

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

June 22, 2021 – Volume 1, Number 18

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

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In Case You are Wondering: Offering June 20th, 2021

Shelbyville UMC:
General Collection \$1040.17
Property: \$75.00
Mission: \$60.00

Martin UMC:
General Collection \$907.00
Eddie Oetman Memorial - \$170.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:
24
Martin UMC:
17

Did you know you can give thru our website? Go to martinumc.org or shelbyvilleumc.org for more information or you are welcome to give in person in our sanctuaries or drop your gift in the mail!

Working in God's Field

We plant a big garden at my house each year. Much bigger than we probably need, but we enjoy it each year. Jim, Sara and I love the garden and work it together.

Near the end of the winter we spend a lot of time talking about what we will grow in the spring. What type of plants we will put in. What the layout of the garden will be. We decide if a particular vegetable will be started from seed or if we will buy plants to put in. We start putting seeds in soil and putting them in the greenhouse. We pay attention to the weather, we make sure they stay warm enough, cool enough, enough ventilation.

We like the challenge of growing a garden. We like the satisfaction of watching the plants grow and produce.

We have a responsibility to care for the plants and to support the growth of the garden, but ultimately God is in charge. He is in charge of the rain, of the sunshine, the wind....he is in charge of the overall success of our garden.

1 Corinthians 3:6-8 "I planted the seed, Apollos watered the plants, but God made you grow. It's not the one who plants or the one who waters who is at the center of this process but God, who makes things grow. Planting and watering are menial servant jobs at minimum wages. What makes them worth doing is the God we are serving. You happen to be God's field in which we are working."

Paul cannot call the Corinthian Christians "spiritual" people. Though they are in Christ, they continue to live to the flesh. They are young in Christ, spiritual toddlers...Divisions among them prove they are still serving themselves, picking sides in a senseless debate. Paul insists that both he and Apollos are mere servants of the Lord and co-workers. They are not in competition. I think he uses the agricultural metaphor because much like my garden at home he and Apollo, as men of God, have a responsibility to support the growth of these toddlers....just like a new plant....they are expected to help them grow.

We all have a responsibility in God's garden. We may be the planter, we may be the tiller, we may be the one who cleans the weeds. No one's responsibility is more important than the others. We just all need to do the job that has been assigned to us. We must care for God's Garden together.

Maggie

Would you like to be a worship leader?

If you are interested in getting involved on Sunday mornings by making announcements, lighting candles, helping with music, etc. we would love to have you!

We are looking for people that want to be involved in things like:

- announcements and be part of Sunday morning worship
- music – musicians of all kinds
- performing special music
- work with sound and video
- lead music
- greeters
- ushers

Please contact Maggie if you are interested!

Your talents are God's gift to you.... what you do with them is your gift to God!

Martin UMC is happy to announce that Sharon Buys has accepted the position of Mission Committee Chair.

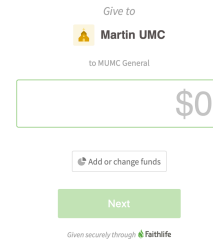
We are excited that she is willing to make this commitment to this important ministry! We are looking for a food pantry coordinator to work on the Mission Committee as well!

Please see Sharon or contact the church office if you are interested in working in Missions and/or food pantry.

BIG NEWS!

New Ways to GIVE at Martin UMC

Go to martinumc.org and press the Martin Giving button. You will see this:



Set up your information – So EASY!!! or Text to Give:

Simply text the word **Give** with the amount (e.g. **Give 100**) to **(269) 201 5521**.

Caroline's Message Sunday, June 27th, 2021

Sowing Seeds

Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection

June – Tuna in water and pork and beans

July – Pancake Mix & Syrup

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

Martin UMC Food Pantry Collection

June – Shampoo/Conditioner/Deodorant

Please place items in box labeled Food Pantry in fellowship hall.

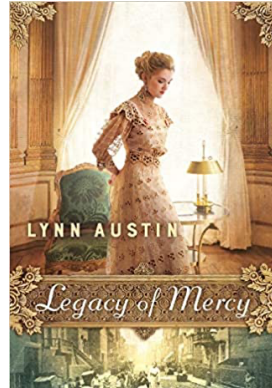
WOULD YOU LIKE TO DEVELOP/ORGANIZE A SMALL GROUP?
 EMAIL MARTINSHELBYVILLEUMCS@GMAIL.COM
 WITH YOUR THOUGHTS AND IDEAS!

2021 Schedule UMW

Meetings take place at Shelbyville UMC

- June 9th 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)**

Women’s Summer Book Club



Join us for July!
 We are reading:
 “Legacy of Mercy”
 by Lynn Austin
 June Meeting: July
 24th at 9:30 a.m.
 Via Zoom and at
 MUMC.

Parable	Meaning	Significance for today
A man went out to sow grain.	The man represents God and the seed is His message.	Just as a planted seed starts to grow, the word of God starts to deepen and grow within a person.
Some seed fell on the path and the birds ate it.	The birds represent Satan. The seed on the path represents people who hear the message, but it is immediately lost.	There are people who don't live a good Christian life because they are focused on other things.
Some seed fell on rocky ground where there was little soil. The seed soon sprouted, but when the sun came up it burnt the young plants.	The seed on the rocky ground represents people who respond with initial enthusiasm, but the word of God does not sink in deep. When persecution or hard times (represented by the sun) come along they give up at once.	People cannot commit to the Christian lifestyle. They are initially attracted but give up when the going gets tough.
Some seed fell among thorn bushes which grew up and choked the plants.	The thorn bushes choke the message of God. It is heard, but people's concern for riches and their worries about life cause the plants to die.	Some people are too concerned with what others think and they worry too much. They may be jealous, angry or concerned with materialism.
Some seed fell on good soil and the plants produced corn.	Good soil represents people who hear the message and live it in their lives.	Some people have strong faith and remain dedicated to a Christian lifestyle, even when things are difficult.

Your Testimony Is Powerful!! Would you be willing to share your testimony here in our newsletter?

Acts 4:33 The apostles gave powerful testimonies about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great measures of grace rested upon them all.

Email martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com to get on the newsletter testimony schedule!

*What Is Christian Testimony?
 How Do I Tell My Own
 Testimony Story?*

During their journey to a saving relationship with Jesus, many people find the most compelling stories about Him, and reasons for having faith, come from the Christians they already know. If you're looking for proof of Jesus, ask your peers about their journey with Christ.

What they tell you is their own Christian testimony: The story of their coming to, or walking alongside of, Jesus.

A Christian testimony can be about a person's journey to becoming a Christian—also known as a conversion story—or it can be a way in which God has shown up in a person's life. Perhaps it is a lesson God has taught them or a reminder He gave. Sometimes it's an answered prayer or a victory over sin. Sometimes it's a way in which God provided extraordinarily in a tough situation. Can you look back on something in your own life and recognize how God played a part? These are all types of Christian testimony.

Testimonies come in all shapes and sizes! Some are very dramatic, with wild turning points and big “Ah-ha! I get it!” moments; some are far less so and have a slow build, but they are no less compelling. Some testimonies may involve great struggle and the story of how God helped the person through it. Some may involve different incidents that make far more sense after reflecting on them. You may not realize something is a testimony until much later, but when you think back, you can see the hand of God working in your life.

You'll find testimonies from others to be fascinating, hope-filled, and a great way to get to know God and the power of faith.

Your personal testimony is wildly compelling and is the most powerful tool you have to demonstrate the love of Jesus and how he has changed you.

"NO, GO BACK TO YOUR FAMILY, AND TELL THEM EVERYTHING GOD HAS DONE FOR YOU." SO HE WENT ALL THROUGH THE TOWN PROCLAIMING THE GREAT THINGS JESUS HAD DONE FOR HIM.

Luke 8:39 NLT

Important Events

- June 30, 2021 – Caroline Buskirk will fill the pulpit at Martin
- June 30, 2021 – Carolyn Buskirk will fill the pulpit at Shelbyville
- July 4, 2021 – We celebrate our nations independence! Happy Birthday America!
- July 4, 2021 – Pastor Maggie's first official Sunday in the pulpit!
- July 14th, 2021 – United Methodist Women 10:00 a.m. at Shelbyville – Sack lunch
- July 24th, 2021 – Women's Book Club – 9:30 a.m. Martin UMC
- July 25th, 2021 – Shelbyville UMC Community Picnic
- Do you have a meeting or an event you would like to see here?

Email martinandshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com with the details

Prayer Concerns:

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

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- Al and Karen Kornaelje - Health
- Lee Reed - Health/Hospitalized
- Marcia Marques - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer Treatment
- Helene Genter - Todd - Health
- Cam Benedict - Childhood Diabetes
- Gloria Shook - Health
- Joyce McAllister - Family Issues
- Dave Jager - Health Issues
- Dennis Mills - Tests on heart and procedures
- Edie Kilmer - Under Hospice Care
- Jack Washburn - Heart Issues
- Jackie Mclochlin - Health Issues
- Aerial Fox - Young woman diagnosed with lymphoma
- Family of Eddie Oetman – Eddie passed on June 9, 2021
- Mary Warner (Shelbyville) - Heart surgery
- Orie Perry - Cancer
- Rose Oglesbee – Vision
- Nancy Nicolai - Hearing
- Family of Eddie Oetman - Eddie passed on June 9, 2021
- Jeff Mentzer - Shoulder surgery
- Family of Grace Markel – Grace passed on June 2, 2021
- Gordon Ash & Family – loss of his mother
- Iva and Jim Holmes – Iva-health tests and results
- Tonya Dutton – Surgery today (June 22)
- Vanessa Tillison – Recovering from COVID/Baby due this week
- Leslie Pohl – Health/New medication
- Ben Parker – Cancer diagnosis

HELP WANTED

Food Pantry Coordinator

The Martin and Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry is in need of a Food Pantry Coordinator (FPC). This person should have a heart for missions and helping those in need. FPC will serve on the MUMC mission committee (it is not required that they are a member of SUMC or MUMC). This position is a volunteer position.

Responsibilities: Schedule volunteers, ensure that volunteers are trained properly, order food, schedule food pick-ups.

Required skills: Excellent people skills, basic computer and reporting skills (both online and paper documentation).

Contact Sharon Buys if you are interested in discussing this position.

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