

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

August 4th, 2023 – Volume 3, Number 15

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You are Wondering:

July 30th, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,415.01

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$ 1,452.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Food Pantry: \$230.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 37

Martin UMC:

Worship: 37

July 23rd, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,461.72

Building Fund: \$40.40

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,151.00

Building Fund: \$20.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 30

Martin UMC:

Worship: 33

July 16th, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$694.47

Food Pantry: \$200.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$722.00

Food Pantry: \$230.00

Henderson Mission: \$310.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 32

Martin UMC:

Worship: 30

The Connection -
Next issue announcements/articles/
Testimonies are due
August 16th, 2023.
Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

GET OUR CHILDREN IN CHURCH!

We all love our children. We love our grandchildren. We love the kids in our neighborhood. So why don't we invite them or bring them to church? Why isn't talking to families and getting them to church a priority? I know, I know...they have other activities. They are busy. Yes, sports and other extra-curricular are important and good and fun...but will they impact their eternal life? Will it change their soul? I don't think so.

This subject has been on my heart for quite a while. During VBS it has really weighed on me. I decided to do some research. I found an article/study written by the Harvard School of Public Health, not a seminary, not a school of theology...Harvard School of Public Health. The study included 5,000 young adults. They had monitored these kids for quite a long time, and this is what they found:

When children are raised religiously it can and will powerfully affect their health behaviors, their mental health, their overall happiness, and their well-being... it goes on to say that the results show that people who attended religious services at least weekly in childhood and adolescence were approximately 18% more likely to report higher happiness as young adults aged 23 to 30 than those who never attended services. So, when they attended services when they were children, they were happier when they were young adults. I have no doubt that there is impact as adolescents attending as well, but this study is talking specifically about grade school age children.

They found that that they were more likely to report higher happiness than those who never attended services as children. It was also reported that:

- they were 29% more likely to volunteer in their communities
- they were 33% more likely to less likely to use illicit drugs if they grew up praying and meditating at least daily while they were growing up
- they were 16% more likely to report higher happiness as young adults
- 30% less likely to have started having sex at a young age and
- 40% less likely to have a sexually transmitted infection compared to those who never prayed or meditated

These are just a few of the findings in the study of children who were going to church when they were little. It seems to me that it gives them many advantages. This study doesn't even mention eternal life as a benefit...But there is that....

Children need to learn about God and Christianity. They need to be practicing the disciplines of prayer and reflection and learning and studying about Jesus.

So, we love the children around us, right? We love the children in our community, right? Let's get focused on programming and family activities that will bring them to church!

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

Thursday, August 10th & August 24th at 10:00 a.m.
Join us for fellowship, and to knit, crochet, & pray.
Want to learn? Come and learn how to make a prayer shawl or lap blanket. We are also working on scarfs, hats and mittens for winter.

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Youth Group

UPCOMING DATES:

August 6, 2023

August 20, 2023

6:00 P.M.
AT MARTIN
UMC

Food Pantry
Month of August
Zip Lock Baggies

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Youth Group

UPCOMING DATES:

September 17, 2023

October 1, 2023

6:00 P.M.
AT MARTIN
UMC

Prayer Concerns:

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

Updated August 4th, 2023

- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Online Ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery.
- Youth Ministries
- Victims of gun violence & their families
- Kenny Martin - Cancer Diagnosis
- Emma - Leukemia
- Renate Monata (Anita's sister) Recovering- Treatment will begin in August
- Naomi Martin - health
- -Jerry Oker - Health
- -Sandy VanWormer - Cancer Diagnosis
- Ernie Sunnerville- Health
- Meagan Rose - Health
- MUMC/SUMC Youth Group
- MUMC/SUMC Summer Campers
- The family of Jan Vernon - Jan recently passed away
- Clark Beard - Heart Issues
- Larry Mattox - Cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Jim Koterba-Health
- Ronda Kelly pray for healing
- Jimmy Fugate - Car Accident
- Children being hurt during custody battle
- Mary Ellen - Health
- Doris - Health
- -Ron Holcomb - Health
- -Matt Goddard - Bells Palsy
- -Jim Koterba - Health
- -Dan Chrisman - Health
- -Judy Shafer - Vision

Important Dates

Food Pantry Items for August – Zip Lock Baggies

- July 31st – Aug 4th – VBS Martin 6:00 p.m.
- August 6th – VBS Sunday
- August 6th – Youth Group Grades 6-12 at Martin 6:00 -7:30 p.m.
- August 9th – Ad Council Meeting Martin – 6:00 p.m.
- August 10th – Chair Exercise Starts Fellowship Hall 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- August 10th – Knit, Pray & Crochet at Martin 10:00 a.m.
- August 13th – Holy Communion
- August 17th – Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser for Sandy VanWormer Martin F.H. 5 p.m.- 7 p.m.
- August 15th – Chair Exercise Starts Fellowship Hall 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- August 17th – Fundraiser for Sandy VonWormer – Martin/FH - 5-7 p.m.
- August 17th – Chair Exercise Starts Fellowship Hall 8:30-10:30 a.m.
- August 19th – Bake & Book Sale at Shelbyville 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- August 19th – Food Truck at Shelbyville – Hot Dog Dinner



Musical Extravaganza



WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 27th

at The Big Rock Music Barn,
1125 - 122nd Ave. Martin, Michigan

To Support the:

Martin Lions Club
WEEKEND BLESSINGS PROGRAM

Live Music

Basement Jam 696, Thirsty Land Bluegrass Gospel Band,
St Cyril's Joyful Noise, And Soloists Performances

Starts at 6:30 PM

With refreshments to follow

Weekend Blessings is a weekend food program for children in need who are attending Brandon Elementary

A Free Will Offering will be Appreciated

**We Need Hostesses
for Women's
Fellowship!
September, October
November,
December.**

Men's Fellowship/Bible Study

Spiritual growth best occurs within the context of relationships, and we see that modeled throughout the New Testament. The first step is to commit to being an active member of a group.

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Are you being called to lead Bible Study? Do you want to talk about being a leader of men's fellowship? If so, Pastor Maggie would love to talk to you! Please get ahold of her to discuss.

I would love to see a couple of men partner to lead this small group. It is so important!
Blessings, Pastor Maggie

Dear Martin UMC Church Family,

We want to start by expressing gratitude for your unwavering support and generosity towards our church. Your contributions have been essential to our ability to continue carrying out our mission and serving the needs of our community.

We also want to take this opportunity to introduce our new e-giving platform, Vanco. This platform provides a secure and user-friendly way to give to our church online, and we are confident that it will make giving more convenient for many members of our congregation.

You can give now at this link:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZAGA>

You can also find this link on our website: martinumc.org – upper right-hand corner.

Whether you choose to give online or in person, your support is vital to the continued success of our church community. We are so grateful for your generosity and commitment to our shared mission.

Thank you again for all that you do.

Blessings,
Pastor Maggie



Dates for Chair Exercise

At Martin Fellowship Hall
8:30-10:30 am

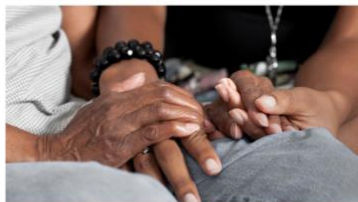
August 10th
August 15th
August 17th
August 22nd
August 24th
August 29th

Come and join in the fun of
exercising....

Pilot Prayer Partner Project Launches Fall 2023

BY MOTOE YAMADA FOOR

Do you pray? How often do you pray? Do you want to grow as a follower of Jesus Christ? Do you want to have someone you can trust and with whom you can share? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, sign up for the Pilot Prayer Partner Project! You can register as an individual, or as your church or your church group, such as United Women in Faith, a Bible study group, a craft team, and so forth. You will pick a prayer partner (a friend, co-worker, family member, or neighbor within or outside of the church). You and your prayer partner will decide how often you will pray for one another and how often you will communicate.



Prayer Group:

Are you interested in being part of this prayer group? Please email or call the church office if you would like to be placed on the list.

We are very excited about the interest that has already been shown!

The power of prayer! Life Changing!

Please let us know if you would like to participate or if you would like to get more information prior to signing up.!

Be part of a collective group of people praying!



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY SUPPORTS CHURCHES!

Christian Education Sunday giving to the conference supports local churches through:

- Grants for local churches
- Disability/Inclusion Grants
- Guest Speakers for Faith Formation Events
- Faith for a Lifetime Symposium
- VBS Kits and Supplies
- Faith Formation Leader Support
- Collaborative Projects with Michigan Churches
- Spiritual Formation Project
- #pictureAdvent & #pictureLent
- Wonderfully Made Train the Trainer Event
- Leadership Development
- And more!

Christian
Education
Sunday

August 20, 2023



SUPPORTS CAMPING

The Christian Education Special Sunday offering is split between Conference Christian Education ministry and Michigan Area Camping. Your support benefits children, youth, and adults all along their faith journey.

For more information contact
Rev. Kathy Pittenger - kpittenger@michiganumc.org

