



WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER 1, 2013

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Ushers:	Ron Simmons, Gerri Simmons, Joanne Lewis, Patty Laubscher
Communion Assistants:	Jane Doyle, Gretchen Haroth, John Knupp, Judy Svoboda
Lector:	Amy Buckner
Assisting Minister:	Larry Laubscher
Children's Message:	Sunday School
Communion Bread:	Bob and Marianne Drumm
Communion Clean Up:	Ron Simmons and Gerri Simmons
Hospitality:	Bob and Marianne Drumm
Organist:	Nicholas Smoot
Preacher and Celebrant:	Reverend Dr. David G. Oravec

Today's Prayer List: We include the following in our prayers: Robin Bolig, Bob Brock, Charlene Brogan, Jina Eckhardt, Randall Fossum, Louise Gebelein, Josephine Jefferson, Bill Jerman, Sue Lanham, Ethel LaRue, June Peddicord, Matthew Rhodes, Helen Rudderow, Charles Shott, Jack Teel, Mel Tuckfield, Pr. Alan Vomhof, Lily Ann Weeks, Mark Whirley, SSG Tony Cecil, SSG Brendan Fossum, SGT Francis, civilian Tim Junak, CAPT Robert Parsley, SGT Cara Riordan, MAJ Mark Saye, OS1 John Shutt, and our homebound members—Muriel Eser, Louise Herklotz, Anna Robinson, and Betty Strohl.

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 2:1–5, Psalm 122, Romans 13:11–14, Matthew 24:36–44

Dedications: The flowers are given today in memory of loved ones from Patty and Larry Laubscher.

TODAY

Advent Workshop Today!! We hope you'll attend the Advent Workshop today! Arrive between 4:45 - 5:00 pm with a covered-dish, some clippers (for holly/greens), a staple-gun (if you have one - we just need about 3), and a spirit of enthusiasm. After we eat, you'll receive Advent devotionals, and then the craft making begins as we listen to the music of the season. Kids will make gingerbread houses, paper chains (to count down to Christmas) and cards to be distributed to sick and homebound folks. Everyone can make Advent wreaths for your use through the season. This is a great event for kids (of all ages). We hope you'll come and bring a friend.

Adult Bible Study, 9 am in the music room with Paula Thistle; Today's discussion: 1, 2 Corinthians. (*Next Sunday there will be no Bible Study due to a Budget Review Meeting. On December 15, Bible Study will discuss Galatians.*) Pastor Dave's Bible study continues on Monday, December 2, 7 pm in the Lounge.

Our Sunday School students will help guide us through Advent with a presentation during Worship each of the four Sundays of the season. During the Children's Message, all students will sing and students from one or more classes will share a brief presentation. We encourage all Sunday School families to attend church during Advent so that their students can participate! **Today, all students will join in singing and our 1st and 2nd graders will present a poem.** Next week, the 3rd and 4th graders will be presenting.

Following worship there will be a brief dedication of the **Memorial Benches** outside in the garden area off of our circular driveway.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Christmas at Sea for Seafarers: St. Martin's will participate in preparing Christmas boxes for the Seafarers again this year. This marks the 20th year that the good folk at St. Martin's have prepared these Christmas boxes. We already have plenty of most toiletry donations, so please bring just the following items to the church Narthex from **November 25 to December 8:** warm hats, scarves, gloves, socks, travel size deodorant, and ChapStick. We will also need regular size shoe boxes; our youth will box and wrap the items.

Holiday Sharing: St. Martin's is sponsoring 10 families through the county's Holiday Sharing Program. If you would like to purchase a gift for one of the children, please take a tag from the family cards located in the hallway off the Narthex. There are three tags for each child. Some suggestions for gifts have been provided by Social Services and are listed on the family card. Please wrap your gift and attach the gift tag. All gifts should be **returned before the church service by December 15.** Gifts can be placed in the library/lounge. If you have any questions, please contact Barbara Freeman at 410-798-6612/tombarb.freeman@verizon.net.

Special Time for Kids During Worship: After the Children's Message, children may go to the Art Room to hear a story and sing or watch a video. The children will be brought back to you in the rear of the sanctuary during the passing of the peace. Volunteers are needed to help with this special time. Please sign up in the hallway. Thanks!

Lock-up Team: Thanks to Larry Day for locking up our church this past week. Ben Blomendahl (402-720-1663) is locking up this week. If you could devote an occasional week to help keep our facility secure, please call Tim Doyle at 410-974-9033.

Flying Quilters desperately needs fabric! If you have any materials at home for our quilt tops, please send them to the church office. Our next meeting is **December 9, 10 am to 2 pm** in Fellowship Room A. All are welcome to join, including non-sewers. Call Judy Houston at 410-263-3888 or email djhouston1@comcast.net for more information.

OTHER

Great News and Thanks! Last week we received pledges for 2014 and 69 households responded (20 more than last year). This strong commitment represents hope for the coming year as we will work together to serve Christ through our worship, teaching, social ministry, and outreach. Please know that you can still return your pledge form and copies are available at the end of each pew if you've misplaced yours. Thanks to all who have (and will) respond with your commitments of time, talent, and money to the ministry of Christ!

Free Items! (Anniversary Church Plates, Bibles, Christmas Tree parts/stands/lights, Candle Holders, etc.) The Altar Guild recently cleaned out their storage closet and items are now near the 1st floor elevator at the end of the school hallway. **Please feel free to take anything you would like today.** Anything left will be taken to Lutheran Mission Society next week.

Tim Smith's Farewell: If you missed the opportunity to contribute to Tim's monetary gift, you may place your gift (please identify it as such) in the offering plate or send to the church office as soon as possible. Thanks to all for celebrating his ministry last week.

Men of the Congregation should note that Pastor Russell Fink and Pastor Dave will lead a weekly **Wednesday morning Men's Bible Study** from **7 to 8 am** at the Double T Diner (West St. and Rt. 2). All men are welcome!

St. Martin's Lutheran School Bookfair at Barnes & Noble (Annapolis Harbour Center), **Tue., December 3.** Children in grades 1-5 will be singing a **mini-concert** of Christmas music in the store at 5 pm. A percentage of the purchases made with a St. Martin's voucher (*available in the Narthex on the circular table*) will go to our school library and music department. You can also support the book fair online at www.barnesandnoble.com on December 3-8. Our school ID number is 11131976. This is a good time to do your Christmas shopping and help St. Martin's at the same time! Please share this information with those who shop at B&N. Thanks for your support!

You are cordially invited to the retirement celebration for The Reverend B. Nicki Parrish on Sunday, January 12, 2014, at St. Martin's Lutheran Church. Worship Service at 3:30 pm followed by Dinner & Celebration at 5 pm. **To attend, RSVP to officejrc@gmail.com.**



The Gift of Generosity: This holiday season, we thank everyone who has supported St. Martins this past year with their time, talent and financial contributions and look forward to support from all of our members in the year ahead. If you need a convenient way to make regular offerings or if you plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to look into our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up, especially around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make contributions. Visit <http://stmartinsannapolis.org/giving/>.

Publication Deadlines: Please email your weekly announcements by **Wednesday at 9 am** to church@stmartinsonline.org. January Tabletalk articles are due **December 15**; please email to the church office with "Tabletalk" on the subject line.

Congregational Meeting

When: Sunday, December 8th following worship

Where: In the Sanctuary

Purposes: To approve 2014 budgets (for church and school) and approve the three-year ministry plan.

An informational session will be held at 9 am that day in the chapel/music room to field questions and hold conversation about the motions (the regularly scheduled adult Sunday School class will resume the following week). Please feel free to contact Pastor Dave or Steve Raabe, Council President, if you have any questions prior to December 8th.

OPPORTUNITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, December 1	8:45 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 5:00 pm	M&M for Sunday School/Confirmation/SHY/YAG (Gym) Adult Bible Study (M) Choir Rehearsal (S) Worship with Communion (S)/SS Advent Program Advent Workshop and Potluck (Gym)
Monday, December 2	7:00 pm	Adult Bible Study (Library Lounge)
Tuesday, December 3	5:00 pm	St. Martin's School Choir Concert - Bookfair (Barnes & Noble)
Wednesday, December 4	7:00 am 7:30 am 8:40 am 10:00 am 6:15 pm 7:30 pm	Men's Bible Study (Double T Diner, Annapolis) Betty Knupp's Art Trip (meet in parking lot) Chapel Service (S) Staff Meeting (Conf) Bell Choir Rehearsal (S) Choir Rehearsal (S)
Thursday, December 5	7:30 am	Betty Knupp's Art Trip (meet in parking lot)
Friday, December 6	6:30 pm	School Movie Night (A,B,C)
Saturday, December 7	7:15 am	YAG carpool for Curling (Laurel Club)
Sunday, December 8	9:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 11:15 pm 3:00 pm 5:00 pm	Sunday School Budget Review Meeting (M) Choir Rehearsal (S) Worship with Communion (S)/SS Advent Program Confirmation Round-Up (Y) Christmas Caroling to our Homebound - All Invited! YAG event after caroling



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