

Learn, Serve and Grow

2015-2016 Ministry Opportunities at

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

by The Narrows



Gathered, Nourished, Sent

A place for grace.

6730 North 17th Street, Tacoma, Washington 98406

Phone: 253.752.4966 Fax: 253.752.4990

office@smlutheran.org

www.smlutheran.org

Table of Contents

Adult Faith Formation	1
Children & Youth Faith Formation	2
Stewardship & Finance	5
Congregational Care	6
Peace & Justice	8
Outreach	10
Worship & Music	11
Elected & Appointed Positions	13

Learn, Serve and Grow

Our Mission Statement

We are a people and a place for God's grace, claimed and called by Jesus Christ to worship, witness, learn, serve, and reach out with words and deeds of love.

Our Vision

- St. Mark's is a place in which every person is spiritually nourished.
- St. Mark's is a congregation in which all persons are active in our mission.
- St. Mark's is a church that is part of a larger, more diverse human community in which we both offer and receive gifts.

Our Ministry

- We provide a place for God's grace.
- We invite all people to receive the gospel of Jesus Christ and the fullness of God's grace through worship where we are gathered, nourished and sent to be Christ's body in the world.
- We share God's story and our stories to witness to God's love.
- We learn by providing opportunities for all generations to explore their diverse stories in light of God's story in order to answer Christ's call.
- We serve God by generously giving our time, talent, treasure and by sharing all the resources God has given us.
- We reach out to one another with words and deeds of love.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation Committee

Oversees the activities and mission of Adult Faith Formation. If you enjoy deep consideration and conversation of how adults form and grow in faith, please join the committee of people who engage in these questions and plan spiritual growth opportunities for adults at St. Mark's.

Contact: Mary Jo Larsen, larsenmj@plu.edu

Sunday Mornings

For specific information on topics, please check the weekly Parish Life or Bridge.

Sunday 9:45am **Adult Forum Series (September-June)**

A lively, discussion-based gathering designed to challenge, enrich and engage us with the world around us. Topics and hosts vary week-to-week.

Sunday 11am **Bible & Theology (September-June)**

This series-based class offers the opportunity to dig into scripture and Christian tradition through study and conversation. All are welcome.

Midweek Gatherings

1st Mondays **Gig Harbor Circle Study**

This group meets the first Monday of the month at various homes.
Contact: Suzy Reynolds, 253-852-0593.

Tuesday 5:15pm **"Fully Alive" Bible Study (Fireside Room)**

Wednesday 9:30am **Women's Bible Study (Parish Commons Classroom)**

Wednesday noon **Luncheon Bible Study (Parish Commons Classroom 1)**

Conversation is guided by the pastor who will be preaching, and by the insights and questions of the group. All are welcome for lunch and discussion.

Wednesday 6:15pm **Midweek Study & Renewal (Fireside Room)**

Grab a bite to eat in the narthex and come to the Fireside Room for discussion and reflection on a variety of topics.

Thursdays (see dates) **Interfaith Bible Study**

This year's theme is "Finding God in the Other". Meets Oct 1, Nov 5, Dec 3 at 7pm.

Faith Journey

Faith Journey is a series of twelve weekly gatherings at St. Mark's that give visitors an opportunity to hear each other's stories, explore questions of faith, build relationships, hear scripture together, and listen for God's call. There is a Faith Journey group that meets on Sundays from 12:15-1:30 pm and another one on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:15 pm. A meal is served at both gatherings. Childcare is always available, and special activities for older children are hosted on Wednesday nights.

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Children & Youth Faith Formation Committee

Oversees the activities and mission of Children and Youth Faith Formation. A team of leaders who are involved with children or youth ministries and interested in the design and planning of faith formational environments with children and youth. The team meets every month and shares what contributes to children and youth growing, serving, and learning in faith and strive to apply St. Mark's ministry goals in children and youth settings.

Contact: Ingelaurie Lisher, ingelaurie@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966 x104, Council representative Bennett Fors.

Volunteering in Children's Faith Formation

Adults and Sr. High Youth called to help children grow in faith and gifted with love of children and abilities to relate with them in faith are always needed.

Potential volunteers can download the "Invitation to the Ministry of Teaching and Faith Formation with Children" on the church website, or contact Char Leone, Children's Faith Formation Coordinator at char.leone@smlutheran.org

Sunday Mornings with Children

Ages: 3 years old - Grade 4

Contact: Char Leone, char.leone@smlutheran.org, 253-468-5281

Each Sunday, September 20th - June, 9:45-10:45am (9:30 - 9:45am Gathering and greeting time in designated rooms)
Children's Faith Center Rooms

Children are encouraged to attend age-level Sunday school classes where they will actively learn and share Bible stories. Besides engaging in God's story, children also learn what it means to grow in faith and discipleship through faith practices, including prayer, worship, service, and giving.

Preschool Ages 3 and 4: Music, play time, Bible stories, and activities are all part of the Sunday school hour.

Kindergarten-age thru 4th Grade - Each week children have a music opening, class time, and alternate in joining the congregation for communion.

Pick up a family information packet and registration form at the start of our Sunday school year or in the CFC Office.

Wednesday Church Night with Children: "Holy Moly"

Nursery Care - Infants to 4 years

Holy Moly Bible Story time - Children ages 5 to 8; 6:15 - 7:15pm

Children are welcome at Prayer Service starting at 7:30pm

Contact: Char Leone, char.leone@smlutheran.org, 253-468-5281

"Holy Moly! Bringing the Bible to Life." Meet in the Children's Faith Center after Church Night Dinner for Holy Moly! interactive Bible stories. Fall Holy Moly! covers Old Testament stories in narrative form. Parent sign-in children and pick up at 7:15pm Led by Char Leone and Randi Kander.

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Sunday Mornings with Youth

Contact: Ingelaurie Lisher, ingelaurie@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966 x 104

5/6th Grade Sunday School

Sunday Mornings 9:45-10:45am in the Youth Wing.

Confirmation

7th and 8th grade students meet on Sunday mornings in small groups in the Youth Wing.
9th grade students meet September 10 to October 22 on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30pm in the PCC to prepare for the Affirmation of Baptism service, held on Reformation Sunday (the last Sunday in October).

9-12th Grade Sunday School

Thematic discussions on faith and life.
Video resources are often used
Sunday Mornings 9:45 - 10:45am in the Fireside Room

Nursery Care

Youth grades 6-12th (with Babysitting training and First Aid CPR) are invited to work/volunteer to serve in our church nursery throughout the year. Adults/Parents are also invited to volunteer in our nursery on Sunday mornings during worship. Infants and toddlers up to 4 years old are welcome during worship and church activities.

JR ALYVE

Grades 6-8

This is a time of fellowship, games and discussion.

The JR ALYVE group also meets at various times throughout the year for fellowship and service activities.

Youth Group meets
1st & 3rd Thursdays, 5:30-6:30pm, Starting October 1

SR ALYVE

Grades 9-12

SR ALYVE Youth Group meets at various times throughout the year for fellowship and service activities. See the monthly calendar or the Parish Life on the youth board.

Youth Group meets for breakfast
1st Sunday of each month at 11am in Youth Room. Beginning in November

Leaders for Children & Youth

Ages: 21 and older

Adult volunteers are needed to assist with various music and youth events.

All participants are subject to background checks and personal interviews.

Summer Ministries

Vacation Bible School, August 1-5, 2016, Ages: 4 years-old through Grade 5

Each year at the beginning of August, we reach out into the community around us to share the good news of Jesus. All parts of our facility are used as members and non-members alike, of all ages, learn while having a great deal of fun. Teachers, assistants, craft leaders and helpers, snack providers, and musicians all are needed.

Youth Summer Trip information coming soon.

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Milestones & Markers

Meaningful, memorable moments woven into a life lived in faith. Tell the stories. Bless the days. Share the prayers

PLEASE NOTE THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR.

Communion Instruction, Young Children & Parent Oct. 11, 9:45-11:00am, CFC, Rm. 4

Children learn they are welcome at the table for Holy Communion as they participate in an age-appropriate learning experience along with their parents. Children are welcome to participate in Holy Communion as part of this gathering.

Volunteers: Needed to help bake bread with ages 4-6

Interactive Learning about prayer and The Lord's Prayer, with 1st graders and parents January 24, 9:45-10:45am, CFC, Rm. 5

Growing in relationship to God through prayer. Children and parents will explore The Lord's Prayer together. Together they will also make a prayer cube as a reminder of different types of prayer.

3rd Grade Bibles Palm Sunday, March 20, 2016

9:45 Worship ~ St. Mark's children in 3rd grade receive their own NRSV Bible during Palm Sunday worship. Bibles are presented by parents and congregation.

11:00 - 12:00 in Parish Commons, for 3rd graders, parents, and others who have guided them in faith.

Created in God's Image ("CGI") with 5th Graders and parents ~ To be scheduled in May

Markers & Blessings learning event involving 5th grade children and their parents as children get ready to progress to youth ministry. Together parent and child will create a mosaic mirror as a reminder they are created in God's image ("CGI").

LEARNING & SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Annual and special one-time projects for Children, Youth & Families throughout the year

Oct 4 - Associated Ministries Hunger Walk

Throughout the year - Assemble kits for Lutheran World Relief

Nov - Donate food at Thanksgiving time

Nov 29- Intergenerational Advent Event at 9:45 - all ages in the CFC

Dec 13 - Children's Christmas Program (3/4 year olds, 11am during worship) (Grades K-4, 4pm program with Dessert potluck following)

Volunteers are always needed!

If you can help in any way, contact Char Leone char.leone@smlutheran.org

Preschool

Ages: 2 1/2- PreK, begins September and follows the Tacoma Public Schools district calendar.

Learning, growing, and sharing in God's love is at the heart of St. Mark's Preschool philosophy. We emphasize the hands-on approach for all of our learning experiences. We support a developmentally appropriate program which allows children to grow and develop at their own rate. We believe early childhood should be a time of fun, warmth, security, exploring, and discovery. Preschool children are creative and receptive; the staff strives to nurture and encourage these qualities in the children who attend. The curriculum includes sharing and conversation time; stories, songs, and fingerplays; activities and crafts; games and large muscle activities; field trips throughout the community; baking, science and nature activities; family nights; chapel; exposure to shapes, colors, numbers, and letters; and celebration of birthdays, holidays, and cultural events.

Contact: Anne Zimmerman, anne.zimmerman@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4929

STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE

Stewardship Ministry Team

The purpose of stewardship ministry at St. Mark's is to be a people and a place for God's grace who freely and generously share their God-given gifts of time, talents and resources in love and in gratitude. We understand that we are called as a community to worship, learn, serve and reach out in words and deeds of love because we are stewards of the blessings we have received.

The Stewardship Ministry Team provides leadership in three areas of responsibility: 1) Promoting opportunities for the people of St. Mark's to give time, talents and abilities to allow us to live our mission, locally, nationally and globally 2) Inviting the people of St. Mark's to give financially to fund our ministry operations, facilities maintenance and debt reduction. 3) Providing stewardship education for people of all ages throughout the church year.

Meets Monthly

Contact: James Pence, 253-219-3795

Finance & Operations Committee

Adults

- Oversees management of the church's finances including implementing sound fiscal management procedures and an annual audit.
- Responsible for accurate record keeping of contributions of members, including offerings and financial gifts, and appropriate reporting of the same.
- Provides monthly financial reports to Church Council and prepares the preliminary budget for Church Council and congregation approval.
- Monitors the invested assets of the congregation and the building mortgage.

Contact: Larry Bitter, 253-853-3741

Property Team

All Ages

- Helps us to be good stewards of all the physical properties that have been entrusted to us.
- Regular maintenance and improvements to the building and grounds.
- Join on a weekly basis or choose a special task and do it on your own time schedule.
- Currently there is a Thursday crew which gathers every week to do a variety of tasks, both indoors and out.
- Enjoy good fellowship around the coffee pot in the kitchen.

Contact:
Chuck Droubay, 253-759-6720

Meets Thursday mornings.

Care of Creation

All Ages

- Provide leadership to the St. Mark's family in fostering and modeling environmental stewardship within the church community as well as within the broader community.
- Past activities have included current topic discussions at the Adult Forum on Sunday, Summer day hikes, and camping trips.
- Suggestions welcome for future activities that celebrate God's creation and encourages all members to join in our activities.

Contact:
Tom Hulst, thulst@harbornet.com,
253-460-2683

Children's Stewardship

Children will hear more about the faith practices of "Giving" and "Sharing" during Sunday school.

They are given offering envelopes and encouraged to donate from their own funds (if possible) towards St. Mark's hunger and poverty benevolences. Families are encouraged to participate in Stewardship-sponsored learning events, including cross-generational events that may be scheduled during the year at the 11am hour.

St. Mark's encourages children and families to practice "Share, Save, Spend" with a divided piggy bank and Thrivent's helpful resource entitled "Parents, Kids and Money."

Children will complete a special "Learn, Serve, Grow" response form and return it on Commitment Sunday.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Congregational Care Committee

Ages: All confirmed members

This committee encourages the development and maintenance of a sense of belonging at St. Mark's. The committee assists all members to participate in the ministries of St. Mark's so as to manifest the unity given to the people of God in Christ. The committee is concerned with the well-being of people with visitation, reaching out to inactive members, and supporting people through various life situations.

Contact: Maggie Conley, memacconley@gmail.com, 253-581-8985

Baptismal Quilts

St. Mark's gives the gift of a quilt to those who are baptized here. Do you quilt? If you are interested in making baptismal quilts please contact the church office at 253-752-4966

Gay Straight Alliance

The GSA group's identity statement is: "We are an intergenerational gathering of St. Mark's members and friends who acknowledge and celebrate human diversity, particularly sexual orientation and gender identity, as an expression of God's creative purpose. We journey together in gratitude for God's love, which reconciles and makes us all one in Christ. We seek to strengthen our church community by sharing our experience, encouraging, enjoying and learning from one another. We acknowledge injustice and strive to make this gathering a place of safety and healing for all who participate."

Contact: Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org

Cooks Club

Open to all who are interested in building fellowship through cooking, setting up, and dish washing for various meals needed at St. Mark's and twice a year at Peace Lutheran Church for those in need. The Cooks Club has also met to learn new recipes and cook a meal for themselves.

Contact: John Wascher, jwascher@mac.com, 253-503-6765

Bus Driver

Ages: 25-69

St. Mark's offers transportation on Sunday mornings for people who are unable to drive. The Tacoma Lutheran Retirement Center allows qualified drivers to use one of their buses. More drivers are needed. If you are accustomed to driving larger vehicles, please consider joining this team.

**Seeking Coordinator: Please call the church office you are interested. 253-752-4966

Visting the Homebound

Those who for one reason or another are unable to participate in congregational worship and activities are kept in contact with their church family through regular visits. Team members who are able meet monthly to ensure that we know and are responsive to the needs of our members who are homebound. Your gifts in this ministry are needed and welcome.

Contact: Pastor Phil Rue, philmaryrue@comcast.net, 360-790-5489

Stephen Ministry

Ages: 18 and older

Stephen Ministers supplement the pastoral staff by providing one-on-one care to people experiencing life transitions and challenges (for example: impending death, recovery from illness, loss of a job or a relationship, dealing with a chronic illness).

Contact: Sarah Callow, 253-566-9233

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Parish Nursing

- Open to any health care provider
- Help with Blood Pressure Sundays, and/or writing articles for the Bridge newsletter.
- Work to address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the congregation.
- Coordinate health programs and facilitate the use of church and community resources.
- Parish Nurse office: Music Wing off the upper parking lot. A Parish Nurse is available on Wednesday evenings during Church Night activities for consultations and blood pressure checks by appointment.

Contact: Patty Reinkensmeyer, pardcr@comcast.net, 253-857-7977 or call church office 253-752-4996

Connect and Care TimeBank

The Connect and Care TimeBank, a project of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, is a creative means of providing members the ability to build community through service to one another. It connects individuals and organizations -building communities of health, justice and hope for all, and creating a special Time Fund for caregivers and those with greater needs.

Contact: Patty Reinkensmeyer, pardcr@comcast.net, 253-857-7977

Prayer Shawl Ministry

When you combine knitting and praying, what do you get? A tangible, warm, beautiful sign of God's love to wrap around someone who is hurting. Can be done at home, while waiting for appointments or in groups.

Contact: Jan Pence, janpence@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4996

Office Support & Odd Jobs

(Helpful and Occasional Tasks)

- **Office Support**, occasional mailings, answering phone and other office duties
Contact: Jan Pence, janpence@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966.
- **Pew Clean-up and Straightening**, weekly—contact Jan Pence
- **Prayer Station**, weekly—contact Jan Pence
- **Food Bank**: Take food from the bins near the office to the Food Bank at Mason United Methodist Church, 2710 N. Madison, Tacoma, WA 98407. Wednesday (noon to 4pm) or Saturday (11:30am-3pm). Phone 253-756-4974. (weekly or bi-monthly)
- **Kitchen Help**, contact Becki Christian 253-686-1486 or Mike Trygstad 253-985-1992
 - Sunday coffee hour
 - Sunday luncheon (Sept-June)
 - Wednesday evening meals (Sept-June)
 - Other events (funerals, receptions, etc.)

Women of St. Mark's

Women of All Ages

- Active group hosts fall gathering, Advent brunch, and spring luncheon or tea, all with wonderful programs, food, crafts, and outreach projects.
- In November, this group hosts the annual fundraiser, the Holiday Bazaar. The bazaar profits are divided between our Church needs and Outreach.
- In addition, they support the ongoing work of Lutheran World Relief and share their talents with many of the ministries of St. Mark's.

Contact: Bonnie Wascher, bwascher@mac.com, 253-503-6765 or Carol Paulson, 253-564-6838, iamnanaberry@hotmail.com

Sunday Morning Care Ministry

- Welcome and reach out to visitors and newcomers with conversation and care.
- No set Sundays or committees, but a commitment to outreach during Coffee Hour on every Sunday that you are at St. Mark's.

Contact: Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966

PEACE & JUSTICE

Peace & Justice Committee

All Ages

Equips, motivates and supports the members of St. Mark's in extending compassion to the poor and oppressed and to persons in need and advocating for them as needed.

Contact: John Avery, 253-759-6365

Fair Trade

All Ages

Fairly Traded coffee, tea and chocolate are available for purchase the first Sunday of each month. Fall Fair Trade Bazaar in Nov or Dec, where other items from all over the world may be purchased.

Contact: Christine Harris,
christine@raincity.com,
253-686-3047

Peace Community Center

All Ages

Twice a year St. Mark's members prepare and serve a meal (see Cooks Club) . Members are also involved with tutoring local students each week.

Contact: Phil Birkeland (tutoring),
p.birkeland@comcast.net,
253-564-9109 or John Wascher
(meal), 253-503-6765,
jwascher@mac.com

Habitat for Humanity

Youth & Adults

St. Mark's builds as a group at least one day a year in our local community and we travel to other countries through the Habitat Global Village Program.

Contact: Tom Geary, TWGeary@aol.com or
Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org

Christmas Family Project

All Ages

St. Mark's individuals provide Christmas gifts and food to low-income families in our area and help to provide a very merry Christmas.

Contact: Judy Droubay, jcdroubay@hotmail.com,
253-759-6720 or Mary Jo Holum, 253-752-3304

Mexico Mission

Ages: High School Youth & Adults, last week of June

Each year, an inter-generational group travels to Mexico to support the work of local Mexican congregations seeking to share the love of Christ with their neighbors. This involves building houses for needy families, sharing food with the hungry, providing snacks and daily activities for children, helping with the renovation of facilities, and serving in any other way that is needed on a year-to-year basis.

Diverse talents are needed! Skill with building, language, culinary, music, ability to work with children, and more gifts that enhance the overall mission. Interest forms are available in January of each year and the mission team meets on a regular basis from March to June.

There are many ways for the whole congregation to support the Mexico Mission, including help with the dinner and auction that serves as the principle fundraiser in early May.

Contact: Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org

Lutheran Volunteer Corps, Local Support Committee

All Ages

LVC offers a one-year opportunity for spiritual and personal exploration while working for social justice, living in intentional community and simplifying their lifestyles. The Local Support Committee provides ongoing hospitality and encouragement to volunteers placed in Tacoma, addressing any needs that come up throughout the year and raising funds for the ongoing work of LVC.

Contact: Ray Shjerven, rshjerven@comcast.net

PEACE & JUSTICE

Lutheran World Relief

All Ages

A group meets weekly at St. Mark's to sew and tie quilts. If you are not available on Mondays, you could work at home cutting fabric squares, sewing diapers or creating baby hats. The group also creates Quilts, Health Kits, School Kits, baby hats, Layettes and Midwife Kits. Donations can also be made to the Lutheran Boxcar Fund.

Contact: Celesta Smith or Elaine Rodning, 253-761-9198, decnelan@att.net

Special Events: Jack and Catherine Terrill, catherineterrill@comcast.net,
253-274-0891

Bread for the World

All Ages

BFW is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's leaders to end hunger at home and abroad. As a congregation, we participate in an annual Offering of Letters and seek to educate ourselves on issues of hunger.

Contact: Herman Diers,
raindiers@harbornet.com

Nativity House

Ages: Youth & Adults

St. Mark's serves a mid-day meal every 4th Saturday to an average of 200 people at this drop-in day shelter in Tacoma. Families to serve together and really make difference in the lives of those who are less fortunate.

Donations of clothing are occasionally needed—watch the Parish Life for updates.

Contact: Melanie Summerour
summerour@msn.com,
253-857-8872

Family Housing Network

All Ages

St. Mark's serves as home to homeless families for two weeks during the year. Help is needed with all areas of hospitality: set-up, clean-up, food preparation, visiting, overnight hosting. The rewards are great as relationships are formed with our neighbors from Pierce County.

Contact: Paula Friedmann, pfzebra@me.com

Empowering Life

All Ages

This faith-based non-profit works to support the incarcerated women at Washington Corrections Center in Purdy and at Mission Creek Center for Women in Belfair. Programs include one-on-one life-coaching, pastoral care, mentorships during the re-entry process, classes, and therapeutic arts workshops. St. Mark's members have the opportunity to worship with the women of WCCW on the 5th Sunday of the month, with prior approval.

Contact: Joan Nelson, joan2nelson@comcast.net

DeLong Programs

All Ages

BackPack Program—Donate specified food to go home each weekend with students from DeLong Elementary who are at-risk for hunger OR pack sacks of food each Wednesday at 1:15 at St. Mark's.

Contact: Jean Steingrebe, jsteingrebe@gmail.com

Lunch Buddies—Eat and enjoy conversation with students who are in need of extra adult attention and care.

Contact: Mary Olsen, 253-752-2844, maryolsen@yahoo.com

Tech Wizards — Mentor a young student by way of easy tech activities, no special skills required other than building a relationship with kids. (In cooperation with 4-H)

Contact: Mike Seiber, 253-564-3757

OUTREACH

Outreach Committee

Youth & Adults

Our goal is to focus attention on the congregational goal of being a public presence in our neighborhood. Exploring ways to better understand and connect with the people who live in the vicinity of our church and to reach out to them with words and deeds of love.

Contact: Lisa Daniels, lisapotpie@gmail.com, 253-761-0168



Faith Journey Companions

Ages: Youth & Adults

Members of St. Mark's walk side by side with new people in a Faith Journey that leads them to baptism or affirmation of baptism.

Contact: Pastor Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4996



Technology Team

Ages: Youth & Adults

The Technology Team at St. Mark's is a volunteer group of technology professionals and enthusiasts who partner with the staff and ministry teams to further ministry goals through technology. Some projects that we have worked on include: installing software, computers, servers, printers, and networking components, telephone systems, website and e-mail support, procurement and strategic planning. We also provide some technical assistance to the staff as needed. We value diverse technical backgrounds and welcome anyone with enthusiasm for technology, ideas on how St. Mark's can use it, or simply a willingness to share your "nerdy" gifts with us!

Contact: Levin Conway, 253-572-5158

Welcome Table Host

All Ages

The Welcome Center in the Narthex is our one-stop information center for all who visit St. Mark's on Sunday morning, whether they are first-time or returning visitors, or long-standing members of our congregation.

As a Welcome Table Host, you'll be an integral part of making people comfortable, welcome, and "known" at our church. Hosts serve during Sunday Morning Coffee Hour and provide hospitality and conversation for those who join you. This role does not require an extensive knowledge of what is happening at St. Mark's; Welcome Table Hosts are there to help people feel at home here and to learn more about us.

If you are called to a ministry of hospitality, enjoy meeting new people, or simply want to help foster a sense of community in our church home, please let us know! This is a wonderful opportunity for anyone willing to "Reach Out with Words and Deeds of Love."

Contact: Pastor Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966



WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship and Music Committee

Ages: Youth & Adults

Meets 2nd Tuesdays, January, March, May, July, September, November, 6pm

Support pastors and music staff in nurturing the worship life of the congregation. Advise, encourage, assist, share feedback and make appropriate recommendations which enhance congregational worship and music in ways that reflect our rich Lutheran heritage. Contact: Jon Rodin email: jonanddawn@harbornet.com 253-627-5186

Music Ensembles...Unless otherwise noted, contact Cooper Sherry, cooper.sherry@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966

Celebration Ensemble 8:30am Service Ages: Adults Rehearsals: Thursdays, 7:30-9pm and Sunday, 7:45am	Acts as liturgical host through musical ministry, preparing anthems, psalms, calls to worship, and hymns to support and enhance the worship life of the congregation. The eclectic musical nature of blended worship involves many styles and genres, including many global traditions from faith communities around the world.
Praise Team 9:45 Service Ages: Adults Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6-7:30pm	For those with a desire to lead worship and praise God through contemporary Christian popular music. Music repertoire also reaches to other genres, including blended, gospel and global. This group leads worship and rehearses every week, year-round, and collaborates several times a year with other St. Mark's ensembles. Contact: Darren Kerbs, darren@smlutheran.org
Canticle Choir 11am Service Ages: Adults Rehearsals: TBD	Singing traditional classical choral music for the 11am service, this choir prepares one or two anthems per month. Members may also serve weekly on rotating quartets as song leaders in worship. Rehearsal time is limited, so singers with choral reading skills and vocal confidence are needed.
St. Mark's Chorale All Ages Rehearsals: Once a month, see Cooper or the Church Office for specific schedule.	A chance for families and friends of all ages to come together to sing. No prior experience or skills necessary. The goal is to bring as many people from the larger St. Mark's community together once each month to form the biggest choir possible to prepare an anthem for the 11am service. Join us one of these months!
Prayer Service Musicians Wednesdays 7-8pm	Vocal and instrumental musicians needed for solo leadership.
Bells of St. Mark's Ages: Adults and Youth Rehearsals: Thursdays, 6-7:20pm	Intermediate to advanced bell choir. For success, ringers need to read music and commit to weekly rehearsals, missing when only absolutely necessary. No bell ringing experience is necessary to join - all bell techniques will be taught during rehearsals. Rehearses weekly, Sept-Jun.

Babies of St. Mark's Babies (w/parent/guardian) Wednesday 5-5:30pm, Children's Faith Center	Little Angels Choir Ages 2 and up Wednesday 5-5:30pm Children's Faith Center	Joyful Noise Choir K - 2nd Grade Wednesday 5:30-6pm, Choir Room	Jubilation Choir Grades 3 - 5 Wednesday 6-7pm, Choir Room
Come and spend a half hour with your child as we use music as a way to have fun, learn rhythms, get to know each other, and appreciate God's gifts in our lives.	Preschool children love to sing, dance, and express themselves in all sorts of ways through music. This group begins their journey in singing about God. Parents are welcome.	This is the perfect age to begin growing into loving to sing in a choir. Children begin to read music and appreciate how music works. They have the opportunity to sing in worship each season, including the Christmas Musical.	This choir focuses on learning the beginning basics of good choral technique and music theory, all while having fun singing songs that are enjoyable for their age group. Sings once a month with St. Mark's Chorale.
Youth Choir Grades 6-12, Thursdays (starting Oct. 1) 6:30-7:30pm in the Narthex A vocal ensemble that rehearses weekly. This group build skills toward singing 4-part a cappella music. All skill levels welcome.	Music for Worship Children and youth are invited to share pieces they've learned for instrument or voice during worship services and/or church events. A great opportunity to share musical gifts with your faith community! Contact: Cooper Sherry to coordinate opportunities.		

Sunday Morning Worship

There are a variety of ways to be involved in Sunday morning worship in addition to music groups. Training is available! Contact the church office unless otherwise noted. 253-752-4966 jan.pence@smlutheran.org.

Greeters All Ages	Greeters meet worshipers as they enter the church. Warmly greet, welcome, acknowledge, and provide help and information as needed.
Ushers All Ages	Ushers meet worshipers as they enter the sanctuary. Distribute worship bulletins and oversee congregational physical well-being during worship. Guide worshipers to open seats, direct congregation during communion, gather prayer requests cards and offering, and count attendance.
Lectors (Scripture Readers) Ages: Confirmed Members	Read the lessons during Sunday morning worship. The lessons are sent to the readers the week before the service so you can familiarize yourself with the text.
Communion Servers Ages: Confirmed members	Assist pastors to distribute wine, juice, and bread during the Lord's Supper.
Acolytes (11am Worship) Ages: Grades 3-5	Acolytes process in with the pastor, light candles on the altar, hold the Bible for the Gospel reading, assist with offering and baptisms, extinguish candles at the end of the service. Arrive by 10:45am. Pastors and Cooper Sherry will provide training and orientation for all who sign up. Training takes place in Jubilation Choir, Weds 6-7pm
Altar Guild Ages: Youth and Adults (Children welcome with adult supervision)	Sign up for a variety of responsibilities, according to personal schedules. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare Sunday Communion – 1st shift 8:05 to 9:45am, 2nd shift 10:45 to 12:15pm. A shared responsibility once or twice a month. • Stock wafers, wine, grape juice, and candles – as necessary; approximately 4 times per year. • Pick up/deliver communion bread—a shared responsibility; weekly. • Refill/replace candles and candle oil – can be shared responsibility; weekly. • Clean and press communion linens – a shared responsibility; weekly. Contact: Linda Dieckhoff, ldieckhoff@comcast.net, 253-376-1446

--	--

ELECTED & APPOINTED POSITIONS

Church Council

Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation

General oversight of the life and activities of this congregation. Lead the congregation in stating its mission, does long range planning, sets goals and priorities, and evaluates its activities in light of its mission and goals.

Contact: Bill Klancke, billklancke@yahoo.com, 253-564-3574

Endowment Fund Committee

Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation

Meets quarterly in the evening to manage St. Mark's Endowment fund and to plan educational events about the many ways to leave a legacy at St. Mark's.

Contact: Pastor Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966

Memorial Committee

Confirmed Members, appointed by Church Council

Maintains the church Memorial Gift Fund Policy and selects appropriate memorials from church needs. Maintains a current record of all memorial gifts. Keeps track of all memorial gifts given to St. Mark's.

Contact: Carol Paulson, 253-564-6838

Personnel Committee

Confirmed Members, appointed by Church Council

Works with staff administrators and the Church Council to develop and implement personnel policies for St. Mark's. Serves as an advisory board to these leaders in personnel matters that need attention.

Contact: Jim Holland, 253-905-5693

Nominating Committee

Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation

Identifies and nominates candidates for congregationally elected positions

Contact:
Bill Klancke, billklancke@yahoo.com, 253-564-3574

Preschool Board

Confirmed Members, appointed by Church Council

Make policies and oversee the health of St. Mark's Preschool.

Contact:
Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, rebecca@smlutheran.org

Scholarship Committee

Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation

Meets three times a year to prepare forms for, review submitted applications from, and distribute scholarships to students attending Lutheran colleges or seminaries.

Contact:
Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, rebecca@smlutheran.org



A Place for Grace

6730 North 17th Street Tacoma, Washington 98406

Phone: 253.752.4966 Fax: 253.752.4990

office@smlutheran.org

www.smlutheran.org