

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

November 17th, 2023 – Volume 3, Number 23

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

November 12th, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$522.47

Food Pantry: \$200.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,054.00

Vanco General: \$

Building Fund: \$

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 28

Martin UMC:

Worship: 48

November 5th, 2023

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$658.60

Food Pantry: \$30.00

Mission Fund: \$30.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,691.00

Vanco General: \$

Building Fund: \$110.00

Missions Fund: \$30.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 34

Martin UMC:

Worship: 45

The Connection -
Next issue
Announcements/Articles/
Testimonies are due
November 29th, 2023.

Email to:

martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

Who Will You Invite to Church This Christmas Season?

Why should you be inviting people to church during this Christmas Season? Here's a few reasons:

1. Celebration of Jesus' birth: Christmas is the time that we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Inviting others to church during this time allows them to participate in the celebration and learn more about the significance of Jesus' birth.
2. Sharing the message of hope and love: Christmas is associated with themes of hope, love, and peace. Inviting people to church provides an opportunity to share the message of God's love and the hope that Jesus brings to the world.
3. Community and fellowship: Christmas is a time when people often seek connection and community. Inviting others to church allows them to join in the fellowship of believers, experience a sense of belonging, and build relationships with others who share similar beliefs.
4. Worship and reflection: Attending church services during Christmas can provide a space for worship and reflection. It allows individuals to take a break from the busyness of the holiday season and focus on the spiritual aspects of Christmas.
5. Outreach and evangelism: Inviting people to church during Christmas is an act of outreach and evangelism. It provides an opportunity to reach out to those who may not regularly attend church or have never been exposed to the Christian faith.

As Christians and as disciples of Jesus Christ we should be driven by a desire to share the joy, hope, and love that comes with our faith!

Be bold! Invite! Share the love of Jesus Christ this season!
Share the joy in your heart!

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 30th and December 14th
at 10:30 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 Items

November-Peanut Butter & Jelly
December- Personal Hygiene Products

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

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Youth Group

UPCOMING DATES:
November 26, 2023
December 10, 2023
January 7, 2024

6:00 P.M.
AT MARTIN
UMC

Prayer Concerns:

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

Updated November 17, 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
- Don Cleveland – health
- Resolution in Israel
- Patti Jarvis – Health/Cancer Diagnosis
- Jill Jackson – Health
- The family of PeeWee Caswell – PeeWee passed away recently
- Dick Mattox - cancer diagnosis
- The family of Joe Henry – Joe passed away recently
- The family of Marie Farmer – Marie passed away recently
- Kia & Samantha – General prayers
- Rich Hilsbos – Health
- Aimee Mouw – Stress
- Mark Sungleton – Health
- Pat Kimmel – Health
- Mary Winebarger – General prayers
- Nancy White – Heart

Important Dates

Food Pantry Items for November
Peanut Butter & Jelly

- November 22nd - Shelbyville Play-Day 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- November 26th - Youth Group Grades 6-12 - Martin 6:00 -7:30 p.m.
- November 29th - Shelbyville Play-Day 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- November 23 - Thanksgiving Day
- November 24 - Office Closed
- 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 - Martin 1:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.
- December 3rd - Holy Communion
- December 6th - Shelbyville Play-Day 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- December 6th - Shelbyville Ad Council 6:00 p.m.
- December 13th - Women in Faith - Shelbyville 10:00 a.m./Potluck
- December 13th - Charge Conference - 8:00 p.m. - Martin Fellowship Hall
- December 13th - Martin Ad Council 6:00
- December 14th - The Chosen & Popcorn - Martin 9:00 a.m.
- December 14th - Knit, Pray & Crochet - Martin 10:30 a.m.
- December 14th - Advent Study - Martin 1p.m. & 6 p.m.
- December 16th - Community Breakfast Martin 8:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.
- December 17th - Christmas Program - MUMC and SUMC
- December 20th - Shelbyville Play-Day 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.
- December 21st - The Chosen & Popcorn at Martin 9:00 a.m.
- 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 (Feel free to wear your pajamas and take pictures with our tree!)

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!

Dear Martin & Shelbyville Church, I want to thank everyone who helped us get to Henderson Settlement. Your help was much appreciated with prayers, baking for the bake sale, donation financially and making and purchasing T-shirts. We couldn't have gone without your support.

The locals we met in KY were very happy for our help. We served in many areas such as intake and sorting clothing, restocking the store, packing the pantry boxes, pulling weeds in the greenhouse, and building walkways.

We plan to return next year in October, so pray and think about going with us. We received more than we gave.

Blessings,
Sharon Buys

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.

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 comfortable! Just join us!)

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.

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

CINDYWESSELS@GMAIL.COM
708-846-8222

Senior Companion Care

Are you or someone you know looking for a little extra help with housecleaning, running errands, rides to appointments, meal prep or other household responsibilities?

I AM AVAILABLE TO HELP!

I am a retired mom & grandma who recently moved to Plainwell and I am looking for ways to help others in the Plainwell/Kalamazoo area. My schedule is flexible and my rates are reasonable. Call or email me to set up a free consultation.

References available upon request

