



Pastor's Message

Our youngest son, Peter, is a swimmer at West High School. He loves it. He enjoys the camaraderie of his teammates. He likes how physically fit swimming makes him. He finds the demands and hard work of training rewarding, even though he might not always like the practices! Many of our St. Martin's High Schoolers swim on the Middleton team and would probably say the same things. Each of us eventually learns a truth, that when you work hard for something you value it more. In fact, when you work hard with others toward a common purpose, you enjoy the results even more. I recall clearly the words of Pastor Bud Palmberg at our wedding in July of 1980: "*Anything of worth is worth working for.*" It's been true in our marriage ever since.

If our faith in Jesus Christ is worth anything, it is certainly working for. In the New Year, will you work to deepen your faith in Jesus Christ? If the answer is "yes", I challenge you to commit to some of the following discipleship practices:

- 1) Participate in a small group at St. Martin's; here are some suggestions:
 - a. Join a "Feasting on the Word" home group which meets twice this month.
 - b. Come to the Sunday Morning between Services forums/studies.
 - c. Offer your musical talents for Worship Services.
 - d. Be a Guide for Wednesday night Confirmation.
 - e. Pray. One way is to participate in the "Centering Prayer" ministry.
- 2) Visit our elderly and shut-in members.
- 3) Quilt.
- 4) Be a St. Martin's Office volunteer.
- 5) Worship the Lord regularly on Sunday mornings.
- 6) Offer *financial support* for St. Martin's ministry. Members are part of a team, and we need everyone to contribute. "Faith Promises" (or pledging) is a discipline that shows your faith is a priority. If cash flow is a problem, remember St. Martin's in your will, or make the church's ministry a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- 7) Start a new small group ministry that you're passionate about.

The possibilities to serve the Lord here at St. Martin's are limitless. The point is, if your faith in Jesus Christ is of worth; show it by your works. Our Annual Meeting last week was a tremendous fresh start for the St. Martin's family. Our challenges are great. The rewards of pulling together as a team are worth the effort. Will you do your part for the sake of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom?

--- Yours in Christ,
Pastor Rick

President's Report

My term for president has expired, so this will be my last President's report in Crossways. Many people had positive comments about the annual meeting, but at the same time it was not all rosy. We had to present a bare bones budget that was still \$50,000 over what we were comfortable with. Kevin Boehnen did an analysis of our budget and told us that in the past couple of years the amount of money projected from the Faith Promises represented about 70% of the total we eventually collected. So Council intended on presenting a budget reflecting this analysis. We were shocked to find out that after cutting almost all the team ministries requests, we were still close to \$50,000 over that projection. Rather than cutting staff and their salaries, we presented a budget without staff and staff salary cuts and have faith that this year we will make up the difference.

If nothing changes, then everyone needs to increase their giving 23 cents on the dollar. It is unlikely that will happen, but in the recent past we have certainly collected more revenue than our 2010 budget. The most likely way we can make that happen is to grow our membership. Two of the main reasons for a membership decline were a struggling youth ministry and some issues with the former pastor. I believe both of these have been addressed and the majority of those people would never have left the church had we had the youth ministry program and pastor that we have now.

We have gone from the days where a handful of youth were finding it difficult to get together to a point where we have approximately 20 youth meeting every week to have fellowship and plan varied activities along with a major mission trip. We also have a pastor with strong interpersonal skills who is a dynamic leader. Our new church structure also allows people more opportunities to serve their Lord. So now we just need to be reaching out in our community to make people aware of what St. Martin's can mean for them.

You and I need to be the main recruiters to get people through the church doors.

Hopefully you will want to play a part in community outreach. Collectively if a majority of us make a small contribution here, we can have the potential for big results. Please do not go door to door evangelizing, but do reach out in a Christian way to friends and neighbors, and when the opportunity presents itself talk to them about your church and tell them how much it means to your family and how others are served through the ministries at St. Martin's. When you have friends or neighbors that need to have a child baptized, encourage and possibly arrange a visit with the pastor. Bring friends and neighbors to events like the Haiti and Gospel concerts to show them that we care for people beyond our church doors. Perhaps some could be invited to the "Book of Faith" gatherings in February. Seize the opportunities as they present themselves.

Certainly keeping our website up to date will be important as church shoppers will often times use a website to determine which churches they would like to visit. Our current website is an asset to our church growth. Ministry teams should take pictures and write articles for the website to tell their stories. We need to show that St. Martin's has active disciples serving the Lord.

Times have been tough the past six or seven years at St. Martin's. The pastor and I believe St. Martin's has hit bottom and growth is starting to turn around. Growth will happen, but it needs to happen quickly if we want it to impact our budget. It can only occur quickly through prayer and everyone focusing to make it happen. So let's make church growth our primary challenge in 2010.

Thanks for allowing me to serve as your council president the past three years. It has been difficult at times, but it is also rewarding to see the people at St. Martin's excited again for the future of our church. I want to welcome Rick Wieland and Jeff Postle to Council and thank Christie Howell-Yrios and Jeannie Hering-Schumann for their dedicated council service the past three years. Let's make 2010 the best ever!

Van Valaskey

Worship & Music

Our Lenten theme is “Word for Lent”, and builds on the “Feasting on the Word” small groups study in Epiphany season. Between services in the Library we will discuss the “Word” themes. If you miss Sunday, you can come on Wednesday evenings after the mid-week worship and Soup Suppers. When we will repeat the previous Sunday’s theme.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 17 at 7pm. *Please note there is no Soup Supper on Ash Wednesday.* Soup Suppers begin on February 24 at 6 pm, Lenten worship follows at 7 pm and “Word for Lent Small Group Reflection” at 7:30 pm.

The **Sunday** Lenten Worship Services are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Word</u>	<u>Scripture</u>
Feb. 21	Lent 1	“Enlightens”	Luke 4:1-13
Feb. 28	Lent 2	“Received”	Luke 13:31-35
Mar 7	Lent 3	“Life”	Luke 13:1-9
Mar 14	Lent 4	“Known”	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32
Mar 21	Lent 5	“Power”	John 12:1-8
Mar 28	Lent 6	“World”	Luke 22:14-23:56
April 4	Easter	“Glory”	Luke 24:1-12



Valentine’s Day

If you’re married, you’re invited to come forward at either Worship Service and participate in a short liturgy called “Affirmation of Wedding Vows” on February 14th. Bring your wedding pictures and after worship we’ll share refreshments and conversations about marriage and life together!

Concert For Haiti

The Light House Singers, a cappella singers under the direction of Jonathon Overby will perform in the St. Martin’s sanctuary on Monday, February 1 at 7 p.m. A freewill offering will be taken. Net proceeds will benefit the Lutheran World Relief Haitian Relief Fund. A coffee and cookie reception will follow the concert.



SHARE

SHARE is celebrating its 25th year in 2010. Look for many new specials and additional promotions this year.

FEBRUARY Specials are BLUEBERRY PANCAKE-WRAPPED PORK SAUSAGES includes 60 sausage links wrapped in pancake on a stick for \$14. Each order of the special will contribute \$1 to the SHARE Cares Food Fund for needy families.

The SUPPERTIME MENU FROZEN ENTREE ASSORTMENT contains 7 different 18 oz entrée’s serving two for \$20. February’s selections also include hash browns, BLACK EARTH MEATS organic ground beef and a mixed steak box containing NY strip and 4 Ribeye individually wrapped 8oz steaks.

Other food packages are available for \$25. or a mini-package for \$15. containing an assortment of frozen meats, fresh fruits and vegetables, and other items. Choices change each month. Shipping and handling charges are added.

Please check the narthex for the SHARE display/ newsletters, online at sharewi.org, or call Donna Blumer at 798-0114 or Dee Suhomel at 767-3757 ext 222. The deadline for **February orders is February 9th or February 13th** if ordering online. Please call Donna if ordering after these dates.

Youth Activities & Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School Schedule:

2/7--Opening and Instruction

2/14--Opening and Instruction

2/21--Opening and Instruction

(Children sing at 10:30 worship--"Somebody Loves Me")

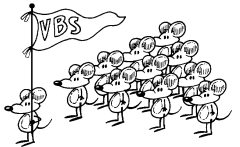
2/28-- Opening and Instruction



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America believes the Bible teaching that Holy Communion is for all baptized believers. There is no age restriction or other requirement. However, we at St. Martin's believe that it is important to receive thorough instruction on God's purposes regarding Holy Communion prior to receiving it. Parents are encouraged to attend with their child(ren) one of the following age-appropriate pre-Communion preparation classes:

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
3-5	Feb. 28, March 7 & 14 th	9:15-10:15 am	Gunderson Life Center
Pr-K-2	March 20 or 27	1 pm to 3 pm	Main Sanctuary

First Communion for all ages will be at a special additional Worship Service in Holy Week on Maundy Thursday, April 1st at 5:30 pm. Please call Julie Schultz or Pastor Rick with questions.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
RECRUITMENT**

HELP WANTED: VBS Team- anyone interested in planning for the coming VBS please contact Julie Schultz 798-1922 or tjschultz@charter.net. We were not able to have VBS last summer and would like to have something for this summer. Possibly a rotational program scheduled during the evening(s) with family, and a light meal served.

CALLING 5TH & 6TH GRADERS: Pastor Rick and the Confirmation Guides are planning a week of Camp at Bethel Horizons in Dodgeville during the week of June 20-25th. The theme is "Underground Adventure." Each day a different underground experience will be experienced, including visiting a mine, Cave of the Mounds, and exploring a wild cave! Swimming, canoeing, teambuilding and the high challenge course will be a part of this week. Base camp is the campground. Cost is approximately \$350 for the week. An informational meeting will be scheduled in early February, but if you'd like more information, please let Pastor Rick or your Guide know.

SENIOR YOUTH

Just in time for your Super Bowl Party.....

St. Martin's Youth Group
Fresh Pizza Sale - There will be a limited number of fresh, handmade, ready for the oven, 12 inch Pizzas for \$6 each after both services on Sunday, February 7. **If you pre-ordered your pizzas, don't forget to pick-up on Sunday, Feb. 27!**



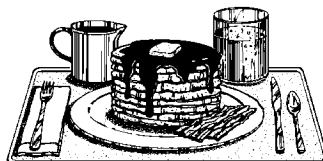
Coming on Sunday,
February 14 - St. Martin's
Youth Group Bake Sale
Buy sweet treats for your sweetie or indulge before Lent!



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

February 16 Fellowship Hall - watch for details

Brought to you by St. Martin's Youth Group - Free will offering will help support 24 youth and 4 chaperons traveling to Hancock County, MS to do work still needed years after Hurricane Katrina.



Adult Education & Activities

ADULT ACTIVITIES

- ❖ **Cheese and Chocolate Tasting** presented by Bill Wendorff on Saturday, Feb. 13 at 7:00 pm in Fellowship Hall. Put this fun, educational opportunity on your calendar now. Bill is an Emeritus Professor of Dairy Manufacturing at UW-Madison and a certified cheese judge. He will be showcasing 8 premium chocolates matched up with 9 specialty cheeses. Cost will be \$7.50 per person. Any money collected above the cost of the cheese and chocolate will go to the general fund. Word has it his office used to be right above the ice cream store.
- ❖ **Adult Planning Teams** -We are looking for adults to help plan future Adult Events. The 2 types of events that we have had in the past are the Friends Activities, held during the day and include lunch out, and the AMEN activities that showcase interests and experiences of members that they are willing to share with other members.

If you would like to help plan either of these types of activities, please let me know.

EDUCATION

- ❖ **“Upsized Living in Downsized Times”** 9:15 Sunday’s is continuing thru Feb. 7 at the Gunderson Life Center. This forum is based on Dr. Tony Campolo’s video series “Curing Affluenza”. This is a timely topic as we continue dealing with our changing world and resources. This has been a popular series. Each week we seem to have more members.

SMALL GROUPS

- ❖ The Small Groups have been postponed so as not to interfere with the **Book of Life** small groups scheduled in February. Look for more information in the future. My hope is to start at least some of the small groups later this year. Please let me know if you have an interest in Women’s Evening or Daytime Circle, Men’s Lunch Fellowship, Gardening, or a Dinner Group.
- ❖ Other existing Small Groups you may want to check out on the church calendar are **Centering Prayer**, coordinated by Ann Boehnen, **Women’s Bible Study**, led by Mary Kay Knipfer, **Men’s Bible Study**, led by Tim Knipfer and a monthly **Sunday Pot Luck**, coordinated by Virginia Diebold and Diana Postle.

Hallie Wendorff
Team Liaison Council



Are you interested in a scrapbooking event at St. Martin's on April 24th? Mary Vassalotti is looking to organize an all day crop for interested scrapbookers. There is a Creative Memories consultant willing to be the vendor for the day. She will donate 10% of her sales to the church to use for a project of our choice. Please let me know if you are interested in the possibility of this event at mvass@charter.net or cell phone 279-0703. **Come enjoy the joy of scrapbooking whether you are a veteran of the craft or just getting started!!**

Volunteers In Worship - February

Lectors (also Communion Assistants)

2-07	8:00	Phyllis Wendt
	10:30	Ann Houck
2-14	8:00	Tamra Harder
	10:30	Jennifer Niesen
2-21	8:00	Elaine Smiley/Jordan Foster
	10:30	Bill Windels
2-28	8:00	Bev Brunner
	10:30	Brenda Hagman

Communion Assistants – 10:30 a.m.

2-07	Nancy McCauley & Donna Blumer	
2-14	Mary Kay Knipfer & Patty Harper	
2-21	Schultz/Vike/Lund Team	
2-28	Tamra Harder & John Hagman	

Accompanists

2-07	Jan Doyle
2-14	Mary Vassalotti
2-21	Jan Doyle
2-28	Mary Vassalotti

Song Leaders

2-08	8:00	Deb Lohr-Foster
	10:30	Paula Elver
2-14	8:00	
	10:30	Karen Windels
2-21	8:00	Deb Lohr-Foster
	10:30	Paula Elver
2-28	8:00	
	10:30	Karen Windels

Acolytes

2-08	8:00	Matthew Harper
	10:30	Savanna Jackson
2-14	8:00	Alex Niebuhr
	10:30	Derek Calvin
2-21	8:00	Conner Mickelson
	10:30	Laura Kalvin
2-28	8:00	Max Boehnen
	10:30	Liam Turley

Counters

2-07	Hillebrand Team 4	
2-14	Kalvin Team 3	
2-17	Schunk Team 2 (Ash Wednesday)	
2-21	Niesen Team 1	
2-24	Hillebrand Team 5 (Lenten Service)	
2-28	Hillebrand Team 4	

Altar Guild

2-07	8:00	Patty Hillebrand
	10:30	Ann Houck
2-14	8:00	Jan Doyle
	10:30	Darlene Schulenberg
2-21	8:00	Debbie Wipperfurth
	10:30	Julie Schultz
2-28	8:00	Deb Goplin
	10:30	Open/Deb Goplin

Ushers

2-07	8:00	Wendorff Team
	10:30	Blumer Team
2-14	8:00	Wendorff Team
	10:30	Blumer Team
2-21	8:00	Wendorff Team
	10:30	Blumer Team
2-28	8:00	Wendorff Team
	10:30	Blumer Team

Junior Ushers (10:30 a.m.)

2-07	Julia Tibbetts	
2-14	Mariah Carlson	
2-21	Alison Faber	
2-28	Anna Freudenberg	

Nursery (10:30)

2-07	Samantha Roll	
2-14	Anna Freudenberg	
2-21	Kaitlin Conroy	
2-28	Garrett Knudtson	

AV

2-07	8:00	James Hartung
	10:30	Jeff Postle
2-14	8:00	Bill Wendorff
	10:30	Randy Hunt
2-21	8:00	James Hartung
	10:30	Patty Neumueller & Jeff Postle
2-28	8:00	Phil Fish
	10:30	Randy Hunt

HELP WANTED: Seeking a graphic artist willing to donate their time to create a new St. Martin's logo. Please contact Pastor Rick or Maureen at the church office – 798-2777.



ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN February 2010

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
	1 Girl Scouts 188 FH 6:30pm Soul Purpose 7pm Concert For Haiti 7pm	2 Men's Bible Study LB 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts 87 FH 7pm	3 Confirmation 6:30pm Tiger Troup 87 6pm	4 Pal Zone 9:30am Women's AA 10am TOPS 5pm Youth Group Lifeline 7:15pm	5	6	
	7 8 & 10:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday School K-5 FH 10:45am Sunday School Pre K 5pm The Project practice	8 Quilting 9:30am Girl Scouts 188 FH 6:30pm Soul Purpose 7pm Historical Society 7pm	9 Men's Bible Study LB 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts 87 FH 7pm Centering Prayer SC 7 pm	10 Confirmation 6:30pm Tiger Troup 87 6pm	11 Pal Zone 9:30am Women's AA 10am TOPS 5pm Youth Grp Lifeline 7:15pm	12	13 AMEN Event <i>"Chocolate & Cheese Tasting" FH 7pm</i>
	14 8 & 10:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday School K-5 FH 5pm The Project practice	15 Soul Purpose 7pm Council L 7pm CROSSWAYS DEADLINE	16 Men's Bible Study LB 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts 87 FH 7pm Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner	17 Confirmation 6:30pm Tiger Trp #87 6pm Ash Wednesday 7pm	18 Pal Zone 9:30am Women's AA 10am TOPS 5pm Youth Grp Lifeline 7:15pm Finance Mtg	19	20
	21 8 & 10:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday School K-5 FH 10:45am Sunday School Pre K 5pm The Project practice	22 Girl Scouts 188 FH 6:30pm Soul Purpose 7pm	23 Men's Bible Study LB 6:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Boy Scouts 87 FH 7pm	24 Confirmation 6pm Soup Supper 6pm Lenten Worship 7pm "Word For Lent" 7:30pm	25 Pal Zone 9:30am Women's AA 10am TOPS 5pm Youth Grp Lifeline 7:15pm	26	27
	28 8 & 10:30am Worship 9:15am Sunday School K-5 FH 5pm The Project practice						

SC - Sanctuary.

MR - Music Room

YR - Youth Room

LB - Library

FH - Fellowship Hall

CR Choir Room

Church Office: (608) 798-2777

Office Hours: 9am-1pm - call 287-4567 thereafter

Pastor Rick Lund - ricklund@stmartinscp.org - 608 287-4567

Maureen Berghoefer - Admin. Assistant - office@stmartinscp.org

Tim Knipfer - Youth Director - timk@stmartinscp.org

J.A.M. or Custodian: (608) 798-5085

Fax: (608) 798-0492

Donna Blumer - Bookkeeper - bookkeeping@stmartinscp.org

Jim Doyle - Cell Phone: 608 576-7572

Web Site URL - <http://www.stmartinscp.org>

Virginia Diebold - virginiad@stmartinscp.org