



The Cloak



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



*The children's
sermon on a
recent Sunday.*

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Father Lee Hutchison

Independence Day is my favorite secular holiday. My family always has a large celebration of family and food along with the requisite fireworks. In case you did not know, Francis Scott Key, the author of our national anthem, was Episcopalian. He served as a lay reader at his church. He was elected deputy to the General Convention 6 times. He had a passion for his church and Anglican worship.

Francis was near Baltimore in September 1814 in hopes of securing the release of a friend who had been arrested by the British and accused of aiding in the detention of British soldiers. He had secured the release of his friend after showing the vice admiral of the British fleet letters from wounded British soldiers who praised the care of American doctors who had treated their wounds. The night of his friend's release the British began bombarding Fort McHenry. Francis watched the bombardment through the night. He was overjoyed to see the American flag still flying the next morning. On the back of a letter, he began to write a poem called "The Defense of Fort McHenry." It was later set to music by John Stafford Smith and became a popular patriotic song. In 1889 the Navy adopted the hymn for official use. It did not officially become our national anthem until 1931.

Have a blessed day celebrating our country's independence!

Fr. Lee



Men's Club at St. Martin's - Sid Akens

Twelve years ago James Burr with help from Sid Akens started the Men's Club at St. Martin's. Since then it has been a thriving group participating in various events throughout the year, not the least of which is a wonderful monthly breakfast. Currently, there are 8-12 regular members who are always happy to welcome new people. Sadly, during its twelve years, the group has lost 3 members, all of whom are remembered so very fondly (Bill Robbins, Larry Reid, and John Dvorak).

On the second Saturday of each month, the group enjoys breakfast together. This was held at Nick's Roman Terrace until its closing this year. In fact, Nick's had a picture of the original 8 members hanging on the wall! The Men's Breakfast is now held at Shorty's Diner (Libbie Place Mall/5625 West Broad St.). The breakfasts are a great time, and the group wants everyone to know that they will always be there for anyone who wants to join. At the Men's Club, there is one important rule which is we don't discuss politics. The next breakfast will be on **July 13 at 9am**. Men, come check it out!

A photo from the June breakfast. —————>



What and When

July

<p>After Wednesday Service Social First Wednesday of the month (July 3) come and gather with us for a light brunch</p>
<p>Independence Day Thursday July 4</p>
<p>Bridge Calendar July 5, 11, 18, 25 at 10 am</p>
<p>Vestry Meeting Tuesday July 9 at 7 pm</p>
<p>ECW Meeting Saturday July 13 at 9am (see page 6)</p>
<p>Men's Breakfast Saturday July 13 at 9 am @ Shorty's Diner all men welcome to join us (see page 2)</p>
<p>Breakfast Social Sunday July 14 at 9 am (see page 4)</p>
<p>St. Martin's Project Saturday July 20 at 9:30 am - Red Team</p>
<p>Farewell Lunch for Sallie Bright Sunday July 21 after the 10am service (see page 7)</p>
<p>Our New Journey (confidential grief support group) Sunday July 21 from 2:30-3:30 pm (see page 5)</p>
<p>WE (West End) Quilters No July meeting (see page 10)</p>
<p>Cloak Deadline Saturday July 20</p>

Important: Only church dates/events are listed in this calendar but our Lord's building is used by other groups. If you are scheduling an event for your group please consult with the large calendar in the copy room or the church office first.

Regular Weekly or Monthly Events are usually not listed in the left column.

Regular Weekly Events

Event	Day	Time
Sunday Services	Sunday	8 am* & 10 am*
Boy Scouts	Monday	7 pm
MOW Meals on Wheels	Tuesday	10 am
Bible Study	Will resume in the Fall	
Holy Eucharist	Wednesday*	10 am
Yoga Stretch (\$3)	Will resume in the Fall	
Choir Practice	(See page 13 for info)	
Ethiopian Christians	Saturday	6 am
Compline Service		
-live on Facebook	daily*	8 pm

* all these are streamed live on FaceBook

Regular Monthly Events

Event	Day	Time
Vestry Meeting	2 nd Tuesday	7 pm
Midweek Service social	1st Wednesday	after 10 am service
ECW	2 nd Saturday	9 am
Men's Breakfast	2 nd Saturday	9 am
St. Martin's Project	3 rd Saturday	9:30 am



If you ever feel useless, Just remember that somebody is working as a lifeguard at the Olympics.

Follow: Random Realities

Words from the Wardens

By now most of you know that we have a newer organ in the choir loft. Our old organ was well past its “due date” and had been showing its age despite the work that was done in the fall of last year. This organ is newer, well-kept, has more features and literally fell into our lap. In addition, the organ was paid for by a generous member of our congregation. We are very grateful for this. Also please be aware that the organ company will return in mid-July to do a final tuning and address any issues that may have occurred during transit and installation.



During the organ installation, one of the installers accidentally broke our etched glass “Dove” window, which represents “The Holy Spirit,” in the rear of the church. We are working on having this replaced as soon as possible.

We had a plumbing issue where all the toilets wouldn't flush. Thanks to the work done by the county utility folks who went above and beyond we were spared a costly fix. Again, thanks be to God!

There is to be some repair and painting done to the casing around the windows in the educational building. We will be replacing some of the rotting woodwork. Last summer we spruced up the interior of the educational building. This work will be done in mid- July.

The youth group recently returned from their retreat focusing on the framers of our constitution and the apostle Paul standing up for what they believe at great cost to their lives and fortunes. Paniz also shared her story of her own trials of standing for what she believed. The group worked well together and had a good time. Thank you for your support of our youth.

*Stand up
for your
beliefs*

Thank you for your generous donations to the blessings box and the Lambs basket. It is well appreciated.

Blessings to You All,

Garland and Betty

Breakfast Social

If you're an 8am churchgoer, do you ever hear about the wonderful people who usually attend the 10am service? And, if you're a 10am churchgoer, do you ever hear about the wonderful people who usually attend the 8am service? Now we've got a Sunday to bring the two groups together!



On **Sunday, July 14 at 9 am** the ECW is sponsoring a breakfast social between the two services. There's a signup sheet in the parish hall to get a general idea of how many people are coming and if anyone would like to bring food (though not required!). Please come, eat, mingle, and enjoy the company of all.

Words from Rev. Dr. Sandra Levy-Mix

“What’s Different About a Church Building?”

I ran across a brief article in a recent *Christian Century*, titled “What’s Special About a Church Building?” by Brian Bantum (June, 2024). I liked it and wanted to share the essence of it with you. Just an interesting take on what a church space is that differs from other public spaces. Bantum asks:

How many buildings or events do we pass by in our daily lives where we could simply stop, walk in, sit down, and participate—and this is what is actually expected, even hoped for? Imagine seeing a band playing in the park, and as I walk by I unpack my ukulele and simply start strumming along. (Pg. 38)



Bantum points out that most public spaces open for visitors—like concerts, museums, theaters—require subscriptions, memberships, tickets, etc. He asks—“How many buildings exist in virtually every neighborhood, every city and town, as little nooks of possibility, of sanctuary—where one can walk in and be reminded ‘you are loved, you are good!’ . . . where you visit again and again, and after months you are transformed from stranger to kin, transformed from guest to host.” In fact, research has been done that has demonstrated real neurological effects in the brain for those who visit churches regularly, and show “brain soothing” neurological responses in the mid-brain, reflecting a sense of safety and comfort as one is welcomed to the fold. “You belong and are so welcome!”

Let me just end this short piece by quoting Bantum at the end of his article.

If we appreciated the radical interruption of a place where anyone can come, sit, sing, be welcomed and invited to simply be, where each week we are hosting and being hosted, where all can be nourished. . . In the end, we may have rich theologies of the church, but part of our uniqueness may have more to do with the ways we recognize just how unusual our gathering is in our community—and what that gathering might offer those who stumble in.

I truly believe that St. Martin's is that kind of sanctuary—welcoming and transforming in the process. Thanks be to God!

Grief Group - Lisa Johnson

The St. Martin's grief group "Our New Journey" will be held **July 21st from 2:30 to 3:30 pm**. *Note the start time change from 2 to 2:30*

The GriefShare 13-week program is planned to start in late summer/early fall and will be offered in addition to the Sunday once-a-month "Our New Journey" meetings.

ECW Update - Christa Burr

The Saturday, June 8 meeting was attended by 13 ladies. After the breakfast, our Golnaz talked to us about why her family came to the United States. It was eye-opening what we heard. It was a reminder that we are living in a country with personal freedom. Thank you to Golnaz for speaking with us.



After Golnaz left (she had been scheduled to work) we discussed future meetings.

July: Meet at a restaurant for breakfast. Have a short planning meeting for the next day's "breakfast between the services" (Sunday July 14). Co-chairs Betty + Martha.

August: Meeting time was changed to Sunday July 28 for a 3pm matinee at the Cultural Arts Center "Never Too Late". Husbands and guests are also welcome. Martha Sneary is taking care of the tickets. If you would like to join us please check with her to add tickets to our group.

September: Workshop to make Advent calendar candles or other decorated candles.

October: Instant pot demonstration led by Barbara and assistant Kim.

November: More workshop! At this moment it is not decided whether CrossRidge will have a bazaar. In any case, working on things for the holidays is always fun.

December: Christmas party!

The ECW is open to all ladies and responsible daughters. We would welcome newcomers with open arms.

Farewell Lunch for Sallie Bright

As most of you are aware, Sallie is moving to West Virginia later this summer to be closer to her daughter's family and most of her grandchildren. She has had a great impact on St. Martin's throughout her time here and has been a blessing to our church family.



There will be a taco bar lunch in Sallie's honor on **Sunday, July 21st after the 10am service**. Please come to wish Sallie the best in her move and thank her for all that she's done for St. Martin's. Instead of a farewell, this is more of a "See You Soon, Sallie" lunch, as we're sure we'll stay connected!



Taken on Father's Day ❤️



Some recent scenes around our church . . .



Lamb's Basket Update . . .

Wow, St. Martin's!! Thanks to the efforts of so many in our congregation, we delivered **98 pounds** of food to the Lamb's Basket in June!!

Please keep the donations coming. Every item makes a difference, and we are making a difference. The following items are the most needed:

Canned - soups, potatoes, fruits of all kinds, mixed vegetables, peas, carrots, and pet food.





Parish Nurse by Betty Horne

July: Being Prepared for Inclement Weather

We are just halfway through June; storms have started churning in the Atlantic/Caribbean. There is a dome of heat with record high temperatures in the east and record temperatures in the west and southwest have triggered wildfires. We have seen tornadoes and unusual amounts of rainfall causing massive flooding. There is no time like the present to update your emergency plan and ensure you have supplies ready in case of a quick evacuation.

Starting with the basics, you will need the following:

- ✓ Water—1 gallon per person for several days
- ✓ Non-perishable food
- ✓ Flashlights
- ✓ Battery powered radio and a NOAA radio alert
- ✓ Batteries, portable cell phone batteries, batteries for hearing aids
- ✓ A full tank of gas
- ✓ A First Aid kit
- ✓ Whistle to signal for help
- ✓ Masks that can filter airborne particles (N95 or similar helpful)
- ✓ Antibacterial wipes, moist towelettes
- ✓ Manual can openers
- ✓ Wrench or pliers to turn off electricity
- ✓ Maps
- ✓ Plastic sheeting and duct tape



In addition:

- ✓ Soap, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, garbage bags and plastic ties
- ✓ Prescription medications as well as over the counter meds: pain, anti-diarrhea, antacids etc.
- ✓ Medical supplies e.g. syringes needles if you have diabetes, oxygen or assistive devices that you may need
- ✓ Infant formula, diapers, skin care and cleaning supplies
- ✓ Eyeglasses, contact lens, cleaning solution
- ✓ Pet food
- ✓ Cash or traveler's checks
- ✓ Important documents—insurance cards, list of medicines, dosage and times, healthcare providers, pharmacy - stored in a waterproof container or electronically
- ✓ Matches in a waterproof container
- ✓ Sleeping bag or blanket
- ✓ Change of clothing, sturdy shoes
- ✓ Personal hygiene supplies
- ✓ Paper towels, disposable plates and plastic eating utensils
- ✓ Pencil and paper
- ✓ Games puzzles, books and other activities for kids
- ✓ Fire extinguisher



In some cases, you may need to go to a shelter, particularly if you have medical needs. Some shelters provide access to nurses, medical staff or other equipment but they will have to know you're coming

and what medical needs you might have. The earlier you make those arrangements, the better prepared they will be for you. The important thing is to have a plan.

Be sure to have contact numbers for family or loved ones to be able to notify them if you leave your home. Leave a copy of these numbers in your emergency kit.

If you plan to stay at home, in addition to the above supplies, you may want to:

- ✓ Fix window leaks
- ✓ Get your hurricane shutters ready to go up (in case of hurricane)
- ✓ Fill your car with gas
- ✓ Be sure your grill is ready in the event of power outage

- ✓ Keep ice on hand
- ✓ Check that non-electric or gas-powered tools are ready for use
- ✓ Bring in patio furniture and potted plants as they can act as projectiles

Being prepared gives you a sense of peace. With that you may be able to enjoy your summer. Remember to stay hydrated and apply sunscreen lotion every 2 hours while outdoors. A 50 SPF is commonly used. Don't forget your bug spray!



Finance Committee Report

-Garland Harwood

Financial Highlights 2024	End of April	MTD May	YTD end of May
Income	\$71,408.02	\$24,335.22	\$95,743.24
Expenses	-\$84,680.96	-\$17,668.27	-\$102,349.23
Gain or Loss	-\$13,272.94	\$6,666.95	-\$6,605.99

Thanks to a strong performance in Pledged & Plate Income and good expense control in May we cut our YTD losses in half to (\$6,606).

Please keep up the good work.

Kroger Rewards: no update for this year



Prayer Shawl & Blanket Committee - Linda Nelson



The Prayer Shawl and Blanket Committee will start up again in the fall. If you want to learn or refresh your knitting/crocheting skills this summer, Phyllis Berkle is willing to provide instruction at St. Martin's and share online instructions.

If you are interested in expanding your skills or have questions, please contact Linda Nelson at 804-756-8393 or lhnelson@aol.com.

West End (WE) Quilters



The WE (West End) Quilters are very happy to be allowed to meet at St. Martin's. They appreciate our easy way and voluntarily contribute something to the church budget. They had seen the banner in honor of Fr. Lee's 20th year anniversary and decided on a thank-you gift.

At the meeting on June 18, the WE Quilters gifted Fr. Lee with one of the BOM quilts. BOM (block of the month) is something the WE Quilters like to do. A different pattern is given every month for the members to do and bring to the next meeting. Somebody arranges them and makes the quilt top, sometimes two. Somebody else will layer, quilt, and finish the quilts and they are given away.



Fr. Lee was very surprised and happy about receiving this quilt and commented that he knew exactly where to hang it in his house.

Anybody who would like to learn about making quilts is very welcome. There will be no July meeting though. For questions contact Christa Burr.



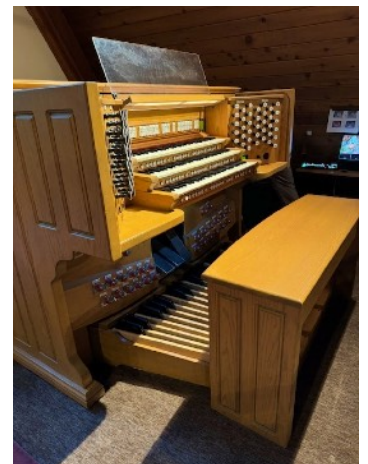
Old & New Organs!



Farewell old organ that brought us musical joy for so many years.
Thank you for your service.



Hello new organ. Welcome to St. Martin's! Thank you to the
generous donor who made you possible.



Sunday School Picnic - Sunday June 2



Delicious food and great fellowship to celebrate the end of another school year and the start of summer!





A Note about Choir Practice . . .

The choir will resume regular practice after Labor Day. Visitors and new people who wish to join the choir are invited to sit with them in the loft during the services until then. And, hopefully, they will continue with the choir for the liturgical year.



W O R D L E

Does anyone like to play Wordle? Your editor this month created one that pertains to our church. If you want to give it a try, click on this link:

<https://mywordle.strivemath.com/?word=oozqe>

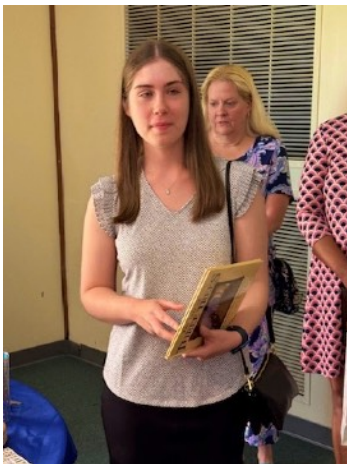
If you've never played, here's a quick tutorial. The premise of Wordle is that you have to guess a 5-letter word in six tries. Once you click on the link above, type a 5-letter word and press "enter" to see if any letters are in the answer. Green tiles mean you've guessed the correct letter in the correct place in the word. A yellow tile means you guessed a letter that's in the word but isn't in the right spot. A grey tile means the letter is not in the word.

Graduation Reception - Sunday June 9



Noah Clements

Noah graduated summa cum laude from Christopher Newport University with a Bachelor's degree in Computation and Applied Mathematics.



Katie Hall

Katie graduated from Douglas S. Freeman High School and is headed to the University of Virginia.



Jaiden Logan

Jaiden graduated summa cum laude from North Carolina A&T State University with a Bachelor's degree in Business Management (Innovation and Entrepreneurship Concentration), and a Minor in Psychology.



Lance Hartman

Lance graduated from Glen Allen High School and is headed to William & Mary.



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.



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

Your old eyeglasses,

Please remember that those glasses you don't use any longer could mean a lot to somebody who can't get any or can't afford any.

Somebody from the ECW will take care of them.
THANK YOU!



Blessing Box

Stock the Little Free Pantry!

When you have to shop for your food anyway, why not also pick up a few non-perishable items for the "Little Free Pantry" as well.

No glass containers please.
Also, please nothing which could spoil in the summer heat like mayonnaise, dressings, etc.

We are happy to report that the contents of the box is very well used. It is often empty.

Help to keep it filled!



YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

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



LAMB's Basket

"...I was hungry and you fed me"
Matthew 25:35

Do you need ideas what you could bring for the Lamb's Basket?

You can find the answer for most needed items in most of St. Martin's weeklies.



*
 07/01 Ellery Bradley
 07/01 Natalie Romano
 07/02 Tatiana Horne
 07/06 Rob Rowley
 07/08 Ashley Borders
 07/09 Kim Shook
 07/10 Jack Greenwood
 07/11 Jim Moss
 07/12 Jackie Bitler
 07/13 Yohance Iervolino
 07/15 Camila Ponce
 07/22 Alison Potter
 07/23 Sarah Waller
 07/25 William Sykes
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 08/03 Maya Atkins
 08/05 Sensai Horne
 08/05 Jay Sykes
 08/06 Jacob Henderson
 08/07 Kyle Stephenson
 08/10 Jeremy Atkins
 08/11 Glenn Sprouse
 08/11 Adrienne Stephens
 08/11 Maggie Witt
 08/12 Ruth Barrett
 08/13 Adam Marcus
 08/14 Mike Shook
 08/14 Kyle Stephenson
 08/14 Wade Waller
 08/15 Barbara Lockridge
 08/15 Taylor Murphy
 08/16 Martha Hall
 08/16 Andrew Wood
 08/18 Andrew Bright
 08/18 Jaiden Logan
 08/20 Jean Rollins
 08/23 Layne Hood
 08/25 Elliot Greenwood
 08/25 Garrett Greenwood
 08/26 Peacha Sasser
 08/26 Virginia Tucker
 08/27 Jonathan Horne
 08/29 Sandy Goolsby
 08/29 Sloan Verlander
 08/30 Sid Akens
 08/30 William Thirion
 08/31 Todd Areson
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 07/03/2018 Janice Carpi & Garland Harwood
 07/04/1968 James & Sharon Ragland
 07/07/2006 Jennifer & Sean Cooper
 07/08/2004 Betsy & George Crowell
 07/12/2008 Samantha & Tony Romano
 07/16/2011 Sarah & Wade Waller
 07/17 Glenn & Krestin Gibson
 07/20/2019 Ben & Sloan Verlander
 07/22/1995 Amy & Kevin Bailey
 *
 *
 08/01 Barbara & Russell Campeau
 08/07/1993 Adrienne & Errol Stephens
 08/11/2007 Carrilynn & Jay Sykes
 08/19/2012 Harrison & Sharon Alloway
 08/28/1987 Bob & Max Barritt
 *

Every Member and Friend of St. Martin's is important. If you have not given us your birth dates and wedding dates, please email them to registrar@saintmartinschurch.org. (We like to know the year too but only for demographic purposes. Birth years are sometimes published for children only.)

We would like to say a prayer for you too on your special day.

registrar@saintmartinschurch.org

Please send any changes to do with the directory like the portrait photos, addresses, emails, telephone/cell phone numbers, birthdays and anniversaries to the above address as well.

Newcomers, please don't hesitate to let us know if you would like to get the weekly email and/or The Cloak.

ST. MARTIN'S STAFF

Rector: The Rev. Lee A. Hutchson
Priest Associate: Rev. Dr. Sandra Levy-Mix
Priest Associate: Rev. Jerry Sneary
Monastic Associate: John Ogle
Organist & Choirmaster: Powell Johann

CHURCH OFFICE

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Office Hours

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 10 am-2 pm

It is best to call the office or Thomas Anthony
(804-944-5620) before you come.

Trustee Emeritus: Robert I. Kirby,
Trustees: Kerry Alloway, Garland Harwood
& Jim Greenwood

VESTRY

2024	2025	2026
Nancye Greenwood	Linda Fairtile	Krestin Gibson
Mike Shook	Jim Moss	Garland Harwood
Betty Horne	Sallie Bright	Bill White

Senior Warden: Betty Horne
Junior Warden: Garland Harwood

Clerk:
Treasurer: N'neka Logan (interim)
Assistant Treasurer: Mike Fiasco
Cloak Editor: Christa Burr / Ashley Borders



St. Martin's Episcopal Church

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