



# The Cloak



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



## Special Sunday Service ~ with a Baptism!

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# Father Lee Hutchison



## Confirmation

Bishop Stevenson will make his first official visit to Saint Martins on November 10<sup>th</sup>! He will be confirming those who have been baptized but did not receive the laying on of hands at their baptism. Our Book of Common Prayer states the following about confirmation:

*“In the course of their Christian development, those baptized at an early age are expected, when they are ready and have been duly prepared, to make a mature public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism and to receive the laying on of hands by the bishop.*

*Those baptized as adults, unless baptized with laying on of hands by a bishop, are also expected to make a public affirmation of their faith and commitment to the responsibilities of their Baptism in the presence of a bishop and to receive the laying on of hands.”*

I ask that you make every effort to be here on the 10<sup>th</sup> to welcome Our New Bishop and to celebrate with those who are to be confirmed their renewed commitment to their faith in Christ. Bishop Stevenson will host a forum following the service to answer any question you have about our diocese

*Fr. Lee*




## 4 Special Sundays in November - Not to be missed!

- Sunday, November 3 - All Saints, All Souls, Remembrance of the Departed
- Sunday, November 10 - The Patronal Feast of Saint Martin of Tours & Bishop Stevenson's Visit
- Sunday, November 17 - 26th after Pentecost & Annual Meeting after 10am Service
- Sunday, November 24 - The Feast of Christ the King

# What and When

# November

|   |
|---|
| <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends!</b><br>Fall back 1 hour: Sunday November 3   |
| <b>BibleStudy</b><br>Tue 10am on November 5, 12, 19 (education wing), 26<br>+ Wed 7pm on November 6, 13, 20, 27   |
| <b>GriefShare Support Group</b><br>Tuesday November 5, 12, 19, 26 from 6:30-8:30 pm   |
| <b>After Wednesday Service Social</b><br>First Wednesday of the month (Nov. 6)<br>come and gather with us for a light brunch  |
| <b>Card Games, Fellowship, Refreshments</b><br>Thursday 10 am on November 7, 14, 21,  |
| <b>ECW Meeting</b><br>Saturday November 9 at 9am (see page 10)  |
| <b>Men's Breakfast</b><br>Saturday November 9 at 9 am @ Shorty's Diner<br>all men welcome to join us (see page 8)   |
|  <b>Sunday Service with Bishop Stevenson</b><br><b>Confirmation .....</b><br>Sunday November 10. |
| <b>Vestry Meeting</b><br>Tuesday November 12 at 7 pm  |
| <b>St. Martin's Project</b><br>Saturday November 16 at 9:30 am - White Team   |
| <b>Annual Meeting</b><br>Sunday Nov. 17 after 10am service<br>(Endowment+Vestry Member Installations, and<br>Leadership Reports)  |
| <b>Our New Journey</b><br>Sunday November 17 at 2:30 pm   |
| <b>Cloak Deadline</b><br>Wednesday November 20  |
| <b>ECW Raffle Drawing</b><br>and last day to buy tickets - Sunday Nov. 24   |
| <b>Greening of the Church</b><br>Saturday November 30   |



**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)   | Thursday                | 1 pm           |
| 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 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday   | 7 pm                |
| Midweek Service social | 1 <sup>st</sup> Wednesday | after 10 am service |
| ECW                    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday  | 9 am                |
| Men's Breakfast        | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday  | 9 am                |
| St. Martin's Project   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday  | 9:30 am             |



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.



# Save the Dates !

How often does an event come up you would like to attend but you are already committed to something else which you could have scheduled on another day/time? I am now trying to put something in my smart calendar as soon as I see it in the Cloak, the Weeklies or the Bulletin.

## Here are dates which are already on the calendar for December:

2. Sunday of Advent - December 8 Pageant during Sunday service
- Saturday - December 14 at 3 pm - Chrismon Workshop (learn to make this year's ornament)
3. Sunday of Advent - December 15 Chrismon giving after 10am service

## Condolences!

to the family and friends of

**Lisa Spigai**

who died October 11 after a long battle with cancer.  
She will be missed and remembered  
especially by her son Alex and the Shook Family.



## ECW Raffle

The ladies of the ECW are selling home-made Advent-calendar Candles and tickets for a chance to win the Chrismon Advent-calendar (see last Cloak). Both are unique to St. Martin's. The candles are great presents to give at Thanksgiving to family and friends.

The drawing for the Chrismon wallhanging will be on Sunday November 24 after the 10am service.

## Samaritan's Purse - Operation Christmas Child:

**November 18-25, 2024**



Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There is a table in the hallway with boxes and literature about how to participate. If you have any questions, reach out to Nancy Greenwood.



# Words from Rev. Dr. Sandra Levy-Mix

## “Writing Your Own Obituary”

Last September there appeared in the *New York Times* Opinion section a think piece by Kelly McMasters titled “Why I Write my Obituary Every Year.” (September 29, 2024; See lead photo) Now I found that title eye-catching and provocative, and so I read further. Actually McMasters had been writing her obit every year since she was twelve years old. Turns out her mother was given that assignment as part of her training as a hospice volunteer, and the young McMasters decided to follow suit in a journal that she was keeping at the time.

Now I had read about this spiritual practice in years past. Even though most folks don't like to dwell on death in any case, and certainly not their own—I think you can see that the practice might make sense. Such a spiritual practice enables you to take a long view of your life. Of your accomplishments, of your life as a whole, how you would like to be remembered by others, what you are most proud of in the long run.

In fact, there is a formula—an outline of sorts—that funeral homes and newspapers tend to follow when writing or accepting obit information submitted by or to them. The facts—age at the time of death, sometimes cause of death, survivors, achievements in work or school, and finally what the community or others will remember about the person's life. I and perhaps you have had experience in writing obits for family or former spouses—drawing on memory and other written documents lovingly preserved.

In Nicholas Kristof's memoir *Chasing Hope*, which I wrote about in a recent blog, he cites David Brook's distinction between “resume virtues” and “eulogy virtues.” The former, “resume virtues” are actually the achievements you have won over a lifetime. For me—if you will permit me—I guess an example of that would be winning a top award from the American Psychological Association for my Ph.D. dissertation research and published work on schizophrenia and symptom expression.

Brook's “eulogy virtues” are the deeper qualities for which a person is missed when they are gone. They reflect the purpose-driven and deep meaning that your whole life has represented. For me of course this is reflected in my church life—my love of preaching and the attempt to foster deeper faith in those I have led as both Rector and Associate Rector in my current life.

McMasters ends her opinion piece thus:

*I'm grateful my mother brought the practice of looking at death this way to the dinner table all those decades ago and continued to do so through all the stories of her dying patients after that. Just as my aunt taught me the value of keeping a journal, my mother's obituary exercise taught me the practice and value of holding death close, so I could remember to live.*

Well I think this all makes a great deal of sense. Maybe we should all try to write our own obit as part of our new year's resolution and periodic life review.



Rev. Dr. Sandi continued ...  
on next page

Rev. Dr. Sandi continued ... from previous page

So that we could all remember to give thanks for the life we've been given and importantly, "remember to live"!

Not a bad idea, yes? Blessings to all.

This is a reprint of my latest blog that can be found in my website at [Sandra M. Levy-Achtemeier, Ph.D. – Website & Blog](#)

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## Conquer Chiari Walk - Saturday, September 28

Chiari malformation is a condition in which brain tissue extends into the spinal canal, and it occurs when part of the skull is misshapen or smaller than is typical. The skull presses on the brain and forces it downward. There are three types of Chiara malformation, and treatment depends on the type.

Our very own Rick Gibbs is the Chair of the Richmond Conquer Chiari Walk Across America, and several other St. Martinites came out to participate in the annual walk this year on Sept. 28.



# United Thank Offering - Kim Shook



## Fall Ingathering 2024 – November 24th

It's time for the ingathering of donations for the United Thank Offering again. The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings, and make an offering for each blessing. 100% of what is collected goes to support innovative missions and ministries throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

The easiest way to donate is to just bring your checks/cash (with the memo line inscribed: UTO) to church and put them in the collection basket on Sunday, and we will happily send the donation on for you. The envelopes and boxes are on the table in the hallway outside the Parish Hall. I know that children like the ritual of filling the boxes with change.

The other options for giving include texting, online, and mailing a check directly. The directions are below:

- To give via your phone, simply text **INGATHER** to **41444**
- Give online at <https://unitedthankoffering.com/give/>
- Mail a check, made payable to **UTO** with **Ingathering Diocese of Virginia** in the memo line, to:  
The United Thank Offering  
DFMS – Protestant Episcopal Church  
PO Box 958983  
St. Louis, MO 63195-8983

We plan to do the final Ingathering of donations on November 24th.

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## Finance Committee Report

- Garland Harwood

Kroger Rewards:  
no update for this year

| Financial Highlights 2024 | YTD end of August   | MTD September     | YTD end of September |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Income                    | \$148,787.89        | \$15,948.79       | \$164,736.68         |
| Expenses                  | -\$163,844.67       | -\$13672.58       | -\$177,517.25        |
| <b>Gain or Loss</b>       | <b>-\$15,056.78</b> | <b>\$2,276.21</b> | <b>-\$12,780.57</b>  |



# Men's Breakfast

October 12

The St. Martin's Men's Breakfast Group is beginning its 13th year! It is going strong under the leadership of Mr. Sid Akens. The Men's Breakfast is held at 9am on the 2nd Saturday of each month at Shorty's Diner (5625 W Broad St. in the Libbie Place shopping center). All men are welcome to join, and it's a wonderful opportunity for a lot of fun and fellowship. Come join us this month on **November 9!**

Here are some photos from the October breakfast.





Men's Breakfast continued ... from previous page



Don't forget:  
Saturday November 9 !!!

# Baptism

Sunday October 20

We welcome

## Simon Robert Rowley

son of Lauren and Rob and brother of Owen  
and grandson of Kerry and Scott Alloway





# ECW Update

- Christa Burr

The regular October meeting had been changed to Saturday the 5th due to the Fall Meeting of the ECW Diocese of VA the following Saturday Oct. 12. 6 ladies from St. Martin's car-pooled to Aquia Episcopal Church in Stafford, built in the 1750s.



It was an uplifting and educating event, whether it was the wonderful camaraderie of the participants, the spirited presentation of Bishop Harris, or the wonderful breakfast and lunch food, I am happy that I went to my first Diocese ECW meeting and hope to attend again.



Each meeting always ends with a Eucharist Service. This was also special in this about 260 year building with so much history.

Our next regular meeting will be Saturday November 9. More Advent Calendar Candles are in demand and a fun program is in the planning.





# Blessing of the Animals

- Sunday, October 6



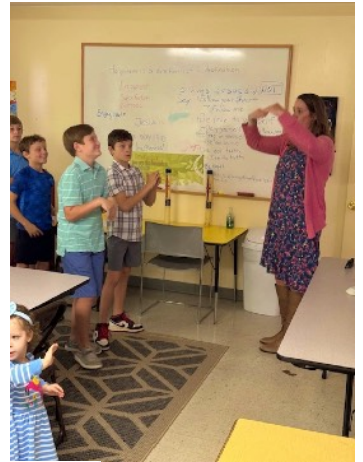


Blessing of Animals continued ... from previous page



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## Children's Sermon & Sunday School



Some fun in a recent Sunday School class!

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## Outreach Committee - Martha Sneary

Those who would like to participate in bringing items for the November collection for **Fisher House** are encouraged to do so right away as they will be delivered **before Thanksgiving**. We are collecting paper goods and toiletries for the veterans. Please leave them on the pew in the hallway.

Also watch for information regarding the Angle Tree to come.



# Parish Nurse by Betty Horne

## November: Giving Thanks

As we approach the holiday season, thanksgiving, and even as we look back on the year, we can find so many things to be thankful for. In a year when there is so much turmoil: disastrous hurricanes in the east, wildfires in the west and so much tragedy. It seems like there is nothing but bad news. While we are thankful for all God has blessed us with, for others it may invoke sadness or anxiety. Let us remember to pray for those who are not so fortunate, doing whatever we can to help.

Did you know that counting your blessings can increase your emotional health and is associated with greater happiness? Gratitude helps people feel more positive, emotions deal with adversity and build strong relationships. The following are documented benefits of giving thanks.

1. Giving thanks promotes health and well-being. Researchers have studied 3 groups of students: one group listed what they were grateful for, the other listed what they were angry about, and the third made random lists. The group who listed what they were grateful for was the happiest at the end of the experiment. What was even more interesting was that the students who expressed gratitude were less likely to be sick throughout

the semester. *"Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gifts, 2 Corinthians 9:15"*

2. Being grateful increases your blessings. We take for granted the blue skies, the beautiful sunset, the flowers, and the bountiful harvest. The more we notice all the beauty of nature and give thanks for all we enjoy, including our freedom, the more blessed we seem to be! *"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to the Father through him" Colossians 3:17*



3. The consequences of not being grateful. *"And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it" Numbers 11:1.* People who are not grateful tend to complain, mostly about anything or everything! We can make that choice to have a grateful heart (an attitude of gratitude). Think of the benefits!

4. Gratitude keeps us continually aware that the Lord is close by. It motivates us to look for His purpose in our circumstances. Thanking God focuses our attention on Him rather than our circumstances.

5. Thankfulness is an essential ingredient for joy. Gratitude transforms anxiety into peace, which passes all understanding. *"Be fearful for nothing, but in everything*



*with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which passes all understanding will keep your heart and mind through Jesus Christ our Lord. Philippians 4:6-7"*

This holiday season when you gather with your family and friends around the table, take turns during the blessing of the meal, to give thanks for one thing that each is grateful for.

### Try taking a gratitude challenge

- List 10 living people you are grateful for
- List 10 people who have died you are grateful for
- List 10 physical abilities you are grateful for
- List 10 of your possessions you are grateful for
- List 10 things about nature you are grateful for
- List 10 things about today you are grateful for
- List 10 places on earth you are grateful for
- List 10 modern-day inventions you are grateful for
- List 10 foods you are grateful for
- List 10 things about the gospel you are grateful for

### Happy Holidays



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## Boy Scouts' Brunswick Stew Brew - October 12 and 13

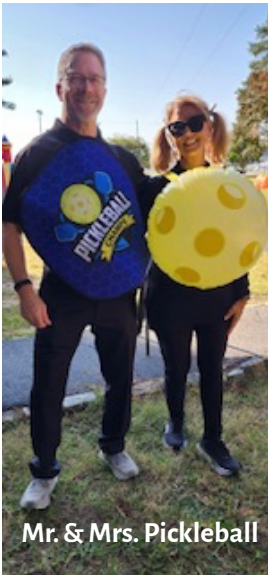
The Boy Scout Troop that meets at St. Martin's had a Brunswick stew sale in the parking lot one weekend in October. Here are some pictures.





# Fall Festival - October 26

The weather was very favorable and a good time was had by many ... members and neighbors alike!



Mr. & Mrs. Pickleball





Fall Festival continued... from previous page



Did you get your flu shot yet?



Fall Festival continued ... from previous page

**Trunk or Treat ?**



**And the costume winners are ....**



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Fall Festival continued ...  
on next page





|       |                      |       |                  |
|-------|----------------------|-------|------------------|
| *     |                      | *     |                  |
| 11/04 | Claire Baughan       | 12/01 | Lorelei Cooper   |
| 11/07 | Nancye Greenwood     | 12/01 | James Logan      |
| 11/07 | Linda Fairtile       | 12/02 | Jennifer Cooper  |
| 11/08 | Melissa Machalinski  | 12/03 | Victoria Hughson |
| 11/10 | Karen Hood           | 12/03 | Linda Nelson     |
| 11/12 | Alexander Cooper     | 12/03 | Errol Stephens   |
| 11/14 | Ashley Howdyshell    | 12/07 | N'neka Logan     |
| 11/15 | Kevin Howdyshell     | 12/07 | Joe Lamb         |
| 11/18 | Colin Borders        | 12/08 | Susan Stowell    |
| 11/18 | Dianne O'Kelley Lamb | 12/10 | Nasira Horne     |
| 11/19 | Gina Reid            | 12/14 | Stephanie Dupaul |
| 11/19 | Caleb Waller         | 12/15 | Carter Hood      |
| 11/20 | Mike Fiasco          | 12/16 | Chris Patoray    |
| 11/22 | Kenzie Howdyshell    | 12/16 | Krestin Gibson   |
| 11/24 | Lee Hutchson         | 12/17 | Beverly Stone    |
| 11/26 | Christine Watt       | 12/17 | Kevin Bailey     |
| 11/27 | Katie Hall           | 12/18 | Scott Goodman    |
| 11/28 | Holly Thirion        | 12/19 | Austin Newcomb   |
| 11/29 | George Crowell       | 12/20 | Sean Reid        |
| 11/30 | Paris Lindsey        | 12/25 | Merielle Horne   |
| *     |                      | 12/25 | Carl Newcomb     |
|       |                      | 12/26 | Christa Burr     |
|       |                      | 12/26 | Eliana Ponce     |
|       |                      | *     |                  |

|            |                           |  |
|------------|---------------------------|--|
| *          |                           |  |
| 11/05/1966 | Jim & Chris Smack         |  |
| 11/16/2019 | Rob & Lauren Rowley       |  |
| 11/18/2016 | Tatiana & Jonathan Horne  |  |
| 11/26/1975 | Christa & James Burr      |  |
| 11/27/???? | Tiffany & Daniel Clements |  |
| *          |                           |  |
| *          |                           |  |
| 12/01/1990 | Jim & Victoria Hughson    |  |
| 12/14/2013 | Amberlyn & Wilson Ponce   |  |
| 12/21/2018 | Sandi & David Mix         |  |
| 12/21/1965 | Ruth & James Barrett      |  |
| 12/22/???? | Jim & Jenny Richardson    |  |
| 12/22/???? | Melinda & Darrell Jenkins |  |
| *          |                           |  |

Fall Festival continued ... from previous page



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](mailto: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](mailto: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 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

## For private Piano Lessons

contact

## Carolyn Mowery

434-391-4938 (please leave message)

or

clmowery61@hotmail.com



## 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.



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.

## 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

(804) 270-6786 (Phone) (804) 270-3286 (Fax)

E-mail: [office@saintmartinschurch.org](mailto:office@saintmartinschurch.org)

Website: <https://saintmartinschurch.org>

## 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      |                | 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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[cloak@saintmartinschurch.org](mailto:cloak@saintmartinschurch.org)