

Rector's Report- May 21- June 16, 2021

Worship Online and In Person

In person/views		
May 23	38/109	Pentecost--hybrid in person and online
May 30	6/210	Trinity Sunday – online only
June 6	6/212	Fr. Al Jewson supplying- online only
June 13	1/180	From Sewanee- online only

Other worship/offices:

Gina and Loretta covering Compline while I am away— thank you!

DAILY OFFICE (Compline)

My internet capabilities make updating the views for each compline service, but usually 2-4 worship live, and then another 30-60 people watch later. But here's what I have:

	Views	Celebrant
June 16	3 & counting	LG
June 12	35	GS
June 9	89	LG
June 5	39	GS
June 2	75	LS
May 29	61	GS
May 27	33	LS
May 22	143	LG

Worship:

Regathering Committee is working virtually to adapt the latest diocesan guidelines released June 1 for St. Martin's and submit our plan. The practicalities are a bit more involved this time around, but Chris Marsh is our go-to for figuring out how to maximize our space.

New diocesan guidelines for regathering issued June 1- still require masks for worship or gatherings indoors unless every single person is vaccinated.

Becky McCoy Brewer is being trained in our broadcasting technology so that Bill can eventually have a Sunday off. We would certainly like to see others avail themselves of training in either sound, cameras or production to make this a shared new ministry at St. Martin's. We know that the effort is worth it—we have regular visitors from all over the country; our homebound parishioners now get to worship with us; and we have even had new families join in a time of COVID, which is kind of miraculous.

With the new guidelines, we really need enough ushers for both contract tracing AND to seat people properly with the evolving guidelines, as well as to help dismiss people for communion. Tom Allen has been so generous in helping organize the ushers. I would appreciate the vestry's help in rounding up some more ushers as we look toward the program year and having more services be in person with higher capacities.

Administrative/ Programming:

Communications: Debra Matthews has been trained and is doing the Beacons while I am away with me doing some tweaking. God bless you, Debbie!

I am posting bulletins and the online Beacon on the website on the front page under updates. When I go on vacation time, someone will need to do that.

Summer plans: I started my time away from St. Martin's will be from June 5- July 7 (taking into account the July 4 holiday). Two of those weeks will be covered by my Continuing Education time allotted, and I am contributing 1 week of my vacation for that third week at Sewanee. I will then take off one more week of vacation for some much desired down time.

Reminder of the coverage for Sunday worship while I am away:

June 6- The Rev. Al Jewson (online only)

June 13- I will broadcast from Sewanee's Chapel of the Apostles

June 20- The Rev. Al Jewson (online only)

June 27- The Rev. Al Jewson (in person and online)

July 4- The Rev. Brooke Myers (online only)

Thank you to the vestry for approving the LOA for the Rev. Shug Goodlow to be our part-time (half time) assistant. She will be ordained at St. Martin's on July 24 and celebrate her first Eucharist here the next day. Planning for her ordination will take place next week while I am at Sewanee. **She will start on Wednesday, August 25.**

Formation:

On hiatus while I am away.

Pastoral Care:

Planning for two funerals in July, and visited our parishioner in hospice before I left.

We've had two children who have had surgeries in the past month, and both are recovering nicely.

Thank you to everyone who participated in Flags for Elliott! He is in rehab and progressing very well. I have stayed in contact with his mom via Facebook Messenger even while away.

Self-Care:

I am greatly enjoying my time at Sewanee. The course work is very challenging (lots of reading crammed into each day), but fascinating and stimulating.

I do have practically NO cell phone service on the Mountain, and have had to drive down to the nearest town with a cell tower to speak to parishioners and families planning funerals.

Texting works okay 90% of the time. When I start using my vacation time for my last week of Sewanee and then my vacation time, that won't be an issue. But until then, please email or text if there is a need. I was shocked, too.

Diocesan:

St. Martin's will have a ZOOM Town hall with Bishop Deon Next Monday, June 21 at 7 pm. Zoom link is in the Beacon. I hope Vestry makes a special effort to encourage participation and to attend themselves. I am sure it will be very informative.

Standing Committee continues meeting via ZOOM.

Evangelism/Communications:

See above.

Building and Grounds:

Some of our groups (AA, RiverBlenders) are asking how to return to using our spaces. The Regathering Committee and I are working with them. The AA group frankly does not want to come back here until they do not have to wear masks--- yet that violates our latest

guidelines. And since their meeting require a certain amount of anonymity, there is no way to do contact tracing either. I think they may decide not to come back until the mask restriction is lifted by the diocese and I have no idea when that might be.

Appreciation:

Thank you to the Regathering Committee and friends for their incredible flexibility as we all scatter for June.

Thank you to Chris Marsh for trying to figure out how to transform distancing AND clustering as allowed in the latest diocesan guidelines for St. Martin's worship space.

Thank you to the staff—Janet Theiss, Denise Marsh, Page Andersen, and now Debbie Matthews-- for keeping things humming while I am away. I really appreciate your dedication and creativity!

Thank you to Denise Marsh for the especially lovely music chosen with a Sewanee connection for the June 13 broadcast. It was incredible.

Thank you also to Denise for the awesome Pentecost ribbons and pole she made for Pentecost Sunday—It made many people's day!

Thank you to Bill Scoopmire for taking all the pieces I sent and weaving them together into a beautiful liturgy on June 13. I can only send small files on the internet here, so the worship was broken into small pieces, and he made it seem seamless with many hours' work.

I am very appreciative to the vestry for helping me to take this time at Sewanee, and avail myself of this opportunity to learn and challenge myself. Thank you all.

Thank you to Becky McCoy Brewer for learning about our broadcast production. Hopefully it's going well, and I know Bill is looking forward to a well-deserved break once she is up to speed.