

**Annual Meeting of St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Bridgewater, NJ
23 January, 2022**

AGENDA

1. The celebration of the Holy Eucharist
2. Rector's Remarks in lieu of homily: Goals for 2022

The Church Isn't Dying, It's Changing: Rector's Goals for 2022

- A. Intentional Spiritual Formation: Fashioning a People of Prayer and Discernment
 - B. Transformational Servanthood: Showing God's Love in the World (Outreach/Jubilee)
 - C. Purposeful Evangelism: Helping People Searching for God in Christ Discover God Here
 - D. Compassionate Care: Sharing Christ's Healing Grace with One Another (Fellowship/Pastoral Care)
 - *Vestry Goals for 2022-2023 will be forthcoming*
3. (after the Post Communion Prayer) Election of Vestry Members
 - Nominations: Barbara Butler- Formation (2 yr term)
 - Debra Mock- School President (1 yr)
 - Juanita Hawkins- Finance (1 yr term)
 - Chris Evans- Treasurer (3 yr term)
 - Beth Hixenbaugh- Jr. Warden (3 yr term)
 - Larry Ottenstroer- Sr. Warden (2 yr. term)
 4. Election of Delegates to Diocesan Convention
 - Kathy Picazio
 - Br. Philip Muniz
 - Marilyn O'Regan
 5. Remarks from the Outgoing Senior Warden
 6. Remarks from the Outgoing Junior Warden
 7. Financial Report and Budget for 2022
 8. Blessing and Adjournment

Committee Reports Attached

2021 OUTREACH PROGRAMS

SHIP Pop top canned protein and casseroles were provided plus Easter Baskets. Coverage was provided for Food Truck from Jan. thru Aug.

BOUND BROOK SPIRIT FUND (Board of Ed food bank) Easter baskets were donated as well as personal care kits for victims of IDA

FOOD BANK NETWORK OF SOMERSET COUNTY 336 pounds of food was donated and Saturday coverage was provided in May and August for food distribution in Somerville.

FISH New children's clothing, underwear and socks were donated plus used clothing and monetary gifts provided by parishioners. School provided much of the new clothing.

HOME (formerly IHN) Meals were provided for families being sheltered and Easter Baskets were provided for the same families. St Martins adopted a family that had been displaced by tropical storm IDA. Close to 50 gifts and almost \$1,000 in gift cards were provided to the family.

Cathedral Square Seniors Used coats and jackets were donated

Operation Yellow Ribbon Stocking stuffers were provided for the U.S. Military

Westfield YMCA New adult socks were donated

Soles4Souls Used shoes were donated

CompleteCare Nursing Home and Rivers Edge Nursing & Rehab Valentine cards were made by parishioners and the school children and distributed at the two homes plus sent to Pastoral Care parishioners

Monetary Donations:

SHIP	\$1,300.00
TRINITY CATHEDRAL	700.00
EPISCOPAL R & D	800.00
BOUND BROOK SPIRIT FUND	500.00
GREATER SOMERSET COUNTY YMCA	500.00
FOOD BANK NETWORK	1,100.00
HOME/IHN	600.00

Marlene Ficzcio
January 2022

2022 - Annual Meeting - Stewardship Report

The Stewardship Campaign started on Sunday, October 10, 2021 with a theme of “Every Perfect Gift”. We asked members to prayerfully consider what this meant to them. Our church goal was Financial Security with a pledge goal of \$250,000. For the next four weeks we were encouraging parishioners to reflect and think about their pledge. On Sunday, November 14, 2021 we celebrated Consecration Sunday with a video montage that highlighted all the amazing things St. Martins had been able to accomplish in 2021 followed by a Chili luncheon. Big thank you to Alison and Randy Jandak with all their help.

Pledging has been and still is integral in creating our church budget. We were able to hold in-person services but we did not pass the collection plate until December. We are still relying on pledging as our main income. I personally reached out to every member listed and asked for them to consider making a pledge this year if I had not heard from them.

To date, we have 82 families listed as members of St. Martin’s Church. This number has decreased in the past year. Of those 82 families, typically 51 families pledge. This year we have had only 48 pledges with a total commitment of \$149,566. This commitment is an increase of \$442 compared to last year. The average amount that is pledged is \$3,116. The median pledge is \$2,400. In order for the church to meet its current budget of \$265,000, our 48 pledgers would need to increase their pledge to \$5,520.

We also introduced the use of online pledging with the use of the Ministry One App in February. We have about 33 members who are now using this to pay their pledge. If you are using the Ministry One App, please make sure to update your pledge amount to reflect your 2022 pledge commitment.

It’s never too late to send in your pledge card or click on the link on the church website to make an online pledge.

Kelly Slye
January 2022

Annual Meeting 2022 - Evangelism

- Wrote welcome letters to all new people who signed the guest book and tried to personally engage with them each Sunday
- Called 28 families whom we haven't seen on Zoom or in church to "check-in" before Kickoff Sunday
- Did 4 paid Facebook/Instagram "advertisements". These promotions were geographically targeted to residents of Bridgewater, Martinsville, Warren and Bedminster. Very cost-effective way to reach new audiences:

Promotion	People Reached
Holy Week Masses Promotion	2,958
Easter Sunday Mass Promotion	3,847
Fr. Rob's "All are Welcome" May Sermon Clip for Kick-Off Sunday	1,225
Christmas Masses Promotion	1,914
Total Promotion Reach	9,944
Total Spent	\$100
Cost per person reached	\$0.01

- Mailed St. Martin's Brochures to all new residents in Bridgewater, Martinsville and Bedminster beginning in the Spring through December
- Completed a major refresh of the church website and continued weekly website updates including Sunday Mass videos, weekly newsletter emails, events and sign-ups as needed (ie for socially distanced church attendance)
- Maintained a very active presence on Facebook and Instagram
- Moved forward with the purchase of the new "Love Thy Neighbor" banner.

Diane Lester
January 2022

Team Members

Joyce Clark, Jane Linn, Kristin Matteo, Marilyn O'Regan,
Anne Marie Verderamo, Fr. Rob

Fellowship

With the help of dedicated volunteers, Fellowship has been able to host Coffee Hour after 8:15 and 10:30 services. We were also able to hold a Parish Picnic in July, a chili luncheon for Consecration Sunday, and a pasta luncheon after the Greening of the Church during advent. Unfortunately, our Fall Family Funfest was canceled because of the possibility of severe storms.

Women's Group

The Women's Group had two fellowship events this year. One hosted by Laura Butrico in her lovely house in September, and a Christmas Party with Cookie Exchange in December held in the Undercroft.

Alison Jandak
January 2022

Reopening Committee

The re-opening committee served to open St Martin's according to the Diocesan mandates. A plan covering all the directives was drawn up and submitted to the Diocese for approval. After receiving the okay the plans were implemented, and the church was reopened on March 21.

As the virus has mutated and the opportunities for vaccination were more available, our requirements for in person worship have changed. The requirements will probably continue to change in the future.

The committee no longer meets regularly, but its members continue to work to keep the church open for safe in person worship.

Committee members include Heather Agosto, Chris Bockus, Barbara Butler, Bob Manci, Father Tim Mulder, Howard Stamato, Father Rob Laws, and Kathy Picazio.

Kathy Picazio
January 2022

St. Martin's Children and Youth Formation – January 2022

Sunday School

We were very excited to finally return to in-person Sunday School. St. Martin's Episcopal church uses Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for our Christian education for children ages 2 ½ through 6th grade. Sunday School meets during our 10:30 service starting in September through Father's Day. To simplify things with Covid protocols, Sunday School has been taking place in the upstairs conference rooms. In the weeks leading up to Christmas, we held joint lessons of all three atrium levels in the Lady Chapel. While attendance has not been large, the children participating seem very happy to be back.

Heartfelt thanks to Heather Agosto, Judy Laidlaw, Nancy Muniz, and Kelly Slye, for their continued support. Sunday School is a wonderful way to share your time and talents with the children of St. Martin's and new volunteers are always welcome!

As we look towards 2022 we will continue to help the children of St. Martin's connect with God and their church. We are all praying that our attendance will continue to grow and that one day we can finally leave this pandemic behind us.

Youth Group

Saint Martin's follows the Journey to Adulthood program with a progression through 3 stages: Rite 13, Journey to Adulthood (J2A) and Young Adults in Church (YAC). The Journey to Adulthood is a complete youth ministry program of spiritual formation for 6th-12th grades. Our goal is to provide our youth with a positive Christian Education experience that will help them build their own church community. Youth met successfully throughout the pandemic via Zoom and we finally returned to in-person meetings in the Fall of 2021! We especially want to thank those members of Saint Martin's who have volunteered their time to lead the youth group.

Rite 13: Father Rob and Fausto Beleno

J2A: Clay and Christine Kellam

YAC: Dan and Teri Della Piazza

Christine Kellam

January 2022

Adult Formation at St Martin's in 2021

During the past year, in spite of the challenges of Covid-19 and remote services, we organized three discussion series relating to adult formation and education.

Lent

During Lent we presented “The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life”. The series was in the form of weekly Zoom sessions that included conversation, prayer and ways to put what we had learned into practice. The congregation of St John's Episcopal Church in Somerville also participated in this series.

Fall

We presented a 10 week course on Anti-racism with St. John's, Somerville on zoom.

Advent

Each Sunday of Advent, we joined together, via Zoom, for a few minutes of fellowship and the sharing of blessings, thanksgivings, and prayers. Each session ended with a short Compline service.

Adult Forum

This year, three series were presented in the Adult Forum. The forum meets between the Sunday services in the Lady Chapel. The “Voices of St Martins” series offered members of St Martin's parish an opportunity to share parts of their spiritual journeys and show how everyday experiences can lead to meaningful insights and understanding.

The “Spiritual Practices” series offered a forum for learning about and discussing religious and practical disciplines used by people of faith to grow closer to God and to each other.

The “Lectio Divina” is an ancient, monastic practice of scripture reading that includes meditation, prayer and contemplation. Unlike traditional bible study it centers on personal insights and revelations to elucidate God's word. Also called Oral Tradition, the Gospel for the week is used for this contemplative discipline. The discussions and insights were often profound.

Barbara Butler
January 2022

2022 Annual Meeting Report – St. Martin’s School

St. Martin’s School operates as a mission of our Church and the Diocese. It serves Bridgewater and surrounding communities, providing a preschool education to ages infant – kindergarten. Our school may be viewed as one of St. Martin’s greatest assets. Not only does it provide substantial financial support to our Church, as a premiere Montessori school it also represents the same safe, accepting and loving environment as we, members of St. Martin’s, strive to provide to all who walk through our doors.

School enrollment is currently at a total of 59 students. Another infant is already pre-registered to join in April, making a total of 60. This includes 13 infants (6 wks.-18 mos.), 15 Toddlers (18 mos. – 3 yrs.), and 31 primary (ages 3-6). Throughout the many challenges resulting from the pandemic, our school has maintained open and safe classrooms. It’s directors and staff deserve full credit for this. To note: at the onset of the pandemic, St. Martin’s School and staff even opened its doors to the children of our community’s essential workers. Our school is indeed a gift to all it serves.

Judy Laidlaw, President, St. Martin’s School Board
January 2022

St. Martin's Episcopal Church December 2021 Summary Financial Report

Balance Sheet

For the year ending December 31, 2021, St. Martin's ended with the following:

Total Assets: \$1,851,559.73

This was down \$36,975.18 from last year due primarily to sale of investments to cover our losses offset by increased value (\$28,828.72) of the Rectory due to improvements made.

Total Liabilities: \$103,797.51

This was an increase of \$3,702.38 over 2020 primarily due to a loan from the school of an additional \$13,273.

The Total Liabilities and Equity for 2021 was \$1,851,559.73,

Profit and Loss

Income: \$224,707.48

Our Total Income was down \$13,663.00 from last year

Expenses: \$275,689.66

There was an increase of \$10,677.08 over last year primarily due to clergy healthcare and housing expenses, offset by a decrease in the office staff costs.

Total Income for 2021 was - \$50, 982.18

Juanita Hawkins

January 2022

Profit and Loss Statement and 2022 Budget may be found on the parish website.