



THE MARKSMAN

MARCH 2009

Finding and
Doing the
Will of
God

Dear Members and Friends of St. Marks,

As many of you recall, early in my ministry among you, I presented an outline for a process I hoped to use during my ministry here. The process is meant to help us be more proactive in creating, maintaining and gaining more ministries. The process is intended also to help build participation in those ministries. The process is also intended to help us be a healthier, more vibrant, representation of the Body Of Christ in Chula Vista.

Part of the process involved forming a Refocus Team, whose members have met regularly (twice a month), who have prayerfully, faithfully, and with much Bible study, with deliberation and discernment, sought after God's Mission and Vision for St. Marks. The Team has also formulated a set of Core Values. We have chosen to reaffirm the existing Mission Statement. Our goal is to share with all of you a Vision Statement by Palm Sunday.

In the narthex (the gathering area of our worship center) you'll find next to our St. Marks prayer quilt, our list of Core Values. Please read them and become familiar with them. They will be our "guiding principles" as we move into the future God has in store for us.

Beginning the first Sunday of this month the sermon focus will be those Core Values; one each week. You'll hear "temple talks" by your Refocus Team members, and I will be preaching on a different Core Value each Sunday.

Your Refocus Team's prayer and hope is that you'll be open to our work, that it will be accepted in the manner it is presented, and begin the process of discerning how your gifts are best suited to help St. Marks celebrate God's love and forgiveness, while we serve others.

My desire is that each of us becomes an active participant in the Faith-life of St. Marks, beginning first with regular prayer for each other and our ministries. I pray also, that each of us actively take part in at least one area of ministry; an area for which you have a passion; an area in which you are gifted; an area you could bring assistance to others, as we go about doing what God has called us to do.

Imagine the awesome power generated by 500 people doing the work and will of God. Imagine the impact on our community if 500 of us prayed daily and sought to discover more ways to serve God, by serving others. Imagine what St. Marks will look like a year from now; two years from now, ten years from now (I DO!), when the power and will of God is unleashed by YOU, THE MEMBERS OF ST. MARKS.

May God bless each of you abundantly, and may God give you the desire and opportunities, to share those blessings with others.

Pastor Ron



Family Ministries Director
Bperk05@yahoo.com

Brett Perkins
619-479-9669

A new subject has started to gain momentum at St. Mark's recently: Men's Bible studies. It's not a new subject, but it is one that is ready for some new examination. Currently, the men meet on the second Saturday of each month for some breakfast, conversation and Bible study at a restaurant. It's a fun time and everyone gets along great. It is, however, a tricky venue for an in-depth Bible study and there has been some discussion about a solution.

For ideas they didn't have to look far. When it comes to group Bible studies, the women of St. Mark's have much to be proud of. Their "circles" are organized, beneficial and full of life. They are a great source of learning, praying, and sharing. Part of their success is breaking into efficiently sized groups where a bond of trust and camaraderie are easily fostered. Where they meet—usually homes or at church—is also important as a private setting allows for more focus and the comfort allows for more openness. Finally, they have enough groups at enough times and places that any one women can surely find a circle that meets her logistical needs

Will the men duplicate this system exactly? That's doubtful, and for several reasons (women, insert your joke here). What is important is that there is a wonderful, successful model for use as a general inspiration. Now it's up to the men to take the parts and create their own sum. Given the natural instinct for building and repairing that permeates their DNA, it should work out fine. There has already been discussion about a morning business-type meeting and another about a golf themed group. Are there men at St. Mark's that have other ideas? Let's keep the momentum going. Let's create some environments where our men can share their spiritual side, where prayer is comfortable and where God can be glorified through bonding and laughter.

**Meet your 2009
Church Council Officers
& Committee Representatives...**

President:.....Nancy Dreesen
 Vice President:.....Karl Larsen
 Treasurer:.....Diane Flint-Wages
 Secretary:.....Pat Milliken

Committees:

Education.....Laura Mercado
 Finance.....Diane Wages
 Stewardship.....Michael Tow
 Property.....Chuck Cole
 Social Concerns.....Carol Mendoza
 Worship.....Eddie Ochotorena
 Youth.....Sue Osborn

Personnel Committee Members:

Karl Larsen Diane Flint-Wages
 Diane Nissen Nancy Dreesen
 Pastor Ron

Introducing some of our 2009 Church Council members...

Carol Mendoza is a nurse with Sharp. She has volunteered with VBS, Care Team, Angel Tree, Communion server, Lutheran Walk-a-thon, and Father Joe's meals; just to name a few. She has been a member since 1999.

Laura Mercado works in the accounting field and has volunteered with Sunday School, Transition Team, Call Committee.

Pat Milliken works at the Regional Chamber of Commerce and served on Church Council, Hospitality Committee, Lay Reader, Communion server, & participates in Eve Bible Study Circle. She has been a member since 1987.

Eddie Ochotorena has served in the Army, worked in construction, been a ship-fitter, & custodian. He is working toward a degree in Political Science and volunteers making our St. Mark's name badges. He has been a member since 2008 and says he is young, motivated, willing & ready to serve

Sue Osborn has degrees in visual arts & education. She has been a teacher and was our Youth Director in the '70's & early '80's. She volunteers at area theaters and is a member of the SD Art Institute. She has been a member since 1971.

Michael Tow is a retired Navy Engineering Officer and is still working in the engineering field. He has been a member since 2000. Prior to that he was active at Pilgrim Lutheran serving as a church elder, choir member & on their Board of Education. He also volunteers at the Navy League & Operation Home Front.

WELCA REMINDER:

Pacifica Women of the Elca
 March Gathering

Balancing Vs. Centering: Faith, Family and Finances
 "Mary has chosen the better part." Luke 10:42b

Can you have it all? Can you do it all?
 (Start with 40 days of transformational meditations to get ready)
 Discover the answers in..

A Bible Study led by Pastor Gloria Espeseth
 Workshops & Panels linking -
 Faith Family, Finances
 Centering Worship
 A Relational Meal
 Faith-Family-Finance SWO Business Session
 Love Gifts From the Heart
 Benefiting Victims of Domestic Violence

Guest Speakers "Saving Another Environment"

40 days of preparatory meditations prior to the event
 And a Special appearance of Martha of Bethany

Be sure to save the date: **March 7 2009**
 And join us at Hope Temecula!

We will be carpooling to the **March 7th** event in Temecula
 contact Jill McGrew

Women of the ELCA
 Registration
 "Balancing Vs. Centering: Faith, Family and Finances"
 "Mary has chosen the better part."
 Luke 10:42b

March 7, 2009

**Hope Lutheran
 29141 Vallejo Ave., Temecula
 915-676-6262**

Cost: \$30

This event is from 8 am - 4 pm
 Includes continental breakfast & lunch.

Please make checks payable to:
 Eunice Hanson, 3627 Cerro Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92056

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Treasurer's Report as of January 31, 2009

Budgeted Income and Expense
(Excludes Loan Repayment Activity)

	01/31/09 <u>Year to Date</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>
Total Income	\$30,530.29	\$437,799
Total Expenses	<u>28,574.57</u>	<u>437,799</u>
Net Income	\$ 1,955.72	0

Loan Repayment Fund:

	01/31/09 <u>Year to Date</u>	Annual <u>Budget</u>
Donations	\$8,571.00	\$100,800
Principal & Interest Paid	\$8,277.04	\$100,800

Thank you, St. Mark's Members, for your donations!

Diane Flint Wages, Treasurer



Attention St. Mark's Golfers!

Interested in having a monthly Breakfast; Bible-Study; and 18 holes of golf with cart at Eastlake Greens? Cost \$39.00. Our first meeting will be March 26.

Subsequent meetings will be the 4th Thursday of the month.

Call Bob Dreesen @ 948-1905 to register and for further details.



Family of the month

Each month we will select five families from the directory to pray for in turn, as well as those families who have a special need at this time. Please pray for these families:

Mary Bonner Lynda Bostad
Joyce Boyd Kathleen Brooks
 Carol Brown

HARVEST CLUSTER/SONSHINE WEST CLUSTER SPRING EVENT

King of Kings Lutheran,
2993 Mac Donald St., Oceanside

Saturday - **March 28** – Registration at 9:00 am/\$8.00, with Meeting at 9:30 am

Program: "Watchers on the Hill", a Lenten drama put on by members of King of Kings followed by Lunch.

RSVP to Jill McGrew, by March 22 and also to car pool.
Watch for Bulletin Insert later

There is no more lovely, friendly and charming relationship, communion or company than a good marriage.

Martin Luther

Every man must do two things alone; he must do his own believing and his own dying.

Martin Luther

Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave.

Martin Luther



People often overestimate what will happen in the next two years and underestimate what will happen in ten.

Bill Gates, The Road Ahead

Church Attendance		
	1/09	1/08
Week 1	264	200
Week 2	279	249
Week 3	356	264
Week 4	273	186
Week 5	n/a	n/a

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION will be held on **Saturday, March 28, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

This interactive day is geared to fifth-graders.

A parent or adult sponsor is required to accompany their student.

The cost of the day is \$8.00 per person, which includes all supplies and the noon meal.

A Sponsor's Meeting will be held on Sunday, **March 22 at 10:15 am.** in the Conference Room.

Please call Nancy Dreesen at (619) 421-9733 to register your participation or call the church office.

Prayer Request:

rhultenius@cox.net
joanharsh@cox.net

See or call Roz
(619) 422-5463,
or call the church office
to request a prayer quilt.

PLEASE CONTACT

Pastor Ron directly if you anticipate an
upcoming hospital stay.

Phone number: **(619) 632-7709**
Email address: **rhovick@cox.net**

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Pastor Sieber, our Visitation Pastor, is
currently calling on the following home-
bound members. If you would like a visit
from

Pastor John, please call the church office
at **(619) 427-5515**.

Please keep these people in your prayers :

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Al & Vi Bryd | Esther Kort |
| Betty Burgess | Gene & Olive Kramp |
| Kaho Chester | Lorrie Malonne |
| Helen Dearmin | Jack Walquist |
| Florence Harris | Verna Werstlein |
| Peter Honrud | Nora West |
| Ken Hultenius | Bob Whittier |
| | Joe Wingo |

Thursday quilters would appreciate your help gathering items for
the Lutheran World Relief Health Kits.

For the next three months you will be asked to bring certain
items.

March--a new washcloth and hand towel.
Dark colors are preferred.

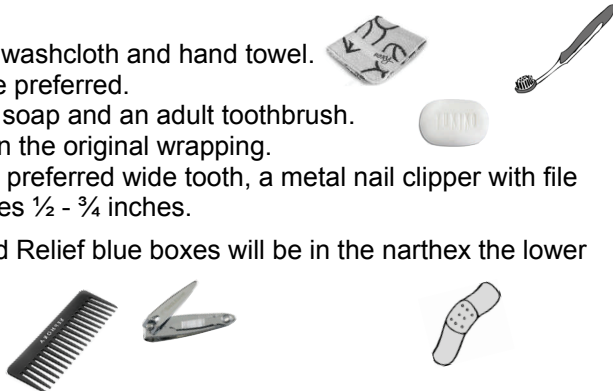
April--a bar of soap and an adult toothbrush.

Both must be in the original wrapping.

May---a comb, preferred wide tooth, a metal nail clipper with file
and 6-bandaides 1/2 - 3/4 inches.

Lutheran World Relief blue boxes will be in the narthex the lower
level

Please help.



More information contact: Betty Cunningham at **422-2704**

Thank you to all those who helped make the
WELCA soup dinner a success on January
27th. Bobette Sherman, the dietitian, shared
lots of information.

If you weren't able to attend the dinner and
would like the handouts that Bobette brought,
please contact Neila Stover

619-420-8767.

New Deadline For Newsletter

The deadline for items in the printed hard
copies of *The Marksman* is the 20th of the
preceding month.

Send newsletter items to rhultenius@cox.net.
This information will also be used for the online
version. Thank you, Ruby Hultenius

FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE:

With the addition of the online version of
The Marksman, we have noticed some
confusion about where to send information,
particularly in regard to bulletin announcements,
calendar items, etc

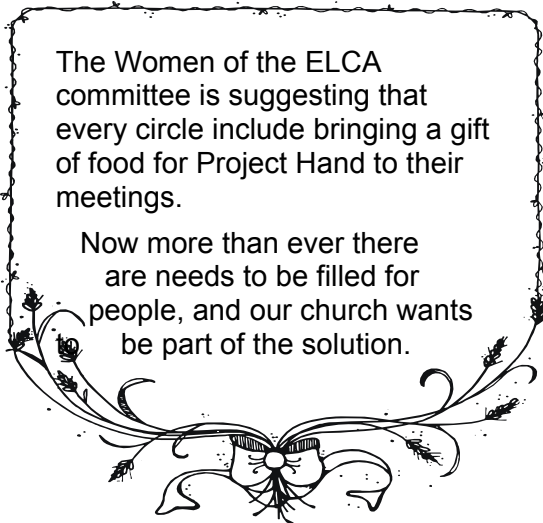
If you have an item for the announcements,
inserts, or calendar in the weekly bulletin, or if
you are requesting to reserve a date for an
upcoming event, if you have moved, changed
home or work phone numbers, email ad-
dresses, or cell phone numbers, added family
members, or added or deleted anything else
that you would like us to know about, please
contact Melody at:


(619) 427-5515, or
office@stmarks.sdcoxmail.com.

Information in writing, including full details
with regard to dates, times and locations is
appreciated.

The Women of the ELCA
committee is suggesting that
every circle include bringing a gift
of food for Project Hand to their
meetings.

Now more than ever there
are needs to be filled for
people, and our church wants
be part of the solution.




Tammy Lower Announces A Second Workshop
Foreclosure Workshop
MARCH, 19, 2009 at 6:30 pm in Jacobson Hall
J. Alan Enochs, Attorney at Law
 619-694-4693
