



Annual Parish Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2024, 10:00 A.M.
Gable Hall

Opening Hymn – LEVAS 1 — Lift Every Voice and Sing - verses 1 and 3

Opening Prayer – “The Creed” from Wonder Church offered by Wonder Church Families

Opening Comments – The Rev. Monica Mainwaring, Rector

- The 2023 Annual Report is now available
- Please review the Annual Report to see all of the exciting things we have underway at St. Martin’s
- The statistics and pictures in the Annual Report reflect the vitality of our church and the breadth and variety of our congregation
- We should continue to focus on nurturing and maintaining our health as individuals and as church members as we support God’s work in St Martin’s community. God is at work in all of us

Report on Vestry Elections – Leslie Uddlin, 2024 Senior Warden

- The 2023 Annual Report Meeting Minutes were approved as written
- Bill Petritz was elected clerk of the Annual Meeting
- Recognized outgoing vestry members and thanked them for their contributions: Jed Dennard, Martha Evans, Grant Ford, and Gay Jolley
- Introduced new vestry members: Lauren Cartwright, Scott Foster, Amanda Giffin, and Bill Petritz
- Recognized the vestry continuing to serve: Nancy Easterlin-Smith, Chris Elwell, Scott Madden, Monica Mainwaring, Man Martin, Diana Parise, Jim Reese, Caroline Rose, and Leslie Uddin
- Leslie Uddlin was chosen as Senior Warden for 2024, Jim Reese was elected by the Vestry as Junior Warden for 2024, Scott Foster was chosen as Treasurer, and Bill Petritz was nominated and elected as Clerk for 2024

Report by Outgoing Senior Warden – Grant Ford, 2023 Senior Warden

- Strategic Planning Commission identified some key initiatives through talking with parishioners about future building and grounds improvements; Grant Ford will continue supporting these strategic planning initiatives alongside Vestry member Diana Parisee
- In 2026, we will celebrate the 75th anniversary of St. Martin’s; let’s work to make the next 75 year equally great
- We’ve come out of COVID much healthier than most church’s; let’s keep the momentum

going

- Thanked Maria Madden for building a great cooperative partnership with SMES

Report by Outgoing Junior Warden – Martha Evans, 2023 Junior Warden –

Expressed pride for the following three significant items:

- o Addressed drainage issues and persistent leaks with the church roof
 - o Hired a full time Facilities Manager (Quentin Lonon)
 - o Reconstituted the Administrative Commission (with the Rector, Facilities Manager, Bob Hamilton, Marion Hodges, Tim Peek and David Pugh) to assess the church's future facilities needs
- Going forward, the Commission will focus on revitalizing the Prayer Garden and renovating the kitchen; pledges are important to help keep the church growing and going from the ground up

Report on Staff – Monica Mainwaring

- The staff implements the vision that the vestry puts forth using your input – Maria Madden helped strengthen our church-school relationship when she joined as Head of School for St. Martin's Episcopal School
- Quentin Lonon joined in early 2023 as Facilities Manager and has excelled at addressing several building maintenance and improvement items
- Sidney Phillips joined us in April as our Nursery Lead
- Ethan Page served as Youth Minister through May, and Molly Herman-Gallow transitioned to the fulltime role of Children and Youth Minister in the summertime
- Father Rick Callaway was with us during the summer while Rev. Monica Mainwaring was on sabbatical
- Mary Margret Stewart joined us in August as Communications Director
- Continuing staff members include Will Gotmer (Music Minister), Maryann Lozano (Handbell Choir Director), Molly Herman-Gallow (Children and Youth Minister), Leslie Rose (Business Administrator), Consuela Smikle-Williams (Parish Administrator), and clergy Rev. Colin Brown and Rev. Victoria Jarvis

Finance Report – Jed Dennard, 2023 Treasurer

- 2023 was Jed's second year as Treasurer
- Had a planned \$370K deficit in 2022; finished with a deficit of only about \$60K – Started 2023 with a planned budget shortfall of \$249K; ended 2023 with a deficit of about \$180K
- 2024 expenses are fairly static, and the budget deficit is trending in the right direction

Report of Endowment Fund – Vince Vitti, Chair

- Purpose of Endowment is to enable the Church to fulfill more completely its mission through the development and enhancement of the Church, its facilities and ministries beyond what is possible through annual operating funds
- Started in 1971 with a single \$100 donation; the fund now has just over \$3.4M – For 2023, \$181,442 was distributed from the Endowment Fund, including \$177,559 from the general (unrestricted) fund and \$3,883 from the donor restricted fund

Suthers Center for Christian Outreach Report – Mary Jo Sibbald, Executive Director and Joel Brockman, Suthers Board Chair

- Mary Jo Sibbald talked about importance of this volunteer mission and how she believes we need to work to close 3 gaps: 1) providing on-street access for emergency assistance, 2) supporting a dedicated location for a thrift shop, and 3) improving the development of additional volunteers

- Joel Brockman reminded attendees that the Suthers Center started its mission in 2009, and it has evolved over time
- Now the Suthers Center is primarily a food pantry emergency service (which has grown from 2k lbs to 9k lbs of food outreach per week)

St. Martin's Episcopal School Report – Maria Madden, Head of School

- Maria Madden opened by expressing gratefulness for the constant support and partnership of the church
- Increasingly families join both the school and the church, as the shared church and school environment is an important reason they join our community
- The school is about to embark on its strategic planning
- SMES open house is scheduled for January 21st, with about 130 visitors expected

Rector's Report – Monica Mainwaring

- We are a stabilized and growing church; please read the Annual Report to know all about our church, and let's be in continued dialogue for the health and growth of our church – Vince Vitti and Gay Jolley will be two St. Martin's parishioners who will be commissioned as Lay Ministers on January 27th. This is another substantive example of how our parishioners are engaged in doing God's work
- Thanked the parish for the gift of a two-month sabbatical from which she returned rested and inspired to help the church get better with peacemaking / conflict resolution and stewardship of our Earth in times of climate challenges – two priorities for Church-future
- Our new Vestry gathered on Tuesday, January 16th
- Looking forward to a productive year for laying foundation and clarity of our relationships; by working together, we can achieve a collective vision as a church
- Recognized the importance of Race relations and racial healing training required for all staff, which inspired the section of this meeting's opening hymn
- Closed with words of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr from his 1965 Commencement speech at Oberlin College: "... all mankind is tied together; all life is interrelated, and we are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of identity. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly."
- Closed with an open question session, during which a question was asked about how Wonder Church came about and related future plans
 - o Rev. Mainwaring mentioned that all options were evaluated to dream, ground up, about the importance of children-focused fellowship growth; liturgical resources were reviewed and blended; a proposal was then submitted to Bishop Wright, and he granted approval
 - o Wonder Church has grown in popularity, and we are considering extending similar services at other service times for younger professionals

"God At Work In Us" – Presented by St. Martin's Children & Youth

- "New Things" written and drawn by the children and youth, which included images of baptism, rainbows, crosses, new friends, Harry Potter, money, vacation bible school, music notes, an angel from the Christmas pageant, etc.

Closing Prayer – "For Our Country" - Youth of St. Martin's

- "Almighty God, who hast given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favor and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honorable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend

our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bill Petritz, Clerk of Annual Meeting 2024