



THE  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
OF **ST. MARTIN**

---

ANNUAL REPORT

Sunday, February 5, 2023

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# AGENDA

## St. Martin's Episcopal Church February 5, 2023

1. Call to Order: The Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan,  
Rector

Appointment of Secretary and Parliamentarian

Recitation of Voting Canons by the Parliamentarian

2. Explanation of Voting and Presentation of Slate  
Co-Senior Wardens Kimo Kimokeo and Neil Willits

3. Approval of the 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

4. Presentation on the Parish Finances

Financial Results for 2022

Julie Knudsen, Outgoing Treasurer

Presentation of the 2023 Budget

Neil Willits, Co-Senior Warden

5. Voting

Vestry Slate

Delegates Slate

6. The Rector's Address to the Congregation

7. Closing Prayer and Blessing

8. Recessional: Hymn 390

9. Dismissal, The Ven. Margaret Grayden

# MINUTES OF THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

January 30, 2022

## **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00am by Rector Pamela Dolan. There were 67 participants in the virtual meeting, some of which were devices with more than one person present.

Neil Willits was appointed Parliamentarian, and Sarah Conning Secretary.

The Voting Canons were recited by the Parliamentarian.

## **2. Explanation of Online Voting / Test run**

Participants were invited to take a test vote to learn the system.

## **3. Approval of Virtual Annual Meeting Rules for 2022 meeting: Bob Polkinghorn, outgoing Senior Warden**

A motion (Leigh) to approve the rules for virtual annual meeting as outlined in the Annual Meeting packet was seconded (Forbes) and passed via online vote.

## **4. Approval of the 2021 Minutes**

A motion (Forbes) to approve the minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting was seconded (Leigh) and passed via online vote.

## **5. Presentation of Slates for Vestry and Convention Delegates: Bob Polkinghorn, Co-Senior Warden**

The slate of candidates for Vestry service was presented:

For three-year terms, Diane Bamforth, Colette Chabbott, Ben Guthrie, Neil Willits

For one-year terms, Beth Capell and Maria Acuna Feldman

The slate of candidates for Convention Delegate was presented:

Maria Acuna Feldman, Helen Campbell, Carole Hom, Elise Keddie, Janet Lane, Lynn Zender

## **6. Election Results**

The Vestry slate was elected via online vote: of 63 Zoom participants there were 54 yeses with 1 voter present and 6 yeses with 2 voters present, 0 nos

The Convention Delegate slate was elected via online vote: of 66 Zoom participants there were 56 yeses with 1 voter present, 6 with 2 voters present, 0 nos

## **7. Presentation: Julie Knudsen, Treasurer; Stan Forbes, chair of Budget and Finance Committee; Jessie Ann Owens, chair of Investments Committee.**

Julie reported on the 2021 financial report, noting that pledge income came in over budget. She reviewed pledge income over the past six years, showing stable pledge income. Operating costs for 2021 were below the previous five years. Staff costs were lower due to some staff vacancies during the year, which will not be anticipated in 2022. The reason for an operating surplus in 2021 is primarily lower costs, but also strong pledge income. She noted that there is a healthy operating fund, with an operating surplus of \$106,000 for

2021. The budget envisions using half of that reserve in 2022. Julie's rule of thumb is to have on hand \$100,000 of operating reserve at the start of the year primarily for cash flow.

Stan provided an overview of the 2022 budget. He reported that \$56,000 of undesignated reserve is used in this budget, noting that we should use money we have. The reserve will be used to fill staff positions, provide the recommended cost of living adjustment, and fund capital replacements. The budget reflects some staff changes, including office administration and technology. He added that revenue has been remarkably strong, which made for an easier and encouraging budget process.

Jessie Ann Owens reported as Junior Warden and chair of the Investments Committee. She noted that the outreach line of the budget is calculated as 5% of pledge and plate. The five-year average annual cost of facilities is \$17,000. Also needed to maintain the campus are capital improvements. We anticipate a need for \$33,000 per year for the next 30 years to fund capital replacements. The 2022 budget fully funds this budget line. It is expected that inflation will be matched by investment returns.

Jessie Ann thanked Julie Knudsen and Carolyn Chamberlain for their work together on the Investments Committee. The committee reviewed the performance and cost of the five existing funds with the Diocese, with an independent assessment. They found that the funds are managed well, but clunky. The Vestry created two new funds with the Diocese, one for columbarium reserves (for major capital changes to the columbarium) and one for Long-Term Capital Reserves. These two new funds are invested in an ESG Fund. The Vestry also approved a cash management plan to allow easier access to the funds. Vestry selected Soesbe Financial in Sacramento for two funds that require easier access than the Diocesan funds allow. It is now anticipated that the work of the Investment Committee is complete and that a member of the Budget and Finance Committee, together with Director of Church Operations, can manage it going forward.

Appreciation was noted for the work of Buildings & Grounds Committee.

### **8. Invite, Welcome, Connect Presentation**

Maria Acuna Feldman shared information about the Invite-Welcome-Connect (IWC) framework. The framework involves the parish as a whole, not just clergy or members of a particular committee. It is a calling for all members. In 2020 the Vestry and Ministry Council agreed we should adopt the IWC framework, and a group has completed the basic training. We have learned that IWC challenges laypeople and clergy to change how we think about how we build our community. Maria extended an invitation today to all members to consider how we can modify our community culture. A way to create space to do God's work. She suggested that we ask, why do people show up at St. Martin's? How do we open ourselves more to welcome people into the community? Re-energize the welcoming program at church.

Invite: developing our courage to invite people to our church

Welcome: creating strategies to welcome people, as well as strengthening our connection with existing parishioners

Connect: encouraging a strong sense of belonging

Rev. Casey led an audience participation activity to generate ideas around invite, welcome, connect. Ideas were shared in the large group.

### **9. Presentation by the Rector**

Pamela thanked out-going members of the Vestry: Clerk Sarah Conning, Lisa Leigh, Stan Forbes, Jessie Ann Owens, and Bob Polkinghorn. She announced the appointment of Co-Senior Wardens for 2022: Kimo Kimokeo and Neil Willits.

### **10. Closing Prayer and Blessing**

Following the closing prayer, the meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah Conning, clerk.

# SERMON FROM THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

## **If It's Not About Love**

**A Sermon for Annual Meeting on January 30, 2022**

**by the Rev. Dr. Pamela Dolan**

**Text: 1 Corinthians 13:1-13**

Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, is known for the saying, "If it's not about love, it's not about God." Now if his detractors on the interwebs are right, this is a terrible "dumbing down" of our hallowed Episcopal tradition. We Episcopalians are the smart and sophisticated ones, the rigorous ones, the ones who don't have to leave our brains at the door, and so on. Our religious faith is much too complex and nuanced to be summed up in a single, simple phrase!

I wonder if Paul got the same kind of pushback from the people of Corinth when he exhorted them with an equally simple dictum: "And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

It's probably human nature to resist the simplicity at the heart of our faith. But let's be clear that just because something is simple doesn't mean it's easy. "Love one another as I have loved you:" what could be simpler? And yet, how many of us can truly say that we live up to the example of Jesus when it comes to loving our fellow human beings unconditionally and without limit? I know I'm not there yet, much as I'd like to be.

Perhaps it will help to remember that when Paul is talking about love he is talking to a community, not an individual. It is the *church* of Corinth, not the mayor of Corinth, or the Senior Warden of Corinth, or even the average citizen of Corinth to whom he addresses this letter. It is the *church*, the gathered community of believers, who are being urged to love extravagantly and without ceasing. We need to hear Paul's words this morning about faith, hope, and love as a message to us, the church of St. Martin in Davis, California. Yes, each one of us individually has a role to play and our own unique gifts that we bring to that role. But it is only as a gathered community, as the body of Christ together, that we have any chance of living up to the example of Jesus, of walking the way of love as faithfully and wholeheartedly as he walked it. This isn't a bug—it's a feature. We're truly not designed to do any of this faith, hope, and love business on our own.

Furthermore, and this is what I really want to focus on today, when Jesus or Paul, or even Bishop Curry, talks about love, they are not talking about a feeling. They are talking about actions, behaviors, about the way we treat one another and the sacrifices we make for the sake of the world. Christian love is more like a verb than a noun, and a strong, active verb at that. Listen to the way Eugene Peterson paraphrases one of the more famous portions of First Corinthians 13:

"Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't keep score of the sins of others.

Love never looks back; it keeps going to the end."

Now imagine Paul's words were offered directly to us as guidance and inspiration for the year of our Lord 2022: "Trust steadfastly in God, people of St. Martin's. Hope unwaveringly. Love extravagantly. Focus on love above all else and you can't go wrong. You've got this."

Faith, hope, and love. These were the three words we chose to guide our fall stewardship campaign and I have to say we chose well! I don't think it's overly aspirational to say that we are a church that is rooted in faith, growing in hope, and reaching out in love. Now let's look at that a little more closely as we close out 2021 and look ahead into the future that God desires for us.

First, rooted in faith. Being rooted in faith means that we choose to trust in God first and last. Faith is where we start, it is the basis of what we do, and it is what nourishes and sustains us. It's funny that the word *faith* doesn't have an exact verb form, the way hope and love do. "Trust," especially when used as a verb, is a much better synonym for faith than "belief," for instance. Bishop Steven Charleston has said that "Trust is the fulcrum of faith." Trusting in God and in one another means that we have to let go of some of our control needs, of our confidence in and reliance on our own efforts. The more we are rooted in faith, the more we can step back and find healthy patterns of rest and renewal, because we trust that God is in control, not us. Bishop Charleston thinks of trust as a process, and writes, "We create faith each time we step out on the ice of God's word."

That image helps us to see that this trust stuff is not easy. It doesn't always come naturally. And yet, happily, we have the disciplines of worship, prayer, and formation available to us. These are the best practices for building up faith, practices that have been proven over centuries of use. A healthy, faithful church is a community where we all pray and engage with Scripture regularly and deeply, and not just when we worship together on Sundays. This is my deep heart's desire for St. Martin's in 2022: more prayer, more study, and more joyful worship, as well as more times of play and rest, whether we are in the building, in our homes, or in the church without walls that can be anywhere we find ourselves in creation's loving embrace.

Second, we are growing in hope. Growing in hope means that we choose to believe in the good, and to believe that through us God can make a difference. Hope gives us the courage to keep going, even when the way forward is not obvious or easy. When we have our roots deeply embedded in faith, then hope will come alongside and help us find that next right step to take. Hope is planting that seed into the deep, dark earth, trusting that God will provide for it. Yesterday at the Forbes Ranch in Esparto we planted a Valley Oak seedling no more than six inches tall. We chose the location carefully and prayed over it before we planted it. What we did not do was worry about how long it will take to grow to maturity, or who will sit under its shade if and when it does. We will do our part, we will continue to care for it, but we will not fret over things outside of our control.

When we engage in hope, we are not indulging in fantasy or wishful thinking. We are aligning ourselves with the prophets, and with joyful warriors like Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nobel Prize winner Wangari Maathai. Every time we try to make the world a better place, whether it's through giving out Matthew 25 grants or receiving an Episcopal Community Services grant, whether it's planting a tree at the Ranch or giving a prayer shawl to a person in need, we are adding to the amount of hope in the world. To behave as if we have hope, regardless of how we are feeling, is to resist the forces of oppression, injustice, and despair. In 2022, let's act on our hope, making it stronger by taking risks and looking forward to the future God has in store for us, not back to the way things used to be.

And finally, there is love. Reaching out in love means we are always moving beyond ourselves. Love is not love if we keep it focused inward; the more we give it away, the more it will enrich and enliven us. Love is revolutionary; it turns the world order on its head.



Love is patient: we wear our masks, get vaccinated, and keep testing and engaging in best practices around COVID no matter how long it takes, and no matter how tired we are of the whole darn thing, because we love one another.

Love is kind; we are reimagining our Caring Ministries programs because we know that we need to find fresh and creative ways to connect and reconnect to one another in this time—that is what love does.

Love is not envious; we know that there is room for the new *and* for the old, for established ministries and novel endeavors—there is no need for rationing or excluding when it comes to love.

Love rejoices in the truth; we commit to talking about hard things, to being accountable to one another and the larger whole, because love is strong and enduring enough to handle this.

When our faith flags or grows weary, we return to love. When our hope is brittle and battered, we return to love. When we are not sure how to love, then we return to one another, to creation, and to the example of Jesus. Whatever this coming year holds for us, we won't go wrong if we return to love over and over again. Because, my friends, if it's not about love, it's not about God. Amen.

# VESTRY NOMINEES

Below is a list of the vestry nominees, followed by their biographical statements.

**Anthony Amato**

**Beth Capell**

**Susan Stone**

**Tom Young**

## **Anthony Amato**

I was born in 1995 in Los Angeles, California. In 2006, my family and I moved to Woodland in order to get away from all the noise and traffic of the big city for a simpler life. My journey as an Episcopalian began at the start of the COVID pandemic. Having been born and raised as a Roman Catholic, I had grown dissatisfied with the Church's reluctance to engage the world around it with the same love, tolerance and compassion we are called by Jesus to use. This was especially upsetting as I felt strongly that I was being called to the priesthood. When COVID struck and we were forbidden from meeting in person, I took the opportunity to research other churches, especially those that still held to the Holy Sacraments. When I learned about the Episcopal Church, I fell in love with its history and have been going first to St. Luke's in Woodland, and then to St. Martin's ever since! As someone who is now on the path of ordination discernment, I cannot express just how honored I am to be nominated as a candidate to St. Martin's Vestry. I am so very eager to receive first-hand experience into the governance of our church and hope to meet many new people along the way! I graduated from University of the Pacific, Stockton in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and Psychology.

## **Beth Capell**

I was a cradle Episcopalian, attending All Saints Riverside, California, for eighteen years. Both my parents were on the vestry and my mother was the first woman to serve as senior warden in the Los Angeles Diocese (in 1968). I left the church for about 40 years: it was the Sixties. I returned to the church by coming to St. Martin's a dozen years ago, through a moment of grace with a fellow parishioner who I knew from work. I found in St. Martin's a place of kindness and fellowship. Church-going fills a hole in my soul. Since I came to St. Martin's, I have tried to be a faithful parishioner but because of work and caregiving, until last year, I had not stepped forward to do more. I filled a one-year term on the vestry in 2022 and am seeking to serve for the next three years if the congregation wishes me to.

## **Susan Stone**

I grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan and had no sisters and four brothers, including a twin. After college, I taught school in Boston for a few years and then moved to Jacksonville, FL where I worked as a high school guidance counselor. I was confirmed at St John's Cathedral and became quite involved, serving on Vestry, three search committees and five Cursillo Teams. After retiring and moving around, I served on two additional Vestries. I moved to Davis to be closer to my twin brother and his family. I had planned to get involved in St. Martin's, but COVID stopped me from doing anything. I am ready to jump in feet first and hope I can make a contribution to this congregation.

**Tom Young**

My family and I have attended St. Martin's since around 2012, and it has been an important place for us to grow in faith. My daughter, Elizabeth, served on the vestry while in high school, but so far my own service to the church community has been very limited. With the last of our three children having headed off to college this past fall, I feel that I now have the room to contribute by serving on the vestry. Important goals of my service would be to find ways to restore some of the vibrancy in our worship that suffered during the depths of the pandemic and to find ways to invite and welcome new families into our community, since the children's programs were so important to my own kids when they were growing up.

# CONVENTION DELEGATE NOMINEES

Below is a list of the convention delegate nominees, followed by their biographical statements.

**Maria Acuna-Feldman**  
**Anthony Amato**  
**Francis David**  
**Stan Forbes**  
**Carole Hom**  
**Joan Jordan**  
**Janet Lane**  
**Lynn Zender (nominee for Alternate)**

## **Maria Acuna-Feldman**

I ask for your support in representing St. Martin's at the 2023 Diocesan Convention. I've previously served as a convention delegate and gained a deeper understanding of our Diocese and the wider Episcopal Church. It'd be an honor to represent St. Martin's and our ministries once again. I have served on the Ministry Council and on Vestry (as Senior Warden and Junior Warden). I serve as a Eucharistic Minister and Eucharistic Visitor, on Altar Guild, and this year will be chair of the Hospitality Committee. At the Diocesan level, I am a member of the Episcopal Community Services Board and participate on Regional Discernment Teams. Thank you.

## **Anthony Amato**

I was born in 1995 in Los Angeles, California. In 2006, my family and I moved to Woodland in order to get away from all the noise and traffic of the big city for a simpler life. My journey as an Episcopalian began at the start of the COVID pandemic. Having been born and raised as a Roman Catholic, I had grown dissatisfied with the Church's reluctance to engage the world around it with the same love, tolerance and compassion we are called by Jesus to use. This was especially upsetting as I felt strongly that I was being called to the priesthood. When COVID struck and we were forbidden from meeting in person, I took the opportunity to research other churches, especially those that still held to the Holy Sacraments. When I learned about the Episcopal Church, I fell in love with its history and have been going first to St. Luke's in Woodland, and then to St. Martin's ever since! As someone who is now on the path of ordination discernment, I cannot express just how honored I am to be nominated as a delegate to the upcoming diocesan convention for St. Martin's. I am so very eager to receive first-hand experience into the governance of our diocese and hope to meet many new people along the way! I graduated from University of the Pacific, Stockton in 2018 with a bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and Psychology.

## **Francis David**

My name is Francis David, and it is with hope and humility that I present myself for your consideration to be a Diocesan Convention nominee in 2023. I'm a life-long Christian and work as a mental health therapist and part-time college professor, having spent most my adult life working and studying in and around UC Davis. It is a spiritual Epiphany in my early 30's that ignited my exploration of the Episcopal Church, and it was an abundance of

warmth, kindness and the resounding whisper of God's Grace that has since made St. Martin's my spiritual home. I was married here, baptized my children here, and have found great joy in finding small ways to give back to this rich community that has so blessed me and my family. Last year, I had the privilege of representing St. Martin's at the Diocesan convention, and it is my hope that you will grant me the honor of once again representing you all at the convention in 2023. It is my belief that our church has an important role to play in a cultural landscape thirsty for faith, tradition and the love of Christ. I love St. Martin's and I truly believe it is a shining example of the best the Episcopal Church has to offer in many ways. Please receive this petition as a sign of my belief in our community and my commitment to representing you with faith, courage and joy.

### **Stan Forbes**

Stan Forbes is the owner of the Avid Reader at the Tower bookstore in Sacramento. Also an almond farmer, Stan has been a member of St. Martin's since 1979 and has served as Sr. Warden, Vestry member, and Budget & Finance Committee member. He participated in Education for Ministry (EFM) in 2008. In the local community, Stan has previously served as a Davis City Council member, a Davis School Board member, and Chairperson of California Citizens Redistricting Commission.

### **Carole Hom**

A job at the local university brought me to Davis in 1986. I have been a member of St. Martin's since around 1989 when my dear spouse dragged me, kicking and screaming, into the Episcopal Church. Eventually, I grew to love the liturgy. My long-time service on the Worship Committee demonstrates that God, indeed, has a sly sense of humor. I've also had leadership roles on St. Martin's Vestry (including as Senior Warden), Ministry Council, and Belfry Campus Ministry Council, and in two of our Rector calling processes. I currently chair the Flower Guild and Acolytes, sing in the choir, and co-facilitate a Sacred Ground Circle with Rev. Ernie. I've previously served as a delegate to our Diocesan Convention and would be honored to do so again.

### **Joan Jordan**

I am honored to be asked to be a delegate to the Diocese of Northern California convention. For the past twenty-two years, I have lived in the Diocese of Northern California, a founding member of Shepherd by the Sea Episcopal Lutheran Mission on the Mendanoma Coast in Gualala. I served as a delegate for many of those years to diocesan convention as well as serving on the Total Ministry Committee. My husband Jim and I moved to Davis in late October and renewed our friendships with many St. Martin's members we met at previous conventions. Before moving to the Mendanoma Coast, we lived in the Diocese of El Camino Real where I served as convention delegate representing St. Jude's Episcopal Church in Cupertino as well as serving on the diocesan Lay Ministry Commission.

### **Janet Lane**

I was raised at St. Cross Episcopal Church in Hermosa Beach, CA but my faith journey took several twists and turns before I came to St. Martin's. It is here that I've learned to feel God's love and presence in all aspects of my life and to strive to live out my faith in my everyday life. My spouse, Bob, and I got married at St. Martin's in 2007. We live in east Davis with our 5 cats. I am active in a number of St. Martin's ministries, including Worship,

Buildings and Grounds, Families Together, DCMH and, as you know, I work part-time in the office. I have served on vestry twice (and have been Sr. Warden too). I am winding down my career as an English as a Second Language writing and speaking skills specialist at UC Davis. I would be honored to serve as a Convention delegate and to represent St. Martin's with the rest of the delegation.

**Lynn Zender (nominee for Alternate)**

I have been a member of St. Martin's since the 1980s. I have been active both at the diocesan and local levels, serving at St. Martin's on a couple of Vestries, as Sr Warden twice, on SJO and on Caring Ministries Commissions. I am now on our Ministry Council. At the diocesan level I currently serve as co-chair of the Commission for Intercultural Ministries. I live in Davis with my husband and have two children and three grandchildren.

# REPORTS

## Budget Report 2023

Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2022

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1072 Bill.com Money Out Clearing	-67.48
110 Checking	211,283.03
120 Discretionary Checking	12,788.79
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$224,004.34</b>
Other Current Assets	
131 Soesbe	198,872.24
141 Prepaid expenses & other current assets	0.00
145 Rental income receivable	
145.1 Rent due - Sycamore Apts	0.00
145.2 Rent due - Medical Offices	0.00
145.3 Rent due - DPR	0.00
<b>Total 145 Rental income receivable</b>	<b>0.00</b>
9001 Uncategorized Asset	0.00
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>\$198,872.24</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$422,876.58</b>
Fixed Assets	
151 Fixed assets -Hawthorn Lane	2,440,914.04
152 Loan to rector	108,000.00
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$2,548,914.04</b>
Other Assets	
160 Investments at Diocese	
161 Belfry Campus Endow (DIO 439)	57,460.88
162 General Endowment (DIO 441)	240,707.51
164 Linda Frost Endowment (DIO 438)	245,719.92
165 Investments incl Homann (DIO 440)	56,150.44
166 Columbarium designated (DIO 662)	35,032.34
167 Long-term Capital Reserve (DIO 661)	15,736.60
<b>Total 160 Investments at Diocese</b>	<b>650,807.69</b>
Investments at Diocese (deleting)	
Belfry Campus Endow (DIO 439) (deleting)	0.00
<b>Total Investments at Diocese (deleting)</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$650,807.69</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$3,622,598.31</b>

Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2022

	TOTAL
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
210 Accounts Payable	31,474.18
<b>Total Accounts Payable</b>	<b>\$31,474.18</b>
Other Current Liabilities	
212 Retirement Payable	195.36
213 Solar Electricity Accrual	0.00
214 Payroll taxes payable	0.00
215 Employee healthcare withholding	0.00
220 Deferred income - contributions	27,525.00
<b>Total Other Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$27,720.36</b>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$59,194.54</b>
Long-Term Liabilities	
250 Notes Payable	0.00
<b>Total Long-Term Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$59,194.54</b>
Equity	
301 Operating reserve balance 1/1/16	0.00
310 Subsequent surpluses/deficits - operating reserve	247,138.04
315 Unrestricted designated reserves	
319 Paid-In Capital or Surplus	0.00
321 Capital LT Replacement Fund	43,846.00
322 Columbarium maintenance fund	38,876.75
323 Capital Reserve - Medium term	35,285.96
324 Craft fair proceeds	0.00
327 Discretionary Checking funds	12,788.79
329 Memorials	10,913.44
330 Recycling/Coffee Service	1,679.24
331 Rector Home Loan fund	109,515.78
332 Reimbursed expenses	-624.00
333 Computer upgrade reserve	4,160.20
334 Reserve - operating fund earnings	-17,771.80
335 Reserve - Sabbatical	14,000.00
336 Reserve - Theological education	0.00
<b>Total 315 Unrestricted designated reserves</b>	<b>252,670.36</b>
401 Altar Guild restricted net assets	0.00
402 Capital projects restricted net assets	0.00
403 Children's Choir restricted net assets	228.66
407 Flower Guild restricted net assets	6,399.90



Statement of Financial Position  
As of December 31, 2022

	TOTAL
408 Homann Music Fund restricted net assets	48,305.62
409 New ministry & other restricted net assets	17,000.00
410 Music restricted net assets	18,765.95
411 Needlepoint Kneelers restricted net assets	4,000.00
413 Outreach - Other restricted net assets	1,787.83
414 Outreach - Thanksgiving Bskts restricted net assets	57.93
416 Youth Service Projects restricted net assets	4,981.08
417 Youth Fundraisers	2,345.00
425 Families Together Project	<b>18,126.71</b>
430.001 Restricted for rector search expenses	2,000.00
480 Dave Rhodes Memorial Fund	6,795.00
481 Belfry Campus Endowment restricted net assets	57,460.88
482 General Endowment restricted net assets	<b>219,858.28</b>
483 Linda Frost Endowment restricted net assets	<b>249,481.39</b>
485 Donations for others	0.00
490 Equity in fixed assets	2,440,914.04
Capital projects restricted net assets (deleting)	0.00
Net Revenue	-34,912.90
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$3,563,403.77</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$3,622,598.31</b>

Church of St. Martin, 2023 Budget	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Requests	2023 Proposed
revenue				
pledge	466000	435194	451,250	451,250
plate	15000	20172	15,000	15,000
facility use	17600	24238	21,000	21,000
investments	17400	17400	17,400	17,400
restricted transfers	17000	17000	22,000	22,000
grant income		5450		
deficit (transfer from operating reserves)	56524	34913	137568	57,921
expenses				
all staff	323334	289365	382296	313695
810 Altar Guild	1500	789	1500	1500
811 Flower Guild *	1000	2229	1000	1000
813 Music - Performances *	2000	1075	2000	2000
814 Music - Supplies *	3000	1754	2000	2000
Instrument repair and maintenance	0	2216	1000	1000
815 Other Worship	1000	1162	1000	1000
816 Children's worship	300	63	908	908
830 Care for God's Creation	500	2589	500	500
831 Matthew 25 Grants	24050	24000	23313	23313
832 Belfry Campus Ministry	1500	0	1500	1500
840 Caring ministries	400	630	650	650
841 Evangelism - Advertising	500	1154	500	500
842 Hospitality Coffee & Beverage Service	3500	210	3500	3500
843 Hospitality Receptions	500	1920	500	500
850 Adult Education	1500	253	1450	1450
851 Church School	600	118	871	871
852 Nursery	0	0	500	500

Church of St. Martin, 2023 Budget	2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Requests	2023 Proposed
854 Tygmos	500	75	420	420
856 Computers & Computer Network	9000	7940	9000	5000
857 Diocese Apportionment	85000	71251	85563	79517
858 Property/Liability Insurance	15750	15411	16898	16898
859 Office Administration	2400	8,452	2400	2400
860 Professional Services - Diocesan audit	400	0	400	400
861 Stewardship	1000	941	1000	1000
862 Taxes, Licenses & Permits	850	194	850	850
864 All utilities	15000	15887	17200	17200
865 Vestry Administration	1200	327	1200	1200
910 Janitorial and lawn service	20000	25220	25200	25200
915 Maintenance and repair	25000	26169	25000	25000
Landscape: outdoor classroom space				2000
920 Capital replacement	33000	33000	33000	30000
925 Equipment leases	11000	11641	9100	9100
Accounting		8665	12000	12000
total expenses	585284	554700	664218	584571
total revenue	589524	554367	664218	584571

Notes: the 2023 budget requests included a 100% time Assistant Rector position, which was not in line with our available funding. This was initially reduced to 100% time but covering only 7 months, and was reduce further to provide for sabbatical coverage.

There are some items that aren't included in this summary, such as the special plates (Easter and Xmas), which have matching amounts on the revenue and expense sides.

The amounts listed under "deficit" are budgeted amounts, and they represent "worst case scenarios" for costs elsewhere in the budget. As we have seen in recent years, actual deficit amounts are often less than budgeted amounts, and that's likely to happen this year as well.

Still, it's bad fiscal practice to budget deficits year after year, and conversations will be needed about how to avoid this in the future.

**The 2023 budget, some thoughts:**

In recent years, we have had a series of very tight budgets. On some level, this is a *good* thing, since it means we're doing all we can within our means to serve our mission. However, one of the reasons for the tight budgets is that our revenue (our pledge base) has been decreasing, through the pandemic, but also starting earlier than that. We need to have Parish conversations about this, so that we can discern whether the revenues will bounce back, or if not, what we can do to bring our expenses in line with long-term revenues. Those conversations will start this year, so please be ready to add your views to the discussions.

In 2023, the Vestry has approved another deficit budget, by an amount that's roughly equal to last year's budgeted deficit. While we hope that the actual deficit will be less than this amount, we know that we will need to fund Pamela's sabbatical replacement for the time that she will be away in the summer. Not funding that expense isn't an option, and reductions in spending will need to come in other areas. There are some possibilities out there, to reduce spending without hurting our programs, but we won't be able to talk about them until we know "which of our ships have come in".

Neil Willits  
Co-Senior Warden

## The Deacon's Report

When I attended the School for Deacons in Berkeley some years ago, whenever things went sideways during a class or a worship service, Dean Rod Dugliss would make a point of saying, "Deacons are flexible!" It's safe to say that flexibility in response to changing circumstances has certainly been necessary in my ministry, especially since March of 2020. My primary responsibility as the deacon assigned to St. Martin's—helping the congregation live out the promises made at baptism to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, to love our neighbors as ourselves," and to "strive for justice and peace among all people," respecting "the dignity of every human being"—did not change this year. Yet, some of the ways in which I strove to fulfill that responsibility necessarily changed as the Covid-19 pandemic evolved.

The role of a vocational deacon has both liturgical (i.e., worship) and non-liturgical aspects. Most Sundays, I serve in our worship services, proclaiming the Gospel, leading the Nicene Creed, introducing the Prayers of the People and the Confession, and giving the Dismissal. My primary non-liturgical responsibilities at St. Martin's are in the areas of social justice and outreach and pastoral care. I work with our Social Justice and Outreach Committee to develop and promote opportunities for the people of St. Martin's to serve others in Christ's name. I train and supervise our Eucharistic Visitors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Healing Ministers, as well as serving on the Caring Ministries Committee. I also attend weekly staff and clergy meetings, as well as monthly Vestry and Worship Committee meetings.

Highlights of the past year include: leading our Compline service on most Friday evenings, when we gather via Zoom to pray the parish prayer list; resuming our Eucharistic Visitor ministry; helping plan and facilitate two sessions of the Episcopal Church's updated Sacred Ground racial reconciliation and healing curriculum (these two sessions brought together participants from all three of the Sacred Ground circles that have met at St. Martin's since 2020 for brainstorming about next steps); mentoring our seminarian and now transitional deacon, the Rev. Betsy McElroy; preaching at our Blue Christmas service; and meeting with our Healing Ministers to plan for when and how we might reactivate that vital ministry in a safe and sustainable way.

In addition to my ministry at St. Martin's, I am very active at the diocesan level. I serve on the Diocesan Partners in Ministries of Health team. I also serve as one of two Archdeacons in our diocese, charged with responsibility for helping form and support vocational deacons. As part of that role, I attend the monthly Diocesan Commission on Ministry meetings, where I have seat and voice and serve on the Formation Committee. For the last few months, I have been working closely with the Rev. Kathy Lawler to develop curriculum for the West Coast Collaborative School for Ministry's diaconal formation program (the WCC School for Ministry is a partnership among the dioceses of El Camino Real, Northern California, and San Diego to form vocational deacons and lay ministers). This two-year, online program's first cohort of diaconal students will be starting classes in February. Please keep them in your prayers.

At all times, I strive to *listen to you and with you*, so that together we can discern how God is calling us to serve "the least, the last, and the lost." That is how servant ministry happens—in community, growing out of our life together in Christ. Thanks be to God!

Margaret+

## Senior Warden's Report

About a year ago, I was sitting inside St. Martin's' Sanctuary getting ready for the annual meeting. I've done this many times, and I see these gatherings of our St. Martin's community as a time to reconnect with each other. They tend to involve some combination of information, amusement, inspiration and at times, a snail-like pace. They remind us that we *are* a community, and share much in common, even though there are some folks that we may seldom see during the rest of the year. They also remind us that there are so many different ways that we can participate in the greater life of St. Martin's. That's important, since we may have forgotten this over the course of the previous year.

Last year was a little different for me, since I had agreed to be part of the Vestry slate and had been asked to be a co-Senior Warden, teaming with the genial and wise Kimo Kimokeo. Since I would be stepping onto the Vestry, this was a little like starting to read a novel somewhere in the middle, rather than reading from page one. I knew some of what had been going on from conversations with other folks in the church, but I'm frankly *still* putting all of the pieces together.

There are many challenges in front of us, but that has *a/ways* been the case. In the last three years, the most pressing ones had been related to the pandemic, and how we dealt with the question of how you "do" church while in a pandemic. That changed many of the ways that we interact with each other: adjusting to Zoom church, holding meetings and classes on Zoom, wearing masks whenever we're together and yet striving to foster and maintain connections with each other. It was difficult work, and with the worst of the pandemic behind us, there's a strong desire to "get back to normal" as quickly as we can. But we face the reality that what we think of as "normal" and the "new normal" may not be the same thing.

The Vestry has been facing similar challenges. For one thing, with a couple of exceptions, our meetings have all been on Zoom, so that members who are out of town (or on the other side of the world) may participate in the meetings. We're hoping to meet in person more often than not this year, but we will likely find that "hybrid" meetings will still be necessary much of the time. We are not all in the same place in dealing with being out in public, so all I can do is to ask you to be patient with parish members who are, to your mind, overly cautious or not cautious enough.

Another challenge has to do with budgeting and staffing. When our programs become more complicated, such as having hybrid services or Christian formation offerings with various levels of in-person contact, it takes additional staff commitment to make all of these options work. When first Alex Leach and then Casey Kloehn-Dunsworth were in part-time clergy positions, they could help flesh out these programs. Unfortunately, it has become clear that a part-time clergy position isn't very attractive to most priests (we are, it turns out, in the midst of a once-in-a-generation clergy shortage in the Episcopal Church), which is why we wanted to expand the assistant rector position to a full-time position. However, the results of our Fall stewardship campaign were essentially the same as for the previous year, while many costs have risen elsewhere in our budget, and so the

bottom lines is that we can't afford to fill the assistant rector position in 2023. This is very discouraging for those of us who felt the acute need for an assistant rector, but the best we can do now is to raise additional money and save elsewhere in the budget, so we can hire an assistant in 2024. The Vestry will need to make this one of our top priorities in 2023.

At the same time, Pamela's letter of agreement stipulates that she's entitled to a sabbatical leave this year for three months, which she's planning on taking during the summer, combined with some of her accrued vacation time. This is an essential need for priests, so that they don't "burn out" for lack of the time they need to recharge their batteries. In her absence, we will need to have a priest acting as a sabbatical replacement, ensuring that we have appropriate liturgical and pastoral coverage during Pamela's time away. The exact timing and details of the sabbatical replacement are still in the works. Again, this will need to be a priority for the Vestry in 2023.

If this all seems a little daunting, I would remind you that we're getting closer to our "new normal" and we have a lot of say in what the new normal will look like. As long as we're careful, we can gather more freely and more safely than we could one or two years ago. This gives us greater freedom to worship and to follow the spirit as it speaks to us. It also gives us freedom to gather to talk about that new normal, and how we want to shape the church's priorities in the years to come. As one example, the Vestry has committed to a town hall this spring, to discuss outreach, and how best to follow that part of our mission as a parish. There likely will be additional town halls on other subjects, to help us envision "*what we as a parish want to be when we grow up*" as well as "*how we get there from here*". I invite all of you to provide part of the answer to those questions.

For all the challenges we face, we are also looking at new opportunities and ways of being and doing Church. It's generally seen as a fool's errand to predict the future, but I think we can confidently assert that these are going to be exciting times ahead. My hope is that every one of us will feel that we can contribute to the future of St. Martin's, in 2023 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,  
Neil Willits, Co-Senior Warden



## Operations Director's Report

### Worship

As part of my duties, I livestream, record, and distribute our worship services. Aside from a few services at the beginning of January, the worship services in 2022 were largely in person or hybrid. The 10am services are usually streamed to Zoom and Facebook, then subsequently posted to YouTube. A snippet of the sermon is excerpted from the full worship and used for social media.

This year on average we have had 30 people watching Sunday worship on Zoom each week. We reach approximately 33 people via Facebook each week with our services. On average we have 17 views for each of our service recordings that are posted to YouTube. On average, this is 80 digital participants every week.

We also had weekly Compline on Mondays through Fridays in 2022. Our total attendance count for compline was 476.

In early 2022 the installation of an omnidirectional choir mic, which was approved by the Vestry in 2021, was completed. The microphone being used for the choir prior to the new installation was directional, meaning it is best for picking up a single voice, which is not ideal for capturing music. The new overhead microphone amplifies the full choir, which is especially helpful for our online worship and recordings.

### Digital Footprint

In 2022 I managed several social media accounts, including Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, though in the latter part of 2022 we deactivated our Twitter account due to concerns about the platform.

I create digital and print campaigns, including flyers for social media, our website, and in person handouts. Included in this was the creation of new pew cards and new Caring Ministries handouts. I also work with the newspaper to create our monthly advertisement and to submit any special events as a press release.

In 2022, I livestreamed and provided hybrid participation opportunities of lectures for our Seeds of Justice series, which were widely attended by congregants and members of the community alike. We also used our camera system to livestream or amplify a variety of events, including a memorial service, several video screenings and outside lectures, hosting a hybrid diocesan event, and facilitating a hybrid retreat.

In November 2022 I developed a new website for St. Martin's. The website has quite a bit of information on the front page, especially if you scroll down. This includes upcoming events, our most recent blog posts, how to find our service information and bulletins, how to submit prayer requests, and the most recently streamed service. Upkeep of the website is performed weekly to keep all events and posts current. A major back-end overhaul of the website was also completed, including removing unnecessary posts (such as bulletins) from 2019 and before, and backing up all images and podcasts.

## **Volunteer and Data Management**

As part of completing the 2021 Parochial Report, I did a major overhaul of our database of congregants, which is hosted on Realm. This database had never been updated and was significantly out of date. This update made providing congregants with their giving statements much easier for 2023. Additionally, our membership information for the 2023 Parochial Report is easily accessible. I update this database regularly.

I implemented a new volunteer management system through Signup Genius, in which people can sign up to volunteer for hospitality related items as well as worship positions such as usher and reader.

## **Other**

I continue to maintain, update, and repair all technology related items.

After several months, I successfully facilitated the transfer of much of our accounting to Chazin & Company, as well as the implementation of a new bill pay system.

I applied for and obtained free email services through Google, a free graphic design account through Canva, and a heavily discounted QuickBooks account.

I facilitated the hiring of a new administrative assistant, as well as 4 nursery staff.

With the help of Janet Lane, the new administrative assistant, and the Buildings and Grounds Committee, a safety inspection was conducted and remedies were undertaken. Additionally, I conducted two safety training meetings and wrote a new Cal/OSHA required COVID Safety Manual.

I took over the management of Safe Church Training and continue working to bring all volunteers and staff up to speed on diocesan required training.

I have been working with the Diocesan Missioner on Disaster Resilience, Mark Dibelka, to complete an Emergency Preparedness Plan. This plan is nearly complete and I hope to implement it in early 2023.

I am in the middle of a diocesan run Non-Profit Business Management course and am excited to complete it in March 2023.

Respectfully,  
Gabe Avila  
Church Operations Director

## Buildings and Grounds Committee Report

Submitted by Janet Lane (Chair of Committee) and Russ Gebhardt (Sacred Grounds  
Ministry Council Chair)  
January 23, 2023

**Goals and Charge of Committee:** Buildings and Grounds (B&G) works with the rector and vestry to ensure our facilities function well for our own ministries and for outside groups that use our space. We aim to maintain our facilities in good condition for future generations and so that they are a place where people can feel God's presence and enjoy their beauty and serenity. The outside groups that regularly use our facilities include the DCMH Meals, STEAC, AA, the Threshold Singers, and two Scout troops.

**Year-round Maintenance:** We follow a monthly schedule to assure needed maintenance is done each month and/or annually. Members of B&G do the following maintenance tasks every month: mow the grass and groom the children's play area; clean the columbarium area; clean the labyrinth; weed and clean the city easement along the east side of our parking lot; groom the meditation garden; weed and pick up trash throughout the property. We regularly replace lightbulbs and light sensors, clean cobwebs, and do irrigation repairs, plumbing, and drywall repairs. We paint and stain wood when possible.

In short, we are your maintenance staff and are extremely fortunate to have members on the committee who can plan and organize what needs to be done and members who have the skills to carry out the work. When professionals are needed, we bid the jobs and engage the needed workers, with approval of the rector and vestry. We also plan and carry out work/garden days; we had one in 2022. We can always use additional help on our committee; let us know if you would like to join us!

**Tree Maintenance:** St. Martin's property has 83 trees including 43 redwoods. Each year, we prune those that need it most based on recommendations from a certified arborist. This year, we had arborist John Lichter from Tree Associates provide a full report on our trees. Based on his recommendations, 16 trees were pruned and two were removed (by Monticello Tree Service, Vacaville). Those removed included a small dead hackberry in the parking lot along the city easement and a leaning Chinese Pistache that was failing on Hawthorn in front of the office building. The recent storms downed many small to medium branches, but due to the recent tree pruning, our trees fared well in the storms.

**Baptismal Pool Repair:** B&G does regular cleaning and maintenance of the baptismal pool in the narthex. This past year, we had a small leak in one of the pool walls that was remedied by resealing the interior of the pool (done by Priority Construction); at the time of repair, we added a rich blue color to the interior of the pool.

**Discount on City Stormwater Fees and Monitoring of Church Utilities:** Committee member Tim Williams did the legwork needed for St. Martin's to receive a 25% discount (\$750 per year) on the city's new stormwater fees. We received the discount due to practices and features (such as our underground bioswale) that prevent much of the water

from draining into the city storm drain system. Tim also tracks all our utility usage and solar production on a monthly basis.

**Air Purification in the Sanctuary:** To reduce airborne viral particles indoors, we purchased and installed 6 air purifiers for the sanctuary and one for the office library. A parishioner donated a Corsi-Rosenthal air purifier (build-it-yourself) for use in the office and Room 6/7.

**OSHA, Fire, and Other Inspections:** At the request of our church operations director, B&G conducted an OSHA (Occupational Health & Safety) inspection of the St. Martin's campus and wrote a report outlining quite a few areas that needed remediation. For example, clutter needed to be reduced, heavy items on high shelves needed to be on lower shelves, sagging shelves needed replacement, and an empty helium canister needed to be removed. We are happy to report that almost all the needed remediations have been completed. B&G will carry out an OSHA inspection every year going forward so that we are in compliance. We also ensure that all required fire and backflow inspections happen each year and record them in a binder. We ensure that our roofs and HVAC systems are inspected annually. Also of note this year: we placed fire extinguishers in every classroom, upgraded the kitchen fire extinguisher, re-stocked all first-aid kits (located in the office, sanctuary, kitchen, nursery, Room 4, Room 6/7, and the garden shed), and purchased OSHA-approved ladders for each space that requires a person to retrieve items from high shelves.

**Trash Enclosure Improvement Project:** We received drawings from architect Eric Doud for a possible upgraded trash enclosure only to discover that, based on new California requirements, we cannot make major improvements to our enclosure without moving the structure at least 5 feet away from building roof eaves and adding a roof over the trash enclosure. B&G is evaluating several possible locations in the parking lot to place a new and improved trash enclosure. While we have put a lot of work and time into this project, it is still a work in progress. We will report to the rector and vestry the preferred location and layout as B&G makes progress.

**Living Classroom/Prayer Chalkboard Area:** Our committee was recently asked by Ministry Council to take on this project, which would make the area in front of the church office on Hawthorn a more functional and more welcoming space. We currently envision bench seating on a decomposed granite surface that would allow for small classes, small worship services, the Rector's office hours, or space for sitting and meditating. The prayer chalkboard would remain and be central to the area. A B&G subcommittee is working on the project (Rev. Pamela, Jerry Hulbert, Janet Lane, Russ Gebhardt, Jim Schaal). We submitted a grant proposal to the Diocese in December and received \$250 to supplement other funding that had been given previously. The plans are not ready for distribution yet, but we intend to have them ready to show the congregation soon.

**Janitorial and Yard Service:** Our janitorial service (Marisela's Cleaning Service) cleans our indoor spaces, and mows the grass, edges, and blows leaves. Their lead staff member, Francisco, is on site 4 days a week; he also comes to help with infrequent large clean-up jobs.

**Gratitude:** We are grateful to the following groups and individuals: Marisela's Cleaning Service; Scout Troops #466 and #139 and parishioners who have helped with gardening; Frank Wagner, who cleans the labyrinth; we thank all on the B&G Committee who generously put their talents to work for us: Mark Brothers, Russ Gebhardt, Mike Hannon, Bob Holm, Jerry Hulbert, Janet Lane (chair), Michael Lewis, Pierre Neu, Mike Rushton, and Tim Williams. We especially thank Russ Gebhardt, for agreeing to serve as Sacred Grounds Chair on the Ministry Council and Jr. Warden, Maria Acuna-Feldman, for serving as vestry liaison to our committee. We also thank our clergy and the vestry for their support of our work and ministry.

**Final Comments:** Consider visiting a Buildings and Grounds meeting to see what we do (we meet on Zoom once a month). Or talk to a committee member for more information. If you have questions or input, we would love to talk to you. If you see anything amiss on the grounds or with our buildings, please let us know!

## **Social Justice and Outreach**

This was a year of gearing up! We began with the development of a new mission statement, which was presented to Vestry and approved in April. With our new mission statement in hand, we were able to update our web content and begin publishing “SJO News and Notes” in the extended version of the announcements.

The following is a summary of key activities undertaken in 2022 by our members:

### **Sphere 1: Direct service and in-kind donations**

- Organized a group to participate in a Sierra Service Project working on the Gathering Garden for the Safe Harbor transitional housing development in Sacramento.
- Continued to support the “Every Person...Every Week...One Item of Food,” ministry, which distributes food weekly to Dixon Family Services, the STEAC food closet, and the UCD Pantry.
- Coordinated the presence of St. Martin’s Meal Representatives for weekly meals at Parish Hall offered by Davis Community Meals and Housing (DCMH)

### **Sphere 2: Grants and fundraising**

- Helped promote a fundraiser and recommended a donation to the Center at St. Matthew’s to support their many services to needy and refugee families in the Sacramento area.
- Participated in special plate committees for Easter and Christmas, and in the Vestry-led committee to distribute Matthew 25 and Linda Frost funds.
- Organized and executed the Christine Blanchard Thanksgiving Project, distributing 73 grocery store gift cards to local families and 48 gift cards to the AB 540/Undocumented Student Center on the UC Davis campus.

### **Sphere 3: Advocacy and Informational Outreach**

- Organized interfaith information meetings with a Diocesan Intercultural Ministries representative about the possibility of forming a “sponsor circle” to welcome a refugee family to the Davis area.
- Began a series of longer announcements called “SJO News and Notes” published monthly, with the goal of unpacking the call of Matthew 25:35-36.

We remain hopeful that we will be able to participate with the Vestry in a church-wide conversation about outreach and SJO’s role in encouraging the church to uphold our commitment to the mission tithe in 2023. Also, we would be delighted to have more members of the St. Martin’s community join us. If you are interested in deepening your involvement in outreach and advocacy efforts in our community, please reach out!

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Glick  
Chair, Social Justice & Outreach Committee

## Care for God's Creation

This year we applied for various grants and received \$7,000 to enable our goals; we engaged in partnerships to protect/restore soil, air, water, and plant life while building healthy communities; and we responded to a call to action from Episcopal General Convention 2022 regarding climate change. To be specific:

### A. Partnerships

1. **Grace Garden:** a vibrant inclusive community faith network supporting a community garden in the back lot of Davis United Methodist Church,  
<https://sites.google.com/site/gracegardendavis?pli=1>
  - Team leadership includes 3 of 9 members from St. Martin's
  - More than 1200 volunteers signed in during 2022 (a majority from UC Davis)
  - Harvest - more than 1700 lbs. given to Davis Community Meals, Grace in Action, and Bartlett (an affordable housing complex in Davis)
  - Fundraising from Plant Sale; \$2,000 grant from Biberstein Social Action Fund (Bet Haverim) to make the garden more mobility accessible
  - Program expansion: volunteers added art in signage, decor, and murals
  - Live music entertainment included during the April Plant Sale and Thank You Harvest Fest on Nov. 5
  
2. **Yolo Interfaith Alliance for Climate Justice (YIACJ)**
  - 30 x 30 Action for Wilderness and Biodiversity - an international effort voted on by the United Nations to conserve at least 30% of land and waters by 2030, <https://www.campaignfornature.org/news/category/30x30>
  - Informing faith groups about Third Act (Bill McKibben organization for seniors) Action to oppose big banks funding fossil fuel companies, <https://thirdact.org/our-work/banking-on-our-future/>
  - Collaboration with Cool Davis
  - Representative from CFGC at their monthly meetings
  
3. **Yolo Climate Emergency Coalition (YCEC)**
  - Support call for an adequate environmental impact report before open pit mining is expanded on prime farmland in Yolo County
  - Support the Yolo County Climate Action and Adaptation Plan (CAAP)
  - Representative from CFGC at their monthly meetings

**B. Efforts continue to acknowledge land and grow a more equitable, participatory, and inclusive community** (aided by a \$5,000 grant from the Episcopal Community Services):

1. We continued our Seeds of Justice speakers program with three presentations about reclaiming Indigenous Land Stewardship Practices (River and Fire) and how land expansion changed the color of labor. Registered 232, attendance 142.
2. Forbes Ranch: Renewal, Revival, and Rewilding
  - 28 almond trees removed and a grove of 10 Valley Oak trees planted
  - Plans drawn for building an Open Arbor for a Gathering circle
  - Began contact with the FARMS program of the Center for Land Based Learning to help with future projects, i.e. growing hedge rows along the county road
3. St. Martin's – Davis Campus
  - Grant funds given to the Landscape Committee to help develop the street-facing chalkboard area - A summer Straw Bale Garden initiated as a Good News Garden
4. Two grants written to help develop the land and add more native plants to bring back former ecosystems (Creation Care-Episcopal Church; and Cool Congregation Challenge - Interfaith Power & Light). We did not receive the former but are waiting to hear about the latter.

**C. Spirituality in Nature Gatherings (SINGs)**

We have initiated a monthly outdoor experience to explore seasonal scriptural themes and discuss personal spiritual associations with nature; the sessions take some inspiration from the curriculum created by the Center for Spirituality in Nature:

- November, Forbes Ranch (Giving Thanks);
- December, Davis St. Martin's Campus (Incarnation);
- January, Wildhorse Agricultural Buffer (Winter, Spirituality Laid Bare)

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Liu and Alessa Johns, Co-Chairs



## **Caring Ministries**

The Caring Ministries Committee is part of the Life in Our Community Commission of our Ministry Council. We currently have programs which are part of this Committee. Those Programs are described below. The Chair of the Caring Ministries Committee is Lynn Zender—please contact her if you have any questions or want more information.

Here are our programs:

### **Helping Hands**

Helping Hands Helping Hands provides a limited number of meals to congregants in temporary need. If you'd like to bring joy and sustenance to those in need, this is a great ministry for you. Your participation in providing a meal when requested is based on your availability—we understand that just because you sign up doesn't mean you will be able to help every time! If you are interested in receiving a meal OR if you are interested in signing up to be on the list of those who can provide meals from time to time, please email [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org) and someone will contact you. The chair for this group is Marianne Wilcox.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Each prayer shawl and blanket is made with love and in prayer. It is a mantle of God's love through warmth and comfort. Prayer Shawls are freely available for anyone who wishes one. In the past year, we have given shawls to: Yolo Hospice and Citizens Who Care for in-building meetings and future opening of Adult Day Care Center, baby blankets to Yolo Crisis Nursery, shawls and muffs to Yolo Adult Day Care Center in Woodland, extra-large fleece blankets to Davis Police and Fire Departments, and individual shawls and muffs to parishioners and friends for known needs. There are also feely hearts at the back of the church if you would like to take one.

Deacon Margaret Grayden and Rev. Pamela Dolan have a supply of our "feely hearts" and Rev. Pamela also has some extra prayer blankets in her office. Much of the work is done at home. If you or someone you know might like to join us, please contact Dawn Preisler. We meet on the first Wednesday of every month in Rooms 6 & 7 between 9:30 & 11:00am.

For more information contact program chair Dawn Preisler.

### **Eucharistic Visitors**

We have now resumed this ministry! Here is how it works: At St. Martin's, our Eucharistic Visitors do their visits in pairs, following the example of Jesus, who sent His disciples out two by two to serve others in His name. Each pair of Eucharistic Visitors serves an average of one Sunday a month.

If you are interested in receiving home communion, just call the church office or email the office at [info@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:info@churchofstmartin.org). We are always interested in recruiting additional Eucharistic Visitors as we hopefully move out of the pandemic. If you want to learn more about what's involved and/or think that you might be called to serve as a Eucharistic Visitor, please contact Deacon Margaret Grayden ([margaret@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:margaret@churchofstmartin.org)).

### **Messenger Packets**

This past year, we have continued to provide Messenger Packets to those who are unable to attend our virtual worship services. Diane Bamforth pulls them together on Monday (past sermon, announcements, service bulletin and sometimes a cover message) and then she and a dedicated crew distribute them each week. They deliver them to the door and then have a brief conversation with the recipients if they are home. This is very well-received and we have been glad to be able to provide this personal touch! This has been important during our power outages.

The messengers also deliver Altar flowers (when available) to their recipients or others in the parish family who are sick or in need. Please contact Diane Bamforth if you know of someone who might appreciate them.

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In this past year we have worked hard to get the word out about these ways we can help each other. If you are interested in ideas, look for these pieces:

- Small, focused affinity groups, such as parents of young children, parents of teens, men's group, parents with aging parents, and so on
- A way to identify and then reach out to persons who may have not been recently attending St. Martin's
- Classes or informational sessions on advance directives
- Friendly Visitors
- Distribution of altar flowers to someone who is shut-in
- Other ideas: card ministry, parish nurse
- And so on...

We look forward to hearing from you!

Lynn Zender, Chair of Caring Ministries

# Christian Formation Report

## Godly Play

Our Children's Ministry has continued to blossom over the past year, thanks to many devoted volunteers. Sheri Reynolds oversees the Godly Play program, and Diane Bamforth has instituted a Godly Play Guild to manage the necessary props and equipment. At the end of 2022 Godly Play was happening on two Sundays a month and is expected to go to three Sundays in early 2023, with the first Sunday of the month being an intergenerational worship experience at the 10 o'clock service, which we simply call "First Sunday."

## TYGMOS (This youth group meets on Sunday)

Interest and participation in youth activities have been waning with youth and adults over the past several years. Without adult leadership stepping up, the decision was made in the Fall to put TYGMOS on hiatus and to revisit the conversation in the spring of 2023.

## Adult Formation

As COVID began to wane, Christian Formation adapted to the challenges. Like almost all of society, parishioners are slowly returning to in-person events, though many still prefer Zoom. Zoom appeals to some adults because it allows them to participate in adult education offerings in their homes, allowing them to avoid extra driving, especially at night. It isn't easy to have a class both via Zoom and in person if personal interaction is part of the class, so we are alternating between the two options.

### Epiphany

***The Four Vision Quests of Jesus*** by retired Bishop Steven Charleston was presented over seven weeks. Bp. Charleston explored how Christian spirituality intersects with that of the spirituality of Native Americans. Most sessions were facilitated by Rev. Pamela.

### Lent

***Love Is the Way: Holding on To Hope in Troubled Times*** by Presiding Bishop Michael Curry was presented on four Wednesday evenings during Lent. Facilitated by Rev. Pamela.

***Living Well Through Lent: Letting Go with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength and Mind*** was presented weekly on Wednesday mornings through Lent. Facilitated by Helen Campbell.

### Summer

Rev. Pamela explored the fundamentals of our faith using ***Being Christian*** by Rowan Williams as the text for five weeks in late June and July. This was an experiment in offering an adult formation class during the summer months and was well received and well attended.

Helen Campbell facilitated the viewing of the pivotal documentary "Traces of the Trade" on August 10th, with a brief discussion following. This was one way to help bridge the gap between those parishioners who have taken the Sacred Ground curriculum and those who have not.

## Fall

The Fall offering was How2charist, an in-person, multimedia exploration of the Holy Eucharist, facilitated by Rev. Pamela.

In the Fall, Care for God's Creation sponsored three Seeds of Justice presentations. The first was "In Relation to Water" presented by Beth Rose Middleton, and the second was "Cultural Fire, Storytelling" presented by Melinda Adams. The last presentation was made by our own John Liu and was titled "Manifest Destiny and the Color of Labor."

## Advent

Rev. Pamela offered "**Journeying the Way of Love**" on Wednesday nights with an introduction to the program on the first Sunday in Advent. The final meeting included a candlelight labyrinth walk on the night of the winter solstice.

A Living Compass group, ***Living Well Through Advent Practicing Simplicity With All You Heart, soul Strength and Mind***, met on three Tuesday mornings with up to six attendees and was facilitated by Helen Campbell. This year's focus was on simplicity, which proved to be a very timely subject for the group. Attendance waned as Advent progressed, miming previous attempts to for Living compass during Advent.

Our Christian Formation events could not happen without our media coordinator, Gabe Avila, who navigates the technology portion seamlessly. We will continue to offer many of our offerings online via Zoom, but we hope to add more in-person evening classes as interest increases. Plans for 2023 are already well underway.

We welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have to enhance the Christian Formation experience of lifelong learning at St. Martin's. If you are interested in being part of this team and facilitating an offering, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Campbell  
Christian Formation Chair  
[formation@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:formation@churchofstmartin.org)

## Families Together Project

Wow—this year has had so much in it, expected and unexpected! Our team of volunteers has continued to work with the two families since they arrived in the Spring of 2019. Both are moving towards self-sufficiency. And our financial support continues—we currently have a positive balance of about \$18,000 with about \$11,000 of that already dedicated toward specific expenses in 2023.

The Leadership Team will be meeting this Spring to talk about where things are and what is needed from here on out—both money and other support. We have been blessed with a huge number of volunteers who make sure the families we agreed to support are getting what they need....this would not be possible without all the wonderful support.

Meanwhile, here is a report from the Team Leaders about how Lorenza and her family and the Mateos are doing:

**The Mateo family** is adapting well to life in Davis and the U.S. Overall, they are self-reliant now, with some occasional assistance on challenging tasks. Both Evelyn and Emiliano are working, Evelyn part-time in Davis and Emiliano in Dixon. The three older children continue with elementary-school and junior high school learning. Bartolomé, 11 years old, made it into ASYO Select Soccer this season and soccer is a big part of his life. One area we still support the family with is getting Bartolomé to his practices and soon-to-be away games and tournaments. The youngest is 3.5 years now and speaks a combination of English, Spanish and Chuj (the family's indigenous language). Going to church on Sundays has been challenging for them and they currently attend St. Martin's mainly on church holidays or for special events. While living expenses for a family of 6 are challenging to meet, the Mateos are happy to be more-or-less settled here in Davis.

**Lorenza** is continuing to enjoy her one-bedroom apartment in a supportive housing complex in Davis and cultivates two garden plots in their community garden. She is growing tomatoes and herbs in the garden as well as flowers on her patio. She has been working in the kitchen at a local El Macero restaurant. The job is full-time. She is now able to ride her bike except during storms. Lorenza has medical, dental, and vision benefits through her employer. Lorenza is increasingly using her bicycle to shop, visit friends, and do errands. About nine months ago Lorenza's son, girlfriend and their baby Geordy finally were able to arrive here—what a wonderful time this has been as they set up housing, employment and all the whole host of other things! Jose is now working full-time and Silvia is working part-time. Their team is very grateful for the continued financial and emotional support she receives from St. Martin's.

In sum, our program is doing well and thanks for your support.

Lynn Zender,  
Coordinator  
Families Together Project

## Music Ministry Annual Report

The music ministry was happy to begin 2022 largely able to continue meeting and making music together in person, vaccinated and wearing approved masks. Our continued presence in the worship services, along with careful music choices sparsely used, helped the parish find a “new normal” of providing in-person and live-streamed worship. Many of our congregation were not ready yet to engage in spontaneous singing activities, so we started the year still without our normal pickup Pop-Up Choir on first Sundays. The Sanctuary Choir grew in numbers throughout the Spring, and we were able to provide a meaningful musical Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. On Maundy Thursday, we sang an interpretation of the ancient “Hymn of Kassia the Nun,” which is published in the Episcopal hymnal Voices Found. On Good Shepherd Sunday, we sang Howard Goodall's setting of “The Lord is My Shepherd,” best known as the theme to “The Vicar of Dibley,” with a lovely soprano solo by Carole Hom. We ended the choir program year with a rousing Trinity Sunday anthem including a bass solo ably sung by Eric Jordan. Other soloists throughout the year included Elise Keddie and Sarah Hough, who also acted as Cantors. We are grateful to Oliver Steissberg, who provided musical accompaniment for our 2022 summer services, and led a pop-up choir during July and August.

In the Fall of 2022, the music ministry came back full force. We re-introduced psalm-singing and a congregational Offertory response into the weekly service, and brought back the Pop-up Choir on first Sundays (most notable was the Pop-Up Choir's spirited rendition of the Mexican folksong “Chumbala Cachumbala” on Día de los Muertos). The Sanctuary Choir worked very hard preparing for Advent. On December 11, we provided two anthems and musical support for the Blue Christmas service, and on December 18, we presented a Lessons & Carols service, “The Journey to Bethlehem: An Advent Meditation on Las Posadas,” immediately followed by a Las Posadas procession outdoors, in which the choir played critical roles. The evening was capped off with a Christmas party, including carols, hot cocoa, pan dulce, and a piñata. We are very grateful to Gabe Avila, who coordinated the Las Posadas event and party, and his father David Avila, who led the Posadas with his guitar and singing. Our Sanctuary Choir's final services of 2022 were the two Christmas Eve Choral Eucharists, for which we sang two anthems and special service music, and Jeffrey provided glorious Preludes and Postludes (different for each service). We are grateful to Jessie Ann Owens for playing organ on Christmas Day, giving the choir and music staff much-needed time off.

Throughout 2022, Jeffrey continued to explore more music available in the public domain, while at the same time beginning to explore more of what is available through our licensing agents (we deal with copyright restrictions when live-streaming or recording our worship services, or when we copy music or words into the bulletin). The restrictions can be frustrating, since there are many beautiful piano and organ works from contemporary composers that aren't available to us. However, this has allowed Jeffrey the opportunity to focus on earlier composers. He was pleased, for example, finally to debut a portion of Max Reger's Chorale Fantasy on “How brightly shines the morning star” as a Prelude in Advent, a work that has been on his “to learn” list for thirty years.

In 2022, all the pianos were completely serviced and repaired, thanks to a generous contribution from a parishioner. The organ functioned consistently well throughout the

year, and required a minimum of maintenance; this is doubly fortunate, because the organ tuners have once again increased their prices. This last year, a few more samples from the organ's MIDI bank were found to be useful in our worship services, such as a harp, chimes, a 32 foot resultant, and an English horn. Las Posadas, Lessons and Carols, and Día de los Muertos allowed Jeffrey the opportunity to incorporate more Spanish-style reed registrations and repertoire into our worship.

If we had to choose one main highlight of the music ministry's year, it would have to be our unusual Advent Lessons & Carols service and Las Posadas, for which the choir prepared anthems in Catalanian Spanish, Nahuatl, Quechua, and Mono Paiute. We were joined by musicians playing shawms, recorders, dulcians, and percussion, whom Jeffrey also led in sensitively chosen Prelude music. We were surprised and happy when the national Episcopal News Service expressed an interest in learning more about this unusual service, and published a lead article about it:

<https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2022/12/19/northern-california-church-holds-multicultural-advent-celebration-with-indigenous-hymns-mexican-pageant/>. It was a nice way to round off a year of hard work, creativity, and dedication from staff and all volunteers.

Respectfully submitted  
Jeffrey Jubenville, Director of Music  
Dr. Suzanne Jubenville, Choir Director

## Worship Committee

As we emerged from the worst of Covid in 2022 we continued with our in-person 8 am. service and a hybrid 10 am. service; we no longer need to limit the number of congregants in the sanctuary; masks are recommended but not required; people can sit next to friends in the pews; the choir remains masked as they make a joyful noise unto the Lord and the congregation. We continue to offer Zoom and YouTube for those who are not yet ready to venture out and for those from far away who joined us during the worst of the pandemic. Our Worship ministries continue to provide volunteers for all the aspects of our services and their 2022 stories follow. If you have any questions, would like more information or are interested in joining one of these ministries, please contact any of the ministry leaders or Joannie Cavanagh at [worship@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:worship@churchofstmartin.org).

### Church Opening, Set-up, and Closing Team

This team, one of the behind-the-scenes ministries of the church, arrives at church about an hour before the first service begins. We unlock doors (including restrooms), turn on lights and HVAC in all buildings that will be used. For the sanctuary, we turn on the air purifiers, put out the welcome table and name tags and turn on the baptismal pool, skimming off any dirt and dust if needed first. Another part of opening is turning on the sound system for the 8am service and making sure the Eagle podium microphone is set up and operational. We put up the tables for coffee and snacks and bring out the lounge chairs for coffee hour seating. After services, we lock all doors, making sure lights are out, HVAC turned off and tables are put away. We also take care of the English and Spanish welcome banners in the front walkway to the church. When it is windy (weekdays too), we bring them in so that they won't get damaged (and subsequently put them back out again). Team members include Bob Holm, Janet Lane and Neil Willits. Kimo Kimokeo is a back-up member of this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Lane, Chair

### Healing Ministry

Due to pandemic-related concerns, we have not been able to offer anointing, laying on of hands, and healing prayer in church since March 2020. As we emerge from the pandemic, the Healing Ministry team has begun meeting to discern when and how we can resume this ministry. Our hope is that we will be able to resume offering our Healing Ministry once a month during the 10 AM service, beginning sometime after Easter.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Ven. Margaret Grayden, Deacon

### Altar Guild

Thank you to all the Altar Guild members who have agreed to continue to serve in this important ministry. We currently have eight active members and welcome more. We have settled into a more familiar routine of two Sunday services in person and hybrid. We have been able to resume other in person worship such as holiday celebrations, weddings,



baptisms and funeral and memorial services. The Shared Home Communion program ended and we are sending out Eucharistic Visitors again.

Please contact Carla Harris if you would like more information about Altar Guild.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carla Harris, Chair

## Flower Guild

With the return to in-person worship, the Flower Guild has reenergized. Flower Guild members create arrangements for services, with flowers subsequently delivered to homes of shut-ins by a member of Caring Ministries team. We source flowers locally and sustainably whenever possible, using Dixon Florist, Strelitzia, Neve Brothers Flowers from Nugget Market, Full Belly Farm from the Davis Food Co-op, and Rainwater, Good Humus, and Yañez Farms (pink and white poinsettias!) from the Davis Farmer's Market. In addition, parishioners contribute flowers from their gardens, especially roses from the gardens of Janet Lane/Bob Holm, Anne Duffey, and Carole Hom/Neil Willits. Thank you to Flower Guild members Susan Kauzlarich (with assists from Paul Klavins), Sheila Lewis, Janet Thompson, and Rhody Vallejo for their dedicated service.

Please contact Carole if you'd like to join the flower guild or to donate flowers.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carole Hom, chair

## Acolytes

At St. Martin's, the acolytes, currently consisting of a crucifer, assist clergy by leading processions in worship and serving at the altar. Joannie Cavanagh, Bob Holm, Carole Hom, Kimo Kimokeyo, Janet Lane, and Aris Sun serve as crucifers. On Christmas Eve, Magdalena Mateo joined the procession as a torchbearer. Other adults and youth have expressed interest in serving and we hope to train them in early 2023. Please contact Carole if you'd like to pursue service as an acolyte.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carole Hom, chair

## Ushers

Our team of ushers grew in 2022 so we are able to have one usher at the 8 am. service and two ushers at 10 am. At this time, our ushers also serve as greeters, welcoming people back into the sanctuary, providing service booklets, and directing families with children to Godly Plan or the children's area in the front of the sanctuary. We have resumed passing the offering plate, a task the ushers are pleased to add to their responsibilities. Being an usher is a wonderful way to see longtime friends and meet new ones. If you would like more information about usher duties, please contact Joannie Cavanagh at [worship@churchofstmartin.org](mailto:worship@churchofstmartin.org).

Respectfully submitted,  
Joannie Cavanagh