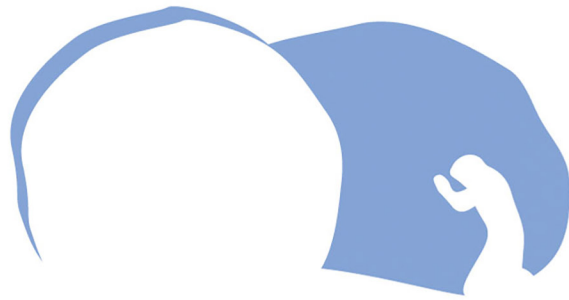


Great 50 Days

RISING TO NEW LIFE



ANNUAL REPORT

May 12, 2019



St. Martin's
in-the-Field
Episcopal Church



Annual Meeting Agenda

May 12, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Church

Call to Order and Opening Prayer Reverend Matthew Hanisian, *Rector*
Approval of the minutes from the May 20, 2018 Annual Meeting Reverend Matthew
Voting Procedures Sarah Parkison, *Senior Warden*
Report of the Nominating Committee Sam Burdette, *Vestry Class of 2019*
(Nominees must have given permission prior to being nominated. Nominees must be members of St. Martin's. Members are all those who are 16+ years of age, attend church regularly, and are known to the treasurer. Confirmation is not a requirement for nomination, per TEC Canon Law).
Acclamation of Vestry Nominees All Members of St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church
Approval of Diocesan Convention Delegates and Alternates Reverend Matthew
Rector's Recognition of Outgoing Vestry Members Reverend Matthew
Report from the Treasurer and Finance Committee Tony Deasey, *Treasurer*
Report from Warden's / Commissions / Committees as Published
Rector's Report Reverend Matthew
Closing Prayer Reverend Matthew

2018 Annual Meeting Minutes

By: Elaine Dickerson, Registrar

The 2018 Annual Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. on May 20, 2018.

Attendance: 235

Minutes from the 2017 Annual Meeting and Oct. 29, 2017 Special Meeting of the parish were provided in the Annual Report. A motion was made to approve both sets of minutes. Motion was seconded. The motion passed, and all 2017 meeting minutes were accepted.

Vestry Election

- Sarah Parkison reviewed the voting requirements: age 16+, and a member in good standing.
- Andy Gatanas gave the report of the Nominating Committee, which was comprised of outgoing vestry members Frank Hilton, Charlie Fitzgerald, Tony Deasey, and Andy Gatanas, as well as Ginny Acree, Lesley Wallace, Sarah Parkison, and the Rev. Matthew. The committee considered many factors including age, Sunday service preference, gender, and length of time at St. Martin's, with the goal of providing a diverse panel of candidates. The four vestry nominees are John Dirks, Stephen Michelsen, Marie Tuccille (absent), and Chris Werth.
- Matthew called for any additional nominations. There were no nominations from the floor. Nominations were closed.

- A motion was made to elect candidates by a vote of acclamation. Motion was seconded. The motion passed, and the four vestry candidates were elected.

Approval of Diocesan Convention Delegates

- Convention delegates: Andy Gatanas, Bill Thomas and alternate, David Bourdon.
- Motion made to approve slate of delegates. Motion was seconded. Motion passed, and delegates were approved.

Recognition of Outgoing Vestry

Rev. Matthew thanked outgoing vestry members Andy Gatanas, Tony Deasey, Frank Hilton, and Charlie Fitzgerald (absent) and will present gifts at the parish picnic on June 3.

Report of the Treasurer

(Tony Deasey, treasurer)

- Parish is growing and income grew by 28% in 2017
- We had a surplus of \$4,000 last year
- Need more of the same in 2018, as our expenses continue to grow
- Would be nice to build reserves

Report from Wardens/Commissions/Committees

Written reports may be found in the Annual Report.

2018 Annual Meeting continued on Page 11.

Report from Rector

By: The Reverend Matthew Hanisian

"I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating." Isaiah 65:17-18a

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Christ,

In this season of Easter, we are reminded of the incredible power of God's love to renew, restore, and give new life to all of creation. This is so apparent here at St. Martin's-in-the-Field Episcopal Church as you will read about and learn on the pages that follow. God is constantly creating afresh, in our lives, in our church and in our world, which is God's creation.

The passage above is the Old Testament reading assigned for Easter Day and reminds us that God is always creating, always making something new. Read the beautifully poetic way in which the prophet Isaiah describes God's actions in this time of restoration for God's people, this time of new life. The former ways are forgotten because what God is creating is so wonderful, so irresistible that our only response is gladness and rejoicing. We are full of life and energy, we are propelled forward by this news, and we are amazed with how God is acting in our midst.

And so it is here at St. Martin's. Our faith in the risen Christ has inspired us to undertake new and exciting projects over the course of this past year. God's hands are truly at work in our parish. I have clearly seen God's handiwork in a couple of key areas where new energy and leadership have emerged, and where new ministry is happening here at St. Martin's.

My Rector's report takes a look back over the course of this year, celebrating a few of the many good and faithful ways we have responded to God's call to us. My report is also forward-looking to the summer and the next program year and what lies ahead for St. Martin's. I will highlight a couple of key new initiatives that have sprung up over the course of this past year and also set a new goal for the coming year which I hope will draw us ever closer in relationship with both God and our neighbors.

This past year we have been inspired by God to find ways we can put OUR hands to work, doing the work Christ calls us to do: to love God and our neighbor. The emphasis has been to identify ways we can live into that call from Christ serving those outside the four walls of our parish. The response has been wonderful to see. The Many Rivers Group, whose dozens of members have met continuously for the past year, has been focused on three key ministry areas that are needs right here in our county. We will develop new ministries of our own or partner with organizations currently involved in solving some of the problems surrounding behavioral health, housing/homelessness, and poverty. I encourage you to read their report on the pages that follow and see how your hands can be put to good service in our neighborhood and community. I am thankful for the leaders who have

emerged from this work and look forward to the launch of the next exciting phase of this new set of ministries.

God is always about restoration to new life, and renewed relationship. One area that has seen renewed energy is the relationship between our parish and our Episcopal school. For decades this relationship has been strained—typical of almost all churches and schools that share the same facilities, something I learned attending the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES) national leadership conference earlier this year. The Vestry made the improvement of this relationship one of its top priorities for this year and has focused on supporting ways both the church and school communities can come together, know one another, and celebrate the good work that each is doing. With the school's Board of Trustees the Vestry invited the Executive and Associate Directors of NAES to St. Martin's for a day-long joint retreat to learn some best practices and ways churches and schools can best function together. While we still have work to do—one does not simply have one meeting and decades of friction are suddenly resolved—the meeting in March was an important step along this path that I believe will lead to more cooperation, better understanding, and deepening of relationships between our parish and school families.

Recently, St. Martin's has invited our wider geographic community to come to this holy place as we've hosted several conversations and events surrounding an epidemic in our community: suicide. Thanks to the leadership of several of our parishioners over 500 people have come to St. Martin's to learn, to grieve, to stand together and support one another, as we cope with this mental health issue. God's presence has been palpable as new friendships have been formed, people have realized they are not alone, and stories have been shared. God is always present in new relationships and I'm so proud that our church was where this all happened. In the coming year we need to seek out additional organizations that are doing the work of education, restoration of wholeness and new life even amidst something as terrible as the tragic loss of life, and invite them to use our space, to come to St. Martin's.

As I look ahead to this summer and our next program year together I am excited for what God will call us to do and be, as God's people here at St. Martin's. We will take over 40 youth and adults on the ASP Mission Trip in June—combining parishioners from four Episcopal churches in Maryland. In July we will make a pilgrimage with the 35 youth and adults

Report from Rector continued on Page 11.

Report from Interim Associate Rector and School Chaplain

By: The Reverend Henrietta Wiley, Ph.D.

“Let Israel rejoice in our Maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in our King.” Psalm 149:2

We have much to be thankful for and to rejoice over this year. I am especially grateful for the commitment and love that our youth and children's ministry leaders continue to show for our young brothers and sisters. Some of our Christian education classes are quite large, others very small. Each type presents its own challenges, and our teachers have met those challenges with dedication. Our youth group, Episcopal Youth Community (EYC), has a different challenge in that we can have anywhere from three to twenty-three show up. The EYC leadership team has been admirably flexible, and the youth excellently supportive of each other.

Of the many things we have to celebrate, is how well we integrate service into children's and youth formation. Our children do everything from making Valentine's day cards for parishioners to helping feed the homeless. They are truly learning that loving Jesus means loving others. Our youth, too, participate in so many outreach efforts while they are learning about what it means to be part of a Christian community. Even when tasks seem to be a drag, the youth usually manage to stumble over joy in their work together. The most joyful events I have seen are when our youth engage with our children, building up community as we all work together to help others.

There are challenges and opportunities for the coming year. Many of our teachers are ready to step back after years of service so that they can attend to their own spiritual formation. While we will miss their leadership, we can benefit from fresh perspectives and ideas from new

volunteers who, recognize how important it is to teach our youngest members about the love and promise of God in Christ.

Another challenge is that so many of our students are under pressure from sports programs that make it difficult for them to come to church on Sunday. Somehow, as a community, we must negotiate with the Severna Park sports culture, so that our children can also be steeped in the teachings and traditions of their faith. These are gifts that they will need long after they've packed away their lacrosse sticks.

As chaplain, I can report that the spiritual ministry of our parish thrives in our parish school. While the chapel program has struggled with inconsistency in the music faculty, we have made observable progress in building a culture of praying with and for one another. Our little services are modeled on the Morning Prayer in the BCP with age-appropriate adjustments and a focus on joyful communal worship. Some curricular changes may be advisable for the middle-school Sacred Studies classes, but the elementary program is robust, and all the elementary and preschool teachers consistently emphasize the love of God with the students. It's really a lovely place to work. I encourage people to come visit on Open House days.

My thanks go out to the many, many people who make these ministries work. You, leaders and young people, have taught me so much about what it means to live in caring Christian community. May your joy increase.

Children's Ministries

By: Kassy Sodergreen, Commissioner

Children are the future of this church. The amount of time and resources these teachers put in to the classes is absolutely a reflection of Christ's love.

We would love to raise attendance and have come up with some ideas. We're working on building a kitchen fellowship so the parents have a place to go while the kids are in Sunday School. We're continuing some Intergenerational events that have the kids working



on projects with the teens and adults. We look forward to more rector visits in Sunday School. We would love to build a small 10-15 music program for the beginning of each class.

We have eight teachers and three paid nursery staff who help with approximately 30 children involved in our programs. We are always seeking volunteers to support the

spiritual growth of our parish youngsters.

Music Ministries

During 2018-2019 season, the music ministries at St. Martin's-in-the-Field continued to serve God with glorious music. The faithful and devoted adult and hand bell choirs praised God with their musical talents. With the funds raised from the previous White Elephant sale, we refurbished the hand bells which have effectively enriched many services since. The subsequent White Elephant sale raised necessary funds to invite guest musicians for special services, especially during Easter and Christmas Eve. We also hosted a summer concert with Ted Davis, the Music Director at St. Bartholomew in Baltimore, which has led to good connections between our coinciding congregations. We

By: Dr. HyeSung Hwang, Director of Music Ministries



began renovating our music library last year. We installed bookshelves and restored and re-systematized more than a thousand pieces of music.

Building Committee

The Implementation Team for the St. Martin's School project, the Synder Learning Center, is pleased to report that the project is now well underway, with an expected completion date in October.

Brown Construction has been proceeding, despite weather delays, and Anne Arundel County inspectors, who visit regularly have been affirming of the work being done. Within the month of May we will see the roof under construction and soon thereafter the interior work can begin. The project provides 7,000 square feet of first floor space plus 3,800 square feet of basement storage.



By: Ardath Cade and Linda Snyder, Co-chairs

The addition will provide classrooms for grades 5 through 8, as well as a large science room, art room, and administrative space, thereby replacing the two modular classroom buildings and opening up space in the Parish Hall currently needed by the school. The Memorial Garden will now be nicely framed by the school wall as a backdrop.

Children in the school have been excited to be given regular opportunities to have the construction process explained to them and to watch the progress. Please share with us the excitement of this growth in our parish/school facilities.

Senior Warden's Report

As I wrap up my time as senior warden, I feel thankful for this opportunity. I feel particularly thankful for all the people I have gotten to know over the past two years. We have an awesome congregation!

As we move through the "Great 50 Days of Easter," I am hopeful that we will be reminded of the gift of eternal life given to us by the Creator of all life. And we will be

By: Sarah Parkison

prompted, out of thankfulness, to look for new life all over St. Martin's – new Vestry class soon to be elected, amazing work by the Many Rivers groups, new walls going up for the Snyder Learning Center – and find ways to be part of this awesome congregation. I am certain, as I have experienced over the past two years, this will be life-giving to those you are serving and to yourself.

ST. MARTIN'S IN-THE-FIELD EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

By: Jamey Hein, Head of School

St. Martin's Episcopal School continues to impact the lives of children fulfilling a commitment to spirited Episcopal education by fostering students of Confidence, Character, and Compassion. This year, 178 students comprised our school community. The School has experienced enrollment stability in an increasingly competitive regional public and private school market.

Parishioners are welcome to visit during the week and observe our child-centered mission. For more information, please contact Kelly Danahy at 410-647-7055 ext. 4044.

Key Highlights of St. Martin's Episcopal School in 2018-19:

- In November, ground was broken on the Snyder Learning Center following the Charting Our Future Campaign in 2018-19. With the Bishop present, students, supporters, and parishioners joined for a celebratory ground-breaking event which set in motion a building project that will transform our campus and strengthen our teaching and learning for generations to come. Special gratitude to Linda Snyder for lovingly stewarding the project and providing teachable moments for our students during this journey.
- SMES Mustangs competed in the Mid-Atlantic Episcopal Schools Association Scholars Fair. Categories included STEM, Spelling, and Art. Overall, our students demonstrated great competence and confidence competing against schools much larger than SMES. We will return in 2020 and look forward being recognized in these and other categories.
- Several special field trips and community events unfolded this year, including a middle school overnight pilgrimage to Camp Wright, a trip to Heifer International's Global Village, an experiential trip to the Karen Noonan Environmental Center, and two excursions to the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center. Additionally,

our K-8 students showcased their innovation and their interests in the STEAM Fair, and new this year, was the K-8 Global Fair. Student athletes experienced successful sports seasons in soccer, cross country, basketball, and lacrosse, and students gave a rousing performance of *Into the Woods*, our middle school musical this year. Also, this year, our PA brought us a new community-building for both school and church – Friday in-the-Field Food Trucks!



- In Chapel, middle school students formed a Vestry group and many new songs were introduced. 8th graders,

once again, helped to anchor our community to our monthly virtues through their monthly Chapel Talks.

- Over 200 guests attended the Field Party held on April 6 which raised over \$30,000 to help furnish the Snyder Learning Center. The event, now in its sixth year since inception, has helped generate over \$500,000 for the School supporting major projects such as an iPad program, the iLab Lab, playground renovations, and the building project.
- 8th graders will matriculate at several area schools including: Gunston, Spalding, Mount de Sales, Mount Saint Joseph's, and Indian Creek.
- Members of the Board and Vestry gathered on March 9, 2019, for a joint retreat on the church-school partnership facilitated by the National Association of Episcopal School. Meaningful lessons were learned, voices were heard, and new goals emerged. Both groups look forward to taking new steps together and supporting one another's future.

The school is most grateful to the Church for entrusting its educational ministry to us and for allowing its Episcopal identity to be lived out by students, staff, and families. We look forward to a new in the Snyder Learning Center in 2019-20.

Worship Report

By: Wamahdri Williams, Commissioner

The heart of St. Martin's, worship is where we gather and celebrate our community and our relationship with God. Worship is spending time with our neighbors and fellow travelers in this created world. Worship involves all of us, both as we come to praise God in this, our sacred space, and in our ministering in our lived-in spaces.

Our talented and dedicated Altar and Flower Guilds ensure that our worship is always in a space reflecting the beauty of the world God has entrusted to us. Our communal worship is supported and enhanced by our in-service music and the joy it brings to us in praising God and in lifting us as we worship. Led by Dr. HyeSung Hwang, our virtuoso pianist, organist and innovative choir director, our choirs spend uncounted hours preparing to lead us in worship and thus grace us with their efforts. We have continued to be blessed with music that prepares us for worship, enhances our worship, and sends us out recharged to do God's work. In her tenure, Dr. Hwang continues to develop our choirs and expand our repertoire of sacred music. During Lent and into Easter, a series of Bach chorales, anthems during our service, sung in German and English, perfectly captured the universality of the sacrifice of Jesus and the blessing and joy with which we have been bequeathed.

Welcoming worshippers to St. Martin's, our Ushers are the face of Christ to our newcomers, and they help us all feel at home. Their quiet direction helps us to remain reverent as we join together in our Eucharistic feast. Led by our Verger, our Acolytes are our symbolic leaders as they reverently bring the cross and light in procession into our services, mark the reading of the Gospel, and lead us in our return to our worldly lives. Similarly, Eucharist Ministers and Servers reverently lead us by assisting our clergy at the altar and during communion. We are blessed with a wonderful group

of Lectors reading our lessons and, especially from Maundy Thursday through Easter, helping us live the story of Jesus' sacrifice and resurrection. This year we have a wonderful multigenerational cadre of lectors and they continue to draw us into our Bible passages with their leadership and sonorous voices.



Our Healing Prayer ministry continues to provide special ministration during our services. They are there for us when we seek personal intercession for our cares and challenges. This ministry is one of the many

ways we minister to each other in God's name. Another way is through our Wedding Guild who provide the special behind-the-scenes support that helps make weddings a truly joyful, Godly experience.

Each Sunday's worship services are the confluence of so many loving hands, voices, and steps; they are truly the arteries that feed and fill the beautiful heart in our lives that is St. Martin's.

Memorial Garden

During construction of our school expansion, our Memorial Garden has been kept accessible as a sacred quiet space, and is a revered final resting place for our beloved parishioners who have entered into eternity. We have had the fewest number of burials in the Memorial Garden in recent memory. Due to construction of the new Learning Center, few changes have been made to the garden. When construction is complete, Ron Williams and a team of gardeners will re-plant the lirioppe that once lined the walkway to the Parish Hall. Soon thereafter, a few changes will be made to the bushes, shrubs and trees that grace the garden today. As new guidelines are approved by the rector, we will again be in need of skilled parishioners to dig the graves and maintain the garden.

Junior Warden's Report

By: John Cullinane

Since last reported, we have started a major new addition to the school. As is apparent, this construction is taking up most of the back, west side of the campus. When completed the new addition will provide new classroom space for our middle school students, and new administrative space for the school. In addition, the classrooms will be available for Sunday School classes. Scheduled completion is anticipated

for October of this year. The Trees for Sacred Spaces, plated last year, are doing well, and we anticipate planting more as part of our contribution to the conservation effort. We want to thank members of the parish, and students from Severna Park High School.

We have undertaken various minor projects to maintain the status of the Church through out the year.

Outreach & Mission

By: Michele Cummings, Commissioner

Backpack Buddies

We are in our 7th year of the program, which provides food for students to take home over the weekend. We serve 4 schools and 47 students weekly. Volunteers welcome each Friday at 9:00 a.m.

Paul's Place

- Volunteers make food for 100 guests once a month for Paul's Place - soon to increase that to twice a month.
- St. Martin's hosted 15 middle school kids from Baltimore for summer camp.
- 150 toiletry bags were assembled and delivered to Paul's Place for Christmas.

Fellowship/Give Back Hour

- We make 100 bag lunches for the Lighthouse Shelter every six weeks.



- Volunteers meet in the kitchen each week during Christian Education.

Winter Shelter

- For the past 25 years, Susan Griesmyer has coordinated the Winter Shelter at St. Martin's. While many volunteers support this important ministry Susan is the linchpin—making sure everything happens. She coordinates all of the

moving parts of this important machine, insuring that our guests have food, toiletries, fellowship and a touch of home. Susan may or may not ever “retire” from this ministry but she deserves a million thanks for all the work that she does and for a job well done.

The volunteers of Winter Shelter showed Christ's love in the

Outreach & Mission continued on Page 10.

Pastoral Care

By: John Dirks, Vestry Liaison

Pastoral care at St. Martin's-in-the-Field is a ministry of the people of God to the people of God. The Pastoral Care Commission takes its calling to care for one another seriously. This may take the form of a ministry of presence and at times it is a response which includes Holy inspired action. As instruments of God, and guided by the outpouring wisdom of the Holy Spirit, it is a ministry that delivers the love of God in hours of need and opportunity.

The Pastoral Care team strives to be the hands and hearts of Jesus Christ “behind the scenes.” Members in ministry provide continuity, warmth, and support, both in and beyond, Sunday Services. They offer up themselves to fulfill the commands of Jesus: that we love one another as Jesus loves us, and to serve our neighbors (whoever and wherever they might be). That may mean providing meals, offering physical nourishment during a difficult time when cooking is the last item to be considered. The ministry can also take the form of providing rides to a doctor, picking up medications, and bringing someone to church. Maybe it is even visiting someone homebound, sharing Holy Communion, and letting that individual know they are still a part of the Body of Christ. The Pastoral Care Commission, in no small way, is a cooperative ministry of committed

individuals working in a spiritual partnership with God, the Clergy, and the individual being served. Here are a few examples of how the Pastoral Care Commission responds to the needs and concerns presented to the Commission during the last year:

Cards, Notes & Booklets: Sending an appropriate reminder to parishioners of God's constant love and presence during the happy times and the times of distress in their lives. Birthday and Anniversary, Get well, and sympathy cards were sent to parishioners throughout the year.

Eucharistic Visitors: Following Sunday services, a Eucharistic Visitor takes Holy Communion/Eucharist when requested to those who are unable to worship in church.

Helping Hands: This ministry provides meals for our church family members experiencing illness, undergoing surgery, or who have experienced a death in the family. Helping Hands also offers services such as transportation to medical appointments and/or pharmacies, or help with other small needs that an individual may have.

The Pastoral Commission is very grateful for all those who give of their time and talent to do God's healing and life-giving work.

Youth Ministry

By: Karen Sabins, Commissioner

"Then Jesus came to them and said "Go therefore and make disciples," Mathew 28:19

Our St. Martin's Youth Ministry is truly dedicated to carrying out this great commission that Jesus bestowed upon us all. Our youth leaders, through their love and commitment, and by teaching and sharing knowledge of the Word to our youth, by standing alongside our youth, encouraging our youth in times of doubt, lifting our youth up in prayer, and by sharing with the youth experiences from their personal faith journeys, are 'making disciples,' indeed. These tweens, teens and emerging young adults are taking charge of their lives, participating in multitudes of school and non-school events, as well as, church youth and intergenerational events and ministries, and, even more amazing, encouraging others in our community and church to become involved in causes they are passionate about.

Over 50 youth participate in our Youth Ministry between Christian Education on Sunday mornings, Episcopal Youth Community (EYC) on Sunday evenings, as well as other church and diocesan activities. On Sunday mornings from 9:00-9:45 a.m., youth gathered together with their class: Breakfast Club (Grade 6), Rite-13 (Grades 7-8), J2A (Grades 9-10), and YAC (Grades 11-12).

- Breakfast Club grew from one youth at the start of the year to six regularly attending youth.
- Rite-13 are finishing their second year, many having participated in February's Rite-13 Liturgy and Celebration.



- J2A (Journey to Adulthood) are completing their second year with an in-depth focus on sexuality and spirituality, including a community building lock-in last fall. The J2A youth researched and selected Greece as their destination for the 2019 pilgrimage, where they will visit communities where Paul preached and drew inspiration - Philippi, Thessaloniki, Corinth, and Athens. To help fund the trip, J2A youth and their parents, planned and participated in multiple fund-raising events including gift card sales, pumpkin sales, corn-hole boards and tournament, poinsettia sales, *Cabaret and Cupcakes*, pasta sales and a yard sale.

- YAC (Youth Active in the Church) gathered weekly focusing on everything from YouTube videos, trivia games, and current events. They are currently focused on Senior Sermons, with four seniors scheduled to preach the Gospel on Youth Sunday.

- EYC (Episcopal Youth Community) met Sunday evening from 5:00-7:00 p.m., averaging 15-20 young people each week (including both parishioners and friends). Some highlights from the year include a Halloween costume contest and games, Christmas caroling, White elephant Epiphany party, serving the men of the Winter Shelter, and a chocolate egg "hunt." Parents and parishioners graciously provided dinner every week. We hope to involve more parishioners in our dinner ritual

Youth Ministry continued on Page 12.

Adult Spiritual Formation

By: Jeff Dickerson, Commissioner

This year St. Martin's provided opportunities for adult parishioners to bring new life to their spiritual growth through a variety of means. Such as:

- The Bible Workbench, led by Rev. John Price, studied Sunday's readings/proclamation from the Hebrew and Christian texts found in that morning's Eucharist.
- The Contemporary Writers book group discussed the book *The Hidden Gospel* by Neil Douglas-Klatz, Ph.D.
- Bible Challenge Group challenged parishioners to read the Bible in chronological order.

- Our Lenten intergenerational series focused on the Stations of the Cross: Experiencing, Learning, Making and Living.
- This Fragile Disc, a non-systematically theological book group, led by Rev. Rhett Wiley, discussed the religious themes of Terry Pratchett's Discworld series

Continuing spiritual formation both as individuals and a community is absolutely core to our evolving journey toward better fulfilling God's call to us both as individuals and a parish community.

Welcome Committee

By: Susan Shingledecker, Vestry Liaison

The Welcome Commission is comprised of 12 church members who volunteer to serve as greeters welcoming all to St. Martin's each Sunday morning. St. Martin's added 31 new individuals to our church database this year. We know that inquires about St. Martin's come in a variety of ways including phone calls, emails and drop in visitors. It is the goal of the Welcome Commission to help visitors, new parishioners and all church attendees feel welcome when they arrive at St. Martin's. We had 11 individuals fill out Newcomer cards in the pews for additional follow up.



See what our Greeters have to say:

"I see the work of Christ when greeting when I can give a friend I haven't seen in a long time a big hug and let them know I am really happy to see them."

"I see Christ's love in action when I watch fellow greeters help those who need assistance make their way into the sanctuary to worship."

In the coming year the Welcome Commission is exploring more active means for parishioners to help welcome new individuals and families to St. Martin's based on their interests.

Outreach & Mission continued from Page 8.

world by:

- Joining with 62 other churches to shelter 20-30 homeless men for one week each year.
- Providing hot meals twice a day.
- Contributing approximately 1,000 hours to the total effort of providing hospitality.
- Leadership roles and opportunities to support other churches who do not have the resources we have are often available.
- Our next year sheltering date: March 16-23, 2020.

SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods)

- 14 member churches that support this organization.
- St. Martin's supports this as an outreach mission through volunteers, monetary and food donations, participation in their fundraisers, and as a member of the Board of Directors.
- This year SPAN has served 1,161 families in need; 180 families were provided with Thanksgiving food baskets; 190 families were assisted with Christmas food baskets and gifts for children; 82 families were provided with food baskets for Easter.

Many Rivers

The Many Rivers ministry has the goal of addressing the effects of injustice and poverty in the world around us, and



in so doing be the "face of Christ" in our community.

This year, Many Rivers made a focused and successful attempt to bring local community problems into our consciousness as a parish. In a series of six Adult Forums in the Fall of 2018 we presented the facts of what our neighbors

in Anne Arundel County are going through with regard to Poverty, Housing & Homelessness, Health & Mental Health, and Substance Abuse, and how the lack of available health and transportation services impact people in each of those categories. In the final Forum, participants prioritized where they wanted to see the parish take action. About 35 people attended every week, many of them not already involved in other Outreach ministries. These Groups met for six weeks starting in January, and established goals to achieve next year: Behavioral Health Group, Housing/Homelessness Group, and Poverty Group. Specific details of the plans will be presented to the Vestry in June, and will be reported out to the congregation upon acceptance.

The success of this exciting education and planning effort is due to the compassion of St. Martins parishioners, and their willingness to rise to the challenge and to be the face of Christ in the community. There will be many ways for people to volunteer in ways small and large. Watch for further information in June and in the Fall about ways you can make a difference in our community.

Finance Report

By: Tony Deasey, Treasurer

Pledge income increased in 2018 from \$622,000 from \$650,000 in 2017, a 4.5% increase. Other Giving (loose plate, seasonal offerings, rental income etc.) also increased from \$81,000 to \$84,000. As a result, total income increased by 4.5% to \$734,000.

Outreach and commission income for 2018 was \$36,287.

However, operating expenses (\$665,000) increased by \$33,000, or 5.2%, due to principally to adjustments to staff salaries offset by lower than anticipated maintenance expenses. Commission expenses also increased, mainly due to a higher youth pilgrimage provision due as a result of an increased number of participants in the 2019 pilgrimage.

With income increasing by \$31,000 and expenses by \$37,000 we incurred a deficit of \$2,142 versus a surplus of \$3,992 in 2017.

While we are incredibly grateful for all of your generosity in funding our mission in 2018 we face challenges in 2019 due to the potential of increased maintenance costs due to an aging building and plant we are at risk of major breakdowns at any time. Based on our current estimates of income (an increase of 4%) we are presently projecting that we will operate at a break even in 2019.

We would like to leave you with one final thought on our financial position. As a young church we have minimal reserves to cover maintenance and other issues which will inevitably happen. We are our only source of income. It is therefore incumbent on us continue to give generously so that in addition to covering our current costs we begin to accumulate reserves to cover our dreams for St Martin's in addition to the specter of deferred maintenance.

2018 Annual Meeting continued from Page 2.

Swearing in the New Vestry

- Susan Shingledecker, Kip Senholzi, Sam Burdette (absent) replaced vestry members who had to leave before the end of their terms in the last year. They will fulfill the remainder of those terms.
- John, Stephen, and Chris were installed as Vestry members.
- Convention delegates, Andy, Bill and David, were also commissioned.

Report from the Rector

- Thank you to:
 - o Staff: Leah Musiker, Amber Kaltz, Kathy Key, HyeSung Hwang, and new sexton, Chuck.
 - o Associate Rector, the Reverend Chandler Irwin.

- o All who serve on (or as) Vestry, flower guild, altar guild, intercessors, lectors, or acolytes, and those who are involved with backpack buddies, prayer ministry, eucharistic visitors, bible study, memorial garden, SPAN, Paul's Place, Sunday School teachers, and about 48 other ministries

- Welcomed 22 new families to St. Martin's in the past year
- Key area of needed growth: capacity to give of our time/talent to keep ministries flourishing
- Rev. Chandler is in the discernment process to serve as a chaplain in the US Navy. She will likely be leaving St. Martin's at the end of this summer.

Closing prayer

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Report from Rector continued from Page 2.

of our J2A youth group to Greece to travel in the footsteps of St. Paul, visiting some of the earliest Christian communities. In August, The Reverend Nathan Erdman and his family will arrive here at St. Martin's and we will welcome them with joy as Nathan+ starts his ministry here with us.

Something new that we will launch over the summer that I hope will both challenge us but also help us tell our story of our service to God's people is: "Service to SERVICE: 10K." I am challenging us as God's people to give 10,000 hours of service to our community, doing God's work out in the world. The national average for the worth of one hour of volunteer time is: \$25.43—I want us to give to our

community over a quarter of a million dollars of our time. We will need everyone's help to get there—so if you've been waiting for an invitation to come and change the world, here it is. Find what speaks to your heart and jump right in.

My sisters and brothers, we are doing great things here at St. Martin's. We are deepening our faith in God. We are helping to build and form disciples for Jesus. We are responding to the constant pull of the Holy Spirit. God has given us new life, new challenges, new ways to bring our skills and talents to serve. I cannot wait to see how we respond and how we bring new life to the world, rejoicing forever in what God is creating here at St. Martin's-in-the-Field.

Hospitality & Parish Life

The Hospitality and Parish life team provides fellowship for our St. Martin's parish family throughout the year. Such gatherings include church picnics, youth Sunday and Rev. Chandler's send-off event. This committee also coordinates receptions for diocesan events held here and our summer Wednesday night Meet and Eat. Additionally,



By: Andy Taylor, Vestry Liaison

we assist families with receptions following memorial services. We are thankful for all the volunteers who make these events go smoothly. All are encouraged to help lend a hand and serve this vital ministry. This ministry is a great way to meet people and enjoy the fellowship for which St. Martin's is known.

Stewardship

The goal of the Stewardship Ministry is to help the people of St. Martin's grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances God has entrusted to us.

The Stewardship committee continues the journey towards recognizing Stewardship as a year-round activity of responding to all of God's blessings.

We want to help people "See God" in all aspects of their life. If you want to see "Stewardship in Action", take a few minutes and read through each commissioner's report. Everyone has talents and gifts. We want to help you utilize those talents and gifts to glorify God. Some questions you

By: Darin Parkison, Commissioner

might ask yourself are:

- *When you think about being a disciple of Jesus and giving back to God, do your actions lead your thinking or does your thinking lead your actions?*
- *Do you believe your relationship with God is tied to how much you give of your time, talents, and treasure? Why or why not?*
- *We've all been given resources of time, money, and giftedness. In what area(s) would you most like to grow in being more generous?*

If you're interested in joining the Stewardship Committee, please see *Darin Parkison* at darinparkison@verizon.net.

Youth Ministry continued from Page 10.

in the coming year as an opportunity to extend the bonds of our youth community. Fourteen teachers and leaders, a commissioner, and our Associate Rector support our youth programs.

Along with regular Sunday programming, other youth events included: an all youth "Fasting" lock-in where we explored hunger on both local and global levels. This included collecting non-perishables for SPAN as well as replacing their own meals with rice and beans to acknowledge and understand hunger around the world. Other youth events also included the J2A Chili Cook-Off, Christmas Mart

concessions to benefit Outreach, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, and many other Spirit-filled opportunities. A number of youth participated in diocesan opportunities, including Youth Leadership, and Happenings #12, Bishop Unplugged, and still to come New Beginnings and Diocesan Convention.

We are so grateful for the support provided from our parish family. It was a great year of new life, fun, reflection and giving back. The most amazing thing we have discovered is that although our mission is to 'make disciples' of our youth, it seems, that our youth are also making disciples of us.



**St. Martin's
in-the-Field**
Episcopal Church

375 Benfield Road, Severna Park, Maryland 21146 | (410) 647-6248 | smartinsinthefield.org