

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

November 3rd, 2023 – Volume 3, Number 22

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

October 29th, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,909.01
Food Pantry: \$100.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,329.00
Vanco General: \$199.38
Building Fund: \$60.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 38

Martin UMC:

Worship: 54

October 22nd, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,089.12
Building Fund: \$40.40

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,315.00
Vanco General: \$

Building Fund: \$10.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 34

Martin UMC:

Worship: 35

The Connection -
Next issue
Announcements/Articles/
Testimonies are due
November 15th, 2023.

Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

Grace, Grace, God's Grace: Grace Has Been On My Mind.

Grace, grace, God's grace. These words echo through the hearts and minds of believers around the world, reminding them of the incredible power of divine favor. Grace, often defined as unmerited favor, is a concept deeply rooted in religious teachings and has the ability to transform lives.

In Christianity, grace is seen as a gift from God, freely given to humanity despite our flaws and shortcomings. It is through grace that believers are forgiven for their sins and granted eternal salvation. This divine favor is not something that can be earned or achieved through good deeds or religious rituals. It is a gift bestowed upon us out of God's infinite love and mercy.

The power of grace lies in its ability to bring about transformation and redemption. It is through grace that individuals are able to experience forgiveness, healing, and restoration. No matter how far one has strayed from the path of righteousness, God's grace is always available to bring them back into His loving embrace.

Grace also has the power to break the chains of guilt and shame. Many people carry the burden of past mistakes and wrongdoings, feeling unworthy of love and acceptance. However, grace reminds us that we are not defined by our past, but rather by the love and forgiveness of God. It is through His grace that we are able to let go of our past and embrace a future filled with hope and purpose.

Furthermore, grace empowers believers to extend the same love and forgiveness to others. Just as we have received grace, we are called to show grace to those around us. This means offering forgiveness, compassion, and understanding, even when it may seem undeserved. By extending grace to others, we become vessels of God's love and mercy, spreading His light in a world that often feels dark and broken.

In times of struggle and hardship, grace provides strength and comfort. It is a reminder that we are not alone in our trials, but rather supported by a loving and compassionate God. Through His grace, we are given the strength to persevere, to overcome obstacles, and to find peace in the midst of chaos.

Ultimately, grace is a powerful force that has the ability to transform lives and bring about a deeper connection with the divine. It is a reminder of God's unwavering love and mercy, and a call to extend that same grace to others. In a world that often feels harsh and unforgiving, grace offers a glimmer of hope and a promise of redemption. So let us embrace grace, grace, God's grace, and allow it to guide us on our journey towards a life filled with love, forgiveness, and divine favor.

I have been thinking a lot about it, and wanted to share my thoughts with you.
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, November 16 and November 30th
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.*

**Food Pantry
Month of November
Peanut Butter & Jelly**

***Martin Sunday School*
*Sunday School for all
ages immediately
following fellowship
each Sunday!***

**Martin & Shelbyville UMC
Youth Group**

UPCOMING DATES:

November 12th

Movie – Time TBD

Friday, November 17 –

Volunteering at food pantry, 9:30 a.m.

If you need transportation check in with

Amy Mouw

Prayer Concerns:

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

Updated November 3, 2023

- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Online Ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery.
- Youth Ministries
- Renate Monata - Health
- Naomi Martin - health
- Sandy VanWormer - Cancer Diagnosis
- Ernie Sunnerville- Health
- Larry Mattox - Cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Ronda Kelly pray for healing
- Jimmy Fugate - Car Accident
- Children being hurt during custody battle
- Thurlan Meredith - Health
- Doris Hawkey - Heart issues
- Nan Darrow – Mobility issues
- Don Darrow - Cancer
- Dan Lawrence – Cancer treatment
- Willard Campbell – Health
- Kim – Cancer diagnosis
- Family of Jane Perry, Jane passed away recently
- Don Cleveland – health
- Marilee Swanson – knee replacement
- Resolution in Israel
- Elaine Tandy – Hospital
- Deb Rambadt – Recovering Surgery
- Anita Rambadt – Recovering from Surgery
- Patti Jarvis – Health/Cancer Diagnosis
- Jason Sherry – Health
- Sherron Mora – Heart Issues
- Merilee Wrisley – Recovering from Knee Surgery
- Jill Jackson – Health
- PeeWee Caswell - Health

Important Dates

Food Pantry Items for November
Peanut Butter & Jelly

- November 5th – Daylight Savings
- November 5th – Holy Communion
- November 8th – Women in Faith –
Shelbyville 10:00 a.m./Potluck
- November 8th – Shelbyville Play-Day
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- November 9th – The Chosen & Popcorn –
Season 3 at Martin 9:00 a.m.
- November 11th – Women’s Fellowship –
Shelbyville 10:30 a.m. Yarn Painting
- November 15th – Shelbyville Play-Day
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- November 16th – The Chosen & Popcorn
– Season 3 at Martin 9:00 a.m.
- November 16th – Knit, Pray & Crochet –
Martin 10:30 a.m.
- November 16th – Advent Study Begins –
Martin @ 1:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. Zoom
available for evening class.
- November 19th – Thanksgiving Dinner –
Martin @ 1:00 p.m.
- November 22nd – Shelbyville Play-Day
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- November 29th – Shelbyville Play-Day
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- November 30th – The Chosen & Popcorn
– Season 3 at Martin 9:00 a.m.
- November 30th – Knit, Pray & Crochet –
Martin 10:30 a.m.
- November 30th – Advent Study
- December 13th – Charge Conference –
8:00 p.m. – Martin Fellowship Hall
- December 17th – Christmas Program –
MUMC and SUMC
- December 24, 2023 – Christmas Eve
 - 9:30 a.m. Martin Worship
 - 11:00 a.m. Shelbyville Worship
 - 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve
Candlelight service at Martin

2023 Charge Conference:

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

- SPRC meets with DS at 7:30 p.m.
at Martin
- MUMC & SUMC Charge
Conference 8:00 p.m. at Martin

Book Club 2024

January Book: The Shack by
William P. Young (meets January
27th, 2024)

February Book: Room of Marvels
by James Bryan Smith (meets
February 24, 2024)

March Book: The Reason for God
by Timothy Keller (meets March 2,
2024)

All are welcome!



THANKS FOR
the visit Pastor
Chris!

PIC•COLLAGE

Winter Wear

The Missions Committee will be collecting gently used coats, boots, gloves, hats, and scarves. You may bring them to the church office or place in fellowship hall in the box labeled "winter attire". We will gather for the month of November and give to those who need them thru the food pantry. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Hoekstra.

Thank you Martin High School National Honor Society for your cleaning supplies drive!
What a blessing to our food pantry!



Grace Adventure's Women's Retreat -
2023

Fall Clean-up Martin UMC

Indoor and Outdoor clean-up
November 11, 2023

8:00 a.m. Start!

It's time for some deep cleaning!
Can you help? We would appreciate the extra hands.

Christmas Eve

Join us for our candlelit Christmas Eve service,
Sunday, December 24th at 7:00pm.

Wear your Christmas pajamas!

Yes, you can wear your pajamas. Families, please feel free to come before or stay a few minutes after to get pictures of your family in your Christmas pajamas in front of our Christmas Tree!

All are welcome!

(Pajamas are not required, come how you are)

Martin UMC Christmas Project

CHRISTMAS ADOPT A
FAMILY
PROJECT

Martin UMC

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP?

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE IN CASH OR
BY CHECK TO MARTIN UMC - CHRISTMAS PROJECT
EMAIL QUESTIONS TO:
MARTINSHELBYVILLEUMC@GMAIL.COM

969 E. ALLEGAN STREET,
MARTIN, MI
269.672.7097 |
WWW.MARTINUMC.ORG



2023 Trunk or Treat



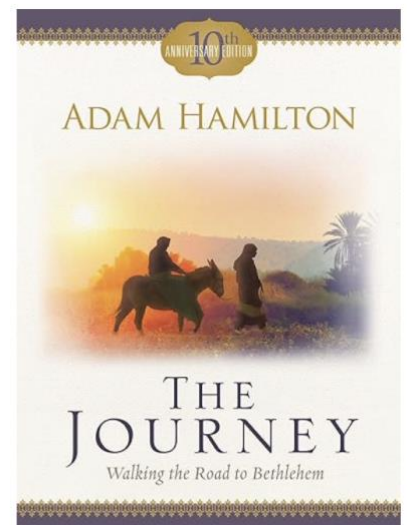
Advent Study The Journey to Bethlehem

Thursday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. or Thursday Evenings at 6:00 p.m. We will meet at MUMC Fellowship Hall in person. Zoom will be available for the evening class

- November 16th
- November 30th
- December 7th
- December 14th
- December 21st

Please let Crystal know by calling or emailing the office if you would like to be part of this study.

Books are available for \$12.00 each.





Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The Martin & Shelbyville United Methodist Churches

The Rock @ 5 O'Clock – 5 pm Saturdays • **Martin** – 9:30 am Sundays
969 E. Allegan, Martin, MI 49070 • (269) 672-7097 • martinumc@sbcglobal.net

Shelbyville – 11 am Sundays
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville, MI 49344

October 17, 2023

Dear Church Family,

The roof of the Shelbyville United Methodist Church has needed repair for a few years now and finally we have gotten to the point that having the roof replaced is the best option.

The metal materials and the wood shakes underneath will be removed, OSB and felt will be placed and new metal installed. This is no small task and we have chosen a bid from Miller Brothers Roofing and Construction LLC of Hastings.

The total quote is \$54,900.00

Currently the Building Fund has \$24,911.89
The General Fund is a designated roof amount of \$1,921.00
This is a total of \$26,832.89
Leaving a deficit of \$28,067.11

At the October 8 special administrative meeting it was thought that the replacement wouldn't take place until next spring, but it's possible it could be earlier.

Either way we need to acquire the rest of the funds.

We ask that all prayerfully consider how you may help. Perhaps it will be an extra weekly or monthly giving. Perhaps it will be a one time lump sum.

As a church we have always worked so well together to keep our building in great shape. Our trustees do an amazing job making sure that building maintenance is done in a timely manner and done in the most cost effective way possible.

Again, please prayerfully consider how you can help with the roof replacement.

Blessings,

Pastor Maggie Stohr

Pastor Maggie