



A BEACON OF CHRIST'S LOVE,  
SPIRIT-FED, SERVING OTHERS

## MESSAGES

FROM ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FEBRUARY 2017

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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Every Lent I try to find a book to offer to the parish that will deepen our faith as a believing community. For instance, last year's book and discussion group was *Like a Child* by The Rev. Tim Mooney. Tim is a Presbyterian minister in Denver, Colorado and a wonderful painter and singer-songwriter. We were blessed to bring Tim to St. Martin's for a weekend where he met with parishioners to kick off the book discussion group with a Saturday workshop and then preached at our Sunday services. It was a fulfilling weekend and did get us off to a blessed Lenten journey. Tim's use of music, art, scripture, and storytelling helped us restore the human spirit as part of God's creation within each of us.



Contact the Rev. Jon Hall at [jhall@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:jhall@stmartinschurch.org)

The year before that was a book and group study guide called *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander. The focus of her work was examining how issues around racism, incarceration, and governance on the local and national levels can operate as systems of injustice. The question before us, then and now, is how do we respond as Christians? How do we represent God's economy and God's call to be just, understanding that we are all participants in either systemic solutions of reconciliation or by default proponents of further abuse? Yes, *The New Jim Crow* is a rather heady and at times unrelenting approach to what is happening in the more hidden places of our society such as in some court systems, prison systems and areas of law enforcement.

This year I would like to use a multi-faceted approach to our Lenten study. It was hard to pick one book and thereby excluding many other wonderful resources that are also available. So in the spirit of our Anglican roots, which tends to embrace a "both/and" approach versus an "either/or" approach, I thought - What if we order several resources and make them available for people of all ages and backgrounds?

So with the help of a couple of parishioners who have volunteered to fund a new Lenten Library we have ordered and will soon present to the congregation a library of books that can be borrowed and returned. If you really like the book and wish to use it this Lent, then you can keep it free of charge, or you can read and return it, or order your own copy and then replace the borrowed copy to the St. Martin's Lenten Library. Perhaps you can give it to a friend who can join us for these few weeks!



welcomes you

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## Foolishness and a Farewell to St. Martin's Father Slane's Farewell Sermon

I'm moved to preach to you today about foolishness.

I've realized as I've been considering my time here at St. Martin's, in preparation for this moment, what a great privilege it has been and how grateful I am that I have been allowed to be foolish.

Foolish like a crazy kid with too much energy, but also, I hope, foolish in the way of the Franciscan blessing that we use from time to time, when it says, "May God bless you with enough foolishness, to believe that you really can make a difference in this world, so that you are able, with God's grace, to do what others claim cannot be done." As Fr. Jay said last week about your support of his walking, I reiterate with my own thanks for you all allowing me to be foolish.

According to the Apostle Paul, there are two types of foolishness. The foolishness which the world calls wisdom, and the foolishness of God's wisdom being manifested in a circumambulating preacher who was humiliated and crucified.

Or to put it another way, there is the foolishness of "common sense" on the one hand, and on the other there is the wisdom "nonsense."

So, I want to preach to you today a little about my own foolishness over the past 2 ½ years, but I also want to start the harder conversation about the foolishness of St. Martin's, both the common sense kind, and the non-sense kind.

Now, I guess when I started here everybody could tell by my energy level that I was a little bit foolish. But I imagine nobody really knew the extent of my foolishness until I started tearing up the grass out back with Tom Richardson to make way for a patch of Winter Wheat. And then on the first week of Sunday school we went out and buried our seeds in the ground to see if new life really could rise from the dust. That should have been an indication of just how foolish these last few years would be.

Around that same time it just so happened that I was preaching on the Gospel about the sower who sows his

wheat, some on the path, some on the rocky soil, some on the thorns, and some on good soil, and I asked whether we would commit to being good soil.

Well, the wheat grew. And of course then it was eaten by the deer, and rabbits, and squirrels on the week of the harvest. It was a disappointment, but we had just enough seed to start over again.

It was foolishness to start again after being so bitterly disappointed the first time. It didn't make sense. But, we did start again, and we built a fence (of course I'll leave out the obvious joke of making the deer pay for it).

This year we gathered our grain, and threshed, and threshed, and threshed some more, and winnowed and winnowed, and winnowed some more. And then the 7-11 club made us all communion bread. What's more, the wheat turned into a whole garden operation. Our tiny little seeds that we planted on the last day of summer these past two years became tomatoes and cucumbers and peppers and potatoes and all manner of fresh food that has blessed our neighbors in West County.

The good soil and wheat were a blessing spiritually as well. I personally will never think about the separation of wheat and chaff in the same way again. Just as I preached after that first harvest, how can wheat and chaff be a metaphor for blessed people and cursed people, if wheat and chaff are parts of one thing? How much better not to think about chaff as other people who will surely burn in hell, but instead as that part of us that we cannot take with us when we die. The chaff is our protective shell, our possessions, our egos, which must surely be stripped away and left behind so that we can stand before God in the vulnerability of our most true selves.

Our good soil at St. Martin's has borne fruit out of foolish nonsense. What joy we've had together, what amazing fun we've had, what hard work we've done.

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Contact the  
Rev. Christopher Slane at  
[cslane@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:cslane@stmartinschurch.org)



## MUSIC NOTES from Denise



St. Martin's Choir has 24 new choir robes that we are greatly enjoying. We want to again extend a big thank you to all of you for your generosity. We raised enough additional money to purchase new gold chains for our choir crosses.

Because our worship requires all of our senses, the choir is also wearing new colorful stoles over our robes which coordinate with the paraments in the sanctuary. They are in the Liturgical colors that reflect the seasons of the church year. In case you've wondered about what Liturgical colors mean, here is a brief description.



Contact Denise Marsh at [dmarsh@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:dmarsh@stmartinschurch.org)

**Blue** is used during Advent and can symbolize the "waters" of Genesis 1--the beginning of a new creation, the blue "sky" where the Bethlehem star was found and also the Virgin Mary, Queen of heaven.

**White** can symbolize the "light", "purity" and "holiness" of the newborn Christ at Christmas as well as "joy" and celebration of the Resurrection at Easter. White is the color of Jesus' burial garments and is used at funerals, but also for festival days and baptisms.

**Green** is the color of renewal of living things and is used during the season of Epiphany up to the beginning of Lent. It can symbolize the promise of "new life" and our "growth in Christ". Green is also worn from Trinity Sunday during "ordinary time" until Christ the King Sunday and can symbolize our growth in faith as we follow the teachings of Christ.

**Purple** is used during the 40 days of Lent and is the color of "royalty" and foreshadows the crucifixion. It can also symbolize "pain" and "suffering", leading to mourning and penitence.

**Red** is used for Pentecost as the color of "Fire" and can symbolize the presence of the Holy Spirit. It is also considered the color of the "Church" and is used at ordinations. Red can also symbolize "blood" and is used during Holy Week.

\* Taken from: [episcopalchurch.org/library](http://episcopalchurch.org/library); [crivoice.org](http://crivoice.org) The Meaning of Church Colors by Dennis Bratcher.





## Food Pantry Sunday

**Sunday, February 12**

Please consider helping our friends and neighbors in need by donating non-perishable food and toiletry items. Our donations support the Circle of Concern’s Food Pantry, where items are distributed throughout the West County community. The pantry now feeds nearly 2,200 people each month, giving each family a week or more of nutritious meals. You can drop the items off at any time (in the basket in the coat closet) and we will bless them on the second Sunday of each month.

### Ten things you can’t buy with food stamps!

In addition to donating food, please consider buying one or more of the following items that cannot be purchased with food stamps.

- Toilet paper
- Laundry detergent
- Toothpaste, toothbrush, dental floss
- Soap
- Diapers
- Tampons and pads
- Deodorant
- Hair care products
- Cleaning products
- Lotion, powder, sunscreen, lip balm, etc

*Thanks for your generosity!*

## Egg Drivers Needed!

Once a month, five egg cookers from St. Martin's hard boil three dozen eggs each that help feed the homeless at Christ Church Cathedral. We are looking for several people that would be willing to rotate driving the eggs to the Cathedral. Our eggs are used on the fourth Saturday of the month so they would need to be downtown the week before. If you are willing to help out, please contact Alice McLaughlin at [awm.1326@gmail.com](mailto:awm.1326@gmail.com) or 636-377-0033.

## Social Justice Commission

The St. Martin's Social Justice Commission will meet on Saturday, February 11. All are welcome to join. We will meet in the lower level north classroom at 8:30 am and will have a potluck breakfast. Please let Gail Schneider ([gschneider2211@att.net](mailto:gschneider2211@att.net)) know if you will attend and if you can bring something. We will finish by 10:30 am.

## Peace Meal

The Peace Meal Project is a free fellowship meal for all every Saturday evening at St. John’s in Tower Grove. You can find out more at [www.towergrovechurch.org/serving/peace-meal-project/](http://www.towergrovechurch.org/serving/peace-meal-project/). St. Martin’s is sponsoring five dinners this year on the following dates:

**February 18 | April 29 | July 15 | September 23 | December 9**

We typically run two shifts on these days: preparation 2:00–4:00 pm and serving 4:00–6:00 pm. Some choose to work one shift and others opt to help out during the full four hours. Our volunteers always come back thankful for the opportunity and experience of working here. If you would like to help or if you would like to learn more about this outreach mission, please contact Larry Cornelius ([larry.cornelius@yahoo.com](mailto:larry.cornelius@yahoo.com)). He is currently looking for volunteers for February 18th, but you can also sign up for any of the other dates as early as you would like.

## Sermon—January 15, 2017

By Father Jay Kanzler

In the name of the father, Son and Holy Spirit.

In the time that I spent with my monastic friends at Conception Abbey, I learned a lot about the notion of a relationship with God. Certainly, I was of the initial opinion that the life of a monk was a very personal relationship with God – one-on-one. I saw the prayer, and the silence and the solitude. I saw the personal commitment to God. In my visits to various monasteries, this had been my experience as well. It was beautiful and meaningful and spiritual.

But I also learned something even more important in my extended stay at Conception Abbey. I was taught about being in a community of God. I began to understand that Christ calls us together, into community, to accomplish so much more than we could ever realize apart. We are Christians – followers of Christ – but it is a team sport, not an individual sport. We each participate in an individual way – and it is entirely appropriate and right to have that personal relationship with a loving God – but we must also join together as one community of God.

Paul writes to the Corinthians in today's epistle. Following the life of Christ, where people did have a very intimate connection with Christ, the community was forced to find different ways to experience their relationship with Christ. Slowly, within the Jewish community of Jerusalem, believers in Christ grew through small gatherings for a communal meal and worship. They were persecuted, so often these gatherings were kept secret. The intimacy of the relationship with a living Christ was replaced with the intimacy of remembering the resurrected Christ in small communities of like-minded folks. They relied upon one another for hope, for safety, for communion, and for the chance to carry on the teachings and life of Jesus Christ.

Later, we know that this effort expanded, with Paul taking the word to those up and down the Mediterranean coast, beyond the Jewish community in Jerusalem. He spread the Good News throughout the region to gentiles. He and others with him would visit the

cities, towns and villages, stay with the citizens, and teach the way of Christ. Throughout their stay, the numbers would grow, and when Paul left, he would leave behind a community – a Christian community. He had created a Church.



Father Jay Kanzler

Paul's letters to these communities were his efforts to maintain what he had started. He could not be everywhere. There were new communities to visit – Rome, Ephesus, Philippi, and Athens. Paul relied upon the citizens themselves to step up and continue the movement. Paul's letters were meant to teach, or at times to chastise; but more often, Paul wrote to encourage the members to be Christians, that is, to be followers of Christ in community. They had a responsibility. They were obligated to take up the yoke. They would be the new leaders and the next lights of Christ's message in the world. They would be just like each of you.

Christianity would be a very different thing without the Church. Some may say it would be a better thing; I generally disagree. In its simplest form, the membership of Christ's servants in the world is a blessing through the Grace God. Our community members give us hope when we are weak. We are strengthened when we are afraid. We are lifted up when we fall. We are enlightened when we walk in darkness.

Jesus said, "Man does not live by bread alone." True. But neither man nor woman can live by faith alone in isolation. We are meant to be in communion with both God and each other. We need the physical touch. We require the sound of voices. We need the ability to both give and to receive. Otherwise, we risk seclusion and loneliness. Yes, God is also there with us, but we seem better off with God and community. But that places a greater burden on us than we might be willing to carry. Like Paul speaking to the Corinthians, or the Ephesians, or the Galatians, Christ is saying to us, "This is your community, and I leave it in your capable hands."



**Continued from page 2**

And so, now that my ministry here is coming to a close, how sad we are to turn the page. Turning pages is difficult work. You know, I can remember reading the book *War and Peace* when I was in college. It took me a very long time. I mean that's a massive book, and of course I counted myself clever that I was reading this classic. *War and Peace* has one of the most amazing and heartbreaking love stories I've ever read. Mixed along with marching formations, high society pageantry, and endless forays into philosophical turmoil, the love story of Natasha Rostov and Andrei Bolkonsky sits as a jewel in the very center.

If you've read *War and Peace*, or seen the excellent mini-series that came out last year on Lifetime, then you know that this love story is also heartbreaking. I won't spend time telling the whole saga, but the main point is this: What took me the longest in reading that book (and this is a spoiler alert) was trying to start reading the next chapter after Andrei and Natasha were reconciled from the tragic twist in their love story on Andrei's death bed. His death at that critical point was almost more than my 19 year old brain could handle. I can remember reading that last paragraph of that chapter completely depleted like the air had left my lungs and would never return again.

I didn't start the next chapter for a year. Foolishness. And not the good kind. Turning the page and continuing to read is emotional work. It's a lot harder than sitting in our spot and soaking up every last morsel of grief; denial, anger, and self-pity. I lost one character in my book, a pivotal character, and I chose to forgo the possibilities and potential of all the other characters that I had grown to love, though I'll admit some drove me crazy, or made me angry at times. I chose to forgo the joy that was still trying to break through and carry the story forward to its beautiful conclusion. I could hear common sense screaming, "protect yourself," in my ear. Foolishness.

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When I leave St. Martin's, I'm sure some will be tempted to despair, or even to leave this place because this is

another disappointment in a difficult time. And to that all I can say is, Foolishness. You don't get to put the book down forever, just because the end of this chapter is sad, and neither do I. Common sense may say "cut and run," but foolishness replies, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven; and Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."

I'm not the only one who has poured enthusiasm and hard work and love into this place. You were already doing wonderful ministries before I got here: Storytime, Mary and Martha, Lunch bunch, Chair exercises, Men's group, ECW, Investment Club, Bell choir, Altar Guild, Choir, Prayer Chain, Ushers, Eucharistic ministers and visitors. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. The Bible Study leaders. They work really hard, and provide truly excellent conversations and study of Scripture. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

I started some things that weren't very popular at first. We took pews out of the church to create the children in worship space, because when we value the participation of the youngest among us, we are saying unequivocally that we value worshippers of all ages.

I also failed at some things. Nursery and acolyte scheduling to be sure has not gone well this year. But, you all have been patient with me and allowed me to learn and grow.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to my clergy colleagues Jon, Emily, and Jay, and especially everyone who has worked on the staff since I've been here. They have helped me so many times and been patient with me and allowed me to live into this first call out of seminary. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

Our Sunday school and VBS teachers and parents of young children have gone through huge fluctuations during the course of my tenure, which are just starting to bear fruit with our Spark formation. These leaders work hard to make sure that there is formation for our children. Thank you to all of you from the bottom of my heart. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

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You know, I may have started quite a few ministries here, but there are some that got going because of you: Quilting, Painting, the Garden (I only started the wheat, you all did the rest), Yoga, and the new Social Justice ministry just to name a few. Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God.

And finally, I'd like to say a huge thank you to the Vestry, everyone who has served since even before I got here. They have worked hard, they have worked very hard at a hard job. They have had to make some incredibly difficult decisions, and have spent long hours making sure that they did their best for this congregation. I hope and pray that I never have to say the last two beatitudes on behalf of the decision makers at this parish. If it's not too much to ask, could I have a round of applause for the vestry?

And can you turn to your neighbor and tell them thank you for the ministry they do at this church, whatever it is, and for continuing to commit themselves to Christ's work in this place? These are the people that you are staying for, these are the people that you are working for, this is the good soil that we've been preparing, the body of Christ gathered in this place. And has Christ been divided? As our epistle from last week said, do some belong to Chris, and some to Jon, some to Emily, some to Jay, and do some still belong to Howard? I was with Howard last week and I'm confident he'd agree with me that as a clergy person, God forbid I ever take the place of Christ in anyone's heart. Don't allow yourselves to turn into rocky soil, or thorns, don't be the down-trodden packed earth of the walking path. These don't bear fruit. If you want to honor me and my time here, be the good soil and continue to bear fruits worthy of the kingdom.

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My time is coming to an end, no really, I'm about finished, thank you for your patience. Common sense says, "Don't put all of your eggs in one basket." Well any of our kids could tell you that you won't have very much candy in your Easter basket, if you don't. Now is the time to put everything you have into making this church the

best it can be, and through it to shape yourself into the best person you can be. Let foolishness, the right kind of foolishness, lead you into the nonsense of believing that this church's best days still lie ahead.

If now is not the time to trust in God, then when is? Be playful, be joyful. Go tell people how your church brings you joy, how it's a great place for young and old, how it has struggles like other places, but it has more than enough love to share. If you can do that, St. Martin's is going to be just fine. Be Foolish!

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I don't want my youth group to think I've forgotten about them. What can I say? I'm amazed by each and every one of you. Your talents, your faithfulness to our group and each other, your humor, your willingness to do crazy things like feeding crocodiles from a boat or running through the rain to get gumbo. Your willingness to sit through serious formation, your thoughtfulness, your hearts and minds, they astound me.

I can't believe I've been lucky enough to be a part of the journey of your lives. I hope you will always have questions and doubts. I hope that you will always be seekers. I hope you'll be foolish, and temper your common sense with nonsense every once in a while. I hope you will always do what the Lord requires; to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God, because if you do, we will always be walking together even if we're in different places.

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And now St. Martin's I'll conclude my time with you in the best way I know how, with a piece of Scripture and a song. It may seem a little nonsensical to say Rejoice on a somewhat melancholy occasion, but I often need to hear a verse of scripture that says the opposite of what I'm feeling, so that I can fully grasp the depth of the emotion, and then also feel God's hope calling me to the other side.

From St. Paul's letter to the Philippians (Philippians 4: 4-9): "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer

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### Youth Group Schedule

The schedule for the remainder of this school year is almost finalized! If you have any questions, or would like to participate in any of these events, please email Susan Carpenter ([susancarpentercebs@gmail.com](mailto:susancarpentercebs@gmail.com)).

February 5: Demolition Ball / Adrenaline Zone

February 10-11: Cathedral Lock-In

February 12: Scout Sunday

March 5: Gateway 180 Homeless Shelter

April 9: Breakout Room

May 7: Go Ape! Zipline

June 6-9: Mission Trip to Heifer International Ranch

July 10-14: EYE Conference in Edmond, OK

July 30-August 5: Camp Phoenix

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### Are You Ready for FUN in February ?

**Sunday, February 5, 2:00-4:00 pm**

St. Martin's Youth Group is going to Demolition Ball / Adrenaline Zone for two hours of action-packed fun!

Demolition Ball is played in bumper cars with large scoops for catching and throwing the ball.

Adrenaline Zone is a two-story power plant laser tag course. Bring your friends!

#### Details

1:00 pm—Depart St. Martin's parking lot (drivers needed)

1:45 pm—Arrive and watch instructional video

2:00 - 4:00 pm—Play ball and laser tag

4:00 pm—Depart

4:45 pm—Return to St. Martin's parking lot (in time for the 5:30 pm Super Bowl kick-off)

Cost: \$23 per person (chaperones do not pay unless you participate)

Bring cash or write a check to St. Martin's Church.

There is no food being provided, but food, drinks and games are available for purchase.



## Cathedral Lock-In Rescheduled

**February 10-11**

Due to the winter weather, the original Lock-In was postponed. So now there is still time to register for the most popular youth event of the year!! You can register online at <http://tinyurl.com/jzwlp5f>.

The cost is \$15 per person. We will carpool to and from the Cathedral.

## Episcopal Youth Event (EYE) 2017

**July 10-14 in Edmond, OK**

**Application Deadline: February 10**

Every three years there is an amazingly fun and fulfilling gathering of hundreds Episcopal youth from all over the world...and you have a chance to go this summer! Around 1,000 people will come together for worship, play, workshops, small group discussions and presentations designed to help young people claim their call to leadership in the Episcopal Church. For more information go to <http://stmartinchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/EYE17-Application.pdf>.

## Mission Trip

**June 6-9**

**Heifer International Ranch | Perryville, Arkansas**

This year our youth will experience simulated life in poverty-stricken areas of the world. They will travel to Heifer International Ranch and participate in the Global Gateway Extended Program. Participants will be assigned to a village representing areas such as Zambia, Thailand or Appalachia. Each group is given limited resources for their evening meal. Before they can eat, they may need to acquire resources from other villages, build a fire and cook their own meal. The youth (and chaperones) will gain a deeper understanding of the struggles people in poverty face every day.

By participating in daily life activities such as preparing meals and doing chores, the hope is that they will be inspired to take action that will positively impact the environment and world around us.

### Program Details

Day One: Welcome & Orientation / Team-Building / Scarcity Meal / Program Activities / Village Meal / Overnight  
 Day Two: Breakfast / Chores / Program Activities / Cultural Meal / Teambuilding & Program Activities / Overnight  
 Day Three: Breakfast / Depart



Participants work together to prepare a meal with limited resources while spending a night in the Global Village.

More specific details regarding the schedule, cost, permission slips, etc. will be available soon! The deadline to register will be March 31. For questions, please contact Susan Carpenter at [susancarpentercebs@gmail.com](mailto:susancarpentercebs@gmail.com).

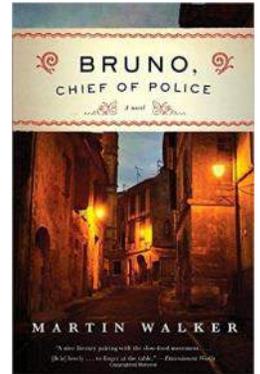


## Book Club

The Book Club meets on Tuesday, February 28th from 7:00-8:30 pm in Packwood Library. We will discuss *Bruno, Chief of Police: A Novel of the French Countryside* by Martin Walker. Come join the discussion. Newcomers are always welcome!

### About the book:

Meet Benoît Courrèges, aka Bruno, a policeman in a small village in the South of France. He's a former soldier who has embraced the pleasures and slow rhythms of country life. He has a gun but never wears it; he has the power to arrest but never uses it. But then the murder of an elderly North African who fought in the French army changes all that. Now Bruno must balance his beloved routines—living in his restored shepherd's cottage, shopping at the local market, drinking wine, strolling the countryside—with a politically delicate investigation. He's paired with a young policewoman from Paris and the two suspect anti-immigrant militants. As they learn more about the dead man's past, Bruno's suspicions turn toward a more complex motive.



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Our staff has put together a list of Lenten options that include books, online sites, and ideas for learning an array of spiritual disciplines that honor various ages, faith development levels, and backgrounds. Be on the lookout for specific titles and websites listed in our weekly bulletin inserts and on our St. Martin's website!

Once you have the materials that resonate for you in this upcoming Lenten season you can simply use them at home or work during the 40 days. Then you can bring whatever you are using to a combined gathering in the parish library on **Wednesday mornings 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. or Thursday evenings 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.** during the weeks of Lent. March 1 is Ash Wednesday and these library discussion groups will begin the following week.

Lenten blessings are yours to claim. I hope you will join us during Lent with one of these great reads.

Peace and Strength, Fr. Jon

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and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Now will you sing with me?

“I don't feel no ways tired, I've come too far from where I started from, and nobody told me that the road would be easy, I don't believe he brought me this far to leave me.”





Dear St. Martin's,

January 6, 2017

Feast of the Epiphany6

*Thank you very much for the wonderful gift that you sent to St. Christopher's mission. Your support of the work that is taking place here is a gift. We had a wonderful crop of blue corn this fall – which is currently drying over at Good Shepherd in Ft. Defiance. Leon has finished his first semester of seminary and we are beginning to identify our projects and ideas for the coming year.*

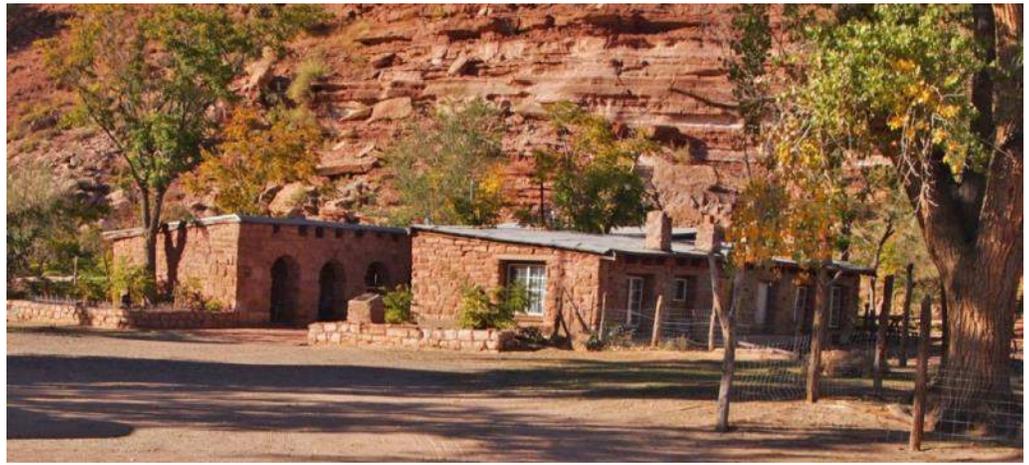
*We are covered in a blanket of snow today but busy preparing for the growing season.*

*Again, thank you for your gift! Blessings for a light-filled Epiphany.*

Peace,

Kay

The Rev. Kay Rohde,  
 Priest and Ministry Developer  
 Utah Region in Navajoland



Dear St. Martin's,

*Thank you for remembering Episcopal City Mission (ECM)! Your gift allows us to further our mission to provide hope and healing to the children in detention and directly supports ECM's most valuable asset – the chaplains.*

*Our chaplains offer support, healing and hope at juvenile justice facilities throughout the St. Louis area – St. Louis City and County Juvenile Detention Centers, along with spending time at the Division of Youth Services. Through the programs they offer and their caring, listening presence, these chaplains are in a very real sense the compassionate face of a loving God in the lives of the children.*

*Thank you for your support of this ministry!*

*Beth Goad (Executive Director)*

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This is our Church, our community, given to us by the Grace of God. Never take that for granted. This Church is our reflection of God's love back to the world. Never underestimate its potential for goodness. But just as importantly, do not miscalculate your importance as a member of the community. We each have so much to offer. And it is our bounden duty to fulfill our individual obligations to this community and one another. See, without you, there soon is no us. It sounds trite, but it is true.

I have nothing but confidence that this congregation will continue to grow and prosper. But we are going to have some challenges. Soon, Father Chris will be leaving us. He has done so much around St. Martin's. He is a wonderful priest. In baseball, they talk about a five tool player as being the elite of the game. A five tool player can hit for average and power, he has speed on the base paths, is a stellar fielder and can throw bullets from the outfield. There are very few in the league today. The best is probably Mike Trout of the Angels.

Father Chris would be called a five tool priest. He has a love for God and an equal love for humanity. He knows the scripture. He can give a moving sermon, and he is a leader. We have all seen it here at St. Martin's. We are a better parish because of his presence. We have grown as a community of Christ thanks to Father Chris. He will be missed here, but God will utilize him in new and exciting ways that he cannot begin to know. You, Father Chris, are an example of what is the very best of the priesthood.

And the best way for us to celebrate the memory of Father Chris' ministry at St. Martin's is to continue on with those things that he began and that have made a positive difference in the lives of this congregation. Let's grow the garden. More wheat. Damn the deer. Let's build a wall around the garden. Who among us will step up and be the leader?

The pumpkin patch. We can't let the pumpkin patch die. It is part of our Church's DNA now. It brings us together, while also bringing the broader community into our Church. We give and receive, and we should keep it. Maybe we can be an example for other Episcopal Churches in the area. God is calling three or four of us to be leaders of the pumpkin patch.

The youth programs. No one worked harder over the last three years to raise the level of youth programming here at St. Martin's. It is a challenge throughout the whole Episcopal Church, but our very existence requires it to be a priority. It was for Father Chris. We must keep the effort strong. I've heard several of you talk about this being an important part of your ministry. Lead us forward. We will follow.

Thank you Father Chris for being our priest and our friend. That will never stop, although we may not see each other as often. But you leave behind a congregation that is better for knowing you, and one that will make you proud of what it will accomplish in the future. We are a community of Christ, a Church, a place of hope and love, and we remain committed to moving onward and upward, living our lives as an example of Christ in the World.

Amen.



## ST. MARTIN'S MILESTONES

### February Birthdays

February 1	Sue Buffa
February 2	Maggi Brunkhorst
February 4	Dory Mena
February 5	Jasmin Chan
February 6	Lilly Rasmussen
February 8	Ray Harbert, John Limbaugh, Carson Vogt
February 10	Darrick Griggs, Nathaniel Manternach, Patrick Manternach
February 11	Allyn Beardsell, Austin Callahan
February 12	Mary Drastal, Jennifer Smith, Jack Clark
February 13	Luke Voit, Evan Fencil
February 14	Virginia Noel, Page Andersen
February 15	Jay Slobodzian, Anne Bosche, Ben Warren, Emily McCarthy
February 16	Maxine Heller
February 17	Brian Kidd, Sean Duddy
February 18	Matthew Carlson, Lizz Slark
February 19	Rina Chittooran, Jay Kanzler
February 20	Michelle Trieschmann
February 22	Robert Duddy
February 24	Sheridan Clark, Vincent Clark
February 25	Kay Fletcher
February 26	Steve Young
February 27	Julia Lockhart, Laura Limbaugh
February 28	Debbie Matthews, Matthew Lenz

### Scout Sunday

February 12, 2017

10:15 a.m. worship service

All scouts are invited and encouraged to participate in leading this worship service.

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 28, 2017

5:30–7:00 p.m.

Come celebrate the last day before Lent with the St. Martin's church family. There will be a sign-up sheet in Park Hall to help get an approximate head count so we have plenty of pancakes and sausage.

### Ash Wednesday Services

March 1, 2017

7:00 a.m.

12:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

### Flower Fund Dedication

The Flower Fund provides flowers on the altar throughout the year. Making a donation to the Flower Fund gives an opportunity to remember loved ones or celebrate a milestone such as an anniversary, birthday, honor a graduate, or say "thank you."

You will find the flower chart on the wall in the narthex. Please put your name on the Sunday of your choice (multiple sponsors may sign up for the same day). Several weeks in advance, you will receive a reminder letter with a coupon to return with your full dedication.

### With Sympathy

The following deaths were reported in the St. Martin's church family:



**Richard Murphy**, father of Carole Gerretsen  
**Woodrow Wilson Landreth**, father of Deb Allen

### Did we miss your birthday?

Send important dates and announcements to [communications@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:communications@stmartinschurch.org).



**LAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, February 5**

**8:00 am**

**Lessons & Prayers:** Linda Wilson

**Chalice:** Linda Wilson

**Ushers:** Bob & Ginny Marchetto

**10:15 am**

**Greeters:** Nancy & Steve Young

**OT Lesson:** Ann Harbert

**NT Lesson:** Gina Slobodzian

**Prayer Leader:** Michael Kovach

**Chalice:** Gina Slobodzian, Michael Kovach

**Ushers:** Larry Cornelius, Sherrie Algren, Patrick Morse, Tim Bosche

**Healing Ministers:** Mary Pomeroy, Judi Batch

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Mary Drastal, Gina Slobodzian

**Sunday, February 12**

**8:00 am**

**Lessons & Prayers:** Loretta Go

**Chalice:** Loretta Go

**Ushers:** Steve & Maggi Brunkhorst

**10:15 am**

**Greeters:** Renee & Tim Jerry

**OT Lesson:** Scout Reader

**NT Lesson:** Scout Reader

**Prayer Leader:** Scout Reader

**Chalice:** Ralph Trieschmann, Mike Kelly

**Ushers:** Mary Jane Drake, Bob Ecker, Jane Klein, Rich Eidson

**Healing Ministers:** Diana Hauser, Barb McCann

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Mike & Paula Kelly

If you cannot serve on an assigned date, please find a substitute and notify Maggie Sanders at msanders@stmartinschurch.org of the change.

If you have any special scheduling needs, please contact:

**Readers, Chalice Bearers, Ushers & Greeters**

Gail Schneider / gschneider2211@att.net

**Children's Worship**

Heather Vogt 314-223-3797 / hvogt913@hotmail.com

**Sunday, February 19**

**8:00 am**

**Lessons & Prayers:** Jeanne King

**Chalice:** Jim Crabtree

**Ushers:** Rich & Honor Hebenstreit

**10:15 am**

**Greeters:** Nancy & Steve Young

**OT Lesson:** Rina Chittooran

**NT Lesson:** John Lange

**Prayer Leader:** Mike Kelly

**Chalice:** John Lange, Tom Allen

**Ushers:** Steve Young, Sherrie Algren, Bob Huheey, Linda Huheey

**Healing Ministers:** Mary Pomeroy, Judi Batch

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Rina Chittooran, Beverly Weaver

**Sunday, February 26**

**8:00 am**

**Lessons & Prayers:** Daryl Norman

**Chalice:** Daryl Norman

**Ushers:** Bob & Ginny Marchetto

**10:15 am**

**Greeters:** Mopsi & Jack Hanley

**OT Lesson:** Doug Edmonson

**NT Lesson:** Jane Klieve

**Prayer Leader:** Mary Edmonson

**Chalice:** Jane Klieve, Mary Edmonson

**Ushers:** Bob Pomeroy, Patrick Morse, Tim Bosche, Larry Cornelius

**Healing Ministers:** Diana Hauser, Barb McCann

**Eucharistic Visitor:** Judi Batch, Mary Pomeroy, Ray Harbert, Leslie Pattengill

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10:00am Spiritual Direction / Lectio Divina 10:00am Yoga Class 1:00pm Oil Painting Class 1:15pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00am Chair Exercises 10:00am Joyous Word Bible Study	3 <b>office closed</b>	4 10:30am Esther Cornelius Committal Service 5:05pm Mellow Worship with Holy Communion
5 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:15am Spark! 10:15am Holy Eucharist 11:30am Sunday Brunch and Lectionary Forum with Fr. Jon 2:00pm Youth Group at DB/AZ	6 10:30am Bible Study 11:00am Quilting Class 5:30pm Outreach Committee	7 6:30pm Evening Bible Study	8 10:00am Yoga Class 1:00pm Oil Painting Class 1:15pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9 10:00am Chair Exercises 10:00am Joyous Word Bible Study	10 Youth Group Lock-In <b>office closed</b>	11 Youth Group Lock-In 7:30am Men's Bible Study 8:30am Social Justice Commission 9:00am Men's Group Breakfast 5:05pm Mellow Worship with Holy Communion
12 Food Pantry Sunday Scout Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:15am Spark! 10:15am Holy Eucharist	13 10:30am Bible Study 11:00am Quilting Class	14 6:30pm Evening Bible Study	15 10:00am Yoga Class 1:00pm Oil Painting Class 1:15pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16 10:00am Chair Exercises 10:00am Joyous Word Bible Study	17 <b>office closed</b>	18 10:00am Metro IV 5:05pm Mellow Worship with Holy Communion
19 Prest Discretionary Fund Sunday ECM Sunday 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:15am Spark! 10:15am Holy Eucharist 4:00pm Executive Committee	20 10:30am Bible Study 11:00am Quilting Class 5:00pm Stewardship Committee Meeting	21 Clergy Retreat 6:30pm Evening Bible Study	22 Clergy Retreat 10:00am Yoga Class 1:00pm Oil Painting Class 1:15pm Staff Meeting 6:00pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	23 Clergy Retreat 10:00am Chair Exercises 10:00am Joyous Word Bible Study 11:30am Lunch Bunch	24 <b>office closed</b>	25 Vestry Retreat 7:30am Men's Bible Study 5:05pm Mellow Worship with Holy Communion
26 Vestry Retreat 8:00am Holy Eucharist 10:15am Spark! 10:15am Holy Eucharist	27 10:30am Bible Study 11:00am Quilting Class	28 5:00pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 7:00pm Book Club				

Visit us on the web at:  
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www.diocesemo.org  
www.episcopalchurch.org



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Phone: 636-227-1484  
E-mail: stmartin@stmartinschurch.org

**Worship with us:**

**Sundays** at 8:00 am & 10:15 am  
**Saturdays** at 5:05 pm

*Have you moved? Dropped a home phone line? Changed your email address?  
Send contact changes to [communications@stmartinschurch.org](mailto:communications@stmartinschurch.org) or 636-227-1484.*

**Our new website is up and running!  
Go to "stmartinschurch.org" and take a look!**

