

◆ THE MISSION ◆

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

DECEMBER ~ 2005

"The Purpose of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church is to help people be transformed, gifted, called, equipped and sent into ministry by Christ in the context of a caring community of celebration."

Dear Friends,

As we approach December at St. Martin's, we are living with two focuses. First, we are anticipating and preparing for Christmas. We are celebrating the coming of Christ into the world – the Son of God becoming incarnate as a human baby and the amazing grace and gift of God to all humankind. We also are reminded of the risen Christ coming again. We want to honor Jesus in all we do this season, from the way we decorate our church, to the way we worship, to the way we learn more about him, to the way we reach out. We want to be ready to welcome all who come to join us, so I hope we'll all be more conscious of greeting our visitors and passing the peace with them. And we want to bless our children!

However, Christmas can also be very difficult for some of us. We are under pressure to make it wonderful (the commercial world makes it ever more complicated) – or we have unrealistic expectations that somehow the magic of Christmas will fill our hearts with joy and mend all relationships. We may have hurtful memories of past Christmases. Especially, we feel the grief more intensely over those whom we have lost.

Whatever is true for you, happy season or hard season or both, remember the wondrous gift of God himself – Christ incarnate for you – and hold on to him with all your heart.

The second focus, vitally important for us, is about continuing the work God has called us to do. We've done most of the foundation process, and now we're more clear about our direction and focus. We see the mission God has given us to fulfill, and we're ready to move forward with a search process for a permanent rector.

We're ready, that is, if we all pitch in financially to meet our minimal needs, so that we can afford to call the person God has chosen to lead us into our mission and to support our core values.

I urge you to plan on coming to one of our stewardship suppers. This is not business as usual – it is business that involves every member of St. Martin's. You need to understand the budget, and you need to understand the vision for our future. Everyone has the responsibility – and everyone has the gift and opportunity of being a key part of this mission. If you come, you can make an informed decision. You can pray and hear what God is asking of you, not only in terms of your "treasure," but also in terms of your time and talent. God will not ask more of you than you are able to do, but God does ask us all to be good stewards of what he has given us.

I know God is tapping some of you on the shoulder to become a Vestry member – or join the Altar Guild – or sing with the music team – or teach – or make posters! – or any of a number of other ways to use your gifts for the life of this church family and for the work of the kingdom.

Christmas is a key time in the life of the church, when we keep our hearts and minds on "the reason for the season." December is also a key time in the life of St. Martin's. It may well determine our future. Our prayers are more important than ever.

May you have a blessed Christmas. May your hearts be filled with the joy of the Lord. May you have time to look at the stars and listen to music and kneel at the manger – and be grateful.

In Christ's love,

Marilyn+



Vestry Highlights -- November 2005

In our workings with Lou Blanchard and Georgia Humphrey, we were encouraged to prayerfully arrive at our core values. With your input and much prayer, we have come up with and defined the following 4.

1. COMMUNITY

Through the love of God and each other, we build relationships that sustain, celebrate and honor all.

2. FAITH BUILDING

Through spiritual opportunities & experiences for all ages, we enrich our lives and learn to follow Christ.

3. WORSHIP

Through joyful, spirit-filled worship, we share the love of Christ.

4. OUTREACH

Through God loving people through people, we do Christ's work in the world.

Our Mission is to Experience Christ through Community, Faith Building, Worship and Outreach.

#1 Timeline

Georgia and Lou also encouraged us to get a timeline going. We need to have a prototype of the "logo" that Jane is working on and perhaps a prototype of the "every member" brochure for the Stewardship Suppers. .

December

Stewardship Presentations/Suppers **PLEASE ATTEND A SUPPER THAT IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU. WE REALLY NEED YOUR PARTICIPATION... THIS IS OUR CHURCH AND IT'S FUTURE.**

January

Budget due by January 3rd Vestry Meeting

EXTRA VESTRY MEETING January 10

Annual Meeting January 15 – **new vestry members elected**

February

Marilyn retires

Get names from Ed Morgan for priest candidates

March and April

Search committee to be in full action through the end of April most likely (yes, that means Easter with a supply priest – but maybe a longer term supply priest ?)

May

Call a new priest

Pentecost

Install the new priest?????

This is our basic timeline. Nothing is set in stone (except that participation on everyone's part is essential), dates may change, but we will keep you informed about the specifics.

ICEBERG

Listing of the things we see, hear and do (top of the iceberg) along with those hidden agendas/ histories/ perceptions (beneath the surface).

We had quite a discussion and mentioned several things from beneath the surface Cursillo, music, decisions, Worship Commission etc. The bottom line seemed to be that we need:

1. a process for change
2. education about the process and
3. better, explicit, communication.

One belief is that small coalitions are operating covertly and influence certain decisions. Another is that we have things that cannot be changed because they are traditions or unwritten rules. The more we have processes and communications, the less this type of thing will become and/or remain an issue.

The meeting ended with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted
Sue Richardson

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church Financials — October, 2005				
	October, 2005	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Difference (+/-)
Income	\$ 32,021.57	\$ 96,825.31	\$ 85,704.17	\$ 11,121.14
Expenses	\$ 20,167.16	\$ 92,425.79	\$ 90,522.06	\$ 1,903.73
Difference	\$ 11,854.41	\$ 4,399.52	\$ (4,817.89)	\$ 9,217.41
Checking / Savings	\$ 23,536.53			

Keep Christ in Christmas



~~ OUTREACH CORNER ~~

- As usual, St. Martin has been busy in the community. We ingathered 34 Turkeys and 3 carloads of food for Operation Love's Turkey Round-up.
- Look for more gift tags on the "Love Tree" for Operation Love. Would you believe, the first 45 tags flew off the tree on November 27th!
- The five members of the Mohamud family, our Refugees, are thriving. Collections received at the Feast of St. Nicholas on Sunday, December 4th, will be given to the family. Please be generous.

Happy Holliday and God Bless,

Cynthia Obermeyer, Outreach Chair

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Activities and Events for December, 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																		
<p>November 05</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30				<p>January 06</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					<p>1</p> <p>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Prayer Group In Rector's Office</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 PM Stewardship Supper</p>	<p>3</p>
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<p>4</p> <p>Feast of St. Nicholas follows H.E. 9:30 AM H.E. 11:00 AM Christian Ed 1:00 PM CCRV</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00 PM Vestry</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 PM Music Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p> <p>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Prayer Group In Rector's Office 7:00 PM Stewardship Supper</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p>																																																																																		
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<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day 9:30 AM H.E. 11:00 AM Christian Ed</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30 PM St. Clare's Supper</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 PM Music Rehearsal</p>	<p>29</p> <p>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Prayer Group In Rector's Office</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>																																																																																		

Check www.st-martins.net for December Calendar events!

December Ministry Schedule

	Torch Bearer	Crucifer	Chalice Minister	Lector	Intercessor	Greeter	Usher
Dec-04-2005 9:30 am	Andrew Nelson Rachael Obermeyer	Natalie Graeber	Martha Libby Denise Merillat	Lorna Mayfield	Chuck Tice	Bill Eldred	John Cunningham Jo Cunningham
Dec-11-2005 9:30 am	Brandon Kern Sybil Keables	Bryan Shallanberger	Bryan Shallanberger Randy Hoidahl	Randy Hoidahl	Martha Libby	John Shepard	Sharon Armstrong Bill Eldred
Dec-18-2005 9:30 am	Garrett Revelle Justine Owens	Jordan Hendrickson	Lorna Mayfield Lee Mayfield	John Shepard	John Shepard	Jo Cunningham	John Shepard Tom Keables
Dec-25-2005 9:30 am	PLEASE SIGN UP ON SHEET ON BULLETIN BOARD						
Jan-01-2005 9:30 am	Jocelyn Whipp Caitlin Shepard	Michael Shepard	Judy Tice Chuck Tice	Judy Tice	Judy Tice	Randy Hoidahl	Sue Gilbert Kira Gilbert

Sign up for Christmas Eve Service(s)
6:30 PM and 10:00 PM
(see sign-up sheet on front bulletin board)



	Altar Guild	CCRV	LEM	M&Ms	Teller
Dec-04-2005	Judy Tice Susan Shepard	Lorna Mayfield	Tom Keables	Jo Cunningham	Bob Williams Bryan Shallanberger
Dec-11-2005	Cynthia Obermeyer Patty Juhl	Mary Louise Gradwohl		Ed & Heather Paprocki	Bryan Shallanberger Sue Richardson
Dec-18-2005	Judy Tice Susan Shepard	Tom Keables		Randy Hoidahl	Sue Richardson Rick Whipp
Dec-25-2005	To be supplied; Please coordinate with your Ministers				
Jan-01-2005	Cynthia Obermeyer Patty Juhl	Lorna Mayfield	Tom Keables	Ed & Heather Paprocki	Cynthia Obermeyer Martha Libby



Parish-Wide Movie Outing! Sunday, December 18th to see . . .

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe

movie site: <http://adisney.go.com/disneypictures/narnia/index.html>
More details on exact time and place to come.

Mark your calendars now, and plan to see it with us!

Have you wanted to be part of a Small Group?

*You are warmly invited to come to either
of our two Cursillo reunion groups!*

- *One group meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 6:30 PM to share potluck. Call Martha Libby, 303-695-5603, for information and to get The location for a particular Monday.*
- *The other group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, also for potluck, at 6:30 PM. Call Jane Owens, 303-699-5855, Or Sue Richardson, 303-617-0057 For information and location.*



December Birthdays

Brittany Daily	2
Brandon Daily	2
Ted Sharsmith	4
Jocelyn Whipp	9
Thorvald Nelson	11
Carol Fredrickson	14
Kathy Harris	16
Joey Wolf	17
Nathan Skinner	25
Lee Mayfield	26
Larry Strotheide	31

December Anniversaries

Randy & Sharon Hoidahl	29
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NOTICE! **St. Martin-in-the-Fields** **2006 Annual Meeting** **Will take place on:** **JANUARY 15, 2006**

Your attendance is extremely important!

Please plan ahead and mark your Calendars!



Information for Birthdays & Anniversaries, is included on the Membership Information form. Please contact the office If you need to receive a form.
www.office@st-martins.net

Vestry Members :

Martha Libby, Sr. Warden
Cynthia Obermeyer, Jr. Warden
Michelle Mayfield, Treasurer
Sue Richardson, Clerk
Jane Owens
Bryan Shallanberger
Rick Whipp
Bob Williams

* * * *

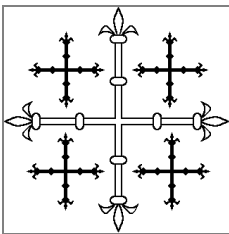
St. Martin Staff:

Priest-in-Charge,
Pastor Marilyn Schneider
Deacon, Shirley O'Halloran
Secretary & Newsletter Editor,
Margie Reck

Office Hours

10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday - Friday

**St. Martin-in-the-Fields
Episcopal Church
4740 S. Buckley Road
Aurora, Colorado 80015
303-693-8872**



**Holy Eucharist Service
9:30 a.m.
Christian Education
11:00 a.m.**

**e-mail:
office@st-martins.net
Parish Web Site:
www.st-martins.net
St. Martin Prayer Chain:
prayer@st-martins.net**



Prayer Chain requests may be placed at:
prayer@st-martins.net, or pick-up a Prayer Chain
information sheet on the communications table in
the Narthex.

**Entertainment Books
For 2005-2006 Are STILL Available. . .**

Bargains galore to save \$ \$ \$ by using the discount card and coupons. Proceeds to the Danny Shewey Memorial Scholarship fund for St. Martin youth. These books are thoughtful gifts for Anniversary, Birthday, or Christmas.

Contact Randy Hoidahl (303-690-7376) or call the office to purchase a book or two. The price is only \$25.00 and the book pays for itself by simply buying your groceries at Safeway! See coupons in back of book.



**You don't have to leave home for
Last minute Christmas Shopping!
Save gasoline and order on line.
Shop & Support St. Martin
through the St. Martin website.**



St. Martin will receive a referral fee for each item purchased. Tattered Cover is your local source for books. The books can be delivered to your door - or packaged and ready for your pickup at either Tattered Cover store. At Amazon.com **books, music, electronics, software, etc.** are **ALL** eligible for supporting St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Suggestions for reading by other members of our parish are on the site, along with Bibles and the BCP.

Take a look at **www.st-martins.net** - Click on Book-store then select either of the stores where you would like to shop.



Welcome to this electronic edition of *The Mission*.
If you know of someone who you believe
should be added for this on-line service,
please notify office@st-martins.net