



THE GOOD NEWS

San Marcos
Lutheran Church

November 2025

Our Mission: "To know, accept and live the love of God and share it with others"

November Dates to Remember:

All Saints Sunday
Sunday, Nov. 2nd

Hymn Sing
Sunday, Nov. 16th
*(details on pg. 4)

Usher Meeting
Sunday, Nov. 16th after worship

Decorate the Sanctuary
Sunday, Nov. 23rd after worship



Coming in December:

Saturday of Sisterhood
Saturday, Dec. 6th 10:30am

Palomar Choir Concert
Saturday, Dec. 6th 2pm.

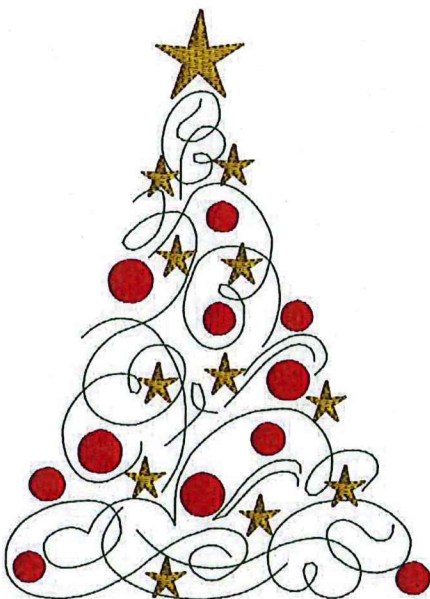
Advent Adventures
Sunday, Dec. 7th 11:15a-12pm

Women's Christmas Potluck Luncheon
Saturday Dec. 13th at 12pm

Congregational Meetings
Sunday, Dec. 14th 11:15am

Music Men Chorus Concert
Sunday, Dec. 14th. at 3pm

Advent Reflections
Tuesday, Dec. 23rd 3pm



Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. – Matthew 5:4

In the 2015 Pixar movie *Inside Out*, a young girl named Riley wrestles with her emotions, represented by a team of characters inside her head—Anger, Fear, Disgust, Sadness, and Joy. Each of them jockey for control of the dashboard that is Riley's personality, wanting to respond to everything she experiences from their own perspective. You can imagine that always responding in anger is as ineffective as always responding in joy. Figuring out the balance between these aspects of herself is a real challenge for Riley as she navigates the roller coaster of moving from Minnesota to San Francisco with her family.

Riley matures as the team of emotions realize that there is value in all of them, that they have to work together, and that some of the most essential experiences are the most complex. Moments of great joy are tinged with sadness, as Riley remembers a pond hockey game—a fun day, but with friends she misses a lot. As she grows, she learns to accept this reality—and so do we. In our own lives, some of our most treasured memories are with people we can no longer reach out and touch, either because they live on the other side of the country or because they have passed on into eternal life with God.

This time of year offers us the bittersweet opportunity to remember all sorts of warm times together with our loved ones, and to notice how we carry them with us in the present and into the future. We'll start with All Saints Sunday on November 2nd, remembering all those we have loved who have died. Some people find this day mostly sad, while others find this day mostly joyful, and still others find it a combination of the two. I preached a few weeks about the nature of healing, and how in our real-life experience, it is never just one thing: gratitude and grief are partners.

As we move through the holiday season of November and December, you are likely to feel this in stark relief. The traditions that you grew up with are shaped differently decades later. Even with her recipes, nobody quite makes grandma's pies exactly like she did. Conversely, there are new generations to teach the recipes to, or new neighbors to see the holiday lights with, or new traditions to imagine altogether.

In these darkly divisive times in our country, most of our families and friends are finding it harder to gather around the same tables. Maybe your family, like mine, doesn't have one big Thanksgiving celebration anymore, and hasn't for several years. Or, if you are still planning to gather with the same people you always do, you're worried about how the conversation will go, knowing how many differences of opinion there are in that crowd. You wish that it could be like it once was. I hear your gratitude and your grief.

Please know that I am holding all of you and your families and friends and neighbors in my prayers. If there are particular worries you have about gathering (or not gathering, as the case may be) in the coming weeks, please do two things: share that with me, so that I can better pray for you, and share that with God. Remember that Jesus tells us to hand over our anxieties to him, that he will carry our heavy burdens. Remember that God heals the brokenhearted and binds up our wounds.

Our community is, as we have celebrated in the last several weeks, a chorus of generosity. This generosity extends to our generosity of spirit, where all of you are called to share in one another's joys and sorrows, in this and every season. Your feelings in this season of gratitude and grief do not need to leave you feeling isolated or unseen. Continue to join your voices together, with all the saints.

Peace,
Pastor Casey

San Marcos Lutheran Church

3419 Grand Avenue San Marcos, CA 92078
(760) 727-1509

office@sanmarcoslutheran.org
www.sanmarcoslutheran.org

All are Welcome! As a community of the people of God, the members of San Marcos Lutheran Church welcome all people, regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male or female." (Galatians 3:28)

Pastor Casey Kloehn Dunsworth

Office Manager: Aimee Hudlow Musician: Justin Hershey
Bookkeeper: Cristen Mugford Choir Director: Max Chodos
Communications: Adriana Alfaro

Council Members

Dan Norris, President	Karla Strazicich-Cain
Kelly Van Jen, Vice Pres.	Ed Mossuto
Anne Voth, Secretary	Devin Hogan
Jan Parthemer, Treasurer	Tom Andreas
	Br. Jack Anderson

To contact any Council members, email
council@sanmarcoslutheran.org

San Marcos Lutheran Preschool
preschool@sanmarcoslutheran.org
(760)727-0326

Director: Ann Leong

Teachers: Roxy Maldonado, Marlene
Vazquez, & Elle Kim



Remember in Prayer: Susan Agonia, Christine Buma, Jim Cavolt, Sue Check, Eunice Choi, Steve Choi, Crystal, Celia Genishi, Bill Hanson, Jolene Hanson, Pete Johnson, Jim Kent, Linda Kent, Joy Kirkland, Gary Kloehn, Laura, Larry, Deborah McGregor, Melinda Nelson, Leanne Pohrman, Alvar Roy, Jean Russell, Jake & Sarah Simpson, Marilynne Smith, Dawn Steele, Stephanie, Nick Torres, Kelly Van Jen.

**PLEASE CONTACT US!**

We want to include you in our prayers, arrange for pastoral visits, and inform the congregation, when appropriate. Please notify the Church Office (760)727-1509 when:

- A loved one or someone you know dies
- You, or someone you know is ill or grieving
- You, or someone you know is in the hospital
- You want to plan a baptism, wedding, or celebration
- You moved or contact info has changed.

For urgent needs, contact Pastor Casey at cell:
442-222-1194

Lutheran Fellowship Lunch

Everyone is invited for good food and fellowship with First Lutheran of Vista. We will meet on Monday, Nov 10th at 12pm at PEGAH's Kitchen at 955 S Santa Fe, in Vista. It will be order from the menu and they have a great selection. Any Questions contact Bill Hanson, 760-805-4565. Hope to see you there!

**Saturdays of Sisterhood**

Will not meet in November, but will
resume on Dec 6th.

Questions? Email
karinkupka533@hotmail.com or call
760-415-2525.

Google and Yelp Reviews:

We'd love to hear from our SMLC community! Consider leaving us a review on Google and/or Yelp.
We thank you for the support!

Financial Update

End of September 2025- 75% of Year

Income

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$214,663	66.36%

Expenses

Annual Budget	Actual YTD	% of Budget
\$323,473	\$236,758	73.19%

Thank you for your generous gifts which support the mission and ministry of San Marcos Lutheran Church!

thank you
♥

Social Action



All Saint's Food Pantry:

In November, we'd like more rice: brown rice, white rice, Minute Rice – any kind. We're no longer getting any from the Food Bank. Canned fruit is always a treat. Stuffing mix and cranberry sauce would be nice for Thanksgiving. Thank you for continuing to be a part of this mutual ministry with All Saints Episcopal Church in Vista. We're always happy to have volunteers to give our "regulars" a break. Contact Doris Payne if you'd like more information.

Hymn Sing -- Sunday November 16

Our chorus of generosity continues as we sing all (okay, several) of your favorite songs all on the same Sunday! Pastor Casey is taking requests via the suggestion basket in the narthex, and will compile a list based on those submitted. On the 16th, there will be moments in the service to shout out a number from the list, and we'll sing one verse each of multiple songs. So that we can all follow along together, we're sticking to songs from the ELW (red hymnal in your pew). Submit your suggestions (number and name, please!) this week and next week, and get ready to sing out on Sunday, November 16!

Usher Meeting after worship Sunday November 16

If you are currently serving as a member of our team of ushers or are interested in joining in, please stick around after worship on Sunday 11/16 for a meeting with Pastor Casey. We'll review the SMLC usher handbook (maybe for the first time!), answer any lingering questions, and get volunteers lined up for Advent and Christmas Eve. Questions? Contact Marilyn Monnell or Pastor Casey.

SAVE the DATE!

Women's Christmas Salad
Potluck Luncheon

Saturday, December 13th at 12pm

Please join us for a Women's Christmas Luncheon held in Luther Hall. Bread and dessert will be provided. Come and enjoy good food, guest speaker and singing Christmas Carols.

Feel free to bring a friend.

Questions contact Donna Huber 760-521-1917



Advent Adventure

Sunday, December 7th

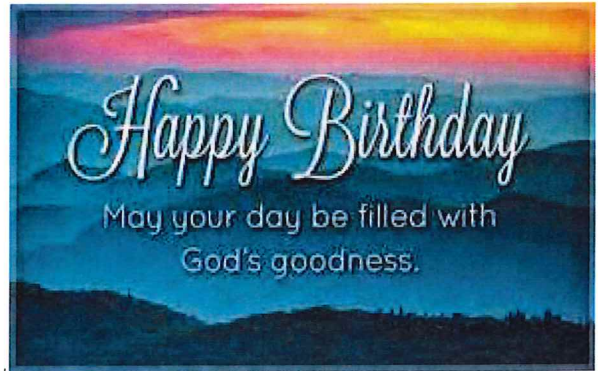
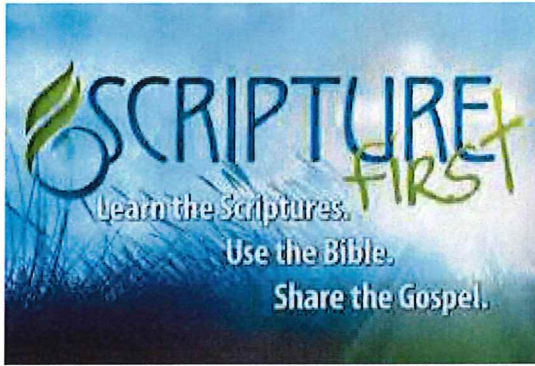
11:15am- Noon

Luther Hall

Food, crafts, singing, ringing and fun!

All ages are welcome! Questions?

Contact Karin Kupka at
karinkupka533@hotmail.com



Nov 2	All Saints Sunday
First Reading:	Dan 7:1-3, 15-18
Second Reading:	Eph 1:11-23
Gospel:	Luke 6:20-31
Nov 9	22nd Sunday after Pentecost
First Reading:	Job 19:23-27a
Second Reading:	2 Thess 2:1-5, 13-17
Gospel:	Luke 20:27-38
Nov 16	23rd Sunday after Pentecost
First Reading:	Mal 4:1-2a
Second Reading:	2 Thess 3:6-13
Gospel:	Luke 21: 5-19
Nov 23	Christ the King
First Reading:	Jer 23:1-6
Second Reading:	Col 1:11-20
Gospel:	Luke 23:33-43

**The next Newsletter article
deadline is November 15th**

Nov 2 Caroline Noesgaard
 Nov 4 Nancy Roberts
 Nov 10 Haley Johnson
 Nov 10 Christian Noesgaard
 Nov 13 Jane Gearhart
 Nov 16 Dean McCoy
 Nov 17 Lisa O'Carroll
 Nov 17 Luke Oliveira
 Nov 18 Grace Holtz
 Nov 22 Nicholas Oliveira
 Nov 26 Max Chodos
 Nov 26 Yvonne McCoy
 Nov 28 Tom Andreas
 Nov 28 Diana Coker

Council Update:

Hello SMLC!

The Council did not officially meet in October as a quorum was not present to consider any business.

The Executive Committee met and set the date for Part 1 of the Annual Congregational Meeting as well as the date for a Special Congregational meeting. Both meetings will take place on Dec. 14, 2025, back-to-back.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as president for 2025 and for your continued support of SMLC, our Council, Pastor Casey, and the staff.

Daniel Norris, President



SMLC Children's Center News

NOVEMBER 2025



Ann Leong, Director • 760-727-0326 • smlcchild@sbcglobal.net

Thanksgiving is a time of reflecting on the many blessings that God has given us throughout the year. As a Preschool, we encourage the children to reflect each day on the many blessings in their lives. In Chapel, we pray for our families, friends, for God's amazing creation and all sorts of things. But it's also important that we teach the children that not everyone is blessed in the same way. During the month of November, we will be collecting non-perishable foods for All Saints Episcopal Church Food Pantry in Vista. We have partnered with this church for many years and I am thankful we can continue to work together. Donations will be accepted 11/3-11/21 and it will get picked up here at the church. We have a lot to be thankful for and I am thankful for all of you~

Happy Thanksgiving!



~Blessings, Mrs. Leong



PARTNERING WITH ALL SAINTS' **FOOD PANTRY IN VISTA**

This amazing Food Pantry has grown to serve more than 200 different families and individuals over the years. The need is great as they get ready for the holidays~ Help us help the food pantry this month with any non-perishable foods, especially canned fruit. Other needed items include: Peanut butter and jelly, dried pasta, cereal and rice. We will have a wagon ready for the children to participate in this wonderful giving. Thanks in advance!

Events and Reminders

11/2 (Sun): Daylight Saving Time Ends...FALL BACK an hour! Change your clocks~

11/3 (M) - 11/21 (F): Food collection for All Saints Episcopal Church Food Pantry

11/11 (T): School closed in observance of Veterans Day

11/20 (Th) & 11/21 (F): Thanksgiving Cornucopia Snack ~ No lunch bunch on these days! School will close at NOON.

11/24 (M) - 11/28 (F): School Closed for Thanksgiving Break~ See you back here on Monday, December 1st or Tuesday, December 2nd!

Coming Up...Pajama Drive: 12/1-12/17~ more info to follow!

Learn  Live  Share  the Love of God



This year Interfaith is changing things up with a "Winterfaith" Shopping Mall on their property; clients or their case managers can shop at different "stores" for all ages and genders (for example, a booth for babies, a booth for teen girls, etc.).

- We are asking **YOU** to tell **US** what you'd like to give! Two forms, similar to the one below, will be available in the narthex. Keep one as your reminder and turn in the other one by November 16th so we can let Interfaith know how many gifts will be coming for each age group. A sheet with gift suggestions will also be available in the narthex. Gifts are due November 23rd. LOOK FOR THE INTERFAITH GIFT BIN. This is a new and very fair way for Interfaith to distribute gifts. We have always been very generous with our designated families, but many others received much less. This will enable all families to receive a more equal amount. Last year 700 clients received holiday gifts, but this plan will provide gifts for many more.
- If you prefer to give gift cards, each adult will receive a \$25 WalMart gift card for groceries, cleaning supplies, or a little holiday sparkle. Additional gift cards of any kind or denomination are also welcome for case managers or clients to use for gift purchases of their choice.
- If you would like to help sort, wrap, or help families shop in the "Winterfaith" Shopping Mall on Friday, December 12th (shifts are between 3-7pm) or Saturday, December 13th (shifts are between 10am-3pm), we can organize groups to carpool, or you can schedule your own time. Kids crafts and photo ops will be part of the fun.

I would like to purchase Christmas gifts for the following age group:

Infant (0-12 mos) _____ Approximate number of items I will purchase _____

Toddler (1-4 years) _____ Approximate number of items I will purchase _____

Child (5-12 years) _____ Approximate number of items I will purchase _____

Teen (13-18 years) _____ Approximate number of items I will purchase _____

Adult _____ Approximate number of items I will purchase _____

Fall 2025



Pantry Needs List

Help us stock our Pantry with essential items for families and individuals in a food emergency

(Items of greatest need are underlined!)

FOOD ITEMS

- Peanut butter & jelly/jam
- Cereal, oatmeal & breakfast bars
- Canned chicken, tuna, fruit and beans
- Hearty soups, stews, and chilis
- Cup of Noodles & Ramen
- Dry pasta
- Macaroni & cheese
- Protein/meal replacement shakes
- Cases of bottled water, (juices, sport drinks, coffee, etc.)
- Trail mix, Glycemic-friendly snacks
- Snacks (Granola bars, Fruit cups & fruit snacks, Crackers & chips)
- Dry mixes (muffins, cornbread, instant mashed potatoes, etc.)
- Shelf-stable milk & non-dairy milk
- Fresh or frozen meats
- Rice & beans (small packs)

BABY ITEMS

- Diapers (Sizes 5 & 6)
- Baby wipes
- Pull-Ups
- Baby formula
- Baby food

DROP-OFF DONATIONS

Weekdays from 8am-5pm
Interfaith Community Services
550 W. Washington Ave
Escondido, Ca 92025
Enter from Quince St driveway

HYGIENE ITEMS

- Deodorant
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Razors
- Soap & shower gel
- Tampons and pads
- Travel wipes
- Sunscreen & Chapstick

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- Can openers
- Laundry detergent (pods)
- Men's boxer briefs
- Women's undergarments
- Blankets
- Backpacks
- First Aid Kits
- Paper towels
- Toilet paper
- Sleeping Bags
- Cat/dog food

FOR MORE INFORMATION

CONTACT:



Juliana Ramos
In-Kind Donations Specialist
(760) 270-1366

In-Kind Donations Team
(760) 215-9637
donations@interfaithservices.org



 Purchase on Amazon!
Have your donation delivered directly to Interfaith.



MONETARY DONATIONS

Visit:
www.interfaithservices.org/donate

Monetary donations enable Interfaith to purchase priority items in bulk



Follow us! @interfaithcs



www.interfaithservices.org

Interfaith Community Services is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit tax exempt organization. Federal Tax ID #95-3837714

2025

NOVEMBER

CALENDAR YEAR

CALENDAR MONTH

SUNDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	01 10am- Sat of Sister- LH 6-9pm AA- LH
02 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	03 12pm- AA- LH	04 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	05 12pm- AA- LH	06 7pm- Choir Practice-SA	07 12pm- AA- LH	08 6-9pm AA- LH
09 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time- Blessing Bags	10 12pm- AA- LH	11 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	12 12pm- AA- LH 130pm- SAC Mtg-Conf 6-8pm- NC Intergroup- LH	13 7pm- Choir Practice-SA	14 945-1145- St. Joes- SA AA- LH	15 6-9pm AA- LH
16 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time 11:15- Usher Mtg	17 12pm- AA- LH	18 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	19 12pm- AA- LH 6-8pm- Council- SA	20 7pm- Choir Practice-SA	21 12pm- AA- LH	22 6-9pm AA- LH
23 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time 11:30- Decorate Sanctuary	24 12pm- AA- LH	25 7-9pm- Music Men- LH	26 12pm- AA- LH	27 Office Closed	28 12pm- AA- LH Office Closed	29 6-9pm AA- LH
30 10am- Worship Service 11:15- Community time	01	02	03	04	05	06