



MARTIN AND SHELBYVILLE UMC'S

Joyful Notes

FEBRUARY 2020

Open Hearts.
Minds.
Doors.

The United Methodist Church

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR COREY SIMON:

I've been reflecting on Matthew's Sermon on the Mount for some time now in preparation for this sermon series and what I've found (once more) is that there are few words of Jesus more convicting than those on the mountainside in chapters 5 through 7. It needs noting that the words of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount in Matthew aren't exclusive to Matthew, a variant of them can also be found in Luke 6's Sermon on the Plain. Unlike in Matthew, where Jesus is speaking on a mountainside, offering wisdom bound up in authority to his disciples (as the crowd marvels at in the close of the Sermon in chapter 7 verses 28 & 29), Luke presents Jesus speaking on a level place (6:17) which appears to indicate that Luke is not so much stressing the authority of Jesus but rather stressing his humanity. Additionally, unlike in Matthew where we are offered eight blessings, Luke offers four blessings and four woes- four cautions to the listener.

In my reflections on the Sermon on the Mount I also made a realization about the Lectionary, our three year cycle of readings that Protestants and Catholics alike use in our preaching. In our current year, year A (original I know) we are taken back to the basics, to the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus' manifesto of sorts, in which Jesus lays out in detail what his Kingdom looks like. What is notable about our following Jesus up the mountain is not just the placement it is also the notion of where we're led to as we climb the mountain in our Lectionary. After this season (following Epiphany) we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday which also takes place on a mountain, only this time the disciples witness the fullness of Jesus' revelation as he shines like the sun. The genius of it then is that we're led up the mountainside in the Sermon, we witness the fullness of Jesus' revelation, and then we begin the long journey of Lent to the Cross.

The message of Transfiguration is one that we are prepared for in our season of the Sermon on the Mount, we have to come down from the mountain.

As much as we would like to stay on the mountainside with Jesus and set up our tents (Mt 17:4), Jesus sends us down, seeming to tell us that here's where the work begins. As disciples of Christ we are called to be Kingdom builders, people working to see God's Kingdom lived out, to see love become not only our way in the world but the way in the world.

I'm reminded in this season especially of the words of Martin Luther King Jr who spoke of a mountaintop, who told listeners in 1968 that he'd gone up the mountain and seen the other side, seen the other side, a glimpse of the beloved community, one where every life is sacred and every man, woman, and child is blessed. May we live with the conviction that we will see that Kingdom.

In God's peace, Pastor Corey

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. PO Box 154
Martin, MI 49070
Worship: 9:30a.m

Pastor Corey Simon
231-622-2070
pastorcoreysimon@gmail.com

martinshelbyvilleumcs@sbcglobal.net

Web site: www.martinumc.org

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave.
Shelbyville, MI 49344
Worship: 11:00am

Patsy Hoekstra
Administrative Assistant
269-672-7097

Office Hours: Wednesday-Thursday - 8-3
Closed noon to 1pm for lunch
Friday - 8 to noon

SHELBYVILLE CHURCH NEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Raina Oldebeken	Lydia Cole	Hope Wassenaar	Jeff Oldebeken	Kenny Warner
Marlene Hoekstra	Dick Boyle	Agnes Chlebana	Mike Pickens	Jim Bush
Terrena Send	Sean Kidd	Norm Constant	Dale Miller	Mary Lou Boyle
Brian Westendorp	Nancy White	Ivy Keyzer	Nora Mingerink	

If you would like a name added or removed from the prayer list, please notify the Church Office.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 1. Administrative Council Meeting**
February 5, 6pm
- 2. United Methodist Women**
Wednesday, February 12, 10am
Potluck at noon

The mission of the Shelbyville United Methodist Church is to provide a warm, loving environment in which to worship the Lord, and to educate and reach out to others in our community.

Please send a card:

Nancy White
683 2nd St.
Plainwell, MI
49080

MARTIN CHURCH NEWS

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Otis Royston	Will Moss	Raina Oldebeken	Hope Wassenaar	Lucy Bourdo
Loyal Boulter	Jim Bush	Brent Hook	Ed Buys	Jeff Oldebeken
Sean Kidd	Marsha Roberts	Dominic Shook	Dale Holland	Merry Ondersma
Brian Westendorp	Ivy Keyzer	Mark Ondersma		

Please send a card to:

Trudy Wells
2081 Canopy Dr
Byron Center, MI
49315

MISSION STATEMENT

We, who are the Martin United Methodist Church, are called to be disciples of Jesus Christ, committed to:

- ***SHARING** God's Love
- ***TEACHING** the Bible and spiritual life
- ***INVITING** the community to grow and walk with us in Christian faith
- ***SERVING** the needs of our neighbors

Sunday School for all ages begins at 11am on Sunday mornings.

FEBRUARY FOOD ITEM DONATION
Canned soup



Monthly Loose Change
Second Sunday of the month
Offering Designated for
the Project Hope



"Showing God's Love in the community by praying, serving and encouraging people with the HOPE of Christ."

**Red Cross
BLOOD DRIVE
Tuesday,
February 11
Martin UMC
12:30-6:15pm**



FAT TUESDAY

PANCAKE DINNER

Sponsored by the Community Breakfast Team
Tuesday, February 25, 5 to 7pm





Long story short, the reason Fat Tuesday is called Fat Tuesday is because it's all about excess. Eat all of your favorite foods, celebrate with friends, play music extra loud, whatever.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

DISCUSSION GROUP

Every other Tuesday

1:30PM

Host by

Carolyn Buskirk

1164 124th Ave.

Shelbyville

CRAFT DAY

1st & 3rd Saturdays

10am to noon

Shelbyville UMC

All are welcome!

PLAYDAY

Every Wednesday

3:30-5pm

Fun activities for youth

Shelbyville UMC

Peace Drum Circle

3rd Saturday, 5pm

Got a drum?

Bring it!

Need to borrow one?

We have you covered!

Shelbyville UMC



DISABILITIES AWARENESS SUNDAY

Sunday, February 9

It was not until the late 1970s that children with disabilities were included in the public school system in the United States. While we have made some progress in accessibility of our public spaces, there is still work to be done. The United Methodist Church recognizes that people living with disabilities are fully human and full members of God's family whom we need to be intentional in seeking to fully include in all aspects of church life. One way we have decided to keep this work of inclusion in front of us is to set aside one Sunday each year to observe Disability Awareness Sunday.

The Disability Ministries Committee of The United Methodist Church works year round to advocate for our members living with disabilities. This committee also does the work of developing resources for churches to assist them in better meeting the needs of all of our members. If you would like to support their work, you can give to The United Methodist Church Disability Ministries Committee Special Advance on Sunday, February 16.



Ivy Keyzer a student at Martin High School has been diagnosed w/Leukemia. She has started treatments.

Please send cards to:

Ivy Keyzer

2232 4th St.

Shelbyville MI 49344



Lydia Elise Cole, age 16, of Gun Lake passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with cancer on Thursday, January 30th, 2020 with her family at her side.

Lydia is the daughter of Ryan and Kelly (McMurray) Cole. They were members of the Shelbyville Church when she was born.



You may send her family a card:

Ryan and Kelly Cole

Madelyn, Reese

1735 Edwin Drive

Wayland, MI 49348