

# The Echo



We do.  
After the 11 AM Worship. On the Mall.

SHARING GOD'S LOVE IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN AUSTIN

VOLUME 53, NO. 12



## Healing Service, Wed, January 3 at Noon

Come for healing, prayer and spiritual renewal.

## Epiphany Service January 6

Holy Eucharist at 5 PM.

## New Sunday Worship Schedule Begins January 7

New worship times are 8:45 and 11 AM, with education for parents and children at 10 AM. (Foundations Class continues to meet at 9:30 AM.) Come early for fellowship and treats, 8-11 AM!

## Baptism Recognition Sunday, January 7

Those baptized at St. Martin's since the last Baptism of our Lord Day (Jan 2006) are invited to be recognized at worship on Sunday, Jan 7, 2007. Please bring your baptismal candle and make plans to attend worship.

To schedule a baptism, contact the church office. The next Baptism Instruction Class is Jan 14.

## Wednesday Night at St. Martin's Resumes January 10

WNSM took a break over Christmas and will begin Jan 10. Check out the WNSM schedule on this page.

## St. Martin's Annual Meeting, Sunday, January 21 at 1 PM

Attend and exercise your membership responsibility to elect church officers and approve the budget for 2007. Confirmed members are voting members. Lunch served at Noon.

## Lay School of Theology, Saturday, January 27

Learn about spiritual types—ways of receiving the presence of God. Attend the workshop on Sat, Jan 27 from 10-2 at St. Martin's.

## 3M Half Marathon Sunday, January 28

The race begins at 7 AM on Stonelake Blvd and travels south to end on Trinity at Waterloo Park, southeast of St. Martin's. Please be aware of possible traffic delays as you make your way to church.

## Pancakes & Books for Honduras, Sunday, February 4

Come and support the team's fundraiser for its next trip Feb 7-14. See article on this page.

## Save the Date: Sunday, February 18 "Hands & Feet"

10th Annual Dinner Theater and Silent Auction. Please give silent auction donations to Whitney Myers.



## Gifts toward our new hymnals exceed goal of \$13,000!

Donor list is available on the kiosk. Thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped with this project in various ways, with special thanks to Ann Henry for a mountain of work behind the scenes.

## Save the Date: VBS—June 3-7

Mark your calendar! For more information, contact VBS Chair Becky Rolan at 301-9450 or jrrolan@yahoo.com

## Explore Spiritual Types at the Lay School of Theology

Both individuals and congregations possess particular spiritual types—ways of receiving the presence of God. How do we learn to appreciate all of these types and what they bring to our worship and our congregational life? How can these different ways not separate us, but fit together into a spectrum of spiritual life that nourishes each one? In this workshop we will learn the four spiritual types researched by Dr. Corinne Ware, evaluate our personal type and explore the composition of the congregation at St. Martin's. We will entertain the question—**how can we provide enriched experiences for all of our members?**

Anne Province of the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest will lead the workshop at St. Martin's on **Sat, Jan 27 from 10-2. Registration fee (includes lunch): \$25/person before Jan 21 and \$30 after Jan 21.** Registration forms are on the Adult Ed. Bulletin Board or contact Kathy Krebs, Adult Ed. Coordinator (476-6757 ext 37).

## Pancakes & Book Sale for Honduras on February 4

The mission team is leaving for Honduras on Feb 7, and Jimmy Newkirk will be flipping his famous pancakes on Sun, Feb 4 to raise money for their projects in Colonia Solidaridad. While there, the team will be participating in teacher training workshops at the newly constructed elementary school. They will also work on construction projects in the Colonia.

Eat pancakes and browse the hundreds of books, CDs, videos and DVDs for sale to raise money for much-needed educational materials for the school library. **Please consider donating your gently-used items for the sale. Also needed are gently-used clean clothing, books, toys, toiletries and shoes** to take to the people of the Colonia. Mark everything "for Honduras", and bring them to Room 231 during January. Then, come to the sale to choose from the many items available! For more information, contact Bunny Oliver at 301-4753 or boliver80@aol.com

## Kick Off the New Year!

We're starting the new year with a brand new look on Sunday mornings! The streamlined schedule will allow more folks to attend a class and families to worship together. Check out the schedule below.

### More about classes:

**Children & Youth** – See the Welcome Center.

**Foundations Class** is studying the Gospel of John. This class continues to gather at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings in the Chapel. Fellowship follows in the Parlor.

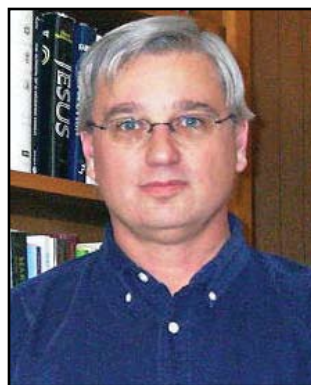
**Crossways II** is an overview of the New Testament and meets at 10:00 AM in Room 230 during the Sunday School hour.

**Adult Forum: Living the Gospel.** The class meets at 10 AM for four Sundays in January. Each week's self-contained lesson will include a presentation on the Gospel of Luke and time for discussion. The Rev. Dr. Ray Pickett is facilitating and presenting. Continental Breakfast offered during class. The class is for adults of all ages!

### Sunday Morning Worship & Education

<b>8-11 AM</b>	Fellowship and Food in Fellowship Hall	
<b>8:45 AM</b>	Holy Eucharist	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Foundations Class (Chapel)	Adults
<b>10 AM</b>	Beginner's Bible (Rm 308)	Children (ages 2-3)
	Life Together or Godly Play (Upstairs)	Children (preK-5th Grade)
	Sunday School (Basement)	Youth (6th-12th Grade)
	Crossways II (Rm 230)	Adults
	Adult Forum (Fellowship Hall)	Adults
<b>11 AM</b>	Holy Eucharist	
<b>Noon</b>	Cookies on the Mall	

Childcare available throughout the morning for children 5 & under. Infants & toddlers are also welcome to attend class with a parent.



### Welcome Dr. Pickett, St. Martin's Scholar in Residence

Dr. Pickett is an Assistant Professor of New Testament at the Lutheran Seminary Program of the Southwest and teaches an approach to Scripture that equips and empowers people to understand the Bible in its own cultural-political milieu as we relate it to contemporary life issues. This model leads us to read the Bible, as much as possible, on its own terms by venturing into its strange and wonderful world and the culture in which it is embedded.

Because the guiding question of this approach is **How should we then live?**—we are invited to return to our own world with fresh eyes to deliberate and discern what the Spirit is saying to us through these texts today.

### Don't Forget the Fellowship! Coffee + Community = Fellowship

Coffee & Pastries, Community & Conversation, Cereal & Milk & Juice. There's something for everyone, **every Sunday from 8-11 AM in Fellowship Hall.**

## January Benevolence Focus: Caritas of Austin

Since 1964, Caritas of Austin has had one mission—to assist with basic needs in times of crisis. Caritas envisions a community of hope, respect and self-reliance.

Caritas of Austin works to prevent homelessness and hunger by assisting low-income community members and refugees with basic needs and promoting self-sufficiency. The organization is now one of Travis County's largest non-governmental sources of assistance. "Caritas" is from the Latin word for love, and in this spirit anyone with a legitimate need is eligible to receive help.

Through the Community Kitchen and Food Pantry, the Refugee Resettlement Program and other Basic Needs and Self-Sufficiency Services, Caritas will serve more than 15,300 Travis County adults and children this year. Many people who cannot be helped by our congregation are referred to Caritas and receive help through this wonderful organization.

**If you would like to make a designated gift to Caritas, please write a check to St. Martin's and note "Caritas" in the memo line.**

## MEMBER NEWS

### Births

John Thomas Friedrich on 11/29/06. Parents: Molly & Josh Friedrich.  
Grant Kendrew Salmon on 12/7/06. Parents: Anita & Scot Salmon.

### Baptisms

Theis Christopher Nelson, son of Erik & Shelley Nelson, baptized at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Fayetteville, NY on 11/26/06. Baptismal sponsors: DJ & Kristen Smith.

Abigail Louise Sommer, daughter of Jacob & Nicole Sommer, granddaughter of Pastor Craig & Debbie Sommer, baptized on 12/17/06.

### Adoption

Sofia, adopted by Beth Orton on 11/20/06.

### Graduation

Patrick Mahaffey graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Theater Arts from Texas Tech University. 12/6/06. Parents: Mike & Laurie Mahaffey.

### Sympathy

Family of Kermit Stahl, who died on 11/19/06.

Denise & Brad Sheehan. Brad's mother, Penny Sheehan, died on 11/24/06.

Loralei & Ralph Preissman & family. Loralei's mother, Emma Earl Cowart, died on 12/5/06.

## W N S M

### Wednesday Night at St. Martin's

<b>5:30-6:50</b>	Dinner for all	
<b>6-6:50</b>	Children's Choir (Rm 216)	Grades 2-6
	Centering Prayer (Rm 126)	Adults
	Epiphany's Light (Rm 230)	Adults
<b>6:30-7:30</b>	Instrumental Ensemble (Rm 333)	Adults
	Reformation Band (Nave)	Adults
<b>7-8:00</b>	Kids in Motion (Gym)	Grades K-5
<b>7-8:30</b>	Confirmation (Chapel)	Grades 6-8
	First Wednesdays	Grades 9-12
<b>7-8:00</b>	Parents Connect (Parlor)	Adults
	Yoga (Rm 326)	Adults
	Stitch and Pray (Rm 139)	Adults
<b>7:30-9</b>	St. Martin's Choir (Rm 340)	Adults
<b>9-10:30</b>	St. Martin's Ringers (Nave)	Adults

**SCHEDULE NOTE** No music rehearsals or WNSM on Jan 3. WNSM resumes Jan 10.

**St. Martin's Ev. Lutheran Church**

606 West 15th Street • Austin, Texas 78701-1514

512/476-6757 • Fax: 512/473-2946

[www.saintmartins.org](http://www.saintmartins.org)

## W O R S H I P

**Sundays**

Holy Eucharist: 8:45 AM &amp; 11:00 AM

**First Wednesday of Each Month**

Healing Prayer Eucharist: Noon

**Saturdays**

Holy Eucharist and Prayers for Healing: 5:00 PM

## E D U C A T I O N

**Sundays**

Childcare available for infants and toddlers all morning, Rm 207.

Children 2 &amp; 3 years old: 10:00 AM, Rm 308

Children pre-K through 5th grade: 10:00 AM, Upper Level

Youth 6th-12th grade: 10:00 AM, Basement

Adults: 9:30 &amp; 10:00 AM, Main Level

**Wednesday Night at St. Martin's**

Begins with Dinner for All at 5:30 PM. Classes and music rehearsals for all ages.

See front page of this newsletter for a complete WNSM schedule.

**Copy Deadline for the February 2007 issue of The Echo: January 11***The Echo*January 2007, Vol. 53 No. 12  
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or place in newsletter box in  
Room 231. Please send **address**  
**changes** to the church office or call  
512-476-6757.

PERIODICALS

**Coffee + Community = Fellowship**Coffee & Pastries,  
Community & Conversation, Cereal & Milk & Juice.  
There's something at St. Martin's for **everyone**,  
**every Sunday from 8-11 AM in Fellowship Hall.***Thanks & Praises*

Dear St. Martin's Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful spray for Mama's service. Thank you all for keeping her in your prayers and thoughts. Not a day went by that she did not get a card, call or email from someone at St. Martin's. I heard many a story about you all and I appreciate the love you shared with her.

*God's Blessing, Donna Coppedge, Lu Taylor's daughter*

Dear Members of St. Martin's,

Thank you very much for your prayers, food, donations and sympathy cards. Your kindness and concern has meant so very much and will always be remembered.

*God Bless You, Lorine Smart (mother of Charlene Carroll),  
Armand Smart and David Carroll*

Thank you to ALL who donated to our WELCA Thankoffering!

Your generous giving continues to fund our projects that "Share God's Love"! Also, a big Thank You to Mop &amp; Hammer for providing WELCA a Bulletin Board! Please stop by and read about our events and see some photos of our fellowship time together.

*The Women of the Church***Happy Anniversary!**Caring Visitors celebrated its 10th year in 2006 and Home Communion celebrates its 25th in 2007. **Caring Visitors** make visits and telephone calls to homebound members, and **Home Communion volunteers** take the sacrament to homebound members. In 2007 these two groups will join as one to carry on their ministries—a vital support in our congregation.**Consider a Gift to St. Martin's Endowment Fund.** The assets of the Fund grew to exceed \$1 million in Sept 2006, doubling in only 10 years. Earnings given to Church Council for use in St. Martin's ministries.**JAM Events (3rd–5th Graders)**■ Make care packages for former SMLC youth to let them know we are thinking of them. **Sun, Jan 21, meet at 12:15 PM.** Sign-up on the children's ministry bulletin board. Staff contact: Whitney Myers■ 4th & 5th Graders: Are you interested in participating in the **10 Commandments Milestone** this Spring? Participants can receive the Scouting God & Family Medal. Sign-up on the Children's Ministry Bulletin Board.**Cross Trails Ministry**

Rooted in the Gospel and led by carefully selected young adults, Cross Trails Camps are an opportunity to worship, play, be immersed in Christian community, and make new friends. Info/forms available in Rm 233.

**Jr High Events (6th–8th Graders)**■ Parents of Confirmation students are invited to a **dinner at the home of John & Ann Howard on Saturday, January 13.**■ **Confirmation Camp June 17-22.** Registration forms available on the door of Room #233 (Whitney's office). These forms will be sent in as part of a group registration. Please get forms and \$50 deposit to Whitney Myers by Feb 14.**Playground Party Sat, Jan 20 9:30-11 AM**

Join Pastor Craig for fellowship and service activities with your little ones. Help make new-parent welcome baskets and more. Professional supervision provided for your children on the playground. Contact: Whitney Myers



St. Martin's Jr. High Youth at the Jr. High Southwestern Texas Synod Gathering, November 10-12 at Camp Chrysalis. Not pictured: David Stevens and Faith Stevens.

**New Adult Classes on Wednesday Nights****"Epiphany's Light Through the Eyes of the Celts."** John Scotus Eriugena, a ninth century Celtic teacher, teaches: "At the heart of all that has life is the light of God." Through the study of the Christian Celtic tradition, participants will notice how God's light is present in their everyday life. **6-week class at 6 PM on Wednesday evenings in Room 230.****Parents Connect start a new study: "The Intentional Family: Simple Rituals to Strengthen Family Ties."** Today's families face many challenges—competing schedules, dual working couples, technological distractions. This book by William Doherty and class discussion address these issues. **Class meets at 7 PM on Wednesday evenings in the Parlor.****Sr High Events (9th–12th Graders)**■ Sr. High Summer Trip—**Service Trip to New York City, June 30-July 6, 2007.** Registration Deadline: January 15.■ **Sr. High Retreat—January 19-20.** Cost: \$15 (includes meals & housing). Sign-up on the Youth Bulletin Board.**Stephen Ministry Invites Congregation to its Continuing Education Jan 23**The Jan 23 meeting features Beverley Larkam, Specialist in Clinical Social Work and Family Therapy, speaking about depression. **Meet in the Parlor at 6:45 PM;** presentation lasts until 8.**St. Martin's Choir Retreat on Sat, Jan 6 from 10-5**

We will prepare our Sun, Jan 7 music and look ahead to Lent &amp; Easter.

**Crossing the Divide: Exploring Influence and Finding Our Voice, Jan 25-28**Register today for Conspirare's American Masterpieces festival! Thomas Pavlechko is organist on Jan 28. Visit [www.conspirare.org/neafestival.htm](http://www.conspirare.org/neafestival.htm)**New South Austin Small Group**Our first get-together will be **Sun, Jan 28 at 6 PM at the home of Harvey and Betsy Kitzman.** Study of God's word, fellowship, and of course snacks are on the docket for the fourth Sunday of each month. RSVP Betsy at 301-5867.

## C O N T A C T S

**Church Office: 512/476-6757****Full-Time Staff**

The Rev. Craig Sommer, Senior Pastor

The Rev. June A. Wilkins, Associate Pastor

Thomas Pavlechko, Cantor and Composer in Residence

Whitney Myers, Director of Family Life

Chris Baker, Business Manager

Yolanda Alvarez, Administrative Assistant

Linda Easterwood, Preschool Director, 476-4037

**For a complete listing of all staff members, visit [saintmartins.org](http://saintmartins.org)****Keep the Beat Alive**According to Austin/Travis County EMS, 70 people of all ages die in Texas per day of sudden cardiac arrest. Many victims can be saved by rapid defibrillation, or shocking of the heart within the first few minutes. Public access to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) can make a difference in surviving cardiac arrest. **Please consider contributing to placing an AED in the church. Donations may be placed in the box at the Welcome Center or sent to the church office.** If you have experience or knowledge of AEDs and would like to help, contact Cora Lynn Wilson at 653-0240.

## M I S C

**How to Join.** Attend a one-day class for both non-Lutheran and Lutheran transfers. Contact the church office at 476-6757.**Weddings and Baptisms.** Contact the church office at 476-6757.**Flowers.** Chancel flowers are a wonderful way to mark an important milestone. Contact: Nell Hielscher at 243-0467.

Flowers are needed for these 2007 dates: ALL Sundays in January, February, March, May, August, September, October and December. And these Sundays: April 29; June 3, 10 and 24; July 1, 8, 15 and 29; and November 4, 18 and 25.

**Saintly Seniors**■ Jan 9 Noon Luncheon: Avoiding Identity Theft with presenter Nancy Gresham. **Reservations due Jan 2.**■ February Noon Luncheon. **Reservations due Mon, Feb 5.**

Contact Kathy Krebs

**Synod Events**■ **Theological Conference 2007, Jan 22-24 in Kerrville.** For more information, visit [www.ntnl.org](http://www.ntnl.org) or see the Adult Ed bulletin board.■ **ALOA SeniorFest 2007—Joy in the Journey, Sat, Feb 10, 9-4 at St. Martin's.** Keynote speaker: The Rev. Dr. Tom R. Zehnder; Devotion leader: the Rev. Dr. Jim Bennett. For more information, see the Adult Ed bulletin board.**Women of the Church**Please mark your calendars for our Heritage Pot Luck Luncheon Meeting, **Sat Feb 17 at 11:30 AM**, in the Fellowship Hall. Elizabeth Circle is Hostess.Also, please save **March 3** for our Austin Conference Meeting at First Lutheran in San Marcos, beginning at 8:30 AM. Contact: Shirley Scott.**January Highlights**■ **Jan 2. Work Day**■ **Jan 9. Circles Meet**Elizabeth. 9:30 AM in the Parlor  
Sarah. 9:30 AM in the WELCA workroom

Rebecca. 7:00 PM in the Parlor