



The Cloak

St. Martin's - A Christian Church for all people Sharing God's Love, Following Christ, Serving Others



*Always
have
HOPE!*

Contents:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 2 ~ Father Lee's Message | 8 ~ ECW / Condolences: Sara Thomas |
| 3 ~ What and When | 8 ~ Condolences: "Tommy" G. Anthony |
| 4 ~ Words from the Wardens | 9 ~ St. Martin's Happy (zoom) Hour |
| 5 ~ Words from Rev. Dr. Sandy | 10-11 ~ Parish Nurse / Poem: Palm Sunday |
| 6 ~ Outreach Comm / St. Martin's Project | 11 ~ Finance Committee Report |
| 6 ~ Sunday School Update | 12 ~ Pancake Supper / Ash Wednesday |
| 7 ~ Condolences: Randy Chowning, Jr. | 13 ~ Snow & ice storms |
| 7 ~ Stations of the Cross booklet update | 14 ~ Birthdays + Anniversaries |
| | 15 ~ Yellow Pages / Amazon Smiles |

Father Lee Hutchson



As you know, the Bishop has asked churches to suspend in-person worship whether that worship takes place indoors and outdoors. Churches in our diocese may resume outdoor worship with mask and physical distancing when the infection rate in a churches county reaches a 7-day moving average of 25 infections per 100,000 people. Churches may resume partial indoor worship when that county wide infection rate reaches 10 per 100,000. Currently Henrico County is at 27.3.

If rates continue to fall, we may soon be able to return to outdoor worship.

As Easter approaches, I am hopeful we will be able to hold outdoor services for all of Holy Week and Easter for those who feel comfortable attending in person. Those services will be live streamed as well. We will let you know when outdoor worship returns with an email.

We know that death is a part of life. But this pandemic has pushed death into our face with nearly 500,000 perishing in 1 year.

Which raises the question, am I willing to be faithful to God even when such tragedy is occurring all around me? Can you be God's hands and feet, a witness for God's presence in the midst of hardship and Tragedy? Or do you throw in the towel and give up.

Be intentional about your faith, pray and read scripture, believe it or not, these are the two simplest ways to nurture your faith to get thru any hard time in life. Prayer and scripture are like washing your hands and wearing a mask. They keep your mind and Spirit healthy and strong.

I am optimistic we will all be together soon.

Fa. Lee



What and When ...

March

Services

see on the right

(We will continue with this format until we have word from our Bishop otherwise)

Regrettably the outdoor services had to be discontinued at the moment because of the spike in the corona virus

Office Hours

open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
from 9 am to 1 pm

Wednesday and Friday by appointment

Zoom Happy Hour

every Thursday at 5:30 pm

Meeting ID: 766 2569 6519 - Passcode: stmThanks
see page 9

John C. Wallace Scholarship application:

deadline: March 2, 2021 at 5 pm

Cloak Deadline

20th of each month

you can mail something anytime though!

ECW Zoom meeting

Tuesday March 23 at 5:30 pm

Meeting ID: 702 740 7194 - Passcode: ECWmonthly
see page 8

Palm Sunday

March 28

Holy Week

March 29 - April 3

Regular Weekly Events

Event	Day	Time
Outdoor Worship Service	Sunday	-none-
Streamed Worship Service on Facebook	Sunday	10 am
Streamed Midweek Service on Facebook	Wednesday	10 am
Compline Service streamed on Facebook	daily	8 pm
Sunday School for the children	Sunday	7 pm

Regular Monthly Events

Event	Day	Time
Vestry Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	7 pm
St. Martin's Project	3 rd Saturday	9:30 am
ECW	4 th Tuesday	5:30 pm

You are not "doing Facebook"? No problem!

With this link

<https://www.facebook.com/StMartin9000/>
you can go to our St. Martin's on Facebook and enjoy the services live. You can scroll to find any service which had been streamed live anytime ... because after it has been live it is like a posted video so you can see it anytime.

Since we do not know what the situation is going to be in March for in-person services, we encourage you to watch for information in the weekly emails.



Words from the Sr. Warden!

Hello Martinites,

We have just celebrated Valentines Day where there are all kinds of conversations about **LOVE** and Hearts floating all around. How cool is it that we have a holiday to celebrate **Love**? I had always liked celebrating this day so whether it is romantic **Love** (your sweetheart) you are celebrating or another kind of **Love** it is good for your soul. I always like to get a card for my Mom and the children in my life but this year I thought about this day a bit differently.

I was moved that our children decided to make Valentines for our folks who have a tough time getting out especially during this pandemic. What a fantastic way to show these folks how much their church family **loves** them. I continued to reflect on this act of generosity and recalled our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, saying "If it's not about **Love** it's not about God. I remember hearing him speak and he shared that **LOVE** is NOT easy, to truly embrace loving you must make room for those you disagree with. Lots of topics today in that kettle, whether it is politics, social justice, family dynamics or something as simple as being able to come to church and worship. I hope we all can embrace God's **Love** in these uncertain times and see how it can help us through. I was thinking if we ALL could incorporate **God's Love** into our lives it could change how we treat our family, friends, folks at work and at the end of the day how we live each day of our life!

I have discovered something over the past year that I probably should have always known. I miss my St. Martin's family and I **LOVE** ALL OF YOU. I sincerely hope with the onset of the vaccines for the coronavirus coupled with falling positivity rates that we will ALL be able to worship together in person soon. How Exciting that would be. I close asking God to hold us ALL in HIS **Loving** hands as we continue to live through these challenging times!

Stay Safe, Be Well and May God Bless You each and every one!

YOUR SR. WARDEN *Rick*



Words from Rev. Dr. Sandra Levy-Mix



“Q–Who?: A Little Biblical Study with Possible Relevance to Today’s Cultural Scene”

Well, we live in interesting times, don't we? Impeachment trial and charges of sedition in the midst of a world-wide pandemic that has touched every one of our lives. (Of course, fast-forwarding to now, we all know the outcome of that trial—Mr Trump not being found guilty of either high crimes or misdemeanors.)

Sometime this past week, around 6:00 AM as I was deciding whether to get out of bed or not, an idea just popped into my head—a possible connection of sorts that hadn't occurred to me before. A connection that I also don't recall anyone else making as an op-ed piece or news article. Maybe it's not original with me, but I've tried it out on another knowledgeable friend or two and they hadn't made the possible connection either. So here goes.

Now you may already know from your Bible studies all about Q—the “hypothetical connection of the sayings of Jesus that predated the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.” According to what's referred to as the “Two-Document Hypothesis,” Matthew and Luke both drew from Mark—the first Gospel written sometime around the years—AD 50–60. And again those two Gospel writers also drew from some other written source which came to be called Q, standing for the German word *Quelle*, simply meaning The Source.

Okay, now fast forward again to today. And what comes to mind? Maybe... Q Anon? Meaning some anonymous source for all kinds of conspiracy theories that have thrived on the internet and social media. So at around 6 AM last week, I had this image of some guy (or girl), who knew their Bible history, to latch onto that powerful identity and claim its historical mantle as their own.

I'm certainly not going to wade into our current political scene here. But I am fascinated at this “coincidence” of Source material—today's Q Anon and ancient biblical writing—to build a narrative that today has motivated its believers into radical action—just like the early Christians.

Let me close this little commentary by drawing from *The Bible Dictionary*¹ pulled from my study's shelf. The writer of that dictionary Q piece says that the origin of ancient Q is “probably Galilean, where it originated in scribal circles familiar with both instructional wisdom and Israel's prophetic traditions. Its primitive Christology is based on the association of Jesus with heavenly Wisdom and with the Son of Man title. . . .Q apparently disappeared after having been absorbed by Matthew and Luke.”

Until our current cultural time and Q's own peculiar resurrection.

Food for thought.



[1] Bible Dictionary. Paul J. Achtemeier (Ed.), Harper Collins, 1985.

Outreach Committee / St. Martin's Project

- from Jean Rollins

Thanks so much to everyone who contributed **socks** to the homeless in the three shelters that we help with food throughout the year. It was a great success, as Zahara, Yohance and I were able to deliver one bag of socks to the Good Samaritan Shelter, two bags to the Women and Childrens' Shelter, and two bags to the other Mens' Shelter. The residents there were all very excited and appreciative when they saw us bringing in the socks.



On the right: Zahara and Yohance making the sandwiches for the St. Martin's Project before the sock delivery.



Sunday School Update

- by Kerry Alloway



The Sunday school students at st Martin's had been busy making valentines cards for church members spreading God's love and joy to others! Thank you each and everyone for making beautiful cards. Special thanks to Addie, James, William, Lily, Logan, Caleb, Madeline & Olivia.

Zoom Sunday School :

Don't forget about Children's Sunday school. We meet via zoom on Sunday at 7pm.

We have a short time of instruction either about the Gospel reading for Sunday or a timely church topic.

One Sunday we learned about the different kinds of candles used in church and their meaning.

The meeting number as well as the password are included in our weekly parish email. We hope to see you there!

Here a link for our kid's sermon and worksheet for this week's gospel <https://sermons4kids.com/>

Condolences!

to the family of

Randy Chowning, Jr.

who died Tuesday, February 2, 2021

An outdoor service was scheduled for

Saturday, February 13 at 11 am

in the Memorial Garden



Unfortunately because of the pandemic only family members could attend.

Randy was a member of St. Martin's since 1979 and a remarkable gentleman.

He was 96.

The Stations of the Cross in the Memorial Garden - by Christa Burr

Last month the booklets for meditation and reflection were introduced on page 10. They should be especially helpful during this time of Lent.

For your comfort hand sanitizer was added to be box on the tree. Also added was a small notebook. Comments, suggestions or constructive criticisms would be appreciated.



The ECW met on Tuesday on Zoom for 40 minutes on February 23rd. There were 9 members present.

There was discussion about the sale of notecards which will be available starting Sunday March 7th.

The parish hall new poster of members will be donated by the ECW. It is hoped that it will be complete and framed by the time we can use the church building again.

There was discussion about the ECW replacing the altar candles.

If any members of the congregation would like to borrow the DVD of "Ruth", the Sight and Sound show filmed live at Lancaster, PA please contact Ann Robbins at 270 6247.

All agreed that other fund raising and arranging for speakers can wait until we meet in person.

The next meeting will be March 23rd at 5.30pm on Zoom.
ID: 702 740 7194. Passcode: ECWmonthly. Please remember women of St. Martin's are automatically members of the ECW and are always welcome at the meetings.



Notecards! - by Jean Rollins

"The ECW is selling notecards with a picture of St. Martin's on the front.

There are five notecards in each package.
Each package cost \$5.00.

Starting on Sunday, March 7th, the cards will be on a table in the hallway of the church. There will be a box on the same table to put your money. If you can't get to the church, someone from the ECW will be glad to bring them to you. It has been years since we have had notecards available, so it will be fun to have them again to send out. This is a great time to use them, as we are all still at home and not able to see people. Thanks for your support!"

Condolences!

to the family of

Sara Thomas

who died January 13, 2021

A service is planned for Spring.

Condolences!

to Thomas Anthony and his family
on the death of his father

"Tommy" George Anthony

on January 16, 2021



St. Martin's Happy Hour

It is always a happy time when we see our
Church friends.



Let's chat a while every Thursday!
The meeting starts at 5:30 pm (and will be cut off by the computer after 40 minutes).
In those 40 minutes you can join anytime.

If you have any question call Rick Fowler 804-370-8273



Topic: St Martin's Happy Hour
Time: every Thursday at 5:30 pm

Meeting ID: 766 2569 6519
Passcode: stmThanks



A fun zoom time on February 11.



There are always some "regulars" who try not to miss it but also different members almost every Thursday.



Parish Nurse by Betty Horne

March is Multiple Sclerosis Awareness month

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a leading neurological condition among young adults, affecting more than 400,000 Americans. There is no known cause or cure for MS, however, the support of loved ones, care partners, and organizations such as MSAA is vital to improving the quality of life. It is not contagious and researchers continue to look for a cause and a cure.

Multiple sclerosis (MS) is a disease of the central nervous system (CNS), which consists of the brain, optic nerves, and spinal cord. MS damages or destroys the protective covering (known as myelin) surrounding the nerves of the CNS. This can cause injury to the nerves resulting in impaired communication between the brain and nerve pathways. The disease is usually diagnosed between the ages of 15 and 50.

Signs and symptoms of MS vary depending on the amount of nerve damage and which nerves are affected. Some people with severe MS may lose the ability to walk independently or at all, while others may experience long periods of remission without any new symptoms. Symptoms include:

- Overwhelming fatigue
- dizziness
- depression
- Numbness or weakness in one or more limbs (usually on one side at a time)
- Tremor, lack of coordination or unsteady gait
- Tingling or pain in parts of the body

- Shock like sensations that occur with certain neck movements, especially bending the neck forward
- Partial or complete loss of vision, usually in one eye at a time, with pain during eye movement
- Prolonged double vision, blurry vision
- Slurred speech
- Impaired bladder or bowel function

If you experience any of the above symptoms for unknown reasons, contact your doctor

The disease follows a course of remission and relapse with periods of remission lasting months or years. Most people with MS do not tolerate a rise in body temperature or warmer weather as this may exacerbate symptoms. Over time, symptoms may gradually increase with shorter periods of remission in some cases.

Diagnosis can be made by:

- **Lab tests** to rule out other causes for symptoms presented
- **Spinal Tap** or lumbar puncture which can show abnormal antibodies associated with MS
- **MRI** which can reveal lesions on the brain consistent with MS
- **Treatment**

Since there is no cure for MS, the goal for treatment is to slow the progression of the disease by promptly focusing on speedy recovery from the attack or relapse.

- Corticosteroids given by mouth or IV is used to decrease inflammation of the nerves.
- Plasmapheresis or plasma exchange is a procedure where the plasma in your blood is “washed”, the blood cells are mixed with albumin and returned to your body. Used for severe symptoms.
- Today there are a plethora of treatments that did not exist twenty or thirty years ago. Some of the older therapies are still quite effective. These are given as maintenance treatments and have slowed the progression significantly in many cases. These treatments are not without some side effects and your doctor will discuss which options are best suited for you.
- Copaxone and Interferon B are given by injection under the skin or intramuscular. There are others that are given intravenously as well as many oral agents.
- You will be required to follow up with your neurologist to assess effectiveness of treatments. This may include periodic MRI and blood tests. Being open with your healthcare provider, asking questions and participating in your care is an important part of your overall care.
- Some people may benefit from Physical Therapy to help with stretching and strengthening which may help to improve gait and balance.
- *To learn more about MS and to raise awareness and support for everyone affected by MS please visit MSAA (Multiple Sclerosis Association of America) website. There are free programs and services available. The more you know.....*

Palm Sunday

Tied to a tree
That dusty afternoon, I grazed,
drowsy, unhurried, till the men
came to loose the rope.

Where was I going?
What must I carry?
Who was this “Master”
Who needed me?

Soon enough, I looked
in the kindest eyes, felt the heaviness
of a gentle hand – infinitesimal tremble
as He touched the cross on my shoulders.

I remember Hosannas, flowers,
palm branches underfoot, and waving in air
as if I were some nobler beast
bearing a King.

I forget
whether the Burden was heavy as the universe
or light as spring wind;
whether I felt proud, or humble.

I never heard what came of Him
after that joyous parade;
but somehow I know
the world has changed forever.

- Patsy Anne Bickerstaff

Finance Committee Report

by Garland Harwood

Financial Highlights 2021	end of previous month	MTD January	YTD end of January
Income	\$0.00	\$19,166.00	\$19,166.00
Expenses	\$0.00	\$21,031.00	\$21,031.00
Gain or Loss	\$0.00	-\$1,865.00	-\$1,865.00

Pancake Supper with a side of ashes!

Tuesday February 16

The day before Ash Wednesday is usually called Shrove Tuesday. We would meet in the evening and were served by our youth as a fundraiser for their mission trip. A nice event with friends. But of course it had to be different this year with the pandemic still looming.

A take-out was offered. Pancakes, sausage, applesauce, syrup and butter included. Ashes for Ash Wednesday will be included on the side. Pick-up will be contactless. Social distancing was observed.

Karen and Layne Hood, Nancye Greenwood did the cooking. Jean Rollins and Rick Gibbs met folks in the driveway and delivered the pancake dinners they ordered (approximately 35). Ashes for Ash Wednesday along with prayer and Lenten readings delivered with pancakes.



Kim Shook sent this photo on the right with the message: We took a picture of our at-home Pancake Supper. Thought you might like it for the Cloak. Miss you!

Yes, we all miss each other! But still, we are very lucky that we can be part of St Martin's where we can find HOPE.



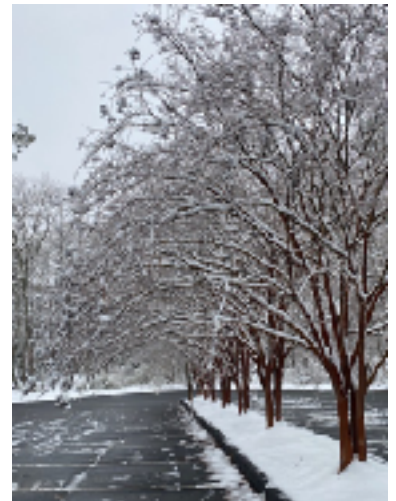
Ash Wednesday

A service was streamed at 7:30 am and ashes were ready to pick up for those who still needed them.



A winter with one snow/ice storm after the other!

Father Lee never misses a service, even if he has to spend the night at church.



Here are only a few of Sr. Warden Rick Gibbs's photos.



Branden and Rick knocking ice and snow off boxwoods ice storm 2-15





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03/01 John Atkins
03/01 Joyce Wellford
03/02 James Barrett
03/02 Holden Watt
03/02 Carter Watt
03/07 Pat Rourk
03/08 Ginny Munoz
03/12 Debbie Grumbine
03/12 Noah Romano
03/13 Zoe Horne
03/16 Barbara Smith
03/16 Taylor Adams
03/20 Nan Scott
03/21 Noah Clements
03/22 Mary Goodman
03/22 Sharon Ragland
03/23 Caroline Baughan
03/23 Jim Greenwood
03/25 Ann Watts
03/26 Colin Clements
03/27 Sharon Alloway
03/28 Craig Watt
03/28 Khai Fisher
03/29 Ivy Miller
03/31 Jamie Greenwood
03/31 Sherry Wilson

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04/01 Pat Akins
04/02 Tiffany Clements
04/02 Rosemary Simmons
04/03 Danielle Brenner
04/03 Lois Gibbs
04/05 Trudy Britton
04/07 Megan Greenwood
04/07 Moboluwaji Akinfolajimi
04/08 Samantha Romano
04/10 Dean Bracaloni
04/10 Michele Hutchison
04/12 Olivia Alloway
04/12 Esme Borders
04/13 Eniola Akinfolajimi
04/14 Noah Sleeman
04/14 Grace Wood
04/15 Vicki Pinner
04/16 Sally Dvorak
04/17 Sallie Bright
04/17 Sandy Mann
04/22 Tristan Howdyshell
04/23 Tyler Newcomb
04/24 Jim Richardson
04/26 Susan Teachey
04/27 Joyce Ragland
04/27 Zahara Iervolino
04/28 Richard Rollins
04/28 Brenda Rahn
04/28 Russell Campeau
04/29 Allen Sleeman
04/30 A. P. Hall

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03/01/ Moboluwaji & Titilayo Akinfolajimi
03/13/2010 Molly & James Bristol
03/17/1974 Jean & Richard Rollins
03/20/1984 Kim & Mike Shook
03/21/ Greg & Vicky Echevarria
*
*
04/12/1980 Scott & Kerry Alloway
04/25/1992 Scott & Mary Goodman
*

**If you know of
somebody not on
these lists
(including
yourself) please
let the office
know.**

St. Martin's Yellow Pages

This area is where you can post your service or product to let your fellow St. Martinites know how you can help them, and you can give those who post here your support.

Amazon Smiles:

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> or click the box above.
2. Create an amazon account or log in.
3. Go to "Or pick your own charitable organization" and type "**St. Martin's Episcopal Church**" then click Search.
4. Locate "**St. Martin's Episcopal Church**" in Henrico VA.
5. Then start shopping!

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases **to St. Martin's!**

We are grateful for your participation!



OCEANFRONT BEACH HOUSE FOR RENT

Perfect for a couple or family of 4.

Located directly on the beach in Hatteras Village, NC.

Contact Bob or Max Barritt (h) 270-3862 or (c) 512-4586

For your information:

If you are not yet taking advantage of the **Amazon Smiles** offer for another charity, please consider to do it now to benefit St. Martin's. It's easy see above!

Every little bit helps!

YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

The weekly announcements will tell us what is needed especially this month. Please place your donations in the basket in the hallway.



ST. MARTIN'S STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Lee A. Hutchson
Priest Associate: Rev. Dr. Sandra Levy-Mix
Organist & Choirmaster: David R. Hopkins
Administrative Assistant: Sherry Wilson
Sunday School Coordinator:
Head of Nursery:

CHURCH OFFICE

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E-mail: saintmartinsec@gmail.com

Website: www.saintmartinschurch.org

Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9 am-1 pm
Wednesday and Friday by appointment

Trustee Emeritus: Robert I. Kirby
Trustees: Kerry Alloway, A. P. Hall, Jr.
& Garland Harwood

VESTRY

2021	2022	2023
Steve Alloway	David Mix	George Crowell
N'neka Logan	Dianne O'Kelley Lamb	Rick Gibbs
Craig Watt	Susan Teachey	Jean Rollins

Senior Warden: Rick Gibbs
Junior Warden: David Mix

Register:
Treasurer: Darrell Jenkins
Assistant Treasurer: Mike Fiasco
Cloak Editor: Christa Burr



St. Martin's Episcopal Church

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