

THE BELL TOWER

A Newsletter from the People of St. Martin Episcopal Church



BUILDING BRIDGES CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH FAMILY



“TWO KINGS” VISIT THE PRESCHOOL AT ST. MARTIN’S

At Thursday’s Children’s Chapel time, two of the wise men, Caspar and Melchior came to visit the children at The Building Bridges Pre-School. Unfortunately, Balthazar, the third king had some issues with his camel and could not make it.

The children experienced the gifts of the Magi. Seeing the Gold, smelling the incense and feeling the myrrh so that their active senses were engaged in the worship of the Baby Jesus.

The service began with the children praying the Lord’s Prayer, the Kings sang as they entered and then the children sang “This Little Light of Mine” for the visiting Kings.

A ROUSING Amen! completed the joy.

The Vestry of St. Martin's

-Senior Warden

-Junior Warden

Joy Astrolio (2013)

Sue D'Amore (2014)

Ted Friedt (2014)

Larry Norton (2014)

Dorothy Santi

-Recording Secretary

John Moore

-Treasurer

Sylvia Pecaro

- Assistant Treasurer

St Martin's Staff

The Reverend

Bernard J. Pecaro

-Rector

Janet Privas

-Parish Administrator

Madeline Zung

-Director of Music Ministry

St. Martin's Episcopal Church

140 S.E. 28th Avenue

Pompano Beach, Fl. 33062

Phone: 954-941-4843

www.stmartinchurch.orgBuilding Bridges Pre-School

Edith Moore

-Director

954-545-4703

St. Martin's Members Welcome You!**Our Parish Vision Statement**

“St. Martin's Vision is to serve as a bridge to Jesus Christ, embracing all people.”

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8:00am Holy Eucharist

10:30am Holy Eucharist with Hymns

Tuesday - Wednesday - Friday Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist

9:00 am in the Chapel

Thursday**Children's Chapel, 10:00am Healing Service & Holy Eucharist**

12 Noon in the Chapel

Chapel HoursThe Chapel of the Resurrection is open for **prayer** five days a week

Monday through Friday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Closed for Lunch

12:20pm - 1:20pm

954-941-4843

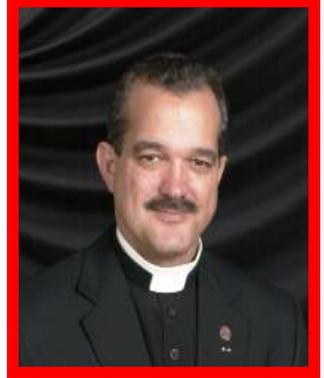
janet@stmartinchurch.org

You know you are a Episcopalian when:

- It's 100 degrees, with 90% humidity, and you still have coffee after the service.
- You hear something really funny during the sermon and smile as loudly as you can.
- Donuts are a line item in the church budget, just like coffee.
- When you watch a Star Wars movie and they say, "May the Force be with you," and you respond, "And also with you."

Garrison Keiller

THE RECTOR'S CORNER



Dear Friends and Members of St. Martin,

Each January edition of the Bell Tower points to the pro-active and positive ministry opportunities awaiting us in the coming New Year. That will not be the case with this 2013, New Year, edition. Nope.., I will not lay out a grand strategic plan for new ministry development. Nor will I tell you how important it is for us to invite new persons into our parish, or increase the amount of money we freely offer. I am not even going to underscore or thank those who strive so very hard to accomplish Christ's work within and beyond the parish.

As a matter of course, I encourage each of us to stop "doing" ministry! Instead of "doing", I charge that we each discern the will and purpose of Jesus Christ for our personal lives and then that of the administration of the Church.

Friends, I have come to the knowledge that we have to stop "doing" ministry, even for the best of intentions. Rather, through spiritual discernment we are to discover where God is already at work and join Him... There is a huge difference between doing ministry for Christ and His Church and joining with Him where He is already at work.

How do we discern where God is at work so we can join Him? First, we must understand that God's grace is the only motivator and source of empowerment. Second, we are to faithfully seek and receive the spiritual tools God is giving us to know His purposes and ways.

I am very, very awed by the gifts God gives to us to build up His church. Within the next few weeks we will engage a spiritual discernment process entitled REVEAL. This is an on line inventory that asks questions about our spiritual life. It comes to us from the National Episcopal Church via Willow Creek Church, Chicago. We will each be asked to take the inventory. Once it is assessed, the results will be returned to us with specific steps to deepen our parishioner's spiritual relationship with Jesus.

This response to Grace will be followed by another gift of the Holy Spirit. It is called, "The Bible Challenge." Many diocesan parishes have already begun to engage this National Church initiative. For us, it will follow the launching of the REVEAL program and provide to us the ability to read the entire bible in one year.

One other gift of the Spirit that brings Christ intimately into our lives is the course, "Experiencing God." Those who have taken it know the spiritual transformative power it provides the student. We are offering two classes in the winter. The schedules are: Wednesdays, January 25 thru April 3, 7pm - 8:30pm and Fridays, January 23 thru April 5, 10am-11:30am. You are strongly encouraged to participate in this life transforming instruction. Please indicate your interest by contacting me, or signing up on the Narthex information table.

Most Rectors would not say, "Stop doing the work of Christ's Church." Your Rector is saying, "Stop doing the work of Christ's Church... if it is your work..." My charge to us all is to discern where God is doing God's work... and join Him! Do you see the difference?

We are, and must be, about the seeking of God's will for our lives and the life of His Body, the Church. Jesus is leading this parish into spiritual renewal. Please pray, pray and pray some more that the Holy Spirit continues to renew your heart so God's purpose for you may be accomplished. And, that through you God be praised!

In His Holy and Life Giving Name,

Fr. Bernie+

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bernie J. +". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Youth Choir Begins at St. Martin

A new community outreach is being launched by our own Christopher Siren who helped make our Christmas Choir the best ever this year. Children from 6 to 16 years of age are welcome to audition January 17th from 4pm til 9pm in the music room. This opportunity is for the community as well as our parish. If you know a young person who loves to sing, please have them call 561-317-3866 to make an appointment. This group will sing popular songs as well as sacred ones and plans to work with other musicians in the area such as the New River Orchestra. Spread the word and let our youth know of this wonderful opportunity.



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St. Martin Parish Welcomes The Reverend Robert Beicke and Patricia Farley

We welcome into our parish family the Reverend Robert Beicke and his wife, Patricia Farley. Pastor Robert is presently an ordained Evangelical Lutheran Church clergyperson who is translating into the Episcopal priesthood. We will assist Robert and Patricia with this facet of their journey, as they join with us in our worship and ministry. The following is a brief narrative of Pastor Robert and Patricia.

Raised in and around Buffalo, New York, Robert graduated with a BA Degree in Theology from Valparaiso University in Indiana, completed the Master of Divinity Degree from Christ Seminary – Seminex in St. Louis, Missouri, and was ordained to the Office of the Holy Ministry in the Lutheran Church on the Sunday of Christ the King, 1982.

While at Thorndale, TX, Robert graduated from The University of Texas at Austin with a MA in Educational Psychology while engaged in a doctoral program in the same field. He has been active in synod, ecumenical, and community programs [Dean in both the West Tennessee and Broward-Bahamas Conferences, Synod Worship Committee Chair, Synod Evangelism Committee Chair, Lutheran/Episcopal Conversations in Memphis, the Memphis Nehemiah Housing Project and Community Alliance for the Homeless, Austin Caritas Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, in youth sports organizations, and other community activities).

Patricia Farley spent most of her life in and around Austin, TX, after her family moved to that area from New York City. After receiving a BSW degree from Southwest Texas State University, she received both a MSW and a MA degree from The University of Texas at Austin. She engaged in doctoral studies in both Educational Psychology and Special Education. Patricia is currently a Parent Education specialist in a Broward County agency Parent Education/Parent Support program.

Robert and Patricia met in their first graduate class at UT and immediately were less than enamored with each other. They were married in February 2009 after many discussions [academic and otherwise], and continue the engaging conversation and delightful banter to this day.

Robert has one adopted son, Nathaniel, currently serving with the U.S. Navy. Please welcome Robert and Patricia.

St. Martin to Engage The REVEAL Study

The REVEAL Study is an effective teaching method to deepen the spiritual vitality of the Christian. It began at Willow Creek Interdenominational Church, Chicago, in 2003. Our National Church has endorsed it and numerous parishes within the diocese are a part of this program. The study begins with an on line survey which asks questions of spiritual importance. The answers we provide will be assessed by Willow Creek and returned to St. Martin with specific tools to better assist the spiritual journey of our members. The program will be for us an essential means for the spiritual renewal of our parish members and ministry.



BIBLE **CHALLENGE**

The Bible Challenge: A Tool for Spiritual Development

The 2012, 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church has mandated that all Dioceses, Parishes and Missions read the Bible in 2013. The Bible Challenge is an Episcopal education program that will enable the student to read the bible in its entirety in one year. On January 7th, many congregations within our diocese began the Bible Challenge study. We, at St. Martin, will begin this study during Lent, following the kick off of the REVEAL program. Small study groups, on line chats and reflections will be a part of our one year bible study. More information is to come.

Experiencing God: Yet Another Tool for Spiritual Development

The Course Experiencing God is once again being offered at St. Martin. This course continues to be offered because it truly assists the spiritual transformation of those who take it. Consequently, Fr. Bernie will facilitate two separate courses: Wednesdays, January 25 – April 3, 7pm - 8:30pm and Fridays, January 23 – April 5, 10am-11:30am. If you wish to know how God is at work in your life, in the world around you, and your role in this relationship, this course is a must. Sign up on the Narthex table, or speak with Fr. Bernie.

Sunday School for Youth Begins

A part of our spiritual renewal at St. Martin is the beginning of our children's Sunday School. Beginning January 20, 10:30 to 11am, in the Sunday School room, our children will be enriched with the study of Scripture through the very popular curriculum *Godly Play*. Sunday School curriculum will include, Jan. 20 "The Good Shepherd", Jan. 27 "Mustard Seed", Feb.3 "Great Pearl", Feb.10 "Change of the Church Year" as we lead into Ash Wednesday. Our teachers are Bonnie Coleman, Janet Cooper and Barbara Rowe. We offer a big thank you to them for their commitment to bring Jesus Christ to our children. We also thank Sue D'Amore, Sandy Tucker and Arlene Bruttell for providing the training for our teachers. More teachers are needed. Please see Fr. Bernie if you are able to serve.





2013 Annual Meeting, January 13th: One Service Only

This Sunday we will join together as a parish family at our annual meeting. We begin our corporate celebration with one Service at 10:00a.m. This will be followed by a lunch in the parish hall sponsored by our Episcopal Church Women. Thank you ECW! Our meeting will follow where we will elect members of the Vestry (see bios attached). We will also hear the Rector's State of the Church address, the Sr. Warden's report, and receive other various reports. As well, the Treasurer's report for 2012 and the 2013 budget will be presented. Fellowship and song will round off this time together and you'll be on your way home by 12:30. Please be present for this important time of our life as the Body of Christ.

2013 Vestry Nominations

This year we will elect persons to serve a three year term on our Vestry. If you wish to nominate someone from the floor to stand for election to the Vestry, you must have first gained their permission, assure that they are an Episcopalian, 16 years of age or older, and a contributing member of record. The following persons have submitted their names to stand for election:

Marina Garrison

I have been coming to St. Martin since I was 7 years old. Al and I were married at St. Martin by Father Zimmerman, in 1973. Our son was christened by Father Zimmerman and Father Pecaro married our daughter. I am retired from AT & T where I worked for 34 1/2 years. My husband and I have been a part of the Marquee team until the new sign was acquired and are very active in the life of the parish.

Linda Taylor

Starting in 1983 I "popped" into St Martins on occasion while on vacation. I have faithfully attended services at St Martin's for the past 8 or so years. I started as a reader for the 8:00 AM service then a greeter and usher.

I have held the position as Purchasing Manager at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale's Culinary School since 1998. Dealing with the procurement of food and equipment and maintaining controls in distribution and budgets. I hold a Bachelor of Science Degree in Culinary Management.

The second of seven children, I was raised in Gloucester, Massachusetts. I am a grandmother of seven! I still remain a New Englander at heart but love living in South Florida. I moved to Pompano Beach as soon as both of my daughters were off and on their own. I am never far from the Atlantic Ocean even today residing with husband Graham and "Lady Chelsea" right across the street from it.

I love St. Martin's Episcopal Church and will do all that I can to help it grow.

New Comers Class Soon to Be Offered

If you are new to St. Martin, or just wish to brush up on what our parish ministry is about, you will want to participate in this upcoming New Comers Class. The Rector and other parish leaders will share with you a descriptive overview of our life as a parish. It will hopefully make you feel welcomed and incorporated.

All are welcome. We will meet in the parish hall beginning Sunday, January 20th, 9:30-10:15. There will follow three subsequent classes, concluding February 10th.

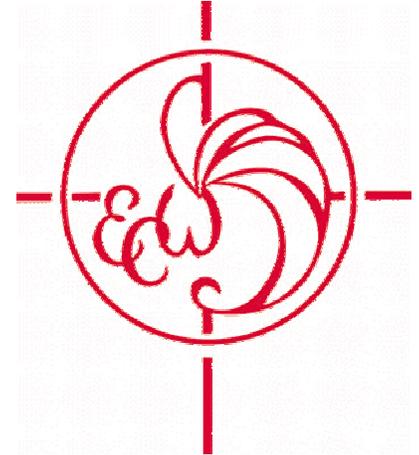


BIRTHDAYS

Janet Cooper	01/03
Kai Stadler	01/05
Pat Wald	01/06
Charles De Pasquale	01/07
Garland Hardin	01/07
Riley Bauer	01/10
Kristy Hennessey	01/10
Peter Krokstedt	01/11
Jimmy Winters	01/12
Clemens Peschl	01/13
Giacomo Dresseno	01/15
Sharon Wesolowski	01/18
Jamie Boros	01/25
Joan Wink	01/25
Janice LaVrar	01/28
Marjorie Hamilton	01/29
Christopher Siren	01/31
Dotty Wesolowski	01/31

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Jo & David Russell	01/17
Marjorie & Bruce Hamilton	01/25

**ECW News**

The Episcopal Church Women will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, January 12th at 10:30am in the Parish Hall. All ladies of the parish are invited and encouraged to attend this most important meeting.

Save the Datefor the EVENT OF THE YEAR, our Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon to be held on March 9th. Our own ladies will model the latest Spring Fashions provided by Addictions. Anne, the owner, does a great job demonstrating how to coordinate jewelry, hats etc. giving the best results for the perfect look. Lunch will be catered by top-rated Primavera Restaurant. At this meeting we will be discussing all aspects of the Luncheon and we need plenty of help in this endeavor. For our auction to be successful we need ladies to donate a variety of gift baskets. Tickets go on sale February 10th. More details next month.

We received a donation of \$5,000 from the Josephine O. Leiser Foundation designated to be given to underprivileged children. The recipients were: Broward Children's Center, Operation Smile and Hope South Florida.

ECW Sunday will be celebrated February 3rd. All ladies are requested to wear red or cream to church that day.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

join us February 9th for our annual golf tournament. You are promised a good time with good friends. If you are not a golfer, come join us for a fun and lively dinner afterwardsincluding "awards" ceremony . Sign up forms are located in the back of church and on our website. This is a major fund raiser for St. Martin's, and there are so many ways to participate.....this Tournament enables our Ministries. Invite a friend or family member, organize a foursome, get ready!

**Saint Martin's Episcopal
Church**

**140 S.E. 28th Avenue
Pompano Beach, Fl. 33062**

**Bell Tower
Deadline for
February
will be January 27th
Please send photos
And news. This is your
newsletter**

