

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

June 17th, 2022 – Volume 2, Number 12

“Open Hearts,
Open Minds,
Open Doors.”

In Case You are Wondering:
June 5th, 2022

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$531.17

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,085

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship - 43

Martin UMC:

Worship - 27

In Case You are Wondering:
June 12th, 2022

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,059

Food Pantry: \$200

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$880

Building Fund: \$20

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 31

Martin UMC:

Worship: 35

Food Truck Party – Vacation Bible School

What a blessing this week has been! Vacation Bible School has been so great! I am so thankful that God made a way for us to have Vacation Bible School this summer. I am thankful to the Oetman's for the fund that they left for us to be used for Christian Education! I am thankful for each one of you that took the time to help this week. Even if it was just for a few minutes, you made a difference in the lives of these children. The cooperation of both churches to make this event happen is remarkable!

VBS is a valuable opportunity to connect with the kids in our churches, and a great opportunity to connect with kids and families that are living in our community.

Many people may wonder what the purpose of Vacation Bible School is and if it's still relevant. The answer is simple: YES! The purpose of VBS is to minister to children in the church, create outreach into our communities, and to create evangelism opportunities.

VBS creates memories that help lock Bible truths in a child's heart and mind for a lifetime. Birthday parties and other special events have themes that use creativity to excite children and to make it memorable. Games, food, decorations, and fun all link together in a total package. VBS does the same thing. When we connect with kids through this ministry, the biblical truths that are spread through all areas of VBS connect with their hearts and minds.

The Bible stories that are built into the curriculum lay a foundation that help kids understand who Jesus is and why they need a personal Savior. The relationships that we are developing with these kids and their families can provide many opportunities to not only show the love of Jesus, but to share the gospel.

As a child I LOVED VBS! It was one of the best things about summer. I have such fond memories of those days playing and learning about God. I think about VBS often. I know that VBS was a large piece of the foundation that I am standing on as a Christian.

I just want to say that God is Great! God is Good! Thank you to all that have helped make this a wonderful, successful, and amazing Vacation Bible School!

Blessings,

Pastor Maggie

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

Office Hours:

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

SAVE THE DATE

Shelbyville UMC Community Picnic

July 24, 2022

All are welcome!

Please plan to come!

Details soon!

*Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, June 19th, 2022
"FOOD TRUCK VBS SUNDAY"*

*Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, June 26th, 2022
"Brought Home in Spirit"*

*Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, July 3rd, 2022
"Wash and Be Clean"*

*Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, July 10th, 2022
"What Do You See?"*

*Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, July 17th, 2022
"Living in a Better Day"*

*The Connection - next issue
announcements/articles/ testimonies are
due June 2nd, 2022. Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com*

Next Book - Women's Book Club

Who would like to go to the game? Would someone be willing to be the point person and organize? Pastor Maggie thinks this would be a great afternoon with friends and family!!! Please let Pastor Maggie know if you are willing to coordinate!



PURCHASE ONLINE AT
GROWLERTICKETS.COM
PROMO CODE: UMC
OR SCAN THE QR CODE.

UNITED METHODISTS DAY

HOMER STRYKER FIELD
SUNDAY, JULY 31ST
FIRST PITCH | 1:35PM

TICKET + HAT

\$10

INCLUDES A RESERVED
BLEACHER SEAT AND A
GROWLERS HAT

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

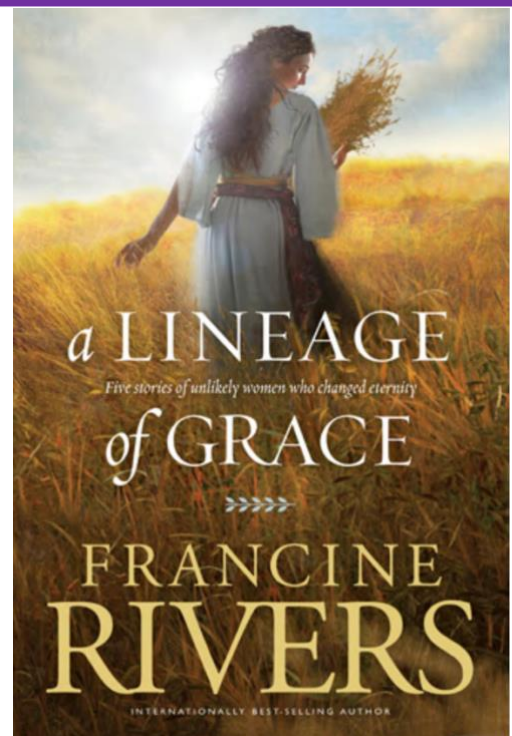
\$20

INCLUDES A RESERVED
BLEACHER SEAT AND AN ALL
INCLUSIVE BALLPARK BUFFET
FOR 4 INNINGS

TICKETS AND
INFORMATION

JUSTIN ZELDES- 269.492.7410
JUSTIN@GROWLERSBASEBALL.COM

All sales are final. No exchanges or refunds. All persons 3 years of age or older require their own ticket.



Sunday School at Martin UMC will be suspended from Memorial Day to Labor Day!

May 22, 2022 will be the last week that Sunday School meets until end of Summer. Sunday school will resume September 11, 2022

Martin UMC – Please consider additional gifts to the MUMC building fund. Some areas of the church are forecasted to need significant update/repair in the near future. Thank you! MUMC Trustees

Important Dates

June 18 – Community Breakfast – MUMC Fellowship Hall – 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
June 18th – Well Watered Woman Book Study – Martin.- 11:00 a.m.
June 19 – Father's Day
June 19 – Last sermon for Bill Bill's before retirement - University UMC – 10:00 a.m.
Card Writer – June 19, 2022 – Anita Rambadt
Card Writer – June 26 – Danelle Wheeler
June 29 – SPRC Meeting – 6:00 p.m. – Shelbyville (tentative)
July 6 – Shelbyville Ad Council 6:00 p.m.
July 13th –Martin - Ad Council 6:30 p.m.
July 13 – United Women in Faith – Shelbyville – 10:00 a.m./Potluck
July 16 – Women's Fellowship – Pendant Making – 10:00 a.m. Hosted by Carolyn Buskirk
July 16th – Martin Hometown Days
July 23rd – Women's Book Study – Lineage of Grace, Novella 1, 2 and 3 Martin – 10:00 a.m.
July 24 – Shelbyville UMC Community Picnic
July 24 – July 29 – Pastor Maggie Licensing School

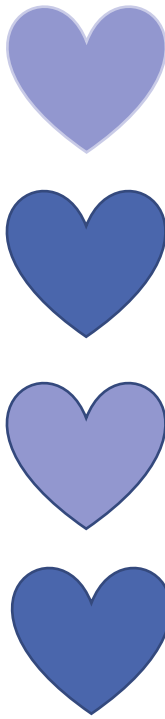
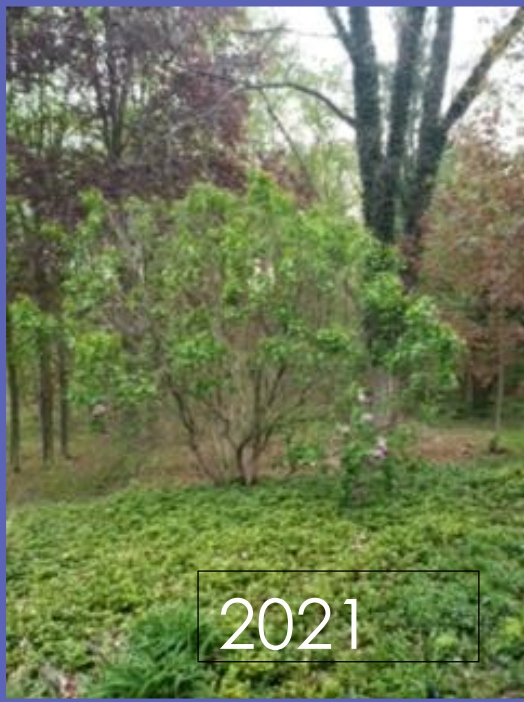
Prayer Concerns:

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

Updated: June 15th, 2022

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer
- Megan Rose - Cancer
- Jessie Rasnake - Cancer
- Worship musicians for Martin UMC
- Shirley Vanderploeg - Cancer
- Stacy Knorr - Cancer
- Sandy Meyers - Cancer
- Sue Arnsman - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Mary Lou Boyle - Cancer
- On line ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery
- Jason Sherry - healing/health
- People of Ukraine
- All families affected by the mass shootings
- Dick Boyle - Strength
- Jodie Mendham - Treatment - Recovery
- Rick Vanek - Health
- Jenna Reinhold - Broken Back - Recovering from car accident
- Jerry Curry - Fall and Covid
- Mike McCarty - Recovering from Surgery
- Nancy Nicolai - healing
- Family of Juanita Cole - Juanita passed away June 19, 2022
- Amanda Rozema - Comfort - grieving the loss of her husband
- Tom (Lue's nephew)- Anxiety, fear, not leaving home
- Jeff Anderson - Melanoma
- Family of Lisa Sanchez - Lisa passed away on May 23, 2022
- Pat & Warren Kimmel
- Nancy Portice Son and Family - Recovering from Covid
- Raymond Hanna - Heart
- Family of Ronald - Ronald passed away May 28, 2022
- Mary VanAntwerp - Replaced hip - screws broke thru femur-recovering from additional surgery.

**Food Pantry – Month of June
Personal Hygiene Items
Shampoo, soap, deodorant,
conditioner, razors, lotion,
women's needs – pads/tampons,
etc.**



A Testimony – Amy Mouw

The lilac tree behind our house... last year vs this May.

Since we've moved in, when it's nice out and the mosquitos are not thick enough to carry me away, I've spent many nights outside pulling weeds and trying to free the trees and bushes from the vines so they can grow. It's almost been a compulsion, and there were several nights of Dave and Marissa coming outside to tell me... "it's time to go inside!" A little backwards if you ask me, I remember my mom always fighting with us kids to get inside. Anyway, I just can't seem to free the trees from bondage fast enough, there is just so much overgrowth here, and I see so much of it around. But I still pick away at it little by little when I can.

This morning, I caught a glimpse of the lilac tree, and had to look again. I couldn't believe I was looking at the same tree that only had a few little blossoms last spring. When I first realized she was a lilac, more than half of her was being choked out by vines and weeds. I probably spent 2 or 3 weeks pulling the creeping Charlie off her, out from underneath, untangled, and yanked as many of those darn roots out of the ground as I could. I know that had climbed up in the base of this little tree to trim what I could reach (now that must have been a sight lol). I cut a lot off and I remember thinking, man I hope that wasn't too much or the wrong time of year. Well, apparently I did a good job, because she is finally full of fragrant blossoms as it should be.

But as I was thinking about this tree and all the trees around here that we've been working at freeing from the vines this morning, I felt this soft voice tell me... "you are like the tree, my beloved, see how you have bloomed".

I've been tirelessly working at freeing the trees from the weeds just like God has been tirelessly working from freeing me from the bonds of sin. Once I cut all the weeds from my life (turned from the path I chose for myself and sought out God's will for me/cut ties with toxic people, dropped bad habits/added good habits/spent more time in the word etc.) I was clearing the way for God to do His work in my life.

Where the vines and weeds (my will) were once blocking God's plans and blessings because I was trying to do it my way... they were essentially choking out my life like these vines around my little tree. Clearing them away gave the tree room to breath and grow, just like seeking out God's will and timing has cleared the way for God to pour out His blessings on my life.

I am so thankful God is the great gardener and loves me enough to continually work on helping me cut my weeds away so I can bloom.

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful." John 15:1-2

Two Ministry Opportunities

I would like to tell you about two ministries that are very important. I am hoping that you will feel led to help out with either one or both of these opportunities. If you can help, I would really appreciate it! Blessings, Pastor Maggie



Journeying through Grief

A set of four short, easy-to-read books that offer words of comfort and hope to those grieving the loss of a loved one. Individuals and organizations send each of the *Journeying through Grief* books to grieving people at specific, crucial times during that first year after a loved one dies. Each book focuses on what the person is likely to be experiencing at that time and provides care, assurance, encouragement, and hope.

Journeying through Grief is a simple yet powerful way to extend care again and again during that difficult first year.

Although the books are designed to help those in the first year of grief, people whose loss was more than a year ago have also found them extremely helpful.

In the past year I have sent out about 15 sets of these books and had such wonderful feed back. More than half of the people that have read them have made contact with me saying how much they appreciated them, but more than that how helpful these books have been at this time in their lives.

These books are so amazing! I am looking for 10 people that would be willing to pledge \$50. This would allow us to purchase 50 sets to have on hand to send to people that are suffering from a lost. These books are mailed out over a course of one year and give us an opportunity to reach out and let someone know that they are Loved by God and they are loved by us. Please let me know if you would like to be one of the 10 to help with this ministry.

NLT Recovery Bible (Second Edition)

Tyndale's *Life Recovery Bible* is the #1-selling recovery Bible with over 3 million copies in print. This Bible for addiction points to God himself as the primary source of recovery with essential tools and features that help free people from the grip of addiction. It is widely used in tangent with the 12 Step recovery programs, in correctional facilities, and by individuals seeking help taking their life back from behaviors and substances that have held them captive.

In the past 6 months I have sent out or given 4 of these Bibles to people that have entered rehab or that are battling active addiction – trying to get sober. I could have given out more if they had been available.

If you would like to help with the ministry please purchase one or more of these Bibles. You can find them on Amazon or from many other Bible/Book sellers. Please get the NLT/Second Edition. Prices range from \$22 to \$30. Let's face it - All addicts have a sober date....some are the dates on their headstone (let's be proactive and help to avoid death due to addiction). This is such an important ministry!

