

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

March 25th, 2022 – Volume 2, Number 6

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You are Wondering:
March 13th, 2022

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$436.17
Property: \$50
Local Mission: \$50

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,648.96
Memorial Fund: \$1,040

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship - 21

Martin UMC:

Worship - 26
Sunday School - 5

In Case You are Wondering:
March 20, 2022

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$559.17
Food Pantry: \$200

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,239
Food Pantry: \$2,550

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 18

Martin UMC:

Worship: 28
Sunday School: 5

**Men's Fellowship and
Video Study
The Chosen**
Join us on Saturday,
March 26th 2022, April
2nd, & April 9th at
9:00 a.m.
Martin UMC

Almsgiving, Tithing, Offering

During Lent we think about giving up something, sacrificing something as a Lenten practice.

What about giving? Not just giving up. Lenten practice's fall into three parts: prayer, penance, and that care for others we call charity, or almsgiving.

People ask the question of Christians all thru Lent, "What have you given up?" No one has ever asked me the question "Who are you giving to during Lent?" I think it's because we don't focus on giving or "almsgiving" during Lent. So I decided to take the plunge and talk about giving in general. Giving, offering, tithing...yep...tough subject.

This Lenten season I would like you to ask yourself, "what kind of giver am I?" Here's a few different types of givers that come to mind:

1. **Tipppers** - Just as you only tip a server at a restaurant when you visit that restaurant, tipppers are only give when they attend church. Their income doesn't drive their giving to the church as much as their attendance at church drives it.
2. **Consistent Givers** - Consistent givers give regularly and in a disciplined manner. They may set up recurring giving online or give each time they receive a paycheck. They may be giving a percent of their income with the hope to increase that over time, as their incomes increase. Effective and significant ministries are built through regular and disciplined giving.
3. **Church Tithers** - Those who consistently and regularly give ten percent of their income to the church they attend. Those who watch over the finances of the church know that even though 83% of people believe tithing is a biblical command, not nearly as many practice what they say is a mandate from God.
4. **Above 10% Givers** - While they believe "tithing" can be a helpful starting point, they are committed to giving as generously as possible because of Christ's generosity to them. They excel in the grace of giving because their hearts have been overwhelmed with Christ's generosity.

I would ask that you take some time this Lenten season and think about the kind of giver that you are. Please be sure that you pray about it, talk it over with God. If you are where you are comfortable, that's great. If you are not, I hope that you will consider adjusting your giving. Giving is such an important part of being a Christian. Giving absolutely affects our relationship with God.

I am planning to talk a little more about that in the weeks to come. Start thinking about....Lent is the perfect time.

Blessings,

Pastor Maggie

Office Hours:

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

The Lenten Season in 2022

Palm Sunday: April 10, 2022

Maundy Thursday: April 14, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. at Shelbyville UMC (joint service)

Good Friday: April 15, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. at Martin UMC (joint service)

Easter Sunrise: April 17, 2022 – 7:00 a.m. at Martin UMC (joint service)

Easter Sunday: April 17, 2022



2021 Martin Little League



Thank you to all who contributed for the Martin Rec Team Sponsorship! We will have a Martin & Shelbyville United Methodist Church Team!!

Thank you to: Patsy Hoekstra, the Hilsbos Family, Pat Holland, Deb & Dan Boniface, Ed & Sharon Buys, Amy Boniface, Jeff Anderson, Shirley & Dale Noteboom, Jill Anderson and one person who would like to remain anonymous!

If you have not yet turned in money, cash or check to MUMC please!

Thanks for supporting our community!

Annual Lenten Breakfast Otsego UMC

April 13, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.

Must RSVP by April 11, 2022 (if you let Crystal know she will be happy to call it in for us.)

Invitation: Hallelujah! The United Methodist Women of Otsego invite the ladies of our churches and community for their Annual Lenten Breakfast. They will be serving breakfast casseroles, with a variety of flavors including gluten free and vegetarian.

Programming will feature Donna Church sharing Quilt Stories.

Women's Fellowship -
April 9th

10:30 a.m. at Martin UMC
Fellowship-Games-Fun
Refreshments will be served!

Invite a friend!

Hosted by Crystal and Pastor Maggie

The CHOSEN

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection

April – Cleaning Supplies

Dish soap, toilet cleaner, Awesome, Cleanser, Lysol, cleanser, etc.

In March we did not get a lot of response for the cleaning products....so we are making another plea for those types of products.

Shelbyville - please place items in the container and they will be transported to the pantry.

Martin – please place the items in the shopping cart outside of fellowship hall.

Coming Soon! Thursday Morning "The Chosen"

We will begin showing The Chosen on Thursday mornings at Martin UMC – all are welcome to attend.

Episode will start promptly at 9:30 a.m.
Location will depend on the number of people that are interested in viewing.

Thursday, April 14th we will begin with episode 1 – please let the church office know if you are interested in participating!

Confidential Pastor Email - umcpastormaggs@gmail.com

Looking Back, Going Forward
MARCH 28–APRIL 3, 2022
K. CHERIE JONES
Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm 126
Philippians 3:4b-14
John 12:1-8

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: The Isaiah text portrays the redemptive activity of God that is about to be introduced into Israel's life. All paradigms lie shattered before the immensity of God's grace! The joy of Psalm 126 is occasioned by the memory of God's act of redemption in the past and also by the anticipation that a similar intervention is imminent. Paul's autobiographical sketch directed to the Philippians confesses the change that has come into his life as a result of "knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." The story of Mary's anointing of Jesus' feet must be read in the context of Jesus' looming passion. Jesus sets Mary's actions in their proper perspective by linking them to his own death, even as he deflects Judas's counterfeit compassion.

Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022

Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, March 27, 2022
"Lost and Found"

Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, April 3rd, 2022
"Filled With Fragrance"

Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, April 10th, 2022
"The Lord Needs It"

Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, April 14, 2022
"Holy Thursday"

The Connection - next issue
announcements/articles/ testimonies are
due April 6th, 2022. Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

The Shape of Discipleship
APRIL 4–10, 2022
MARK W. STAMM
Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:28-40
Luke 22:14-23:56

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Psalm 118 is a song of rejoicing, yet it also includes the prophecy that the cornerstone must experience rejection. Isaiah speaks of physical suffering, of being beaten, disgraced, and spat on. We see elements of this in the Gospel reading, where Luke describes the final moments of Jesus' life. Bloodied and beaten, Jesus hangs on the cross and breathes his last. In Philippians, Paul places this drama within the eternal narrative of God's redeeming work. Jesus leaves his rightful place and becomes flesh. He experiences pain and suffering, even the most humiliating form of death, crucifixion. Jesus can empathize with our suffering because he has suffered. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022

Walk in Jerusalem, Just Like John
APRIL 11–17, 2022
STEVE HARPER
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (UMH 839)
Acts 10:34-43
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
Luke 24:1-12
John 20:1-18

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: The readings for Holy Week focus our attention on the sacrifice made by the Messiah. The prophecies in Isaiah speak of it. Psalm 22 tells of confidence in God even in the midst of betrayal and suffering like that experienced by Jesus. In First Corinthians Paul describes crucifixion as the center of our teaching as Christians. We follow these events through the eyes of the Gospel writer John. Jesus foreshadows his death in multiple ways, but even his closest followers struggle to understand and accept its meaning. Why would the Son of God experience such alienation and suffering? It is all for us, the ultimate work of love. But then he conquers the grave! Praise be to God!

Taken from: The Upper Room Disciplines 2022

Spring and Summer Women's Book Club

April/May 2022 – Meeting will be: 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 14, 2022 in person or 6:00 p.m. Thursday, May 12, 2022 - Zoom

Pray Confidently and Consistently: Finally Let Go of the Things Holding You Back from Your Most Important Conversation

Author: Valerie Woerner

A vibrant, unstuck prayer life can begin for you right now.

*Why is it so difficult to pray without getting distracted?
Why don't I have this figured out by now?*

Pray Confidently and Consistently is for all of us who ask these questions and yearn for more. Join author and prayer journal creator Valerie Woerner in learning to pray boldly to the God of the universe who is beckoning us to come sit with him, share our hearts and needs, and simply know him.

Living in close communication with our Father has the power to transform even the most difficult moments of our lives. What weights do we need to throw off so they don't hold us back from a deeper connection with God? What distractions are keeping us from running freely with him?

When we release the burdens suffocating our prayer lives and leaving us gasping for Jesus, we can finally experience the truth that prayer changes everything.



May/June 2022 – Meeting will be: 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 18, 2022 in person or 6:00 p.m. Thursday, June 16, 2022 - Zoom

The Well-Watered Woman: Rooted in Truth, Growing in Grace, Flourishing in Faith.

Author: Gretchen Saffles

Discover the bottomless, refreshing Well of God's Word—and experience a fullness and peace beyond your circumstances. In the chaos of our everyday, it can be difficult to live out and apply the truths of Scripture. We want more of Jesus, but we find ourselves looking to our own lives and accomplishments for our worth and identity. And while that may buoy us for a time, we're often left feeling dried up, discouraged, and longing for more.

Gretchen Saffles knows what it's like to feel overwhelmed and unable to flourish. In *The Well-Watered Woman*, Gretchen leads us to the Well of fullness, the Word of freedom, and the Way of fruitfulness. She teaches that God's Word will satisfy us for all eternity.

Using Scripture and her own personal story of surrender, Gretchen offers spiritually hungry women tangible tools to not only know Jesus more but to live a life that thoroughly enjoys Him, seeks Him, and follows Him into freedom.



June/July 2022 – Meeting will be: 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 23, 2022 in person or 6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 21, 2022 - Zoom

A Lineage of Grace: Biblical Stories of 5 Women in the Lineage of

Author: Francine Rivers

The Bible is filled with inspiring stories of unlikely candidates God chose to change eternity. This bestselling compilation in one volume contains five novellas about such people—women in the family tree of Jesus Christ.

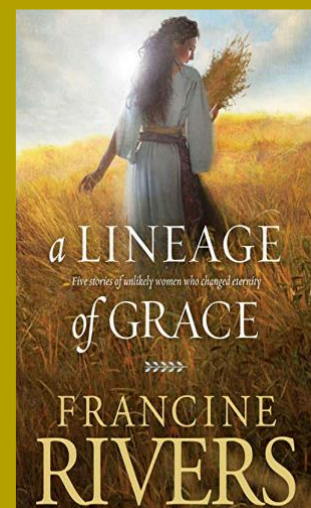
Tamar. Rahab. Ruth.

Each was faced with extraordinary—even scandalous—challenges. But they had courage. They lived daring lives. Sometimes they made mistakes—big mistakes. And yet God, in His infinite mercy, used them to bring forth the Christ, the Savior of the world. Their stories still hold great meaning and inspiration for us today.

Tamar risked her life and her reputation to be the woman she was called to be. See how God uses our circumstances and our steps toward Him, however faltering, to fulfill His plan.

Rahab was exploited by men who saw only her beauty, yet she held fast to her faith in God and was rewarded. Discover how God seeks and finds those whose hearts are tender toward Him, no matter how far away they are.

Ruth's loyalty, especially toward her mother-in-law Naomi, helped her to persevere in the face of tragedy, and God gave her a second chance at love. Be encouraged that God will provide even when all hope seems lost.



July/August 2022 – Meeting will be: 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 27, 2022 in person or 6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 25, 2022 - Zoom

A Lineage of Grace: Biblical Stories of 5 Women in the Lineage of

Author: Francine Rivers

The Bible is filled with inspiring stories of unlikely candidates God chose to change eternity. This bestselling compilation in one volume contains five novellas about such people—women in the family tree of Jesus Christ.

Bathsheba. Mary.

Each was faced with extraordinary—even scandalous—challenges. But they had courage. They lived daring lives. Sometimes they made mistakes—big mistakes. And yet God, in His infinite mercy, used them to bring forth the Christ, the Savior of the world. Their stories still hold great meaning and inspiration for us today.

Bathsheba's scandalous affair with David did not end in one night. Learn that God is willing to restore those lost in the depths of despair who call out to Him.

Mary is one of the most revered women in history. But first, she was an ordinary woman striving to please God in the same way that women still do today. When God spoke, Mary responded in obedience which changed the world forever.

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

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.

Important Dates

March 27 – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin

April 2 – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin

April 6th – 6:00 p.m. SUMC Ad Council

April 9th – 9:00 a.m. Men's Video Study – The Chosen – at Martin

April 9th – 10:30 a.m. Women's Fellowship - Martin

April 10th – Palm Sunday

April 13th – 9:30 a.m. Otsego UMW Annual Lenten Breakfast – Otsego UMC

April 13 – 6:00 p.m. MUMC Ad Council

April 14 – Holy Thursday - 7:00 p.m. at Shelbyville

April 15 – Good Friday Service - 7:00 p.m. at Martin

April 17 – Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. at Martin

April 17 – Easter Breakfast – 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Martin

April 17 – Easter Service – 9:30 a.m. – Martin

April 17 – Easter Service – 11:00 a.m. – Shelbyville

May 4th – 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Christian Neighbors Soup Supper Martin UMC.

MY 7th – 9:00 a.m. Vendor/Craft Show and Lunch – Martin UMC Fellowship Hall

Prayer Concerns:

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

Updated: March 24, 2022

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer
- Orie Perry - Cancer - Hospice Care
- Megan Rose - Cancer
- Jessie Rasnake - Cancer
- Worship musicians for Martin UMC
- Shirley Vanderploeg - Cancer
- Stacy Knorr - Cancer
- Sandy Meyers - Cancer
- Hope Wassenaar - Cancer
- Terry Chlebana - Cancer
- Sue Arnsman - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Edna Chene - 2 broken legs - pray for healing
- Pat Kimmel - Healing - Answers - Broken Hip
- On line ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery
- Lexi Cronen - Broken hip-improving!
- Jason Sherry - healing/health
- Agnes Chlebana - Healing-recovering from a fall
- Amber Stephens - Brain Tumor
- Zoe Allen - Recovering from broken leg
- Cheryl Teinstra - Health/Cancer
- Ann & Trudy Wells - Both receiving Hospice Care
- Ron Hazel - Kidney Issues
- Laura Sileeka - Head injury
- Family of Orie Perry - Orie passed away recently
- Family of Diane Noble - Diane passed away recently
- Fred Slager - Kidney issues
- Family of Jim Fram - Jim passed away recently
- Drew Rickert - Health
- Dan Boniface - Health
- Brenda Pierce - Healing - Broken Foot
- David Pierce - Heart Care
- Nancy Portice - Eye Surgery
- Dick Woodruff - Blood Clots
- Allegra Hibma - Health
- Trace Buskirk - Covid
- Keverly Dyson - Safety - Working in Ukraine with Samaritans Purse
- People of Ukraine

Spring is coming!! Martin UMC will be doing Spring Clean Up soon! Would you like to help out with \$\$\$ for flowers and freshening up the woodchips?

Please write a check or put cash in an envelope and note Spring Clean Up!

Bulletin announcements are due each week on Tuesday! Email to: martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

Summer Camp Information

MUMC has scholarship funds available - Please contact the church office for the necessary forms.

Amount of each scholarship is dependent on the number of children that sign up (typically MUMC pays up to half).

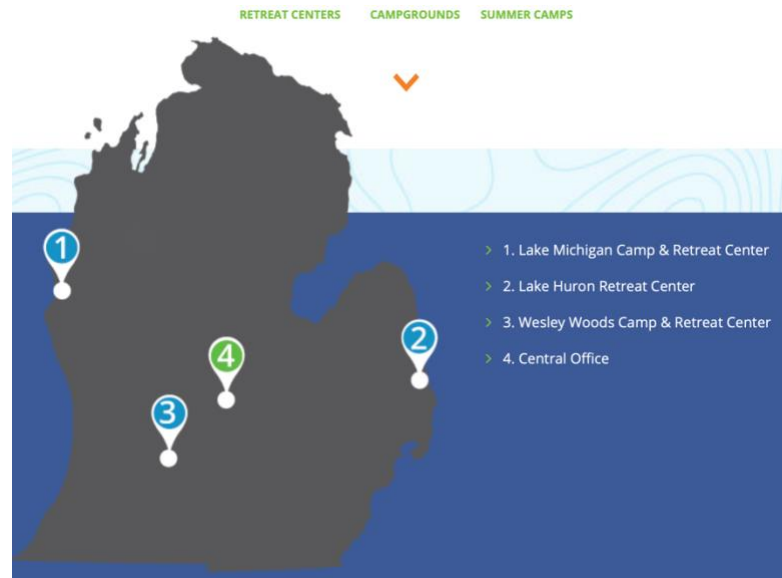
5th graders receive full scholarship.

If you have questions, please contact Melinda Tison.

SUMC has scholarship funds available - Please pick up the camp information and forms just inside the entryway at SUMC.

Amount of each scholarship is dependent on the number of children that sign up. If you have questions, please contact Deb Boniface.

umccamping.org



son-lifecamp.org

