

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

January 5th, 2024 – Volume 4, Number 1

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

The Connection -
Next issue
Announcements/Articles/
Testimonies are due
January 17th, 2024.
Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

In Case You Are Wondering

December 31st, 2023
Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$394.60
Food Pantry: \$

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$832.00
Vanco General: \$
Building Fund: \$520.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 25

Martin UMC:

Worship: 32

December 24th, 2023
Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,802.72
Food Pantry: \$100.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,015.00
Vanco General: \$
Building Fund: \$50.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 37

Martin UMC:

Worship: 38

Christmas Eve - 60

Dear Church Family,

As we journey into a new year, I am filled with great joy! The year 2024 holds such promise and potential for our church community, and I am excited to share this journey with each and every one of you.

In the spirit of unity and togetherness, I believe it is crucial for us to reflect on the significance of our shared experiences. Just as the Magi journeyed together to witness the birth of Jesus, we too are called to journey together as a congregation, supporting and uplifting one another along the way.

The Epiphany, which we celebrate this weekend, reminds us of the power of revelation and the importance of seeking God's guidance in our lives. As we navigate the challenges and blessings of the coming year, let's be open to the divine wisdom and direction that God provides. Let's focus on the signs that guide us towards fulfilling our purpose as a church.

The baptism of Jesus serves as a powerful reminder of our own baptismal vows and the call to discipleship. Just as Jesus emerged from the waters of the Jordan River, filled with the Holy Spirit, we too are called to emerge from the waters of our own challenges and trials, renewed and empowered by the presence of God's Spirit within us. Let's embrace this renewed sense of purpose and commitment as we serve our community and share the love of Christ with those around us.

In the year 2024, I encourage each of you to actively participate in the life of our congregation. Attend worship services regularly, engage in meaningful fellowship, and participate in the various ministries and outreach opportunities available to us. I want us to deepen our relationships with one another and with God, as we seek to make a positive impact on our community and the world.

As we journey through 2024 together, I invite you to join me in prayer for our congregation. I am praying for unity, strength, and a deepening of our faith, and hope that you will too. May God's grace and guidance be with us every step of the way.

I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for our congregation in 2024. I want us to embrace this year with hope and enthusiasm, knowing that God is with us and that we are stronger together.

Blessings,
Pastor Maggie

Office Hours:

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

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

Knit, Pray & Crochet

January 11th

at 10:30 a.m.

I am so happy we started this little group, the fellowship and the people we have come to know as our little circle has been a blessing from above.

Blessings Crystal

**Food Pantry Items
January- Ziplock Baggies**

**Martin Sunday School
Sunday School for all
ages immediately
following fellowship
each Sunday!**

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Youth Group

UPCOMING DATES:

January 7, 2024

January 21, 2024

February 4, 2024

February 18, 2024

**6:00 P.M.
AT MARTIN UMC**

Prayer Concerns:

Email martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com to update or to add!

Updated January 5th, 2024

- Raina Oldebeken – Cancer
- Molly Mentzer – Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken – Health
- Online Ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery.
- Youth Ministries
- Naomi Martin - health
- Sandy VanWormer – Cancer Diagnosis
- Ernie Sunnerville- Health
- Larry Mattox – Cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Ronda Kelly pray for healing
- Children being hurt during custody battle
- Doris Hawkey – Heart issues
- Nan Darrow – Mobility issues
- Don Darrow - Cancer
- Dan Lawrence – Cancer treatment
- Kim – Cancer diagnosis
- Don Cleveland – health
- Resolution in Israel
- Patti Jarvis – Health/Cancer Diagnosis
- Jill Jackson – Health
- Dick Mattox - cancer diagnosis
- Pat Kimmel – Health
- The family of Mary Ellen Winebarger – Mary Ellen passed recently
- Nancy White – Heart
- Dean Rantz – Health
- Kenny Martin – Cancer
- Mike Oetman – General
- Wendy Palmer – Health
- John Guevera – Heart
- Missions Committee – 2024
- Jeff Anderson – Health
- Blaine Anderson – Health
- Brad – head injury
- Chip Rynbrandt – Seizures
- Family of Tom Martin – Tom passed away recently
- Maverick – 2 year old with health concerns
- Karen – knee replacement
- Kim and Pam – Life issues

Important Dates

Food Pantry Items for January 2024 Zip Lock Baggies

2024

- January 7th – Youth Group Grades 6-12 Martin 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- January 10th – Women in Faith – Shelbyville 10:00 a.m./Potluck
- January 10th – MUMC Ad. Council – 6:00 p.m.
- January 11th – Knit, Pray & Crochet 10:00 a.m. Martin
- January 12th – Missions Meeting 11:15 a.m. Martin
- January 14th – Human Relations Day
- January 14th – Charge Conference 12:30 p.m. Shelbyville
- January 14th – Human Relations Day – Special Offering
- January 17th – Newsletter Deadline
- January 27th – Book Club – The Shack – 10:00 a.m. MUMC

2023 Charge Conference: Sunday, January 14th, 2024

- MUMC & SUMC Charge Conference 12:30 at Shelbyville
- SPRC meets with DS immediately following Charge Conference

The United Methodist Church Human Relations Day

Special Offering – May 14, 2024

Human Relations Day is one of six churchwide Special Sundays with offerings of The United Methodist Church. Human Relations Day calls United Methodists to recognize the right of all God's children in realizing their potential as human beings in relationship with one another. The special offering benefits neighborhood ministries through Community Developers, community advocacy through United Methodist Voluntary Services and work with at-risk teens through the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program.



COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

MARTIN United Methodist Church

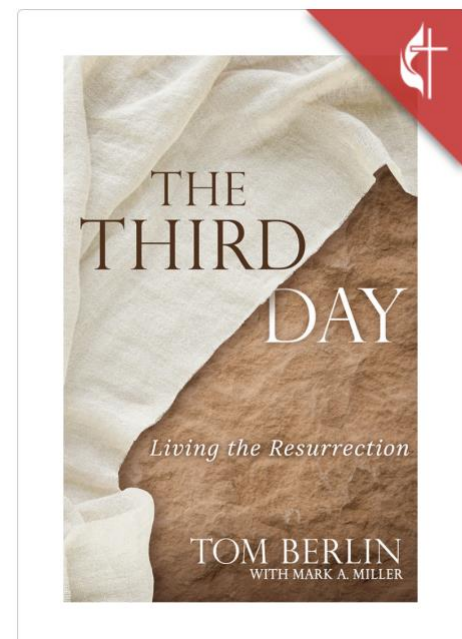
March 16, 2024

8:00 A.M. TO 10:00 A.M.

ALL DONATIONS TO MARTIN/SHELBYVILLE UMC FOOD PANTRY
969 E. ALLEGAN STREET, MARTIN, MI. 49070

WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU!!

Lenten Study



Book Club 2024

- **January Book: The Shack by William P. Young**
 - Review will be January 27th, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC
- **February Book: Room of Marvels by James Bryan Smith**
 - Review will be February 24th, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC
- **March Book: The Reason for God by Timothy Keller**
 - Review will be March 23rd, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC

All are welcome!

Invitation to Serve

Our church committees play a vital role in the smooth functioning of our church and the fulfillment of our mission. By joining a committee, you will have the opportunity to contribute to various aspects of our church's work, such as worship, outreach, fellowship, education, and more.

We have a range of committees to choose from, including:

1. **Worship Committee:** This committee helps plan and organize worship services, including coordinating special events, altar-scapes, decorating and assisting with audiovisual needs.
2. **Evangelism Committee:** This committee focuses on reaching out to the wider community, discipleship, welcoming, greeters, and more
3. **Fellowship Committee:** This committee is responsible for organizing social events, potlucks, and other activities that foster a sense of community and connection among our members.
4. **Trustees:** This committee oversees maintenance of our buildings, including the parsonage. They are responsible for all assets of the church.
5. **Missions:** This committee supports local, national and international mission projects that align with the church's values and goals. Fundraising to implement projects, volunteer coordination and much more.

These are just a few examples, and we have other committees that cater to different interests and skills. I encourage you to explore the various options and choose a committee that aligns with your passions and areas of expertise.

Serving on a committee is not only a way to give back to our church community but also an opportunity for personal growth, building relationships, and making a positive impact. I believe that your involvement will greatly enrich our committee's work and contribute to the overall well-being of our church.

If you are interested in serving on a committee or would like more information, please let me know. I would be happy to provide you with further details and answer any questions you may have.

Blessings, Pastor Maggie

Winter Weather

The office will be closed if Martin Public Schools is closed for weather.

Church activities/meetings will be cancelled if Martin and/or Wayland Public Schools are closed for weather.

Sunday morning service cancellation will be announced on WMT channel 3 and on our Facebook page.

KINGDOM BUILDERS

Pastor Maggie is looking for disciples to lead the children's sermon each month....Can you make a difference in the lives of children? See Pastor Maggie to discuss!