



St. Martin in the Fields  
Episcopal Church

Worship

Community

Faith building

Outreach

# The Mission

November, 2008 Volume 3, Issue 11

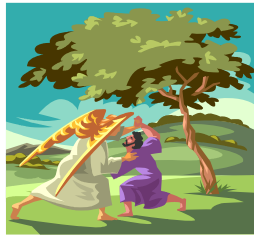
## Connecting with the Rector

Fr. Jim Gilchrist

“We come to Dance with God.” And, dance we do!

From where I stand during the service, especially during the recessional hymn, I am privileged to see the dance in a way that most don't. It is beautiful, it is Godly.

From time to time, it seems as if Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers are dancing around the room, flowing to the music as if their feet are not even touching the floor. They dance as if they are one—that is the dance I see most times between you and God! In addition, yes, there are the times it seems more like a break dance. You know, the dance where a person is spinning and kicking, often turning around on their heads—a dance that comes from street fighting with roots in martial arts—and, it too, is Godly. Life is not always smooth or melodious like a waltz. I am reminded of Jacob as he waits for morning when he will confront his brother, the brother from whom he stole his birthright, dishonoring his whole family. That night Jacob wrestled with the stranger, the angel, who turns out to be God. Before the wrestling, the fighting, and the dance were over, Jacob got his hip kicked out of place. It was through that struggle with God and with himself that Jacob regained his honor, and was named Israel to be over God's chosen people. Moreover, Jacob, now Israel, was met by his brother Esau with open, loving arms—they reconciled.



Yes, dancing with God is like that.

Yes, dancing with God at St. Martin in the Fields is like that, as well. Thanks be to God!



Sometime soon, I would like a sign above the door going out of the Sanctuary that states something like, “Now, we take the dance to the world.” That is our mission given to us by Jesus, to make disciples of all nations, and spread the Good News—The Kingdom of God has come near! There may no better way to share the Good News than to teach others to dance with God, as we dance. And, we do, and do it well. We will teach even more as the years come and go. Thanks to you all.

However, and yes there is a “however”, it is that time of the year—stewardship time. The time when we prepare the budget for the coming year so we will know how much we can do, how much we can afford—can we keep the lights on, can we pay the staff, can we send our youth to Genesis and Quest, can we run the Sunday schools, can we have all the programs which help us in our Christian formation?

I am reminded of an old saying, “If you want to dance, you have to pay the fiddler.”

I want us to keep dancing, and dancing magnificently. I want us to spin around the floor with God and each other without our feet touching the floor. And, when those times come that we are more break-dancing than waltzing, I want us to know it is still dancing with God, and we will reconcile—God is with us. There is great healing when we dance cheek to cheek; there is great healing in such a close relationship with Jesus. *(Cont. on page 2)*

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### November Dates to remember:

Nov. 8: Parish Retreat

Silent Auction Begins

Nov. 9: Welcome Liturgy

Stewardship Ingathering of Pledge Cards  
Coat Drive

*Connecting with the Rector....continued from page 1*

As we go through this season of stewardship, I ask that you pray. Pray that God will lead you to where you need to be—wherever that is, with regards to your contribution to St. Martin in the Fields in time, talent or treasure, great or small, know it will be perfect.

Pray, also, for more dance partners. We are growing marvelously. Attendance has more than doubled since I first came to St. Martin's. It will be through growth where we will find full sustainability, and more. But, it is more than growth for growth's sake. When you have something as great as that "Dance with God", don't you just want to share it? It is that good!

God's Peace,  
Jim+

**Stewardship** *Bob Williams*

**STEWARDSHIP: The careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care.**

Dear Friends,

Once again it is Fall, the time of year when the seeds of the future are planted for the next year's harvest. Thank you for your generous and faithful support of St. Martin in the Fields this year. Your financial contributions as well as gifts of time and talent have enabled us to move forward with energy, momentum and purpose.

As we plan and develop the existing and new tools for our ministries in 2009, we live in the anticipation and belief of a powerful future together. I ask each of you to prayerfully look into your hearts as you determine your financial giving and participation in future of the work of Christ. Each of us is entrusted with the future of St. Martin in the Fields.

It is your continued support, commitment and prayer that make all of this possible.

*"What we do with what we have, is a statement of what we believe".*

Bob Williams,  
Stewardship Team Leader

**Stewardship Drive Timetable:**  
  
**Mid-Oct.: Stewardship Letter & Pledge Card Mailed**  
**Late-Oct.--early-Nov.: Stewardship witnessing during services**  
**Nov. 9: Stewardship Ingathering**

**Bulletin Board**

**Vestry meeting:**  
**Tues., Nov. 4, 2008**  
**7 p.m., library**

**Parish Retreat: Nov. 8,**  
**9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sign up sheet**  
**in narthex**

**Welcome Liturgy**  
**Sunday, Nov. 9**

**Wed., Oct. 29:**  
**Wed. p.m. @ St. Martin**  
**resumes, 6 p.m.**

*Adult Bible Study* *Thor Nelson*

**November Schedule for Adult Education:**  
 11/2: Building a tower and waging war (Luke 14:28-33)  
 11/9: Unmerciful Servant (Matthew 18:23-35)  
 11/16: The Barren Fig Tree (Luke 13:6-9)  
 11/23: The Guests (Luke 14:7-15)  
**All adults are welcome — 9 a.m. Sundays, library**

*Adult Advent Study* *Sharon Hoidahl*

**Oh, Baby, We've Waited So Long for You!:**  
**An Expectant Advent**

Sarah laughed and Abraham raised his eyebrows when God told them Sarah would conceive. Ruth took a deep breath and stepped into a foreign land not knowing whether she would find protection with Boaz. Elizabeth must have been somewhat apprehensive about birthing a child in her old age even as she and Zechariah rejoiced. Mary and Joseph were a new family whose joy would be severely tested with the most painful loss parents can know. Yet their longing and hope speak to us across the centuries, in the kairos of God's time. Come, wait with us expectantly in Advent as we discover our own stories in theirs.

This four week Advent Study is facilitated by Sharon Hoidahl, M. Div, who has led formation workshops and retreats for adult and youth learners, vestries, caregivers, and churchschool teachers. She is a retired pastoral counselor and hospital chaplain who believes that God surprises us in all events of our lives.

Adult Bible Study meets at 9:00 am in the Conference Room. Please join us!

# Children and Youth Ministries

## Children

Sue Richardson

### Children's Chat



We have our first segment of Sunday school nearly completed!! Thanks to Marilyn MacDonald for teaching each week of our first segment, giving our children consistency and getting to know

their personalities. Our other volunteers' (Rick and Laura Whipp, Tom Keables, Sharon Armstrong and I) were able to rotate teaching duties, sometimes telling the story, and sometimes helping with crafts or projects. The children learned about the stories of Daniel, David, Noah, and Jonah, to name a few.



So we now head into Advent... our second segment of Sunday school. And we need volunteers to teach. Please consider if you could teach the Advent segment - from November 30 through December 21. The Advent lessons all focus on our preparing for the birth of Jesus, and some time may be dedicated to talking about the Christmas Pageant. We will have a sign up sheet for volunteers who could help teach a few weeks of Advent. Lessons are ready, very little preparation is needed.

Please consider in your annual pledge that along with your treasure, your time and talents are needed.

Contact S. Richardson 303) 617-0057 to volunteer or for more information.

Peace, Sue

## Homeless Family Update - Dawn Koltiska

Several weeks ago the St. Martin faith community responded to the need of a homeless mother and son by raising almost \$300. Mercedes and Nico who had to be relocated to Colorado for their safety left their home with minimal belongings, have found an apartment just 15-20 minutes north of St Martin. Mercedes is looking for a job and Nico is settled in a school. The money raised will go towards gas and groceries. St. Martins was the only church contacted in the metro area which did not place conditions or restrictions on the gift. Many churches or civic agencies would NOT help because the family were not members or didn't live in the right town/district. St Martin's congregation really lives the Gospel commandments! Thank you.

## Youth Kristi Koltiska/Bryan Shallenberger

Many of the St. Martin youth participated in the Genesis weekend in Buena Vista in mid-October (see photos).



The St. Martin youth will begin collecting toys the first Sunday of November for Operation

Christmas Child, a program designed by Samaritans Purse, which delivers shoe boxes filled with toys, school supplies, toiletries and non-perishable candy to girls and boys in third world countries. Check the website for Operation Christmas Child for suggestions. We also need shoe boxes for this project. We will collect the gifts and boxes until Nov. 23.

On Dec. 6 we will co-host the St Nicholas Celebration with the Church of the Ascension Youth Group. A fun time with food, games, crafts and more for friends of all ages is being planned! More information will be given

## St. Martin Coat Drive

Hi Everyone:

I am writing to tell you some very exciting news. On November 9, 2008 we will be celebrating St. Martin's Day who as you all know is the patron saint of our congregation. In honor of our patron saint and in gratitude for our many blessings, we are going to have a coat drive as part of our celebration that day. The coats may go to Coats for Colorado or to St. Francis Center or both depending on our response. We would like to collect coats, sweaters, jackets and hoodies of all shapes and sizes so that we may impact as many people as possible.

As the seasons change, I would like to ask that everyone look through their closets and in their hearts over the next few weeks and see if you have something to donate towards this project.

Our collection will be during the services on November 9, 2008. Thank you all for your generosity and kindness.

See you Sunday.

—Sue Gilbert

## Silent Auction

**Plan to join the St. Martin Faith Community in a silent auction to raise funds for painting the walls of the church (sanctuary & narthex).**

**The items will be on display for the Parish Retreat, Sat., Nov. 9.**

**Bidding will continue until after the 10:15 a.m. service, Sun., Nov. 16.**

## CPR/FIRST AID Training

The Caregiver Network offers CPR and First Aid classes on the 3rd Saturday of each month. Classes are held from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the St. Martin Community Life Building. The cost is \$40 per person. Contact J. Skinner for more information or to sign up. The Caregiver Network offers a variety of support to caregivers.

## Advent & Christmas Book Sale

Sunday, November 16 & 23 , after both services  
Advent, Christmas, children's books, devotionals,  
prayer books, etc.

Browse for gifts or personal reading.

## *Outreach — An Update from Taiwan from Seth and Elizabeth Raymond*

### 3 . . 2 . . 1 . . TAKE OFF!

**Greetings from the Episcopal Church in Taiwan!** Our last newsletter update was published just as the universities were starting here. Classes officially began on September 15<sup>th</sup>. The area surrounding the university became crowded and busy almost overnight. Just behind the cathedral is a lane, comparable to small side streets in the U.S., full of restaurants. Come noon, it is packed with students searching for the best chao fan, mian, and dou hua dishes.

**The new Episcopal Campus Fellowship** has taken off! Currently the weekly programming for college students is an English Bible study on Tuesday evenings and a Taizé style prayer service on Thursday evenings. Our first week was quite a success! The Bible study brought in four students from three different universities in Taipei. Most of the students were already Christian, but wanted to practice speaking English. Seth has been working to stay in contact with these students throughout the week to have lunch with them individually.

**Initially, Seth** was trying to contact the students via email, but was not getting any response. Finally a student told him, "No one uses email, it is too slow!" Cell phones are the most common form of communication. Now we know.

**On the days** Seth does not meet with students for lunch, he has been sitting in the food court area of the student union on the campus of National Taiwan University with a sign reading "Need a listening ear?" Although most students walk by slowly, craning their neck to read the sign without stopping, a few students have stopped by to chat. It is difficult to sit down and put the sign out, but once someone sits down, the conversations have all been fruitful. Topics range from vegetarianism to how Seth is

different from the Mormons to the treatment of the Aborigines by the first Christians in Taiwan.

**Elizabeth has begun** teaching English on Monday mornings at the Good Shepherd kindergarten. It is attached to the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd. The Taiwanese kindergartens have 3, 4, and 5 year olds. Thankfully they are split into classes by age! She is currently teaching the children the story of Noah's Ark. We are learning all about Brother "Noya" and animals. Elizabeth is hoping to increase her time spent at the kindergarten.

**The dean of the cathedral,** Father Samuel, has graciously offered to teach us Chinese on Tuesday and Thursday mornings until we begin our "real" training at National Taiwan Normal University in December. Since the Sunday morning services are completely in Chinese, we have asked Fr. Samuel to teach us some of the prayers used in the service. So far we have learned the Lord's Prayer and the confession of sins. Even though we use our cheat sheet, we feel more involved in the services now.

**We have been updating** our blog and sending out email updates weekly. If you would like to receive our emails, please send us an email so we can add you to our list! Also, we LOVE getting emails from everyone back home! It is great to have such supportive churches and communities and we love to hear from you.

Love,

Elizabeth and Seth Raymond

[sethandlizmission@gmail.com](mailto:sethandlizmission@gmail.com) (please email us to get added to our email list)

<http://sethandelizabethtaiwan.blogspot.com> (this is where you can find pictures and other reflections about our experience)

### Church Leadership

**Rector:** The Rev. Jim Gilchrist  
**Sr. Warden:** T. Nelson  
**Jr. Warden:** J. Shepard  
**Vestry:** S. Armstrong, S. Gilbert, J. Laginess,  
 L. Mayfield, D. Merillat, E. Paprocki,  
 B. Raymond, A. Shallanberger, B. Williams,  
 J. Tice (clerk), Mike Shallanberger (treas.)



### St Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church

4740 S. Buckley Rd., Aurora, CO 80015

303-680-6376

web site: [www.st-martins.net](http://www.st-martins.net)

e-mail address: [office@st-martin.net](mailto:office@st-martin.net)

prayer chain: [prayer@st-martins.net](mailto:prayer@st-martins.net)

## Welcome Liturgy to be November 9, 2008

The St. Martin in the Fields faith community will officially welcome into the church all those who have joined the church recently (officially or unofficially). The welcome will take place during the services on our patron saint's feast day.

### Vestry Nominations

Please prayerfully consider whether you or someone you know might be willing to be nominated to serve on the St. Martin in the Fields Vestry. Vestry members are normally elected for a 3-year term.

Duties include attending the regular monthly meeting held on the first Tuesday of each month unless otherwise publicized; attending any other meetings called by the Rector or the Executive Committee; attending the Annual Meeting of the Parish; attending the Vestry Retreat; and serving as teller for two consecutive Sundays every 2-3 months to count the Sunday offering and make the bank deposit.

Vestry nominees need to be at least 18 years old, communicants in good standing, be active in the life of the parish, and canonically resident in the parish for six months by the time of election.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else please contact Fr. Jim.

### Praying with the Mystics:

#### Daughters of the King Advent Quiet Day

Sat., Dec. 6, 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Church of the Holy Comforter, Broomfield.

You are invited to

a Daughters of the King Advent Quiet Day  
with The Reverend Sandy Blake

This is an opportunity to add meaning to your Advent experience with contemplative prayer, praying scripture, chant, Eucharist and anointing for healing and ministry. Please RSVP by e-mail [holycomforter@qwestoffice.net](mailto:holycomforter@qwestoffice.net), or call the Holy Comforter church office, 303-466-2667 by Dec. 3rd.

### '09 Entertainment Books

The 2009 Entertainment Books are still available—only \$25. Full of discounts for fine dining, casual meals, hotels, rental cars, ski tickets, dry cleaning, recreational activities and merchandise. Proceeds go to the Danny Shewey Memorial Youth Scholarship Fund for all youth at St. Martins. Danny (along with his mother JoAnne) was an active member of St. Martins in the late 1990's. On Sept. 3, 1999, at the age of 13, he was walking home from school when he was hit and killed by a truck. He always had a smile on his face and loved to talk and joke and play sports. And he loved our Lord....See R. Hoidahl for your book or call c/o the church office.

### November Birthdays:

Nov. 8: Cynthia Obermeyer

Nov. 9: Bill Eldred

Nov. 17: Denise Merillat

Nov. 17: Fred Libby

Nov. 21: Ron Juhl

Nov. 22: Denni Morales

Nov. 28: Jim Skinner

Nov. 28: Fran Blackman

Nov. 29: Michael Hartung

Nov. 30: Jesse Stidham

### November Anniversaries:

Nov. 9: Larry & Peggy Martin

Nov. 15: Jim & Jay Skinner

Nov. 25: Joe & Jane Owens

If your name/date is not listed or is not listed correctly, please call the church — 303-680-6376.

## November 2008 Ministry Schedule

Please arrive 20 minutes prior to start of service

Date	Torch Bearer	Crucifer	Chalice Minister	Lector	Intercessor	Usher
Nov. 2 10:15 a.m.	Eithan Phillipe Rachel Whipp	Sarah Raymond	Judy Tice Chuck Tice	Martha Libby	Martha Libby	John Shepard Sue Gilbert
Nov. 9 10:15 a.m.		Lauren Hartung	Mike Shallenberger Bryan Shallenberger	Chuck Tice	John Shepard	Tom Keables Sharon Armstrong
Nov. 16 10:15 a.m.	Mikayla Kern Justine Owens	Brandon Kern	Martha Libby Thor Nelson	Missi Kern	Judy Tice	Ann Shallenberger Alyssa Stidham
Nov. 23 10:15 a.m.		Rachael Obermeyer	Richard Daniel Randy Hoidahl	Randy Hoidahl	Mary Louise Gradwohl	John Cunningham Jo Cunningham
Nov. 30 10:15 a.m.	Eithan Phillipe Rachel Whipp	Lauren Hartung	Judy Tice Chuck Tice	Martha Libby	Martha Libby	Bill Eldred Kandice McKeon- Eldred
Dec. 7 10:15 a.m.	Jocelyn Whipp Eithan Phillipe	Lauren Hartung	Alyssa Stidham Mike Shallenberger	Bruce Raymond	Sharon Armstrong	John Shepard Sue Gilbert

Date	8:00 a.m. Server	Altar Guild	CCRV	Coffee Hour	Teller
Nov. 2	Lee Mayfield	Cynthia Obermeyer	Mary Louise Gradwohl		Lee Mayfield Denise Merillat
Nov. 9	Sharon Hoidahl	Kimberley Erwin	Lorna Mayfield	Erwin family	Denise Merillat Bruce Raymond
Nov. 16	Lorna Mayfield	Susan Shepard	Tom Keables		Bruce Raymond Bob Williams
Nov. 23	Thor Nelson	Judy Tice	Mary Louise Gradwohl		Bob Williams Thor Nelson
Nov. 30	Catharyn Baird	Cynthia Obermeyer	Lorna Mayfield		Thor Nelson John Shepard
Dec. 7	Lee Mayfield	Susan Shepard	Tom Keables		John Shepard Sharon Armstrong

*If you are a server and know you have a conflict in December, please notify M. Kern by November 14 so she can put together an accurate schedule. Once the schedule is published, you are responsible for finding your own substitute. Then please let the church office know who is serving in your place. Thank you.*