

The Episcopal Church of St. Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS, December 24 - 25

Christmas Service Schedule

Christmas Eve Service for Children and All Ages with Music, Eucharist, and Pageant

Tuesday, December 24 at 3pm; in-person only (nursery open)

Christmas Eve Festive Christmas Eucharist with Choir

Tuesday, December 24 at 7pm and 10pm; in-person and livestreamed

Christmas Day Contemporary Eucharist with Christmas Carols

Wednesday, December 25 at 10am; in-person and livestreamed

First Sunday after Christmas Contemporary Eucharist with Christmas Carols

Sunday, December 29 at 10am; in-person and livestreamed; one service only (nursery closed)

[Click here for All Christmas Service Bulletins](#)

Christmas Special Offering: Please Give Generously to our Friends at The Belfry

St. Martin's has a long history of giving away our Christmas plate offering to an organization that serves others. The Vestry, along with the Social Justice and Outreach Committee, is pleased to announce that **The Belfry Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry is this year's recipient of our Christmas Special Offering.**

The kitchen at The Belfry's house on A Street is in serious need of a new stove and some additional upgrades. It's been over two decades since the kitchen has been improved, although it is used regularly. All contributions to the 2024 Christmas special offering will be directed towards a new and much safer gas stove, along with a new floor in the kitchen. Just think, as we "pass the plate," you are giving a Christmas gift that will improve the lives of students today and for years to come!

Contributions may be made online through the church website (menu item "Christmas Special Offering for The Belfry") or by writing a check with "Special Offering/The Belfry" on the memo line. Checks may be placed in the offering plates or mailed to the church office. Thank you so much.

Prayer Trees in the Narthex

In the narthex, you may have noticed two prayer trees. On a table next to the tree on your left as you walk into the narthex, you will find white circles on which you can write a prayer request or share a thanksgiving or memorial. You can hang your prayers on the tree using the attached blue ribbon.

Thank You Volunteers - The Church Looks Beautiful!

Thanks to the many volunteers who got into the Christmas spirit and helped with the greening of the church on December 22. We hung wreaths and bows, placed garlands and lights, and decorated the Christmas tree. Thanks go to Carole Hom, Neil Willits, Bob Holm, Rhody Vallejo, Molly Hillis, Karrigan Bork, Laura Bork, John Bork, Anna Bork, Alice Day, Susan Kauzlarich, John Dolan, Tim Williams, Leigh Harrington, Beth Capell, and Pamela Neilson. Extra special thanks to Scout Troop #466 for donating the beautiful church Christmas tree and two additional trees for Room 6/7 and the parish hall. Merry Christmas to all!

Special Morning Prayer on Wednesday, January 1, 2025, 8:30am

Start the New Year with a 20-minute Morning Prayer service with Rev. Pamela; we'll meet in the church near the Christmas tree! We offer Morning Prayer every Wednesday at 8:30am, including on this special day.

Los Tres Reyes Magos (The Three Wise Kings): Epiphany Evening Prayer and Bonfire

On January 5 at 5pm, join Rev. Pamela for an Epiphany Evening Prayer service, with a special visit from Los Tres Reyes Magos (the Three Wise Kings). At the end of the service, we'll celebrate together by making s'mores around the bonfire. If possible, RSVP to the church office so we know how many bags of marshmallows to buy! We'll be done by 6:15pm, so that those who have school or work the next day can get home early and tucked in early.

Meals Needed for the Winter Shelter, January 12-18 - St. Martin's Week to Serve

St. Martin's is joining a rotation of faith groups and other organizations in providing one week of food for guests of the Winter Shelter, which is located at Paul's Place (1111 H Street) this year and which houses 8 people per night. We have been assigned **the week of January 12 - 18** and are being asked to provide dinner each night, including a main dish, side dish, salad, dessert, and to-go breakfast items. This year, we are also being asked to provide microwavable food for a few guests being housed at a Davis motel and who cannot get out to buy their own food due to medical or other difficulties. **Sign up for a date and food item in the narthex starting on December 29**, email the church office (info@churchofstmartin.org), or talk to Janet Lane. The food can be home-cooked or purchased and needs to be delivered to Paul's Place between 6:00 and 6:15pm on the day you sign up for. Thanks for considering this opportunity to serve our neighbors in need during this particularly cold winter.

Ceiling Stained-Glass Window Work Complete; Principal Conservator to Give Talk

St. Martin's has an extra reason to be thankful this Christmas! Last Sunday, December 22, we returned to worshipping in the church after being in the parish hall for three months while our ceiling stained-glass window was being cleaned and restored by Nzilani Glass Conservation. The window is stunning after having been cleaned, cracks filled, and broken pieces reinstalled. Ariana Makau, the principal conservator for Nzilani, will be at St. Martin's to give a presentation to all in the congregation who are interested on **Sunday, January 19 after the 10am service. She will have pictures and will talk about our window and the restoration work that has been done.** You will not want to miss this chance to learn more about our beautiful ceiling window!

Prayer Opportunities on Weekdays

Morning Prayer: Wednesdays, 8:30am in Room 8. Join Rev. Pamela and others for this 25-minute service. *(We will not hold Morning Prayer on Christmas Day).*

Centering Prayer: Wednesdays, 5pm in Room 6/7. Join Kim Andrup and others for this 60-minute session. *(We will not hold Centering Prayer on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.)*

Compline: Fridays, 8:30pm on Zoom. Join Deacon Margaret and others for this 20-minute service. Find the Zoom link on our website under "Worship."

Prayer Request Submissions: <https://tinyurl.com/StMsPrayerRequest> or contact the office.

Church Office Holiday Closures; Longer Hours in the New Year

The church office will be closed Wednesday - Thursday, December 25 - 26; Monday, December 30, and Wednesday, January 1. Beginning January 2, the church office will be open from 9am - 1pm (instead of 9am to 12pm) Monday - Friday.

Stop by in person or contact the office at 530-756-0444 or info@churchofstmartin.org.