**Fall Newsletter September 2016**

**ST. MARTIN’S CHURCH NEWS**

 **From the Rector**

Welcome back! I trust that those of you who have had a chance to get away over the summer have returned refreshed and ready for the start of another cycle of work, school, and church. It’s odd that the calendar year runs from January to December, but the significant rhythm to our lives actually runs from September through June.

This autumn, the catchword I want to give you is *investment.* You know the saying, “it takes a village to raise a child”. Well, it requires investment by each and every one of us to raise a healthy, vibrant and spiritually anchored community. We are an *every member ministry parish.* This means there is no illusory *other person* to do that which we are not willing to do. We – individually and as a community – are fed and nourished only through the extent of our mutual investment. Through investing ourselves in our common life, we are fed through nurturing our relationship with God and with one another. Investment makes us magnetic; and we begin to attract others to our community because it’s exciting to be around committed people invested in a common vision.

We ended our very successful program year in 2015-16 with an *end of year story.* In it we identified our milestone achievements and immediate challenges going forward. We noted three key priority areas emerging from our engagement with the RenewalWorks program: *embedding the Bible in parish life, engaging our passions, and the heart of leadership* as the priorities guiding our future. The video of the *end-of-year story* can be viewed online at stmartinsprov.org.

We begin the 2016-17-program year on September 11 continuing the theme of story with a ***Beginning-of-the-Year******Story***that will identify our Table of Contents (see attached calendar) for the coming program year. A special
**Build-your-own Bagel Coffee Hour** will follow the 9:30am service.

Join us. It’s an exciting time to be at St Martin’s!

 Mark+

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 **St. Martin’s Story: “Table of Contents”

 FALL 2016**

**NOVEMBER**

**Sunday, November 6**
Daylight Savings Time ends

**Friday, November 11**Veteran’s Day - office closed

**Saturday, November 12**Bead Workshop 9am

**Sunday, November 20**
Advent Outreach Project Launch
*Celebrate St. Martin’s – the next 100 years!*Patronal Evensong 4:30pm
Unveiling of the new altar followed by
Potluck Supper

**Tuesday, November 22**Interfaith Service at St. Martin’s 7pm
Reception will follow

**Thursday, November 24**Community Thanksgiving Dinner 1pm

**Friday, November 25**Office closed

**Sunday, November 27**Advent Festival with Wreath-making
Pageant Sign-ups

 *For more details, visit our website or call the office.*

**SEPTEMBER**

**Monday, September 5**Labor Day - office closed

**Wednesday, September 7**The Thrifty Goose reopens 10am-2pm

**Thursday, September 8**Adult Choir rehearsals resume 7:30pm

**Sunday, September 11
*Beginning-of-the-Year Story***8am Eucharist
9:15am Nursery
9:30am Sung Eucharist
*Welcome our new Minister of Music Nick Voermans*
10:45am “Build-your-own Bagel” Coffee Hour
Followed by short programs for adults and children (KidZone)
 **Tuesday, September 13**Women’s Spirituality Group 6pm
Gander 7pm

**Sunday, September 18**
Youth Breakfast at 9:30am
‘Make your own Breakfast Taco’ Grades 6-12

**Tuesday, September 20**Temple-Church Conversation
Temple Beth-el 7pm
*What do we believe, and how does this shape the way we feel about the current of civic debate in America?*

**OCTOBER**

**Sunday, October 2**Blessing of the Animals!! 4pm

**Friday, October 7**TGIF at 6pm
*Mingle with friends over hors d’oeuvres after a busy week!*

**Monday, October 10**Columbus Day - office closed

**Thursday, October 20 - Saturday, October 22**Icon Workshop
Instruction by Iconographer Peter Pearson

**Sunday, October 23**
Annual Stewardship Campaign begins

**St. Martin’s Episcopal Church
50 Orchard Avenue
Providence, RI 02906
(401) 751-2141** [**www.stmartinsprov.org**](http://www.stmartinsprov.org)

**DECEMBER**

**Saturday, December 3**Advent Tea & Entertainment 4pm
*The Carol of the Bell?
“A winter’s tale of a purloined G#”*

**Sunday, December 4**St. Nicholas visits the KidZone!

**Wednesday, December 21***Blue Christmas* Service of Darkness & Light 5:30pm

**Saturday, December 24**Christmas Eve Services 4pm & 9pm
Pageant during 4pm service

**Sunday, December 25**Christmas Day Service 9:30am