

BROADCAST MINISTRY REPORT

2025 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – ST. MARTIN’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The St. Martin’s Broadcast Ministry was formed on March 16th, 2020 during the international COVID-19 shut-down to spread the Holy Word to all parishioners (both active and potential future members). Nearly five years have passed since our first broadcast and the St. Martin’s Broadcast Team continues to make improvements to ensure that St. Martin’s congregants receive the best on-line worship service possible with limited volunteer resources.

The team that forms the St. Martin’s Broadcast Crew currently consists of **Chris Marsh** (audio), **Jim Fischer & Derek Barkey** (lighting and cameras), **Scott Scoopmire** (Webmaster and technical consultation), and **Bill Scoopmire** (production, broadcast, technical support, and backup camera operator).

Each broadcast event entails an average of 11-1/2 volunteer hours consisting mostly of time spent on pre-production tasks (e.g., scheduling, creating social media announcements, building graphics and background overlays, making scenes for the broadcast encoder, setting up the audio system and balancing the audio levels, setting up the livestream cameras, and making the necessary connections so that each service is livestreamed on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and the [St. Martin’s website](#)).

During 2024, two major issues were encountered that either interrupted or prohibited our Sunday services from being broadcasted. Several remedies were immediately enacted by the St. Martin’s Broadcast Ministry Team to improve the reliability and stability of future broadcasts.

First, the capacity of our broadband internet was increased significantly (from an average upload speed of 6.5 Mbps (megabits per second) to 101.4 Mbps by Charter-Spectrum and our internet equipment was replaced with a state-of-the-art modem and router. Charter-Spectrum was able to upgrade St. Martin’s internet within one day of the order while lowering the cost of this service.

Secondly, the settings of the firewall that protects St. Martin’s electronic data transmissions was modified by our IT service provider, LanServ, to give priority

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over the available bandwidth to the Sunday livestreams. This alleviated competing draws on the limited internet capacity during Sunday services.

Additionally, the Broadcast Ministry Team relocated the production workstation to a permanent location and moved the audio and network communication cables under the floor of the sanctuary which removes all trip hazards and prevents accidental disconnections of the cables used for broadcasting services. The team repurposed an unused desk from the kitchen in the basement which avoided the use of LEF (Legacy Endowment Fund) money ear-marked for the broadcast ministry.

And finally, these improvements enabled the Broadcast Ministry Team to double the resolution of video content so that viewers would have a much more enjoyable experience.

The Broadcast Ministry is extremely grateful for the many people who made these enhancements a reality:

Page and Greg Andersen, for quickly approving our proposal for the upgrades;

Kenya at Charter-Spectrum, who worked diligently to get the internet upgraded the next day and also lowered the price of the higher-speed internet service below the previously proposed cost;

Steve and Scott at LanServ who helped troubleshoot issues and update the firewall;

Derek Barkey, for volunteering a significant amount of his time and expertise to help run cables below the floor of the sanctuary which involved working in a very dark and dirty environment;

Janet Theiss, for her help in finishing the network connections; and

Chris Marsh, for his help in transporting the long and somewhat heavy desk through the winding hallways and stairways of the lower level to its final location in the corner of the Narthex.

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Respectfully submitted,

- Bill –

William Scoopmire