

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

December 22nd, 2023 – Volume 3, Number 25

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You Are Wondering

December 17th, 2023
Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection: \$756.47

Martin UMC:
General Collection: \$834.00
Vanco General: \$
Food Pantry: \$230.00

Attendance:
Shelbyville UMC:
Worship: 49
Martin UMC:
Worship: 60

December 10th, 2023
Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection: \$638.47
Food Pantry: \$100.00

Martin UMC:
General Collection: \$902.00
Vanco General: \$
Building Fund: \$30.00
Food Pantry: \$150.00
Missions: \$300.00

Attendance:
Shelbyville UMC:
Worship: 40
Martin UMC:
Worship: 41

December 3rd, 2023
Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection: \$1,063.14
Food Pantry: \$30.00
Missions: \$30.00

Martin UMC:
General Collection: \$1,542.00
Vanco General: \$99.47
Food Pantry: \$125.00

Attendance:
Shelbyville UMC:
Worship: 31
Martin UMC:
Worship: 44

Dear Church Family,

As we approach the end of this year, I wanted to take this opportunity to extend my warmest wishes to each and every one of you. It has been a great year! Not to say there were not, some uncertainties and difficulties; even in the face of difficult our faith has remained steadfast.

Christmas is a time of joy and celebration, as we commemorate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is a reminder of the hope and love that He brought into the world, and the promise of salvation that we hold dear. May this Christmas fill your hearts with peace, love, and the presence of God.

As we bid farewell to this year and welcome the new one, let's reflect on the lessons we have learned and the blessings we have received. We have grown stronger as a community, supporting and uplifting one another. I am grateful for your unwavering dedication and commitment to our church family.

In the coming year, may God's grace continue to guide us, and may His light shine upon our path. May we find strength in our unity and continue to spread love and kindness to those around us. Let's remember that we are called to be the hands and feet of Jesus, bringing hope and healing to a world in need.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for your continued support and prayers. Your faithfulness has been a source of inspiration for me, and I am honored to serve as your pastor. Together, let's embrace the new year with hope and anticipation, knowing that God's plans for us are good.

From the bottom of my heart, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May the joy of the season fill your homes and hearts and may God's blessings be abundant in your lives.

With love and 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
Will Resume - January 11th
at 10:30 a.m.

I am so happy we started this little group, the fellowship and the people we have come to know as our little circle has been a blessing from above. Til next year, Blessings Crystal

Food Pantry Items
January- Ziplock Baggies

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 December 21st, 2023

- Raina Oldebeken – Cancer
- Molly Mentzer – Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken – Health
- Online Ministry
- Those battling active addiction and those in recovery.
- Youth Ministries
- Naomi Martin - health
- Sandy VanWormer – Cancer Diagnosis
- Ernie Sunnerville- Health
- Larry Mattox – Cancer diagnosis and treatment
- Ronda Kelly pray for healing
- 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
- Dick Mattox - cancer diagnosis
- Pat Kimmel – Health
- Mary Winebarger – General prayers
- Nancy White – Heart
- Dean Rantz – Health
- Kenny Martin – Cancer
- Mike Oetman – General
- Wendy Palmer – Health
- John Guevera – Heart
- Missions Committee – 2024

Important Dates

Food Pantry Items for December
Personal Hygiene Products
Food Pantry Items for January 2024
Zip Lock Baggies

- 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!)

2024

- January 3rd SUMC Ad. Council – 6:00 p.m.
- January 7th – Youth Group Grades 6-12
Martin 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- January 10th – Women in Faith – Shelbyville
10:00 a.m./Potluck
- January 10th – MUMC Ad. Council – 6:00 p.m.
- January 11th – Knit, Pray & Crochet
10:00 a.m. Martin
- January 14th – Charge Conference
12:30 p.m. Shelbyville
- January 14th – Human Relations Day –
Special Offering
- January 17th – Newsletter Deadline
- January 27th – Book Club – The Shack –
10:00 a.m. MUMC

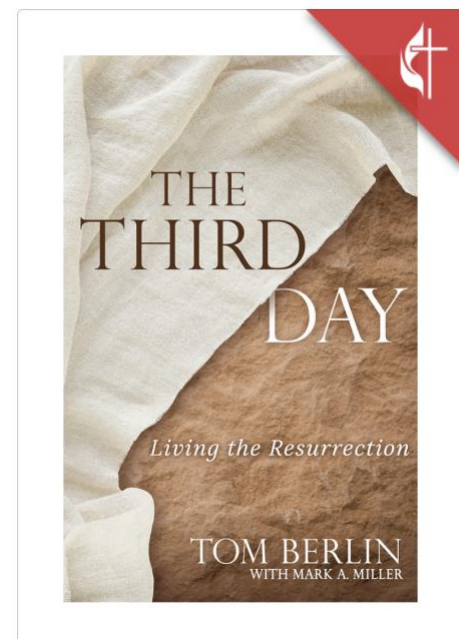
2023 Charge Conference: Sunday, January 14th, 2024

- SPRC meets with DS at 7:30 p.m.
at Martin
- MUMC & SUMC Charge
Conference 12:30 at Shelbyville

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.

Lenten Study



Book Club 2024

- January Book: The Shack by William P. Young
 - Review will be January 27th, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC
- February Book: Room of Marvels by James Bryan Smith
 - Review will be February 24th, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC
- March Book: The Reason for God by Timothy Keller
 - Review will be March 23rd, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m. MUMC

All are welcome!

MARTIN & SHELBYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES PAJAMAS & CANDLE LIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

DECEMBER 24, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M.
969E. ALLEGAN STREET
MARTIN, MI. 49070

*For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6*

FAMILIES ARE INVITED TO WEAR THEIR
CHRISTMAS PAJAMAS AND TAKE PICTURES BEFORE & AFTER
SERVICE WITH THE CHRISTMAS TREE!
(PAJAMAS NOT REQUIRED)

The Connection -
Next issue Announcements/Articles/
Testimonies are due
January 3rd, 2024.

Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com

Winter Weather

The office will be closed if Martin Public Schools is closed for weather.

Church activities/meetings will be cancelled if Martin and/or Wayland Public Schools are closed for weather.

Sunday morning service cancellation will be announced on WNT channel 3 and on our Facebook page.