

ST. MARTIN'S NEWSLETTER

February 2010
Volume 6, Issue 2

The Reverend Linda L. Kerr, Rector, St. Martin's Church
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Pulpit Ponderings.....*thoughts from the Rector*

FINDING LOVE in the DESERT

The desert of Lent possesses a daunting landscape. We are called to enter the desert, stripped of the usual embellishments and distractions, in order to confront the deathly terrain. But it is reasonable and so much easier to bypass the desert, continuing to compulsively fill time. Learning how to empty time is both the lesson and the gift of Lent.

Are you ready to head into the desert? Packing light is the first challenge. Without so much stuff, immediate gratification is stalled and we can focus on the barren landscape that invites us to see and hear what is not so obvious in our 24/7 lives – a heart ready for conversation, a divine whisper, a glimpse of rough beauty.

During Lent, when suburban/urban people like us stumble into the desert, we awaken to the subtle shifts and changes happening within us. Daily life slows and without so much clutter we can sense God to be more present and more involved in our lives. The Exodus pilgrims found God at dawn every morning because they had to rise early to forage for their *daily bread*. And God was utterly faithful in each new day.

In another desert, Jesus, still damp from the river Jordan, found the strength to resist seductive offers of success without suffering. We are a desert people and there is an oasis waiting for us. Join your brothers and sisters this Lent and rediscover the oasis of

God's love – more nourishing than the richest feast or the most elegant banquet.

This Lent come and worship with us on Sundays and join us on Wednesday evenings. There is living water waiting to quench your thirst. There are friends to encourage you when strength is failing. Ultimately there is a love that will never leave us or forsake us. *Love is waiting for you.*

Nothing is more practical than finding God, than falling in love in a quite absolute, final way. What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination, will affect everything. Fall in love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.

Brother Pedro Arrupe, S.J.

Yours in God's love,

Linda⁺

Lent at a Glance

Mardi Gras	Feb. 16, 6:00pm
Ash Wednesday	Feb. 17, Noon & 7:30pm
Lenten Series	Feb. 24, Mar. 3, 10, 17
(see p. 3 for details)	

Some Random Thoughts

John Reilly, Rector's Warden

I couldn't decide on a single theme this month, so please allow me to share a few brief thoughts in a number of areas.

Leaders Among Us

January was a blur and we are now in February, a month in which we remember two of our nation's great leaders, George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. The upcoming Presidents' Day holiday got me to thinking about leaders closer to home, in our state, our town and in groups in which I'm involved, including here at St. Martin's

We all benefit from the service of the members of our parish who go "above and beyond" and lead us forward when they give of their time and energy to serve St. Martin's. That service can relate to our worship (the Altar Guild, the Flower Guild, our readers, ushers, greeters, servers and choir), our fellowship (our many families who take care of Coffee Hour and Breakfasts, the legion of workers on our annual Fair, the Parish Life Committee), our Sunday School teachers or our collective governance (on the Vestry, special committees like the Strategic Planning Committee or by attending and participating in the recent Town Hall meeting). We thank everyone involved in those and other parish activities for their service and leadership.

We may not always recognize it, but we are blessed with a wealth of leaders at St. Martin's. We're always looking for more, so please consider making 2010 the year to get more involved in the leadership of our parish.

Laissez les bons temps roulet!

No, I am not a polyglot, but I am familiar with the foregoing term (found, among numerous other places, in an old Lucinda Williams song I know and love) and am told that it translates from Cajun French roughly to "Let the good times roll!"

Yes, Lent is nearly upon us, meaning that it must be time for the annual Mardi Gras pot luck dinner at Bolingbroke. **Tuesday, February 16 at 6:00 p.m.** is the date and time for a wonderful evening of food, fun and fellowship. I hope you will be able to attend.

Some Thank You's

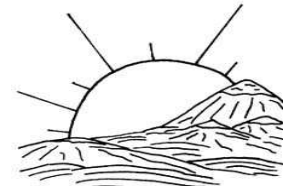
I want to thank everyone who was able to attend the Town Hall meeting on Sunday, January 31. I appreciate your willingness to hear the proposal put forth and your questions and comments on this important first step into our future together. If you were not able to attend the meeting, you may obtain a copy by calling Pam Faber in the Parish Office.

Speaking of **Pam Faber**, I want to also thank her for her hard work in assisting the Strategic Planning Committee with the various requests for data and all of the number-crunching that was needed as the planners worked to complete their presentation to the parish. The committee literally could not have done its work without her assistance. Thanks also to **Ralph Borst** who helped with the meeting preparations and set-up.

Finally, I would like to thank **Brian Penny, Pattie Booker, Keel Jones, Gale Muir** and **Matt Wynn** for their hard work on the Strategic Planning Committee. Many long hours were spent researching and developing the plan and presenting it to the parish at the Town Hall meeting. I owe each of them a great debt for their efforts on behalf of St. Martin's and our future.

STRATEGIC PLAN COPIES AVAILABLE

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A COPY OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN DOCUMENT WHICH WAS PRESENTED AT THE JANUARY 31ST MEETING, PLEASE CALL (610-688-4830) OR E-MAIL (SAINTMARTINS@COMCAST.NET) THE OFFICE.



LENT 2010 FINDING BEAUTY IN THE DESERT

- WHEN:** Four Wednesdays in Lent, beginning the week after Mardi Gras:
February 24th and March 3rd, 10th and 17th.
- WHERE:** Join us in Bolingbroke for a potluck supper at **6:00pm (or so)**
and stay for the inspiring program. The programs will end by 8:30pm.
- WHY:** Because at St. Martin's we learn and grow from our experiences of
fellowship around a table and in conversation about the ways in which
God touches and enriches our lives. We also draw inspiration from the
faith stories of others, as we struggle to live more faithfully and fully.
- WHAT:** Our topic this year explores the nature of **GOD WHO INSPIRES ALL
BEAUTY**. The barren desert of Lent calls us to focus on God who is
the First Creator and whose love of beauty is reflected in the entire
universe and in the human creation of ART, POETRY and MUSIC.
Reflecting God's own image, we touch the divine when we become
seekers after beauty and meaning.
- WHO:** We honor those among us who pursue the artistic vision. Each presenter's
story will be unique and each will encourage us to see God involved in the
amazing world created as a place when eternity and time intersect, where
word becomes flesh and where we are fed by all 'things bright and
beautiful.'

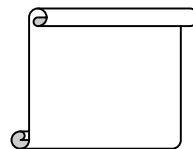
We look forward to welcoming:



ALISON DUDLEY



AMY REINHARDT



NOAH CUTLER



DEREK WILSON

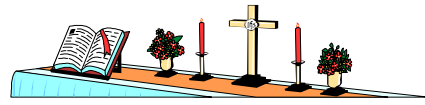
A NOTE OF THANKS

Heidi Bryan

Just a note of thanks to all of you who contributed to Feeling Blue in 2009 – we sincerely appreciate your continued support and generosity. We know we wouldn't be here without you, so thanks! Although it's only February our spring is beginning to fill up. I will be traveling to New York City, Towanda, York, Harrisburg, Mercer and Allegheny Counties for trainings for the PA Adult/Older Adult Suicide Prevention Coalition in March through the beginning of June. Throw in a couple of local trainings - UPenn Nursing School, Philadelphia Health Management Corporation, and you can see what we mean. Your support helps make all of that possible, so once again, thank you!

Our thanks

to **Sally Hager** and **Nini Reinhardt** for their decades of loving and faithful service to St. Martin's. Working behind the scenes, they always made sure that everything was ready for our worship services as well as for weddings and funerals. We are so happy that they will continue their work with the Altar Guild. Thanks Sally and Nini!



A Change at the Top

Sally Hager

For the last **20+** years, **Nini Reinhardt** and I have been in charge of the Altar Guild. Although it has been enjoyable and rewarding, we both agree it's time to pass on the commitment to others. We feel confident that **Joan** and **Walt Albert** will be more than capable to fill our shoes.

Through the years we have worked with many St. Martin's women and a few men and found them to be dependable and willing. It was our privilege to work with them.

We are sure the Alberts will find the same spirit.

2009 Outreach Recap

During 2009, St. Martin's parishioners (adults and children alike) once again displayed their generous spirit. We sent **cash donations of \$1,620** in support of both local and foreign programs. The recipients of our generosity were **Episcopal Community Services, Al Ahli Arab Hospital (through Episcopal Relief & Development), The Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society, Temple University Episcopal-Lutheran Campus Ministry, and the Delaware County SPCA.**

That was just the cash! We also collected "in kind" gifts for

St. Barnabas:

- Weekly deliveries of non-perishable food, paper & baby items
- Easter bags filled with candy and goodies
- Christmas dinners of turkeys, hams and all the sides

20th US Army Scout Platoon in Afghanistan:

- Toiletries and snacks

Animal Coalition of Delaware County & Forgotten Cats:

- Dog and cat food, toys, treats

Thank you all

MEET THE NEW VESTRY – Class of 2012

From Richard Fuller Booker, Esq.

I was born in Detroit Michigan. My parents met while attending college at the University of Michigan, and lived there until 1969, when they moved back to the Main Line.

The Bookers are the third generation in my family to attend St. Martin's. My grandparents, and parents have been members of the Church (attending since the mid 1950's), and I was both baptized (1964) and confirmed (1979) here. My wife Pattie & I live in Radnor, and have been married for 20 years. We have three children that are well known at St. Martin's: Ricky (18); Chad (16) and Candace (9). Ricky and Chad attend Radnor High School, while Candace attends Radnor Elementary.

I am an attorney and serve as Senior Tax Counsel, and Manager of State and Local Taxes at the Sunoco, Inc. headquarters in Philadelphia. I received my J.D and LL.M (Taxation) from Temple Law School. I am an avid golfer, and member of the Philadelphia Cricket Club. I'm also a member of the Society of the Sons of St. George, the St. Andrews Society of Philadelphia and the Society of Mayflower Descendants in Pennsylvania. I am a tenor for the St. Martin's Choir. Pattie and I are active in local politics, and have both served on the Radnor School Board, as well as the vestry of St. Martin's.

St. Martin's has been the only church home for me and my family, and I am committed to contributing my time and effort to serving the Parish and the community. I look forward to helping to secure a bright future for St. Martin's, Radnor.



From Robert L. Andersen

I, together with my wife Janet, have been a member of St. Martin's Church since moving to Radnor in August, 1976. We raised our two children, Betsy and Chris, in St. Martin's, married Betsy in the Church, and baptized at least some of our grandchildren here. The children have now moved to distant communities, Betsy to Ellicott City, MD, Chris to Tulsa OK, where they participate in their local church communities. Betsy is an educator and has three children, Andrew (13), Dalton (11) and Kayleigh (9), all of whom are competitive swimmers. Chris is a Marketing Manager for Hilti Corporation and is expecting his first, a set of twins, toward the end of this month.

My educational background includes a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of California Medical Center in San Francisco, followed by a J.D. Degree from Hastings College of the Law, also in San Francisco.

I practiced retail, hospital and manufacturing pharmacy for approximately 10 years before obtaining my law degree. I worked as a patent trainee for 4 years with Dart Industries Inc. in Los Angeles, then as a chemical patent attorney with Olin Corporation in New Haven Connecticut.

Prior to my retirement in June, 2008, I was a patent attorney in private practice for 11 years, preceded by 21 years as an in-house patent attorney and Corporate Patent Counsel for FMC Corporation. My area of expertise was chemical patent practice with heavy emphasis on pharmaceuticals and agricultural chemicals.

My interests and activities include bicycling, skiing, though my activities in each of these areas have been curtailed over the last couple years for various reasons. I still endeavor to keep abreast of new developments in the field of pharmacy and to keep up with the ever-changing field of intellectual property law. I enjoy spending time at our mountain house near Elk Mountain Ski Resort and in visiting our children and their families.

I welcome the opportunity of serving on the Vestry of St. Martin's Church.

**The Parish Life Committee Invites You to
Mardi Gras Celebration**

At Bolingbroke on Tuesday February 16th at 6pm.

**Reserve your place. Please sign up in the Gurley Room or contact Joan Prewitt
at (610) 989-1756 or jtprewitt@hotmail.com .**

Laissez les Bon Temps Roulez!



Lenten Potluck Suppers + Programs will be held at Bolingbroke at 6pm on Wednesday evenings during Lent. We look forward to our suppers together and to the programs that Linda provides for us. These should be pleasant, thought-provoking evenings! Again, please sign up in the Gurley Room or contact Joan Prewitt at (610) 989-1756 or jtprewitt@hotmail.com.

Add Something for Your Lent

This year, add to your Lenten discipline by volunteering as a Sunday Server. There are many opportunities from which to pick:

- ❖ Acolyte
- ❖ Reader
- ❖ Usher
- ❖ Chalice bearer
- ❖ Coffee host
- ❖ Greeter
- ❖ St. Barnabas driver

Once you have added one or several of these jobs, you will be so rewarded that you will want to continue well after Lent 2010 is over. Call the office at 610-688-4830 or speak to Linda.

**DON'T FORGET!
An Evening of Poetry**

On Tuesday, March 23rd, at 7:00pm, we will gather at Bolingbroke to listen to recitations of original poetry by the poets.

If you missed the first poetry evening, make sure not to miss this one!

Feeling Blue Needs You!

We are looking for someone to help us with our bookkeeping. We use **Quickbooks** and need someone to enter and pay bills, create invoices, reconcile the accounts and create a monthly report.

It sounds worse than it is, really! We have an average of 20 transactions per month. The time involved would probably be around 2-3 hours a month. If you have the time and talent, please call Heidi at 610-715-0076 or contact Christine Wiita at Christine@feelingblue.org. Thanks!

Brides Vote Bolingbroke a Winner!

Leigh Harvey, Director of Bolingbroke

The votes are in. Bolingbroke has received an award. Every year brides on TheKnot.com vote for their favorite local wedding professionals, and this year Bolingbroke was voted a Best of Weddings winner. That's right, recently married "Knotties" voted us a top-rated reception facility in the Philadelphia metropolitan area. Now, if that doesn't set the tone for another successful year...

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