

◆ THE MISSION ◆

ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

MARCH ~ 2006

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

Dear Friends,

There is so much in my heart as I write this letter, so many memories. I remember three years ago, feeling called to St. Martin's, being interviewed by the Vestry, and the joy I felt at becoming part of this wonderful community. I remember the hard times that followed, and more recently your hard work of R.O.A.R. — Reaching Out And Revitalizing. Most of all, I remember — and will always remember — each of you. I have come to know and to love you, your hearts, your humor, your gifts, your commitment to St. Martin's and to each other. I have come to know your love of the Lord, and I see that deep love as the core of who you are and what you do.

You have so much to offer to the hurting and confused people around you who are seeking truth and belonging, who are seeking God, whether they know it or not. As God brings these people to you, be sure all of you take responsibility to welcome them. They say if seven people speak to visitors, they are likely to come back. And if they do, they need to be remembered and welcomed again. You are the face of Jesus to them, remember.

We have seen that face of Jesus among us again and again these last three years. We have experienced God's faithfulness, God's continuing assurances that St. Martin's is in God's care. God has been forming all of us (me, too) and transforming you all at great cost into a unified and loving community.

Guard that unity with all your strength and commitment!! When disagreements occur or feelings get hurt — as they inevitably will in a healthy community with such strong and gifted and differing people — talk it through face to face. Pray together and if necessary, call in someone to help. Be open to the wisdom of the Holy Spirit.

St. Martin's is called to be God's loving community, yes, a place of healing and faith-building and worship, a place of experiencing Christ in each other and deeply and joyfully in worship. But God also calls you to reach out. Your community — a koinonia — a fellowship in Christ — has often reached out to the poor and needy in many ways. As you now reach out in evangelism, wanting to grow in numbers, don't forget that this, too, is God's purpose, God's work, God's love reaching out.

God has led you through a process of discernment and understanding of who you are as a parish and what your mission is. God has also brought together a remarkable body of leaders in your Vestry. I am so impressed by their strengths and gifts and generosity. They will lead you well during this transition time and on into the future, even as each one of you has a part to play. Be assured that God has called you here for a reason. So keep praying for the Vestry. Keep praying for the Search Committee and the person whom God is calling to be your next Rector, to help carry on what God has been doing here. Keep praying for St. Martin's! As Lou Blanchard told us a year ago, Pray, Pray, Pray!! And know that I'll be praying as well.

Continued

From previous

I am so grateful for each of you, so blessed by the beauty of your hearts and your creativity and your loving ways and your faithfulness to Christ. I wish I could express my gratitude to each of you personally by name, but I do want especially to thank Margie Reck, whose love and whose work above and beyond the call of duty have blessed me and this parish in more ways than we can count. Please support her during this time. I want also to thank Deacon Shirl for stepping in to help when I was “physically challenged” last year and continuing to live her love of God and commitment to pastoral care among us. She has blessed us with her prayers and her love. May God bless her as she continues to serve him!

It has been such a privilege to serve you, to live through the hard times with you, to work together, and always to rejoice!! — to be awed by what God has done and is doing — to be excited and expectant about what is to come. Thank you is not nearly enough to express how blessed I feel for my time in this community. Even more, I have been blessed by knowing and loving each of you. The children here are truly a special gift as well. You are all precious in the Lord and to the Lord!!!

May God bless each of you — and St. Martin’s — in every way, now and always!

Gratefully, in Christ’s love,

Marilyn+



St. Martin in the Fields Women's Retreat

When: April 29-30

Where: Bear Trap Ranch

"Coming Together: Connecting the Christ in Me to the Christ in You."

For More Information or to Help Plan, Contact:

Denise Merillat or Amie Claire Raymond

Quest 2K6: Jump! March 31 – April 2, Frontier Ranch, Buena Vista, CO

A week-end retreat for fun, discipleship, worship, outreach, leadership training and ministry opportunities for young people in grades 6-12 at Frontier Ranch. Registration information has been sent! If you did not receive it please let us know. Contact the Office for Faith Formation for more information.

Vestry Highlights
February 7, 2006

Attending: Becca Dooley, Martha Libby, John Shepherd, Sharon Armstrong, Sue Richardson, Bob Williams, Deacon Shirl, Denise Merillat, Jim Laginess, Cynthia Obermeyer, Mother Marilyn, and Jane Owens. Rick Whip was excused.

We opened with a welcome to the new members. Then Mother Marilyn led an opening prayer from the Edward Hays book, Prayers for the Servants of God.

We reviewed the vestry books and contents, and then moved on to our agenda

No treasurer report, but a report on finances by Bob Williams

We will have a finance committee of Bob and Becca, Rick and Michelle Mayfield.

Bob did get a profit and loss statement. We are actually starting \$1,000 ahead at the end on January, as opposed to last year where we were \$7,000 behind.

Pledges continue to trickle in... we now have 38 pledging units, 8 more than last year at this time. So our pledges are up to \$75,668.00

Martha and Bob will meet with folks who will review and perhaps make recommendations for us financially regarding the Alienation and Encumbrances Committee and/or the Diocesan Standing Committee. They will need a budget but also a 5 year plan and a proposed 2007 budget. Bob revised our 2006 budget to better reflect the priest's salary. We will be paying supply priest(s) for the time that Marilyn is gone until the new priest would begin, so there is a savings of salary and benefits during that time.

Bob also has been putting out feelers with banks to see if a Line of Credit is possible (where we may only pay interest on money that is taken out on it... not the full balance that could be available to us) and it looks like this could be possible if we choose to go in that direction. It is nice to know that it is a possibility. It was suggested that he also talk with Mike Shalanberger to see if he has any advice/expertise that he can offer us regarding options.

Becca, Bob and Rick have also been working on a 5 year plan. This is not written in stone, but a projection. The vestry will look over things and make comments and approve of this plan. Bob will take care of projecting the 2007 budget, and show us what he comes up with. He will also call to get on the agenda of the Standing Committee.

Newcomer packets. Jane will finalize and maybe a committee will assemble them?

This brought up the idea that we will really need to have our lay ministers step up, particularly during this transition. The vestry will do it's best to provide coordination and offer guidance, organization and help anywhere we can to keep things moving along in our ministries. Some thoughts on particular Transitional Committees that might need to be formed or focused on are:

1..Pastoral Care, 2. Worship. 3. Parish Life. 4. Finance.

1. Denise Merillat has agreed to help coordinate the Pastoral Care committee. We will have supply priests for the Sunday services, and will have emergency on call care help, but this will be a lay team that will help coordinate hospital visits, prayer etc.
2. The Worship Committee will be the current people who are planning worship; Joe, Dee, Missi and Bill along with an Altar Guild Representative and Martha as Senior Warden.
3. Parish Life has always been a vital committee to the community of St. Martin and has lots of opportunity to help keep us all together through our transition. Jane and Sharon have agreed to help coordinate parish life events and will be looking to other parishioners to help make things happen!
4. Finance will be the committee mentioned earlier; Becca, Bob, Rick and Michelle.

All Vestry members (but assignment will go to those who are Telling) will be helping orient the supply priest(s) to the church, the sacristy and ensuring they know who the Crucifer, Chalice ministers and Acolytes are.

Continued

Becca Dooley will not be doing Teller duties since she is the Treasurer. It seems like a prudent financial measure to take to ensure clarity that the writer of the checks is not in charge of counting and depositing funds. Account signature forms will be obtained from the bank ASAP Sue will be teller for Becca's times already posted..

Shrove Tuesday we will have a pancake supper. Youth will cook.

This will be Marilyn's goodbye as well.

Marilyn and ShirI will serve Ash Wednesday.

Holy Week services will be provided by the Supply Priest.

We plan to have a Seder.

For Maundy Thursday we would like to do the traditional service and have the prayer vigil into Friday and then a Good Friday service.

We have not decided on one or two services for Easter yet.

We finalized plans for the Vestry retreat. We will be at St. Stephen's beginning Friday night at 6 for potluck dinner. We will return Saturday at 9AM and work until about 4. We will have our Sunday discernment training with Rev. Vickie Kempf in conjunction with the Search Committee. All are to read "Grounded in God" by Sunday afternoon for the discernment training.

We closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Richardson

March Ministries have been inserted into this newsletter. You may have to print them separately

Financials — January 2006 for St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church	
Total Income	\$ 8,767.16
Total Expenses	\$ 7,787.99
Net Income	\$ 979.17
Cash in Savings	\$ 8,761.99

Meet more New Vestry Members

Sharon Armstrong . . .

I am a native of Colorado. I lived in north Denver for the first part of my life. I was raised and educated in the Roman Catholic Church. I am the mother of four children, three sons and a daughter. I am the proud grandmother of five grandsons and one granddaughter (lots of boys in my life). My pride and joy now is my two year old pup "Gabriel" (another boy). He is the angel in my life . . . I am waiting any days for his wings to arrive. They could be here tomorrow.

I did not embrace the Episcopal Church until 1983. In the beginning I joined Holy Comforter Church in Broomfield. I joined St. Martin-in-the-Fields after we moved to Aurora in 1992. I am a full time realtor with my own company with the Metro Broker franchise. Prior to being a realtor I was a hairdresser and then an account manager for a food broker. I think being a realtor is my last career change at least I hope so . . .getting a bit old to start something else. This is the first time I have ever been on a church vestry. I am very proud and excited to be part of the new growth that is occurring at our church. I have no doubt at this time that I am where God wants me. I truly am blessed to be associated with such a wonderful church

Becca Dooley

Hi, I would like to take a moment to introduce myself, my name is Rebecca (Becca) Dooley and I have been a member at St. Martin's since 2001. I am married and have 3 stepdaughters and one granddaughter. My husband and I live in Aurora and I work part time from home, while he works for the City of Aurora.

I am a past youth group assistant at St. Martin's and have tried to help where and when I can with other ministries. I am a former Chair of Epiphany Ministry of Colorado's State Committee and have served in positions on the national level. I am currently the Secretary for Cursillo of Colorado Secretariat and find great pleasure in expanding my horizons to be on Vestry at St. Martin's. I always look for the roads that God leads me down, although sometime hesitant of the plan he has in store for me, I do my best to accept the call.

I believe that St. Martin's is in an awesome place to experience a new life and growth within our "little church on the corner" I love to be able to leave services with a song in my heart and look forward to sharing that feeling with everyone who walks through the doors.

I also believe it is not the Vestry's mission to make this church successful and grow, God has called all of us to be stewards of his message and ask that everyone be involved in sharing the power that the Holy Spirit has within all of us and the community at St. Martin's.

I look forward to getting to know everyone better. Please continue to keep St. Martin's and your Vestry in your prayers.

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church March Ministry Schedule

	Torch Bearer	Crucifer	Chalice Minister	Lector	Intercessor	Greeters	Usher
Mar-05-2006 9:30 am	Rachael Obermeyer Andrew Nelson	Michael Shepard	Lee Mayfield Lorna Mayfield	Thor Nelson	John Shepard	The	Sue Gilbert Kira Gilbert
Mar-12-2006 9:30 am	Sybil Keables Brandon Kern	Nate Raymond	Chuck Tice Judy Tice	Sharon Armstrong	Missi Kern	Whole	John Cunningham Jo Cunningham
Mar-19-2006 9:30 am	Michael Hartung Lauren Hartung	Becca Richardson	Thor Nelson Randy Hoidahl	John Shepard	Lorna Mayfield	Church	Sharon Armstrong John Shepard
Mar-26-2006 9:30 am	Justine Owens Caitlin Shepard	Bryan Shallenberger	Bryan Shallenberger Mike Shallenberger	Judy Tice	Sharon Armstrong	IS the	Bill Eldred Tom Keables
Apr-02-2006 9:30 am	Alexis Hartung Garrett Revelle	Michael Shepard	Denise Merillat Martha Libby	Missi Kern	Chuck Tice	GREETER!	Sue Gilbert Kira Gilbert

	Altar Guild	CCRV	LEM	M&Ms	Teller
Mar-05-2006	Judy Tice	Lorna Mayfield	Tom Keables	Ed & Heather Paprocki	Sharon Armstrong Martha Libby
Mar-12-2006	Susan Shepard	Tom Keables		Jo Cunningham	Martha Libby Jim Laginess
Mar-19-2006	Cynthia Obermeyer	Mary Louise Gradwohl		Randy Hoidahl	Jim Laginess Jane Owens
Mar-26-2006	Patty Juhl	Lorna Mayfield		Barbara Thomas	Jane Owens Denise Merillat
Apr-02-2006	Judy Tice	Tom Keables	Tom Keables	Ed & Heather Paprocki	Denise Merillat Bob Williams

St. Martin-in-the-Fields

Activities and Events for March, 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																									
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FROM — C. Neil Riley, Canon for Faith Formation
Episcopal Diocese of Colorado

Dear friends in Christ,

The Office of Faith Formation is excited to announce the new Faith Formation Events Coordinator. After an extensive search that involved many highly qualified candidates the position was offered to, and accepted by, Ms. Holly Dorrance. She was the clear choice of the search committee, who is confident that God has called her here at this time. Holly started work yesterday.

Holly is a cradle Episcopalian and long time resident of Colorado. She has been active in working with children and youth for two decades and most recently grew an Episcopal youth group from virtually nothing to a vibrant and dynamic youth program that now includes many young people and a paid youth leader. She has experience planning and running camps and retreats. She has been active in leading girl scouts, children's ministries, youth groups, and diocesan retreats. She is married and has three children (ages 16, 19, 23).

Holly will be responsible to oversee the faith formation events (including youth retreats and children's days), act as the camp director for the Episcopal Summer Camps sponsored by the diocese being held at Trinity Ranch, and she will lead the team developing the Faith for Life weekend.

Please lift her up in your prayers as she begins her service to the diocese.
Sincerely in Christ,
Neil

Her contact information is as follows:

Holly Dorrance, Faith Formation Events Coordinator
Episcopal Diocese of Colorado
1300 Washington St., Denver, CO 80203
303-837-1173 x 31
hdorrance@coloradodiocese.org

**Have you wanted to be part of a
Small Group?**

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

*One group meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday at 6:30 PM
to share potluck.*

*Call Martha Libby, 303-695-5603, for information and to get
The location for a particular Monday.*

*The other group meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday,
also for potluck, at 6:30 PM.*

*Call Jane Owens, 303-699-5855,
Or Sue Richardson, 303-617-0057
For information and location.*

March Birthdays

Sue Richardson	1
Annabella Skinner	4
Jim Laginess	4
Bob Williams	7
Rebecca Shallenberger	12
John Cunningham	15
Rian Nelson	17
Jack Eldred	17
Jeff Caruso	17
Ann Shallenberger	18
Ed Paprocki	18
Marina Raab	22
Heather Tung	23
Brandon Kern	23
Nicole Skinner	28
Sherry Blaser	31

**No Recorded March
Anniversaries !**

If you are a member, or if you would like to make St. Martin-in-the-Fields your regular home church... the data base is only current **IF you have provided information to the office**— see next message:

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

Forms are also available in the Narthex in the side pockets of the Welcoming Podium.

Vestry Members :

Martha Libby, Sr. Warden
Cynthia Obermeyer, Jr. Warden
Becca Dooley, Treasurer
Sue Richardson, Clerk

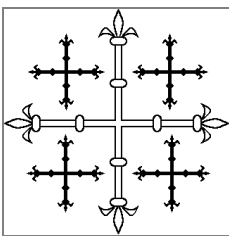
Sharon Armstrong
Jim Laginess
Denise Merillat
Jane Owens
John Shepard
Rick Whipp
Bob Williams

* * * *

Secretary & Newsletter Editor,
Margie Reck

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

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



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

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



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



Important Information: Did you know?

St. Martin will receive a referral fee for each item purchased. Tattered Cover is your local source . 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.

Faith for Life Weekend. June 2-4, 2006.

This is a weekend retreat for all ages up at Snow Mountain Ranch (near Winter Park, CO). The theme is "Marking Milestones." Our speaker, Dick Hardel from the Youth and Family Institute, will talk about our faith milestones and how we can individually and as a community build up our faith through these milestones. There will be activities for children, youth, and adults. You will be able to choose from a variety of accommodations: from a tenting campsite to a hotel-style room. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as a diocese to celebrate our faith in Christ, to meet new friends, and to create new memories.

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