



# ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



This Sunday: Easter Sunday



---

**Challenge your Abundance!**

“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able to make this freewill offering? For all things come from You, and of Your own have we given You. ...All this abundance that we have provided for building You a house for Your holy name...comes from Your hand and is all Your own.” 1Chron 29:14-16 NRSV

Dear Friends in Christ,

At our January 2015 Annual Congregational Meeting, the summary of our Capital Improvement Team building and property assessment was reported. Both large and small ticket items were identified for repair or replacement in the near future. St. Martin's members unanimously voted to authorize the Church Council to spend up to \$20,000 to replace the church's seven furnaces and two water heaters in the coming months, drawing upon a pre-approved Capital Improvement Loan, if needed.

Recently St. Martin's has been blessed with a wonderful challenge: **an anonymous donor has offered to gift \$10,000 to St. Martin's if our congregation members will first raise \$10,000!** The challenge is an opportunity to stretch and grow – a challenge that inspires us to unify our intent with our God-given abundance. This is a Spirit-led call to replace St. Martin's aging furnaces and water heaters in 2015, without borrowing any bank funds!

If you are ready to meet the challenge, please make checks payable to St. Martin's, and put “donor challenge” in the check memo line. Remember these donations should be considered beyond what you plan to give to the general fund. Heartfelt thanks go to you and to our generous donor!

Sincerely,

St. Martin's Church Council

---

## **Volunteers needed to help serve meal at Men's Homeless Shelter - APRIL 9th**

We have the opportunity to serve an evening meal at the Men's Homeless Shelter in Madison on Thursday, April 9th. The shelter currently sees about 90 men (somewhat dependent on the weather).

Members are needed in two areas: to prepare the food and to serve. We will leave the church at 6:30 pm and proceed to the shelter in downtown Madison, return about 9:30 pm.

A signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the narthex for food and servers.

If you have any questions, or are unable to sign up at the church and are interested in helping out, please call Doris Fish at 608-279-5418 (cell). Thank you!

---

## **Stock Certificate ... Thank-you!**

Thank you SO much to the congregation for their support in the Youth Mission Trip! We brought in just under \$2,000 between the two weekends selling 'stock certificates'. If you were gone, or unable to donate, you still can! Certificates will be available in the office for purchase ... *there is never a bad time to invest in the youth!* Thank you again!

---

## Youth Announcements!

Mark your calendars! The Youth have several upcoming events to keep in mind!

- **April 5th** - NO Youth Group (Happy Easter!)
- **April 12th** - Regular Youth Group (7:00-8:30p) We are finalizing plans for the Youth Service (April 19th) so please attend, especially if you didn't on March 29th.
- **April 19th** - High School Youth Lead Service.



*Youth Group Changes* - We will meet for an early lunch / pizza following service on April 19th as a way of celebrating a job well done. After that ... laser tag in Madison! (Exact pizza location TBD)

---

## St. Martin's Easter Garden Lilies

Given to the glory of Christ by ...

Carmen and Doug Fowell

In memory of Dwight and all deceased members of the Fowell and Keller families

Ron and Deb Goplin Family

In memory of Our parents, Jesse & Irene Goplin and Roger Ott

Brian and Kathy Graedel

In honor of Our family and in Praise of God's Love

Bob Holz

In memory of Jan Holtz

Mike & Kay Kalvin

In memory of Our parents, Dennis & Marjorie Kalvin and Neil & Betty Martin

Pastor Kirsten, Alan, Reggie and Timmy

In memory of Betsy Thronson

Lee and Jacqui Swanson

In memory of Mike, Andy & Randal

Gale Kooistra and Family

In memory of Ted, Dora & Ernie Kooistra and Richard, Ruth & Keith Gramza

Jeff and Debbie Miller

In memory of Elton & Eleanor Nelson and Mace & Dollie Miller

Bob & Redgy Nelson

In memory of Our parents, Emery Turner and Ann & Eric Nelson

Karen and Tom Smiley

In memory of Elaine Smiley

---

## Youth Ministry at St Martin's

St. Martin's has many different youth groups. If you are wondering what they do or who is involved, this should help.

There are 4 main categories; Sunday-School, Confirmation, Senior High Youth, and Young Adults group.

Additional information can be found on St Martin's web site – [www.stmartinssp.org](http://www.stmartinssp.org)



-- Sunday School is divided into 4 sub-groups for classroom instruction: 3-4 year olds (BUZZ

curriculum used); K and 1st graders (WHIRL curriculum used); 2nd and 3rd graders (WHIRL curriculum used) and 4th and 5th graders (GRAPPLE curriculum used)

The Sunday schedule starts with meeting in the Fellowship Hall (10 to 10:15am), parents are encouraged to attend. From 10:15 to 10:55am is Instruction in classrooms, parents invited as shepherds or teachers. From 10:55 to 11a is closing prayer in classroom, parents invited to participate and pick up their child.

Some highlights of the year include an Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve. service at St. Francis (children sing at this service); an All Congregation Intergenerational Advent Event (activities, games, food) at the end of November; a Christmas Program followed by lasagna supper in December and an 'End of year Celebration' with activities, games and food (children sing at worship). Sunday School Leaders this year are Ann Boehnen, Karen Windels, Jennifer Niesen

-- Confirmation. Students attend confirmation from 6th-8th grade. They meet every Wednesday night from 5:00-6:30 pm. Confirmation students also assist with Sunday service where they can be an usher, Acolyte, Lector, communion assistant, part of the AV team, Nursery assistant, or help serve food after service. There are also many volunteer opportunities available through confirmation including assisting at the food pantry, 'fit the need' (help local residents around their house and property), local nursing homes and volunteer for local organizations (Optimists, Legion, Scouts, and Chamber of Commerce). The group also attends local synod wide gatherings to meet other youth from other churches and find out more about other volunteer opportunities. There is also a worship service with music and communion. Students are confirmed in 8th grade and a celebration is held in May. Leaders: Pastor Kirsten, Kathy Graedel, Amanda and Christopher Wright, Cassie Kohrs.

-- Senior High Youth Group. This group is made up of Students in high school (freshman- senior). They meet on Sunday nights from 7:00-8:30 pm, all year round. They meet to share fellowship, have a little fun, and to pray (of course). This year they have attended several area wide youth gatherings including Sun Prairie, Milton, and Janesville. They will be hosting a gathering here at St Martin's in early May. These gatherings help them meet new people, see other churches, have a little fun, and worship together to share the good news of God. Members of the group also have the opportunity to travel on a mission trip during the summer, hosting events to build awareness and fundraise for the trips. Past trips include Joplin Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma, and West Virginia.

The Sr. High Youth Group will have the opportunity to participate in leading a Sunday church service, help with confirmation, and volunteer locally. Upcoming events include a Youth lead service and 'noisy offering' on April 19th; 30 Hour Famine, April 25th, 26th (raise money for the hungry); Butterbraid sales fundraiser in early May; Mission Trip to South Dakota from June 27th- July 5th. Leaders include: Cassie Kohrs, Pastor Kirsten, Wes Cole, Mike Kalvin. Curriculum information can be found at: <http://www.faithink.com>

-- College / Young Adult group. This group is for young adults out of high school who want to gather for fellowship, worship, and prayer. This is a relatively new group for our church led by one of the group and pastor Kirsten. They meet periodically throughout the year to get together and goal is to help them transition into other adult groups within the church and community.

If you are interested in joining a group, or getting more involved to lead or just help out, please contact one of the leaders or you can always email or call the church office and we can get you to the right person. [om@stmartinscp.org](mailto:om@stmartinscp.org) Ph (office): 608-798-2777

Thank you for supporting our youth at St Martin's!

---

## 'Canstruction' to help end area hunger ...

Canstruction® is a community competition to end hunger. Teams build incredible, highly imaginative structures out of canned goods and packaged food they have either purchased or collected. (Displays will be at West Towne Mall.) Upon completion of the event, the food will be distributed through MOM's (Middleton Outreach Ministry)



Food Pantry and other area organizations that are sponsoring the event. To help, bring canned goods and put them in the bin located in the Nartex. Collection will be through April 26th.

FOUR VOLUNTEERS will be needed on that day (April 26) to take donations to West Towne, help take down ('deconstruct') displays, and help distribute donations to local food pantries. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board in the Nartex. Thank you!

---

## *Thank You!*

A BIG thank you to all those who helped with the Lenten Dramas and Living Last Supper! You really helped the stories come to life!

---

## Easter Bunny Egg Hunt!

The Cross Plains Annual East Egg Hunt (sponsored by Cub Scout Pack 87) will be on Saturday, April 4th at 10am - Baer Park, Cross Plains. Bring your camera for photos with the Easter Bunny! (And remember to bring your own basket!)



---

Church Calendar for April 5 - April 11

**EASTER Sunday, April 5**

8:15 Choir Warm Up MR

9:00 a. Easter Worship with Pastor Kirsten

No Youth Group (Happy Easter!)

**Monday, April 6**

Open calendar

**Tuesday, April 7**

6:30 a. Men's Bible Study L

5:30 - 7:30 p Worship Planning Team L

7:00 - 9 p. Boy Scout Troop 87 LL

**Wednesday, April 8**

6:30 p - Confirmation - Last - S

7:15 - 8:15 p Choir Practice MR

**Thursday, April 9**

Open calendar

**Friday, April 10**

Open calendar

**Saturday, April 11**

9:00 - 11 a. Overeaters Anonymous LL

Early Note: Sunday, April 12 - Guest Speaker - Rev. Gilbert Splatt

S—Sanctuary; L—Library; B—Building; MR—Music Room; FH—Fellowship Hall; CR—Choir Room; OS—Off Site; N—Nursery; PG—Prayer Garden; GLC—Gunderson Life Center; YR—Youth Room; LL —Lower Level Classroom

---

## Worship Participants for Sunday, April 5

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis

Accompanists -- Mary Vassalotti

Song Leaders -- St Martin's Choir

Choir Director -- Debbie Miller

Soloist -- Anne Marie Vassalotti

Lector & Communion Assistant -- Doris Fish

Communion Assistants -- Tom Johnson, Ann Houck, Lois Weiland

Ushers -- Artis Schulenberg, Alan Curtis

Jr. Usher -- Ella Rogers

Nursery -- Jordan Green

Acolyte -- Valerie Niesen, Alicia Houck

Counting Team 4

Altar Guild -- Deb Goplin

AV Team -- Alan Curtis, Paul Schluterx

©2015 St. Martin's Lutheran Church | 2427 CHURCH ST., CROSS PLAINS, WI 53528

[Web Version](#)

[Forward](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

Powered by **Mad Mimi**®  
A GoDaddy® company