

2024 Garden Report

This is our ninth year in the garden. As with every year we continue to be amazed at God's good Grace and St. Martins generosity. We made several changes this year that I'd like to highlight.

First, our customer, (Circle of Concern), asked us to wash and bag the lettuce so they could put it on display faster. Jim Fischer built a wash station and we were able to wash and deliver over 300 bags of lettuce.

Second, we placed more emphasis on quality. So, this year we picked smaller but more tender produce.

Third, we added a pumpkin patch so we could be self-funding. We sold 84 pumpkins and through your generosity we able to raise nearly \$700.

Fourth, in the Fall of the year we were visited by Punxsutawney Phil (the notorious groundhog). Phil successfully ate through our Fall harvest. We set a trap for Phil but it was to no avail.

However, over the winter we swore the pox on Phil so we may not see him this coming Spring.

Fifth, we planted four kinds of garlic this Fall in the hopes that by July we can have a garlic sale for St. Martins. So please remember garlic in your prayers.

Finally, we devoted two raised beds to grow flowers this year. Gary and Kitty Harstick lovingly cared for these flowers and we were able to use them for birthdays, anniversaries, and Eucharistic visits.

Here is a brief re-cap of the produce grown:

<u>PRODUCE</u>	<u># of PIECES</u>	<u>PRODUCE</u>	<u># of PIECES</u>
Beets	144	Sweet Peppers	936
Carrots	480	Sweet Potatoes	63
Cucumbers	235	Radish	277
Eggplant	31	Tomatoes	851
Hot Peppers	1254	Watermelon	13
Lettuce	305 bags	Yellow Squash	411
Onions	253	Zucchini	182
Okra	1278	Pumpkins	84

Once again, a big **thank you** to all those who helped with the garden and pumpkin sale this past year. Thank you: **Scott Pattengill, Gary & Kitty Harstick, Jim Fischer, Judy & Chuck Batch, Daryl Norman, Scott Shearer, Mike Kelly, Annie Ram and Lincoln Drake.** Without your help this garden would not have happened.