Learn, Serve and Grow

2017 Ministry Opportunities at

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

by The Narrows

One Great Song

A place for grace.

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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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation Committee

Oversees the activities and mission of Adult Faith Formation. If you enjoy deep exploring 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 information on topics, please check the weekly Parish Life or Bridge.

Sunday 9:45 a.m. **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 11 a.m. **Bible & Theology (September-June)**
This series-based class offers the opportunity to dig into scripture and Christian tradition through study and conversation.

Midweek Gatherings

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

Tuesday 5:15 p.m. **"Fully Alive" Bible Study (Fireside Room)**

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. **Women's Bible Study (Parish Commons Classroom)**

Wednesday noon **Luncheon Bible Study (Parish Commons Classroom 1)**
Conversation is guided by the Sunday preacher, and by the insights and questions of the group.

Wednesday 6:15 p.m. **Midweek Study & Renewal (Parish Commons Classroom)**
Grab a bite to eat in the narthex and come to the adjoining classroom for discussion and reflection on a variety of topics.

Monthly Gatherings

1st Monday **Ruth Ann Circle Study (Various Homes)**
Contact: Suzy Reynolds, 253-852-0593.

2nd Tuesday noon **Lydia Circle**
Bring a brown bag lunch for bible study conversation and prayer

Interfaith Bible Study (Various Dates)
Meet with other faith traditions to discuss various interdenominational topics.

Annual Gathering Women's Retreat— Watch the Parish Life and Bridge for announcements.

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. (offered in the Fall and Winter)

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

Volunteering in Children's Faith Formation

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

Interested volunteers please contact Ingelaurie Lisher for more information and to complete our safe ministry training and forms.

Sunday Mornings with Children

Ages: 3 years old - Grade 4
Each Sunday, Mid September– June, 9:45-10:45 a.m. 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

Nursery Care – Infants to 4 years 5:30-8:00 p.m.
"Holy Moly! Bringing the Bible to Life." Meet in the Youth Room for a time of interactive Bible stories and activities. Led by Ingelaurie Lisher – Children ages 5 to 8; 6:15 – 7:00 p.m.

Children are welcome at Prayer Service starting at 7:30 p.m.

For all children activities ages 3 years to Grade 4, contact our Sunday School Coordinator at sundayschool@smlutheran.org or Ingelaurie Lisher at ingelaurie@smlutheran.org

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Sunday Mornings with Youth
Contact Ingelaurie Lisher, ingelaurie@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966 x104

5/6th Grade Sunday School
Sunday Mornings 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Youth Wing. Youth explore the stories of the Old and New Testament. Bible scriptures are over a two year cycle.

Confirmation
7th and 8th grade students meet on Sunday mornings in small groups in the Youth Wing. 9th grade students meet September to October on Thursdays from 5:30-6:30 p.m. 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 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

Nursery Care Opportunities
Youth grades 7-12 (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.

Youth Grades 6-8
JR ALYVE group meets at various times throughout the year for fellowship and service activities.

Youth Grades 9-12
SR ALYVE meets at various times throughout the year for fellowship and service activities.

JR/SR ALYVE Youth Group
Grades 6-12— meets most 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month for games and activities, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Commons. See the monthly calendar on the youth board or the Parish Life for exact dates.

St. Mark's Youth Cook
Grades 6-12— Come, learn and eat! No experience necessary.
5th Thursday of the month, 5:30-6:30 p.m. See Parish Life and Bridge for exact dates.

Summer Ministries

Vacation Bible School, First Week of August, 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 are needed.

Youth Summer Trip Information: See youth board, Bridge or Parish Life for up to date information

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.

- **Welcome to Sunday School**

  Preschool Sunday School Children and Parents. September, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

- **Communion Instruction**

  Young Children and Parents. Fall, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

- **Interactive Learning about Prayer and The Lord's Prayer, 1st Graders & Parents**

  Winter, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

- **3rd Grade Bible Presentations**

  Palm Sunday, 9:45 Worship with learning event at 11 a.m.

- **Created in God's Image ("CGI")**

  5th Graders and Parents. June, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

- **Blessing of High School Graduates**

  June

Learning & Serving Opportunities

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

Hunger Walk

Lutheran World Relief Assembly of Kits

Thanksgiving Food Donation

Intergenerational Advent Event

Children's Christmas Program

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 our philosophy. We emphasize a 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. The curriculum includes sharing and conversation time; stories, songs, and fingerplays; activities and crafts; games and large muscle activities; field trips; 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

FINANCE & OPERATIONS

Finance Committee

(Adults)

- Oversees management of the Church's finances including implementing sound fiscal management procedures and audits.
- 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 congregational approval.
- Monitors the invested assets of the congregation and the building mortgage.

Contact: Jennifer Droubay, jennifer.droubay@smlutheran.org

Property Committee

The Property Committee provides leadership in the oversight of Church facilities and grounds. As a congregation, we are committed to growing and sustaining a long-term maintenance (property improvement) plan and the funds to support it. The Property Committee meets quarterly to help set priorities for these capital improvements. This ministry will help guide the process to keep our facilities and grounds safe, accessible, comfortable, and beautiful to the glory of God. Contact: Jen Droubay jennifer.droubay@smlutheran.org

Property Crew

(All Ages)

- Helps congregation to be good stewards of all the physical properties entrusted to us.
- Regularly maintains and improves the building and grounds.
- Gathers Thursday most weeks to do a variety of tasks, both indoors and out.
- Meets to enjoy good fellowship around the coffee pot in the kitchen!

Join on a weekly basis or choose a special task and do it on your own time schedule.
Contact: Doug Durant hotdouug@harbornet.com 253-363-8202

Technology Team

(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. We provide 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

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Congregational Care Committee

Ages: All confirmed members
This committee takes an active interest in the members of St. Mark's. We visit and support those who have special life situations; we encourage participation in the various activities of the church; and well look for other ways to enhance the life and ministry of St. Mark's.
Contact:

Baptismal Quilts

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

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

Visiting 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 of care and contact 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

Sunday Lunch Cook

Lunch is provided on most Sundays from September through June following the 11am service. Your service would involve choosing a menu, purchasing ingredients and then preparing the meal for 40-50 people on the Sunday of your choosing. Church provides budget of up to $100. St. Mark's staff will set up the room , assist with serving, provide beverages, and clean up after the meal. Contact: Teresa Handy, Teresa.handy@smlutheran.org

Email Prayer Chain

The mission of the Prayer Chain is to communicate requests for payers to a network of individuals who are committed to the ministry of prayer for people in need. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please send your email to the church office.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Parish Nursing

This position is open to any health care provider**.** We work to address the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the congregation and coordinate health programs and facilitate the use of church and community resources. Parish Nurse office: A Parish Nurse is available on Wednesday evenings for consultations and blood pressure checks by appointment. Contact: Patty Reinkensmeyer, pardcr@comcast.net, 253-857-7977 or call the church office 253-752-4996

Women of St. Mark's

Women of All Ages

This 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, with profits 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: Barb Meyers, barbstitch@gmail.com, 253-756-9352, or Carol Paulson, iamnanaberry@hotmail.com, 253-564-6838

Take Them A Meal

Take Them A Meal is a ministry that provides meals to members who are recovering from surgery, undergoing treatment, or facing other life challenges. Using the online tool, "Take Them A Meal", we coordinate meals that are suited to the recipient's needs. If you would like to be part of the pool of people who may be called upon to provide meals, please contact Janet Duris, durisjanet@comcast.net

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 Walters, clareandjan@gmail.com, Torun Parker, tsparke@aol.com

Men's Breakfast

This fellowship group meets monthly on the third Thursday at 8 a.m. at Sunset Grill in Gig Harbor. Contact: Larry Bitter, lhbitter@yahoo.com 253-853-3741

Sunday Morning Care Ministry

Welcome and reach out to visitors and newcomers with conversation and care.
Contact: Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org, 253-752-4966

Office Support & Odd Jobs (Helpful and Occasional Tasks)

Occasional mailings, answering phone and other office projects. Contact Linda McKeller

Help with Memorial Receptions

Whenever we host a memorial reception, help is needed for providing cookies, plating the food to be served, serving punch, and clean up. Generally an email is sent out in advance and those who are willing will follow the provided link to sign up for what they would like to help with. Contact: Teresa Handy, Teresa.handy@smlutheran.org

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. Fair Trade Bazaars usually take place inn Spring and Winter, 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 members prepare and serve a meal. Members are involved with tutoring local students each week. Contact: Barb Haueisen barbhaueisen@yahoo.com or John Wascher (meal), 253-503-6765 jwascher@mac.com

Habitat for Humanity
(Youth & Adults) St. Mark's builds as a group in our local community and we travel to other countries through the Habitat Global Village Program. Contact: Tom Geary, TWGeary@aol.com

Christmas Family Project
(All Ages) Individuals provide Christmas gifts and food to low-income families in our area. Contact: Judy Droubay, jcdroubay@hotmail.com 253-759-6720, or Mary Jo Holum, 253-752-3304

Chase the Chill
(All Ages) In the fall and winter months we deliver hats, scarves and gloves to the various shelters around Tacoma. There is a stockpile of yarn for those who are interested in knitting or crocheting for this project. Donations of yarn accepted. Contact: Linda McKeller, lmckeller@comcast.net 253-564-2067 or Eleanor Sherry.

Mexico Mission
(High School Youth & Adults) Each year in the month of June, 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 families, sharing food with the hungry, and daily activities for children, helping with the renovation of facilities, and serving in other ways. Contact: Melanie Summerour, summerour@msn.com

Lutheran Volunteer Corps (LVC) Local Support Committee
The Local Support Committee provides hospitality and encouragement to LVC volunteers placed in Tacoma, addressing any needs that come up and raising funds for the ongoing work of LVC. Contact: Ray Shjerven, rshjerven@comcast.net

Advocacy Team
In addition to the many "direct services" ministries of the congregation, the Advocacy Team organizes efforts to address the root problems that create hunger and homelessness and find effective soluations. Contact Clare Walters, clareandjan@gmail.com

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 on various projects. The group also creates quilts, health kits, school kits, baby hats, layettes and midwife kits. Donations can also be made to the Lutheran World Relief Boxcar Fund. Contact: Celesta Smith, celesta19@rocketmail.com 253-272-8931 Kit Building: Jack and Catherine Terrill, catherineterrill@comcast.net, 253-274-0891

Bread for the World
BFW is a all ages collective of Christian voices 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

Family Housing Network
(All Ages) St. Mark's serves as home to homeless families for two weeks during the year. Help is needed with hospitality: set-up, clean-up, food preparation, visiting, overnight hosting. Contact: Paula Friedmann, pfzebra@me.com

Empowering Life
(All Ages) This faith-based non-profit works to support the incarcerated woman at Washington Corrections Center in Purdy and at Mission Creek Center for Women in Belfair. 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

Nativity House
(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 serve together and make a difference in the lives of others. Contact: Melanie Summerour, summerour@msn.com 253-857-8872

NW Tacoma Fish Food Bank
If you would like to join the team which volunteers every 6 weeks at Mason United Methodist Church. Contact: Mary Olsen, maryolsen@yahoo.com

DeLong Programs
(All Ages)
Backpack Program—Donate specified foods to go home each weekend with homeless students from DeLong Elementary who are at-risk for hunger OR pack food each Wednesday at 9:45am 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, maryolsen@yahoo.com 253-752-2844

Hunger Walk and Run
(All Ages) Join the St. Mark's Team to rasie funds and support the work of Emergency Food Network. This annual event, held at Fort Steilacoom Park, has been moved to the third Saturday of May. Contact: Pastor rebecca Shjerven, Rebecca@smlutheran.org

Refugee Support
In partnership with Lutheran Community Services NW, we respond to needs such as transportation, English language tutoring and temporary housing. Contact: Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, rebecca@smlutheran.org

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Committee

The purpose of the Stewardship Committee is to encourage one another to share generously our God-given gifts of time, talents and resources in love and gratitude. 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 Committee 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 in 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. Meets Monthly. Contact: Amy Wigstrom, amywigstrom@hotmail.com, 253-761-0891

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. Families can pick up children's offering envelopes and are encouraged to donate from their own funds (if possible) towards St. Mark's hunger and poverty benevolences and are encouraged to participate in sponsored learning events, including cross-generational events. 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"

OUTREACH

Outreach Committee

(Youth & Adults) Our goal is to focus attention on the congregational goal of being a public presence in our neighborhood. We explore 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: Pastor Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org 253-752-4966

Faith Journey Companions

(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

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

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship and Music Committee

Ages: Youth & Adult
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. Meets 2nd Tuesdays, Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept and Nov at 6pm. Contact: Jean Marie Foss, jean.foss@comcast.net

Music Ensembles

Unless otherwise noted, contact Cooper Sherry, cooper.sherry@smlutheran.org 253-752-5186

Celebration Ens. (8:30 a.m.) Ages: Adult Rehearsals: Thurs7:30-9 p.m.	Acts as liturgical host through musical ministry, preparing various pieces to support and enhance worship life. The eclectic nature of blended worship this group supports involves styles and genres from many global traditions from around the world.
Praise Team(9:45) Ages: Adult Rehearsals: Weds 6-7:30 p.m.	For those with a desire to lead worship and praise God through contemporary Christian popular music. 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 (11 a.m.) Ages: Adult Rehearsals: Once a month	Singing traditional classical choral music, this choir prepares one or two anthems per month. Rehearsal time is limited, so singers with choral reading skills and vocal confidence are needed.
St. Mark's Chorale All Ages Rehearsals: Seasonal	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 community together once a season to prepare an anthem for the 11 a.m. service.
Prayer Service Musicians Wed 7-8 p.m.	Vocal and instrumental musicians needed for solo leadership and small-ensemble work.
Bells of St. Mark's Ages: Adults and Youth Rehearsals: Thurs 6-7:20 p.m.	Intermediate to advanced bell choir. Ringers need to read music and commit to weekly rehearsals. No bell ringing experience is necessary to join— all bell techniques will be taught during rehearsals. Rehearses weekly, Sept-June

Little Angels Choir	Joyful Noise Choir	Jubilation Choir	Youth Choir	Music for Worship
Ages 2 and up, Wed 5-5:30 p.m., Choir Room 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.	Gr K-2nd , Wed 5:30-6 p.m., Choir Room Children of this age begin to read music and appreciate how music works. They sing in worship each season, including the Christmas Musical.	Gr 3-5, Wed 6-7 p.m., Choir Rm This choir focuses on learning the beginning basic of choral technique and theory, all while having fun singing songs for their age group.	Gr 6-12, Thurs 6:30-7:30 p.m., Narthex A vocal ensemble that rehearses weekly. This group builds skills toward singing 4-part a cappella music. All skills levels welcome.	Children and youth are invited to share pieces they've learned for instrument or voice during worship services and/or church events. Share musical gifts with your faith community!

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, office@smlutheran.org 253-752-4966.

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 request 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 in the week before the service so you can familiarize yourself with the text.

Communion Servers

Ages: Confirmed Members
Assist pastors in distribution of wine, juice and bread during the Lord's Supper.

Altar Guild

Ages: Youth and Adults (Children welcome with adult supervision)
Sign up for a variety of responsibilities, according to personal schedules.

- Prepare Sunday Communion– 1st shift 8:05-9:45 a.m., 2nd shift 10:45-12:15 p.m. A shared responsibility once or twice a month
- Stock wafers, wine, grape juice and candles—as necessary; approximately 4 times per year
- Refill/replace candles and candle oil—can be a shared responsibility; weekly
- Clean and press communion linens—a shared responsibility; weekly

Contact: Linda Dieckhoff, idieckhoff@comcast.net 253-376-1446

ELECTED & APPOINTED POSITIONS

Church Council
Ages: Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation
General oversight of the life and activities of this congregation. Leads 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: Anna Ahrens, annaahrens1@gmail.com 253-905-5611

Endowment Fund Committee
Ages: Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation
Meets quarterly in the evening to manage St. Mark's endowment fund, administer annual Small Grants Program, and plan educational events about the ways to leave a legacy at St. Mark's.
Contact: Pastor Jan Ruud, jruud@smlutheran.org 253-752-4966

Memorial Committee
Ages: 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 iamnanaberry@hotmail.com

Personnel Committee
Ages: 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
Ages: Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation
Identifies and nominates candidates for congregationally elected positions.
Contact: Anna Ahrens, annaahrens1@gmail.com 253-905-5611

Preschool Board
Ages: Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation
Make policies and oversee the health of St. Mark's Preschool.
Contact: Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, rebecca@smlutheran.org

Scholarship Committee
Ages: Confirmed Members, elected by the congregation
Meets three times a year to prepare forms for, review submitted application from, and distribute scholarships to higher education students.
Contact: Pastor Rebecca Shjerven, rebecca@smlutheran.org

A Place for Grace

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