



2014 Annual Parish Report

January 25, 2015

**Our mission is to be Jesus Christ's heart, hands and feet to
our neighbors no matter where they are on their journey of faith.**

Table of Contents

Agenda	3
Minutes from 2014 Annual Meeting	4
List of Vestry Members and Candidates for Vestry & Delegates	6
Biographies of Candidates	7
Statistical Report	12
Deacon's Report	13
Senior Warden's Report	14
Junior Warden's Report	15
Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements	16
Preschool Board Report	19
Communications Report	21
Children and Youth Minister's Report	27
Individual Ministry Reports <i>(in alphabetical order)</i>	31

Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

January 25, 2015

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Election of Secretary

Approval of Last Annual Meeting Minutes

Identification of Present Vestry Members

Report of the Nominating Committee

Introduction of Candidates Nominated for Vestry

Introduction of Candidates Nominated for
Delegates to the Diocesan Convention

Elections – Ongoing throughout meeting

Financial Report

Other Annual Reports

Announcements

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church Annual Meeting 2014

The Annual Meeting of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church was held January 26, 2014, in the East Parish Hall. There being a quorum present, the meeting opened with prayer by Interim Rector Mike Wallens at 12:30 PM. Senior Warden Bob Bess chaired the balance of the meeting. LC Crowley nominated Glenda Morehead to serve as clerk for the meeting, and she was elected by acclamation. Phyllis Bess moved Jim Wilson be elected to serve as parliamentarian for the meeting and he was elected by acclamation.

DJ Mitchell moved the minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting be approved as printed in the 2013 Annual Parish Report booklet. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved.

Current Vestry members present were introduced and acknowledged by a round of applause by the parish members present. Those whose terms end today are Steve Anderson, Gary Grant, Linda Seeber and Becky Snell. Gary Grant has moved away and Becky Snell had a family emergency and was not present at today's meeting. Those going off the Vestry were presented with personalized bookmarks stitched by Tricia Raffaell.

2014 Vestry Election

The Senior Warden introduced the nominees for Vestry: Bob Blomstrom, Gil Kleinwechter, Elizabeth Mason and Cyndy Sulots. There being no further nominations from the floor, Glenda Morehead moved the nominations be closed and the nominees elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded and the nominees were elected by acclamation.

2014 Delegate Election

The Senior Warden introduced the nominees for 2014 Diocesan Delegates: Phyllis Bess, Richard Cabes, Lisa Neilson, Becky Snell and Joel Walker as delegates and Susan Kleinwechter as alternate. Since St-Martin-in-the-Fields is entitled to 6 delegates, Phyllis Bess nominated Kathy Watson to serve as delegate. There being no further nominations from the floor, Glenda Morehead moved the slate, with the addition of Kathy Watson, be elected by acclamation. The motion was seconded and the nominees were elected by acclamation.

Financial Report

Senior Warden Bess announced that the Vestry has voted to adopt the 2014 budget shown on p 16 of the 2013 Annual Report booklet. Treasurer Diana Panther went over the budget.

Stewardship Report

Chair Aubrey Hardman reported that stewardship at St Martin is changing from a set period of the year to a year-long activity. The committee plans to foster holy habits in the congregation. Some of these habits are to be thankful, trust God to provide, be content, be a faithful example, give time and talents, give treasure.

Timeline for the Interim Period and New Rector Search

Interim Rector Wallens reminded the parish that the timeline from one Rector to another is based on the actions of the Holy Spirit as much as on our work. Canon to the Ordinary Janet Waggoner has said there are two things that must be done by May – a Profile Committee must be formed and that committee must create a profile of St. Martin-in-the-Fields “warts and all” - who we were, who we are and who we want to become. The profile must be completed in time for Waggoner to take with her to the meeting of diocesan Transition Officers of our province. At that meeting the transition officers share information on parishes that are looking for clergy and clergy who are looking for new parishes. The profile will also be placed on the national website where it will be available to clergy who are looking. After that meeting Waggoner will bring to the Search Committee the names of any eligible candidates for Rector. Anyone wanting to serve on the Profile Committee is asked to contact Senior Warden Bess by the end of the week. The Search Committee will be elected by the Vestry at their February meeting. It is feasible that a new Rector could be chosen by June. If the process doesn’t work by then, it will need to wait till fall.

Presentation and Discussion of Vision, Mission and Core Values Statements Shown on p 11 of the Annual Report Booklet

After table top discussions the Vision Statement and Core Values were endorsed by the parishioners present for adoption by the Vestry. Further discussion is needed regarding the Mission Statement. Town Hall Meetings will be held between services and after the 10:30 service on February 16 to provide Vestry members a sense of parishioners’ wishes before they vote to adopt a Mission Statement.

Worship and Christian Formation Proposals for Lent through Easter

The Interim Rector announced that changing Sunday school to 9:30 from the previous practice of holding Sunday School during the 10:30 service has prompted extensive discussion. Complaints have centered mainly around feelings that 2 hours is too long to spend at church and that 9:30 is too early. The Christian Education director and the clergy are looking at options for the Lenten season. Parishioners were asked to present their suggestions. The final decision on Christian education for children and adults will be made by the staff with input from the teachers.

Announcements

Parishioners were referred to the printed reports in the 2013 Annual Report booklet. One report that was submitted but not included in the booklet was that from Sisters of the Spirit. Joy Malmgren displayed the short sleeve shirts that have been purchased for the Presiding Bishop’s visit. The shirts will go on sale next Sunday at \$15 each. The diocese has changed the structure of the deaneries.

The Interim Rector closed the meeting with prayer at 2:15 PM.
Respectively submitted, Glenda Morehead, Clerk

2015 Vestry

Retiring January 2015

Bob Bess
Aubrey Hardman
Joe Panther
Joel Walker

Retiring January 2016

Annette Duff
Patrick Hollifield
D.J. Mitchell
Jim Wilson

Retiring January 2017

Gil Kleinwechter
Elizabeth Mason
Cyndy Sulots

2015 Vestry Nominees

(4 elected for a 3 year term)

(1 elected for a 2 year term)

Gregory Anderson
Gary Wilkinson
Bob Bess
Jack Bolerjack
Charles Busey
Mev Matulevich
Courtney Mullaney

2015 Diocesan Delegate Nominees

(1 year term)

Gregory Anderson
Tom Bolerjack
Marty Hitchcock
Susan Kleinwechter
Ayo Omoniyi
Becky Snell
Joel Walker

Biographical Sketches of Nominees for Vestry and Diocesan Convention

Candidates for Vestry:

Gregory Anderson

My name is Gregory Anderson. I am fairly new to St. Martin-in-the-Fields. My parents are both Episcopalian but I joined the Presbyterian Church when I was in high school. Some of my friends went there and I went with my friends. I went to a Presbyterian College in St. Petersburg, Florida. I have worshipped in a variety of faith traditions over the last 25 or so years. Coming to St. Martin's feels like a coming home in many ways. I wish to serve in whatever way the Holy Spirit points me.

Professionally I work in a decision analysis and planning role. My current title is at FedEx as Systems Advisor for Revenue Assurance. I have been at FedEx in the Office division for the last 7 years. Prior to that, I was at Sprint in a Decision support and analysis management role within the finance organization for 13 years.

I also have a small farming homestead with a herd of Nubian dairy goats and a large flock of chickens, predominately light brown leghorns. I support the local 4-H programs in Wise County for both poultry and dairy. I have also raised and shown terriers over the last 20 years and judge an occasional sweepstakes. I am a certified Texas Master Naturalist and volunteer as docent at the Fort Worth Nature Center. I also completed the Native Plant Landscaping certification with the Native Plant Society of Texas and completed the Citizen Forester training in Fort Worth in 2014.

I attended the 2014 Diocesan Convention as a visitor. I plan on attending the 2015 Convention whether selected as a delegate or not. I look forward to serving St. Martin's in whatever capacity I can.

I am thankful to be at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and look forward to being an active member.

Gary Wilkinson

Kathy and I moved to Texas a year ago. We moved here to be closer to our son and his family. The grandchildren were a great draw. In our transition we were looking for a new spiritual home. On November 9, 2014 we were received into St. Martin-in-the-Fields. In preparation to be received into the church, I contemplated the type of ministry that would be suitable for me. With my business background, it seems logical that working with the Vestry would be very compatible. I would welcome the opportunity to serve as a member of the Vestry. My education consists of a B.S. Degree (Accounting Major) from Wayne State College (Wayne, Nebraska) and an M.B.A. from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. I am also a Certified Medical Practice Executive. I have been in healthcare administration for 33 years. My focus has been providing leadership to physician group practices. During my career, I honed my skills on strategic planning, all financial activity, human resources and many other aspects of managing a physician practice. I also have had the privilege of being a member of the Board of Directors of Ten Thousand Villages of Huron Valley. This board led the effort to bring a fair trade store to Ann Arbor, Michigan from beginning to end. In my spare time, I enjoy

spending time with the family and adding to my grilling and BBQ skills. Since moving to Texas, I have had the opportunity to become a Certified BBQ Judge.

Bob Bess

I have attended and volunteered at St. Martin in-the-Fields for 30 years. I have been on the vestry and served as Junior Warden and Senior Warden at the church. I have also served as an usher for several years. It would be an honor to be able to serve God in our church on the vestry for another term.

Jack Bolerjack

Hello, this is Jack Bolerjack and I am interested in serving on the Vestry of St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church. I have been coming to Saint Martin's for as long as I can remember, and am currently a full-time student at the University of North Texas.

I have gone from being in the nursery to working there. I have enjoyed going to Sunday school and serving as an Acolyte, as well as helping set up before events and cleaning up afterward, and even helping cook for the Wednesday Night Live dinner.

I am interested in many topics within the Church and am looking forward to working with Father Scot. Continuing and improving the Youth and educational programs at the Church is very important to me. Similarly I am interested in promoting mission trips for both youth and adults within the church. I remember my mission trip with the church to Bastrop, TX and how those acts of service and experiences have helped shape me as a better Christian. Participating in local mission trips and community activities provided a gateway to the community and to serving others in areas near to home.

Charles Busey

I have long felt the need to be of service to God and our church. With a background in education, I feel my perspective could be an asset to St. Martin-in-the-Fields. With 38 years as a teacher and administrator, and 15 years as a junior high and high school football and basketball coach, I have spent the majority of my life working with children. Now as a grandfather to five energetic children ages 8-14, I am continuing my teaching and coaching in the most joyous of ways!

I also cherish my role as a father. My son is a chemist in the pharmaceutical industry and my daughter is a second grade teacher with HEBISD. I recently lost the love of my life, Joy, to cancer. Married for 47 blessed years, I am transitioning into a new chapter of my life. Retirement came swiftly when my wife was diagnosed with leukemia in 2009. Having spent the last five years enjoying moments with Joy and our family, I am now looking forward to finding new ways I can be of service to God and his people.

I was raised in St. Michael's Episcopal in Haltom City, and was an acolyte through my boyhood. During my adult years, St. Vincent's in Bedford was my family's church home, and I served there as headmaster from 1985-1988. I have always sought faith through the guidance of the Episcopal Church. It would be an honor to be chosen to serve as a vestry member, for St. Martin's holds great promise and I believe opportunities abound to share God's impact with our community.

I appreciate your time and consideration.

Mev (Mary Ellen) Matulevich

Growing up in Cincinnati, Ohio and baptized at Hyde Park Baptist Church, I was led to a stronger faith after being confirmed in the Lutheran Church. My husband Bill and I moved to Montana, where we joined a congregation and I became the church secretary at Atonement Lutheran Church. That lasted for 18 years, until we left Billings for life in Andover, New Hampshire. I was hired by the New Hampshire Conference, United Church of Christ as Assistant to the Conference Minister. I stayed and expanded my ministry journey that God had put me on until retirement. There aren't many Lutheran churches in New Hampshire so God sent us to a closer parish, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in New London, NH. That started our journey as Episcopalians. We retired here in Texas to be close to our son, Jeff. In our search for the right congregation we were guided (slowly but deliberately) to St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church. We now travel a distance to worship here (not unusual) and wish we were closer. We cherish the ministry and mission of St. Martin's, and hope to be part of this loving community for a long time.

Courtney Mullaney

I am 38 years old, married to Chris Mullaney and I'm mom to three children. I was raised United Methodist and was very active in youth activities in childhood and in the Wesley Foundation in college. When Chris and I began searching for a church home for our family, we found that the United Methodist churches in the northeast portion of Tarrant County didn't mesh well with our beliefs or desire for a more traditional worship style. After some research, we decided to visit St. Martin's and after only one Sunday, I looked at Chris and said, "I think we've found our church." I was received into the Episcopal church in the spring of 2014 and was part of the Profile Committee as part of the search for a new rector, along with serving as a Sunday School teacher and helping with the audit committee of 2014.

I work as a speech-language pathologist in management as a Rehab Director for Green Apple Therapy, a pediatric home health agency based in Weatherford. I have a bachelor's degree from Texas Christian University and a master's degree from Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. Outside of work, I enjoy time with my family, spending time with friends, tinkering with photography, and most recently learning to decorate cookies.

I hope to be able to serve St. Martin's as a member of the vestry, and I thank you for your consideration.

Candidates for Diocesan Convention:

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last 7 years. Prior to that, I was at Sprint in a Decision support and analysis management role within the finance organization for 13 years.

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I attended the 2014 Diocesan Convention as a visitor. I plan on attending the 2015 Convention whether selected as a delegate or not. I look forward to serving St. Martin's in whatever capacity I can.

I am thankful to be at St. Martin-in-the-Fields and look forward to being an active member.

Tom Bolerjack

My name is Tom Bolerjack, and I am seeking a diocesan delegate position representing St. Martin-in-the-Fields. I am a lifelong Episcopalian, and have grown up at St. Martin's. My family and I have been active for many years in general church events, and the acolyte guild in particular. The family of St. Martin's has been a major factor in my life for as long as I can remember. The youth groups and mission trips that the church sponsors have helped me gain an appreciation and understanding of my faith and that of others. Working with the church community and the acolyte guild has been extremely fulfilling, and I am proud of the attributes and habits that they have helped me develop. I would be honored to help represent St. Martin-in-the-Fields at the Diocesan Convention.

Marty Hitchcock

(Bio not available at time of printing)

Susan Kleinwechter

Hello, I'm Susan Kleinwechter and I'd like serve St. Martin-in-the-Fields as a diocesan delegate. I'm a passionate Episcopalian. I've been a part of four diocesan conventions, serving with communications and technology, and I've served as an alternate then delegate in the last two Conventions. I was elected in 2014 as a representative from our deanery to Executive Council. I understand that the work of Convention is done throughout the year at deanery meetings and Executive Council meetings, not just at Convention each November. I will prepare, research, and make informed decisions in matters before our diocese, and I will keep St. Martin's leaders informed about what's developing in the diocese.

I'm lifelong Episcopalian and a member of St. Martin's for 20 years, where I've raised two kids to adulthood, taught Sunday School for 10 years, facilitated EYC for four years, helped with VBS for at least seven years, and guided our church into more modern communications in the last three years. Professionally, I'm an independent contractor in communications and a

photographer. I contract with the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth for communications, managing their social media, publishing content on their website, and administering email and collaborative technical accounts. I've served on the diocesan communications committee for five years and worked to strategically shift the diocese to use more modern communication methods. I'm active in the professional association Episcopal Communicators, where we work to strengthen the community of communicators, foster development of communications expertise, and advocate and educate for the ministry of communications. You can find out more about my professional life on [linkedin.com/in/skleinwechter](https://www.linkedin.com/in/skleinwechter).

Ayo Omoniyi
(Bio not available at time of printing)

Becky Snell

I am Becky Snell, and I am asking to be considered as a delegate representing St. Martin-in-the-Fields at the Diocese of Fort Worth Convention for 2015. I have been a delegate for St. Martin's for the last 3 years and have attended the last five Diocesan Conventions. In 2014, in addition to the delegate position, I was the Nominations Committee Co-chair, and in 2013 I served as the Elections Chair at Convention.

My family has been active in the St. Martin's community since moving to the Keller area in 1997 and we have all learned and grown in our faith. My two sons attend University of North Texas, but do continue to attend St. Martin's when their schedule allows. Over the years as our family aged from the nursery through to the Episcopal Youth Community, we have served in many of the ministries at St. Martin's. Currently I serve in the Acolyte Guild, Lay Liturgical Ministry Guild (LLMG), Event set-up and breakdown, Memorial Garden Fountain Keeper, and I am one of two Schedulers for the volunteer calendar program.

I would be honored to represent St. Martin-in-the-Fields in 2015 as a delegate. Thank you.

Joel Walker

Born into a Methodist family in northern New Jersey more than half a century ago, I was introduced to the Episcopal Church in 1962. I earned a degree in mathematics in 1966, and then spent two years in the US Army.

Five years and two daughters later, the family moved to Fort Worth where we attended St. Christopher's, where I was confirmed as a member of the Episcopal community. In 1991, we found St. Martin's, which has been our church home ever since.

Over the years, my service to St. Martin's has been as a special shopper and cook for events around the church, and an extra hand whenever there was work to be done in the parish or in the community. I served as a Green Team coordinator for a number of years, and have served on the vestry for a total of 11 years to date. In addition, I have worked with the committee for the Festival in the Fields program and have been both an alternate and a delegate to the Deanery and Diocesan Convention since before the reorganization of the Diocese.

I am hoping to continue to serve St. Martin's in the future as a delegate to the Deanery and the Diocesan Convention.

St. Martin's Statistical Report

Record of All Services

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Holy Eucharists	198	153	165	203	182	166
Sick Communion/Holy Unction	181	60	58	43	23	9
Burials	4	4	8	7	6	4
Marriages	4	4	1	1	3	1
Confirmation Services	1	1	2	1	1	3
Baptism Services	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	11
Other	16	23	9	2	NA	16
Children's Chapel	9	9	9	57	NA	12
School Chapel	NA	NA	NA	NA	45	29

Record of Sunday Services

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Sunday Holy Eucharists	159	148	158	156	148	154
Total Sunday Attendance	11,236	11,634	11,564	11,158	NA	9,271
Average Sunday Attendance	209	213	217	215	NA	178

Record of Weekday Services

	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Wednesday Holy Eucharists	21	6
(Including Ash Wednesday and Christmas Eve)		
Attendance at Wednesday Holy Eucharists	272	606
Thursday Holy Eucharists		
(Including Maundy Thursday, Thanksgiving, Christmas)	2	3
Attendance at Thursday Holy Eucharists	92	95
Other Weekday Holy Eucharists	12	1
Attendance at Other Weekday Holy Eucharists	512	5
Funeral Holy Eucharists	2	3
Attendance at Funeral Holy Eucharists	60	110
Marriage Holy Eucharists	2	1
Attendance at Marriage Holy Eucharists	242	25
Total Weekday Holy Eucharists	34	13
Total Attendance at Weekday Holy Eucharists	1,083	821
Total of All Holy Eucharists	182	167
Total Attendance at all Holy Eucharists	15,112	10,092

Deacon Report

This past year I have again been honored to serve as your Deacon. The list of activities below would not have happened without excellent and selfless commitment from many individuals who carried the load for each of the projects in which I was involved. I especially want to thank Corrie Cabes, Fr. Mike Wallens, and Bob Bess for their support and encouragement.

The activities I have been involved in:

- Worship services each Sunday at 8:30 and 10:30 am except for once a month when I attend other churches in the diocese. I am also serving our Bishop at worship services when requested. I am occasionally at Saturday 5:00 services when requested.
- Preaching once a month including the Saturday service. Occasional guest preaching at other parishes has been fun.
- Drive-by ashes on Ash Wednesday. This is a ministry I want to continue, and Susan Kleinwechter has been so wonderfully helpful in assisting with signs and directing folks into our parking lot, as well as setting up news coverage that drew a lot of local attention to our efforts.
- Planning a new book study for 6 weeks this lent season on “Same Kind of Different as Me,” a wonderful story about our Fort Worth Union Gospel Mission (UGM). More book studies to come.
- Follow-up tours of the UGM and its complete facility as requested. We need to do more of these.
- Several trips to the UGM to visit with staff and discuss projects (and deliver food). Also delivery of the shoes we gathered for the men of UGM. We did a terrific coat drive for the Mission that took over 100 coats to them in two SUV loads. We were helped by our Fever Soccer team and their parents.
- Follow-up of 2013 Christmas family gifts and food support. We continue to follow Hispanic families in need and support them with food, clothing, and funds. This effort was coordinated with Deacon Cindy Ruiz.
- Working with Joy Malmgren and others on our mission and outreach group at St. Martin-in-the-Fields has been especially rewarding. Those folks, especially Joy, carry most of the burden, and I simply serve where I can. I think 2015 will see even more activity by our group and I look forward to wider support from our parish family. We have several new projects that we will announce soon.
- Serving on several diocesan committees including the Commission on Ministry, where I am the new chair-person. I also serve as chair of the Disciplinary Board, which we always hope has no business to conduct in the coming year.
- I am blessed to have been able to help out with pastoral care much more in 2014. My hospital visits and counseling sessions have increased, and I hope are helpful to all I minister to. I am also blessed to have planned, presided and preached at weddings and funerals this past year, and am ready to do what I can to help with these milestones in our lives whenever called upon.

· I have continued ministry to those in need as I come in contact with them. I am able to help in many small ways through my discretionary fund, for which I am very grateful. St. Martin-in-the-Fields has been more than generous with discretionary funds, and I always remind those who are helped that it is not from me, but from the parish family.

The Rev. Henry Penner

Senior Warden Report

Looking back on 2014 we should all rejoice in the conclusion of our search and the beginning of a new era at St. Martin-in-the-Fields with the Reverend Scot McComas. The interim period is over and we can continue our mission with a new leader in place. Scot will officially begin on February 9, 2015. My thanks to the Profile Committee, led by Jim Wilson, and the Search Committee, headed by Richard Cables, for all of their hard work and dedication which made calling our new rector possible. I would also like to thank our Treasurer, Diana Panther, who has been a tremendous help to me all year long. My leadership as your Senior Warden is a function of all the hands who offered me help and support as I have made this journey. Let me just offer a brief summary of some of the events and changes which have occurred this past year.

- The Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church visited the Diocese of Fort Worth and joined us at St. Martin-in-the-Fields to celebrate Holy Communion on February 9.
- St. Martin's School financials are now combined with those of St. Martin-in-the-Fields financials. This change was recommended by the audit committee.
- Our partnership with Fever United Soccer continues, with great benefit for our church, as we practice good stewardship with our abundance.
- The Third Annual Festival in the Fields was made possible by many volunteers, led effectively by Dick Seeber. This event was well attended, and all proceeds helped with the addition of play equipment for the playground shared by our school and church. Many parents of our preschoolers attended and volunteered at the Festival this year.
- Corrie Cables became Children and Youth Minister. At the March 16th vestry meeting, the vestry approved a change in title and responsibility for Corrie. This exciting change allows Corrie more time to work with children in the school as chaplain and at church every week.
- St. Martin-in-the-Fields sent 2 teens to the Episcopal Youth Event at Villanova in July.
- We hired Anika Barbarito to become our new administrative assistant. She joined us after the departure of Michelle King to become an administrative assistant for the Diocese of Fort Worth in February.
- We hired Jan Rees to become the business manager for the church. This has been a very positive step toward St. Martin's taking better care of our volunteers.

- Mayra Carballo became the director of the nursery as of August 1. Heather Ripple resigned on July 31 to spend more time with her family. We thank Heather for her service.
- Cindy James has taken over as Interim Director of the St. Martin's Preschool. The school continues to be a wonderful place for children, and we appreciate Cindy's leadership.
- St. Martin's Preschool celebrated a ribbon cutting with the Keller Chamber of Commerce. This event was well attended by people from all over the area.
- We said farewell to The Reverend Amy Haynie on June 1. She decided to spend more time with her family over the summer, as she began looking for new opportunities.
- We added a new play area to our playground for use by the St. Martin's School children.
- The Reverend Mike Wallens resigned as interim rector, effective November 9. Mike accepted an offer to become the Priest in Charge at a parish in the Diocese of Dallas. His leadership and spiritual guidance has been appreciated by everyone who worked with him at St. Martin's.

I am grateful to a forward -thinking and hardworking vestry. My thanks to a Junior Warden who has supported me every day and helped improve our building and grounds. Thanks to our clergy and staff for hard work and for going above and beyond on many occasions. I cannot adequately express my gratitude to the hundreds of volunteers who make our parish function every day. Thanks be to God for your grace, guidance and wisdom.

Yours in Christ, Bob Bess – Sr. Warden

Junior Warden Report

This was a pretty good year for building maintenance as we didn't have any extraordinary costs this year. The A/C units held up and I believe we are winning the battle of the roof leak. A couple of electrical problems were fixed. We were only just slightly over budget this year due to a couple of water leaks and utility rate increase. In the spring there was a change in the janitorial service to Knight Janitorial. There is an Eagle Scout project in the works that will help beautify the outdoor worship area. I am very grateful for the work Steve Anderson has done over the last year for running the Green Team, which was kept under budget, the grounds are looking good. Steve also headed up maintenance of the Memorial Garden. I cannot say thank you enough! This past year was definitely a learning experience for me and I am grateful for all the help I had and will do all I can to assist the next Junior Warden. Thank you. Joe Panther - Jr. Warden

Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements

FYE December 31, 2014

Total Contributions for 2014 were under Budget by \$5,416. Pledge Contributions were under Budget by \$53,036 or 13.6%. However, Helping Hands Contributions of \$42,195 and other special contributions offset this deficit. The Academy's revenue was under Budget by \$33,834 due to a reorganization of the school's direction. Other income of \$43,131 includes grants received from the Diocese for outreach, donations from trusts, festival receipts, building use and various refunds and tax credits. Overall, income was .2% under plan.

Total Operating Expenses were under budget by \$10,458. Significant expenses in 2014 included increased utility costs and search committee costs while savings were realized in payroll for Mother Amy's departure and the Academy which was \$7,806 under budget in school expenses. Overall, Operating Expenses were 1.6% under budget for the year.

The Academy experienced a loss for the year of \$26,028. This loss includes the \$10,000 of shared expenses (building) with the church. Total Net Income (which includes the Academy) was \$9,126.

The 2015 approved Budget reflects a 7.9% overall decrease in income compared to 2014 actual, due to the extraordinary income that is reflected in 2014. There are a total of 107 pledging units for 2015, compared to 113 in 2014. Pledges for 2015 are 4.17% higher than actual pledges received for 2014. Included in budgeted income are anticipated Helping Hands campaign funds of \$27,813. The church received \$42,195 of Helping Hands campaign funds in 2014. Total income is budgeted at \$575,457 for the year.

Although the Academy's budget reflects an operating loss of \$12,028, it is anticipated that it will be made up in school fundraisers, which is reflected as fundraising income in the budget. Operating expenses are budgeted at \$575,657 or 6.5% less than 2014 actuals.

Once again, the Finance Team performed their volunteer duties conscientiously and timely.

The work performed by the team, Glenda Morehead, Helen Simpson and Helen Carr is superb and is greatly appreciated. The addition to church staff of Jan Rees as our part-time Financial Manager has added tremendously to the financial guidance to the church and oversight of all transactions as they occur. The Finance Committee, who oversee the overall Finance function was chaired by Jack Bailey and included Bob Bess, Paula Jefferson, Jim Wilson Aubrey Hardman and myself. Starting in February 2015, Doug Watson will assume the role of Treasurer, bringing his audit, prior church treasury experience and enthusiasm to St. Martin's financial team.

Diana Panther-Treasurer

St. Martin-In-the-Fields Episcopal Church
Statement of Financial Position
As of December 31, 2014

	Unrestricted Funds	Temporarily Restricted Funds	Permanently Restricted Funds	Total All Funds
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 31,464	\$ 60,412	\$ 398,830	\$ 490,706
Property and Equipment				
Original Building and Contents			851,093	851,093
Education Building			277,783	277,783
Building Improvements 2001-2014			189,987	189,987
Land			750,000	750,000
Preliminary Design Costs for New Sanctuary			244,128	244,128
	<u>\$ 31,464</u>	<u>60,412</u>	<u>2,711,821</u>	<u>\$ 2,803,697</u>
TOTAL ASSETS				
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES				
Current Liabilities				
American Express Payable	4,898			4,898
Payroll Taxes Payable	23			23
Prepaid Pledges for 2014		2,500		2,500
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>4,921</u>	<u>2,500</u>		<u>7,421</u>
FUND BALANCES				
Unrestricted	26,543			26,543
Temporarily Restricted		57,912		57,912
Permanently Restricted			398,830	398,830
Net Investment In Plant			2,312,991	2,312,991
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u>26,543</u>	<u>57,912</u>	<u>2,711,821</u>	<u>2,796,276</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	<u>\$ 31,464</u>	<u>\$ 60,412</u>	<u>\$ 2,711,821</u>	<u>\$ 2,803,697</u>

ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS									
SUMMARY OF PROFIT & LOSS									
	2015	2014	2014	Church	School	Temporarily	Permanently		
	Budget	Budget	Actual	Operations	Operations	Restricted	Restricted		
INCOME:									
PLEDGE INCOME	351,020.00	390,000.00	336,964.49	336,964.49					
NON-PLEDGE INCOME	45,000.00	56,000.00	31,406.78	31,406.78					
PLATE RECEIPTS	8,000.00	8,500.00	8,838.85	8,838.85					
HELPING HANDS	27,812.73	0.00	42,195.00	42,195.00					
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING	9,500.00	5,400.00	32,475.03	18,858.60				13,616.43	
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS - EXTERNAL FUNDRAISING	0.00	0.00	2,604.00					2,604.00	
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS - OPERATING	441,332.73	459,900.00	454,484.15	438,263.72	-			16,220.43	-
ACADEMY INCOME	116,725.00	160,973.00	127,138.76		127,138.76				
ACADEMY FUNDRAISER	12,000.00		0.00						
OTHER INCOME	5,400.00	5,400.00	43,130.64	28,793.87				14,336.77	
TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	575,457.73	626,273.00	624,753.55	467,057.59	127,138.76			30,557.20	-
EXPENSES:									
TOTAL BUILDING & GROUNDS	62,700.00	60,300.00	74,213.56	70,612.22				3,601.34	
MISCELLANEOUS	500.00	500.00	16,694.25	5,463.04				11,231.21	
DIOCESAN ASSESSMENT	65,197.00	57,497.06	57,497.04	57,497.04					
TOTAL MISSION & OUTREACH	11,200.00	9,550.00	9,521.80	7,521.80				2,000.00	
TOTAL OFFICE EXPENSES	23,532.00	19,310.00	23,597.04	23,597.04					
TOTAL WORSHIP	4,200.00	3,600.00	4,461.51	4,461.51					
TOTAL PROGRAMS	27,154.00	25,350.00	28,807.48	26,203.48				2,604.00	
TOTAL ACADEMY	128,753.60	160,973.00	153,167.23		153,167.23				
TOTAL PAYROLL & BENEFITS	252,421.13	289,192.94	247,855.30	247,855.30					
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	575,657.73	626,273.00	615,815.21	443,211.43	153,167.23			19,436.55	-
TOTAL OTHER INCOME/EXPENSE	200.00	0.00	187.49	0.09					187.40
NET INCOME OVER(UNDER) EXPENSE	0.00	(0.00)	9,125.83	23,846.25	(26,028.47)			11,120.65	187.40
CASH BALANCES:									
CHECKING	Opening 12/31/13			12/31/2014					
ACADEMY	59,063.65			38,510.08					
DISCRETIONARY	23,561.98			-					
MEMORIAL GARDEN	2,688.05			1,967.27					
SEMINARIAN	2,288.92			100.00					
SAVINGS	105.00			105.00					
CAPITAL FUNDS	63,195.52			55,551.05					
TOTAL CASH BALANCES	394,285.37			394,472.86					
	545,178.49			490,706.26					

St. Martin Episcopal Preschool Board Report

In January of 2014, St. Martin-in-the-Fields Church (herein after “the Church”) reaffirmed education as one of its core values. The Preschool had seen a steady decline of enrollment, it was functioning without a curriculum, and the playground was not only inappropriate for older preschoolers, but also not in compliance with state safety standards. Additionally, the Church and the school were not functioning as a cohesive unit. The leadership environment at the school was negative and there were no plans for the future.

Since the change of leadership at the school in May of 2014, there has been a profound revitalization of the school through the efforts of the Preschool staff, Church Parishioners and the Board.

Accomplishments:

Cleaning, Reorganization and Inventory of the Preschool:

The staff at the school has worked hard to create a warm, inviting environment for the children. Rooms and toys have been cleaned, organized and the entire school facility brightened.

An Accredited Curriculum:

The Preschool currently uses an accredited Episcopal curriculum provided by the Southwest Association of Episcopal Schools.

Creation of a Resource Room:

In “Ms. Regina’s Resource Room” the children have been exposed to science and technology.

The Formation of a PTO:

Katie Frieburg, a parent at the school, is the current PTO president. At present each of the classes now has a “Room Mom” to help coordinate class parties etc. Robin Strand has taken over teacher appreciation activities. She arranged for the purchase of end of the year gifts for the staff. Both Katie and Robin will continue in their respective roles in the spring of 2015.

Revitalized Internet Presence:

The website has been rebuilt and includes a virtual tour of the facility. A Facebook Page has also been created. These tools allow for parents and parishioners to remain informed about the school. This social media presence also allows potential families to learn about the church and school.

An Age-Appropriate, Safe Playground has been Installed:

Through some funds on hand at the school, and extensive support from the church parishioners, Vestry and from the Diocese of Fort Worth, we were able to install new playground equipment.

Involvement with other Preschool Directors within the Surrounding Community:
Earlier this year, Ms. Cindy James was invited to join a group for local preschool directors. In her role as Interim Director she has been a dedicated, positive representative of the school. We have every reason to believe that the relationships she is building will lead to an enhancement of the school and an increase in enrollment through referrals.

Solidarity, Support and Mutual Respect between the Church and School:
The opportunity for a greater presence by the Church in the day to day functions of the school has yielded a major change on the environment and outlook of all. The children have benefited from Chapel increasing to five days a week. Additionally, school functions such as graduation and the Christmas program are occurring in the sanctuary. Additionally, St. Martin functions as a mascot for the school.

Enrollment and Activities:

In September 2014, enrollment was at 30 children. We are proud to say that as of December 19, 2014, enrollment was at 39 students. We scheduled tours in the following week for 3 additional prospective students. We have every reason to believe that there will be a significant increase in enrollment in the coming semester.

Our most recent activities at the school were Breakfast with Santa, the Playground "Grand Opening" and the Christmas Program.

Monthly reports are made to the Vestry to keep them apprised of the ongoing activities at our school. I appreciate this opportunity to report to the Parish as a whole how far we have come in one year. I would like to express my profound thanks to both the Vestry and the Parish for their support of the school during the past year. There is a vibe of excitement in the air and the future looks bright!

Regards,

Karrie Marling
Board Chairperson

2014 Communications Report

Who we are & what we're about:

The communications report is provided by Susan Kleinwechter on behalf of the Communications Development Committee. This committee supports the church staff in strategy, publishing, and analysis for the digital communications of our church. Committee members are Susan Kleinwechter, Annette Duff, Gil Kleinwechter and Will Duff. Of the committee members, Susan and Annette are the largest committee contributors, but Gil and Will support with much-needed technical expertise. You can reach Susan, Annette, and Gil by email at webmaster@stmartininthefields.org.

This report covers the communications work of the church, not just the committee, so it reflects efforts of Children and Youth Minister Corrie Cabes, Parish Administrator Anika Barbarito, former Interim Rector Mike Wallens, and former Associate Rector Amy Haynie, and former Office Administrator Michele King.

How you can help our church communications:

The communicators at St. Martin-in-the-Fields continue to need the assistance of the entire parish to press forward with the transformation of our communications- to tell a compelling story of our community in fellowship, service, and worship that is as useful for seekers and visitors as it is for members. Some specific ways everyone can help are:

- Share stories about the ministries you're involved in and their activities and events
- Capture and share quality photos - a picture is worth a thousand words
- Share personal stories about your life and faith
- Keep the information about your ministries always up-to-date and inviting
- Make communications the first topic in your planning
- Follow up with stories after events so we can share our successes and fun
- [Subscribe](#) to the website to receive updates directly via email
- [Like our Facebook page](#), [turn on notifications from our page](#), and interact by liking and sharing
- [Subscribe to our emails via Constant Contact](#)
- Open, read and click through our emails for more information about what's going on. We've determined our readers are mostly skimming, relying on titles and excerpts and only getting part of what's going on.
- Tell the church office when your name, address, phone, email, or family status changes
- Boldly tell us that you want to become a pinner on a group board on Pinterest!

The single biggest thing that made an impact on our 2014 church communications was this: early, quality, thorough planning. Better planning simply yields better communications. When ministry leaders and event planners plan and communicate details early, rather than have information trickle out or be begged for by staff or communications volunteers, it makes a great difference in how we reach people and what we can accomplish together in Christ's mission.

What we did

Building on new work and new organization begun in 2013, most of our 2014 efforts were in the day-to-day, week-to-week grind necessary to transform our church's publishing strategy to

- Match the pace and tempo of modern communications
- Use our new website as the informative and authoritative hub for communications

Our 2014 work involved the church website stmartininthefields.org, Facebook page facebook.com/stmartinkellertx, the preschool website stmartinepiscopalschool.org, the preschool Facebook page facebook.com/StMartinSchool, the preschool's Twitter account [@StMartin_School](https://twitter.com/StMartin_School), email marketing through Constant Contact, managing photos in our Flickr account flickr.com/stmartinkellertx, and dabbling in Pinterest to pin VBS decorating ideas. We were responsible also for user account/mail administration in Google Apps. We made a foray back into print publishing with strategy for the Seasons seasonal newsletter; Anika orchestrated and made most of the Seasons magic happen, with content provided by parishioners and staff.

Preschool Website

This spring, we developed a new preschool website in WordPress and launched it toward the end of the spring semester. Hand-in-hand with that went launching the preschool's Facebook page and Twitter account, and church email accounts, and training staff to work with those. Over the summer, in consultation with school staff, we moved the website from stmartinacademy.com to its new and current domain stmartinepiscopalschool.org. Also over the summer, management of the website and social media was handed over to a staff member involved with developing preschool marketing, and that staff member re-designed the school website with a new theme. However, as school restarted the staff position was vacated and the website came back to Susan for oversight and minor updates. It remains a static website with infrequent publishing. The communications development committee, lacking time and energy to drive it forward, recommend three things to the Vestry: that the website be redone as the school marketing is revisited, that it use the same theme as the church website for ease of maintenance and a cohesive look, and that someone be hired to manage all the communications channels of the school and church. *Relying so heavily on volunteers for the most visible and mission-critical elements of our church and school is not advised.*

Training & coaching

We did a lot of training with Corrie and Anika in the church office, because we want our staff to be proficient with writing for the web and the details of posting. Giant kudos to them, because they have strategically ramped up detailed planning, been patient in receiving and acting on suggestions on how to improve writing and visual content, and they've been diligent in the details of publishing and chasing down content.

Church Website - stmartininthefields.org

Volume of posts

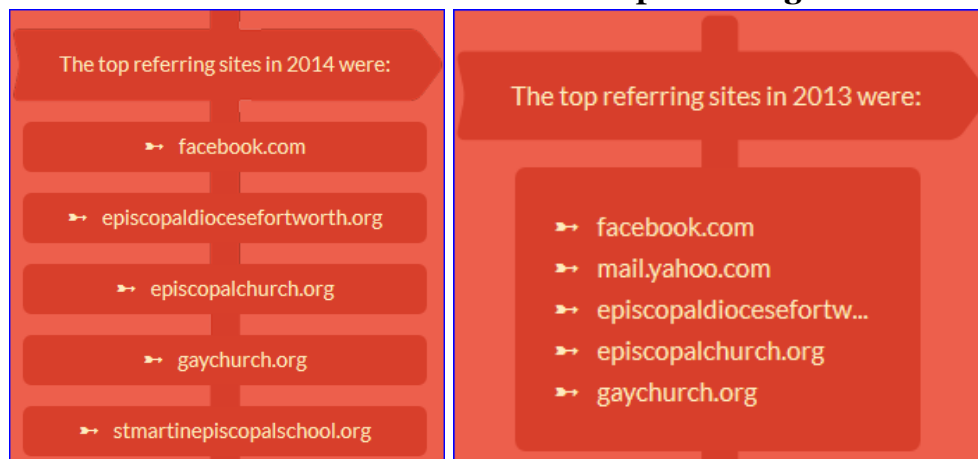
In 2014, there were 409 new posts, growing the total archive of this site to 625 posts. Compare that to 2013, where there were 170 new posts. Corrie and Anika publishing more and Father Mike writing a lot made a big difference in the increase in the number of posts. After all, frequent quality content is what wins the internet.

Views

Stmartininthefields.org was viewed about 43,000 times in 2014, up from 16,000 times in 2013. If it were a concert at Sydney Opera House, with seating capacity of 2,700 people, it would take about 16 sold-out performances for that many people to see it.

The busiest day the year was December 3, 2014 with 726 views. The most popular post that day was [Announcing our new rector - the Rev. Scot McComas](#). That was great news to share, and well-received! Facebook paid off big in taking people to our website.

Where do website visitors come from – top referring sites in 2014 vs 2013:









Website Referrers	Views
Facebook.com	10792
episcopaldiocesefortworth.org	268
episcopalchurch.org	115
gaychurch.org	97
stmartinepiscopalschool.org	89

Our Facebook marketing pays off and brings visitors to our site. So does asking the diocese to publish our events. Our preschool site could refer more people to our church website if a different marketing approach was used, which would require a lot more from existing staff or volunteers, or new staff.

stmartinacademy.com	50
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Where do website visitors come from – by search? Hint: Google rules w/80% of volume.

Top Search Engines	10,792
 Google	8774
 Bing	956
 Yahoo Search	679
 Google Image Search	103
 AOL	97
 Ask.com	73

Where do website click away from our site and go?

URL	Clicks
stmartininthefields.org (<i>another part of our website</i>)	761
bmb.gomerchant.com (<i>online giving & payment</i>)	315
stmartinacademy.com & stmartinepiscopalschool.org	377
Google calendar events on our calendar	214
flickr.com (<i>photos</i>)	152
Surveymonkey.com (<i>our parish profile survey</i>)	129
Facebook	122
rotundasoftware.com (<i>Ministry Scheduler Pro</i>)	104

Where do website visitors come from, geographically?

Top 5 Countries	Views
United States	40,319
United Kingdom	602
Canada	259
India	227
Brazil	225

Most of the 43,000 website views are from the US, with the UK and Canada being runners up but far behind. No real surprise there. The rest are, well, from all around the world of the worldwide web.

Subscribe!

Our website offers email subscription to receive updates as we post news on the website. You can subscribe on the [Contact page](#).

Preschool Website - stmartinepiscopalschool.org

There are presently no metrics on the preschool website, thus no way to measure its effectiveness.

Constant Contact Email

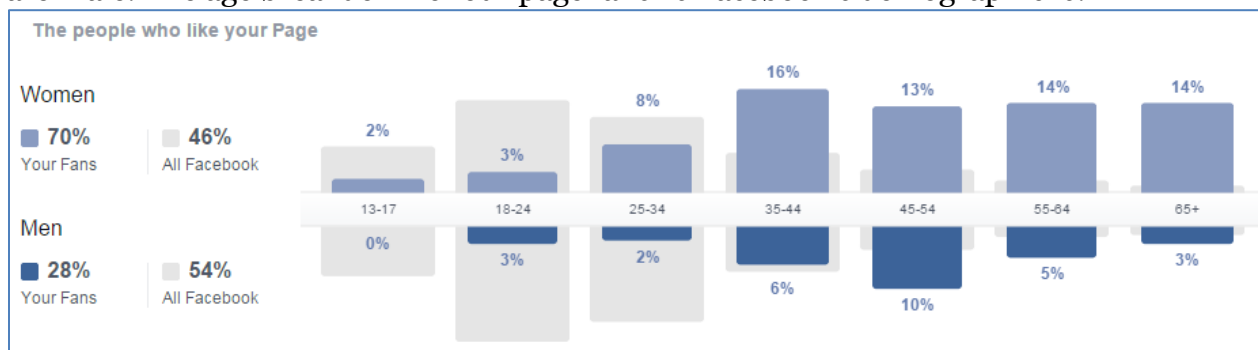
St. Martin's uses Constant Contact to do a weekly email and other announcements to our open subscriber list. The church sent 111 Constant Contact emails in 2014, and the year ended with 388 subscribers.

In spring of 2014, we made 2 changes to our weekly newsletter format. The first was simple: we moved from a 2-column layout to a 1-column layout that would be easily read on mobile devices. The second had more strategic impact - we started pulling our website posts into the newsletter with a "post title and excerpt," where a summary of information is provided and more information is available by clicking the title link or ellipsis hyperlink to the full website post. This second change was part of our strategic shift to a hub-and-spoke communications model, where our website is the hub and primary part of our communications, and we use other spokes like our weekly news email and Facebook to take us back to the website hub.

Overall our email open rate is adequate, even high for nonprofit religious organization, but our click rate is poor. For the last 3 months of 2014, the open rate was 41.3% and the click rate was 11.9%. *That tells us that people are skimming, relying on excerpts for information.* It has been challenging to craft good excerpts with essential information to best utilize the title-and-excerpt format.

Facebook Page - facebook.com/stmartinkellertx/

Our Facebook fan base grew in 2014 from around 150 fans to 184 fans. English-speaking, local people dominate our fan base. 70% of our fans are female, 28% are male. The age breakdown of our page fans vs Facebook's demographic is:



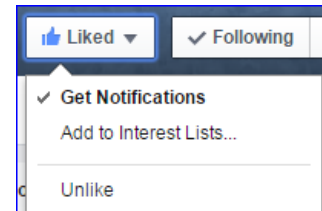
In the 28-day period from December 14 through January 11, *our Facebook posts were served to 6449 people in the United States.* Compare that to the 388 Constant Contact email subscribers and 41.3% open rate as we try to regularly reach people every week and you can begin to understand why social media matters to a church. But don't get happy about that monthly 6449 people reached number, because...

We're reaching fewer people on Facebook these days! Our Facebook organic reach is declining, as most nonprofits experienced in 2014. Why? Facebook algorithmically decides which stories appear in the news feed of the average user. That means Facebook looks very closely at the posts our page makes, and Facebook will show fewer of our posts automatically on our fans' timelines. Facebook's goal is to show each user the posts that are most relevant to and

engaging for them. Facebook downplays messages put out by a page in favor of posts from individuals you regularly interact with and in favor of paid content. The less you interact with a page like ours, the less you and your friends who also like our page will hear from it. It is likely that in the near future we will need to pay for Facebook advertising to have a meaningful reach.

But you can help us reach more people on Facebook! Here are three things you can do to make sure our Facebook posts reach you:

1. Go and like our page facebook.com/stmartinkellertx
2. Tell Facebook to deliver them all to you. Choose to Get Notifications as an option from the Liked button on our page
3. Regularly interact with our content –like, comment on and share our posts.



And frankly, moving forward in 2015, we need to delete our old Facebook group. Our church's Facebook presence would be strengthened to delete the little-used public group "St. Martin In The Fields Episcopal Church" whose admins are no longer attending or very active at our church and to encourage subscription to our page. Having 2 presences in one social channel is confusing; each is a unique audience; and many of our people on Facebook don't know the difference between a Facebook group and a page. From Facebook's early years, groups were the only vehicle for an organization to aggregate an audience. Currently Facebook groups serve no purpose for evangelism, as they are members-only. The best use of a Facebook group is for small-group communications around specific interests or for specific networks, such as a ministry area or Bible study, where peer-to-peer communications is desired.

Flickr - flickr.com/stmartinkellertx

St. Martin's uploaded and shared 1650 photos in 43 albums on social site [Flickr](https://flickr.com/stmartinkellertx), where full-resolution photos can be downloaded and shared to other social sites. Flickr doesn't offer us statistics, but it's #4 on the list of websites our stmartininthefields.org visitors click away to in the last year.

Pinterest - pinterest.com/stmartinkeller/

Here lies an opportunity! We have dabbled in Pinterest in creating Vacation Bible School decorating boards to collect and exchange ideas. On those 2 VBS boards, we've had more than 60,000 views of our meager 200 pins. So, who wants to collaborate and pin for our church on group boards? Email communication@stmartininthefields.org if you do! With a strategy and a team of pinners, we could engage in digital evangelism on Pinterest to identify who and what we believe in, reflect our culture and mission, share deep thoughts and challenging ideas, and inspire our congregation and community.

Susan Kleinwechter – Communications Coordinator

Children and Youth Minister/School Chaplain Report

Mission

To provide opportunities for spiritual growth in young people through Sunday school, Chapel, seasonal events, youth-led worship and outreach.

Specifically:

- providing a safe environment for children and youth formation that is functioning, unified and nurturing.*
- making opportunities available to young people to practice a growing faith through service, giving and creative worship.*

2014 Highlights

Sunday school kicked off with Fun Faith Field Day on September 14. A superhero sized blessing started the festivities that day with Sunday school volunteers sporting superhero t-shirts, costumes and capes. Over 50 children, teens and volunteers joined in a field day with themes from Genesis. Sunday school has featured curriculum called “Faithweaver” for nursery, tweens and teens. This curriculum walks children and teens through the Bible in three years. Pre-K to 3rd grade children learn Bible truths in an interactive way with Godly Play.

A spring confirmation retreat was held in April and five young people were confirmed by Bishop High.

During the summer, children’s chapel welcomes a good following of children and teens who serve as chaplains. This service features a simple liturgy, songs, art and short homilies following the liturgical calendar and readings.

The Episcopal Youth Event was held in Villanova, PA with two youth in attendance from St. Martin’s, the only church to send teens to EYE in the Fort Worth Diocese.

Teens and children have participated in special services from a Good Friday family service to a youth sermon journeying through the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany. Looking towards Lent, the teens are planning a Good Friday family service. Families and children will experience a service featuring interactive stations to reflect, ponder and respond to Jesus’ great outpouring of love on the cross.

St. Martin’s Episcopal Preschool Chapel Program

The chapel program at St. Martin’s preschool academy incorporates the Shell curriculum from Virginia Theological Seminary. Godly Play storytelling, simple creeds, songs and prayers are a part of the chapel worship service. Special events such as “the blessing of the stuffed animals” and visits from “saints” of the church make chapel a part of the wonderful program at St. Martin’s Episcopal Preschool.

Average Daily Chapel Attendance: 30

Chapel Services Held in August 2014-January 2015: 60

Service Sundays

Service Sundays started in July 2014 by the Episcopal Youth Community to provide sack lunches for the homeless served by Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County (UGM). Each second Sunday of the month, the teens invite all parishioners, young and old to join in making healthy lunches for UGM. The Mission and Outreach committee at St. Martin’s has committed to providing fruit

each month for this ministry. Many members of the parish support Service Sundays with donations of time and talent, driving lunches down to the mission, and providing supplies and funding to keep this ministry going. In 2015, we are looking for ways to extend this ministry. Reaching out to partner with the Roanoke Lion's Club and Edward Jones is the next step in expanding this ministry and involving surrounding businesses and organizations in the community.

In addition to providing lunch for over 100 people each month, a monthly giving campaign was implemented to collect inexpensive, but much needed items like bar soap, toiletries and socks for the people of Union Gospel Mission. These monthly campaigns keep the focus on those in need and teach children and youth that giving is part of "who we are" as Christians.

Youth Musician Group

A Youth musicians group formed in the fall featuring a rousing performance of "When the Saints Go Marching In" and "O Come All Ye Faithful" during the Christmas Eve services. Many thanks go to the teen musicians and Mrs. Christi Hardy, our choirmaster and organist.

Fast Facts in Formation

100- Enrolled in Sunday School

45- Average Attendance September 2014-January 2015

32-Adult Volunteers

Vacation Bible School

95- Enrolled

40- Volunteers

25- Teen Volunteers

Children's Friday Lent Series "A Slimy Messy Retelling of the Gospel of Mark"

12- Avg. Attendance (teen volunteers and children)

6- Number of Sessions

Service Sunday Lunches Made

July 2014-84 Sack Lunches

August 2014-91 Sack Lunches

September 2014-100 Sack Lunches

October 2014-100 Sack Lunches

November 2014-102 Sack Lunches

December 2014-100 Sack Lunches

January 2015-105 Sack Lunches

Youth Confirmation

Each spring, an intensive weekend retreat will be held for those interested in Youth Confirmation. Led by Corrie Cables and adult volunteers, this retreat will end with Bishop High's visit and a special "Confirmation Sunday."

Fall Weeknight Programs for Children and Teens

Generation Change: A Dave Ramsey class for teens was held for 9 weeks in the fall offering budgeting, giving and saving advice for teens heading to college and looking to make responsible choices with money.

Jr.'s Bible Adventures: A Dave Ramsey class for children offered Bible truths to teach children to lead a generous life. With cooking, art, storytelling and outdoor games, children learned that God wants us to be givers.

12 total youth participants

Vacation Bible School

This amazing outreach ministry touched the lives of over **95 children** and their families. A week spent learning about God's love with games, crafts, theater time and music was a joy and a blessing to St. Martin's parish family. Over 50% of participants came from the St. Martin's Academy and Preschool, one of the largest in-house outreach ministries offered to the community. It takes loads of wonderful volunteers to pull this off! The event ended with a family service featuring a children's liturgy; youth readers topped off this wonderful event!

Episcopal Youth Community

The EYC meets for discussions of faith, prayer, community service and outreach and FUN! This group meets weekly on Wednesday nights for a "study break" with snacks, games and faith exploration. EYC also meets twice a month on Sundays.

Approximately 15 youth are active participants in EYC.

Special Events

We Built the Tomb: Children and teens worked on creating an eight foot tall tomb of foam board, with jewels and paint to reflect upon during Lent. On Easter, the "stone" was rolled away from the tomb and children and youth saw new way to experience Lent and Easter.

Epiphany Pageant: This wonderful St. Martin's tradition was directed by Patricia Pannell with music performance by organist Christi Hardy. New volunteers bravely joined in to help with this beloved event and new costumes brought some sparkle to this event.

Trunk or Treat: A fun trunk or treat in the church parking lot had children and families munching on candy and having a grand time together. Everyone was invited to dress as modern day saints such as police officers and firefighters.

Saints Parade: The "modern day" saints of St. Martin's paraded with much pomp on All Saints Sunday with a performance by the newly established youth musicians group.

Advent Festival: The Sixth Annual Advent Festival was held, teaching families how to "take Advent home" with them. From greening advent wreaths, to offering ways to celebrate Advent at home, children and families kicked off the season of Advent.

Elves Feast: This wonderful tradition at St. Martin's had a tiny little elf very busy during December. Elvish did find time to pop up on the church website and Facebook a bit with his adventures in preparing the feast.

Blessing of the Animals: This outdoor service blessed every scale, bit of fur and little wet puppy nose. A teen-led bake sale to benefit the Humane Society of North Texas brought in needed funds to help animals.

Easter Egg Hunt: Teen led, this explosion of eggs makes for an amazingly joyful hunt for children and families celebrating the risen Lord! The flowering cross and pictures in the grass add to the joy of Easter day.

Fun Faith Field Day: This event is a great way to start and end each Sunday school year. Featuring Bible stories, field games and an outdoor Eucharist, this special event celebrates the special ministry of children and youth Sunday school and invites the entire parish family to participate.

On A Personal Note

It has been my joy and honor to grow and learn over the past three years and now serve this parish in a full-time capacity. Due to the amazing support of this parish, I will complete a program in Christian Formation in June from the Seminary of the Southwest. I am looking forward to a Mission Trip to serve Union Gospel Mission in June, a VBS soccer camp partnering with Fever United Soccer in late June and many exciting and creative worship and formation opportunities for our young people. I give thanks for the opportunity to minister to the children, youth, students and families at St. Martin's Episcopal Church and School.

Corrie Cabes

Individual Ministry Reports

Acolyte Guild

The St. Martin's Acolyte Guild consists of approximately 30 servers who assist at the three weekend services each week as well as at the numerous special services throughout the year.

Acolytes are scheduled for regular services and also attend monthly practices to maintain eligibility. Special training is required for the larger and more complicated services.

The acolytes will be installed in the guild on Installation Sunday in March, welcoming new members and renewing others. Jacob Tiemann and Jack Heckel will be installed as Senior Acolyte Masters/ Senior Thurifers. Ifedayo Omoniyi and Sarah Pannell will be installed as Junior Acolyte Masters/ Junior Thurifers. They have all assisted with training and coordinating services.

I appreciate the Adult Acolytes of the guild. The Adults serve at all services and train with the youth. I would like to extend a big thanks to all the help we had throughout the year such as sewing ribbons, washing vestments, printing labels & pew sheets, as well as helping with the coffee hour. Thank you to Joe Panther and Tom Bolerjack for helping with training, scheduling, support and everything else and Joyce Raymer and Arlene Paul for all their sewing. Thanks to Brandy Heckel, Kerry Angle, Rhonda Ackley, Phyllis Bess and the many others that have helped wash our vestments. Thank you to Gil and Susan Kleinwechter for taking pictures. Thank you to all who brought food, set up, served and cleaned up at the coffee hour. Thank you to our clergy for your assistance and cooperation with our guild. Thank you to Phyllis Bess, our Verger, for all she does for us.

Thank you to the Altar Guild for the care and keeping of all our equipment.

The Guild sincerely hopes to continue to provide St. Martin's with dignified and consistent acolyting. Any person first grade through adult who would like to learn about the liturgical practices of the Episcopal Church and serve God in this special way is encouraged to become an acolyte.

Respectfully submitted,

Deneice Wood - Acolyte Guild Director

Adult Choir

The choir is a blessing every week, and I can truly say that they work harder and are more dedicated than any group with whom I have worked. Our purpose is to lead the church in worship and praise to God. Our members, usually 15- 17, which is all the choir loft will hold, serve faithfully and willingly when called for special events such as funerals, weddings, Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter services and the St. Martin's Festival in the Fields.

Our choir is blessed to have Marianna Folger accompany us each Sunday as we sing a choral anthem. I look forward to 2015, and the opportunities for us to serve under Father Scot's leadership at St Marin's.

We have also had several occasions to use the instrumentalists which attend our church. We are very fortunate to have some excellent musicians.

It has been my privilege to have served as choir director/organist for the last six years and I look forward to many more Sundays with the wonderful church that is St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

Respectfully, Christi Hardy - Choir Director/Organist

Altar Guild

The duty of the Altar Guild is to prepare all things necessary for the celebration of the Eucharist or any of the other sacraments of the church including baptisms, weddings and funerals. Working under the direction of the Rectors we prepare the Altar for the Eucharist and take care of the vestments, linens, frontals, vessels, and acolyte equipment.

Our guild is divided into four teams. Each team assumes responsibility for the worship services for a week, including Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday services, as well as for weddings and funerals, which take place during their week. We all work together during Holy week and Christmas to share the work and get to know people on the other teams. We meet as a guild prior to Holy week and Christmas to review together some aspect of our duties and the clergy provides a presentation.

This lay ministry is open to both men and women. In the early church, men preformed our work only. During the 19th century as the laity became more involved in the church the duties of the altar guild fell largely to women. If you are looking for a ministry that will truly serve the Lord in a godly manner, a ministry where you will learn more about the services and the vessels and linens we use in the Eucharist, you are warmly invited to speak with the rector. No previous experience is required; we will provide the training.

New members this year- Gregory Anderson, Deniece Wood

Many thanks to all the clergy for their patience and guidance, and especially to all the Altar Guild members for their faithful service this past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Seeber and Jean Freitag, co-directors

Bread Ministry

The Bread Ministry provides a loaf of bread and an information bag for all people who fill out a communication card. There are eighteen members of the Bread Ministry. We have 10 people who bake bread and 10 people who deliver. Each person is assigned a week to provide their service.

Each Baker donates the bread they bake and each Delivery person donates their gas to make the deliveries. The Bread Ministry had a \$50.00 yearly budget for 2014 which is to be donated to offset the current shortfall in the 2014 budget for this past year.

The Bread Ministry is a part of Radical Hospitality and Flo Lowrey manages all the information requested on the communication cards. The delivery people report to Flo Lowrey as to whom they delivered to each week by email after the bread and welcome bag are delivered. The delivery person reports any special needs that the newcomer may have. All statistical information can be obtained from Flo Lowrey.

The Bread Ministry is looking forward to a successful 2015.

Barbara Hollifield – Chairperson

Education for Ministry

Education for Ministry (EFM) is a four-year distance education program offered by the School of Theology at Sewanee, The University of the South. Begun in 1975, the program has assisted over 30,000 students in discovering how to respond to the call of Christian service.

The St. Martin-in-the-Fields group consists of 7 students and a mentor from the Diocese. We meet on Wednesday nights (September - May) from 6:30 - 9 pm for study and theological reflection. New members are welcome at the beginning of each academic year. For more information, please contact Mary Beth Butler, ph: (940)-206-6138 or marybethbutler@gmail.com.

Mary Beth Butler – contact person

Email Prayer Group

“Families that pray together, stay together”

Prayer is at the heart of our worshipping community at St. Martin’s. One way we keep up with the prayer needs of our parish family is through Email prayer requests.

This is how it often works: A member of the congregation who has email capability sends an email to me: prayers@stmartininthefields.org, asking that a prayer request be sent out to those in the congregation who have made their email address available. I usually am able to send the prayer request within hours.

Prayer requests can be made for illnesses, surgery, broken bones, travel, thanksgiving, etc... and, of course, deaths.

We have found this to be a way to stay connected with each other. It always helps to know that our parish family is aware of a need and is offering prayers to God.

If you would like to be added to the group who receive the email prayer requests, please send me your email address: prayers@stmartininthefields.org

Flo Lowrey - Chairperson

Festival in the Fields

Festival in the Fields is an annual family event held in the fall for St. Martin- in-the-Fields parish and surrounding community. This year, the Festival was held on October 25, 2014. We partnered with Fever United, a local soccer team for youth, and the festival was a huge success.

This was important for many reasons, one being that all proceeds from the festival, this year over \$4,000, was designated to help purchase and install a new playground for the church and preschool. The playground was completed in December 2014. A second reason for the festival was to provide a family get-together for the entire congregation, the staff and families of the church and preschool, and the community at large. This was completed by providing entertainment for the kids, a chili cook off, book sale, silent auction and food and drinks for all with the participation of several area vendors. The third reason for the festival is to provide an opportunity, for congregation and preschool member volunteers to “give back” to the school and church.

I am extremely proud of all who participated in making the 2014 Festival in the Fields a huge success, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your commitment and positive attitude.

For more information or to volunteer for the festival, contact Richard or Linda Seeber either in person or via rwseeber@sbcglobal.net

Richard Seeber – Chairperson

Flower Guild

The flower guild decorates the altar area with beautiful flower arrangements and arranges for special displays at Christmas and Easter services. Donations help cover the cost of the flowers while giving a special tribute to someone that has passed away, birthdays, anniversaries, and weddings, or an occasion that is special to them.

Linda Seeber – Chairperson

Garden Guild and Scrip Program

The Garden Guild's responsibility is landscaping and maintaining church plantings excluding the Memorial Garden. The Garden Guild also sponsors and manages the Scrip Program (gift cards), the principal source of income for the Guild. The Guild is not in the church budget.

The Scrip Program consists of gift cards from a variety of merchants who allow the Guild to buy scrip at a discount and sell it at face value. Discounts range from 1.5% to as high as 16% and the variety of scrip covers groceries, clothing, hardware, building materials, gasoline, toys, books, restaurants, entertainment, air travel, hotels, etc.

Appreciation and thanks to all who helped support the Garden Guild by purchasing scrip, or by weeding and planting. Special thanks go to Flo Lowrey for computer production of reports and flyers, and to Patricia Pannell, Joyce Raymer, and Jane Smith, for selling in the absence of Helen Simpson.

Membership in the Garden Guild is open to any member of St. Martin-in-the-Fields. If interested, call Helen Simpson, 817-337-1961.

Scrip Program Statistical Report

Beginning Bank Balance 1/1/14	\$4,423.91
Scrip Sold	\$35,525.00
Total Income	\$39,948.91
Cost Scrip Purchased	\$33,331.93
Funds to SMITF - Helping Hands	\$1,000.00
Contest gifts	\$225.00
Total Expenses	\$34,556.93
2014 NET INCOME	\$ 5,391.98
Scrip Inventory 12/31/14	\$6,695.00
Ending Bank Balance 12/31/14	\$3,797.71
TOTAL SCRIP ASSETS	\$10,492.71

Helen Simpson – Scrip Treasurer/Coordinator

Grow the Church Ministry

Grow the Church ministry was established in 2014 to assist in expanding existing ministries and offering new ministry opportunities to St. Martin-in-the-Fields and the surrounding community. The ministry began with a study of the book "Holy Currencies: Six Blessings for Sustainable Missional Ministries" by Rev. Eric Law.

This ministry worked closely with the stewardship ministry and Christian education programs to facilitate offering Financial Peace University, Financial Peace Jr. and Generation Change studies in the fall of 2014.

These educational programs were offered to individuals and families of all ages in both the St. Martin's and the greater community through classes, meals and fellowship during a nine week Wednesday night class series. Lessons included the practical application of God's teachings about how to handle money and the gift of stewardship. This ministry also worked with Mission and Outreach to facilitate the angel tree program with A+ Academies. This ministry stands ready to assist the new Rector and the Vestry in 2015 to support and expand existing ministries and offer new ministry opportunities.

Elizabeth Mason – Chairperson

Hope Group of Narcotics Anonymous

Hope Group will be celebrating 9 years at St. Martin-in-the-Fields Episcopal Church on Memorial Day weekend this year. We started with three members and one meeting per week. The group's last major change was to go to meetings seven days a week. This was a very important change since an addict is advised to attend at least 90 meetings in 90 days & have a home group. When a group has a meeting every day, a member is more likely to continue to come to that meeting. Our Saturday meeting proved to be unsupported after trying a couple of different time slots & was discontinued a couple of months ago.

This past year we were provided a dedicated meeting space. We now meet in the "library," off the East Parish Hall, next to the EYC Room. Occasionally there is a conflict of room space due to the Wednesday night programs but we've been able to work around it for the most part. We consider it a good thing when it's a tight fit for everyone to sit in the room!

Recently, we've had a down-tick of attendance which is not unusual. Due to the small size of Hope Group, we do feel the attendance drop more acutely than other groups do. This means that on some nights only 2 - 4 people will come for a meeting. Fortunately, since this is a common occurrence, we anticipate attendance to increase again soon.

On the second Sunday of the month, we have our "Birthday Night" recognizing milestones of recovery...30, 60 and 90 days, 6 and 9 months, 1 year, 18 months and multiple years. We recognize the celebrants then have a speaker from the area to share their experience, strength & hope.

We are also fortunate to be allowed to host our area business meeting approximately once per year & occasional area events and fundraisers here at St. Martin's.

We appreciate and are grateful for the ability St. Martin's has given us to have an NA group here. The next nearest groups are in Denton, Watauga & Hurst so for some people, this is the only group they can get to.

Our meeting schedule is Sunday - Friday at 7pm

Literature Study on Thursdays

Birthday Night on the 2nd Sunday

Group Business Meeting on the last Sunday after the recovery meeting

All meetings are open which means anyone is invited to attend. Please let any friends or family know we are here if they need us. There is a Fort Worth Area

Narcotics Anonymous Helpline that someone looking for a meeting or help can call at 888-NAWORKS (888-629-6757).

In Loving Service, Kay Nilram – NA Hope Group Coordinator

broadwaykay@yahoo.com

817-300-7923

Hospitality Hour/Coffee Hour

Hospitality Hour is a tradition in the Episcopal church. It is a time after the 10:30 service, where you can meet and greet other parishioners and get to know people from church. It is held in the parish hall and we service donuts, coffee, and lemonade. A ministry volunteers to host it each week or many parishioners ask to host it during the year. This is a great time to learn about our church, meet people, and learn about ministries that our church provides. It is also a very easy way to get involved by hosting it one week during the year. If you are interested in hosting hospitality hour, please contact me at mmanderson54@gmail.com

Mary Anderson - Chairperson

Keller Al-Anon Family Group

The Keller Al-Anon Family Group meets in our chapel twice a week on Sundays and Thursdays. The Group is comprised of "relatives and friends of alcoholics who share their experience, strength, and hope in order to solve their common problems".

Although the fellowship was founded on helping those involved with alcoholism, we also help those who have friends or family members with a drug addiction.

Evie Larimore - Chairperson

Ladies Night Out

Ladies Night Out is a ministry to promote the spirit of fellowship between all women of the church and to help newcomers feel welcome and meet other church members. We enjoy a meal out on the second Tuesday of each month, enjoying a variety of cuisines and locations. Our December meeting is an ornament exchange and potluck dinner held at the church.

Arlene Paul – Chairperson

Lay Liturgical Ministry Guild

The LLMG consists of Lectors, Chalice Bearers, Lay Eucharistic Visitors (LEV), and Worship Leaders. Through this ministry we celebrate our relationship with God by serving at His altar.

The Guild provides initial and continuing training, gives consistency to our services, and helps us become better servants of Jesus Christ. We give thanks for everyone serving in many services, including Saturday and Sunday Masses, Holy Day services, Weddings, Funerals, Evening Prayer, Antecomunion, and Stations of the Cross.

Brandy Heckle and Becky Snell coordinate the service schedules each month, using the new web-based software we incorporated last year. To serve as a lector, you should feel comfortable reading in front of the congregation, and receive brief training regarding introducing and reading the lessons.

Chalice Bearers, Lay Eucharistic Visitors and Worship Leaders must be confirmed communicants and receive training to be licensed to serve.

If you feel called to serve in any of these ministries, please contact Brian Long: longr@lisd.net

Brian Long – Chairperson

Mission and Outreach

Mission & Outreach efforts in 2014 included quarterly donations to the following groups: Presbyterian Night Shelter, Union Gospel Mission, Meals on Wheels and Community Storehouse. An effort was made to help the neediest in our community and was focused on Union Gospel Mission. In support of EYC efforts, Mission & Outreach provided funds to add a banana to each of the 100 lunches made on Service Sunday each month.

Matching funds provided by the Fort Worth Episcopal Diocese allowed us to make donations that included \$1,000 to the Presbyterian Night Shelter to provide new socks to the 650 homeless people they serve on a daily basis. We also provided \$1,000 in new Kiva funds, which makes micro loans to people all over the world. Funds were split with \$500 to Mission & Outreach and the matching funds of \$500 to be handled by St. Martin's Episcopal Youth Community.

Mission & Outreach supported and added coats to St. Martin's School as well as sharing the drive with Soccer United. Over 160 coats were delivered to Union Gospel Mission in December.

Elizabeth Hunter led the effort on Christmas Angels which purchased gifts for children at A-1 Academy in Dallas, a charter school which has many economically disadvantaged students.

Henry Penner, Joy Malmgren and Ron Hitchcock were all involved in purchasing shoes for the men of Union Gospel Mission. This was made possible, in part, by matching funds from the Fort Worth Diocese. In addition, socks were purchased and will be distributed in January when the shoes are delivered to UGM.

Cloth bags purchased in 2013 were distributed in 2014 with the church's name and Episcopal Shield for use in bringing grocery items for donation as well as

providing a way to get the name of St. Martin-in-the-Field's name out into the community.

Members of the Mission & Outreach Team thank the church for supporting our efforts on behalf of all parishioners to be Jesus Christ's heart, hands and feet to those in our community.

Respectfully submitted,
Joy Malmgren

Nursery

Using the Faithweaver Now curriculum as well as stories from the Children's Bible, the children in the nursery are learning about God each week. The nursery currently serves an average of 8 children on Sundays, ages 0-3 years old. Morning prayer and a craft are part of every class. This year, Mayra Carballo took over as Nursery Director, and Georgeann Donald came on board as Assistant Nursery Director.

Prayer Shawl

The purpose of the Prayer Shawl Ministry is to prepare and coordinate delivery of blessed prayer shawls to the families of the deceased and anyone else who may need extra loving support. We are also working with American Hospice to comfort family members of those in hospice care and Prayer Shawls 4 Fallen Soldiers (PS4FS) to provide prayer shawls to the families of soldiers who have been killed in action.

Prayer Shawls can be crocheted, knitted, quilted or fringed & tied. They can be any color, and created for men, women and/or children. What makes the shawls special are the personal prayers that are said during the creation for the comfort of the recipient. Each shawl is then tagged with a message of encouragement and support. Once finished, they are collected at the church until we have a sufficient quantity to be blessed during Sunday services. Once blessed, they are stored together at the church until the need arises.

There are 2 wonderful and informative websites with additional information:

The (National) Prayer Shawl Ministry: www.shawlministry.com and Prayer

Shawls 4 Fallen Soldiers: webpages.charter.net/ps4fs/shawls/

Since its inception in May 2008, we have blessed over 250 prayer shawls. In 2008, we delivered 5 shawls. In 2009 we delivered 20 shawls. In 2010 we delivered 47 and in 2011 we delivered 31. Continuing to reach out, we delivered another 25 in 2012. We supported PS4FS with 4 shawls in 2009, 30 in 2010 and 11 in 2011. Fortunately, the need with PS4FS has declined and none were sent in 2012. In 2014 we sent several shawls to families of fallen soldiers and started a new outreach with the Union Gospel Mission, taking several dozen of the fleece shawls/scarves down with a message of God's love attached. We continue to monitor the PS4FS need as well as that of the community and stand ready and willing to contribute when there is a need.

Anyone interested in contributing to this rewarding group, please contact Joyce Raymer @ 817-503-9853 or joyce.raymer@gmx.com and I will fill you in on the details.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce Raymer

Quiet Committee

As soon as a call goes out to a team leader, the St. Martin-in-the-Fields Quiet Committee springs into action. This ministry serves families who are in need of a delicious meal prepared especially for them by the talented team members.

Those in need may have had a sickness or death in the family or may be welcoming a new baby. Each team serves for three months and there are four to six members on each team. In 2014, the Quiet Committee happily graced over 30 St. Martin's families with welcomed meals.

As a Quiet Committee member, I can tell you that there is nothing better than the feeling you have when you know that you have been able to help a family with a homemade meal. That is my definition of Radical Hospitality!

Come and join us and see for yourself! The Quiet Committee is always looking for new team members. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Kathy Watson at 817-939-9445 or at k1watson@sbcglobal.net.

Kathy Watson – Chairperson

Radical Hospitality

As co-creators with our Lord, we have the joy of helping to build the Kingdom of God in our little corner of the world. We do this by using the various gifts we have been given by God in creating a hospitable, welcoming, nurturing and accepting environment at St. Martin's. Those gifts are used in the following components of the Radical Hospitality Program at St. Martin's:

- Serving as Greeters at worship services: Innumerable guests were greeted; an average of one family a week turned in a Communication Card.
- Baking and delivering bread to newcomers: see Barbara Hollifield's report.
- Current Information about St. Martin's is included in a welcome sack given to all newcomers.
- Follow-up email letters were sent to all who filled out a Communication Card.
- Hosting Newcomer Parties. One large party was held in June; the second party was combined with the welcome dinner for Fr. Scot. Expect more in 2015!
- Ordering name tags and maintaining name tag board. 113 name tags were ordered this year.

- Reaching out to the neighborhood through the Fall Festival in the Fields: see Dick Seeber's report
- Keeping the information for the pews current and neat.
- Maintaining children's welcome sacks.
- Maintaining information for newcomers in ICON, the church's database.
- Alerting ministry heads when a newcomer indicates an interest in a ministry.
- Giving the Vestry, Bread Ministers and Greeters a report on newcomers being served by the Radical Hospitality Team.

If you would like to join us in serving the Lord in this ministry, please contact:
Facilitator - Radical Hospitality, lowrey.flo@gmail.com

Flo Lowrey – Chairperson

Recycle Program

Recycle - It's the right thing to do.

Our children and adults are being heard, they have asked that we stop using Styrofoam in an effort to show our support in going green. Polystyrene foam, takes "forever" to break down in the environment and animals may ingest it, which blocks their digestive tracts and ultimately causes starvation and death. So we are making an effort to not use Styrofoam in our kitchens.

Next, we have several blue recycle bins throughout the property set in specific areas. This is an outward sign that St. Martin-in-the-Fields is conscience of our environment and dedicated to protect all that God has given us.

We have the Vestry's support and encourage our members to help with this cause, because "It's the right thing to do."

Volunteers collect recyclables (usually on Sunday, after church service) and recycle them at home. If you would like to help with this ministry, please contact Linda Seeber, rwseeber@sbcglobal.net

Linda Seeber - Chairperson

Spiritual Awareness

Every Thursday (except for Thanksgiving and during icy conditions), a group meets in the chapel at 10am to talk about our faith and how God is working in our lives, and most particularly during the week just past. Our membership grew in 2014; we welcome both women and men, and we range in age from young to old. We have learned that sharing our spiritual selves helps us grow in our awareness of God and his presence in our lives.

We have two rules: you don't have to talk if you don't want to, and what is said in the group stays in the group. We have developed a high degree of trust within the

group, respecting each other, acknowledging that we are all on a path to God. It is a safe place where there is loving acceptance.

If you want to be a part of the weekly group, all you have to do is show up. If you want more information, call me at 817-239-1072.

Flo Lowrey - Chairperson

Usher Guild

St. Martin's Usher Guild's mission is to greet worshippers at each service, provide them with a worship leaflet, collect the offering, and guide communicants to the altar rail.

We also assist during the service with seating, bring the communion elements to the altar rail, take a count, and assist in other ways as necessary. We provide one usher for each Saturday 5:00 pm and Sunday 8:30 am service; and two ushers for each Sunday 10:30 am service. In addition, we provide ushers for special services such as Christmas Eve and Holy Week observances. Anyone interested in taking part in this ministry would be very welcome! Please speak with Rex or Kerry Angle if you would like further information, or send an email to kkangle@prodigy.net.

Kerry Angle – Chairperson

Veterans Group and Hearts of Valor

The Veterans Group was formed in October of 2014 and is open to veterans of all eras. This is a chance to offer fellowship and find out about all of the opportunities for assistance in our area. The veterans group meets the fourth Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00 pm. Nursery will be open for veterans group with an RSVP a week ahead of time to Jason Wakefield, wiredaw6@yahoo.com.

St. Martin's also hosts a Hearts of Valor group, part of Operation Homefront. We are a group for caregivers of post 9/11 injured or disabled veterans. This is a closed group for caregivers (spouses, parents, etc...) of post 9/11 injured or disabled veterans. If anyone is interested in joining the group they will need to go to <http://www.heartsofvalor.org> to sign up. This local chapter was initiated in 2012 and St. Martin's began hosting the group in October of 2014.

Sarita Pettus-Wakefield - Coordinator

Wednesday Bible Study

This past year, a group of 12-14 people gathered in the chapel every week except holidays. We have had a varied format this year, beginning in January with Heather Wilson and Fr. Mike leading sessions on “Radical Hospitality: The Next Step”, in which we learned how to have productive “Crucial Conversations.” Next, Evie Larimore led us in book series: “A Season for the Spirit” by Martin L. Smith, SSJE. This book was written especially for Lent and began on Ash Wednesday. For the remainder of the year we settled in to a format suggested by Fr. Mike in which we had interactive discussions on the second lesson (usually the Epistle) for the coming week’s lesson. This is done by “mutual invitation” so that everyone has a chance to share their thoughts on the reading. Fr. Mike also provides directed questions and commentary on the readings. He has continued to do so during the time we await the coming of our new Rector, Fr. Scot McComas. Our gratitude goes to Fr. Mike for his continuing help.

Submitted by Flo Lowrey