

WE ARE ALL MINISTERS

When you call a new pastor to St. Martin's, he or she will be a minister of Word and Sacrament among you. I say "a minister" not "the minister." The pastor is not the only one who provides ministry at St. Martin's. The congregation does not revolve around the personality of the pastor. All of the members of St. Martin's are ministers. We sometimes call this "the priesthood of all believers."

In Holy Baptism, God brings the gift of ministry to all, joining us to Christ and forming us into people who serve in the name of Christ in this place. A few weeks ago in worship we heard the Gospel of John reminding us that Jesus calls us as friends, connected to him as branches to the vine. "You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last...." (John 15:16)

We do not choose ministry; it is God's gift and calling first. We respond to God by "bearing fruit"—offering our gifts for the sake of Christ, serving others, loving others as Christ loves us.

A new pastor arrives at St. Martin's gifted by the Holy Spirit and called by the congregation to begin a ministry of Word and Sacrament. A new pastor will bring some specific gifts. He will proclaim God's Word of grace and truth, the Word we read in the bible, the Word revealed in Christ. The new pastor will preside at the waters of the baptismal font, as God's Spirit moves over people to make them new. In the name of Jesus Christ, he will forgive your sins and speak God's words of fresh hope and breath. He will lead your praises at the meal of Holy Communion, as you feast on God's risen life in bread and wine.

This is the pastor's ministry of Word and Sacrament. It is what all pastors are called to do. Now, of course, a pastor does more than that; he or she will bring other gifts. But what those gifts are depends on each pastor. Some pastors are good at organizing and administration. Some are gifted with communication. Some are gifted teachers, others gifted artists. My point is that each pastor is different, and has received different gifts from our one God.

What is important is that your new pastor, through God's Word and the sacraments, will empower your gifts and ministries, for the good of the whole church. Sometimes when a new pastor arrives, people pull back from various ministries at a church. They think, "The new pastor will take care of this now. I don't need to do anything." Please do not do this!

The new pastor will need each of your gifts, each of your ministries, for St. Martin's to grow in faith, love and service. The new pastor will celebrate the ministry that is already being done. With God's grace, over time, the congregation and the new pastor will compliment each other's gifts, and grow as Christ's body in this place.

Let me emphasize again: St. Martin's is not centered on a pastor or a personality, but the living presence of Christ Jesus, the Vine who gives needed energy, focus and strength to us, his branches. God has made us all into ministers who bear Christ for a broken world.

I end with these words from Ephesians: "The gifts Christ gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...." (4:11-12) May the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ continue to equip and empower you as a minister at St. Martin's!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Tim



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At our last council meeting on May 18, we reviewed our goals for the year and evaluated what has happened and what still needs to happen. I listed all the council goals in a previous newsletter so I will not be doing that again now. What I will report on are a couple of important initiatives that will hopefully be starting in our church that came out of those goals.

One of the initiatives is working with a community outreach team to make St. Martins more visible in Cross Plains. The new outreach effort should be started by the time you get this newsletter because the kickoff meeting is June 1. This exciting initiative ought to be a great tool for growing our church. Basically team captains in various areas throughout the church community will lead a shepherding effort to welcome new people in their neighborhood and make them aware that St. Martin's is here for them to serve as disciples of Christ. They will also attend to making certain that the inactive members in their areas are invited back to a more active role in their church.



The second initiative is The Book of Faith Leadership Team that I am now recruiting for. Most of our teams should not be larger than six members and we have the potential for five people that are considering this opportunity right now. If you are not one of those people and want to join the effort then you might want to do some research by going to our website: <http://www.stmartinscp.org/> and click on either the national ELCA logo or our synod logo to learn more about the details of the Book of Faith Initiative.

The Book of Faith Leadership Team at St. Martins:

1. May identify how the Bible is currently being utilized across congregational life at St. Martins (including youth)
2. Will communicate with others churches in the synod about success stories within their congregations: <http://bookoffaith.ning.com>
3. May participate if possible on one or two days of the "Opening the Book of Faith event" with Mark Allan Powell, July 12-13. He was a major contributor to the new Lutheran Book of Worship study bible
4. Will need to participate in a mutual planning event for all First Wave ministry sites
5. Will need to participate in an evaluation event at the end of the First Wave year.
6. May look at the Book of Faith assessment tools from Augsburg Press that can be used in the congregation
 - o Individual Assessments
 - o Group Assessments
7. The team may check out the Book of Faith resources from Augsburg Press
 - o People of Faith
 - o Books of Faith
 - o Together in Faith
 - o Leading in Faith
 - o Making sense of Scripture
 - o A resource kit and DVD for introducing the Book of Faith Initiative in the congregation



It makes sense that today's ELCA Lutheran Church would be concerned about the majority of people in our churches not reading the Bible on a regular basis. Martin Luther translated the Bible from the Greek language to German so the people could read and study it to better know Christ. Luther would be disappointed if those German Christians and the Christians that followed would not have read the Bible that he painstakingly translated. If you share that concern, then this team may be for you. No Bible reading experience is necessary, but you need a desire to see people become fluid in the language of the Bible. If you are interested, then Email me at: veval@tds.net or call me at 798-2752 by June 8.

Van Valaskey

CALL TEAM UPDATE



The Call Team has now had two interviews with Pastoral candidates and we have three more scheduled through the middle of June. We are happy with the way the first two interviews went and are looking forward to the next three. On the day of the interview, we start by taking the Pastor on a tour of Cross Plains, the surrounding area, and our church. After the tours and some refreshments, we have the actual interview followed by a shared meal. In total we spend about five hours with each candidate.

In addition to the interviews, we will be visiting the churches of the Pastoral candidates to see them "in action". This Sunday (May 24) a group of us will travel to the church of the first candidate we interviewed. Overall this is a time-consuming but interesting process.

This is an exciting time for the Call Team and the congregation as we move forward toward finding a permanent Pastor!

The members of the Call Team are Kris Rhude, Ann Boehnen, Elaine Smiley, Lee Swanson, Jeannie Hering-Schuman, Ann Houck and Jeff Postle. Feel free to contact any of these members if you have comments or suggestion about finding a new Pastor.

Jeff Postle
Call Team Leader

ELW HYMNALS

Several members have expressed an interest in dedicating additional ELW's, to fill the sanctuary pews. Another order will be placed July 1st.

Fill out the form on the Worship & Music bulletin board in the narthex, and place it, along with a check for \$20 in the kiosk.

2009 COUNCIL GOALS

During our annual Council retreat, the Council put together a list of 11 goals to help focus our work at St. Martins for 2009. I am currently working on Goal #3 which is to help build community ties by providing resource connections with people to better serve their needs (i.e., workplace assistance, housing, counseling, support groups etc.) by:

1. Getting a sense of the needs that should be addressed after getting feedback from the congregation
2. Using our Website to provide links to resources
3. Continue to develop and expand our current resource binder which will be located in the library
4. Using our church bulletins to advertise community resources and connections

These are some preliminary steps we are taking to address Goal #3 but we are looking for input and direction from our congregation on any resources and connections individuals may currently have and/or would like to see more information on. Please contact Christie or Maureen if you have any ideas or feedback regarding Goal #3. Let's build bridges together!

Congratulations, Kris Rhude!

One of our members, Kris Rhude, was asked by Bishop Bruce Burnside to serve on the synod council as the youth representative. Kris accepted the invitation! The synod council functions like a church council for the whole synod, which includes about 150 ELCA congregations the south-central Wisconsin.

Kris will begin his term on the synod council sometime after the synod assembly June 6-7, 2009.

May God bless and empower you in this ministry on synod council, Kris! We give thanks to the Lord for your gifts of leadership on our behalf!



MISSIONS

They will know we are Christians by our love



ST. MARTIN'S PLANT A ROW GARDEN

The garden is tilled on the church grounds and the planting has begun. Volunteers are needed to plant, weed, pick and deliver ripened produce to Middleton Outreach Ministry or the Mazomanie Food Pantry. Contact Jack at

jackhamann@yahoo.com or the church office.

Plant A Row for Middleton Outreach Ministry (MOM)

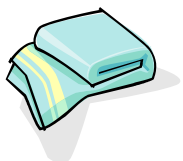
During the summer, many MOM clients do not have access to fresh produce, any "leftover" "veggies" you can share with the MOM Food Pantry will make a difference. When you plant your garden this year, remember those in need. Plant an extra row for MOM. Please bring your Gardening Donations to the MOM Distribution Center, 8710-2 Montclair Dr., Middleton Business Park, anytime from 10a.m-2p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9-Noon on Friday and Saturday.

MOM's June Food Pantry Need
Meals in a box or can

Lutheran World Relief Summer Healthcare Drive

St. Martin's continues its tradition of assembling health care kits for those who must flee their homes quickly due to natural disasters, unexpected emergencies or political unrest with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Healthcare kits help refugees maintain personal hygiene and a sense of dignity while living in exile and contribute to a new start for those returning to their homeland.

During the month of June we will be collecting **hand towels** (no washcloths please) preferably dark colored and **soap**. Please place in the baskets provided in the narthex.



ROAR Renegades

(Rise Up, Overcome, Achieve & Reach Out)



Missions salutes our own Sean Jackson, co-president of the senior class of Middleton High School for spearheading an initiative to impact hunger in our community and beyond.

When faced with the question of how to spend the \$11,000 the class of 2009 had raised over the past four years, he and fellow co-president Steve Ticknor challenged their classmates to think beyond a big party or souvenirs that would soon be tucked away in dresser drawers. The ROAR Renegades formed and "rise up, overcome, achieve & reach out" indeed they did. The 14 seniors who form this remarkable group of graduates include St. Martin's Teryn Buchanan. Together they succeeded in bringing awareness to the plight of local hunger, received corporate and foundation support and earned a standing ovation at a Middleton Chamber of Commerce meeting. The grand total raised to date is \$37,509 which will be gifted to Middleton Outreach Ministries.

Sean says, "We really leave this high school with limitless goals, and our goal for the community is the same - limitless." A powerful and wise commencement message - one we can all learn from. Thank you Sean and Teryn and all who ROAR.

(Note: ROAR was featured on the front page of the State Journal on Saturday, May 16. If you missed the article, stop by the Mission Board in the narthex where it is posted.)

Habitat For Humanity

The June St. Martin's Build date for the Mazomanie site is June 27. Builders, food preparers and servers are needed. Sign up on the kiosk.



Join Us

A Country Garden Stroll

June 28, 2-4 p.m.

Single Oak Farm - Highway 902, Mt. Vernon

Pie Auction planned

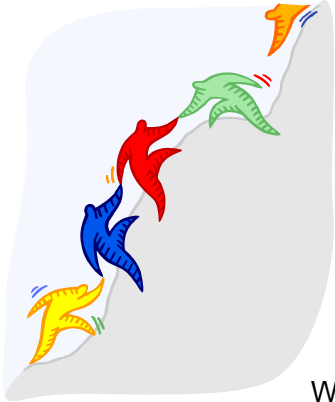
Proceeds benefit Mazomanie Build

Maureen Berghoefer
Cluster Coordinator - Missions

YOUTH

Senior Youth Mission Trip

Crown Point, New Mexico – here we Come!!!



The following youth will leave St. Martin's on June 20th, returning June 28th for their long awaited and long planned for mission trip to Crown Point: Jake Knipfer, Haley Schreier, Marilyn Houck, Amy Harper, Aaron Gregory, Nick Dodsworth, Jessi Weber, Jake Weber, Jordan

Shelton, Dylan Hormig, Blake Hartung, Kelsi Kruchten, Travis Flannery, Mikala Durham, Molly Wiebe, Mikayla Johnson, Kendra Kalvin and Joe Joyce. Chaperones are Tim Knipfer, Beth Dodsworth, Rick Haller and Jenny Diebold. Their commissioning will be at the June 14 worship service.

Please keep all youth and chaperones in your prayers as they reach beyond the doors of St. Martin's and our local community and share their good works and good deeds with the people of Crown Point. Blessings All!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL INFO

Please note there will be no Vacation Bible School during summer break this year. I am hoping to form a VBS Team to help review new formats for VBS for 2010. If anyone is interested in joining the VBS team please contact me by phone at 798-1922 or by email tjschultz@charter.net. Looking forward to seeing you for VBS in 2010 with exciting activities and projects for the kids to enjoy and participate in!—Hope you all have a wonderful summer!! *Julie Schultz*
Youth Cluster Coordinator

Sunday School Coordinator or Co-coordinators sought for the 2009-10 school year. Call Kim Johnson at 798-1972 for more information

OUTREACH

St. Martin's Shepherding Mission Statement of Purpose

The primary goal of the St. Martin's Shepherding Mission is to contact existing Church members and new comers to the Cross Plains community for the purpose of conducting brief orientations and invitations to the St. Martin's Congregation.

In conducting personal touches with neighborhood residents, renewed member activations and new members are hoped to be gained.

Method to Completion

Church membership is divided into 16 different geographical neighborhood sectors. Shepherding Captains are assigned to each neighborhood. After a one night training session Captains are to go out into their territory drop off a Personal Visit Kit first and follow up with personal visits from within with their neighborhood resident group. A Personal Visit Kit is given to each Captain containing various St. Martin's informational items and a hospitality gift. Captains are to record results of each visit and turn in to the Church Office. The process should be completed in a 30-day timeframe.



PENTECOST

Pentecost is a prominent feast in the Christian liturgical year, celebrated on the 49th day (7 weeks) after Easter Sunday. Historically and symbolically related to the Jewish harvest festival of Shavuot or the day, on which God gave the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai.

Pentecost also commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus as described in the Book of Acts. Pentecost is often described as "the church's birthday"



Wikipedia

ADULT EDUCATION & ACTIVITIES

AMEN (Adult Member Event Night)

– members sharing talents & interest with other members

Sunday, June 21 starting at 4:30 p.m.

Lee Swanson will guide two nature walks at the Ice Age Trail

- What the land used to look like
- Why it looks the way it does today
- Wetlands life & restoration

Picnic supper – bring a salad (names A to G) or desert (H to Z)

Suggested donation of \$5 per person for drinks & sandwiches

Sign up in the narthex. Come for both walks, one walk or just for

food & fellowship under the picnic shelter. The view is worth the trip.



Future **AMEN** Schedule (Put these dates on your calendar):

- Tuesday, July 14 Garden Tours
- Saturday, Sept. 19 Mystery Dinner (actors needed)
- Sunday, Dec. 6 Christmas Caroling & Dinner

FRIENDS (Daytime activities for adults, non-members welcome)

Tuesday, June 23 (meet at 10:30)



- Carpool to Mid-Continent at North Freedom for a picnic, train ride & check out the coach shed.
- Bring a salad to share.
- Cost depends on number attending to cover admission, food, drinks & gas for the drivers.

Upcoming FRIENDS Activities

August – Betty Lou Boat Cruise, Madison

October – Working on a Brewery Tour

December – Movie or Christmas Program

Hallie Wendorff, Cluster Coordinator
Adult Education & Activities

Self Guided Garden Tour

Do you enjoy gardening and would you like to share your home garden or pond with fellow St. Martin members or area residents? On Tuesday, July 14, from 10am to 3pm the first St. Martin's Garden Tour will take place. We need homes for this tour and ask you to consider being one of the stops on the tour. Please call Gail Johnson by June 15th at 798-4186 to sign-up your home.

SHARE

Save Time, Save Money, Join Share



June specials are **HOG WILD GRILL PACKAGE** containing pork chops, port tenderloin and ribs for \$14.50 and 24 EGG RO

LLS for \$7.85

Other food packages are available for \$ 15 or \$ 25 containing an assortment of frozen meat, fresh vegetables and other items. You can also purchase select items. Choices change monthly.

If interested, please pick up a newsletter with order forms and more information in the church narthex, call Donna Blumer at 798-0114, or check out the internet at sharewi.org.

Deadline this month is June 9.

NEW MEMBERS



Row 2 : Ellie, Ian, Mindy & Sophia Eislie, Teri Ott (Bethany not pictured) Geri Schumann & Rick Weiland. Row 2 Frank & Deann Schenk, Tom Weaver (Makenzie not pictured) and Pastor Tim

*We warmly welcome you to the
Family of St. Martin's.
We're awfully glad you're here!*



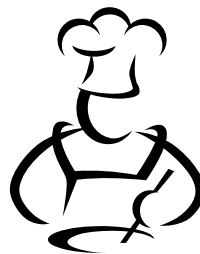
PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF INFANT BAPTISM

Henry Steven Kjol's August 6, 2008 baptism at Meriter Hospital was publically recognized at St. Martin's during the 8 a.m. service on May 17th. Steven is the son of Amy & Timothy Kjol and grandson of Patty & Steve Hillebrand. Sponsors are Kendra Krall and Benjamin Schneider.

ADULT BAPTISM

Thomas Andrew Weaver was baptized at St. Martin's on May 10th at the 10:30 a.m. service. Tom's sponsor is Julia Weaver.

"Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."



Calling All Cooks, Bakers & Gourmets

A St. Martin's cookbook is in the works. It will be completed for Christmas gift giving **BUT** we need a couple more volunteers to join the current team to make it a reality. Please call Tom Johnson at 798-4186, or the church office to share your time and talents working on this short term, fun and sure to please project.

Proceeds from the cookbook will benefit the general fund.



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Lutheran Church*
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