

St. Martin in the Fields Church
in the Episcopal Diocese of Atlanta

2011 Annual Report



Saint Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church
AGENDA OF THE 2012 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
January 8, 2012

- 1. Opening Prayer: Father John McCard**
- 2. Election of Clerk**
- 3. Report of the Staff**
Report of the Rector: Father John McCard
- 4. Report on Vestry Elections: Senior Warden Karen Boor**
Introduction of new Vestry members: Mitch Haas,
Gay Jolley, Nancy Runion, Rex Simms and Ian Street
- 5. Report of the 2011 Vestry: Senior Warden Bruce Hall**
Recognition of outgoing Vestry members:
John Burton, Kathy Evenson, Sid Oakley;
Sandy Rose and Becky Short
- 6. Report of the Stewardship Committee: Susanne Snyder**
and Sid Oakley
- 7. Report of the Finance Committee: Ann Burton (2012 Budget)**
- 8. Report of the Suthers Center for Christian Outreach: Sandy Rose**
- 9. Report of the Episcopal Church Women: Marcie Schwefler**
- 10. Report of the St. Martins Episcopal School Trustees: Jodie Guest**
- 11. Report of the Endowment Fund: Irmina Owens**
- 12. Other Business (Questions and Answers)**
- 13. Closing Remarks and Prayers**

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THE RECTOR

January 2012

*Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine:
Glory to him from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever.*
Ephesians 3:20-1

Dear Friends,

In last year's email, I quoted the opening of Anne Shepherd's excellent history of St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church which described how Nan Ramsey, the godmother of Margery Childs, said that she would do whatever it took to get our church started. Looking back over sixty years, we have been truly blessed at St. Martin's Church.

It has been a wonderful year of celebration at St. Martin's Church and School. One of the highpoints was the visit of the St. Martin in the Fields Church choir from London which culminated in a fantastic concert. Our Suthers Center for Christian Outreach celebrated its one year anniversary operating with a profit and continuing its mission to share the cloak with those in need. Also, St. Martin's School broke ground on a new middle school building. Our year concluded with a glorious Celebration in Parish fundraiser which included a Penny Social/Raffle and a Parish Dinner- Dance that collected over \$26,000 for Outreach.

Looking ahead, there are many other projects to be excited about in the coming year. Our Columbarium Committee has begun a process to expand the number of niches available at St. Martin's. We anticipate that the middle school building will be finished and ready for its first group of students in August of 2012. The completion of this project will result in a brand new, fully lit parking lot for our church, and a new drainage system. Our church and school grounds will have an updated look that will be both attractive and inviting for potential church members.

As I contemplate the next sixty years of service, I see a thriving, active parish that is committed to serving others and remaining faithful to following the path of our patron, St. Martin. It is because of all of our church members who willingly participate in our Ministries that we are able to accomplish our Mission. For this, I thank you all.

In Christ,



The Reverend Dr. John F. McCard



CHILDREN AT ST. MARTIN'S

Melinda Mischik, Children's Formation Director

The approach we take with formation at St. Martin's is very Episcopal. We teach the basic Bible stories because without them, our children would not be educated in their faith. We create a sense of community by enthusiastically welcoming them on Sundays and encouraging them to join us for social and outreach events. We also share our beautiful liturgical traditions weekly. Whether it is in Sunday school, Children's Chapel, Sacred Spaces or in the "big" church for the Eucharist, we stress the "doing" part of our faith. This is a big way that we connect to God. We come together; we light our candles and say our prayers. Church is not about the individual; it is about the body of Christ. Our children know they are part of that body and have been since they were baptized.

We also teach our children to think for themselves. That is truly an Episcopalian creed. But, we also teach them to serve one another and to serve God. Jesus was quite clear about what was most important and our children know it well before they move on to the youth program. The goal of our children's program is to instill in each child a sense that they belong to and are loved by God and they belong to and are wanted at this church always. So the question is, "How many people does it take to do all this"? The answer is "A lot of people." We are so fortunate to have many men, women and youth who are willing to give generously of their time and talents to our children.

This is where you will find the Angels on Sunday morning
Nursery: **Charlotte Smith** continues to run the cleanest, safest and most loving nursery around. St. Margaret's Guild supports the nursery by cleaning and stocking it regularly.

Worship: Children's Chapel is lead by **Jennifer Duncan, Toni Cobb and Leigh Ford**. **Their helpers include: Pam Alexander, Sherri Robertson, Leslie Uddin, Erret Kirkland, Teresa and Jeffrey Johnson, Katie Buck, Leigh Fry, Rebecca Shipley, Laura Herakovich, Lori Ebert, Megan Park, Mary Douglas and Julie Barber**. This year we began having a Children's Sermon in the big church by **Father Graham** on the first Sunday of every month and it appears to be a big hit!

Sacred Spaces is chapel for 2nd – 5th graders. **Tim Kelly** and I lead it. The focus is on the Lectionary Gospel reading for the day. The Nicene Creed, Prayers of the People and Confession are also included. These children are taught to think deeply about their faith and what it means to be a practicing Christian. All children are invited to these services but are also invited not to come but instead to remain with their parents in church the entire time. 9:00 a.m. is our Family Service and it can be noisy at times. We love it that way!

Communion

Everyone is in church for the Eucharist....the main event of our time together. All baptized children are invited to receive communion when they are comfortable doing so.

Sunday School 10:10-11:00a.m.

Three-Year-Olds hear stories from a children's Bible, pray, sing a song, enjoy snack and play. They are led by **Hannah Hoff and Ruth Fife**.

Four-Year-Olds hear stories, pray, do a simple craft, have snack and enjoy one another. Their teachers are **Sarah Johnson, Claire Hamner and Maddie Ford**.

Kindergarteners experience the sacred in Godly Play; a Montessori-like curriculum and are led by **Pam Alexander, Kristi Gaffney and Allison Henderson**.

For 1st – 5th grade, we are using a new Episcopal curriculum called *Weaving God's Promises*. Everyone is encouraged to go on the website: WeavingGodsPromises.org to learn more.

The following are our dedicated teachers: **Beth Edwards, Julie & Jon Barber, Jennifer Petritz, Linda Grass, Courtney Granata, Ted Davis, Sean Kelly, Sarah Magee, Sara Marwitz, Natalie Shaw, Becky Silbert, Brad & Kelly Welselman, Robert Beeland, William Boor, Noah Duffy, Andrews Owen, Ben Wedgwood, Ann Katherine Vitti, Jere & Ian Street, Elizabeth Beck, Meghan Matthews, Mary Regas, and Madison Mischik**. Our children are blessed to have sixteen young adults as teachers this year. They are between 10th and 12th grade. The children love it and will want to teach when they become adults in the church too. Teaching is the very best way to learn anything so we have many well educated people.

Vacation Bible School: We were expertly led by Laura Herakovich and Mary Douglas for our Pandamania VBS where we hosted approximately 100 children once again. A wonderful time was had by all thanks to all the selfless volunteers including many of our outstanding youth.

Some of the additional events and programs that focused on children as well as adults were: The Advent Fair, The Penny Social, Children's Communion class, Easter Bunny Brunch, the Santa Shop, United Thank Offering during Lent, and the Emmaus House 7th Heaven Camp.

A special thanks to **Charles Summerour and Mary Evelyn Beeland** who make Sundays run smoothly, and to all the parents who go the extra mile to bring their children up in the Church.



YOUTH AT ST MARTIN'S

Kimberly Sheridan, Youth Ministry Coordinator

The Youth at St. Martin's are guided by the J2A Curriculum. Below is an outline of this program:

"The Journey to Adulthood is a complete youth ministry program of spiritual formation for 6th-12th grades. It encourages relational ministry and uses Bible study, prayer, rites of passage, outreach ministries and both serious and playful activities to underscore the two guiding principles of the program: 1) Manhood and womanhood are free gifts from God; and 2) Adulthood must be earned.

There are three two-year segments of the program:

Rite-13: *The first two years (Grades 6-7 or 7-8) celebrate the individuality of each young teen and their creative potential, while exploring Biblical stories of God and God's people. The Rite-13 liturgy (Celebration of Manhood and Womanhood) is the community expression of this and serves as a rite of passage from childhood towards adulthood.*

J2A: *The next segment (Grades 8-9 or 9-10) helps teens create and understand the importance of Christian community as they develop critical thinking and other skills they will need in adulthood. The end of J2A is marked with a spiritual pilgrimage that is often a life-changing experience for the group.*

YAC: *This mentor-based program helps older teens (11th and 12th graders) discern and carry out a ministry within their church or in the larger community. Vocation and development of a personal credo are also emphasized. A final rite of passage sends them out into the world as ambassadors of Christ" on a Mission Trip. (<http://leaderresources.org/j2a>)"*

Club 6

Next Fall, we will have another class of Club 6. This is our 6th grade Sunday school program. We use this year to prepare these "children" for their next phase, which is Rite13.

Rite 13

We are blessed to have four fabulous youth leaders for our 7th and 8th graders this year. Kris and JT Hroncich, Chris Keysor and Tim Halloran are leading a group of approximately 30 young people through the next stage of our Journey to Adulthood program.

We have had one Rite 13 Liturgy (special services) in our church and will have three more over the next two years of their Rite 13 experience. The young people, who are 13 years of age, along with their parents, will participate in the Episcopal Church's rite of passage.

In addition to Sunday school classes, the Rite 13 members participate in youth social activities as well as various outreach projects over their two years together. Some examples include: pizza parties, holiday parties, lock-ins, and gathering supplies for gift baskets for Grandparents' Day at Emmaus House.

J2A

As with Rite 13, we have four fabulous youth leaders for our 9th and 10th graders. Rick Cobb, Quincy Shang, Holly Muehleman and Tricia Maloney are leading a group of approximately thirty young people through the second stage of our Journey to Adulthood Program. As part of this program, the youth will select a place for a spiritual pilgrimage to take the summer of 2013, raise money towards their trip, and give back to their Parish and community. In addition to Sunday school classes, the J2A members participate in youth social activities as well as various outreach projects over their two years together. Some examples include: pizza parties, holiday parties, lock-ins and gathering supplies for gift baskets for Grandparents' Day at Emmaus House.

YAC

The YAC's (Youth in Church) participate in many different aspects of church life through acolyting, Eucharistic ministry, and teaching Sunday School. In addition, a Sunday School class designed specifically for this age group will begin January of 2012. I, along with Maryann Lazono and Bill Petritz will be leading this group on Sundays. The culmination of the YAC experience is a Mission experience. The Mission is an opportunity for these youth to take the spiritual formation they have obtained over the past four years through Rite 13 and J2A and to give Christ's love to others who are in desperate need of help and love. Our hope is to do this mission work in the summer of 2013. In addition to Sunday school classes, the YAC members participate in youth social activities as well as various outreach projects over their two years together. Some examples include pizza parties, holiday parties, lock-ins and gathering supplies for gift baskets for Grandparents Day at Emmaus House.

A Youth Newsletter is sent each month to the parents and the youth letting them know of all upcoming events. Please look for the "Yes! To Youth" articles in the Parish Post each month!

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or if you are interested in being involved in one of our programs,

MUSIC AT ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS CHURCH

Ingrid Siegert, Organist and Choir Director

2011 was an active and exciting year for our music program. The choir from St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, gave a wonderful concert in honor of our 60th anniversary on May 6. This was their first tour of the United States, and we were honored that they made St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church, Atlanta, one of their stops. Our own Chancel choir joined the London choir for Parry's *I Was Glad*.

The women of the Chancel choir, soloists Denise Dimsdale and Rebecca Shipley, and members of the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra performed Pergolesi's poignant setting of the *Stabat Mater* on one of our annual Wednesday Lenten programs.

Thanks to the generosity of the many people who contributed to our Friends of Music fund, we were able to continue our musical programs uninterrupted. The current budget situation required some cuts to the music budget, and our Fund enabled us to keep our paid section leaders, provide an orchestra for the 6:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve, and to have special instrumental music at several Sunday morning services.

St. Martin's Church offers a variety of musical experiences for people of all ages. The Chancel Choir (Eighth grade through any adult age) rehearses each Thursday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. They present a concert each spring or fall that always includes a major work for chorus and orchestra. Their repertoire includes Bach cantatas, oratorios by Handel and various Masses. Our choir also participates in a Diocesan confirmation and ordination services and concerts.

Thanks to the expertise and equipment of Leonard Young, the choirs are now producing and recording CDs of concerts and special events. The choir has social activities during the year and provides wonderful fellowship and opportunities for Christian service.

The Handbell Choir (Eighth grade through any adult age) is directed by Martha Fowler and it rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. This is a committed and loyal group. Members are continually challenged with music that broadens their musical horizons, and they meet the challenge with great enthusiasm. There is room for more ringers as regular members or substitutes. The St. Nicholas Choir (age five through first grade) rehearses each Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 p.m., and the St. Cecilia Choir (second through seventh grades) rehearses each Wednesday afternoon at 4:15.

St. Cecilia also sings with the Chancel Choir, enabling the young singers to gain valuable singing experiences with the adults. Each year both children's choirs present a Christmas Pageant (Christmas Eve at 3:00 p.m.) and a spring concert.

Our current Sunday morning choir Rota is as follows:

Week 1: Children and Chancel choirs at 9:00; Vocal quartet at 11:15 a.m.

Week 2: Children and Chancel choirs at 9:00; Handbell Choir at 11:15 a.m.

Week 3: Handbell Choir at 9:00; Vocal quartet at 11:15 a.m.

Week 4: Chancel Choir at 9:00; Vocal quartet at 11:15 a.m.

Week 5: Chancel Choir at 9:00; Vocal quartet at 11:15 a.m.

If you are interested in any of these groups, please contact me at the parish offices, 404-228-0753. Your participation is encouraged in this rewarding contribution to the liturgical services and special events at St. Martin's church.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ST. MARTIN'S

Tara Fardellone, Administrator of Communications

There are four main communications vehicles at St. Martin's Church. The first and longest running outlet is our printed monthly newsletter known as The Parish Post. Second, we send e-mail communications in the form of the Thursday announcements, Father John's "From the Rector's Study" on Mondays, and various "e-blasts" with up-to-date information. Third, we provide printed announcements with our service bulletins in the form of The Weekly Welcome. Fourth, we provide information on our website, which serves as both an "outside" communications tool for prospective members, and for "inside" communications to our parishioners. Our e-mails often work in tandem with the website. Through the use of clickable links in the e-mails, we can direct parishioners to additional information on the website.

In 2010 we continued to provide The Parish Post in an online format accessible through a monthly e-mail notification. We also continued to encourage parishioners to opt out of the paper version and transition to the online version in an effort to



conserve resources such as paper, ink, and postage, and in an effort to be more “green,” or environmentally conscious.

As we are relying more and more on e-mail communications to get the latest word out, we are finding there are some people who no longer wish to receive electronic communications from the church. Perhaps they visited once or twice several years ago, we added their e-mail address to our list, and they are now informed of our activities far more than they ever imagined. Occasionally, we have folks opt out of receiving our e-mails, but that number is eclipsed by the number who voluntarily sign up through our website form, wanting to receive our latest news. In August of 2008, as we began to develop a more robust e-mail program, we had 561 people on our e-mail list, with about 200 people actually reading them. As of today, we have 874 people on the list, which is an increase of over 200 subscribers. The result is a better informed church population.

With great appreciation, we recognize the heroic efforts of my steadfast volunteer stuffing crew. Jeanette Clarida, Milt Fletcher, Susan Hamilton, Helen Ingebritsen, Bruce and Carolyn Jones, Gay Jolley, Cheryl Josephson, Bree Kelly, Barney and Jean Maltby, Irma Martin, Bobbie Osgood, and Joe Pearson regularly gathered to stuff and staple communications projects such as bulletins, The Parish Post, The Parish Guide, and even this Annual Report. Many hands make light work, and the hands of this volunteer group, moved like lightning (the conversation is always great too).

OUTREACH COMMISSION

By: Caroline Rose

In giving, we receive. That is the guiding mission of St. Martin’s Outreach Ministry. Our Patron Saint shared his cloak and we are asked to share ours as well. We invite you to joyfully participate in the opportunities that St. Martin’s provides to help our neighbors in need.

At the heart of our outreach efforts lies the Suthers Center for Christian Outreach (SCCO). Opened in 2010 and named for retired associate priest Father Derwent Suthers, SCCO provides a one-stop-shop for people seeking food, clothing or emergency financial assistance.

Beyond SCCO, St. Martin’s supports a number of Atlanta-based organizations including: Emmaus House, Holy Comforter and Interfaith Outreach Home and Habitat for Humanity, all of which offer opportunities to impact the lives of those around us. Read more about these efforts in the subsequent pages. Come join the giving and receive God’s blessings of caring for others.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMISSION

Kathy Evenson, Chair

The goal of the Christian Formation Commission is to create a community of formation for all members of St. Martin’s.

Under the direction of Melinda Mischik, there is a fine team of teachers working with our young people. They study and learn throughout the year. Children’s Chapel and Sacred Spaces meet every Sunday joining their parents at the Peace. The week long Bible school each Summer continues Christian growth. Many loving adults help through countless volunteer hours to form our children into caring young people.

Rite 13 and J2A remain a thriving part of our Christian Formation. Twice a year, a fine group of Rite 13 young people are acknowledged in a special service. J2A works hard in their study, and it will culminate in a special Pilgrimage. Evidence of the Christian growth attained can be seen in service to the Church during the YAC years that follow this program.

Adults are offered a wide variety of Christian Formation opportunities. We offer: “Welcome to St. Martin’s: A class for all visitors, newcomers, and new members”, “Why the Episcopal Church?” Led by Fr. Newell Graham, “Experiencing God: A Scripture study” developed by Henry and Richard Blackaby, “The Rise and Fall of Nearly Everything” as a weekly class led by Fr. Fulghum and Sid Oakley, The Knights of St. Martin Christ Care, “Education for Ministry” which meets Thursday nights September through May, and “Brown Bag Theology.” We never stop learning and forming in our Christian knowledge and faith. Please take advantage of what is offered at our Church.



REPORT OF THE SENIOR WARDEN

By: Bruce Hall

It has been an honor to serve as your Senior Warden while we worked together to make 2011 another very successful year at St. Martin's Church. With a depth of talent and deep commitment to the church from hundreds of volunteers, we were able to overcome several significant challenges. And in so doing, I believe we grew in strength and caring.

It would be difficult for any church to maintain its balance when use of the entire parking lot is lost for nearly three months! But you, as a parish, rallied together and joined our friendly bus drivers in making a shuttle ride to church fun, even during the hot summer months. And some even used it as an opportunity to make new church friends! We are most grateful to St. Martin's Episcopal School for providing the beautiful new parking facility which will be completed this summer.

Despite being challenged by tough economic times, we were able to bolster our church staff to better serve you. The term "Interim" was removed from Father Newell Graham's title and he is now the Senior Assistant to the Rector. We have expanded Deacon Edith Woodling's involvement in our services and classes. Kimberly Sheridan has stepped in to take over as Youth Coordinator. Although we lost our very capable Communications Director Jason Clay to a much larger church, we found a very talented replacement in Tara Fardellone.

We have improved our church facility by installing safety rails at the altar. We have enhanced our religious experience by installing just inside the church doors the Holy Water Fonts which had been purchased years ago by our late beloved Rector, Father Dewey Gable. A new votive candle rack in the back of the church provides parishioners another aid while offering prayers and remembering loved ones.

Our Columbarium Board of Trustees is working with architects to design an expanded facility that will double the size of our Columbarium. It will include an altar, a place to sit, and 24-hour access for those who would like to visit their loved ones.

For me, one of the highlights of our year-long 60th anniversary celebration was the hosting of a spectacular concert by the renowned St. Martin in the Fields Choir from London. Hearing their wonderful voices with the church filled to capacity and getting to know them during their two day stay added a personal touch to the historic connection between our parishes.

One of our most successful outreach ventures this year has been the Suthers Center for Christian Outreach in nearby Chamblee. The thriving Thrift Shop has exceeded expectations and has been able to greatly assist the Church in funding the Food Pantry and the Emergency Assistance programs. After decades of service based out of St. Martin's Church facility, the Emergency Assistance program moved to the Suthers Center in July. The combination of Thrift Shop, Food Pantry and Emergency Assistance programs into one building has allowed us to double the number of needy families we have been able to serve.

The Suthers Center is only part of St. Martin's important outreach ministry. Each month, our Faithful Friends Program highlights a charitable outreach opportunity at church services to acquaint parishioners with organizations like Emmaus House, Holy Comforter and Interfaith Outreach Home. Our weekly communion service at Ashton Woods (Uni Health Post Acute Care Brookhaven) brings comfort to many ailing seniors, including several of our own members. The building of another Habitat House also helped to build camaraderie among participating parishioners.

I am particularly proud of our expanding "inreach" Ministry at St. Martin's. In addition to providing Stephen Ministers, Christ Care Groups and increasing the number of clergy visits to the sick, we now have a group of lay members who reach out by phone and in person to other members who are ill or face adversity. It is wonderful to see St. Martin's people reaching "in" when there is a need.

It has been an exciting year for me and I want to thank my wife, Susie for her support and willingness to share the time needed to devote to our beloved church. Also, I'd like to extend a huge "thank you" to our Vestry who worked diligently with thoughtfulness, compassion and respect as we dealt with the difficult issues before us. I want you to know that we have a fantastic group of clergy serving us: Father Burtenshaw, Father Graham, and most importantly our Rector, Father John McCard. They provide inspiring sermons, leadership and great devotion to St. Martin's. We are indeed blessed.



REPORT OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN

By: John Burton

Early in the year we had an attempted theft of the copper downspouts around the church. Fortunately the thief was discovered by the sextons who happened to be working late that day. Despite the fact that he actually got away with little or none of the copper, extensive damage was done as he ripped many of the downspouts off the building. These were replaced with new copper at a cost of about \$3,000.

Shortly after that theft, someone broke into the foyer and fortunately only took the AED that was located by the entry doors. The glass in one of the entry doors was broken and had to be replaced, but a replacement AED was donated. A water supply to a toilet in the church offices broke early one Sunday morning, flooding some of the offices. Fortunately, Father McCard discovered it and shut the water off before all of the offices were flooded. The water was extracted, the carpets dried and the water supply repaired.

On the positive side, wrought iron railings were installed in the alter area as a safety precaution at a cost of \$2,000. Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, we were able to renovate the parlor. A new drywall ceiling and crown molding were installed, the lighting was updated, the parquet floor was refinished, an audio/visual system was installed and all of the furniture was either replaced or refinished. This was a large undertaking which required the time and talents of several parishioners.

There are other incidental repairs that were done throughout the year in addition to these larger items. In the future, the most pressing repair continues to be the replacement of the sanctuary roof. It has been patched several times and is nearing the end of its life.

SUTHERS CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

By: Sandy Rose

Since its grand opening in August 2010, the Suthers Center for Christian Outreach (SCCO) has exceeded our expectations. Over the past year, we've finalized the consolidation of all ministries, including the food pantry and emergency assistance, and realizing our vision to serve as a one-stop shop for our neighbors in need.

We've learned a lot. Initially, we hired a manager to run the operations, but found that we could run it with an all-volunteer staff. In fact, most of those volunteers have come from St. Martin's. This allows us to funnel all of our profit from the Thrift Shop to providing food, clothing, and financial assistance to those in need.

We completed our second phase of construction, which expanded our floor space and improved our merchandising abilities. We extended our hours, adding Wednesday and Sunday afternoons, meaning we are open every day except Monday. As a result, our sales have grown significantly, providing more funds for our outreach programs.

Members of Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church (OPC) continue to staff the food pantry along with some of St. Martin's parishioners. Since moving St. Martin's Emergency Assistance program to the Center in July 2011, the number of families served by the food pantry has nearly doubled to 130 per month, which is a great success! While OPC continues to provide the Food Pantry with financial support, SCCO has provided an additional \$8,000 from our profits, which has helped greatly. The Food Pantry could not have survived without the great support and food donations from St. Martin's parishioners and St. Martin's School. These donations of food are truly making a difference and we thank you all very much.

We moved our Emergency Assistance (EA) Program SCCO in July. Like the increased demand for assistance from the Food Pantry, the numbers of families served by EA program has almost doubled to around 120 families each month. The Church and our parishioners have continued to support the EA program with substantial funding of over \$22,000 and we have supplemented that support with \$11,000 from SCCO profits.

The engine that funds our ministries, our Thrift Shop, has been so successful thanks to the wonderful donations of clothing and other goods. We thank everyone for their great support. We have been able to supplement the cash assistance from EA with vouchers that the needy guests can spend like cash in the Thrift Shop. In September, we also started providing Thrift Shop vouchers to our International Outreach House (IOH) as well. We expect by year's end to provide nearly



\$9,500 in clothes at no cost. In addition, we have provided over 185 bags of clothes to other groups who can distribute the clothes to those in need.

The members of St. Martin's have strongly supported the Suthers Center and you should be very proud of our accomplishments. However, there is still a need for volunteers and it is a wonderful place to work side by side with fellow parishioners. Come and join us, we believe you will enjoy the experience of helping others.

THE ENDOWMENT FUND OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS REPORT FOR THE VESTRY AND PARISH

Irmina Rivero Owens, Chair

The Endowment Fund of St. Martin in the Fields (the Fund) was established in 1971 by a gift of \$100 from our Rector at that time, the Reverend Dewey Gable.

The purpose of the Fund continues to be the same – to provide a trust fund for those wishing to make a lasting gift or leave a bequest to a fund separate from the operating funds of the parish. Its objective is “to enable the parish to fulfill more completely its mission through the development and enhancement of the parish, its facilities and ministries beyond what is possible through annual operating funds.”

The Endowment Fund is a true endowment fund in that the principal of the Fund, the sum of all gifts made to the Fund since its inception, shall not be invaded. In other words, those who give to the Fund can know that their gifts will last forever. The amount given is never spent; only the income from the investments made with the gift, such as interest, rents and capital growth, can be spent.

The Endowment Fund has ten trustees. Those currently serving are Andy Beck, Joan Goodhew, Allen S. Hamilton III, Randall L. Hughes, Cindy Jernigan, Sid Oakley, Irmina Rivero Owens (Chair), Stanley H. Rose III, Chris Rouse, and Becky Short. Trustees are elected by the current trustees and confirmed by the vestry for five year rotating terms. No trustee may serve more than two full terms. The Rector and Senior Warden serve as advisory, non-voting trustees. Minutes of the quarterly meetings and financial reports are available for review.

By approval of the Trustees, the funds available for distribution each year are 5% of the twelve-quarter average of the earning assets of the Fund. In 2011, the amount available for distribution was \$68,900. Amounts approved for distribution in 2011 were as follows:

HVAC system	\$42,062
Continuing Education Clergy and Staff	\$ 5,131
Computers for Clergy and Staff	\$ 3,750
Christmas Music	\$ 2,000
Christian Education	\$ 2,000
St. Martin's Choir (UK) Visit	\$ 500
Stephen Ministry	\$ 1,000
Interfaith Outreach Home	<u>\$ 4,275</u>
Total	<u>\$60,718</u>

In addition to the annual allocations made, the Fund also sponsors the Martin Dewey Gable Society, which recognizes persons who notify the Rector that they have made bequest provisions to the Fund. A brick display in the courtyard contains the names of the members of the Society.

Gifts to the Fund, including bequest via a will, are welcomed at any time. The Fund is recognized by the IRS and gifts to the Fund are tax deductible. Several gifting methods exist which provide both tax advantages and current income during the donor's lifetime. Information is available from the church office, the Rector, the Senior Warden or any of the Fund trustees. You should consult your tax advisor for individual tax planning.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT GIFTS TO THE FUND, ESPECIALLY THOSE MADE VIA A WILL, BE DESIGNATED SPECIFICALLY TO “THE ENDOWMENT FUND OF ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, ATLANTA, GEOR-



GIA." Gifts designated to St. Martin's Church are used in the best interest of the parish and do not go to the Fund.

Thank you to those who contributed to the Endowment Fund in 2011 and to those who have contributed in the past. Your contributions have made it possible for the Fund to assist and enhance the ministry and facilities of the Church.

A financial report of the Fund for 2011 follows. Any trustee will be happy to discuss the operation of the Fund at any time.

Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2011

<u>Assets</u>	
Checking/Money Market	\$ 13,135
Investments	
Money Market	\$ 57,327
Equities	\$ 14,006
Bond Funds	\$ 94,734
Equity Funds	\$ 1,173,079
McCard Mortgage	\$ 109,285
HVAC loan to St. Martins	\$ 167,932
Total assets as of October 31, 2011	<u>\$ 1,629,498</u>
<u>Activity Recap</u>	
Value as of January 1, 2011	\$1,684,638
Gifts to the Fund	\$ 13,260
Income on Fund loans	\$ 7,009
Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	\$ (18,502)
Net assets distributed per charter	\$ (56,907)
Assets Value as of October 31, 2011	<u>\$ 1,629,498</u>
Fund Valuation – Year to date loss	\$ (11,493)
Return on invested assets	(0.6 %)

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND

Anne Shepherd, Manager

The Emergency Assistance Fund began in about 1980 as a part of the St. Elizabeth Guild. Later, it became part of Outreach and now receives most of its funding from Outreach.

Every Tuesday morning, a staff of seventeen volunteers helps needy families in zip codes 30319 and 30341 with basic financial services. During 2011, we have accepted donations of \$39,018.44, \$22,000 of which was from the Outreach budget. The rest included donations from The Suthers Center, some of the Chapters, and from individuals, many in honor or memory of loved ones.

In July of 2011, the Emergency Assistance Fund moved its program from the church to the Suthers Center on Broad Street in Chamblee. Oglethorpe's Food Pantry had already moved there, so now needy families can make one stop for food, clothing and financial help. Vouchers for \$25 worth of free clothing or household goods are available two to three times a year to our clients. Since July, we have averaged nearly twice as many families coming for assistance, from 10-20 at the church to 20-40 at the Center.

Up through November 15, 2011, we have helped families with Electric bills, totaling \$14,303; with Utilities-Gas bills totaling \$2,471; with Grocery bills totaling \$4,707; with Medical bills totaling \$539; with rent, totaling \$7,969; with Transportation, either gasoline for their cars or MARTA cards, totaling \$6,065; with Water bills totaling \$460; and with Miscellaneous bills totaling \$570.

The Santa Shop is now an entity of its own, but it was an outgrowth of the Emergency Assistance Fund about 30 years ago. It receives donations of new toys, stuffed animals, dolls, games, gift cards and sports equipment from church



members and school parents, and displays them, usually in the school cafeteria, but this year in the Music and Movement Room. Needy parents then come and choose gifts for their children. Third graders from the school help set up and assist the parents with their shopping. The Emergency Assistance Fund supplies the list of needy families.

Winter coats donated by the congregation are available free of charge. There are racks at both the church and the Suthers Center. If you have an extra coat, donate it. If you need a coat, take one.

Our volunteer staff is very dedicated to providing all possible assistance. This program is as rewarding to us as it is to those we help. We are all grateful for the support of parishioners and friends.

Our mission statement is:

*"To be led by Christ and to lead others to Him through
Caring for each other and our community."*

THE ORDER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE KING

Belinda Wedgwood, President

2011 – A year of service. The DOK of St. Martin in the Fields Church has a roster of fifty-nine members as of this writing. We are a group of women living a Rule of Prayer and Service to our neighbors. We seek to walk with God as our guide. Prayer is the foundation from which our service grows. Our service to St. Martin's is directed by the Rector and our traditions. We provide funeral support to the clergy and our parish. We host receptions for celebrations of life and other special events such as Remembrance Sunday with the Daughters of the British Empire. The DOK, with our commitment to prayer, maintain a prayer list and pray according to our traditions for each person on the list. Our current prayer list has 55+ names. This year we are reading *Sermons of a Psychiatrist* by St. Martin's own Charles Fulghum. We share and discuss as an interactive devotional. For information about the DOK, please contact: Belinda Wedgwood at bwedgwood@gmail.com or 770-455-0861. All women are invited to come check us out. **Magnanimiter Crucem Sustine, For His Sake.**

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

By: Rev. Edith Woodling

The Prayer Shawl Ministry continues its work into its fourth year. We have twelve members in our group. We meet weekly to knit and crochet prayer shawls for those experiencing any sorrow in their lives, such as the loss of a family member or a challenging illness.

The clergy and the members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry have given away approximately twenty-five shawls during the past year. Many of these have gone to parishioners and others known to us in the community. We shared six shawls with the Palliative Care unit at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The group donated 19 helmet liners for soldiers serving in far-off lands. One of our great delights during the past year was to send over 45 Duduza (comfort) dolls to the children of Haiti. Our group donated over \$400 to the Outreach ministry of St. Martin in the Fields Church with the sale of scarves at the parish's Penny Social.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

By: Susan Hamilton

Stephen Ministry is dedicated to serving the needs of our parishioners by providing one-on-one, confidential, Christian care to hurting members of our community. We partner with Clergy to deliver longer-term care during a crisis or difficult situation.

We currently have 5 active Stephen Leaders who direct the program at St. Martin's by managing referrals, supervision, building awareness, educating the congregation, training new Stephen Ministers and presenting ongoing continuing education programs for all active Stephen Ministers.



Our newest Stephen Leader, Deborah Thompson, attended Leadership Training in June and has developed a year-long plan to educate and inform our congregation regarding this valuable resource. Her training was made possible by a grant from the Endowment Fund. We hope to schedule the training of additional leaders in the near future. Our current active Stephen Leaders are: Susan Hamilton, Kathy Evenson, Nancy Runion, Bill Monk and Deborah Thompson.

Three of our Stephen Leaders also function as active Stephen Ministers. They, together with our 8 additional Stephen Ministers, provide around *40-50 hours of caregiving each month. These hours supplement the caregiving provided by Clergy, thus allowing our Clergy members to be available for all parishioners when they are needed. Without the care provided by our committed and faithful Stephen Ministers, this level of service to our parish would not be possible. Our Priests simply do not have the extra hours to give.*

It is therefore crucial to the on-going success of the Stephen Ministry program to regularly recruit new Stephen Ministers and Stephen Leaders. *Our caregiving abilities are directly related to the number of active participants in the program.* Stephen Ministers agree to serve for at least 2 years, but many have been serving for much longer. We did not conduct a training class in 2011, but hope to have enough interested parishioners to do so in 2012.

We commissioned 3 new Stephen Ministers in the Spring of 2011: *Jane Jenkins, Herb Thompson and Mary Floyd.* They joined these active Stephen Ministers: *Phyz Lemmon, Pam Beaubian, Cheryl Ponder, Gay Jolley and Andy Moore.*

Stephen Ministers complete 50 hours of initial training and attend twice-monthly supervision meetings including Continuing Education. They have specialized training in issues such as Grief, Mild Depression, Hospitalization/Recuperation, Loneliness/Discouragement, Homebound/Shut-in's, Chronic and Terminal Illness, Aging, Long-Term Care, Pregnancy/Childbirth, Spiritual Care and Crisis, Divorce, the Impact of Suicide, Family Caregivers, Stress, Relocation, Job-loss, and many other life-events. Our Leaders also meet once a month with our acting Clergy Liaison—Father Newell Graham.

Additionally, Deborah Thompson founded the Atlanta Stephen Ministry Networking Group, which currently has 34 member churches who partner with one another for training, education and the sharing of resources. She also makes presentations to member churches on various topics including divorce and suicide. For more information please go to: www.AtlantaStephenMinistry.org.

If you or someone you know is in need of care or would like more information about training to become a Stephen Minister, please contact any member of Clergy, a Stephen Leader or a Stephen Minister. *We are dedicated to supporting our Clergy's caregiving efforts by providing professional, confidential Christian service to the congregation and community of St. Martin in the Fields.*

ST. FRANCIS PET MINISTRY

Ingrid Siegert and Victoria Vestie, Chairs

The St. Francis Pet Ministry adds another dimension to the spiritual life at St. Martin in the Fields Episcopal Church. We provide a forum to explore the remarkable spiritual and unique relationships we have with the animals that provide us with comfort and companionship.

Our Pet Therapy program continues to grow. Pet Therapy, or the therapeutic use of pets, began in the 1970s, and is a rapidly growing field. Taking dogs into hospitals and nursing homes has many benefits; it diminishes emotional and physical pain, reduces boredom and anxiety, and makes people happy.

During 2011, the Pet Ministry sponsored several Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) classes. The Canine Good Citizen program is sponsored by the American Kennel Club, and teaches good manners to dogs. Passing the final test is a requirement to qualify for our Pet Therapy program.

We currently have six dogs in our program, and they visit Brighton Gardens, Wesley Woods and Plantation South. One of our dogs visits courthouses with an attorney who practices family law. His energy is particularly helpful in breaking the ice with interviewing children and with helping to relieve anxiety in emotionally charged situations.

We also hosted visits and fund raisers for Southeastern Greyhound Association, and Georgia Jack Russell Adoption.



Our Pet Prayer List was very active last year, and is a very unique offering to animal lovers. Thanks to the Internet, word of our prayer list has spread all over the world. Our most distant prayer requests last year came from England and Canada. Our children pray for the animals on our list during Children's Chapel.

Our website (www.stmartins.org/pets) serves as a center for pet resources, and information on where to get assistance in a time of crisis.

COMMUNION SERVICE AT UNI HEALTH BROOKHAVEN

By: Susie Hall

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m., St. Martin's parishioners and priests conduct a service of Holy Communion at a local nursing home/rehab facility, formerly known as Ashton Woods, which now is owned by Uni Health Systems.

This past year, we were blessed to be able to bring God's gifts of love and Holy Communion to an average of thirty people each week (totaling more than 1500 communions). Approximately twenty of those ministered to were our own St. Martin's parishioners who were patients for a brief time.

Although our ministry is small, with a handful of people providing songs, smiles and wheelchair transportation, five new volunteers joined the regulars on an occasional or continuing basis throughout the year. They, too, have found the joy of being able to give so much happiness with a simple smile, touch, or caring voice.

PAIRS AND SPARES

By: Louise Kiley

Pairs and Spares is a strictly social group at St. Martin's that began back in the late 1950's for all adult members- single, married, divorced, or widowed. The name was "The Do Nothing Club" and it was a way for St. Martin's adults to set aside a Saturday evening each month to socialize and get to know each other in an informal setting. We usually meet once monthly for nine months with an additional annual Christmas banquet in December. In 2011 we only met 5 months in addition to the Christmas gathering. In January of 2011, we had to cancel because of bad weather conditions and we cancelled our May meeting because of the visit from the St. Martin's in London choir. Then, we cancelled the June through August meetings because of the remodeling that was taking place in Gable Hall. For 2012, we will meet in February, March, April, May, September, October, and December. Our meetings occur on the first Saturday evening of the month except for Holiday weekends when we meet on the second Saturday. This has been the standard practice for the past 50 years.

Our gatherings are held in Gable Hall and consist of a social time to greet our friends and guests and enjoy some "Episcopal beverages" and snacks. This is followed by a potluck supper and entertainment. Our entertainment is varied and consists of musicians, vocalists, professional story tellers, slide show presentations on many subjects, lecture, and games such as bingo etc. We book the New Horizon Band every year as a big entertainment feature.

We have two dollar per meeting membership dues to help pay for our entertainment, any supplies that we may need, and any other expenses that we may incur. This money is kept in the Pairs and Spares account handled by St. Martin's. We also keep a petty cash fund on hand to handle expenses incurred on the evening of the meeting.

Our average monthly attendance during the year was 35-40 people.
Our goal for the year 2012 is to increase our membership



FOYER

By: Toni Cobb

Foyer is a purely social group who gets together to share food, fun, and fellowship. Here's how it works: dinner groups are formed with eight to twelve people - singles, couples, young people, retired folk, people with school-aged children, empty nesters, etc., in other words, a cross-section of the parish. Each dinner group rotates having a meal at each group member's home. The first dinner is at the host's home. The host provides the main course (meat and side/starch) and the other group members each bring an appetizer, a salad, a dessert, or beer/wine. The Foyer season typically ranges from November through May.

Dinner party groups have been a part of the St. Martin's community for many years. The names have changed over the years; F.E.A.S.T. (Friends Eating and Sharing Together) and Panchance (play on the name Pot + Luck) are a few of the names you may have heard in the past. The practice of sharing meals with other Christians dates back much farther.....as a matter of fact Jesus started the tradition!!!

We kicked off the 2011/2012 season in October with... what else? A party!! We have four dinner groups this year with several NEW singles/couples. Rick and I are thankful for all of the friendships formed and delicious food shared. As with all organizations we need new faces to keep this social ministry vibrant. We hope you consider joining in the fun that is Foyer. In the meanwhile, Bon Appétit!!

EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN

Marcie Schwefler, President

The ECW at St. Martin's is comprised of **every** woman communicant of St. Martin in the Fields Church, regardless of whether or not that woman chooses to participate formally in any of the five chapters organized at St. Martin's. To facilitate coordination and communication, the Altar Guild, Flower Guild, and Daughters of the King also participate in ECW-sponsored activities.

Doris Matthews was our President at the beginning of the year. Our Spring Event was a wonderful dinner and market-place where vendors came and sold their special items to the ladies. We had jewelry, paintings, Avon products, scarves and Suther's Center wares. It was a fun evening.

Our Fall Event was October 12 and included an engaging speaker, Jeffrey Small of Atlanta, an Episcopalian himself, whose topic was *East Meets West: What Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism Can Teach Each Other*. He answered questions about his book, *Breath of God*. We had eighty-three people attend and it was catered by Sage Catering from St. Martin's School. Over half of those attending bought Jeffrey's book. It was a great evening with attendees of all ages.

During the recent Celebration in the Hall and Celebration with Silent Auction and entertainment, many women of the chapters and guilds contributed by running the Penny Social, Bake Sale, Deck the Halls and brunch, and Celebration Evening. When you see an event at the church, you can be sure the women of ECW are heavily involved in planning and coordinating the activities.

We have many more events coming up during Advent, Christmas, and going into 2012. Be on the lookout for information about a Retreat in February and Spring Event in April.

Our goal this year is to welcome new members to our group. Please read all the information about each chapter and see what interests you. Contact Marcia.schwefler@gmail.com if you have any questions or the President of the chapter listed in the Chapter write-ups.



ST. ELIZABETH'S CHAPTER

Betty Boone Etheridge, President

St. Elizabeth's Chapter is now in its thirty-first year of Outreach Ministry. We began the year with Marcie Schwefler as the President, a most capable and inspiring leader. The Chapter comprises a wonderful group of dedicated women that work tirelessly in and for our various outreach programs.

We have a volunteer ministry at UniHealth PAC Brookhaven (formerly Ashton Woods) which meets every Wednesday for Hymns and Communion led by one of our Priests. Susie Hall and her husband Bruce are responsible for this worthy undertaking, and many of our women take part in this wonderful ministry.

Our Chapter is also extremely involved in the Suthers Center Thrift Shop, receiving donations, separating, sorting, pricing, and retailing. Stacy Cooper is our liaison member there.

Anne Shepherd, a long-time member of St. Elizabeth's, heads the Emergency Assistance Fund weekly on Tuesday mornings, with several of our members helping in this area. In these days of economic uncertainty, we feel that this particular part of our Chapter's volunteer effort is essential.

Our Chapter is responsible for four Blood Drives a year which are led by Jane Jenkins and Liz Boatright. The Drives have been well organized and most successful.

We have an International Outreach House chairperson, Joan Goodhew, who collects cleaning supplies donated by our members and takes them over to the House twice a year.

The Senior Tea takes place in May. We invite several Senior Centers and serve food and punch, as well as presenting a program conducted by Mimi Dupree of St. Martin's School kindergarten classes. Our coordinators this year were Stacey Cooper and Julie Weimer. It was a huge success with almost eighty seniors present.

Liz Boatright and Jackie McCracken coordinate the Holy Comforter dinners which are prepared at St. Martin's and taken to Holy Comforter. Teams of members and their husbands serve up to 75-80 people with our dinners. There are four dinners prepared for the church during the summer.

We had a wonderful showing at Rally Day in August; our table offered goodies and drinks, as well as materials outlining our different ministries. Many women expressed interest in the Chapter and we signed up three new members.

Our new president, Betty Boone Etheridge, took over in September along with two Vice Presidents, Jackie Beason and Stacey Cooper, as well as a great roster of new committee chairwomen and members.

At our first meeting of the year, we prepared nearly six hundred sandwiches for Emmaus House. Elizabeth Roles came and collected them and expressed great appreciation for our work.

Our Chapter participated in the "Annual Celebration for Outreach" by coordinating a Bake Sale along with St. Mary Magdalene's Chapter. Our combined efforts generated \$577.50! Skipper Usher and Gina Shackelford donated their time and handiwork to make beautiful wreaths, arrangements, and door hangings for Deck the Halls and they raised \$2000.00 for Outreach! What a wonderful day of Fellowship and Thanksgiving for a job well done.

The Christmas Brunch in December is to be held at Ann Edwards's lovely home this year. We will have Holy Communion with Father Graham being the Celebrant; then we will enjoy a sumptuous meal brought by the members. We also provide gift cards for Emmaus House at this time and usually collect approximately \$850.00.

Throughout the year, we study books that inspire and encourage us in our daily lives. Betsy Harrington, our teacher, is completely dedicated to picking out marvelous literature for us to study. Last year we finished *If You Know Who You Are, You'll Know What To Do (Living with Integrity)* by Ronald Greer. In September, we started *Twelve Extraordinary Women (How God Shaped Women of the Bible and What He Wants to Do with You)* by John MacArthur. Book study is an essential part of our meetings as we need to be renewed and kept focused on our many ministries.



I'm always impressed with these women who give so much of themselves to the Chapter and the Church. I consider myself a very blessed person to know them and work with them. It's been a good year. Thanks to all who have made it so.

ST. MARGARET'S CHAPTER

Sherri Robertson, President

St. Margaret's chapter is a guild for women with babies and small children. Our primary focus is to support the church nursery and to welcome new moms with babies and new families to St. Martin's. Within the church, St. Margaret's sponsors the annual Easter Egg Hunt, celebrations of Baptisms, and the Penny Social.

During 2010 and 2011, St. Margaret's worked with the Emmaus House to provide outreach for four categories during the Christmas Season: the Youth Toy Drive; the Grandparents' Party and Raffle; the sponsoring of a family for the holidays; and the Santa Shop for Emmaus House youth. Throughout the year, St. Margaret's also provides outreach to Holy Comforter.

St. Margaret's has several fellowship building events throughout the year including: the Annual Cookie Swap; the Annual Holiday Party at a member's home; the End of the Year Brunch; and monthly Girls Night Out gatherings.

St. Margaret's meets the second Wednesday of each month throughout the school year at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. If you are interested, please join us!

ST. MARTHA'S ECW CHAPTER

Martha Evans, President

St. Martha's meets **the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the Parlor.** We traditionally have supported the New-comers Committee by providing greeters prior to the Sunday morning services. We also sponsored an Advent fund-raising project for "Nets for Life," an outreach program of the Episcopal Church to provide insecticide-treated mosquito nets for 17 African countries plagued by malaria.

2012 will be a year of rebuilding and refocusing our energies. We welcome new members and are a good option for working women who have little extra time. No cooking is required! Susan Breunig is our ECW liaison and Pam Beaubian is our secretary and anchor.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHAPTER

Gay Jolley, President

Our chapter focuses on financial and spiritual support of the needy, especially locally. Funds are obtained from proceeds of our Annual Card Luncheon which is held on the Thursday prior to Ash Wednesday. This event permits the chapter to support Emmaus house, both with gifts for the grandparents' party at Christmas and financially; by helping the convent of St. Helena in Augusta; DeKalb Women's Shelter, and others. In addition, some of our members make "Rag Dolls 2 Love" to be sent to children in places of violence and war and receive blankets for indigent women in North Georgia. Our programs encompass a wide range of topics. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month following the healing service. All women are invited to attend at any time.

ST. MONICA'S CHAPTER

Lisa Smith, President

St. Monica's chapter is a women's guild whose members have school-aged children. We support one another as our children grow and change, and we plan outreach opportunities in which our children can be involved. Our primary outreach ministry is to provide Emergency Assistance Food Bags for those who come to our church seeking help. Every four to six weeks, the children help pack the snack bags that are then given to people in need. During the Celebration in the Hall, St. Monica's hosted the Parish Brunch and the proceeds went to the Celebration.



In addition to supporting the Emergency Assistance Program, our guild supports the Interfaith Outreach Home by making dinners for the families who live there throughout the month of February.

For the holidays, we gather Walmart cards and gift items for the Grandparents' Party of Emmaus House and Walmart cards for St. Martin's Santa Shop. We have our annual Christmas Brunch and End of the Year Brunch held in a member's home, as well as many other fun outings scheduled through the year. St. Monica's meets the third Wednesday of each month through the school year at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor. If you are interested in joining, please come by!!!

ST. MARTIN'S BOY SCOUT TROOP 379

John Burton, Facilitator

Boy Scout Troop 379 was originally sponsored and organized by St. Martin's Episcopal Church and the St. Martin's Men's Club in 1960. The troop has a long standing tradition of being one of the best troops in Atlanta, consistently earning the coveted Quality Unit Award. Troop 379 currently has twenty-four members and a very busy schedule. For example, in June, they completed a thirty-mile one-day hike in the Appalachian Mountains to raise money for an inner city troop. Also in June, they attended summer camp for a week in the north Georgia mountains earning merit badges and learning outdoor skills. In July, we took fourteen boys and eight adults on a high adventure trip to Costa Rica to go hiking, rappelling, zip-lining, deep sea fishing and more. Some of the monthly trips last year included: hiking on the Appalachian Trail, shotgun and rifle shooting, map and compass competitions, rock climbing, white water rafting on the Chattooga River, snow skiing in North Carolina, and water skiing on Lake Hartwell. Past years' high adventure trips have included: bareboat sailing/snorkeling/fishing in the Bahamas, canoeing in Canada, kayaking and glacier climbing in Alaska, rafting the Grand Canyon, and hiking in the Rockies at Philmont Scout Reservation. The troop also sent a crew to Philmont for a twelve-day backpacking trip in the Rocky Mountains.

In its proud history, Troop 379 has produced over one hundred Eagle Scouts - an honor achieved by fewer than 5% in the Boy Scout ranks. This past year we had a ceremony for seven boys who had achieved the rank of Eagle. The Eagle rank usually requires 4-6 years of diligent effort to earn twenty-one merit badges, seven separate rank advancements, and planning, funding, and completion of a substantial work project that benefits the community. Some of the Eagle projects on the St. Martin's campus include: customized racking and shelving in the basement; retaining walls along the parking lot bank; prayer gardens and walkways along the property perimeter; landscaping along Lanier Drive and Windsor Parkway; construction and installation of outdoor stairs; and landscaping along Ashford Dunwoody Road. Other Eagle projects off campus include: construction of a bridge in High Point Park; construction and installation of outdoor stairs at Wieuca Baptist Church; the construction and erection of twenty-four picnic tables at Chastain Park and the construction of an outdoor classroom at Mount Vernon School.

Troop meetings are every Sunday evening from 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. in Gable Hall at St. Martin's Church. The troop takes trips and goes on outings every month, spends a week in June at Woodruff Scout Camp in the north Georgia mountains, and usually takes a high adventure trip in July.

Troop 379 is looking for a few good men (*and a few good dads too*). If your son is eleven years old, has completed the 5th grade, and is interested in outdoor adventure with his friends, then contact John Burton at 404-597-3122 or johnburton@comcast.net or Peter Corbett 404-822-5502 or peter.corbett@us.ibm.com.

ATLANTA MINISTRY WITH INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

By: Joel Brockman

I have been involved in one way or the other with the AMIS program since approximately 1998. My wife and I learned of the program at that time and appreciated that AMIS promotes international friendship by reaching out to students from other countries. Having traveled internationally, we had a connection with how people must feel landing in a foreign country, having grown up in a different culture and not speaking the language. What we have learned though, is that as Christians, we enjoy being friends of the international students and building bridges in an increasingly international community.

While these are trying economic times, AMIS is a program that fulfills our Christian mission to befriend and help others, regardless of one's background or cultural identity. These students are adventurers, moving to a country where they



know no one. How would we feel in their place? It takes very little time and money to develop international relationships. Do you have the time to meet with an international student two or three times throughout the year? Can you host an international student from another US city in your home over the Christmas holiday? Would you invite them to join you for a traditional American Thanksgiving dinner? It does not take much to befriend a student through the AMIS program, so I ask you to join me in welcoming an international student into the US, showing them hospitality, and being a Christian Ambassador.

ALTAR GUILD

Beth Holland, Directress

The Altar Guild assists the clergy. Members work under the orders of the Rector, in strict accordance with his instructions, and under the supervision and guidance of the Directress of the Guild. In general terms, the duty of the Altar Guild is to have ready those things necessary for the celebration of the Holy Eucharist and the observance of other Sacraments and Offices of the Church, as requested by the Rector. Members are divided into four teams and work on a weekly basis under the leadership of four captains and the Directress.

During the past year we have set up for five services each weekend, plus Wednesday morning services each week and Wednesday evenings during Lent. We have set up for all baptisms, both public and private. New members are always welcomed and are greatly needed at this time. Schedules are flexible and the time commitment is approximately four hours, once a month. Please consider joining us in doing this rewarding and fulfilling ministry for St. Martin's. For more information, please contact Beth Holland at eholland01@bellsouth.net or phone 770/451-7045.

USHER MINISTRY

Jim McKechnie, Head Usher

The main function of the ushers is to distribute bulletins and greet parishioners and visitors as they enter the church for the main services. Over the years, additional responsibilities have evolved far beyond a simple "doorkeeper." In addition to assisting with seating, distribution of the offertory plates, recording the attendance, directing communicants to the altar, and assuring HVAC system is operating, the usher is often the first and last person for each assigned service, ensuring the sanctuary is ready for parishioners and tidying up after the main service.

There are six teams of ushers for the 9:00 A.M. (and 10:00 A.M. summer) services - each team is responsible for two months during the year. There are nine teams of ushers for the 11:15 A.M. service - each is responsible for one month during the fall, winter and spring. Ideally, each team has from five to seven members and one member is designated as Captain who assigns members to various duties during the service. Most rewarding during the holidays, many team members find that a calling to help with these services is fulfilling. There is always room for additional ushers for both the 9:00 A.M. and 11:15 A.M. teams.

I would like to personally thank those who have served as ushers this past year and to extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to serve St. Martin's in this rewarding ministry. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, please contact Jim McKechnie (mckechnie@comcast.net) or 404-272-5000.

LAY MINISTRIES

By: Ruth Anne Tatum

"A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at a Celebration of Holy Eucharist." At St. Martin's we have 22 licensed Eucharistic Ministers who assist in all six of our weekly services. In addition, our EMs serve as Lay Readers for the Lessons and occasionally Intercessors. If you would like more information on joining this vital part of our worship program, contact RUTH ANNE TATUM at 770.475.9402 or ratatum@mindspring.com.

MARTHA-SUE BLYTHE coordinates our Eucharistic Visitor (EV) program. *"A Eucharistic Visitor is a lay person authorized to take the Consecrated Elements in a timely manner following a Celebration of Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration."* Presently, there are 12 active members. If you are interested in becoming an EV or you know someone who would like to be visited by a

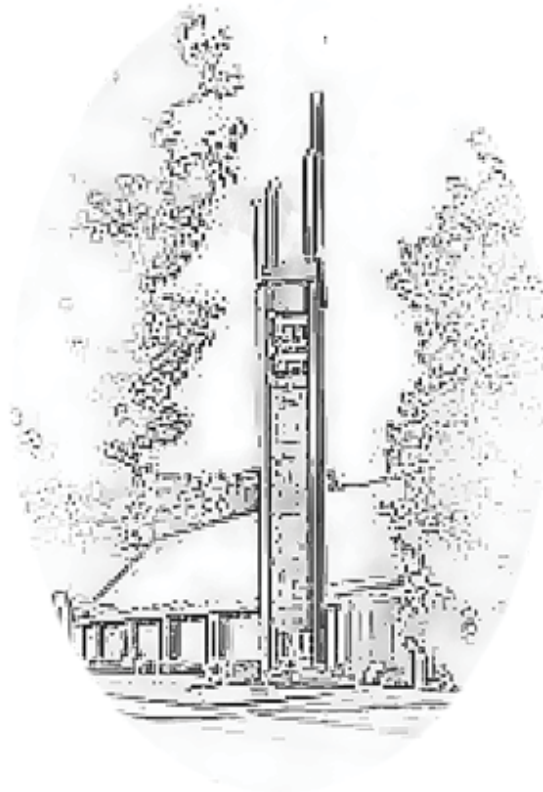


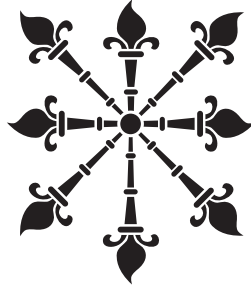
Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Martha-Sue at 404.431.7961 or blythems@yahoo.com.

Because Intercessors do not have to be licensed or go through any extensive training, anyone who so desires can become one in order to lead the Prayers of the People, particularly at our 9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Sunday services. MICHAEL KELLY (mkelly@forestinvest.com or 770.673.0650) schedules all of our lay ministers; contact him if you would like to participate in this capacity. Currently, we only have four; but we are in need of more. Ushers, consider this your invitation, as well!

Although Vergers have traditionally served only at large churches and cathedrals, a growing trend exists (supported by Bishop Alexander) to have at least one verger at every parish in our Diocese. Vergers must also be licensed Eucharistic Ministers. At St. Martin's, there have been Vergers since 2003; currently there are eleven of us. Vergers exist to assist the clergy in the conduct of public worship---similar to emcees, butlers, or administrative assistants. A Verger's duties includes more than just carrying "that big stick" used to knock the animals and heathens out of the way of the procession. Vergers also serve as Tellers at our Annual Diocese Conference. This year, Martha-Sue Blythe, Cheryl Josephson, and I assisted at the November meeting in Rome. Cheryl and I are also on the executive board of our local Verger Guild. If you would like details and would like to enhance our worship services, contact me at 770.475.9402 or ratatum@mindspring.com.

And, Mother Mary has started a Verger program at her new church in Cartersville with assistance from St. Martin's





Saint Martin in the Fields Church

IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF ATLANTA

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www.stmartins.org • www.stmartinschool.org

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Jesus the Christ, Head of the Church

The Right Reverend J. Neil Alexander, Bishop of Atlanta

The Right Reverend Keith Whitmore, Assistant Bishop of Atlanta

The Clergy

The Reverend Dr. John F. McCard, Rector

The Reverend Wells Newell Graham, Senior Assistant to the Rector

The Reverend Noel C. Burtenshaw, Assistant Priest for Pastoral Care

The Reverend Charles B. Fulghum, Priest Associate

The Reverend Dr. James E. Hamner, Headmaster of St. Martin's School

The Reverend Edith W. Woodling, Deacon and Chaplain to St. Martin's School

The parish offices are open from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Staff

Ingrid Siegert, Organist and Choir Director

Melinda Mischik, Director of Children's Education

Kimberly Sheridan, Youth Ministry Coordinator

Jacki Kirsch, Secretary to the Rector

Susan Breunig, Business Manager

Tara Fardellone, Communications Administrator

Charlotte Smith, Nursery Director

The Vestry

Bruce Hall: Senior Warden

Karen Boor, John Burton, Jake Duffy, Chad Duncan, Kathy Evenson,

Suzanne Ford, Randy Hughes, Leigh Fry, Sid Oakley,

Tim Peek, Sally Perez, Sandy Rose, Becky Short, and Ann Martin Vitti.

