

# The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

## Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

July 13, 2021 – Volume 1, Number 21

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

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#### In Case You are Wondering:

July 11, 2021

##### Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection \$1,122.17

Property: \$150

Local Missions: \$35

Martin UMC:

General Collection \$1,884

Food Pantry: \$200

Memorial: \$50

##### Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 33

Martin UMC: 41

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 or you are welcome to give in person in our sanctuaries or drop your gift in the mail!

### So, we say we want to grow?

#### What's stopping us? I think the problem is the 3-P's.

It seems that there are a couple of obstacles that keep us from growing our church.... I think if we consider the 3-P's as obstacles we can better think about how do we grow, how do we renew our efforts to grow and how do we make ourselves more vibrant.

**Personalities:** We all have one...they are all different. Unfortunately, sometimes we focus too much on people's personalities rather than our purpose and we as a church suffer. I know, it's important to all get along. However, we get so caught up in soothing the sensitive, coddling the anxious and pampering the headstrong that we don't get any of our work done.

Jesus is all about relationships. He is all about being inclusive, but he never let "hurting someone's feelings" get in the way of his mission or his purpose. He irritated people along the way, and occasionally outright angered them.

**The Past:** If we sit around thinking that our best days are behind us, we are never going to accomplish anything. If we are trying to navigate the future by only looking at the past, we are in big trouble. People remember the 1950's, everybody went to church, the 70's were great...now we are even thinking the 90's were good. Well, we have just gone thru the craziest time I ever remember, and things look better to me thru the windshield instead of the rearview mirror! I am looking toward our shared future of growth, vibrance, and effective ministry!

**Probably:** If we are looking at projects or making decisions for our ministry saying things like: "Well we can try this, it shouldn't upset people", "let's take on this project, it won't challenge the budget or the keeper of the budget", "I feel like we can do this without upsetting the Ad-Council". "We better not try that...you know how so and so will react".

If we are going about the work of the church with that attitude, how can we ever create something new and fresh. If we worry about all these things instead of about co-creating a ministry with Jesus, we are missing the boat.

I am not saying go about your work and upset whoever you want. I am saying go about your work with a goal of making disciples of Jesus Christ and growing our ministry.

Let's reinvent ourselves so that our best days are yet to come! Let's dream a big dream, let's dream a dream like Jesus.

Pastor Maggie

The Compassionate Builder  
JULY 12–18, 2021  
2 Samuel 7:1-14a  
Psalm 89:20-37  
Ephesians 2:11-22  
Mark 6:30-34 and 53-56

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: David was God's anointed king over Israel. He believed God desired a house, a temple worthy of God. But God wanted David to understand that only God can build things that truly last. Thus, God promised to construct a dynasty from David's family. From this line will eventually come the ultimate King, the Messiah, who will rule God's people forever. The Messiah will complete God's work of uniting all people as children of God, and the author of Ephesians declares that this has happened through Christ. All God's people—Jew and Gentile—are now part of a holy, spiritual temple. In Mark, Jesus shows that part of being a great king is showing compassion. He puts aside his own desires to help those in need of guidance and healing.

**Thank you, thank you  
thank you!**

On Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> a group of folks got together and moved furniture for Pastor Maggie's office from the parsonage to the church. They also cleaned out the garage at the parsonage and did some trimming of the bushes!

Thank you to Gary and Arlene VonMyhr, Jessica Cole, Gordon Ash & Deb and Dan Boniface!

**Thank you to Jean Holley for the beautiful flowers that were placed on the alter at Martin UMC on Sunday, July 11, 2021!**

**Communion for  
July 2021 will be  
July 25<sup>th</sup>.**

**Pastor Maggie's Message  
Sunday, July 18th, 2021  
"He = peace"**

**July 25, 2021  
Shelbyville UMC  
Community Picnic**

**Please join us for  
outdoor worship, picnic,  
fellowship, and a very  
special time of  
dedication for our dear  
brother Bob Benedict**

Correction from Bulletins  
Confidential Pastor Email:  
[umcpastormagg@gmail.com](mailto:umcpastormagg@gmail.com)

**Bulletin & The Connection  
announcements are each  
week on Tuesday!**

**Email to:  
[martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com)**

Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection

July – Pancake Mix & Syrup

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

Martin UMC Food Pantry Collection

July – Toilet Paper

Please place items in box labeled Food Pantry in fellowship hall.

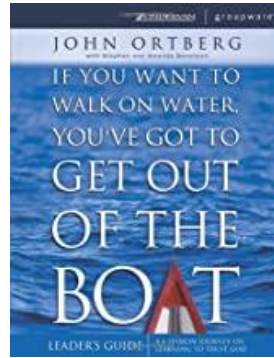
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DEVELOP/ORGANIZE A SMALL GROUP?  
 EMAIL [MARTINSHELBYVILLEUMCS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MARTINSHELBYVILLEUMCS@GMAIL.COM)  
 WITH YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS!

**2021 Schedule UMW**

Meetings take place at Shelbyville UMC

- June 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- July 14 Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- Aug. 11 Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- Aug. 19 & 20 Basement Sale
- Sept. 8 Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- Oct. 13 Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- Nov. 10 Meeting 10:00 a.m. to noon Potluck Lunch
- Dec. 8 Cookie Plates, 1:00pm (No Potluck)

**Women's Summer Book Club**



August Book!  
 Order yours today!  
 August book review will be on August 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Martin UMC

**ALLEGAN COUNTY FAIR**  
 September 10-18th, 2021

**LIVE IN CONCERT**  
 THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 16TH AT 7:00 PM

**CASTING CROWNS**

**CROWDER**

**PHIL WICKHAM**

ON SALE JUNE 24TH AT 10AM

\*Includes fair admission if purchased prior to August 15th. Does not include parking.

To Purchase Tickets Go To  
 Allegan County Fair etix Box Office  
[www.allegancountyfair.com](http://www.allegancountyfair.com) [www.etix.com](http://www.etix.com)  
 or Call 888-673-6501

**Your Testimony Is Powerful!! Would you be willing to share your testimony here in our newsletter?**

Acts 4:33 The apostles gave powerful testimonies about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great measures of grace rested upon them all.

Email [martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com) to get on the newsletter testimony schedule!

**TESTIMONY**

Why Testify? Why share your testimony? There are many reasons. I am going to share a few that in my opinion are very important.

- Your faith story is your story and yours alone. It is unique and no one else has a story like yours.
- You become a resource to others. Maybe your friend, your family, or maybe the person in the pew next to you is struggling with their faith. Maybe they are struggling with a situation in their life. By knowing your faith story, they can see that we all have trials, we all come from somewhere and we all are growing every single day.
- The Bible tells us to be prepared to – 1 Peter 3:15 (The Message) Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention, in adoration before Christ, your Master. Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you're living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy.
- It gives you courage. When you speak about your faith and your faith story it gives you courage and you become more bold and more willing to share your faith and the word of God. When Jesus' disciples thought back on all He had taught them, they were able to spread Jesus' Way to more and more people. Remembering their life before Jesus and comparing it to their lives after knowing Jesus spurred them on.
- BECAUSE IT GLORIFIES GOD!

Would you like to be a worship leader?

If you are interested in getting involved on Sunday mornings by making announcements, lighting candles, helping with music, etc. we would love to have you!

We are looking for people that want to be involved in things like:

- announcements and be part of Sunday morning worship
- music – musicians of all kinds
- performing special music
- work with sound and video
- lead music
- greeters
- ushers

Please contact Maggie if you are interested!

Your talents are God's gift to you.... what you do with them is your gift to God!

# Important Events

- July 14<sup>th</sup> – United Methodist Women 10:00 a.m. at Shelbyville – Sack lunch
- July 24<sup>th</sup> – Women’s Book Club – 8:45 a.m. Martin UMC
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Shelbyville UMC Community Picnic
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Communion
- July 25<sup>th</sup> – Dedication for Bob Benedict at Shelbyville UMC
- July 14<sup>th</sup> – Ad Council Meeting 6:00 MUMC
- July 20<sup>th</sup> – Bulletin and The Connection announcements due
- Do you have a meeting or an event you would like to see here?

Email [martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com) with the details

## Prayer Concerns:

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

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Al and Karen Kornaelje – Al is now receiving hospice care
- Lee Reed - Health/Hospitalized
- Marcia Marques - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer Treatment
- Helene Genter - Todd - Health
- Cam Benedict - Childhood Diabetes
- Gloria Shook - Health
- Joyce McAllister - Family Issues
- Dave Jager - Health Issues
- Dennis Mills – Heart Valve Replacement
- Edie Kilmer - Under Hospice Care
- Jack Washburn - Heart Issues
- Jackie Mclochlin - Health Issues
- Aerial Fox - Young woman diagnosed with lymphoma
- Mary Warner (Shelbyville) – Recovering from bypass surgery
- Orie Perry - Cancer
- Rose Oglesbee – Vision
- Nancy Nicolai - Hearing
- Ben Parker – Cancer diagnosis
- Bob Vanderploeg - Health
- Mark Ondersma – travel mercies
- Stephen Jones – travel mercies
- Halley Anderson – travel mercies
- Sharon Warner – Recovering from quadruple bypass
- Sandra Holbrook – struggling with physical issues
- The family of Linda Wykstra – Linda passed on July 10, 2021
- The family of Elaine VanLeeuwen – Elaine passed on July 10, 2021
- Alice Boyce – Alice is receiving hospice care

## HELP WANTED

### Food Pantry Coordinator

The Martin and Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry is in need of a Food Pantry Coordinator (FPC). This person should have a heart for missions and helping those in need. FPC will serve on the MUMC mission committee (it is not required that they are a member of SUMC or MUMC). This position is a volunteer position.

**Responsibilities:** Schedule volunteers, ensure that volunteers are trained properly, order food, schedule food pick-ups.

**Required skills:** Excellent people skills, basic computer, and reporting skills (both online and paper documentation).

Contact Sharon Buys if you are interested in discussing this position.

### Worship Leaders – Martin UMC

Sunday morning musicians

Sunday morning song leaders

Sunday morning Worship Leader/Announcements

Special Music Providers

Video and Sound people (we can train!)

### Worship Leaders – Shelbyville UMC

Sunday morning Worship Leader/Announcements

Special Music Providers

Please See Pastor Maggie to discuss any of these positions that you may be interested in.

Jesus Freaks willing to share their testimony....contact Pastor Maggie