

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF October 22, 2023

This Week

Rooted in Abundance: Stewardship Season Is Here

This coming Sunday, we welcome Missy, Matt, and Grace Campbell at both services to say a few words about stewardship from their perspective. Co-Sr. Warden Neil Willits gave his thoughts last Sunday. To see a script of Neil's comments and all stewardship posts going forward, please to here: <https://churchofstmartin.org/2023/10/17/all-stewardship-2023-posts/>.

Stewardship materials were mailed out on Friday; you should be receiving them soon. If you do not receive them, you can pick up a packet in the narthex or the church office. If you have questions about the pledge process, don't hesitate to contact the office, a Vestry member, or our clergy. Our confidential stewardship email address is: stewardship@churchofstmartin.org.

St. Martin's is supported almost entirely by the financial gifts of our members and friends. We are very grateful for all pledges and donations given to the church. *Thank you for your generosity.*

Godly Play This Sunday, October 22, at 10am

Godly Play for children in kindergarten through 6th grade meets every Sunday except the first Sunday of each month at 10am. Children are brought back to the sanctuary in time to have Communion with their families.

Nursery Open

Our nursery is open on Sundays from 9:30 - 11:30am for infants through age 5. Children of all ages are also always welcome in church too!

Thanksgiving Gift Card Project Is Back

Our Social Justice & Outreach Committee is once again asking for your help in donating what you can to purchase grocery gift cards at Thanksgiving for individuals and families in need in Yolo County. Our goal is to raise \$8,000. Make checks out to the Episcopal Church of St. Martin with subject line "Thanksgiving Project," or use the Give Button on our website (select "Thanksgiving Project" from the drop-down menu). Place checks in the offering plates or mail them in. Social Justice & Outreach Committee members will be at a table after both services for the next three Sundays to answer your questions. The SJ&O Committee thanks you for your generosity.

Music Notes for Sunday, October 22

Our Oct. 22 choir anthem comes from the Jewish tradition, where scripture and practice are immutable, but their meanings are constantly re-interpreted through rabbinical discussion and argument. Amy Bernon's anthem "On Justice, Truth, and Peace" sets to music a rabbinical commentary on the Psalm verse "Hine ma tov uma nayim, shevet achim gam yachad" ("How good and pleasant it is when folks live together in unity"). Our Gospel reading shows Jesus in such a discussion, as he answered questions regarding religious observance versus civic duty. His final answer holds up a mirror to the questioners (and to us today), one in which they were reluctant to look. Our opening hymn, "O God of earth and altar," does much the same. We don't schedule this powerful hymn very often, because it is like a heavy hammer, best reserved for

particular moments. It was written by G.K. Chesterton, the English writer and philosopher, set to Ralph Vaughan Williams' adaptation of *King's Lynn*.

Common Ground Movie Offer

An inspiring and informative documentary about our food systems and climate change, *Common Ground*, is showing at the Varsity Theater for one more week. If you are a high school or college student and want to see this film, Rev. Pamela will pay for your ticket. Just let her know ASAP and we'll work out the details!

St. Martin's 70th Anniversary as a Congregation!

Sunday, November 12 Is a Big Day at St. Martin's

On Sunday, November 12, we will celebrate both the Feast of St. Martin and, this year, our 70th anniversary as a parish! We will be having a potluck after the 10am service. Hospitality members will be at both services this Sunday to take your sign-ups for food. We will also need volunteers to set-up and clean up. Most important, be sure to mark the date so that you can be here to celebrate!

Volunteer Opportunities

Collecting Diapers for Yolo Diaper Bank in October

During the month of October, St. Martin's is participating in the Yolo Diaper Bank's annual drive to collect disposable diapers and wipes. We have a box in the narthex for your donations. The Yolo Diaper Bank distributes diapers and baby wipes to community agencies that serve families in need. Questions? Contact parishioner Nancy Anderson or the church office.

St. Martin's Flower Guild Needs You

If you enjoy arranging flowers, we'd love to have you join the St. Martin's Flower Guild. We'll train you and reimburse you for flowers. For more information, please contact the flower guild chair, Carole Hom, or the church office.

Other Announcements and Updates

Please Send in Names for All Saints' Day Necrology—Deadline Soon

All are invited to submit names of those who have passed away in the past year (November 1, 2022 - present) to be included in our All Saints' Day Necrology. This list will be read at both All Saints' Day services on Sunday, November 5. **Please submit names by Monday, October 30** to the church office (530-756-0444; info@churchofstmartin.org).

Seeking Nominations for Organizations to Receive Matthew 25 Grants

Every year about this time, a joint committee made up of Vestry, Social Justice and Outreach, and parishioners at-large convenes to identify organizations as potential recipients of St. Martin's annual Matthew 25 grants. The committee reviews potential recipient organizations and then recommends to Vestry those it views as especially qualified to receive this year's grants. The committee is currently seeking nominations from the parish for organizations to receive Matthew 25 grants. The Vestry has identified four areas of priority for this year's grants: organizations dealing with homelessness, immigrant and refugee resettlement, food insecurity, and climate change. While the grants are not restricted to in-diocese organizations, there is a priority for organizations that serve those in our diocese and county. To nominate an organization, please send a paragraph or two to the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org). The email should

contain the organization name, director, address, and contact information. It should describe the organization's core work and primary clients. Please be sure to note which area/s of priority listed above the organization most closely aligns with. Nominations are due no later than November 5. Questions? Contact Bob Polkinghorn or the church office.

Outdoor Living Classroom

Have you noticed changes in front of the office/parish hall on Hawthorn Lane? Buildings and Grounds has been hard at work transforming this space into an outdoor Living Classroom, a space where small groups can meet, small worship services can be held, and parishioners and visitors can sit and relax. So far, we have converted all the irrigation from high-water-use rotors to underground irrigation. We have put in decomposed granite and have rebuilt the prayer chalkboard and made it larger. The wood stumps donated to us have been cut and will be used as tables (and as an altar when needed). We have done all the work ourselves and are grateful particularly to Russ Gebhardt, Tim Williams, Mark Brothers, and Bob Holm for the time they have spent. We still have work to do adding seating and plants as well as doing additional cutting of the wood stumps. We are very excited that the space is taking shape and hope it can be put to good use soon!

Save the Dates for St. Martin's Events in October/November/December

Sunday, October 29: Día de los Muertos! Special music, indoor and outdoor ofrenda, pan dulce and piñata during coffee hour. Kids & adults alike are invited to wear a costume!

Sunday, November 5: All Saints' Day. Reading of the Necrology at 8am and after the 10am service in the columbarium.

Sunday, November 12: The Feast of St. Martin. Celebration of St. Martin's 70th anniversary. All-parish potluck following the 10am service.

Sunday, December 3: Las Posadas, a reenactment of the Holy Family's search for lodging. After the 10am service.

Sunday, December 10: Blue Christmas Service at 4pm.

Sunday, December 17: Advent Lessons & Carols during 10am service.

Sunday, December 24: 8am Advent Eucharist; 3pm Christmas Eucharist with Pageant; 7pm and 10pm Festive Choral Christmas Eucharists.

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day Eucharist with Christmas Carols.

Upcoming Meeting Dates

Choir Practice: Thursday, October 26 at 7pm in the church

Buildings and Grounds: Friday, October 27 at 4pm on Zoom

Vestry: Monday, October 30, at 7pm in the church library

Rev. Pamela's Office Hours

Rev. Pamela holds office hours most Tuesdays. **Her next office hours will be on Tuesday, October 24 from 4 - 5pm.** If you would like to see Pamela at a different time, please contact her directly (pamela@churchofstmartin.org) or contact the church office.

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9am to 12pm. Stop by in-person or contact the office by calling 530-756-0444 or sending an email to info@churchofstmartin.org

The Church Office will be closed on Friday, November 3 so that the clergy and office staff can attend Diocesan Convention.