

Weekly Update

October 18, 2023

Please join us on Sunday for Holy Eucharist.

The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023

8 am & 10 am*

Celebrant: Reverend Blake Wamester

If you are unable to worship in person, please join us on Youtube.

*To view the livestream service please click the link below.



Seashell Ringers Practice

Wednesday, October 18 at 1 pm.

Choir Practice

Wednesday, October 18 at 7 pm.

Harvest Fest Potluck

Thursday, October 19 at 5 pm in the parish hall. There will be lots of delicious Harvest inspired dishes to sample. Make sure you bring your appetite!

Stitch and Sketch

Friday, October 20 from 10 am to 1 pm in the parish hall. We have knitters, painters, quilters and many other crafters who gather to stitch, craft and socialize. All are welcome.

Yoga

Monday, October 23 at 9:30 am in the parish hall. \$8 drop in. Bring your own mat, blanket, block and/or strap. Some will be available.

Yoga

Tuesday, October 24 at 5:30 pm. This is a beginner's class starting with the basics for anyone new to yoga or just looking for a gentle practice. \$8 to drop in.

Upcoming Events

A graphic with a teal background and white wavy lines. The text "MEN'S RETREAT" is written in bold, white, sans-serif capital letters in the center.

MEN'S RETREAT

Men's Retreat

A few good men are needed in the effort to rejuvenate the Men's Group. We will gather on Saturday October 28th, for fellowship and for further information. Doors will open at 9:30 for coffee and chit-chat. Program will start at 10am. Come learn about how this fellowship will evolve as a weekly Men's Discipleship Group.

All Saints' Sunday and Remembrance Sunday - November 5th

Please bring pictures that day of departed loved ones, which will be placed around the altar during the service. We will observe a special candle-lit prayer in their honor during each service.



GAME NIGHT



JOIN US
November 9th
5:30 - 8pm



Salads, sandwiches and desserts from 5:30 - 6:30 pm
with a variety of games to follow



Sign up sheet in the parish hall
coming soon.

ANNUAL MEETING



NOVEMBER 19

SINGLE SERVICE

9:00 AM



The Annual Meeting will begin after the 9:00 AM service. A catered lunch will be provided following the meeting. We ask that you please sign up so we have a head count for the food. Look for a sign up sheet in the parish hall soon.

This will also be a New Members Sunday where we will acknowledge those individuals with a special blessing. Any new members who wish to be included should contact the office.

Sign up sheets are now available in the parish hall.

Outreach



The Crop Hunger Walk was a big success! The Ministerium exceeded it's goal of \$8,000 for Church World Service. Over \$2,000 will go to the Sussex County food pantries and the remainder will help hunger globally. Thanks to all the St. Martha's Parishioners who donated to this worthy cause.

Announcements



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Equal Exchange coffee tasting on October 29th during both coffee hours - **POSTPONED**

The Fairtrade coffee tasting is being postponed until later this year. New date to be announced. Stay tuned....you're gonna love it!

Any questions, feel free to email [Susan Callahan](mailto:Susan.Callahan).

Now that the busy summer months have come to an end, we would love to have you join us in the choir! All parts are needed. Can't read music? No problem! Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:00 and Sunday mornings from 9:15 -9:35. Perfect attendance is not required! Please consider joining us for the fall and the season of Advent. Any questions? See Dave Kemper or any choir member.



Committee Chairs



It's that time of year! The Annual Meeting is right around the corner that means it's time to start working on those committee summaries for the Annual Report. Believe it or not, we've already had two submitted. A big thank to those overachievers. Now it's time for the rest of you to get down to business. If you would like a copy of last year's emailed to you just contact the office. Please have all summaries submitted by 11/8. Thank you!



Are you 72 or older? Have you lost the ability to fully deduct charitable contributions because you no longer itemize federal income tax deductions? Do you make donations to St. Martha's regularly? If you answered yes to these questions, you may want to consider making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD). A QCD is generally a non-taxable distribution made directly by the trustee of your IRA to St. Martha's or other qualified charities. A QCD reduces your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) and thereby reduces taxes. If you are receiving a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your IRA, a QCD can be used to satisfy the RMD. Please consult your tax advisor or tax return preparer to determine if a QCD could benefit you.

Stewardship Update

As of date	Amount Pledged for 2024
9/17/2023	\$25,300
9/26/2023	\$72,820
10/7/2023	\$87,660
10/12/2023	\$102,000
10/17/2023	\$147,120

Pledgers who:	Number
Increased their pledge	18
Pledged the same	32
Decreased their pledge	3
New pledgers	10
Totals	63

A big thank you to all those who have submitted their pledge cards thus far. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!