

# The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

## Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – Volume 2, Number 2

### “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You are Wondering:  
January 16th, 2022

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$598.17

Property: \$100.00

Local Mission: \$100.00

Human Relations Sunday: \$58.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,198.00

Food Pantry: \$100.00

Human Relations Sunday: \$60.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 29

Martin UMC: 35

In Case You are Wondering:  
January 23rd, 2022

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$973.17

Property: \$40.00

Food Pantry: \$200.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$996.00

Human Relations Sunday: \$10.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 25

Martin UMC: 30

### Help Wanted:

**Shelbyville UMC – Children’s Church Leaders and Nursery Worker’s – Please see Deb Boniface if you are interested in working in this important ministry. Sign-up sheet hanging in sanctuary.**

**Shelbyville UMC – Would you like to be a member of the trustees committee? Please see Dan Boniface if you would like to serve!**

### Are You Thinking About Lent?

Lent will be here before we know it. I thought it would be a good time to talk about what Lent is, so that we can all better prepare for it.

#### *What is Lent?*

Lent is a time of repentance, fasting, and preparation for the coming of Easter. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism.

Lent lasts for 40 days and it begins the day following Shrove Tuesday, (also known as Fat Tuesday) on Ash Wednesday. There are actually 46 days in between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday, but Sundays during Lent are not considered “prescribed” days of fasting or sacrifice.

#### *What is Ash Wednesday?*

“The distribution of ashes reminds us of our own mortality and calls us to repentance.

The ashes that we receive are a reminder of our sinfulness, and many people that receive them will leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility.

#### *Why do we give up things for Lent?*

Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something or volunteering and giving of themselves for others. The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan.”

It begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. This is when most people ask themselves “What should I give up for Lent?”

Lent is such a great time to better ourselves and spread love, goodness and kindness to others. Lent can be more than just “not eating chocolate” or “giving up soda”.

Lent is a time for service to others, reducing waste, sacrificing things that we sometimes overindulge in.

Lent is a time to think about those 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness. Lent is a time that we remember the sacrifice that Jesus made for us, giving his life so that we should live.

As you plan for Lent, be sure to stay focused on your relationship with God. Pray about what you should give up or what project God may be calling you to. Try to make it to Ash Wednesday-being part of Ash Wednesday service is a great start to this very holy time in our churches calendar.

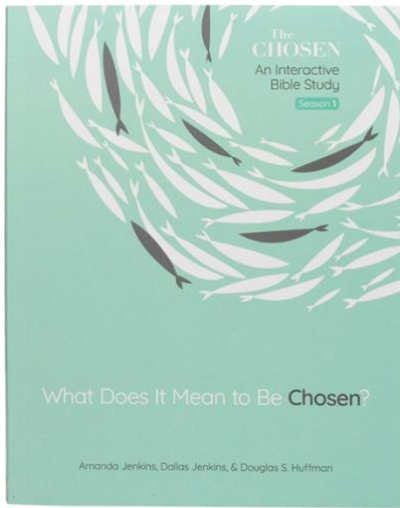
Blessings, Pastor Maggie

#### Office Hours:

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

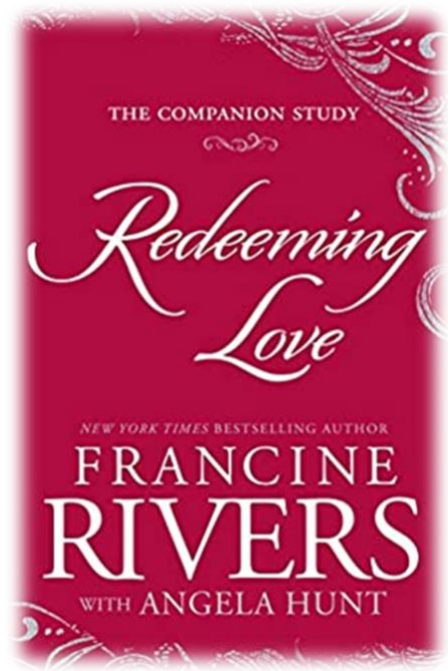
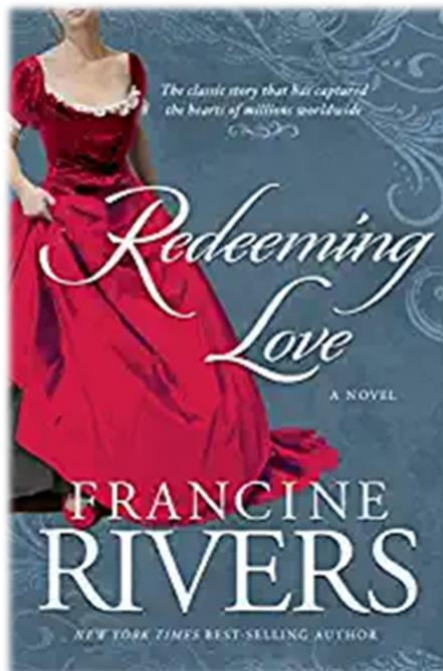
# The CHOSEN

**Men's Fellowship and Video Study  
The Chosen  
Starting Saturday, February 12th,  
2022, at 9:00 a.m.  
Martin UMC  
Please RSVP by calling or emailing  
the office.**



**Redeeming Love  
Book Study for Women  
6 weeks  
Begins February 2, 2022  
7:00 p.m.  
Via Zoom  
Book available on Amazon  
(Companion is also  
available if interested – not  
necessary)**

**Please call the church office  
or email if you are interested  
in this book study.**



## The Chosen Reviews

It's an interesting approach to telling the story of the New Testament, and one that relies on a lot of creative license.

Jan 5, 2022 | Rating: 3/5 | Full Review...



**Melissa Camacho**  
Common Sense Media

The eight-part saga offers an invigorating look at Jesus Christ and his future disciples.

Apr 18, 2020 | Rating: 3.5/4 | Full Review...



**Christian Toto**  
HollywoodInToto.com

[Dallas] Jenkins' passion and belief is admirable, both in his ability to skewer a narrative that seems so structured and in his determination to have that narrative be heard.

Apr 16, 2020 | Rating: 3/5 | Full Review...



**Peter Gray**  
The AU Review

The Chosen is must-see, even if you're not into Christian or historical programming or particularly religious. It's an extraordinarily created piece and a labor of love in motion.

Apr 15, 2020 | Rating: 4.9/5 | Full Review...



**Jasmine Blu**  
TV Fanatic

The Chosen is one of the most engaging Bible-inspired productions I've seen. Surprisingly funny and relatable, we continue watching episode after episode not because we feel obligated to support it as a dutiful Christians, but because it's compelling.

Apr 15, 2020 | Rating: 4/5 | Full Review...



**Megan Basham**  
WORLD

I highly recommend it for anyone of faith that is looking for quality storytelling.

Apr 12, 2020 | Rating: 8/10 | Full Review...



**Rachel Wagner**  
rachelreviews.net

Dallas Jenkins does a great job at putting a unique spin on a somewhat popular story, known characters and familiar 'historic' situations that many have argued to be fictional.

Apr 1, 2020 | Rating: 7.5/10 | Full Review...



**Tony Asankomah**  
GhMovieFreak

The Chosen struck gold with some key casting decisions and as a result, delivers a wholesome and enjoyable retelling of Jesus' story.

Mar 12, 2020 | Full Review...



**Mark Goodyear**  
Battle Royale With Cheese

**Due to high number of cases of COVID-19 locally we will limit face-to-face meetings – Necessary meetings will be held via Zoom whenever possible until further notice.**

**Invitation to New Beginnings  
JANUARY 31-February 6, 2022**

**Gennifer B. Brooks**

**Isaiah**

**Psalm 138**

**1 Corinthians 15:1-11**

**Luke 5:1-11**

**SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW:** The theme of calling is continued in this week's readings. Isaiah has a vision of God on the throne and is terrified because he knows that he is unworthy; yet he is being called by God. The psalmist, traditionally David, praises God for having a purpose for his life and bring it to completion. Paul echoes Isaiah's sentiments of his own unworthiness to the Corinthians. While assuring his readers of the reality of Christ's bodily resurrection, Paul recognizes that he preaches only by the grace of God. When Jesus is calling his disciples, Simon Peter recognizes him as the Lord and covers because he feels unworthy – much like the prophet Isaiah had done. These readings teach us that God's call is based not on our worthiness but on our willingness.

*Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022*

**Pastor Maggie's Message  
Sunday, February 6, 2022  
"Hold Firmly"**

**Pastor Maggie's Message  
Sunday, February 13, 2022  
"The First Fruits"**

**Pastor Maggie's Message  
Sunday, February 20th, 2022  
"Raised in Glory"**

**Pastor Maggie's Message  
Sunday, February 27th, 2022  
"Seeing the Glory"**

**The Connection - next issue  
announcements/articles/ testimonies are  
due February 9th, 2022. Email to:  
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com**

**Trust the Paradox  
FEBRUARY 7-13, 2022  
BRANDAN ROBERTSON**

**Jeremiah 17:5-10**

**Psalm 1**

**1 Corinthians 15:12-20**

**Luke 6:17-26**

**SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW:** God wants us to be rooted firmly in our faith. Jeremiah contrasts those who put their trust in themselves with those who trust in God. The latter are like healthy trees with deep roots and a constant water supply, never in danger of drying up or dying. The psalmist uses the same image to describe those who meditate on God's teachings. Thus, as you do these daily readings and reflect on them, you are sinking deep roots into fertile soil. Agricultural imagery is continued in Paul's letter. Paul describes Jesus Christ risen in the flesh as the first fruit, meaning that he is the first of many who will be resurrected. In Luke's version of the Beatitudes, worldly success is not necessarily an indication of God's blessing.

*Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022*

**Becoming the Body of Christ  
FEBRUARY 14-20, 2022**

**KATHY KHANG**

**Genesis 45:3-11, 15**

**Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40**

**1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50**

**Luke 6:27-38**

**SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW:** Joseph had experienced betrayal by his brothers and then had been sold into slavery. At the time, he no doubt felt abandoned by God. However, after God raises up Joseph in Egypt, Joseph is able to provide for his family in a time of drought. Although others have acted with evil intentions, God uses those actions for good. The psalmist offers a similar encouragement. We struggle in the real challenges that face us, but we believe in a God who can carry us through them. In First Corinthians, Paul explains that God carries us even through death to resurrection glory on the other side. Jesus teaches us to respond to evil with mercy. Because we believe in a God who will ultimately bring justice, we do not need to serve as judge and executioner.

*Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022*

Women's Fellowship -  
February 19, 2022  
10:00 a.m. at Shelbyville UMC  
Coffee Cup Craft  
Hosted by Jessica Cole and Kameo Halford



Materials  
provided.  
Refresh-  
ments will  
be served!  
Invite a  
friend!

Did you know you can give thru  
our website? Go to  
[martinumc.org](http://martinumc.org) or  
[shelbyvilleumc.org](http://shelbyvilleumc.org) for more  
information.

### **Important Dates**

February 2nd – 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Study Via Zoom  
February 6th – Holy Communion  
February 9th - 10:00 a.m. UMW meeting – at Shelbyville – Sack Lunch  
February 9– 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Study Via Zoom  
February 12<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin  
February 14 – Valentine's Day  
February 16 – 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Study Via Zoom  
February 19 – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin  
February 19 – Ladies Fellowship – 10:00 a.m. at Shelbyville  
February 23 – 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Study Via Zoom  
February 26 – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin  
March 2 – Ash Wednesday Joint Service – Martin, 7:00 p.m.  
March 19 – Ladies Fellowship – 10:00 a.m. at Shelbyville

### **2022 Offering Envelopes at MUMC**

We are no longer ordering the  
customized envelopes - If you would  
like envelopes for this year, please  
contact Crystal and let her know how  
you would like to give:  
Weekly (52 envelopes), Bi-weekly  
(26 envelopes) or  
Monthly (12 envelopes).

### **Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection February - Cereal**

Please place items in the container and they  
will be transported to the pantry.

### **Martin UMC Food Pantry Collection February – Cereal**

Please place items in the grocery cart  
outside of fellowship hall.

**Confidential Pastor Email - [umcpastormaggs@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastormaggs@gmail.com)**

**Bulletin announcements are due each week on Tuesday! Email to:  
[martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com)**

## Prayer Concerns:

Email [martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com) to update or to add!

Updated: January 25, 2022

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer Treatment
- Aerial Fox - Young woman diagnosed with lymphoma - Heart Surgery
- Orie Perry - Cancer
- Megan Rose - Cancer/Covid
- Linda Kay Perry - Loss of vision
- Rose Oglesbee - Vision
- Worship musicians for Martin UMC
- Jessie Rasnake - Cancer
- Helene Genther-Todd - Health
- Shirley Vanderploeg - Cancer
- Patti Jarvis - Knee
- Joyce McAllister - Health
- Stacy Knorr - Cancer
- Carol LaDuke - Heart Problems
- Marion Meyers - Continued healing
- Pearl Shook - healing of spots of cancer on her lip
- Sandy Meyers - Cancer
- Baby Margaret - Continued Healing
- The Family of Elaine Banks - Elaine passed away
- Heather Foreman - job opportunity
- Betty Farmer - Healing from fall
- Sherlene Junker - Health - hospice care
- Dodie-Recovering from a car accident
- Houston UMC - COVID in congregation
- Edna Chene - 2 broken legs - pray for healing
- Pat Kimmel - Healing - Answers
- The family of Dave Sumner - Dave passed away January 18, 2022
- Jeanne Cunningham - Carotid Artery Surgery
- Hope Wasnell - Cancer
- On line ministry

## Sunday School for All Ages at Martin UMC

Every Sunday we have Sunday school for kids and adults.

Sunday School Begins at 11:00 a.m.



### The Lenten Season in 2022

Ash Wednesday: March 2, 2022

Palm Sunday: April 10, 2022

Maundy Thursday: April 14, 2022

Good Friday: April 15, 2022

Easter Sunday: April 17, 2022

### MUMC Cross Wall

Would you like to donate a cross for this wall? Please feel free to drop it off in the office.



## Tending to the Souls of Our Youth

Why is it so important for us to have strong, effective, and healthy ministries that focus on our children and our youth?

We have much to think about if we truly want to build our children and youth ministries.

I know sometimes we think...."kids don't really need that much attention". Why should we focus so many resources on kids? We should focus on other things. Kids come with their parents anyway....right?

I know it's easy to think this way, but the reality is that a church without children is terminally ill. Children really are the future.

When a family comes into our churches the most important thing to them is what do they have for our children? Will our children like it here? The needs of the parents are important as well, but what will keep these families coming back is how we love their children...how we educate their children...how we interact with their children.

Building programming for children is not just about keeping families coming. It is biblical. It's our job to build a church where our children are learning and growing. Here's what the Bible tells us:

#1 - Jesus has promised that you will not lose your reward when you serve children. "And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded." Matthew 10:42

#2 - Children's ministry matters to Jesus. "But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who are like these children." Matthew 19:14

#3 The majority of people who come to Christ, do so when they are children. "If anyone causes one of these little ones-those who BELIEVE in me to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea." Mark 9:42

#4 - Jesus will bless the church that makes children's ministry a top priority. "Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me." Mark 9:37

#5 - When you reach a child, they can serve Jesus for a lifetime. "You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus." 2 Timothy 3:15

#6 - Children are a gift from God. "Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from Him." Psalm 127:3

#7 - Children need our guidance. "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

#8 - We are commanded to bring up children in the ways of the Lord. "Do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

We have got to remember - Jesus loves the little children. All the children of the world. Red and yellow, black, and white, they are precious in His site...Jesus loves the little children of the world.

When we love and teach our children it is as if we are traveling forward through time. Our voices, our message, the word of God will be shared and heard long after we are gone. Children will continue to live and spread the message of hope that we have shared with them.

Children are the greatest mission field. Each one of them is so important. We need to give them the attention that they deserve. We need to offer excellent programming no matter if we have one child or 100 in our classrooms.

The greatest thing, the most important thing that we can do is tend to the souls of children.

Pastor Maggie