



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN

Where God can be found, and God can find you

The Quill & Ink

April, 2012

Prayer and Transformation

For the last three months the YMART (Youth Ministry Architects Renovation Team) team has produced "prayer" suggestion and made them available in the narthex on Sundays. This month we are highlighting these offering and making them the lead of April's newsletter. I commend this to you to consider the power of listening with the ears of your heart for the whispers of God and the voices of one another.

Spend time in April listening...truly listening. "Active listening" asks us to be present and use our ears to take in what is being offered.

When we listen to others, we hear what they are saying, attempt to understand what they mean. We refrain from thinking about our own response or judgment or opinion until they have finished sharing. When we listen to nature, we allow each part of creation to sing its song to us. We receive each sound with respect and awe. When we listen to God, we make a space in our thoughts and hearts for the Holy to meet us. Without expectation or desire, we simply let ourselves be available.

Devote a specific amount of time each day to intentionally listening. Take five minutes in your garden or on your walk to hear nature. Set aside a time when you will actively listen to someone close to you. Include a time of listening to God when you pray or say grace.

What do you notice when you truly listen? What is new or different when you listen intentionally? How are you changed by listening closely to another, to nature, to God?

Here are some ideas to encourage your goals of listening:

- When you are prayerfully listening to another, imagine that this is how Jesus listened to others.
- When your thoughts drift, bring your attention back to the other person by gently saying within yourself, "God, open the ears of my heart."
- Read one of the following scriptures below before your listening time.
- Read the story or Meister Eckhart's words below with someone else. Talk about what they say to you and how you might use that teaching in your daily life.
- Take turns actively listening with a child or friend. Share how it felt to be heard.

Mark+

Mark 12: 29-31

Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall

love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

New Revised Standard Version

Proverbs 8: 1, 32-34

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? And now, my children, listen to me: happy are those who keep my ways, Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it. Happy is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

New Revised Standard Version

Mattityahu (Matthew) 13: 14-15

And so the prophecy of Yeshayahu (Isaiah) is fulfilled saying, You hear, yet in hearing, you do not understand And you see, yet in seeing, you do not see. For the heart of this people has become calloused And with their ears they hear poorly and their eyes are closed, otherwise they might see with their eyes, and hear with their ears and with their heart understand and turn and I would heal them.

Restored New Testament

All beings are words of God, His music, His Art.
Sacred books we are, for the infinite camps in our souls.
Every act reveals God and expands His Being.
I know that may be hard to comprehend.
All creatures are doing their best to help God in His birth of Himself.
Enough talk for the night.
He is laboring in me;
I need to be silent for a while, worlds are forming in my heart.

Meister Eckhart

Love Poems from God -Daniel Ladinsky

The seeker whispered, "God, speak to me." And a meadowlark sang.
But the seeker did not hear.
So the seeker yelled, "God, speak to me!" And the thunder rolled across the sky.
But the seeker did not listen.
The seeker looked around and said, "God, let me see you." And a star shone brightly.
But the seeker did not notice.
And the seeker shouted, "God show me a miracle. " And a life was born.
But the seeker did not know.
So the seeker cried out in despair, "Touch me, God, and let me know that you are here!"
Whereupon God reached down and touched the seeker.
But the seeker brushed the butterfly away and walked on.

Listen with the Heart -Joan Chittister



What's Happening in OUTREACH . . .

The Outreach Commission has drafted a "St. Martin's Mission of Outreach" statement and the Vestry recently approved the statement! The purpose of the document is to define and delineate "outreach giving" at St. Martin's. You can read the five paragraph statement on the newly revamped St. Martin's website (under "Outreach").

The first paragraph reads as follows:

St. Martin's strives to give 10% (tithe) of the income the church collects each year as pledges from parishioners and taken up in collections at services to Outreach. Included in the calculation of this tithe is the money set aside by Vestry as Matthew 25 funds and the special offerings given at Christmas, Easter and Good Friday, which are donated in their entirety to programs outside the parish. In 2011, St. Martin's gave \$29,728.20 or 6.85 % of that year's pledge and plate to

Outreach. This sum represents only the financial giving of St. Martin's from its annual budget and does not include financial gifts given by parishioners during the year for a variety of outreach projects sponsored or co-sponsored by the church.

To read the rest, please access the "Outreach" tab at the top of the St. Martins website!

Lisa Leigh and Carol Hom recently attended one of our Commission meetings to discuss how the work of the commission might interface with the outreach projects and goals of the youth education program. We will be providing support and advice to the young adults in their outreach efforts. We also want to help them to find creative ways of supporting the programs and agencies that receive Matthew 25 grants.

St. Martin's participation in the National Churches campaign to rebuild the cathedral in Port au Prince, Haiti has been a huge success. Once again, we extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to the people of St. Martin's. Our goal was to raise \$5,000 and, at the time of this writing, we have already exceeded that goal by more than \$2,300! The parishioners of St. Martin's have, in a very tangible way, reached out to the people of Haiti in a time of great need. Thank you for your generosity.

-Renee Crevelli-Ross

"Saving Jesus Redux" Classes to Resume

Alex Leach and Helen Campbell will resume Saving Jesus beginning on April 15th. As before, the class will start promptly at 10:10 and wrap up at 10:55 to accommodate both the 9 and 11 o'clock worship services. So that we can have additional discussion time, each lesson will be divided between two weeks so we will cover lessons 7-9 this spring. Lessons 10-12 will commence in the fall after we return to the usual schedule.

If you would like to receive the handouts electronically please email Helen at hcampbell@pobox.com and she'll add you to the list. Those of you who participated in the first six lessons are already on the email list so you'll see lesson seven arriving soon.

The schedule for the upcoming classes is:

- April 15- Lesson 7 "Jesus' program: the kingdom of God" - part 1
- April 22- Lesson 7 "Jesus' program: the kingdom of God" - part 2
- April 29- Children's production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"
- May 6- Lesson 8 "Jesus' ministry of compassion" - part 1
- May 13- Lesson 8 "Jesus' ministry of compassion" - part 2
- May 20- Lesson 9 "Who killed Jesus?" part 1
- May 27- Pentecost and Church School Picnic
- June 3- Lesson 9 "Who killed Jesus?" part 2

Christopher Berry, Gnostic Scholar, to visit UC Davis

The Belfry is pleased to announce its 2012 St. Augustine Lecture will be given by The Rev. Dr. Christopher Berry on Thursday, April 19th, 2012 at 7:00 pm on the UC Davis campus in 194 Young Hall. Following the lecture, a reception will be held at the Belfry, located at 216 A St. The lecture and reception are both free and open to the general public.

The Rev. Dr. Christopher Berry is an internationally acclaimed linguist and philologist who has worked on translations of many Christian and Jewish extra-canonical texts, alongside a team of international scholars charged with establishing the historical setting and significance of each of these texts to the early Christian community and the world. His research and work with these various texts will be the subject of his lecture.

Dr. Berry has served as the Lutheran Campus Pastor at Western Washington University for the past 20 years. He has also been named as a visiting scholar, visiting professor or fellow at various universities and research centers throughout the world. His previous work has included translations of Genesis creation narratives, the misuse of sacred texts to perpetuate sexism in Western society, and commentary on sacred texts of Judaism and Christianity as they purportedly relate to same-gender relationships.

The Belfry to host “Wine Tasting Extravaganza” fundraiser

The Belfry will hold a wine tasting event on Sunday, April 29, 2012 from 4:30-6:30 pm at Monticello (630 G Street, Davis). Ten wines will be sampled: five from local wineries, and five similar wines from European wineries. Wine experts Michael Chandler, a sommelier, and Susan Leonardi, wine columnist for the *Davis Enterprise*, have carefully selected the wines, and will be on hand to pour and talk about each one. Local winemakers will also be there to feature their wines. Attendees will then be able to vote on their favorites and in the process, enter to win a raffle prize.

Appetizers by Monticello will be provided, and a quartet from the Camellia Symphony Orchestra will be on hand for live music. There will also be a silent auction, and the opportunity to purchase wine at the event.

Space is limited and tickets will go fast. You can reserve yours by calling (530) 756-1550, or emailing your request to: pastor@thebelfry.org. Tickets are \$75 each and all proceeds will benefit The Belfry.

To learn more about either of these exciting Belfry events, please contact the Reverend Jocelynn Hughes at (530) 756-1550 or by e-mail: pastor@thebelfry.org.

Craft Fair Committee Thank You

The Building Committee and Vestry would like to sincerely thank all the members of the Craft Fair Committee for the significant financial contribution the Craft Fair has made to the “Welcome, Transformation, Preservation, Service” building campaign over the past two years. As a result of their work, the Craft Fair contributed \$15,257.65 to St. Martin’s capital building projects during the past two years (\$8,999.65 in 2010 and \$6,258.00 in 2011).

We recognize how much time goes into planning and carrying out a major event such as the Craft Fair and thank you for the many hours each of you puts into making it a success—for lovingly making and baking items to be sold, soliciting and organizing other donated items, and carrying out the two-day event so effectively.

Thank you again for your service and for supporting the capital campaign building projects with Craft Fair funds. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

Yours Faithfully,
The Vestry of the Episcopal Church of St. Martin

Easter Brunch Donations Welcome

St. Martin’s will be holding their annual “brunch” between the 9 and 11 Easter Sunday services. Donations of baked items (sweet), fruit, other finger food or a savory appetizer would be most appreciated.

The brunch will be between services from 10 - 11, so if possible please bring your item by 10 a.m. (or before).

For more information please contact Jan in the church office (756-0444) or Easter brunch food coordinators Janet Lane or Sharon Cucinotta.

Easter Week Services

- **Tenebrae**, Wednesday April 4th 7:30 p.m.
 - **Maundy Thursday Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar**, Thursday April 5th 7:30 p.m.
 - **Good Friday Stations of the Cross**, Friday April 6th 12:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. (the evening service is geared toward families with children, it is interactive and participatory). **Good Friday Liturgy** is at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Great Vigil of Easter** (Holy Baptism and Eucharist), Saturday April 7th at 7:30 p.m.
 - **Easter Day**, Sunday April 8th 7:45, 9:00, 11:00 a.m. (Easter egg hunt for young children between the 9 and 11 services – bring your own basket and camera.)
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“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”

Mark your calendars. Our own amazing Janie Knudsen and the children's choirs of St. Martin's and Bet Haverim are working hard on their co-production of Andrew Lloyd Webber's toe-tapper. They will perform on April 29th at 10:20 at St. Martin's and on May 6th at Bet Haverim.

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Helping Hands is looking for a new coordinator

This is an important calling, organizing the volunteer cooks who deliver occasional meals to folks who are feeling temporarily overwhelmed. If you're interested in managing this effort, please contact Lynn Zender at 530-756-4610 or lynnzender@sbcglobal.net.

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The 2012 Church of St. Martin Calendar

April 8th: Easter and Easter Egg Hunt at 11am
April 29th: The Belfry Wine Tasting, 4:30-6:30pm
May 5th: World Labyrinth Day and Spring Parish Dinner
May 27th: Pentecost. Church School year ends
June 10th -Sept 3rd: summer schedule, worship services at 7:45 and 10am
June 11th-15th: Vacation Bible School at Davis Lutheran Church
Sept 9th: fall worship schedule resumes: 7:45, 9am, 11am. Church School begins
Sept 9th: The Belfry Golf Tournament, 1pm start time
October 7th: Stewardship Dinner at St Martin
December 2nd: First Sunday of Advent
December 1st: Craft Fair
December 25th: Christmas

Editor's Note: My spiffy new laptop has arrived so future newsletters will once again feature Gail Gong's and Nathan Hannon's beautiful photos of our community in action. In the meantime, pix can be viewed on the church web site <http://churchofstmartin.org/> or through "friending" St. Martin's on Facebook.
—Elizabeth Sagehorn