"In the Heart of the City for Ministry to the World"*

How do we welcome the stranger? How do we share our faith in such a way that it is inviting, welcoming and liberating? Is there something like "Evangelism" in the Lutheran church at all? Many of us like to go to church, enjoy the various programs and ministries and especially the rich traditions of worship and liturgy. But how do we communicate this with others, especially those who may have never set foot in a church or have been hurt by it? How can we become even more welcoming?

Asking these questions, finding answers in conversation with one another, and wondering together how God may lead us to spread the good news of Christ in the heart of San Francisco is the purpose of this one-day retreat sponsored by St. Mark's Evangelism committee.

Join us as we deepen our faith and share the love of God with others! Everyone is welcome! Breakfast and Lunch will provided. Donations accepted! For more info, please contact Brent at [evangelism@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:evangelism@stmarks-sf.org) or Pr. Christian at 415.928.7770 x. 226.



***What are your dreams?***

***What are your fears?***

***What is God calling you to?***

Come join the women of St. Mark's & St. Paulus to "**Explore the Edges of Enough**"

**Saturday, October 24, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Retreat Leader: **The Reverend Glenda Hope**

Location: St. Mark's Urban Life Center, SF

Registration Donation: \$5 to \$10

Child care provided

Register with Pam Ruh

at 415-292-4496

or at St. Mark's 415-928-7770

Bring your journal, writing material & Bible.



# Education



**St. Mark's Confirmation Class of 2005**

St. Mark's Confirmants L-R—Brandan Gilliard, Blade Varian, Alexa Benson, Sarah Hart, Monica Lehmann  
Teachers L-R—Pastor Ekdale, Mary Beth Weaver, Bill Dahl, Pastor Jennert

---

---

## NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY Bible Study

A new era of bible study is coming to St. Marks in the fall! It doesn't matter if it's your 1st or 101st time in bible study. Now is the time to join a **No Experience Necessary** bible study group! Watch for September-October Newsletter and Weekly Bulletin for more information. We look forward to seeing you there! For more info, contact Pr. Christian @ 415-928-7770 x. 226.

---

## WELCA

Welca (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church) ladies of St. Mark's and St. Paulus will hold our annual "Lunch Out" on Tuesday, July 12 at 12:00 n. The place is the Opera Plaza Sushi Restaurant, 601 Van Ness Ave. For more information and to RSVP please call Barbara Lembcke at 345-9648 or Suzanne Smith at 285-7438. In August we take our summer break. We will continue our Bible Study and fellowship in September.  
Donna Dindia, President; Shirley Capp, VPWELCA@stmarks-sf.org

## NEW DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES BEGIN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Where is your spiritual journey leading you? Have you wondered lately how you can become more deeply involved in this congregation? Would you like to learn more about the church, the Christian faith and the Lutheran tradition? Do you know friends or family members, who would like to join St. Mark's? St. Mark's is offering a new discipleship class series in September and October. Over the course of five weeks, we are going to journey together, discerning God's call and presence in our life and in this community. Whether you've already attended a new members class and want to refresh your memory, or you're considering membership in this congregation, join us for our first meeting on Sunday, September 25 at 10 a.m. We will meet in the Chapel of the Nativity in the basement of St. Mark's. Coffee and snacks provided! Everyone is welcome!

### Topics for the five Sundays:

- September 25: "All are Welcome!—Starting our journey of Faith at St. Mark's."
- October 2: "Baptized We Live—Lutheranism as a way of Life."
- October 9: "The Bible—A Book of Life"
- October 16: "The Gift of Time and Talents— Giving thanks to God in our Lives and in our Community"
- October 23: "A Worshipping Church— Experience God and Fellowship at St. Mark's"

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 7:00 P.M.

**GOURMET DINNER** for new and prospective members, hosted by the Evangelism Committee and our own master chef Dean Atkinson.

## REFORMATION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30:

You are invited to a reception of new members at both 9 & 11 a.m. services! We are meeting on Sunday morning between services at 10 a.m. for about 45 minutes. All are welcome! For more information on membership at St. Mark's please contact Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale at 415.928.7770 ext. 230, [ekdale@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:ekdale@stmarks-sf.org) or Associate Pastor Christian Jennert at 415.928.7770 ext. 226, [jennert@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:jennert@stmarks-sf.org)

# Worship

## NEWSLETTER FROM CAMBODIA

From Noel and Connie Ilagan  
FIRST 100 DAYS IN CAMBODIA

Dear Friends:

Greetings in Christ Whom We All Serve!  
It has been more than 100 days since we arrived in the Kingdom of Cambodia to serve with International Cooperation Cambodia (ICC). After four years in the US -- three in the San Francisco Bay Area and one in Hawaii, we spent some time with our two children, relatives and friends in the Philippines.

Prior to coming to Cambodia, I was ordained by the bishops and pastors of the Lutheran Church in the Philippines on January 9, 2005 at my home congregation in Metro Manila.

There are several international, i.e., English speaking, churches in Phnom Penh. There is no Lutheran Church. Connie and I have begun to attend an Anglican church, led by a young pastor from Singapore. I have had the privilege of being included in the preaching roster and I have preached once. My "orientation period" ended May 1, and so I have now assumed my position as Executive Director of ICC.

Many of the Khmer staff at ICC speak some English and they are the ones I am working with most of the time. Most of them are Christians. They are all very supportive and helpful. The expatriate staff is likewise all very supportive.

Expatriates provide the leadership in the work of ICC, assisted by Khmer staff. As of today we have around 30 expatriate staff with their families coming from 15 different countries, including the UK, US, Sweden, Germany, Switzerland, Thailand, Indonesia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Denmark, among others. Since ICC is an NGO (non-government organization) involved in relief and development work, these "expats" bring various skills, e.g., veterinarians, nurses, linguists, computer experts, income generation project specialists, etc. All of these expatriates are Christians.

ICC has several projects in the provinces and some in Phnom Penh. I have just recently proposed some changes in the organizational structure so that the projects will be supervised and supported more effect-

### Sunday Worship Schedule In the Urban Life Center auditorium

**9:00 a.m. Holy Communion** with  
Children's Time in the auditorium

**11:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist** followed  
by Coffee Hour (12:15 p.m.)  
in the Fireside Room

Childcare provided the entire morning and is located off of the auditorium lobby on the O'Farrell street side.

### WORSHIP NEWS

On Sunday, August 21, our guest preacher will be Pastor Wilfried Glabach from First Congregational Church. He and his entire parish will worship at St. Mark's on that Sunday in order to thank us for our hospitality over the past three years while they worshipped in the auditorium! We look forward to this time of worship and fellowship with FCC. They are now worshipping in their new location at Polk and Bush and recently relocated their church offices from the 3rd floor of the Urban Life Center auditorium to the Leland Hotel - across from the worship space.

(cont.) ively. The Board of Directors has been very supportive and approved my proposal. Connie has been keeping house and doing bits of volunteer work at the ICC office. Soon she might get involved in some volunteer work relating to helping children of Cambodia. As usual she has made friends easily with the Khmer staff who are able to speak English. Ours is a partnership in ministry.

Connie and I thank you all for your prayers and support. We remember our friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in San Francisco, St. John Lutheran Church in Hawaii, and Messiah Lutheran Church in Hayward. You are in our prayers and we hope that you are doing well on that side of the world.

In Christ, our Lord -

Noel and Connie Ilagan

# Church Life

## Housing Needed!

St. Mark's will be hosting a pastoral intern from the Evangelical Church in Germany in the fall.

Ms. Anke Gebhard, who has finished her first theological examination (M.Div. equivalent) and completed most of her practical training and internship in Germany, will do a three-month international internship at St. Mark's, and at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in San Francisco. Anke will need housing while she is staying in the city. If you or somebody you know has a spare bedroom or an in-law unit and is able to rent it for no more than \$300.00 per month from September 9, 2005 -January 2, 2006, please contact Pr Jennert at 415.928.7770 x. 226 or jennert@stmarks-sf.org Thank You!



Watch for more information on Anke Gebhard in the September-October newsletter!

## MAY AND JUNE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

### May 19, 2005

- ∞ Received and approved Membership, Treasurer's and Parish Life reports
- ∞ Approved St. Mark's Sabbatical Policy for clergy and professional church workers
- ∞ Received report of the Sierra Pacific Assembly from voting member Margaret McLean
- ∞ Update on Retrofit project and Financing
- ∞ Capital Campaign update - the new logo - "Forward in Faith, Serving a New Century" was received enthusiastically.
- ∞ Approved Council member responsibilities

### June 9, 2005

- ∞ Heard presentations from Gary Schilling, Renovation Commission and Susan Munn, Martin Luther Tower Board President on scope of renovation/retrofit project and financing of the project
- ∞ Voted to recommend scope of project to congregation and expenditure of funds
- ∞ Approved agenda for Special Congregational Meeting on June 12, 2005

- Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale



## Sacred Acts at St. Mark's

Join us in celebrating the recent sacred events in our parish:

May 21

The marriage of David and Amanda Hutton

June 12

The baptism of Michelle Ward

## E-SCRIP

Another way to support St. Mark's Ministries St. Mark's is signed up as a beneficiary with the E-Scrip program. E-Scrip is a fundraising program that allows participating merchants to contribute a percentage of your grocery bill and credit card bill to St. Mark's. It's easy to do!

Go online to the E-Scrip website: [escrip.com](http://escrip.com) Follow their directions - St. Mark's is already pre-enrolled as a participating organization - our group ID # is **158556562**

Enroll your Safeway club card, Macy's card, credit card and other participating merchant card numbers with the E-scrip program designating St. Mark's as the beneficiary of your purchases. Every 90 days St. Mark's will receive a small percentage of funds from the E-Scrip program based on expenditures.

Thank you! St. Mark's Stewardship Committee

# Church Life

**WE OFFER PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING ON BEHALF OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS.**

## JULY Birthdays

1	Abby Kwapil'
	Ikkel Judah
2	Paul Hidy
3	David Wiese
4	Mana Tominaga
5	Michelle Ward
9	Margaret McLean
10	Susan Munn
11	Siegfried Ocker
12	Robert Ruh
	Lisa Dahill
13	Cristin Owens
15	Aaron Greig
16	Davia Schendel
17	Mary Perryman
	Sara Choy
18	Kristina Rotter
	Laura Irvin
20	David Fabie
	Coco Ocker
	Eby Hidysmith
21	Valerie Wiese
22	Ian Blasch
23	Halle Bohlig
24	Bill Gundel
26	Barbara McCormick
	Mark Connelly
27	Lucca Jones
28	Dorothy Seeliger
31	Demetra Bartz

## AUGUST Birthdays

3	Natalie Lehmann
6	Lynne Bartron
7	Lisa Gray
9	Sally King
	Nathan Semonian
15	Joe Gonzales
16	Greg Hausler
17	Wanelda Jones
18	Marybelle Smith
	Joseph Connelly
19	Rev. Hans Hoch
	Kristin Hart
21	Lynda Ross
	Ariana Baum
22	James Benson
24	Eric Baum
	Nora Hurley
25	Sarah Hart
27	Geri Bailey
30	Stacy Cullison

### St Mark's New Pictorial Directory coming soon...

Wondering what happened to the pictorial directory? St Mark's latest directory will be coming out sometime in mid-August. We'll let you know when we will receive the copies "hot off the press"!

## WHY WE ARE AT ST. MARK'S

We introduce to you active young adults from our community. If you are a young adult and interested in St. Mark's or the different programs and ministries in our community, contact Pastor Christian Jennert at (415) 928-7770, ext. 226 or [Jennert@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:Jennert@stmarks-sf.org).



### "Why I am at St. Mark's"

Name: Margy Glasner

Age: 29 (again)

Birthplace: Cheyenne, Wyoming

### First Time I attended St. Mark's:

March, 2003

### What impressed me most:

The diversity of the congregation and the music

### What could St. Mark's do even better:

Get more young adults involved

### Where I am involved in this community:

YABS, SMART, SLUDGE, or any other group with an acronym

### Why I stay:

The community, the music, the variety of ministries at St. Mark's.

## NO MORE HIROSHIMAS!

No more Nagasakis! This August marks the 60th anniversaries of the U.S. atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In Japanese culture, the 60th birthday holds particular significance in celebrating long life. This year the greatest gift to the hibakusha (survivors of the bombings) would be to reaffirm life by starting negotiations to eliminate nuclear weapons. **Sow the Seeds of Change** through prayers, education and nonviolent actions to commemorate the atomic bombings and vow "never again". For more information contact Tri-Valley CARES at [www.trivalleycares.org](http://www.trivalleycares.org). - Suzanne Smith

## CONGRATULATIONS, CHRISTIAN!

Christian Gehrke just finished sixth grade at Grace Cathedral School for Boys. Christian is also a chorister in the Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. On June 2, Christian received the Dean's Cross as part of the Choir Recognition Evensong. The Very Rev. Alan Jones, Dean of the Cathedral, said: "The esprit de corps and morale of the choir plays an essential part in its musical development as well as its sense of community. Each year one chorister is awarded the Dean's Cross for his contribution towards the developing spirit of teamwork in choir. This year's recipient of the Dean's Award is Christian Gehrke."

# Church Life

## Simply Giving Makes Giving Simple!

Living busy lives can sometimes lead us to forget to do certain things. Simply Giving is a tool for those who would like their offering to St. Mark's to be regular but don't always have the time to follow through. 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 45 families using Simply Giving—including the 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.

## September-October Evangel Deadline is AUGUST 10<sup>th</sup>!

Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the September – October 2005 newsletter. Please email articles and event notices—as plain text in the body of the email—to [admin@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:admin@stmarks-sf.org). If you do not have email access, please place a hard copy in Ann Dayton's mailbox in the church office. The Evangel is published bimonthly.

## St. Mark's Evangel ONLINE

To receive the newsletter via email instead of snail mail, please email your request to [admin@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:admin@stmarks-sf.org). When the Evangel is published, you will receive an email with a link to the new edition on our website ([www.stmarks-sf.org](http://www.stmarks-sf.org)). The Evangel can be read, downloaded and printed as an Adobe PDF. Be among the first to read it and save paper, postage, copying and trees! You will need the Adobe Reader which you can download free from [www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html](http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html).

## St. Mark's is a

### “Reconciling in Christ” Congregation

St. Mark's is one of over 315 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 Krefting at (415) 826-3124 or [krefting@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:krefting@stmarks-sf.org) or contact Pastor Elizabeth Ekdale at (415) 928-7770, x. 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>.

## Our Church Council

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

Randy Schieber, VP  
(650) 873-8997  
[schieber@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:schieber@stmarks-sf.org)

Margaret McLean, Secretary  
(510) 895-1746  
[mclean@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:mclean@stmarks-sf.org)

Debra Varian, Treasurer  
(415) 550-2638  
[varian@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:varian@stmarks-sf.org)

Marcy Bahr  
(415) 647-8482  
[bahr@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:bahr@stmarks-sf.org)

Jim Dallas  
(510) 832-1946  
[dallas@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:dallas@stmarks-sf.org)

Patrick Hurley  
(510) 836-6672  
[hurley@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:hurley@stmarks-sf.org)

Kurt Jacobsen  
(510) 523-0784  
[jacobsen@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:jacobsen@stmarks-sf.org)

Nicole Mitchell  
(650) 738-2272  
[mitchell@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:mitchell@stmarks-sf.org)

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

Susan Stone  
(415) 771-6923  
[stone@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:stone@stmarks-sf.org)

Laurel Troner  
(408) 773-8189  
[troner@stmarks-sf.org](mailto:troner@stmarks-sf.org)

St. Mark's Lutheran Church  
 1111 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco, CA 94109  
 phone: 415-928-7770 fax: 415-928-8534  
 Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
 DALY CITY, CA  
 PERMIT NO. 1143



Please contact us if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

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.**

<b>Staff</b>	<b>Email Address (415) 928-7770</b>
The Rev. Elizabeth E. Ekdale, Pastor .....	Ekdale@stmarks-sf.org x. 230
The Rev. Christian Jennert, Associate Pastor .....	Jennert@stmarks-sf.org x. 226
Rodney P. Gehrke, Director of Music and Liturgy .....	Gehrke@stmarks-sf.org x. 233
Jun Ranches, Office Manager.....	Ranches@stmarks-sf.org x. 225
Ann Dayton, Part-time Administrative Assistant .....	admin@stmarks-sf.org x. 224
Cheryl Garcia, Part-time Bookkeeper .....	bookkeeper@stmarks-sf.org x. 229
Duc Huynh, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, x. 222	
Carl Storey, Weekend Custodian	
Liu Liulaumea, Property Monitor	
Gail Culp, Sunday School Coordinator	
Elvira Markov and Gladys Pozo, Nursery Assistants	
Mary Beth Weaver, 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

