

The Martin & Shelbyville CONNECTION

Newsletter for Martin & Shelbyville UMC

August 3rd, 2021 – Volume 1, Number 23

“Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.”

In Case You are Wondering:

July 25, 2021

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC:

General Collection \$1,546.17

Property: \$225.00

Local Missions: \$60.00

Martin UMC:

General Collection \$1,495.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 73

Martin UMC: 27

In Case You are Wondering:

August 1, 2021

Offering:

Shelbyville UMC: \$1,209.27

Martin UMC:

General Collection: \$1,799.00

Building: \$100.00

Attendance:

Shelbyville UMC: 40

Martin UMC: 28

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!

Speak Lord...Your Servant Is Listening!

Is this part of our prayers on a regular basis? Are we asking God to speak to us? To give us direction, give us answers, help us with the solution to a problem?

In 1 Samuel chapter 3 the boy Samuel was serving under the direction of Eli. One night Eli was lying down in his normal spot and Samuel was lying down in the Lord's house as well. The Lord called out to Samuel. Samuel answered, "here I am" and ran over to Eli. Eli said, "I didn't call you, go back and lie down". Again, the Lord called out, He said "Samuel!". Samuel went to Eli again and said, "here I am, you called me". Eli again said, "I didn't call you, go back and lie down". This happened three times and Eli realized that they Lord was calling Samuel. He instructed Samuel to "go and lie down and if someone calls out to you again say, "Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening".

Even in Old Testament days people weren't sure who was calling to them. How often do we miss God's call because we don't understand, or we don't listen?

At any moment he may call our name - we need to be open and available to hear what God is telling us. There are so many voices out there....including our own that can drown out the voice of God if we are not careful. Why is it so easy for us to hear the voices of those that can fail us and not hear The One that will never fail us?

God will give us direction, He may just clarify scripture that we have been wrestling with, He may call us to make BIG MOVES! If we are not tuned in and listening, we will miss it.

I ask God regularly to slow me down.... make me be still so that I can hear and see the amazing things that He is doing for and around me.

Today I pray that you will be open to hearing God. I pray that you will hear God's calling. Listen for the leading voice to help you discern what you should be doing! Say it – "Speak Lord. Your servant is listening!"

Your fellow servant, Pastor Maggie

Relationship Matters

AUGUST 2-8, 2021 •

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33

Psalm 130

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:35, 41-51

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: David's family was a mess. Among his children there was rape, murder, and a plot to overthrow him by his son Absalom. Violence followed, and Second Samuel tells the story of Absalom's death. Even though Absalom had betrayed him, David still loved his son with a parent's never-ending love—the kind of love that God demonstrates perfectly for us, as David celebrates in Psalm 34. The author of Ephesians warns against acting out of anger, wrath, and malice (the very things that tore apart David's family). We should instead forgive, as God in Christ has forgiven us. In John, Jesus restates that he is the path to God because he teaches God's truth. Jesus will give his own life, then raise up those who believe in him.

Finding Faithfulness

AUGUST 9-15, 2021

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

Psalm 111 (UMH 832)

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

SCRIPTURE OVERVIEW: If you could ask God for one thing, what would it be? God offered this chance to Solomon, and the king asked for wisdom to rule God's people well. God honored this request by giving Solomon many other gifts too, as long as the king followed God's ways. (Later on, unfortunately, Solomon lost his way.) The psalmist tells us that wisdom begins with understanding who we are and who God is. Ephesians addresses practical implications of wise living: follow the will of the Lord, be filled with the Spirit, encourage one another, and be grateful to God. The Gospel passage continues Jesus' metaphorical description of himself as the Bread of Heaven. Here Jesus anticipates the sacrament of Communion, in which we partake of his body and blood by faith.

**Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, August 8th, 2021
"Speaking Truth"**

**Pastor Maggie's Message
Sunday, August 15th, 2021
"Giving Thanks"**

Food Pantry News:

The food pantry was blessed with 41 cases of fresh strawberries from Aldi's. We shared them with Martin Resource Center. Lue Phelps arranged for Patty Jarvis, Pearl Shook and Jill Anderson and herself to spend time freezing them. (I heard lunch at the Clipper Cafe was included in the time together) What a blessing to the clients of the pantry and to the people involved with the ministry. Thank you to Aldi's and the ladies who froze them. If this is a way you would like to help with the pantry contact Pat Hoekstra and she will add your name to the list of volunteers. The pantry requires many hands to make it work! All volunteers are so appreciated!

**Confidential Pastor Email:
umcpastormaggs@gmail.com**

**Bulletin announcements are
due each week on Tuesday!
Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com**

**The Connection - next issue
announcements/articles/testimonies are
due August 17th, 2021
Email to:
martinshelbyvilleumcs@gmail.com**

Shelbyville UMC Food Pantry Collection

August- Spaghetti Sauce & Pasta

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

Martin UMC Food Pantry Collection

August - Jelly

Please place items in the grocery cart outside of 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

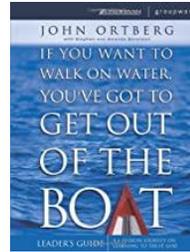
Aug. 19 & 20 Basement Sale

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

August Book!

Order yours today!

August book review will be on
August 28th at 9:30 a.m. Martin UMC

Thank you to Steve Collins for tidying up the kitchen and other areas of Martin UMC while volunteering in the food pantry!! You are appreciated!!

Thank you to Jean Holley for the beautiful flowers on the alter August 2, 2021! They were beautiful!!

Thank you to Patsy Hoekstra for answering the call to serve in the food pantry as the Food Pantry Coordinator!

Shelbyville UMC Basement Sale

August 19th and 20th

Items can be brought in after July 25, 2021

Pricing for clothes will be standard except for:

- Dresses
- Coats

All household items not included above should come in marked by the person donating. Please feel free to email the church office if you have any questions.

Pricing for the following items will be:

Toys - .50 or as marked
Jewelry - .50 or as marked
Stuffed animals - .50
Games - .50
Puzzles - .50
Records and Tapes - .25
CD's - .50
VHS - .50
DVD - 1.00
Books - .50

TESTIMONY-GOD STORY

When we left Michigan years ago, we had \$527 in our pocket, a beat up chevy blazer, 4 cats and a 150-pound black lab. No real destination other than Gatlinburg area. We didn't necessarily know what we were looking for, but we were looking for a new start. A beginning. We ended up in this tiny town about 30 miles south of Gatlinburg. Found a cheap hotel that we could pay by the week.

It was there that we met this man named Hal. This man didn't know us but was sympathetic to our situation and he gave us a place to stay. He gave us food and he gave us gas money so that we could seek employment. Who does that?

There wasn't much in the way of jobs in the town we were in, so we went to Gatlinburg every day. We couldn't afford to pay the \$10.00 for parking so we found this abandoned church about 2 miles away. We would then have to walk to Gatlinburg. One day I had my 3rd interview at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. with 3 managers, so I put on my best, heels and all. We started the two-mile walk - my feet were killing me with blisters and all bloody. I had no choice but to take them off. The southern heat was so intense that I got blisters on my feet. We got about half mile away and it started pouring rain. I had worn a white top and the make-up was running down my face. I started crying and said, "forget it". My feet were covered in blood, so I sat down in the rain while Danny got the car. I felt like giving up. This is just one example of how difficult this new start was!

Hal was always checking in on us even though it was a 40-mile drive from his home to ours. I was getting so sad and depressed, we knew it would be hard, but this was SO HARD! I was preparing for yet another interview and realized that I didn't have any toothpaste. Seems like a little thing, but we were going without most of the little things that we take for granted in our daily lives. I was becoming frustrated that even something so simple as toothpaste wasn't available and I headed out the door to get some air and to take a walk. I found myself in one of the barns that was on the property that Hal owned. I started snooping around and believe it or not I came across this box of FULL of toothpaste.... yes toothpaste!! The little sample sizes that you get from the dentist. I called Hal to ask if I could have some, Hal had no idea who put them there or where they had come from. Hal thought I had gone crazy and got in his car and drove over to see this box that had clearly been sent by no one other than God.

What more of a sign did I need than the toothpaste to say, you are in the right place....keep plugging away....keep moving forward my child!! We laughed, we cried and then we went to some of the very food pantries that had helped us along the way and shared this amazing treasure of toothpaste with them.

We find ourselves in a very good place these days. We own our home; we are happy, and things are going well. We have no doubt that our earth-angel-Hal was sent by God to help us and to encourage us! We will forever be grateful for the help, the love and the friendship given to us by Hal. We also know that God is with us. We see God in our story every day.

Traci Guritz

Important Events

- August 11, 2021 – UMW Meeting at Shelbyville – 10:00 a.m. bring your own sack lunch.
- August 19th & 20th – Basement Sale at Shelbyville UMC
- August 4th, 2021 – Ad Council Meeting Shelbyville UMC – 6:00 p.m.
- August 11th, 2021 – Ad Council meeting Martin UMC – 6:00 p.m.
- 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!

-Updated: July 31, 2021

- Families of those affected by COVID
- Tracy Buskirk - Cancer
- Blaine Anderson - Cancer
- Raina Oldebeken - Cancer
- Jeff Oldebeken - Health
- The Family of Al Kornalje - Al passed away on July 24th, 2021
- Lee Reed - Health/Hospitalized
- Marcia Marques - Cancer
- Molly Mentzer - Cancer Treatment
- Helene Genter - Todd - Health
- Dave Jager - Health Issues
- Edie Kilmer - Under Hospice Care
- Jack Washburn - Heart Issues
- Jackie Mclochlin, Ashton & New Baby!
- Aerial Fox - Young woman diagnosed with lymphoma
- Orie Perry - Cancer
- Rose Oglesbee - Vision
- Nancy Nicolai - Hearing
- Ben Parker - Cancer diagnosis
- Sharon Warner - Recovering from quadruple bypass
- Sandra Holbrook - struggling with physical issues
- Alice Boyce - Alice is receiving hospice care
- Dee Bos - Health
- Jacklyn, Ashton & New Baby!
- Mike Kelly - Health
- Chris Davis - Cancer
- Mary McGhee - Testing/health
- Maxine Garwald - Broken bones due to fall
- Deb Hilsbos & family - caring for mother
- Harriet Mulder - Hip replacement
- Donna O'Brien - Health, transition to rehab center
- Family of Danny Dorgan - Danny passed away on July 28, 2021
- Carolyn Buskirk - Health
- Dave Carter - Recovering from knee replacement
- Marlene Rose - New Grandbaby

HELP WANTED

Martin UMC: Additional Worship Committee members and Team Leader!
Help to develop, plan and schedule worship activities.

Martin UMC: Care Team Members – People with a heart for checking in, caring for and showing love to others! (We have two volunteers so far!)

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