

**WORSHIP**

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## **Altar Guild Annual Report Year Ending 2023**

The Altar Guild is a very dedicated group of women and men who set up the church for weekly services. They also set up for weddings, funerals, baptisms, and special occasions.

This year we were able to enjoy communion from the priest and chalice bearers! While it isn't exactly like the "old days" it is close.

Memorial services were held in the church for, Elizabeth Haug & Honor Hebenstreit.

Thank you to everyone who donated purchase Easter and Christmas flowers, making our altar look especially beautiful.

The Altar Guild is a wonderful group of 14 parishioners: Sherrie Algren, Page Andersen, Becky McCoy Brewer, D'Arcy Elsperman, Mike Kelly, Paula Kelly, Angela Logan, Norine Meyer, Leslie Pattengill, Karen Peters, Gail Schneider, Beverly Weaver, and me. Also included is our dear emeritus member Ruth Minster! She has continued to offer her help, support, and knowledge, which is greatly appreciated, throughout the year.

And I would be amiss if I did not include Lincoln Drake, he is always there with a helping hand. As is Scott Pattengill, especially at Easter when he changes all the draping on what seems to be a daily basis.

The Altar Guild and I appreciate everything everyone does, when asked to help. Especially with the Greening of the Church! Thank You!

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Hankemeyer

## **Sunday School**

We continue to build our Sunday School attendance with new families. We meet during the Sunday service and re-join our families for communion.

Sunday School is divided into lessons, prayers, snack and craft. Denise Marsh joins us to teach songs and bells. The children make connections with other children in their church family while they learn about their church history and the love of God.

Our curriculum is based on the Virginia Seminary 3-year rotating on-line program. The first half of the year is devoted to stories of the Old Testament. The second half of the year is devoted to the New Testament and the history the church.

We sponsor Breakfast with St. Nick in December and Breakfast with the Bunny a week before Easter. The Men's Club provides the cooking. There is no charge for these events.

We welcome children, of all ages, to join us in all events.

## Music Ministry 2023

The St. Martin's Music Ministry continued to lead the congregation in joyful song, as well as contributing to the Children's Ministry.

In January: Olivia Limbaugh sang a solo on Epiphany Sunday and we had three fabulous kings. At the Annual mtg. on Jan 29, the Chapel Choir sang *This Little Light*, and St. Martin's choir sang *Amazing Grace* for the song's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



For Scout Sunday, the scouts provided a brass quartet & Grayson Marks played piano. On the Last Sunday of Epiphany our combined choirs sang *Somebody's Knockin'*. For Easter Sunday the Scouts brought their brass quartet again. The combined choirs sang *Alleluia! Christ is Risen!* with brass, bells and choir!



For Ascension Sunday St. Martin's choir sang one of our favorites: *Like a River in my soul*. On Pentecost a string quartet from Parkway Central High provided beautiful music.



During the summer, we had many musicians providing special music: Baritone ensemble, Tenor ensemble, Treble ensemble, soloists Olivia Limbaugh, Sarah Moll, Chelsea Brewer, and Beverly Kinkade, the River Blenders sweet adelines group. In September, the choirs returned with new choir members: Beckie Strobel and Candy Tierney. In October, we dedicated new choir folders in memory of our dearly loved former choir member, Lynn Lange.



On December 17<sup>th</sup>, we held our 11<sup>th</sup> Advent Lessons & Carols with the Hand Bell choir playing *Huron Carol* and St. Martin's Choir singing many new carols including a new Annunciation carol: *I will hold Him*.



During Advent & Christmas we sang several hymns written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. At the 5:00 Christmas Eve family service, Florence Raiche on piano & Abby Mayen on violin played instrumental solos for the first time and Olivia Limbaugh sang *O Holy Night*. At the 8:00 Christmas Eve service St. Martin's Hand Bell Choir played several lovely carols and the string quartet from Parkway Central High returned to accompany St. Martin's choir singing *How great our Joy*. We also had an organ/piano duet, *Silent Night at the manger*, by Denise Marsh & Cathy Smith.



The Music Ministry at St. Martin's Episcopal remains vital and strong and we continue to provide uplifting music to enhance our worship throughout the year.

*Denise Marsh, Music Director*

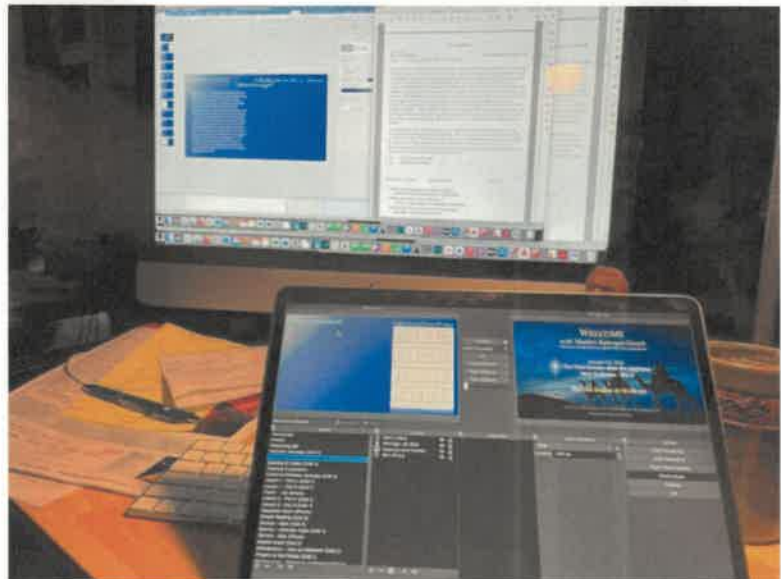
## BROADCAST MINISTRY REPORT

### 2024 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – ST. MARTIN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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The St. Martin’s Broadcast Ministry was formed on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 to spread the Holy Word to all parishioners while countering the spread of COVID-19 within our church community. Nearly four years have passed and the livestream broadcasts of regular Sunday and special services have improved dramatically in terms of quality, content, and stability. These events could not take place without the dedication of a small group of members of the St. Martin’s community who volunteer their time and talents each week to ensure that St. Martin’s congregants receive the best on-line worship service possible during a time when we are not able to fully worship in-person.

The team that forms the St. Martin’s Broadcast Crew currently consists of **Chris Marsh** (audio), **Jim Fischer** (lighting and cameras), **Becky McCoy-Brewer** (direction and broadcast), **Scott Scoopmire** (Webmaster and technical consultation), and **Bill Scoopmire** (production, broadcast, technical support, and backup camera operator). **Chelsea Brewer** also serves as our back-up audio technician and most recently, **Derek Barkey** joined the team to assist with camera operation.



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Each broadcast event entails an average of 11-1/2 volunteer hours consisting mostly of time spent on pre-production tasks (e.g., scheduling, creating social media announcements, building graphics and background overlays, making scenes for the broadcast encoder, setting up the audio system and balancing the audio levels, setting up the livestream cameras, and making the necessary connections so that each service is livestreamed on Facebook, YouTube, and the St. Martin’s website). In 2023, the Broadcast Crew produced a total of 57 livestreams consisting of Sunday morning services, separate services for Christmas and Holy Week, as well as funerals. In total, an estimated *655.5 hours of volunteer time and talent* were expended to give St. Martin’s members and our guests the best on-line worship service possible in 2023.

During 2024, the Parish will begin to see improvements to the broadcasts and changes to the livestream workstation. A grant of \$250 was requested from the Legacy Endowment Fund for the procurement of audio and Ethernet cables as well as a desk to replace the “temporary” card table that has been in use over the past four years. These purchases will allow for the movement of the livestream workstation to a permanent location near the East exit of our sanctuary. The Ethernet cable will permit post-encoded audio and video signals to be transmitted through the Internet without loss of signal strength that often occurs across WiFi. In addition, work is being done to optimize the output of our livestreams to provide a higher resolution across the Facebook platform. These enhancements will support our goal to reach 100% reliability so that our on-line parishioners can have full confidence in St. Martin’s livestreaming capability.

Respectfully submitted,

- Bill –

William Scoopmire

## THE PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is a ministry of prayer for all who request prayers. The Prayer Chain consists of men and women of St. Martin's who pray for the members of St Martin's, their families and friends. These faithful praying members of the Prayer Chain become open channels for God's healing grace to flow through them to those in need. We are grateful for all our faithful members.

There are three groups for this **confidential** prayer ministry: 1) the Urgent Prayer Chain, 2) the Cancer Prayer Chain, and 3) the Chronic Illness Prayer Chain.

The **Urgent Prayer Chain** exists for emergency prayer requests. Anytime there is an **urgent need for prayers**, the women and men of St. Martin's Prayer Chain **pray daily** for parishioners, relatives and friends. That urgent need may be illness, surgery, an accident, an emotional crisis, or any life-threatening situation. This list of prayer requests is constantly updated. Linda Huheey, [LAHuheey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:LAHuheey@sbcglobal.net), 636-532-9574, leads the Urgent Prayer Chain.

The **Cancer Prayer Chain** exists for parishioners, relatives and friends who are **living with cancer**. The members of this Prayer Chain faithfully **pray once a day** for those who are living with cancer. This prayer list does not change often since cancer needs are usually long-term. The "Pray-ers" receive an updated list of prayer requests four times a year or as new people are added or the situation changes. Daryl Norman, 636-394-3677, leads the Cancer Prayer Chain

The **Chronic Illness Prayer Chain** prays for parishioners or their immediate family who are living with chronic illness and/or chronic pain. These prayer chain members **pray once a week** for those who have a chronic illness. This list rarely changes, that being the nature of chronic diseases. Gail Schneider 314-914-2540, leads the Chronic Illness Prayer Chain.

Although the Prayer Chains never meet as a group, there is a sense of community as we pray for the members of St Martin's and their relatives and friends.

**All prayer requests are confidential.**

If you would like to become a member of any of these Prayer Chains contact Linda Huheey. To make a prayer request, contact the stated leader listed above.

### Sunday Prayers of the People List

The above confidential Prayer Chain ministry is separate from the Parish Prayer List, maintained by the office staff, which provides the names read in the Sunday Prayers of the People. This office curated list becomes part of the Eucharistic Prayers of the People. Names remain on the POP Prayer List for 30 days unless the need subsides first. Renewal for another 30 days may be requested.

To be added to this Sunday Prayers of the People list, submit the name of the person to the church office. Emailing the request makes it easier to get spellings correct: [stmartin@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:stmartin@stmartinschurch.org), or call 636-227-1484.