



MARTIN AND SHELBYVILLE UMC'S

# Joyful Notes

JANUARY 2020

Open Hearts.  
Minds.  
Doors.

The United Methodist Church

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR COREY SIMON:

Dear Church,

It is a strange thing to consider a year like this one, with so much standing before us before the end of the year we have a long path together before it's over. From the drama of General Conference to the impending horror show that is elections in the US, we're looking forward to a tumultuous year; and what's more, some of us have our own personal events to look forward to, (my marriage in October bearing ever on my mind).

For this reason I want to use this year, amidst all the hullabaloo and noise, to take time to consider our own direction. I want us to consider where we've been, to faithfully consider where we are, and to consider further where we want to go. There is something poetic about this year being 2020 as I can't help but consider ophthalmology. In terms of vision and eyesight, to have 20/20

In terms of vision and eyesight 20-20 vision is considered near perfect, for this reason I hope for us to consider this our year our VISION 2020, the year in which we re-evaluate, plan ahead, look forward to where we want to be at the end of this decade. As we know so much can change in a few years and when we extend our vision further we note that even more can change.

Where were we, both as individuals and as a congregation in 2010? To break it down by numbers in 2010 Shelbyville had 61 members with an average attendance of 51, today we have 60 with an attendance of 41. Meanwhile in Martin we had 166 members and an average attendance of 95 in 2010, today we have 115 members and 54 in attendance. If this trend were to continue as-is with no shift we will be looking at an attendance of 32 in Shelbyville and 29 in Martin by 2030.

How do we handle this news? Is this sustainable? This Vision 2020 year then is to be a year for us to look at where the future is headed if no adjustments are made and in turn to evaluate how we want to proceed.

Do we want to proceed?

If the answer is yes then this needs to be a year, a decade, of intentional work, intentional connecting with our community in ways we haven't before. I believe in the Church. I believe local churches are the intersection of what we believe and what we do. For this reason I believe we can more succinctly and intentionally focus in on how we can best communicate these things to our neighbors, on how we can be a church that both attracts and extends outward.

In the love of Christ and in the HOPE of what the 2020s offer,  
Pastor Corey Simon, New Year's Day 2020

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](mailto:martinshelbyvilleumcs@sbcglobal.net)

Web site: [www.martinumc.org](http://www.martinumc.org)

Shelbyville United Methodist Church  
938 124<sup>th</sup> 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:

**CANCER:** Shirley Vanderploeg Raina Oldebeken Lydia Cole Hope Wassenaar  
Kenny Warner Daryl Gillaland Shawn Goodrich

**MEDICAL ISSUES:** Dick Boyle Jeff Oldebeken Mike Pickens Marlene Hoekstra  
Agnes Chlebana Jim Bush Terrena Send Virginia Mauchmar Shirley Moore  
Norm Constant Dale Miller Betty Farmer Mary Lou Boyle Bob Benedict

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

### 1. Administrative Council Meeting

January 8, 6pm

### 2. United Methodist Women

Wednesday, January 8, 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.

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

Is there someone from church who you have not seen at church in a while? Send them a note and tell them you are missing them!

# MARTIN CHURCH NEWS

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

**CANCER:** Otis Royston Will Moss Raina Oldebeken Hope Wassenaar  
Tom Schoenhoven Dale Holland Lucy Bourdo

**HEALTH ISSUES:** Loyal Boulter Brent Hook Jeff Oldebeken Jim Bush  
Ed Buys Randy Everett Deb Lahaie Dan Reniff Eddie Oetman

Jerry Hill Sharon DeMann Dominic Shook Viola Bennett

**CONCERNS:** James Smith, Families, Dale Rose

Please send a card to:

Viola Bennett  
318 Cross Oaks Dr.  
Apt. 11  
Plainwell MI 49080

## 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

## FOOD PANTRY DRIVE

We will hold monthly food drives this year. We are asking for donations of items mostly purchased for the pantry. Please consider purchasing some and bringing them to the Martin or Shelbyville Churches.

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

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."

## JANUARY FOOD ITEM

Personal Hygiene products; shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, etc

## CHURCH INVOLVEMENT

It takes a lot of volunteers to run a church. Looking for ways to get involved? Here's just a few and who to contact:

Sunday morning greeters-  
Maggie Stoken  
Fellowship Time-  
Lue Phelps  
Prayer and Praise Team-  
Molly Mentzer  
Operate sound system-  
Gordon Ash  
Operate video system-  
Kristin DeMann  
Communion Server-  
Pastor Corey  
Food Pantry - Ronda Kelly

# **JANUARY ACTIVITIES**

## **DISCUSSION GROUP**

Every other Tuesday

1:30PM

Host by

Carolyn Buskirk

1164 124<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Shelbyville

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## **CRAFT DAY**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays

10am to noon

Shelbyville UMC

All are welcome!

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## **PLAYDAY**

Every Wednesday

3:30-5pm

Fun activities for youth

Shelbyville UMC

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## **Peace Drum Circle**

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 5pm

Got a drum?

Bring it!

Need to borrow one?

We have you covered!

Shelbyville UMC



## **UM GIVING PROGRAM**

Connectional giving — all of us giving together — allows United Methodists to do together what we cannot do alone.

When you give on Special Sundays, you enable vital ministries that change the world, one life at a time.

Every United Methodist can support the vital ministries they care about. No administrative costs are deducted.

### **United Methodist Special Offerings**

Human Relations Day

January 19

UMCOR Sunday

March 22

Native American Ministries

April 26

Peace with Justice Sunday

June 7

World Communion Sunday

October 4

### **Greater Southwest Conference Special Offerings**

Disabilities Awareness

February 16

Golden Cross Sunday

May 17

Rural Life Sunday

July 19

Volunteers in Mission

August 16

Christian Education

September 20



## **Epiphany**

Epiphany also called Three Kings' Day, Theophany, Denha, Little Christmas, and Baptism of Jesus is celebrated on January 6th each year according to the Gregorian calendar and what most Western Christian Churches follow.

Western Churches celebrate Epiphany with a feast that commemorates the visit of the Magi (Three Kings, or Three Wise Men) to baby Jesus, signifying Jesus's physical revealing to the Gentiles. In some Western Churches the day starts the liturgical season of Epiphanytide that follows Christmastide and ends on different days depending on the denomination of the Church.

Some countries celebrate Epiphany on the first Sunday after January 1.

Come worship with us on Epiphany Sunday, January 5..