

“...Even though we do not see that full sun rising, we work with the promise of God knowing that morning always comes. That is the way that all saints and revolutionaries must work – with the assuring promise of God that morning always comes, with or without us. And that is why we work in faith, not seeing the promise of God, but believing in God that if I plant my life, if I plant a seed in your soil, something is going to happen. God is going to see that it happens, because morning always comes after the night. And it tells me something about God. Just as that sun never fails, God never fails. Morning always comes.”

- **Katie G. Cannon**
from Citizen by Bishop C. Andrew Doyle (Rector’s Book Choice for Discussion- 10/25)

Vestry News and Review
October 12 and 24, 2020 (Regular and Special Meetings)

This month we met twice to keep St. Martin’s affairs solidly grounded. We always begin with a meditation and prayer to stay focused on God’s hand in guiding us through the important issues facing our church. Here is a short summary of how we have worked to be well-informed and make decisions.

Much of our work was financial. We agreed to fund the following:

- Completion of the children’s playground project
- Pruning seven of the highest priority redwood trees for safety and health
- Cost of facilitator to work with Social Justice & Outreach and Vestry

We endorsed the decision not to adopt an apartment at this time for Interfaith Rotating Winter Shelter (IRWS) but stand ready to provide other kinds of assistance.

Other agenda actions included:

- Approved the formation of a committee to recommend recipients of special plates at Christmas and Easter following a new process proposed by SJ&O.
- Accepted with gratitude SJ&O’s draft Guidelines for Awarding Grants 2021.
- Reviewed revisions to a document describing the charges and composition of Vestry committees; the work is ongoing.
- Affirmed the existing Statement of Commitment and Action, recognizing that any changes needed a robust and inclusive process.
- Discussed plans for pastoral availability and prayer on Election Day, and other precautionary actions.

The Nominating Committee has begun calling for nominations for Vestry and Delegates ; please consult the Sunday announcements for details. Helpful links concerning Vestry roles and responsibilities are on the Episcopal Foundation website. We hope to have a diverse, balanced, and broad representation.

The Regathering Task Force followed extremely detailed plans for safety and the events on October 10 and 24 were very successful with 15-20 present at each.

Ann Liu, Vestry Member