

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

September 2, 2025 – Volume 4, Number 7

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You Are Wondering

August 3rd, 2025

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,288.67

Food Pantry: \$30.00

Local Mission: \$30.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,765.00

Attendance

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 37

Martin UMC:

Worship: 47

August 10th, 2025

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$733.21

Food Pantry: \$100.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,461.35

Building Fund: \$20.00

Food Pantry: \$100.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 21

Martin UMC:

Worship: 46

August 17th, 2025

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$580.00

Food Pantry: \$100.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$852.00

Food Pantry: \$50.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Special Offering: \$103.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 25

Martin UMC:

Worship: 47

August 24th, 2025

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,115.25

Building Fund: \$40.40

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,239.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Food Pantry: \$30.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 23

Martin UMC:

Worship: 58

August 31st, 2025

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$937.67

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$381.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 28

Martin UMC:

Worship: 42

The Gift of a Church Family

Our church family is more than a Sunday gathering—it is a living, practicing community where love is shared, burdens are carried, and joy is multiplied. In the quiet moments of life and the loud moments of celebration, we discover who we are when we are together.

The Bible invites us to act toward one another with intentional love and help. Hebrews 10:24-25 urges us to spur one another on toward love and good deeds, and to not give up meeting together, but to encourage one another as we see the Day approaching. In practical terms, this means showing up for trials and triumphs alike: praying for one another, offering a listening ear, sharing meals, providing rides, offering a hand with child care, and walking with each other through illness, grief, or transition. Galatians 6:2 calls us to “carry each other’s burdens,” a concrete reminder that Christ’s law is fulfilled as we bear one another’s weight in love. And Romans 12:4-5 reminds us that we are one body with many members; when one part hurts or grows, the whole body is invited to respond, support, and celebrate together.

A church family grows strongest when it welcomes others into the circle of care and belonging. Inviting others in is not about filling seats—it’s about offering a space where people can encounter God’s generosity through tangible acts of love. When we invite neighbors, coworkers, or friends who are seeking meaning, healing, or community, we extend hospitality that mirrors Christ’s welcome. In welcoming others, we live out the truth of being one body: different functions, diverse gifts, and shared life. Our invitation becomes a doorway into a community where people can experience encouragement, accountability, and purpose—together.

My gratitude for our church family is deep and personal. This community has stood with me in times of loss, offering prayers, presence, and practical support that carried more weight than words. It has celebrated with me in moments of joy—significant milestones, answered prayers, and new opportunities—turning individual blessings into shared songs of thanksgiving. Hebrews 10:24-25 reminds me that we are called to encourage one another, and in those acts of encouragement, love grows stronger. Galatians 6:2 shows that bearing one another’s burdens binds us to Christ’s law of love. Romans 12:4-5 reminds me that we belong to one another, and that our diverse gifts knit us into a resilient, caring body.

Our church family is a daily reminder that we do not walk alone. We are invited to give and receive, to include and support, to mourn and rejoice together. I am profoundly grateful for the love, the support, and the faithful presence of our church family—a family that embodies the gospel in action, both in times of sorrow and in times of celebration.

Love to you all, Pastor Maggie

Did you know that you
can give thru our
website? Go to
martinumc.org or
shelbyvilleumc.org for
more information.



KINGDOM KIDS
Every Sunday following the
Children's Sermon!

September Food Pantry Focus Canned Meat

*Martin UMC Sunday School
Will be starting back up September 7th
Adult Sunday School Class books are in
the office.*

September Birthdays!

Happy Happy Birthday!

1 - Alexis Jankowiak

4 - Joyce McAllister

7 - Charlie Morris

8 - Joe Morris

9 - Nancy Drake

12 - Laura Foster

- Pyper Pohl

13 - Matt Clark

14 - Della Bellgraph

- Jane Clark

16 - Kayleigh Collins

21 - Luesettie Phelps

25 - Sonia Town

28 - Kim Stevens

Important Dates

- September 14th - Special Offering – Rural Life
- Rummage Sale Martin
 - September 11, 2025 – Set up (afternoon)
 - September 12th 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. & September 13th 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- September 14th - Special Offering – Rural Life
- September 20th – Community Breakfast – Martin 8:00 -10:00 a.m.
- September 28th – MUMC Homecoming
- October 5th –Path Walk
- October 12th – SUMC Homecoming
- October 19th – Charge Conference at MUMC – 3:00 p.m.
- October 31st – Trunk or Treat

Office Hours:

*Closed Monday, Tuesday thru
Friday 9:00 a.m. –
1:00 p.m.*

A Wish

The people who come to church each week
Are thick and thin, and proud and meek,
Are full of love and full of hate,
Are kind impatient, early, late,
Are full of joy and full of woe.
Some cannot find the way to go.
Some love the Master, love him well.
Some do not know him, sad to tell.
If I could fling my arms out wide
I'd gladly take them all inside
And give a hug and softly sigh,
"God loves you, friend, and so do I."

-RHawke



Words cannot express how happy I am about this playground! Growing up in Shelbyville the church playground was such an important part of our childhood. My children growing up in the Martin Church couldn't wait to leave fellowship to get to the playground! To know that our littles have this amazing and safe place to play is amazing! God is so good! I am so grateful to all of you who helped make this happen. Grateful to the Oetman Fund, Kristin and Levi, Hannah and Chad, Gordon and Mary Jo, Abbie, Jean, Anita, and many others. A special thank you to C & C Supply in Richland for donating the mountain of woodchips that was needed! Love to all of you who helped! To our kiddo's my prayer for you is that you have the best time here, that you make memories with friends that you will have for a lifetime! Love, Pastor Maggie



RUMMAGE SALE

Friday
September 12
10am - 5pm

Saturday
September 13
9am - 3pm

969. E Allegan St.
Martin, MI 49070

All proceeds will go
towards the parking
lot project!

Hello church family!

We are having a rummage sale at the church September 12 & 13. The proceeds will go towards the parking lot project! We are seeking donations of gently used items to include in the sale. Anything from clothing and household items to books, toys, and baby items. If you have items to donate, we ask that they be brought to the church by Wednesday, September 10. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Kristin at church or email her at kristin.e.demann@gmail.com.

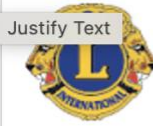
Thanks!

MUSICAL NOTES FOR MUMC:

CHOIR PRACTICE AFTER WORSHIP
ON SEPTEMBER 14 @ 9:45

CHOIR WILL SING ON SEPTEMBER
21. – “BECAUSE HE LIVES”
FROM THE CELEBRATION
HYMNAL #364.

COME SING WITH US!



Musical Extravaganza

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 24th

at The Big Rock Music Barn,
1125 - 122nd Ave. Martin, Michigan

To Support the:

Martin Lions Club
WEEKEND BLESSINGS PROGRAM

Live Music

Basement Jam 696, Thirsty Land Bluegrass Gospel Band
The Dulcimer Gals, And Soloists Performances

Starts at 6:30 PM

With refreshments to follow

**Weekend Blessings is a weekend food
program for children in need who are
attending Brandon Elementary**

A Free Will Offering will be Appreciated

