

THE MISSION

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

MAY ~ 2005

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

From Mother Marilyn

Dear Friends,

As I have watched the trees blossoming so gloriously this spring, I have reflected on the ways the seasons change. Even when it looks like those trees are barren, Life is pulsing through, waiting for the right time and conditions to burst forth again. If only we could be so sure about the spring when we are in the process of change! In a book called Transitions, the author gives an image of what transition feels like: you're out in a boat, having left the familiar shore and dock; you're in the middle – or somewhere – of the ocean; and you can't yet see where you're going to come to shore again, or what that shore will look like when you do.

What is helpful is to get hold of the things you can count on. St. Martin's has had so much change in the last several years, especially these last two years, and some of us have been feeling at sea, wondering where that new shore is, wondering even where God is in all this. It's important to know what has not changed. St. Martin's continues to value and practice being a warm and friendly congregation, welcoming newcomers, caring for one another. We continue to center on our faith in God, committed to worship that is Episcopal in tradition and lively in spirit. We continue to reach out to those in need, both in Aurora and Denver and in the world. We continue to be a beloved part of the Diocese of Colorado, as witnessed by our Bishop's presence and concern and by our Missioner's willingness to stand with us and guide us to some new ways of rowing our boat (to keep to our metaphor).

I think in the last few months, we have become aware that we need to have a clearer vision and sense of mission – we haven't had a clear focus (there's that "feeling at sea" place). I ask your forgiveness for the amount of time it took for me to get back on my feet – that sort of "just marking time" space in our lives together, when I wasn't able to help move us forward.

Now we have a clear plan: the Rev. Lou Blanchard will be working with the Vestry, with the goal of analyzing, understanding and coming together as a parish around who God has made us to be and where God is directing us to go. And while this process is going on, we want to continue to do those things that make us a church family – worship, special events, church school, outreach, and more.

I am asking you to give this process a fair trial. It will take some time, of course, as anything does if it's to be done well. You can count on my commitment, you can count on the Vestry's commitment – and most important, you can count on God's commitment.

At our monthly clergy meeting, Bishop O'Neill said that one purpose of the church is to form and transform us individually into the likeness of Jesus Christ. He said it's difficult because we live in a culture and society in which we have lost the ability to engage difference in a creative and life-giving way, and we retreat to positions of entrenchment. But Jesus called us to a different way. He said, "Love your enemies. Pray for them." In the Episcopal Church, and at St. Martin's, we recognize that we have many and broad differences among us – and yet we have a core of faith and belief in a living Lord that centers us and enables us to live as the body of Christ, in love and servanthood with each other.

We as the Church of St. Martin are intended to embody the message of the love of God to those hungry to know that love. That makes it imperative that we learn to love one another in the Jesus way, doesn't it? Lee Christy said to me one time that if people felt the power and love of the Spirit when they came in the door, we would be full of seekers finding a home. I believe that's what God is calling us to be.

How can we do this? Part of the way is to change how we're thinking about things. Alan Engles came to see me this week (I've asked his permission to share this), after having been away for several months. He has been praying for us, and God has been speaking to him, has given him a picture of what could help us move forward. Part of it is to understand that the past is past, and we can't do anything to make it different now. We need to put it behind us, so that

we can see where to start with what is now and be ready to go toward the future. There is a starting line – a thin line – where we all need to line up together – all of us with our uniqueness, different walks with God, different needs, etc. That line is the Cross of Christ. All of us start by being forgiven and given life at that place. All of us start in humility before the awesomeness of what he has done for us.

I also believe that God wants to heal us from the hurts some have experienced recently, to heal us of a history of hurt and conflict that goes back many years, to heal relationships, to empower us with his Spirit.

Pentecost is coming! Remember when the followers of Jesus were asked to wait for the promise of the Father without really knowing what would be coming next for them? The gift of the Spirit of God was given to them like flames of fire on their heads and they were able to once again have joy and peace and purpose.

Catch the Fire! That’s the theme of our Pentecost celebration – and that’s my prayer for all of us, that we’d catch the fire of the Spirit in our hearts. The Vestry is planning a great picnic with games for the children, food prepared by gourmet chefs Rick Whipp, Bill Schneider, and others, and balloons! We will begin by worshipping together at 9:30, and expect God to meet us, as God has promised, with fire and the Spirit!

May God bless us all and give us ears to hear and hearts to receive his Word and his Spirit of love and forgiveness and hope!

Marilyn+

Vestry Meeting Highlights — April 5,, 2005

The April vestry meeting was a special meeting with Bishop O'Neill, the vestry, and several members of the parish. Various concerns were addressed. No notes were taken.

Pam Rice
Clerk of the Vestry



Cass Strotheide, a long-time member at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, will be graduating from Seminary of the Southwest in May. She will be ordained to the transitional diaconate at St. John’s Cathedral at 10am on Saturday, June 11, 2005. It is tradition that the sponsoring parish present the ordinand with a red deacon’s stole at the ordination as a gift from the parish. If you would like to contribute to a stole for Cass, please make out your check to St. Martin with designation “Cass S. Ordination.” You can either send your check to the church office or drop it in the Sunday collection plate. Any contributions over and above the cost of a stole will be presented to Cass in the form of a gift certificate.

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church Financial Summary

	Actual Jan.-Mar. 2005	Budget	Difference (+/-)
Income	21,576.39	25,125.00	-3,548.61
Expense	30,837.88	26,536.00	4,301.88
Net Ordinary Income	-9,261.49	-1,411.00	-7,850.49

I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand.

How Firm a Foundation



Training Event for the Diocese



T E D To Do List

- Listen**
- Act**
- Build**

This year's TED focuses on Faith Formation and Congregational Development. Plenary sessions and workshops will provide opportunities to hear inspirational speakers as well as practical teachers. Take home ideas and skills you can use in your church community. Learn specifics that will help you build your spiritual life and your church. Schedules of offerings will be available in May. For more information, call the office of the Canon for Faith Formation at 303.837.1173.

VESTRY MINISTRY SUPPORT FOR 2005

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – RICK WHIPP & BRYAN SHALLANBERGER

Sunday School – Adult and Children

Nursery and Children's Chapel
Youth Sunday School
Youth Activities – Quest, Summer Camp, etc.
Confirmation

WORSHIP

Altar Ministries

Altar Guild
Music
LEMS & CCRV
Liturgical Programs & Special Services
Chalice, Lectors, Acolyte
Lenten Programs

PARISH LIFE – JANE OWENS & SUE RICHARDSON

Daughters of the King
Cursillo
Prayer Chain
Library
Parish Activities – Pancake Dinner, Lenten Soup Suppers,
St. Nicholas Day etc.
Coffee Hour

MISSION & OUTREACH – CYNTHIA OBERMEYER & GEORGIA REISSIG

Community Support Activities Operation - Love, St. Francis Center, Bridgeway, ect.
Caring Hands
Shepherding
Calling and Wellness Care
Transportation
Casseroles etc.
St. Clare's Kitchen

EVANGELISM – STEPHEN HULL

Ushers/Greeters
M&M's
New Members
Alpha

STEWARDSHIP – BOB WILLIAMS

Fund Raising
Finance
Financial Reports
Pledge Drive
Employee Contracts

CAMPUS CARE – JUNIOR WARDEN – CYNTHIA OBERMEYER

*POSSIBLE NEW MINISTRIES: Diversity and Inclusion; Clergy Wellness Group;

Altar Ministries — May, 2005

	Torch Bearer	Crucifer	Chalice Minister	Lector	Intercessor	Greeter	Usher
May-01-2005 8:30 am	Jocelyn Whipp Vincent Graeber	Bryan Shal lanberger	Randy Hoidahl	Randy Hoidahl	Randy Hoidahl		Sue Gilbert Kira Gilbert
May-01-2005 10:45 am	None Assigned	Judy Tice	Judy Tice Chuck Tice	Pam Rice	Judy Tice	Randy Hoidahl	Bill Eldred
May-08-2005 8:30 am	None Assigned	Natalie Graeber	Mike Shal lanberger Bryan Shal lanberger	Mary Louise Gradwohl	Georgia Reissig		Bill Schneider Sharon Armstrong
May-08-2005 10:45 am	Brandon Kern Andrew Nelson	Nate Raymond	Pam Rice Tom Rothgeb	Missi Kern	Chuck Tice	Jo Cunningham	Tom Keables John Shepard
May-15-2005 9:30 am	Jocelyn Whipp Caitlin Shepard	Jordan Hendrickson	Martha Libby Judy Tice	Martha Libby	Pam Rice	Randy Hoidahl	John & Jo Cunningham
May-22-2005 9:30 am	Sarah Raymond Becca Richardson	Chuck Tice	Chuck Tice Pam Rice	Bruce Raymond	Martha Libby	John Shepard	Bill Eldred Tom Keables
May-29-2005 9:30 am	Caitlin Shepard Cody Woycott	Michael Shepard	Tom Rothgeb Martha Libby	Tom Rothgeb	Judy Tice	Bill Eldred	John Shepard
Jun-05-2005 9:30 am	Andrew Nelson Brandon Kern	Jordan Hendrickson	Judy Tice Chuck Tice	Chuck Tice	Missi Kern	John Shepard	John & Jo Cunningham

	Altar Guild	Flowers	CCRV	LEM	M&Ms	Teller
May-01-2005	Ann Shal lanberger Patty Juhl	Cindy Johnson	Mike Shal lanberger	Tom Keables	Paprocki/ Ruck	Stephen Hull Jane Owens
May-08-2005	Cynthia Obermeyer Judy Tice	Judy Tice	Tom Keables		Joni G.	Jane Owens Bob Williams
May-15-2005	Cindy Johnson	Cindy Johnson	Mary Louise Gradwohl	Tom Keables	Jo C.	Bob Williams Bryan Shal lanberger
May-22-2005	Ann Shal lanberger Susan Shepard	Cindy Johnson	Mike Shal lanberger		Randy H.	Bryan Shal lanberger Sue Richardson
May-29-2005	Judy Tice Patty Juhl	Cindy Johnson	Tom Keables	Tom Keables	Paprocki/ Ruck	Sue Richardson Rick Whipp
Jun-05-2005	Cynthia Obermeyer Ann Shal lanberger	Judy Tice	Mary Louise Gradwohl		Joni G.	Rick Whipp Cynthia Obermeyer

**You may also go to: <http://www.st-martins.net/>
For a link to Ministry Schedule, which includes Sunday Readings.**

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Activities and Events for May, 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 UTO Ingathering 9:30 AM Christian Ed 1:00 PM CCRV 5:30 PM Conf. Class	2 7:00 PM Music Planning for 10:45 services	3 7:00 PM Vestry w/ Lou Blanchard	4	5 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	6	7 9:30 AM End of Life Issues Presentation, Denise (Hartung) Merrillat
8 Mother's Day 9:30 AM Christian Ed 9:30 AM Youth Small Groups 1:00 PM CCRV	9	10	11	12 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	13	14
15 CAUGHT THE FIRE 9:30 AM H.E. Picnic & BBQ follows 1:00 PM CCRV	16 7:00 PM Vestry	17	18	19 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	20	21
22 9:30 AM H.E. 1:00 PM CCRV	23	24 5:30 PM St. Clare's Supper	25	26 7:00 PM Music Rehearsal	27	28
29 9:30 AM H.E. 1:00 PM CCRV	30 Memorial Day - Office Closed	31				

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Vestry Members :

Martha Libby, Sr. Warden
Cynthia Obermeyer, Jr. Warden
Michelle Mayfield, Treasurer
Pam Rice, Clerk
Stephen Hull
Jane Owens
Georgia Reissig
Sue Richardson
Bryan Shalhanberger
Rick Whipp
Bob Williams

* * * *

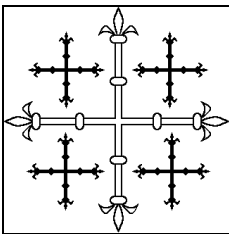
St. Martin Staff:

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

Office Hours

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

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



Holy Eucharist Services
8:30 & 10:45 AM
Christian Ed
9:30 AM

e-mail:

office@st-martins.net

Parish Web Site:

www.st-martins.net

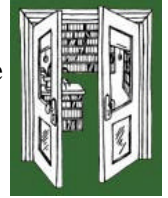
St. Martin Prayer Chain:

prayer@st-martins.net



REMINDER —

**Shop & Support St. Martin
at The Tattered Cover Bookstore
or Amazon.com through the St.
Martin website.**



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

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



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

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