

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

October 4, 2024 – Volume 4, Number 13

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

In Case You Are Wondering

September 8, 2024

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$739.21

Special Offering: \$15.25

Food Pantry: \$30.00

Local Mission: \$30.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$2,034.00

Building Fund: \$10.00

Special Offering: \$104.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 31

Martin UMC:

Worship: 52

September 15, 2024

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$772.00

Food Pantry: \$200.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,286.00

Food Pantry: \$156.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 44

Martin UMC:

Worship: 49

September 22, 2024

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$753.25

Building Fund: \$40.40

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$969.73

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 33

Martin UMC:

Worship: 58

September 29, 2024

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection: \$1,258.54

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,398.80

Building Fund: \$30.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC:

Worship: 27

Martin UMC:

Worship: 49

Dear Church Family,

As the holiday season approaches, our hearts are filled with warmth and gratitude for the time we get to share together. This is a beautiful opportunity for us to reflect on the importance of welcoming visitors and new faces into our church community with open arms and loving hearts.

Each visitor who walks through our doors is a unique blessing, bringing their own stories, experiences, and perspectives. They come seeking connection, comfort, and a sense of belonging, and it is our joy and responsibility to make them feel at home among us. A warm smile, a friendly greeting, and an invitation to join us in fellowship can make all the difference in someone's experience.

As we prepare for the holidays, let us remember that these moments of hospitality are not just acts of kindness; they are genuine expressions of our faith and love. By embracing newcomers, we extend the spirit of our church beyond our familiar circles, creating a vibrant community where everyone feels valued and cherished.

If you wish to deepen your understanding of hospitality and how we can enhance our welcoming efforts, I invite you to pick up the Hospitality Audit Booklet. It offers wonderful insights and practical tips that can help us all become more intentional in our welcoming practices.

Let's come together to create an atmosphere of love and acceptance this holiday season, ensuring that everyone who enters our doors feels the warmth of our community.

PS: Don't forget to invite your friends and loved ones to church!

Blessings,

Pastor Maggie

All Saints Day

We will celebrate and honor Saints on November 3, 2024

Do you have someone who you have lost in the past year that you would like to honor? Please notify the office!

Office Hours:

Closed Monday, Tuesday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.



KINGDOM KIDS
Every Sunday following the
Children's Sermon!

Youth Pizza with Pastor Maggie

*Middle School and High School
Students*

3:00 p.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall

Food Pantry Items

October – Canned Meat



Did you know that you can give thru our website? Go to martinumc.org or shelbyvilleumc.org for more information.

2024 Soup-Tober

October 1-31



Ways to Give

- Text **SOUP** to **44-321** to donate
- Donate by using the **QR code** 
- Donate online at www.alleganfoundation.org
- Mail a donation made out to **ACCF** at **112 Locust St. Allegan, MI 49010**, in the memo line please note 'soup'
- Donate soup to a **drop site** 



Local Drop Sites
Clipper Café
Martin Public Library
Martin UMC
Shelbyville UMC

*Martin UMC
Sunday School
For ALL ages!
11:00 a.m.
Please join us!*

**Missions Report
September 2024**

We are happy to report that we applied for and received a grant from ACCF (Allegan County Community Foundation) for \$7500. This will enable us to purchase a new upright freezer for the food Pantry. Thank you to those who helped to make that happen which are Sharon Carper, Patsy Hoekstra, Pastor Maggie Stoken, Pat Holland and Crystal McWilliams. A lot of paperwork had to be accomplished for the application. We have also applied for a Mignon Sherwood Delano grant to purchase a computer and printer designated to retaining records and ordering food for the Food Pantry. We won't hear a decision on that application until December.

Once again thank you to all who helped with applying for the grants. Teamwork is what makes it happen.

Sharon Buys, Mission Chair

Important Dates

- October 6 – 10 – Henderson Mission Trip
- October 6 – World Communion Sunday
- October 10, 2024 – The Chosen and Popcorn – Season 4 – 9:00 a.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall
- October 17, 2024 – The Chosen and Popcorn – Season 4 – 9:00 a.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall
- October 18, 2024 – Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.
- October 24, 2024 – The Chosen and Popcorn – Season 4 – 9:00 a.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall
- October 24, 2024 – Knit, Pray, Crochet – 10:30 a.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall
- October 31, 2024 – The Chosen and Popcorn – Season 4 – 9:00 a.m. MUMC Fellowship Hall
- October 31 – Trunk or Treat – Martin Parking Lot
- November 3, 2024 – All Saints Day
- November 24, 2024 – Thanksgiving Feast – Martin



MARTIN UMC
FELLOWSHIP HALL

THURSDAY'S AT 9:00 A.M.
SEPTEMBER 26 – EPISODE 1
OCTOBER 4 – EPISODE 2
OCTOBER 10 – EPISODE 3
OCTOBER 17 – EPISODE 4
OCTOBER 24 – EPISODE 5
OCTOBER 31 – EPISODE 6
NOVEMBER 7 – EPISODE 7
NOVEMBER 14 – EPISODE 8

ADVENT STUDY

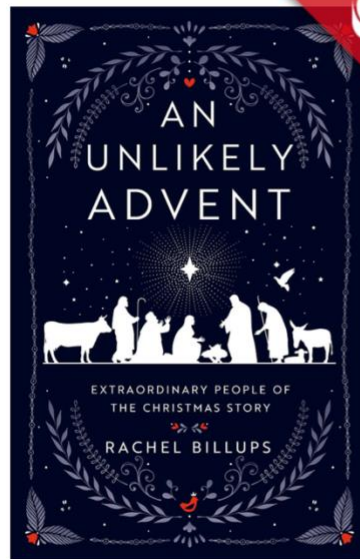
Wednesday's During Advent
Martin UMC Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m.
Martin UMC Fellowship Hall & via Zoom
at 7:00 p.m.

Week 1
November 20, 2024
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Week 2
December 4, 2024
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Week 3
December 11, 2024
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Week 4
December 18, 2024
10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.



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!

Thank you to Jean Holley and Anita Rambadt for the beautiful flowers that they have placed in the sanctuary all Spring and Summer!

SOUP-TOBER 2024 OCTOBER 1-31

Let's Make
Soup Happen!



Thank you to Sharon Buys and Crystal McWilliams for your hard work in keeping our pantry going as we search for a new Food Pantry Coordinator.

You are so appreciated. Thanks for all that you do, in addition to your regular duties!!!!

Martin & Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry is searching for a Food Pantry Coordinator

Please reach out to Pastor Maggie to discuss

Food Pantry Coordinator Volunteer Job Description:

Summary:

The Food Pantry Coordinator Volunteer is responsible for overseeing the operations and activities of the food pantry program. This individual will work closely with volunteers, church staff, and community members to ensure the effective and efficient distribution of food to those in need. Food Pantry Coordinator is a member of the Martin UMC Mission Committee.

Key Responsibilities:

- Coordinate and schedule volunteers to assist with food pantry operations, including stocking shelves, food pick up, sorting donations, and distributing food to clients.
- Oversee accurate record keeping of food inventory, donations, and client information.
 - Oversee that food pantry operations comply with health and safety regulations and guidelines.
- Complete weekly orders from partners for food stocking
- Communicate with community partners, donors, and volunteers to coordinate food drives, donations, and fundraising efforts.
- Collaborate with Missions Committee, staff and volunteers to plan and execute special events, such as holiday food drives or community outreach initiatives.
- Stay informed about food insecurity and hunger-related issues in the community and make recommendations for program improvements.
- Attend regular meetings with staff and volunteers to provide updates on food pantry activities, challenges, and successes.
- Uphold the values and mission of the organization while representing the food pantry program in a positive and professional manner.

Qualifications:

- Must have a strong desire to be the hands and feet of Jesus Christ
- Must love people, all people
- Strong organizational and communication skills
- Must be willing to delegate
- Ability to work effectively with diverse populations
- Knowledge of food pantry operations and procedures (training provided)
- Commitment to serving others with compassion and respect
- Safe Serve Certification Required (will train and schedule the right person for this certification)



Walk with us
October 6th, 2024
2:00pm (1:30pm Registration)

Walk start and finish at:
Sherwood Park
121 North Sherwood Avenue
Plainwell MI 49080

Email Eric Hoffman at
ehoffman@christianneighbors.org
to learn how to register.



PEOPLE ADVOCATING TO end HUNGER

Please join us for our community walk to help raise funds and promote hunger awareness on Sunday, October 6th. Proceeds from the PATH Walk will help support our food pantry. We also have some exciting things happening at Christian Neighbors that we can't wait to share with you! Join us for fun, food and fellowship!



Martin & Shelbyville UMC's are teaming up and walking in the Christian Neighbors Pathwalk

Join us as we are blessed to be a blessing to others!

Get your packet from the church office or from Deb Boniface!

Let's show them what we've got!



Martin
UMC
Parking
Lot
Project
COMING
SOON!

RSVP for your spot to Church Office
by Oct 25th @ 269.672.7097