



The Echo



Rally Day 2006



- ✧ Music, Education & Worship Leader Commissioning at all services
- ✧ Presentation of Bibles at the 9:30 & 11 AM services (see page 3).
- ✧ Rally Day BBQ sponsored by the Stewardship Committee following the 9:30 & 11 AM services (no reservations required, freewill offering accepted)
- ✧ Sunday School Open House from 9:30 AM – Noon

Bring your friends and come explore great Fall opportunities!

Keep up the
GOOD WORK

Look inside for ways to "Keep up the Good Work" at St. Martin's this Fall!

Sunday, September 10!

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

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www.saintmartins.org

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**Associate Pastor/Director of
 Congregational Ministries:**

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Council President:

Laura Raun Carroll

St. Martin's Lutheran School

512/476-4037
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 Director

The Echo

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Submissions to The Echo

will be directed to the
 appropriate staff program
 director for review.
 Email copy submissions to:
 dsheehan@saintmartins.org or
 place in Denise Sheehan's box in
 Room 231. Please send **Address
 changes** to the church office or
 call 512-476-6757.

From Pastor Craig



KEEP the faith! I sometimes tell friends this when the going gets tough. We all need reminders during challenging times. But we also need encouragement when times are good. St. Augustine prayed "guard your joyous ones." Even in the best of times, we need the encouragement and protection of God's love.

UP in the loft of our sanctuary you have a bird's eye view of our community. The view from above is unique. You can see my bald spot better. You can also see the faithful singing and praying, spiritual descendants of those who had a vision for St. Martin's at its beginning in 1884.

THE people who belong to this community of faith are generous people. Gus is making a table for the pastors to put their papers and books on during worship. "Do you think that you could make us one?" was all that it took. Stephen, another volunteer, has stepped forward to help us upgrade our ability to email members with important reminders and information.

GOOD fences make good neighbors, the saying goes. But in Christian community, Jesus leads us in taking down the fences that divide us. I suppose you could say that "barrier free" community is our goal, a place where you can feel at home no matter your station or place in life. More and more, St. Martin's is known as a place of hospitality.

WORK together for the common good. To build community takes hard work and sacrifice. Sometimes we do not get everything that we want. Buildings and programs do not emerge out of thin air. Since 1884, there have been people who value this place, this community, and the ministry we provide to the hungry and brokenhearted. Thank you for all that you have done to keep the vision alive and well.

Keep up the good work!

Pastor Craig
 Pastor Craig

ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Community Building Workshop



Saturday, September 30, 2006 • 10 AM – 2 PM

Terry Boggs from the ELCA will facilitate a workshop to assist our fellowship in strengthening the bonds of community and inviting all to join us in God's Love.

The workshop will provide all participants the tools to: **Build community at St. Martin's and Share God's love** by welcoming all to our fellowship.

At the workshop, plan to learn more about fellow members and discover new opportunities to engage. Meet the many people engaged in activities such as:

- * Youth and Adult Education
- * Mission Outreach
- * Music Programs
- * Small Groups Fellowship
- * Church Council & Committees

Freewill donation for lunch. Childcare provided upon request

Registration Required by September 18: See Adult Ed. Bulletin Board for Registration Forms or contact Kathy Krebs kkrebs@saintmartins.org or 476-6757 ext.37.

Keep up the **GOOD WORK** through Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH (6th – 8th graders)

Confirmation – an exciting and comprehensive 3-year program for youth to explore the meaning of the Christian faith in their lives through classroom instruction, adult-mentoring, fellowship, and service. Now enrolling for 2006-2007. Confirmation begins September 6 with Orientation.

Sunday School – Meets at 9:30 & 11 AM in Room 148. Get ready to dive deeper into Scripture and share stories about our lives. Rally Day on Sept 10. Classes begin Sept 17. See page 4 for full Sunday morning education schedule.

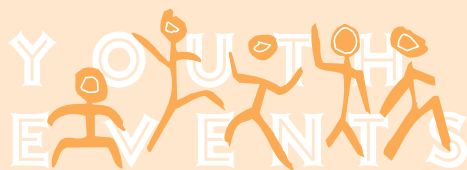
Jr. High Fall Events

Sept 17–Jr. High to IMAX – *Superman* Bring your friends and sign-up on the Youth Board.

Oct 14–Church Youth Day at TLU

Nov 10-12–Synod Gathering at Camp Chrysalis (Registrations are now available and due October 1)

Dec 18–Care-package delivery & Christmas Party



FORMER SMLC YOUTH St. Martin's needs your updated addresses to keep in contact. Give us your address, phone, e-mail, etc. and also your plans for the fall! Contact Whitney Myers, Director of Family Life.

SENIOR HIGH (9th – 12th graders)

First Wednesdays! – Sr. High Youth will gather the first Wednesday of every month at 7 PM starting on Sept 6. Be prepared to venture out to some cool Austin hot spots and meet some new friends! (See page 6 for WNSM activities).

First Thursdays! – On the first Thursday of the month, Sr. High Youth will partner with Mobile Loaves & Fishes to serve food those in need. Sign-up on the Youth Bulletin Board.

Sunday School – Meets at 11 AM in Room 150. A place where all are welcome for learning and fun. Rally Day on Sept 10. Classes begin Sept 17. See page 4 for full Sunday morning education schedule.

Fall Retreat – Rescheduled for January 2007.

Lutherstock – One day of faith and music. On **Sept 16**, gather with youth from across Texas on the grounds of Camp Chrysalis to celebrate faith in a festival atmosphere for the 4th Annual Lutherstock. This event is a day of music that includes exciting camp activities. Gather at SMLC at 9 AM. Pick-up from SMLC at 8 PM. Cost: \$20 includes festival, transportation, lunch & dinner. Sign-up on the Youth Board.

Small Groups – In a small group, youth can find a safe place to be known, cared for, and challenged to grow in your faith. The North & South groups will start up again in October. Sign-up on the Youth Bulletin Board if you are interested. We hope to use this time to grow deeper in community and faith.

Sr. High Summer Trip 2007 – This is the year for our service trip. Look for information coming soon.

Other Upcoming Sr. High Events

Oct 15–Sr. High Out to Eat **Dec 22**–Christmas Party

Nov 18–Cap Area Food Bank **Dec 28-30**–Synod Gathering

For more information on Youth Ministry, contact Whitney Myers, Director of Family Life

Milestone Ministry

Milestone Ministry is about partnering the home and church and supporting individuals and families. At key moments in the lives of people, St. Martin's invite them (and/or their parents) to learn, receive a blessing, and to be sent forth to share God's love. On Sunday, Sept 10, we will celebrate three such milestones in the lives of children and youth and their families.

Entrance into Sunday School – Children age 2 (as of Sept 1) officially begin Sunday School and learn they are valued people in this community. Children and parents receive a blessing and *Beginner's Bible*.



Young Reader – As children begin first grade they are actively learning to read. St. Martin's provides a "grown-up" version of the Bible – the great stories of faith which children can tell again and again.

Entrance into Confirmation – Confirmation is an intense journey in faith and community. Not only do youth learn catechism and Bible, they learn to fellowship and serve together. Youth receive an NRSV study Bible.

Parents, Godparents and Congregation Members – Come by the Bible table in the lobby on Sunday, Sept 3 to learn more about these milestones. Adult Bibles will also be on sale at this table!

The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid. – Martin Luther



on Sunday Mornings

Classes begin September 17
Meet your teachers on September 10

INFANTS & TODDLERS – Professional childcare is available throughout the morning for infants through age 5!

CHILDREN (Age 2 & 3 as of September 1)

Beginners – This new class works its way through the 95 classic stories in the *The Beginner's Bible*. Children are introduced to timeless stories and basic biblical concepts. **This class is only offered at 11:00 AM.** (Class will be offered at 9:30 AM as volunteer leadership becomes available).

CHILDREN (Ages 4 through 5th grade as of September 1)

Life Together – Based on the Sunday morning lessons and Gospel readings (lectionary) shared in churches around the world. Children explore what they have heard in “big church” through storytelling, music and crafts. All children are sent with ideas to carry the message with them and share throughout the week with friends and family.

Godly Play – Uses key sacred stories, parables and liturgical events to support the season. The time is structured similarly to worship through gathering, hearing the word, response (for children this is through play), sharing a feast and sending out. Children are presented with beautiful tactile materials, stories told from the heart, and time to explore.

More information about Children's Sunday School can be found in the WELCOME CENTER. Registration is available online.

JR. HIGH & SR. HIGH YOUTH (6th – 12th Grade)

See page 3 for information.

ADULTS – Sunday morning classes are not just “kid stuff”. See page 5 for information about available classes.

Age / Grade	9:30 AM	11:00 AM
2 & 3s		Beginners (Rm 308)
4s & Kinder	Godly Play (Room 313)	Life Together (Room 313)
1st & 2nd	Life Together (Room 325)	Godly Play (Room 318)
3rd, 4th, & 5th	Godly Play (Room 318)	Life Together (Room 325)
6th – 8th	Jr. High Class (Room 148)	Jr. High Class (Room 148)
9th – 12th		Sr. High Class (Room 150)
Adults	Foundations (Chapel) Inquirers Class (Room 230)	Inspire (Parlor) Crossways (Room 230)

For more information contact **Whitney Myers, Director of Family Life** (wmyers@saintmartins.org), ext. 18 or make plans to attend **Rally Day on September 10.**

Special Stuff for Kids

First Communion Instruction – One of the ways parents keep the promise to “provide for their instruction in the Christian faith” is to prepare their children for participation in the Lord's Supper. This is an important milestone in the life of a Christian because it is where we receive God's forgiveness and are strengthened for service by God's abiding love. This sacrament is a gift of God's love to you and your children. The next 1st Communion Instruction Class is Oct 22. To enroll your child, contact Whitney Myers.

Children's Choir – Wednesday nights from 6– 6:50 PM for 2nd – 6th Graders. (see page 8 for more information.)

What is JAM? – JAM is for 3rd–5th graders. Activities – service and fellowship – are planned once a month. Fall events include: Trip to IMAX, Freaky Fall Feast, Trip to Sweet Berry Farm, and the Advent Retreat at Camp Chrysalis. Watch bulletin board for sign- up! Contact: Whitney Myers.

Kids in Motion – Wednesday Nights 7–8 PM (Gym)
Get your kids moving after Children's Choir in Kratai's fitness class! Children K–5th will be motivated to move and burn some energy in a fun and exciting instructional group class. Help us plan by signing up on the Children's Ministry Bulletin Board or contact the church office.

Kratai Albert, a St. Martin's member and ACE certified personal trainer, has owned two fitness studios and is also a mom of a 2-1/2 year old. She has nearly 10 years experience in the industry and 8 years in her profession. Her love is God and family. Her passion and ministry is in fitness and natural health.



through Adult Education

SUNDAY MORNINGS (see schedule on page 4)

9:30 – 10:30 AM

Foundations Class (Chapel) If you like mixing and learning the *Old* and *New*, this class is for you! During the Fall, the class will engage in a survey of the Old Testament.

Teachers: John & Bess Sommer

Inquirers Class (Room 230) Who is Jesus? How does one read the Bible? How does one pray? Why celebrate communion every Sunday? What is Law and Gospel? These are only a few of the questions that will be explored during this six week class as participants discover answers through Scripture, the 10 Commandments, the Apostle's Creed, and the explanation of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Facilitator: Kathy Krebs

11:00 AM – Noon

Inspire Class (Parlor) Enjoy a second or third cup of coffee with discussion of difficult issues facing society in light of one's faith journey with God and the reading of Scripture.

Facilitators: Pastor Craig & Pastor June

Crossways – Part II (Year 2) (Room 230) An in-depth study of the Old and New Testament. Three segments of ten weeks. Cost for material: \$60. Teachers: Harvey Kitzman, Jeremy Martin, Norm Hummell, & Deb Johnson

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT ST. MARTIN'S (see schedule on page 6)

6:00 – 6:50 PM

World Religions (Room 230) The major world religions once seemed far away, but now are in our neighborhoods. How can Christians understand them? How can we respond in a way that is faithful to Christianity while being respectful of the other religions? This 6 week class will examine three major faith families from around the world, which include faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Confucianism, and Taoism. Facilitator: Kathy Krebs & Speakers.

Centering Prayer (Room 126) Come pray with others in the quiet. This group will help with cultivating a daily practice of prayer. Those who are already practicing will help newcomers along the journey of being still and allowing oneself to be open to God. Facilitators: Chris Pasch & Carmen Retzlaff.

7:00 – 8:00 PM

Parents Connect (Parlor) Parents connect for learning and fellowship. Pastor Craig will be presenting STEP (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting) – a discussion based program designed to help strengthen parenting skills. Facilitator: Ann Howard

Yoga (Room 326) Offers an organic and eclectic blend of Hatha yoga. Classes focus on flowing from one pose into the next, while allowing each student time to discover what individually feels best. Come grow together to increase your flexibility and strength, while giving you time to nourish your body and mind. Cost: \$10 per session paid directly to instructor Meg Kanewske.

Stitch and Pray (Room 139) Those who wish to knit, crochet, quilt, or sew can join with others to create beautiful handmade items to give to those in need. No experience necessary.

Other Adult Opportunities this Fall

Saintly Seniors Luncheons – 2nd Tues of the month at Noon. (Parlor) Join the Saintly Seniors on September 12. After a delicious (freewill offering) lunch, Dr. Don Greenway and Dr. John Pearce of the Austin Bone and Joint Clinic will discuss and answer questions regarding the "Surgical Treatment of Arthritis for Hips and Knees". Join this group and bring an "aching" friend. **Reservation required by September 1.** Contact: Kathy Krebs.

Community Building Workshop – Saturday, September 30, 10 AM-2 PM. (see ad page 2)

Lutherans On-line – (Meets On-Line Thursday evenings October 5, 12, 19, & 26 or through a Threaded Discussion during October.) The course *Boundaries, Tough Love, Amazing Grace* challenges class participants to join the prophets, Amos and Hosea, in being boundary-crossers – to cross the boundary between religion and politics or that boundary between "us" and "them." Preparation outside of class time is necessary to make the class beneficial to all participants. Orientation is scheduled for Sunday, September 24 at Noon in the Parlor. Lunch will be provided. Facilitator: Kathy Krebs. Material cost: \$20. Registration deadline: September 24.

Overview of the Gospel of Luke – Saturday, October 14, 9 AM-5 PM. Location: Triumphant Love Lutheran Church. Presented by Dr. Ray Pickett. Registration: \$25 (includes lunch). Contact: Kathy Krebs.

For more information on Adult classes, groups or events, contact Kathy Krebs, Adult Education Coordinator.

Wednesday Night at St. Martin's

Begins September 13

Children (5th Grade & Under*)

5:30–6:50 PM Dinner for All
 6:00–6:50 PM Children's Choir (Rm 316) 2nd–6th Grade
 7:00–8:30 PM Kids in Motion (Gym)
 *Childcare is available throughout the evening (6-9 PM) in Rm 207.

Junior High Youth (6th – 8th Grade)

5:30–6:50 PM Dinner for All
 6:00–6:50 PM Children's Choir (Rm 316) 2nd–6th Grade
 7:00–8:30 PM Confirmation (Chapel)

Sr. High Youth (9th – 12th Grades)

5:30–6:50 PM Dinner for All
 7:00–8:30 PM First Wednesdays Begins Sept 6
 Sr. High Youth are also invited to participate in Adult Ed opportunities, musical groups or to volunteer in the children's area.

Adults (see Adult Education descriptions on page 5)

5:30–6:50 PM Dinner for All
 6:00–6:50 PM World Religions (Rm 230)
 Centering Prayer (Rm 126)
 6:30–7:30 PM Instrumental Ensemble Rehearsal (Rm 333)
 7:00– 8:00 PM Parenting Class (Parlor)
 Yoga (Rm 326)
 Stitch and Pray (Rm 139)
 7:30– 9:00 PM St. Martin's Choir (Rm 340) Begins Sept 6
 9:00–10:30 PM St. Martin's Ringers (Nave)

Wednesday Night Dinner

Enjoy wonderfully prepared meals from Sweetish Hill and St. Martin's staff.
 Dinner is available in the Fellowship Hall from 5:30 – 7:00 PM.

Keep up the GOOD WORK at St. Martin's Lutheran School

Back to School Night was August 10. It is always an exciting night for parents, children and teachers. 2006-07 will be an adventure for the school. Many interesting and educational projects, new friends, teachers and a new director. Learning is Fun! If you know a child ages 18 months–Kindergarten who needs a preschool adventure, please call the school office at 476-4037.
 – Paula Miller (Interim School Director) & Staff

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran World Relief seeks lasting solutions to poverty and injustice and in doing so, compels U.S. Lutherans to put their faith into action. Empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ, Lutheran World Relief envisions a world in which each person and every generation lives in justice, dignity, and peace.

Lutheran World Relief works with partners in 50 countries to help people grow food, improve health, strengthen communities, end conflict, build livelihoods and recover from disasters. With people in the U.S., we work for justice for those we serve. U.S. Lutherans, freed and empowered by God's grace in Jesus Christ and called to respond to God's love for all people and creation, put faith into action through the mission of Lutheran World Relief. LWR values the contribution of Lutheran theology to our understanding of faith active in love and cherishes our Lutheran heritage and identity. LWR acts on behalf of U.S. Lutherans, the ELCA, and the LCMS as a common expression of our faith through international relief and development. LWR continues to respond to natural and human-caused disasters throughout Africa but in September 2003, LWR began to concentrate its development work in Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, and Uganda in East Africa; and Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Ghana in West Africa.

LWR is supported by St. Martin's Women of the Church through donations of school and medical kits/supplies and also layette items for infants. Beautiful handsewn quilts (made at the monthly WELCA workdays) are also donated to LWR to be distributed. For more information, see www.lwr.org.

St. Martin's benevolence focus for September is Lutheran World Relief. If you would like to make a designated gift to this organization, please write a check to St. Martin's and note "LWR" in the memo line. See page 10 for other ways to contribute.

Keep up the
GOOD WORK

through Social Ministries

Hands On Housing – Hands On Housing volunteers renovate homes for low-income homeowners mostly on Austin's East Side. Since 1990, Hands On Housing volunteers have repaired over 530 homes. St. Martin's team will participate in their fall event with other teams on the weekend of October 21.

Austin Helps Honduras – Travel for a week long mission trip to Juticalpa, Honduras to assist people with great need. The next trip will be February 7-14, 2007.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes – A ministry of three downtown churches. Volunteers drive in groups of 6 around Austin giving food to homeless individuals. Sign up for your regular, monthly volunteer opportunity.

Habitat for Humanity, Lutheran Building Project – A three-month building project builds and renovates decent housing for low-income families in Austin. Volunteers of all kinds are needed. The Lutheran build usually happens in the Fall.

Agua Viva – St. Martin's continues to help our partner congregation on the border of Mexico with financial assistance and occasional mission trips.

Women of the Church (WELCA) – Our Women's group prepares quilts and care packages of other needs for Lutheran World Relief missions in Africa, the United States, and Austin.

Please contact Pastor June Wilkins to participate in any of the above social ministry opportunities.

through Caring Ministries

Stephens Ministers – Members are carefully trained to offer care and companionship to other members in need. New training classes begin September 17. Contact: Jim Oliver

Caring Visitors/Home Communion Ministers – Members visit other home-bound members and bring them communion once a month. Contact: Jo Ann Pitcher, Deb Johnson

Hospital Visitors – Members visit other members in the hospital. Contact: Leo Mueller

Bereavement – Members offer food and comfort to those who have lost a loved one. Contact: Jo Ann Pitcher

through Worship Leadership

Acolytes – Carry the cross, torches, and banners in procession. While most acolytes are Confirmation candidates, all are welcome, including adults! Contact: Pr. June Wilkins 476-6757.

Altar Guild – Responsible for preparation, set-up and maintenance of all of the altar linens and vessels for our four weekly Eucharist Services. Contact: LaNell Brown

Assisting Minister – Group of trained persons assists the clergy during the Worship and leading the prayers. Open to those high school aged and up. Contact: Deb Johnson

Eucharistic Ministers – Assist in distributing Holy Communion at our worship services. Contact: Judy Seymore

Flower Guild – Flower Guild members help arrange floral decorations throughout St. Martin's for Sunday worship and special events. Unexperienced people with an interest are encouraged to participate! Contact: Ann Henry.

Greeters – These outgoing and dedicated individuals are first to welcome visitors and offer assistance and information at our weekly worship. Contact: Norm Hummell

Lectors – Read the bible selections at all of our worship services. Contact Nancy Mueller

Ushers – Welcome worshippers, pass out bulletins, receive the offering, guide people during communion distribution, and straighten up afterward. Contact: Norm Hummell

through Church Groups

Small Groups – Meet monthly in individual's homes for study and fellowship. Groups are in various locations and have various interests. New comers are always welcome! There are groups in Round Rock and Westlake and also a young couples and a singles group. Contact: Pr. June Wilkins 476-6757

Single Adults Ministries – Single people of various age ranges meet in individual's homes monthly for study and fellowship. New comers are always welcome! Contact: Tom Friedrich

Mop & Hammer – Men and women gather on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 8:30am to make repairs and improvements in the church. Contact: Norm Hummell

Intercessory Prayer Members – Group meets every Monday at Noon at the church to pray for peoples' needs and concerns. Contact: Ruth Panton

WELCA Circles – Groups of Women meet at the church on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM or 7 PM for bible study. Contact: Shirley Scott

Saintly Seniors – Seniors citizens gather for various trips and social events outside the church. A trip to the LBJ Library to see the brand new exhibit "Power to the People" is planned for October – watch for details. Contact: Bess Sommer, Earline Oertli or Helen Nystrom

MUSICIANS, IT'S ALMOST TIME!

Dear Friends,

Now is the time to get involved in a music group, or offer time and other talents in support of the music program. If you have dropped out of the choirs, handbell or instrumental ensembles, please come back. We need our veteran musicians back with us in order to re-build the program. And we need new members to bring our music ministry beyond our past and into new beginnings and a bright future.

I have already heard from several persons who are interested in our newly-forming Labyrinth Guild and Concert Guild. I am still seeking help with re-making our bell banners and sewing vestments for the bell banner bearers. Thank you for your enthusiasm thus far! It is very encouraging!



NEW HYMNALS – The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will celebrate the premiere of a new hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, in the fall. All may give hymnals in memory or in honor of loved ones for \$20 apiece. It will take 600 hymnals to provide enough for persons singing in St. Martin's nave, chapel, parlor and the choirs. Our hymnals have been ordered and are expected to arrive sometime in October.

Each hymnal will include a bookplate with the donor and dedication. Please consider giving more than one hymnal and honor persons who are special to you. About 50 hymnals have been given thus far.

Our current copies of *The Lutheran Book of Worship* (green) and *With One Voice* (blue), plus old copies of the *Service Book and Hymnal* (red) will be available in November to all of you who would like a copy for personal use.

The Worship Arts Committee is coordinating this Hymnal Giving Campaign. Look for their display table in the lobby during September.

– Thomas Pavlechko,
Cantor and Composer in Residence

from the new CHILDREN'S CHOIR DIRECTOR



I just love new beginnings, don't you? Filled with hope and promise, it is a new beginning that reminds me that anything is possible; that dreams can come true. New beginnings remind me that there are friendships waiting and that opportunities are there for the taking. And it is this time of year that we get the chance to have a new beginning here at St. Martin's with the creation of our brand new Children's Choir!

I have been a part of St. Martin's Choir for many months now as the Soprano Section Leader and I am so excited to also be the director of this new children's choir! I bring to St. Martin's my love for choral music and for music education. For the past seven years, I have been the choir director at Hill Country Middle School. I also have enjoyed a professional solo and choral singing career in Ohio, Washington D.C. and now here in Austin.

Our first Children's Choir rehearsal will start on the first Wednesday Night at St. Martin's on Sept 13 after dinner at 6 PM. For now, we are opening the choir to children in the 2nd through 6th grades. But, depending on the turn-out, we may adjust the age ranges accordingly.

I plan to be in touch with each of you before the first rehearsal to get to know you. If I haven't already had the chance to say hello to you, please come and introduce yourselves! I'm ready to make music with some new friends!

Don't miss out on your chance to be part of this exciting new beginning! I can't wait to meet you all!

– Kimberly Gerber,
St. Martin's Children's Choir Director kgerber@eanes.k12.tx.us

Keep up the
GOOD WORK

through Music Ministry

Please note that the previously listed Wednesday rehearsal times needed to be adjusted for travel time and traffic considerations. We hope this adjusted schedule will work better for everyone.

Wednesday, September 6

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

First Instrumental Rehearsal
Dale Elmshaeuser, Director

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

First Rehearsal for St. Martin's Choir
Thomas Pavlechko, Choirmaster

Sunday, September 10

11:00 AM service, warm-up at 10:30 AM.

First Sunday back for St. Martin's Choir

Wednesday, September 13

6:00 PM – 6:50 PM

First Rehearsal for our newly-forming
Children's Choir
Kimberly Gerber, Director

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Instrumental Rehearsal

7:30 PM – 9:00 PM

St. Martin's Choir Rehearsal

9:00 PM – 10:15 PM

First Rehearsal for St. Martin's Ringers
Thomas Pavlechko, Director

Sunday, September 17

First Sunday performance for Symphonic
Winds (Saturday, Sept 16 rehearsal)

Thursdays

7:00 PM – 8:15 PM

Reformation Band rehearsals continue

Matins Choir is still under construction.

Stay tuned.

Proposed Date for Your Consideration:

St. Martin's Choir Retreat

Saturday, September 9, 10:00 – 4:00 PM

This date will be discussed through email and at the first rehearsal. Please stay tuned and reserve this day if you can.

From Pastor June



I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. – Philippians 1:6

When we reflect and set goals for our work, we tend to place our focus on the things that we *don't* have. We look at what we lack, our shortcomings, our “growing edges” and we then we put most of our efforts into filling the voids. We do this often in churches (and St. Martin's is no exception). Congregations often talk about how we don't have enough people, money, programs, events; we want to be better organized, better planners, better communicators; we lack commitment, participation or faith. The list can go on and on – and it usually does – when we spend our time looking at the things we *don't* have.

Now this method has certainly motivated some people to do great things, but it can also be counter productive. When we focus so much energy on our shortcomings it can be depressing. I have been involved in many a meeting where we dragged ourselves down because we kept looking at all the things we lacked. Also, when we start working in the void we can feel huge resistance, because we are concentrating on things that are more difficult for us to do (that is why they are our shortcomings).

But when we build on our assets we work on what comes naturally, what gives us energy, and what has been successful. Sometimes, we spend so much time taking account of our faults that we forget to notice the wonderful things that we have done.

Here at St. Martin's, we have so many great things to be proud of and to build on: we have a huge building that we support, we have a selection of wonderful and engaging programs, and most importantly we have so many dedicated people who are committed to God and to this congregation. People offer so much time to lead worship, to care for one another, to do service in the community. When I think about it, I am always blown away by how much effort people have put into the church and each other.

St. Martin's is a wonderful church and community. Even the trials we have been through have given us lessons that we have learned from. What we have been doing has been amazing, and I hope in the coming year we just continue to build on our successes.

We don't need to strive to be something that we are not. If we were different, who would do what we were doing now? We just need to *Keep Up the Good Work!*

Pr. June

Pastor June Wilkins,
Associate Pastor

Women of the Church

Please mark your calendars for our **General Meeting, Saturday, September 23** at **9:30 AM** in the Parlor. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A DATE CHANGE! We will select our leaders for 2007. Ethel Hummell RN will present information on Women's Health Tips (including a question and answer period), so please bring your questions.

A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who contributed to the 500 sandwiches WELCA made for the Youth Lunch on July 9! It was great working together with our youth to box up all of them for the hungry Hands on Housing workers from Minnesota. A Great TEAM effort!

– Shirley Scott, President

September Highlights:

Sep 5 – Work Day

Sep 15-17 – WELCA Synodical Convention*

Sep 12 – Circles Meet

Sep 23 – General Meeting, Parlor, 9:30 AM,

Elizabeth – 9:30 AM, Parlor

Hostess: Alva McGuire &

Sarah – 9:30 AM, WELCA
Workroom

Committee

Rebecca – 7:00 PM, Parlor

* If you are interested in attending the Southwest Texas Synodical Conference in Victoria, the weekend of Sept. 15-17, please contact Shirley Scott.

Also note: WELCA will not participate in the Trinity Birthday party on Sept 14 this year but plan to next year.

HOW TO JOIN ST. MARTIN'S Attend a one day class for both non-Lutheran and Lutheran transfers. Members are received the following Sunday. The next new member class will be October 28. To register call the office at: 476-6757 or email Pr. June.

WEDDINGS AND BAPTISMS Contact the church office. Baptism Instruction Classes are required. The next Baptism Instruction Class is October 15.

FLOWERS IN ST. MARTIN'S CHURCH Chancel flowers are a wonderful way to mark a milestone in one's life or to mark important social and church events.

Dates available for 2006 are:

Oct 1, 29 Nov 5, 12, 19, 26 Dec 3, 10, 17, 31
Pulpit flowers are also available for many dates. To reserve flowers contact Nell Hielscher.

BAPTISMS Finn Wilson Callaway, 8/13/06.
Parents: Scott & Melissa Callaway.

ANNIVERSARIES Danny & Melissa Ingram, 25 years, 6/20/06.

Leonard & Jo Addicks, 55 years, 6/23/06.

Herman & Nell Spoede, 60 years, 7/21/06.

SYMPATHY Carol Beth Moeller & family, death of Carol's mother, Dixie Otto on 7/14/06.

LaNell Brown and Lela Bostic, recent death of relative, Juneva Marshall.

Friends of Gunther Hermann Wiele, died 8/11/06.

Thanks and Praises

Thank you, thank you for your generous hospitality to our NE MN Synod group! What a blessing your partnership was in making this event a fun and meaningful journey for our youth. The time investment you made, the number of volunteers who pitched in, and the joy with which you served made a lasting impact on our participants as we encountered the hands and feet of Christ in you. May God richly bless you on your Journey with Jesus as you continue to live out your faith in love and service to those around you!

– Catherine Anderson (Assistant to the Bishop, Northeastern Minnesota Synod)

Dear St. Martin's Congregation,
Our mom, Rosella Vilcoq would have been so honored that you gave a memorial to the Endowment [and Building] Fund in her memory. St. Martin's was truly a key part of her life which gave her guidance, comfort and many friendships. We thank you and will be forever grateful to you for enriching Mom's life and for your contribution.

– Michelle Zapalac, Nannette Dillard & family

My humble thanks to the many in our St. Martin's family who have wished me well, given help, or offered help since my recent heart attack. Having so much support, first from the good people of Columbus, OH, and then from St. Martin's and others here in Austin, has made all of this easier for both Carolynn and me. Most of all, we thank you for your prayers! I believe that God answers prayers even before they are offered, because "Your Father knows what things you need before you ask him." – Matt. 6:8.

– Dale Elmshaeuser

Steward's Passage *Then pay Caesar what is due to Caesar, and pay God what is due God. – Matthew 22:21*

Our Stewardship

July 2006

Operations	July 06	2005	2006	
Receipts	\$65,925	\$511,073	\$453,447	-13%
Disbursements	\$77,516	\$337,670	\$324,835	-2%
School	July 06	2005	2006	
Receipts	\$98,171	\$556,025	\$647,748	14%
Disbursements	\$86,311	\$556,960	\$524,739	-6%
Building Fund	July 06	2005	2006	
Receipts	\$20,289	\$138,450	\$204,665	32%
Disbursements	\$20,911	\$146,377	\$146,377	0%

Average Sunday Attendance

Worship June 402 July 304 Adult Education June 40 July 22



Women of the Church GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, September 23, 9:30 AM

ALL women are invited to explore this vital
St. Martin's women's group. See page 9 for details.

Help Our Youth...

In conjunction with St. Martin's September benevolence focus (see page 6), the youth need help to raise money and supplies to send school kits to children all over the world, including those impoverished in our own country. Your school kits will greatly contribute to global education.

HERE'S WHAT YOU DO!

On Sunday mornings in September drop your supplies into the marked containers located near the entrance to the Nave. You may choose to donate individual items, entire kits, and/or donate money for supplies or shipping costs.

Here's what we need:

- **Padded or spiral notebooks** of ruled paper approx. 8-1/2 x 11" totaling 150-200 sheets; do not include loose-leaf paper (If using 70-count notebooks, include three notebooks if you have enough; otherwise, include two)
- **One blunt scissors** (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)

HELP OTHER YOUTH!

- **One 30-centimeter ruler**, or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- **One pencil sharpener**
- **Six new, unsharpened #2 pencils** with erasers; secure together with a rubber band
- **One eraser approximately 2-1/2" long**
- **12 sheets of construction paper** in assorted colors
- **One box of 16 or 24 crayons**
- **One sturdy cloth bag approximately 12" X 14"** with cloth handles (feel free to decorate, but please ABSOLUTELY NO religious or patriotic symbols anywhere)

When Lutheran World Relief sent school kits to children in Peru one child opened his school kit and was astonished to find six pencils and exclaimed that he had enough pencils for two years! Imagine what your kit could do for another kid!

For more information contact Ellen Jordahl, Junior at McCallum High School, at or any one of the St. Martin's high school youth. Staff Contact: Whitney Myers.

Council Highlights

July 17, 2006

- ◆ **Treasurer's Report:** We spent more in June from the operating fund than we brought in (\$81,253 vs \$57,077). Overall cash flow is still okay due to positive position of building and school funds, but it looks like we will fall significantly short of the budget this year.
- ◆ **Pastor's report:** The past month has been a sad time with so many deaths and the associated pastoral care work.
- ◆ **School Board report:** Miriam Junqueira has resigned her position as school director to move to San Antonio to assist her ill mother.
Paula Miller has been hired as interim director. The school board is working on a job description for director to begin the search process.
- ◆ **Finance Committee:** Has selected a firm to complete a financial review for 2004 and 2005. Will present a draft of financial policies and procedures at the August council meeting.
- ◆ **Property task force:** Has met and brainstormed on possibilities and potential impact to all aspects of the congregation/school. Discussed parking. Discussed future downtown growth and potential impact on congregation and members.
- ◆ **The group we appointed last month to discuss energy rates with the city will meet with Bob Kahn, Deputy General Manager for Austin Energy, on Aug 4.**

St. Martin's Contact Information

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Craig Sommer, Senior Pastor
csommer@saintmartins.org, ext. 16

The Rev. June A. Wilkins, Associate Pastor, Dir. of Congregational Ministries,
jwilkins@saintmartins.org, ext. 15

The Rev. Dr. Hilmer C. Krause

The Rev. Albert Holck

MUSIC STAFF

Thomas Pavlechko, Cantor and Composer in Residence,
tpavlechko@saintmartins.org, ext. 17

Dale Elmshaeuser, Director of Instrumental Music,
delmshaeuser@evl.net, ext. 19

Kimberly Gerber, Children's Choir Director,
kgerber@eanes.k12.tx.us

FAMILY LIFE & EDUCATION STAFF

Whitney Myers, Director of Family Life,
wmyers@saintmartins.org, ext. 18

Kathy Krebs, Adult Education Coord.,
kkrebs@saintmartins.org, ext. 37

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Chris Baker, Business Manager,
chrbak@saintmartins.org, ext. 10

Yolanda Alvarez, Administrative Assistant,
yalvarez@saintmartins.org

Denise Sheehan, Publications Assistant,
dsheehan@saintmartins.org, ext. 12

SCHOOL STAFF

Paula Miller, Interim School Director
476-4037

Church Photo Directory

SIGN UP NOW!

ONLINE at www.saintmartins.org during the week or in the lobby on weekends!

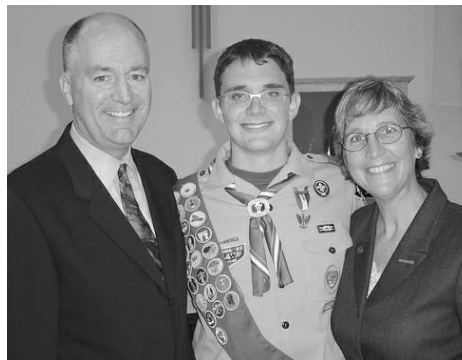
PHOTO SESSION DATES

September 12 through 23

Tues, Wed, & Thur 2:30 – 9:00 PM,

Fri 1:00 – 7:30 PM, & Sat 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM.

Be a part of St. Martin's history – no purchase required, just bring your best smile!



MEMBER NOTES – Fred Klinker received the Eagle Scout Award on Saturday, August 5 at Peace Lutheran Church. Fred has been a member of BSA Troop 172. Fred's parents are Lloyd & Barb Haskins. Fred is a freshman at the University of North Texas in Denton.

MORE FALL OPPORTUNITIES

Lutheran Fall Festival & Family Fun Day benefiting Cross Trails Ministry – **Sep 16, 9 AM-2 PM**, Marktplatz, Fredericksburg. Includes a chili-cook off, silent auction, arts & crafts fair and more. To contribute or participate contact 830-257-6340.

ELCA Synod Hearings on Draft Social Statement "Our Calling in Education": **Sat, Sept 23** from 10 AM-Noon at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin. Contact Kathy Krebs.

"Remarkable Women" – A retreat for mothers & daughters (grades 5-8). **Oct 6-8**, Ebert Ranch Camp. Cost: \$90 mothers, \$60 daughters. Family maximum: \$190. To register contact 830-257-6340.

"Banquet of Prayer / Banquete de Oración" – Equipping Congregational Leaders event. **Oct 21** at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin. Registration \$20 prior to Sept 15, or \$30 after Sept 15. Contact the synod office 830-379-9900.

Benevolence Focus Update

Organization	2006 Support*
Caritas	\$2176
Salvation Army	\$4920
Habitat for Humanity	\$1759
Mobile Loaves & Fishes	\$4758
Crosstrails Ministry	\$2934
Meals on Wheels & More	\$3030
Agua Viva	\$2464

To support an organization not designated as a benevolence focus this year, write a check to St. Martin's (put organization's name in your check's memo line). St. Martin's will give the gift to the organization in the church's name. *contributions as of 7/30/06.

September

- 6 **Confirmation Orientation**
St. Martin's Choir rehearsals begin
- 10 **Rally Day** (see cover)
- 12-23 **Photo directory sessions**
- 13 **WNSM Fall Session Begins**
- 17 **Sunday School (all ages) Begins**
- 23 **Women of the Church General Meeting**
- 30 **Community Building Workshop**
(see page 2)

Fall Opportunities

On **Sunday, October 8**, St. Martin's commemorates St. Francis with the Blessing of the Animals at the **9:30 & 11 AM** Eucharists. All are invited to bring their animals for a special blessing. All animals must be on leashes or in crates. Photos or stuffed representations are also welcome.



Blessing of the Animals

October

- 7 **Altar Guild Meeting**
- 8 **Blessing of the Animals**
- 15 **St. Martin's Blood Drive**
Baptism Instruction Class
- 20 **Conspire Concert**
- 22 **1st Communion Instruction Class**
- 25 **Octoberfest at WNSM**
- 27 **St. Martin's School Fall Festival**
- 28 **New Member Class**
- 29 **Reformation Sunday**

November

- 5 **1st Communion Milestone**
- 10-12 **Jr. High Synod Youth Gathering at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville**
- 12 **Thankoffering Weekend**
- 22 **Annual Thanksgiving Eve Service (at St. David's Episcopal Church)**



St. Martin's Worship

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM • 9:30 AM • 11:00 AM
Holy Eucharists

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

12:10 PM Service of Healing

SATURDAYS

5:00 PM Holy Eucharist and Prayers for Healing

St. Martin's Education

SUNDAY

Childcare available for Infants and Toddlers all morning, Room 207

Children: 2 & 3 years old

11:00 AM, Room 308

Children: Age 4 – 5th Grade

9:30 & 11:00 AM, Upper Level

Youth: 6th – 8th Grade

9:30 & 11:00 AM, Room 148

Youth: 9th – 12th Grade

11:00 AM, Room 150

ADULTS

9:30 & 11:00 AM, Main Level

(See page 4 for additional information on the Sunday Morning Schedule)

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT ST. MARTIN'S

Resumes September 13.

Choir rehearsals begins Sept 6.

(See page 6 for full WNSM schedule.)

www.saintmartins.org

RALLY DAY • SEPTEMBER 10

Join the excitement as we Keep Up the Good Work with Fall opportunities. Regular Sunday schedule begins Sept 17.

The Echo

PERIODICALS

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