

# The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

## Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

August 17th, 2021 – Volume 1, Number 24

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

In Case You are Wondering:

August 8th, 2021

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection \$943.67

Property: \$150.00

Local Missions: \$30.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection \$933.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 30

Martin UMC: 25

In Case You are Wondering:

August 15th, 2021

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$738.17

Property: \$50.00

Mission: \$60.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,728.00

Food Pantry: \$200.00

Memorial Fund: \$100.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 25

Martin UMC: 26

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!

### Caring for One Another

Why should we do it? Because the Bible tells us to.

**GALATIANS 6:2.** "Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ."

*No one does anything alone. We can help friends and family get through life's struggles big and small - they will do the same for us.*

**HEBREWS 13:16.** "Don't forget to do good and to share what you have because God is pleased with these kinds of sacrifices."

*One of the ways we can show our love for the Lord and our gratitude is to be compassionate and caring towards those we encounter Even the smallest gestures can mean a lot!*

**JOHN 15:12.** "This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you."

*Jesus loves us in an extraordinary way. It's up to us to take the love we receive from him and find ways to bring that love and goodwill to our community.*

**MATTHEW 5:16** "In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven."

*Sometimes, helping others is as simple as living an honest and faithful life. By living thoughtfully and honoring God with our words and actions, we can inspire someone to help themselves by doing the same.*

**PHILIPPIANS 2:4** "Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others."

*It's OK to consider what's best for you and your family, but we should also keep in mind what will be most beneficial for our community. Trust that others are also looking out for your interests as well. Everyone must work together.*

**MATTHEW 25:44 – 45** "Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.'"

*This verse is a stark reminder that God is everywhere. Sometimes it can be hard to sense his presence in environments we're not used to, or when we encounter a stranger in need. Keep your heart open and share his love with the world — it's the right thing to do.*

- Martin Care Team Meeting – Wednesday, August 18-6:00 p.m.
- Shelbyville Care Team Meeting - Wednesday, August 25-6:00 p.m.

**Let's take care of one another, Pastor Maggie**

### Abiding in God

AUGUST 16–22, 2021

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43

Psalm 84

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: God had prevented David from building a temple in Jerusalem but then permitted David's son Solomon to build it. In First Kings, Solomon places the ark of the covenant in the holiest place, and God's presence descends. The psalmist rejoices in the Temple and would rather be in its courts than anywhere else because that is where God dwells. The New Testament readings remind us that the people of God have always met with resistance. The author of Ephesians compares living the Christian life to going into battle, so we must be prepared. Jesus also meets with resistance in John. His teachings are too hard for many to accept, so they abandon him. When we face resistance, therefore, we should not be surprised; but we are also not alone. The bread offered in Exodus. Not only will it fulfill needs on earth; it will offer a life not yet imagined—a life where hunger is not a concern. The manna of the Israelites is a landmark of God's faithfulness, so for Jesus to assert that he can offer the same gifts of the manna and more is revolutionary. Jesus offers not only life but life everlasting to those who are faithful. Manna from Heaven, you rescued the Israelites from famine. You offer eternal life to your followers. You save your believers from death. Satisfy us, enliven us, fortify us so that we may bring your holy vision to earth, offering sustenance to those who need it most. In the name of the Living Bread. Amen.

## Pastor Maggie's Message Sunday, August 22nd, 2021 "Armoured"

## Pastor Maggie's Message Sunday, August 29th, 2021 "Avoiding Anger"

### From the Food Pantry:

I am very happy to volunteer as the "Food Pantry Coordinator". As most of you know the pantry has been dear to my heart for many years and I look forward to seeing what God's plan for blessing the clients who come. I know He has already blessed me with stories. I want to share with you my first experience this week. Last Tuesday I began contemplating the position. I came to the pantry for the first time in over a year. I was amazed at how empty the shelves were. There were no canned goods at all. I asked Pastor Maggie why they were empty when there is money to purchase food. Her response was "we lack volunteers who can or will go shopping." My heart sank. I know it takes many people to keep the pantry running and stocked. I knew I wanted to help. So I volunteered to pick up the Wednesday Aldis donation. You can imagine my surprise when the Aldis clerk came out pushing a cart toward me with 6 cases of canned goods. Tears came to my eyes and all I could say was thank you God! I had forgotten how rewarding doing the work of the church was. It takes so many volunteers to do the work of the pantry. We need people to man the pantry, people to pick up and deliver donations to the church, people to divide and bag food, to label bags with the date and product listed. Every Friday we stock the pantry. There are jobs for everyone! Call me for more information or to volunteer.

Serving together, Patsy Hoekstra 269-999-3399

### Tending the Soil of Your Heart for the Fruit of Your Life

AUGUST 23–29, 2021

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: The poetry of Song of Solomon is thick with romantic imagery, and most scholars agree that these lines mean what they say on the surface; they are written from the author to the beloved. Psalm 45 echoes the refrain of admiration and desire. Such desire is not wrong if it is awakened at the proper time, as the author of Song of Solomon says elsewhere. James argues that ethical living is done not in word but in deed. True religion is not putting on a show but displaying mercy and controlling the tongue. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus rebukes some of the religious leaders on this very account because they talk of obedience to God but do not live it out. What we say and what we do should match.

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)

**The Connection - next issue  
announcements/articles/testimonies are  
due August 30th, 2021**  
Email to:  
[martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com](mailto:martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com)

### Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection

August– Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta

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

### Martin UMC Food Pantry Collection August - Jelly

Please place items in the grocery cart outside of 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)*

Thank you for  
 sending me to son-life  
 camp. I had a wonderful  
 time. I made a lot of  
 new friends and enjoyed  
 all the different  
 activities.  
 love, Madelynn

Thank you from  
 Madelynn Hoekstra!



- Thank you to Mary Jo Ash and Della Bellgraph for the beautiful flowers placed in the Martin sanctuary on August 9<sup>th</sup>!!!
- Thank you, Anita Rambadt, for volunteering to be the Communion Steward at Martin UMC!
- Thank you to Gordon Ash for accepting the position of Administrative Council Chair for MUMC!
- Thank you to Gordon & Mary Jo Ash and Scott Warner for the sanctuary clean up on August 14 at MUMC!

**Christian Education Sunday – August 22, 2021**

*Gifts to the annual Christian Education Sunday offering are used to provide mini-grants supporting faith formation efforts in local churches across Michigan.*

Christian Education Sunday is one of the special observances set by The Michigan Conference. This year it is celebrated on August 22 (or a Sunday of your choice).

**Why is Christian Education Sunday important?**

First, supporting local churches in faith formation (Christian Education) is **vital in making disciples for Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world**. One way this happens is through empowering and equipping local churches and leaders. Your church can celebrate Christian Education Sunday (or another name of your choosing) to communicate how your church engages in faith formation

Second, Christian Education Sunday **provides the opportunity to support faith formation around the conference** through the Christian Education Sunday offering. Donations support grants for local churches, training for leaders, resources, and much more.

Emerging ministries are exciting! Often seed money is required to launch a new or re-imagined ministry. Grant money is available for Michigan United Methodist churches and related organizations, in part funded by the Christian Education Sunday Offering.

Interested in applying for a grant? Applications for the next cycle are due on November 1, 2021.

These are the funding priorities. Grants will be awarded to new, innovative projects that fulfill the Michigan Conference Purpose and Vision with the following characteristics:

Ministries relating to children (birth through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) and discipleship ministries (adult, older adult, intergenerational, family, etc.) Ministries related to youth and young adults should contact the Board of Young People's Ministries.

New, emerging, and/or innovative project that makes "...disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."

Address pressing issues impacting the local church, local community, and/or the world.

Plan for evaluating outcomes and the process.

Demonstrated potential for sustainability (i.e. activities will continue beyond the grant).

And others as defined on the grant application

Grant applications will be reviewed by December 1, 2021. Grant applications may also be made March 1, 2022 and July 1, 2022.



**Musical Extravaganza**



**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd**

*at The Big Rock Music Barn,  
 1125 - 122<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Martin, Michigan*

To Support the:

**Martin Lions Club  
 WEEKEND BLESSINGS PROGRAM**

**Live Music**

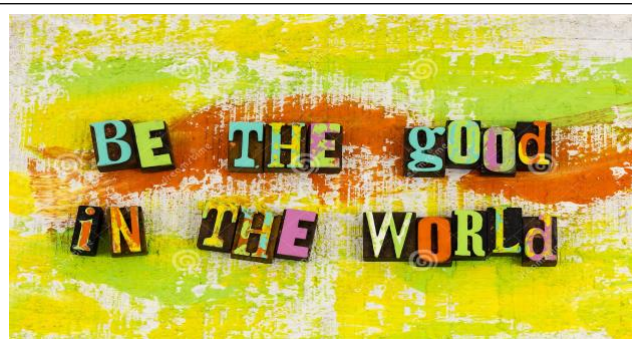
Basement Jam 696, Bet Your Bottom Dollar,  
 Thirsty Land Bluegrass Gospel Band, And Soloists Performances

**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*



# Important Events

- August 18, 6:00 – Care Team Martin UMC
- August 18, 7:00 – Worship Team Martin UMC
- August 25, 6:00 – Care Team Shelbyville UMC
- August 25, 5:00 – Worship Team Shelbyville UMC
- August 28, 9:30 a.m. Women's Book Club MUMC
- September 22, 6:30 p.m. Musical Extravaganza – Big Rock Music
- 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!

- Updated: August 17, 2021

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Marcia Marques - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer Treatment
- Edie Kilmer - Under Hospice Care
- Aerial Fox - Young woman diagnosed with lymphoma
- Ori Perry - Cancer
- Rose Oglesbee - Vision
- Nancy Nicolai - Hearing
- Mike Kelly - Health
- Chris Davis - Cancer
- Jennifer Deidrich - Strength
- Deb Hilsbos & family - caring for mother
- Caroline Buskirk - Health
- Family of Elanor Berman who passed away August 3rd, 2021
- Sandra Hoyt - heart valve replacement
- Family of Dale Talsma who passed away August 7, 2021
- Benjamin Andrews- Starting Graduate School
- Worship musicians for Martin UMC
- Jessie Rasnake - Heart procedure
- Family of Mike Dove - Mike passed away August 13, 2021
- Anita Rambadt - recovering from injuries from being hit by a car
- Renee Weaver - COVID
- Ed Buys - Health
- Jill Dussia - Health
- Family of Jason King - Jason passed away on August 10, 2021
- Patsy Hoekstra - Recovering from a fall
- Vonda Christman - Under Hospice care
- Pritchard Family
- Rantz Family
- Baby Jackson
- Ashton & Jackie - Housing
- Oz Guevara - Health

## HELP WANTED

**Martin UMC: Additional Worship Committee members and Team Leader!**  
Help to develop, plan and schedule worship activities.

**Martin UMC: Care Team Members – People with a heart for checking in, caring for and showing love to others! (We have two volunteers so far!)**

### 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