The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

November 1, 2025 - Volume 4, Number 9

"Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors."

In Case You Are Wondering

October 5, 2025
Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection: \$1,227.67
Food Pantry: \$30.00
Local Mission: \$30.00
Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2680.00 Attendance

> Shelbyville UMC: Worship:30

Martin UMC:

Worship:81

October 12, 2025
Offering:
Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection: \$951.21
Food Pantry: \$100.00
Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,929.00

Attendance: Shelbyville UMC: Worship: 41 Martin UMC:

Worship:66

October 19, 2025 Offering:

Shelbyville UMC: General Collection: \$586.00 Building: \$

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$916.00 Food Pantry: \$100.00

Attendance: Shelbyville UMC: Worship:

Martin UMC:

Worship:77

October 26, 2025 Offering: **Shelbyville UMC:**

General Collection: \$1,308.77 Building Fund: \$40.40

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1698.00 Food Pantry: \$100.00 Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:
Worship: 35
Martin UMC:
Worship: 69

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

As we step into November, a season traditionally marked by gratitude, worship, and generous service, our community faces a pressing challenge that touches the most vulnerable among us. Recent government announcements have suspended SNAP benefits for a period of time. The impact is real: households that rely on these essential food assistance programs may find themselves struggling to put meals on the table, especially as the days grow shorter and the winter season approaches.

Our churches have long stood as a beacon of light in times of hardship, not just as a place of worship but as a neighbor you can count on. The Gospel calls us to love our neighbors with both courage and compassion (Matthew 25:35-40). When one member of the body suffers, we all feel the ache; when we respond with generosity, we embody the heart of Christ who fed the hungry and welcomed the stranger.

What this means for us right now: The food pantry is going to need more help and more support. More families will be turning to us for groceries, staples, and child-friendly foods.

We are invited to turn compassion into concrete aid—sharing our resources, time, and talents to alleviate hunger.

We have a real opportunity for community building: November is a season when the church can model sacrificial generosity and invite others into the joy of giving.

How can you help?

- Donate generously: Food plus funds keep the pantry stocked.
- Bring groceries with a purpose:
 - o Canned proteins, soups, stews
 - o Rice, pasta, oats
 - Canned fruits/veg
 - o Baby formula/diapers
 - o Personal care items (toothpaste, soap, etc.)
- Volunteer your time.
- Partner with others: challenge your friends, family or coworkers to participate.
- Pray for the hungry: Lift up clients, volunteers, and leaders in prayer for dignity, provision, and wisdom.

In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches that when we feed the hungry, we encounter Him: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat" (Matthew 25:35). November offers us a sacred invitation to answer that call with courage, generosity, and joy. Let us open our doors—and our hearts—to our neighbors in need, trusting that God will provide through our faithful response.

Blessings, 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!

November Food Pantry Focus Cash for Bulk Meat Purchases

Martin UMC Sunday School
Ages 4 to Adult
Adult Sunday School Class books are in
the office.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO SUPPORTED THE PARKING LOT PROJECT SOUP SUPPER!

We were able to raise: \$972.00

Special thank you to Crystal McWilliams for organizing this project!

The food and fellowship were great!

Office Hours:

Closed Monday Tuesday thru Friday 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Time and Time

If I hadn't been running late

The milk truck would not yet have reached the store.

If I hadn't waited many minutes for the milk to be unloaded

If I hadn't traded the red-capped gallon for the blue

If I had not been slowed by traffic I could not have delivered it to one who preferred the blue.

If I had not been delayed by unforeseen circumstance

I would already have been driving back toward home

Missing the news she had recently moved here again

Losing my opportunity to say a word for our church.

If I had had my way, been on my calculated schedule

I would have been long gone before the homeschooler mom

Could have told me her son can best make friends in small groups

Letting me mention the slowly growing youth Sunday School.

If I had been on my human time I would have missed opportunities That God, on God's time, made available. Time and again I marvel at how God's time works

I only know God makes it be if I but wait. Hallelujah! What a timely God we serve!

-RHawke

Martin UMC Nursery Care:

Nursey care is available during worship – Infant to 4 years of age – please sign your child in and supply your phone number to nursery care in case they need to contact you during the service.

Please plan for children over the age of 4 to remain in the sanctuary and are welcome to be part of Kid's Kingdom worship.

MUSICAL NOTES FOR MUMC:

CHOIR PRACTICE AFTER WORSHIP ON NOVEMBER 9TH @ 10:45

CHOIR WILL SING ON NOVEMBER

26TH, 2025 – "COUNT YOUR

BLESSINGS," FROM THE

CELEBRATION HYMNAL #786

(WARMUP ON NOVEMBER 16TH AT 8:50 A.M.)

ALL THOSE WHO LIKE TO PRAISE GOD IN SONG ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US.

COME SING WITH US!

Important Dates:

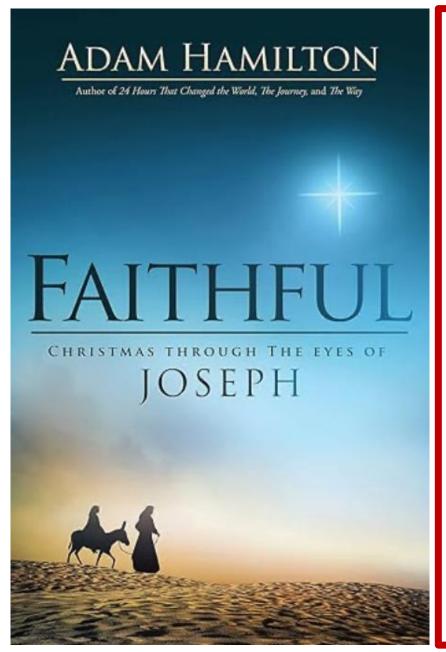
- November $3^{rd} 10^{th}$ Pastor Maggie on vacation
- November 6th Chosen & Popcorn 9:30 MUMC
- November 8th Fall Clean Up
- November 11th Knit, Pray & Crochet MUMC - 12:15
- November 13th Chosen & Popcorn 9:30 MUMC
- November 19th Advent Study Faithful 1:00 p.m. in person @ Martin 7:00 Zoom
- November 20th Chosen & Popcorn 9:30 MUMC
- November 23rd Thanksgiving Feast
- November 25th Knit, Pray & Crochet MUMC - 12:15
- November 30th Special Offering –
 United Methodist Student Day

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Jean Holley
- 4 Hannah Tanner
- 8 Margie Solomon
- 14 Dakota Rose
- 15 Johnathon Buskirk
- 19 Amy Collins
- 20 Ed Buys
 - Allison Collins
 - Rick Richmond
- 23 Carson Cuba
 - Elaine Ondersma
- 25 Pat Fewless
- 26 Bailey Burgen
- 27 Kenzie Horton
- 29 Kora Hawke

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Ivy Pohl
- 6 Chris Swinney
- 8 Glenda Ash
- 10 Deb DeMann
- 11 Jack Farmer
 - Mark Ondersma
 - Melinda Tisron
- 12 Charla Richmond
- 14 Kristin DeMann
- 16 Gloria Shook
- 19 Carolyn Buskirk
 - Randy Martin
 - Julie Mentzer
- 21 Sharon Buys
- 23 Margaret Cambell
- 24 Chad VanHaun
- 28 KeLinda Scott
- 29 Pat Holland
- 30 Molly Mentzer



Advent Bible Study: Faithful

From his beginnings as a humble carpenter to his all-important role as the earthly father of Jesus Christ, Joseph's place in the nativity story is sometimes overlooked but contains valuable lessons for all of us. Join Adam Hamilton as he examines Christmas through the eyes of Joseph. Absent from much of the biblical narrative, Joseph never spoke a word, but his courageous actions were crucial to the birth of Christ and God's salvation plan for humanity.

This study will help us to understand how Joseph's story is much like our own. In life, we encounter circumstances that we would never have chosen for ourselves. At times it can be tempting just to walk away. Joseph provides us a great example of humbly obeying God even when we don't understand and faithfully moving forward in the strength that God provides.

Week 1: November 20, 2025

Week 2: December 4, 2025

Week 3: December 11, 2025

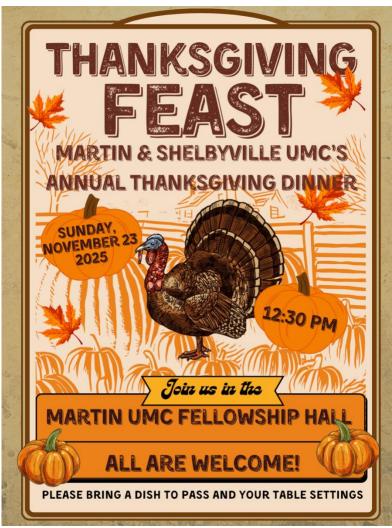
Week 4: December 18, 2025

Thursday afternoons 1:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall – Martin UMC Thursday evenings 7:00 p.m. Zoom

Join meeting at: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8607839 9710?pwd=AyGdbRAxpa8IQZqOOs PWNbCwnrbY2H.1

Meeting ID: 860 7839 9710

Passcode: 585362



CHRISTIAN NEIGHBORS PATH WALK!

74 walkers, with 28 being brand new to PATH Walk. Yes, the Path Walk continues to grow every year since COVID!

TOTAL RAISED: \$11,541.00 OUR CONTRIBUTION: \$1,7232.00

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12 WALKERS FROM SHELBYVILLE UMC

Thank you to all who helped! All who gave! All who walked! Special thank you to Deb Boniface for organizing and keeping us all on track!





