

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:
 - Canned proteins, soups, stews
 - Rice, pasta, oats
 - Canned fruits/veg
 - Baby formula/diapers
 - 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 home-
schooler 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:

*Nurse 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 3rd – 10th - 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

ADAM HAMILTON

Author of 24 Hours That Changed the World, The Journey, and The Way

FAITHFUL

CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE EYES OF
JOSEPH



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/86078399710?pwd=AyGdbRAXpa8lQZqOOsPWNbCwnrbY2H.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

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!



November 2nd 2025

**FALL
BACK
THIS
SUNDAY**

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME



All Saint's Day

Celebrated in Honor of all the Saints

**November 2nd, 2025
9:30 a.m.**

Please join us as we celebrate the life of
your loved one who has gone on before us.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan Street
Martin, MI. 49070
Please RSVP by calling 269-672-7097



All Saint's Day

Celebrated in Honor of all the Saints

**November 2nd, 2025
11:00 a.m.**

Please join us as we celebrate the life of
your loved one who has gone on before us.

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave.
Shelbyville, MI. 49344
Please RSVP by calling 269-672-7097

