

# ST. MARTHA'S MISSION STATEMENT

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## OBSERVATIONS FROM THE RECTOR

Obviously my big news for the month is my pending retirement. I will be actively in place through July 31 and then be having unused vacation and sabbatical time for the month of August. It's hard to believe that six years have gone by since I began my experience as rector of St. Martha's. I remain pleased that I decided to accept the position.

It has been a learning experience for me to minister with a parish heavily composed of people new to the congregation and even to the Episcopal Church. I have joined so many with an appreciation for the helpfulness of using the various folders instead of the regular Book of Common Prayer. The folders, greeters, gift bags and words of introduction from many of you have continued to make St. Martha's into a very welcoming and accepting environment. I regularly receive comments on each of these pieces of church life!

The now regular rotation of vestry and committee memberships has greatly broadened a sense of "ownership" on the part of many newer and slightly longer term participants. This has greatly extended the knowledge and support of more of our congregation. We have also benefited from the background, experiences and insights of this larger core of people.

I will have more thoughts to share in the coming two months. Please continue to offer your thoughts, suggestions and questions.

May we each find ourselves in thought, words and actions seeking to extend a loving and caring presence to all who **share** in this faith

community and all of God's creation. In the midst of our worship, and Sunday involvements, be mindful of assisting newer people with seats, folders and welcoming words.

I continue to welcome your open **sharing** of thoughts and ideas as we attempt to sense where the Spirit is leading us in spiritual growth, caring and outreach. Please feel free to contact me in person, via e-mail, [bwickham@stmarthasbethany.org](mailto:bwickham@stmarthasbethany.org), or by phone, 539-7444.

In Christ's accepting and affirming Spirit,

Bill Wickham

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## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Martha's Episcopal Church is to make God known, to welcome all of God's children, by assisting with the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our parishioners, visitors and community through worship, love, study and service.

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## VESTRY NOTES

The vestry met May 17 at 7 pm with opening prayer by Richard Jesneck. After discussing the Gospel for the coming Sunday, members approved the April vestry minutes and treasurer's report. Bob Levy was approved as Assistant Treasurer to replace Ken Hooker who resigned because of work commitments.

The vestry approved the Endowment Committee motion to withdraw \$10,000, with

\$5,000 going to Outreach and \$5,000 to Inreach/Long Range. The vestry then endorsed an Outreach Committee request that the budgeted item of \$1,250 be sent for The Camp Arrowhead Work Camp and home repairs.

Bob Davis, Junior Warden, reported the need to install two sump pumps and dehumidifiers under the church building as well as treat the underlying woodwork for mold. The vestry approved this step which will be in the neighborhood of \$4,500. The existing area used for meetings and Sunday School is in worse condition and not worth this treatment. Bob then initiated discussion about safe and healthy space for Sunday School, meetings and rector's office. The vestry encouraged obtaining prices on a trailer with office, meeting/class room space and a bathroom. The trailer would be parked immediately outside the present building. Conversations are beginning with the town of Bethany Beach for approval.

Bill Wickham announced his retirement as rector effective August 31, 2010, with the last month actually unused vacation and sabbatical time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm. with prayer by the rector.

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## **INQUIRERS' CLASSES**

Bill Wickham will be offering Inquirers' classes on Sundays June 6, 13, 20 and 27 from 9:00 – 9:40 am.

These sessions will include brief presentations on the Episcopal Church- history, worship, biblical understandings, sacraments and current issues. Those coming will have ample time to ask individual questions of interest and curiosity.

A booklet, Welcome to the Episcopal Church, will be distributed. Individuals attending may

consider officially joining the church when the Bishop visits St. Martha's on October 3. Please contact the rector with any questions.

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

- Barbara Harris

As the weather changes and the warm winds arrive, so does the increase of children to our Sunday School. As we welcome our friends, grandchildren, and young people we need to meet the needs of quite a range of age levels.

We are finding a great need for more than one teacher during Sunday School for safety reasons as well as instructional concerns. We need several things. If we can have people sign up for extra coverage if there is a need, we would be very grateful. You would sign up on the sheet near the kitchen, check in with the Sunday School teacher that morning to assist and then wait to see if there is a need that Sunday. If the teacher is all set, you wouldn't need to stay.

The other concern is the need for more volunteers for teaching. This is such a rewarding opportunity. We have plans already in place and can help you with whatever you need. It would be very helpful if one person can provide coverage for the preschool age level and another for elementary age. Let us know if you'd like to talk about this possibility. Please contact Bill Wickham at [bwickham@stmarthasbethany.org](mailto:bwickham@stmarthasbethany.org) or Barbara Harris at [barbharris@mchsi.com](mailto:barbharris@mchsi.com).

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## **OUTREACH NEWS**

- June Thompson

The Outreach Committee met on Tuesday May 11th, 2010. The meeting was opened at 1:00 pm by Ted Radcliffe with a prayer. The minutes were reviewed by committee members: Jere Wise, Joyce Wickham, Pauline Wise, Martha Fields, Mary Davis, June Thompson, co-chair Mary Thormeyer, George

Watson, Ted Radcliffe, Bill Wickham and Dennis Rhodes. The minutes were accepted as read.

Under Old Business Mary Thormeyer had one response to her Meals on Wheels appeal and will pass the name on to the Cheers Center.

The sub-committee for rotation of members on the Outreach committee, Mary Thormeyer, Jere Wise and Dennis Rhodes, reported back that from the applicants presented Lynn Watson, Richard Jesneck, and Wally Watson were suggested to fill the positions on the committee that would be vacated in June. The nominations were moved, seconded and approved by the committee. They will be replacing George Watson, Joyce Wickham and our Chair Ted Radcliffe. Mary Thormeyer will replace Ted Radcliffe as our new Outreach Committee Chair.

There was discussion about public relations and making St. Martha's even better known in the community. St. Martha's uses activities like the International Picnic and the Summer Book Sales to expand our name recognition. Bill Wickham will meet with Jack Shubert for a newspaper article.

Our New Business began with an update from Bill Wickham on the budget. Our committee had received the allotted money from the summer book sales and the remainder coming from the Endowment Fund. This will enable us to disperse funds for Camp Arrowhead scholarships and the Home Repair Committee. A motion was approved to send the budgeted \$1,250 for the Work Camp and home repairs.

Food For Thought was brought up next by Ted Radcliffe. He moved that we send \$790 more of the monies budgeted to the Frankford Elementary School ASAP as they are almost out of funds. Ted's motion was approved. There was discussion about the expansion of the Food For Thought program. Martha Fields brought up using a health survey to gain more

information about students needs and Dennis Rhodes suggested a food bank. These options will be explored by committee members in the coming months.

Joyce Wickham asked if we would be continuing the Dover Air Force Base bottled water program for the volunteers. Mary Thormeyer has the jars that we used for donations and will bring them with an accompanying display. The International Picnic, the Book Sales and the summer concerts were recommended sites to collect donations as well as Sunday Services. It was decided to begin the AFB donations on June 6th at St. Martha's and on June 5th at the Bethany Beach Boardwalk sale.

Ted Radcliffe closed the meeting with comments that it had been a pleasure to work on the committee with such a dedicated and caring group. He had been on the development of the committee beginning in 2004. Ted has supported, help direct and inspired consequent activities of the Outreach Committee for 6 years. As he has generously accepted to continue to work with the Food For Thought Program, we know we will continue to have his support in the future.

The gavel was officially handed over to Mary Thormeyer and she closed the meeting at 2:05 with a prayer.

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## CAREPARTNERS

Carepartners is the name for a gathering of people from St. Martha's and the local area who have ongoing care concern and responsibility. This might involve a parent, a spouse, a child or someone else who has continuing health issues. Bill Wickham convens this group at 1:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays in the area in the rear of the church nave. If you have questions please call Bill at 539-7444.

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## PARISH PICNIC

There will be a parish picnic on Sunday, June 6 at 4:00 pm. We will provide hot dogs and hamburgers to be cooked on grills. Please plan to attend and sign up to bring a salad, appetizer or dessert. If you enjoy wine, please bring a bottle with you. We will simply move inside if the weather does not cooperate!



## BIRTHDAYS JUNE, 2010

<b>JUNE 1</b>	<b>IRENE GALLAHER</b>
<b>JUNE 5</b>	<b>LINDA BARNES</b>
<b>JUNE 7</b>	<b>MADISON TIPTON &amp; MARCY LOCKARD</b>
<b>JUNE 10</b>	<b>LINDA MAXWELL</b>
<b>JUNE 14</b>	<b>ED SEARS</b>
<b>JUNE 16</b>	<b>JACK SHUBERT</b>
<b>JUNE 18</b>	<b>LAWRENCE HARRIS</b>
<b>JUNE 20</b>	<b>COURTNEY HAMLET</b>
<b>JUNE 22</b>	<b>MACKENZIE HARD</b>
<b>JUNE 23</b>	<b>STACY STRATON</b>
<b>JUNE 24</b>	<b>JACKIE LIMROTH</b>
<b>JUNE 25</b>	<b>MARK WEST</b>
<b>JUNE 27</b>	<b>HARRY ADAMS &amp; DANA PFISTER</b>

## ANNIVERSARIES



<b>JUNE 8</b>	<b>BILL &amp; PAT ROWE</b>
<b>JUNE 9</b>	<b>TERRY &amp; LYNN WATSON</b>
<b>JUNE 16</b>	<b>ED &amp; KAY BERLING</b>

## PASTORAL CARE TRANSPORTATION TEAM

A team of 10 volunteers are available to provide transportation to medical appointments or other needs. Call if we can help. Carolyn Smith, 436-9080, Dennis Rhodes, 541-4697, or the church office, 539-7444.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The International Student Committee met on May 12. Two picnics are again being planned, the dates being June 22 and August 17, both beginning at 5:30 pm. We will use the pattern of grills, tent and outdoor games that have served to make these much enjoyed occasions for nearly 50 of the college students coming from abroad to work in local businesses. Bikes are again be sought that are used, but in good condition.

Those who might be interested in being involved are invited to come to the next planning meeting on June 14 at 9:30 am. These young people greatly appreciate the opportunity to interact with Americans and share their stories. We seek to have their time here to be a positive one for them to remember.

## SHOREBIRDS

A pavilion has again been arranged by Ken Hooker for this year for a meal at a Shorebirds game in Salisbury on Saturday, June 19. There will be fireworks following the game. A bus has been reserved with a package price of \$35 per person, or \$22 without the bus. Please sign up at Church, for members and friends, or call Ken for information, 537-7552.

## LIMBER UP YOUR VOICES



## HYMN SING

Our first summer hymn sing will be on Wednesday, July 7 at 7:00 pm. Forms

to pick your favorite hymns will be placed in the service booklet later in June. There will also be forms by the church office door.

As in other years, the hymns do not have to come from any hymnal that we use. If you have a favorite hymn that you sang in another

church or that you remember from your childhood or any other time, write the title down and I will attempt to find it.

You can also email me with your choices if that is easier. My email address is [kaybr6@aol.com](mailto:kaybr6@aol.com). Please put 2010 Hymn Sing on the RE line so that I know it is not spam.

The hymn sings usually last about an hour and there are refreshments for thirsty and hungry singers afterward.

Kathleen B. Rhodes  
Parish Musician



### JULY BOOK SALE

We have scheduled our July book sale for July 3. We sold a lot of

books at the first sale and we need to replenish the supply. If you missed donating to the first sale or have more books, we will be accepting books all summer.

Kathy Rhodes  
July Book Chair

### OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

As our congregation grows we are helped by having volunteers Lorraine Carr, Martha Fields, and Mary Wuslich assist with weekly projects. Additionally, Don & Carolyn Clarke, Archie & Ruth Ellis, Joanne Levy, and Pauline & Jere Wise, help with folding, labeling and putting stamps on newsletters, Christmas letters, and stewardship mailings.

If you might help, please contact either Lynne Watson or Bill Wickham, 539-7444. All volunteers are periodically away and substitutes are very important as well.

### MEALS ON WHEELS

Meals on Wheels drivers are needed! The CHEER Center in Ocean View needs more people to deliver meals in the Ocean View area. The delivery time takes about one hour. People are scheduled in teams of two one day every two weeks. If you are interested, please call Janet Skibicki at 539-8053, or contact Mary Thormeyer at 541-5511, [marythormeyer1@yahoo.com](mailto:marythormeyer1@yahoo.com)

### GROUPS & MEETINGS – JUNE

AA	Mondays	8:00 am
	Tuesdays	8:00 am
	Wednesdays	12:00 pm
	Thursdays	8:00 am
	Fridays	8:00 am
Adult Choir	Wednesdays	7:00 pm
Bariatric Surgery Gp	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays	7:00 pm
Bell Choir	Thursdays	7:00 pm
Endowment	July 14	4:30 pm
Finance	July 15	2:00 pm
Gamblers Anonymous	Mondays	7:00 pm
Lay Pastoral Care	June 24	10:30 am
Long Range Planning	June 7	7:00 pm
Narcotics Anonymous	Sundays	7:30 pm
Outreach	2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays	1:00 pm
Over Eaters	Fridays	7:00 pm
Prison Bible Study	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays	5:00 pm
Vestry	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mondays	7:00 pm
Worship Committee	Aug 11	4:00 pm