

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

AGENDA

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

Emerging from the Pandemic: Re-forming Community: Rector's Goals for 2023

Re-introduction of Parish Ministries and Ministers

Recap of 2022 Goals

- 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)

2023 Goals

- A. Continue to develop and grow goals for 2022
- B. Work on increasing parishioner engagement
- C. Nurture and strengthen collaboration with other congregations

3. (after the Post Communion Prayer) Election of Vestry Members
Nominations: Debra Mock- School President (1 yr)
Anne Marie Verdiramo- Outreach (3 years)
4. Remarks from the Senior Warden
5. Remarks from the Junior Warden
6. Financial Report and Budget for 2023
7. Blessing and Adjournment

Committee Reports Attached

Annual Meeting 2022- Evangelism Report

- Wrote welcome letters to all new people who signed the guest book and tried to personally engage with them each Sunday.
- Mailed Easter postcards to 30 families we haven't seen in a while inviting them to join us for Easter weekend masses.
- 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

1. Holy Week & Easter Promotion (\$30) 4,620
2. Pride Picnic (\$25) 1,715
3. Canticles for Life AIDS Benefit Concert (\$25) 1,194
4. Christmas Masses Promotion (\$25) 2,854

Total Promotion Reach 10,383

Total Spent \$105

Cost per person reached \$0.01

- Hosted a Newcomer's Brunch in May with significant help from Fellowship. We had a great turnout of existing members welcoming 7 new members.
- Mailed 50 St. Martin's Brochures before Christmas to a Martinsville neighborhood where many new families live at the suggestion of Celeste Zazzali.
- Continued weekly website updates including Sunday Mass videos, weekly newsletter emails and events. As of December - took over maintenance of the website calendar.
- Maintained a very active presence on Facebook and Instagram.

Diane Lester

January 2023

2022 Team Members

Joyce Clark, Jane Linn, Kristin Matteo, Anne Marie Verderamo, Fr. Rob

Annual Meeting- 2022 Outreach Report

BRYN MAWR Books were collected and donated to be sold at their annual book sale.

JAIL CHAPLAINCY OF SOMERSET COUNTY Personal care products were collected and donated

SHIP SHIP began sending food truck to Manville in March. St. Martin's attempted to provide assistance but the food truck was not there many evenings when volunteers arrived. A conversation with Tom O'Leary indicated they are having driver issues we did not attempt to provide volunteers in November and December. A \$450 donation was made in October.

BOUND BROOK SPIRIT FUND (Board of Ed) 46 small Easter baskets were donated to association and distributed to children in the BB school system.

FOOD BANK NETWORK OF SOMERSET COUNTY Saturday coverage was provided in May and August for food distribution in Somerville. 75 pounds of rice was donated in May as well as additional food, egg carton and bag donations throughout the year. Pet food was donated in October. A \$1,500 donation was made. In addition, specific food items were collected and donated to THE COMMUNITY FOOD BANK OF NJ

FISH Little girls' clothing donated by parents of children in our school was donated in March. New underwear, socks and used clothing plus monetary donations were delivered in August.

HOME 29 Easter Baskets were delivered for specific children displaced by Tropical Storm Ida. A \$450 donation was made.

CATHEDRAL SQUARE SENIORS Used clothing and coats were donated in November

OPERATION YELLOW RIBBON Donations were collected and used to complete 36 Christmas stockings for U.S. the Military.

GLOBAL OUTREACH MINISTRY TO LIBERIA 350 pairs of shoes were delivered to St. Michael's Church in Wall, NJ

SOMERSET COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER Toys and care items were donated to the Shelter

OTHER Valentine cards and cookies were delivered to home bound parishioners and mailed to those who have moved from the local area.

\$600 was donated to Episcopal R & D

Marlene Ficzo
January 2023

Annual Meeting- 2022 Stewardship Report

The Stewardship Campaign started on Sunday, October 9, 2022 with a theme of “More Than Enough”. We asked members to prayerfully consider what this meant to them. Our church goal this year continues to be Financial Security with a pledge goal of \$200,000. For the next four weeks we were encouraging parishioners to reflect and think about their pledge. On Sunday, October 30, 2022 we celebrated Consecration Sunday with a special coffee hour.

Pledging has been and still is integral in creating our church budget. I personally reached out to every active member and asked for them to consider making a pledge this year if I had not heard from them by the middle of November.

To date, we have 104 families listed on our church directory. Last year we had 49 pledges, this year we have had only 48 pledges with a total commitment of \$156,449. This commitment is an increase of \$7,425 compared to last year. The average amount that is pledged is \$3,259. We are still at a deficit in pledges to cover our current budget.

We also use online pledging with the use of the Ministry One App. We have about 29 members who are now using this to pay their pledge. We also received various donations through the Ministry One App. In total we have had 48 people use it. If you are using the Ministry One App, please make sure to update your pledge amount to reflect your 2023 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 2023

Annual Meeting- 2022 St. Martin's Sunday School Report

St. Martin's Episcopal Church uses Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for our Christian education for children ages 2 ½ through 6th grade. We are working back to pre-pandemic normal starting with a single atrium for all ages. It feels great to be back together!

We began in September welcoming friends new and old. Our discussions started with fundamentals, like why the bible is important and what we know about its writers, and using our model altar to learn the names of the objects we see in the sanctuary. Lots of candles and lamps have been lit, and carefully snuffed, to remember Jesus saying he is the Light of the World. Advent kicked off with an in-person visit from St. Nicholas bearing the message of Christmas. The season then continued as a time of reflection on how hard waiting is and the wonder of the gift of baby Jesus.

Please remember that if your child has participated in Solemn Communion they can serve as an acolyte. Ask if you are interested. Acolytes do get the best seat in the house.

This good work is only possible through the care and support of our volunteers. They are surely earthly saints! Heartfelt thanks for many years of service to our children, to Judy Laidlaw and Kelly Slye. And many thanks to Nancy Muñiz and Christine Kellam for fellowship and for building a beautiful community with the children of St. Martin's.

Heather Agosto

Annual Meeting 2022- Adult Formation/Education at St Martin's Report

Rector's Forum:

The Rector's Forum meets in the Lady Chapel at 9:30 am (between the 8:15 and 10:30 services) most Sundays. Fall forums centered on the beliefs and practices of importance for Confirmation of Reception into the Episcopal Church. Later forums followed "Lectio Divina", 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. So grab a coffee and please join us.

Wellness Wednesdays:

On Wednesdays, we offered an opportunity to explore spirituality and to nurture holistic healing and wellness within community . Gatherings include:

The Rosary Group (first Wednesday), exploring the power of prayer through the practice of the Rosary; Beginning in Lent, the rosary group will meet in the home of Juanita Hawkins. We will meet on every Monday during Lent, and then on First Mondays thereafter.

Story Cafe (third Wednesdays), a time for coffee or tea and sweets with focused sharing of reflections on stories meant to strengthen faith and nurture relationships with one another;

Lenten Study:

This Lent we will be reading Thank God for Evolution by Michael Dowd. We will be meeting on Monday evenings at the home of Juanita Hawkins. Information about where to purchase the book will follow.

We will also be planning joint formation events with St. John's, Somerville in 2023.

Annual Meeting 2022 – St. Martin’s School Report

St. Martin’s School operates as a not-for-profit organization in the church facilities. The school is a subsidiary of St. Martin’s Episcopal Church and represents one of the Church’s most significant missions. Infants through kindergarten-aged children are enrolled in our classes. A combination of the Montessori method and the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd are used in guiding and teaching our young students.

Noteworthy accomplishments for the year include:

Montessori Accreditation Application and visit by the American Montessori Accreditation (AMS) Team, with the AMS Team recommending to the AMS National Accreditation Commission that St. Martin’s School receives accreditation. Notification of final recommendation expected by March 2023. Only 15% of Montessori schools in America are accredited by the AMS. Accreditation provides an important competitive advantage in attracting students.

Maintained enrollment of 72-77 students for the school year. As a result, the School realized a financial surplus in 2022.

Introduction of Music Program

Summer Camp Program

Language Enrichment Program

Field trips, UN Day, Soccer, Yoga, Gotta Dance, Fun Bus, Thanksgiving and Holiday Programs, End of Year Art Show and Graduation

Deb Mock, School Board President

St. Martin's Episcopal Church December 2022 Financial Report

Balance Sheet

For the year ending December 31,2022, St. Martin's ended with the following:

Total Assets: 1,788,818.45; this was down \$79,380.85 from last year due primarily to major building investments in the Church (2 furnaces) and additional improvements to the Rectory.

Total Liabilities: \$63,322.44; this is down \$10,282.07 from last year due primarily to reduction in our mortgage.

Total Equity: \$1,725,496.01

Total Liabilities and Equity: \$1,788,818.45

Profit and Loss

Income: \$218,000.20; this was down \$6,707.28 from last year

Total Expenses: \$264,075.11; this was down \$11,614.55 from last year.

Total Net Income: -\$46,074.91; and improvement of 4,907.27 from last year

Respectfully Submitted,

Juanita Hawkins