



St. Martin's 'Weekly Bread' Aug. 23-29 2020

Where all are welcome to worship, to learn, to serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

UPDATE ABOUT RETURNING TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP

Greetings, members of St. Martin's family! I know that we are all anxiously awaiting a return to "normal" (whatever that means!) and resuming in-person worship. Unfortunately, current COVID-19 transmission levels in our area prevent that from being a safe option at this time. Taking into account current advisements from the synod, the Wisconsin Council of Churches, and the Dane County Public Health Dept., we have made the decision to continue worshipping online through the month of September. We continue to monitor this rapidly changing situation closely and we will be making worshipping decisions on a month-to-month basis. I know it would be easier to have more clarity and a long-term plan, but the nature of this disease prevents that from being a realistic goal.

However, we are very excited to announce our plan to move our online worship from Facebook Live to Zoom! This will allow us to interact with each other and actively participate in worship. Since Zoom allows for people to call in on a telephone as well, this also extends worship to our members who are not online.

We will be having our **first Zoom worship service on September 6th at 9 AM**. Since this is also the first Sunday of the month, that means we will also be celebrating the feast of Holy Communion together, so please remember to have some communion elements handy at that time! We will be providing Zoom access information for both online and phone closer to the date via a private, separate communication. This link will not be posted on our FB page or website to prevent hacking/"Zoom-bombing." This doesn't mean that you can't share the link with others you think might be interested in joining us—all are certainly welcome!—we are just taking extra precautions to make sure this is a safe and enjoyable experience for all. A recording of our worship will be posted later to YouTube and Facebook for those who are unable to join us for the live service on Zoom.

Please also mark your calendars for another **Online Coffee with Council immediately following the worship service on September 6th**. Topics will include church finances and worship. We want to have your input, so please plan on attending this important meeting.

We look forward to seeing you and hearing your voices starting September 6th! Please continue to join us online as we gather in one body united by the Holy Spirit across the distance to offer our praise and prayers to God, our source of strength and comfort, in these difficult times.

The Peace of Christ be with you all, my beloveds!
Pastor Maggie

JOIN THE NEW BELL CHOIR!

They produce one of the most distinctive and pleasing sounds to the ear. The mellifluous tones of handbells and chimes are a regular part of the music ministry at many churches. A big part of handbell ringing is that it's something you can do without any musical background at all. It's a matter of learning the counting and techniques of ringing the bells, the different sounds the bells make. The attraction is that so many people can do it, especially people who want to be involved with the music ministry of church. It's also a great way to be involved socially distanced from each other during the time of Covid!



Starting in the fall of 2020, Kristin Warner will be directing the St. Martin's Handbell Choir. Whether you are new to handbells or are a pro, you are encouraged to be part of the group. Reading music isn't a prerequisite, and if you can't read notes, don't let that stop you from being part of the group. As a director, Kristin's passion is to bring out the emotion and meaning of the music that the choir is playing. She is looking forward to teaching people to go beyond just the basics and create art work.

Tentative schedule: Wednesday evening rehearsals, time TBD. This will all be figured out after I see how many people are interested in being part of the group. My goal is to have our first performance be during Advent, whether it's in person or via Zoom.

If you are interested in being part of the St. Martin's Handbell Choir, or if you just have some general questions, feel free to give Kristin a call or an email.

Kristin Warner
singingchick1515@me.com
719-963-9136

Prayer List

Please pray for:

- The people of Beirut as they recover from recent explosions.
- Peace amidst protests and police violence in Portland, Oregon and other cities throughout our country;
- Teachers, school administrators, students and families as they prepare for a new school year unlike any other;

--Researchers and public health officials who are tracking outbreaks of virus and keeping our communities safe from disease;
--An end to the COVID-19 global pandemic, especially all medical teams and researchers who are still at work fighting the virus and finding a vaccine;
--Those who are home-bound, especially Irene Brockmann, Shirley Coulson, Lucille Hoffmann, Arline Schmidt, Gary Trappe and Bob Windels.

Built on a Rock (Hymn for Sunday, 8/23)

1 Built on a rock the church shall stand,
even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land,
bells still are chiming and calling—
calling the young and old to rest,
calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.

2 Surely, in temples made with hands
God the Most High is not dwelling—
high in the heav'ns his temple stands,
all earthly temples excelling.
Yet he who dwells in heav'n above
deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.

3 Christ builds a house of living stones:
we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones,
granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face,
he in their midst will show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.

4 Yet in this house, an earthly frame,
Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name,
faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent,
making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.

5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
grant that, when church bells are ringing,
many may come to hear your Word,
who here this promise is bringing:
"I know my own, my own know me;
you, not the world, my face shall see;
my peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nicolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Carl Doving, 1867-1937, adapt.

HOW TO CONNECT TO ZOOM WORSHIP

Starting September 6th, worship will move to Zoom each Sunday morning at 9 AM. This new format will allow for participation from the congregation and for us to see and hear each other! We hope that worshipping in this way will help us to better feel the connection of the Holy Spirit between us. For those who are unable to attend the live worship services on Zoom, recordings will be available within 24 hours on Facebook and YouTube.

We will open the Zoom meeting at 8:45, so feel free to pour yourself a cup of coffee and settle in a bit early to ensure you are connected. Worship will begin at 9. Don't forget to stick around after worship on September 6th for our Coffee with Council meeting.

There are two ways to connect to Zoom worship (online, via your web connection, or by phone). *This connection information will remain the same each week and it will NOT be published to Facebook or the church website for security.* You are encouraged to share this login information direction with any friends or family who wish to join. The more the merrier! (But please do *not* publish this information on any of your social media accounts.)

Zoom Meeting ID: 932 6362 8643
Pass-code: 331556

1-- **Online:** please use this method if you have a stable internet connection as well as a device with a camera and microphone. This can be a tablet, smartphone, or computer. To connect online, simply follow the link here:

Zoom Meeting Link (You may be asked for a pass-code, if so that code is 331556.)

2-- **Phone:** if you do not have an internet connection, you can still participate by phone. You will not be able to see us, but you will be able to hear and speak! To connect by phone, call +1 (312) 626-6799. If that number is busy, you can try +1 (646) 558-8656. Please be aware that your normal carrier rates for long distance calls will apply.

You will be prompted to enter a meeting ID, that number is 932 6362 8643. Next, you may be asked for a participant ID. Simply press # to bypass the participant ID. You will now be in the worship service! *See you on-line, everyone!*

CROSS PLAINS COMMUNITY CHALLENGE #3

Did you all get a chance to express your creativity the last couple of weeks? Were your streets and sidewalks filled with affirmations of God's love and joyful art? I know that many participated in filling the sidewalks at Girlie's Manor and Milestone with cheerful words and drawings, so thank you to all who make chalk art the last couple of weeks!

Your challenge this week is to surprise your next-door neighbors with a small token of friendship. Maybe a plate of homemade cookies or brownies. Maybe a small bouquet of flowers from your garden. Or maybe some of your child's art. Be sure to include a note sharing how grateful you are

that they are your neighbor and offering your prayers for their health and happiness! Who know? Maybe you'll get something in return!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY UPDATE

The annual synod assembly will be meeting on Saturday, August 29th. This will be an entirely online meeting and, unlike previous years, the meeting will only be open to voting representatives due to constraints of the online forum.

The most important item on the agenda is the election of our new bishop. We have four candidates who arose through a new nomination process begun this year. These candidates are:

- Pastor Ramie Bakken, Candidacy Manager/Coordinator for Missional Leadership for our ELCA Region 5
- Pastor Stacie Fidlar, at St. John's in Rock Island, IL
- Pastor Naomi Garber, Interim at First English in Platteville, WI
- Pastor Joy Mortensen-Wiebe, at St. Luke's in Slinger, WI

More information about the candidates and the bishop election process can be found by clicking the following link: [\[CLICK HERE\]](#). If you have any comments or thoughts you would like to share about the current candidates, we encourage you to share them with either Pr. Maggie or our voting representatives as we undertake the important work of discerning who is the right candidate to lead us in God's mission with our synodical partners.

Thank you to Judy and Van Valaskey for serving as our assembly representative this year!

St. Martin's Emergency Food Pantry (EFP)

Feeding Those In Need, One Box at a Time!

Please refer those in need of emergency pre-packaged food to the contact information posted on the St. Martin's outdoor sign (798-2777 extension #7).

Volunteers from the Emergency Food Pantry will arrange for food pick up from the church, or make delivery within 24 hours of receiving the call. We will direct families to MOM or Heights Unlimited for on-going, long term assistance. (Middleton Outreach Ministries -- MOM -- 608-826-3414; Heights Unlimited -- Black Earth -- at 608-767-3663)

The St. Martin's EFP is made possible through a generous grant from LUAD.

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

Please join us for weekly online Bible study! Currently our Sunday morning class is studying the Gospel of John, while our Tuesday evening class is studying the Book of Daniel through a racial justice lens. All are welcome to join us in our discussion, so please invite your friends! Until further notice, we will continue to meet online via Zoom. Connection information is below:

--**Sundays, 10:30 AM**, Zoom link: [Sunday Zoom bible study link](#)
Password "john".
You can also call in at +1 (312) 626 6799, meeting ID # 946 4619 2594.

--**Tuesdays, 7:00 PM**, Zoom link: [Tuesday Bible study link](#)
Password "daniel".
You can also call in at +1 (312) 626 6799, meeting ID # 996 0228 6175.

Keep in touch, Congregation!

Do you have a submission for the Weekly Bread? Want to let people know what is going on -- church team, event, something else?

If yes, please submit by 2pm the Wed. before publication for consideration.

Thank you!

Weekly Happenings at St. Martin's!

Here is a rundown of what to look forward to in the next few weeks:

Sunday morning worship live on Facebook (9am). Videos will be posted on YouTube for later viewing.

Sunday Bible study (10:30am).

Sunday evening Youth Group (7pm) on Zoom (Contact Lars to join)

Monday morning Qigong (9:30am) with Sandy Salvo on Zoom. Contact Sandy at sandy@centered-connections.com for more information (and see note, below).

Tuesday Bible study (7pm)

Wednesday night devotional (7pm) live on Facebook.

Every day at 1 PM join us in Spirit for prayer. *This is not an online event, just take a moment wherever you are, whatever you are doing, to join with the St. Martin's community in prayer.*

Stay tuned for more updates, new information on upcoming readings!

This too shall pass, and when it does we shall celebrate the glory of the resurrection with a renewed understanding of what it means to have new life in Christ who left the tomb. In the meantime, we are still God's people and we still here for each other.

Qigong

Centered Connections ... for a more compassionate world.

For more information about meeting times, etc., please contact Sandy or check out her website.

www.centered-connections.com

spowers28@gmail.com

Sunday Worship Services -- Live on Facebook!

NOTE: Switching to Zoom from Facebook on Sept. 6th (see note above)!

If you aren't able to make the live worship on Facebook (Sunday mornings, 9am), feel free to watch the videos on YouTube (posted after service) or by following the links on our church website.

For Facebook: ([click here for Facebook live link](#))

Youtube:(videos posted after live event): ([click here for YouTube](#))

Links are also available on the church website: Stmartinscp.org ([Click here](#))

Flu Prevention

As always, if you feel unwell or think you might be contagious, we encourage you to consult with your medical provider and stay home.

Wash your hands frequently ... Use hand sanitizer frequently ... Avoid touching your face ... Sneeze and cough into a tissue or your elbow ... Use a face cover if going out in public ... Avoid crowds and standing near others ... Stay home if you think you might be sick ... When in doubt consult with a healthcare professional.

Health Links:

More information can be found on the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) web site: [CDC - COVID-19 Info](#)

or

World Health Organization ('WHO'): [WHO COVID-19 Info Page](#)

Ways to continue Giving

Here are some ways you can continue your support

- Try the old tried and true method - *snail mail!* That's right, mail your check in! (2427 Church St., Cross Plains, 53528)
- Drop off your contribution by using the locked box by the office door. No need to come in contact with anyone and it gets you out of the house for a few minutes. Someone will check this box daily.
- Contact your bank and ask them to help you with online banking. Most banks will send out a check as you direct them to. Most will even pay for the stamp!

-- Try Give Plus. Yes, there's an App for that and it's FREE. Easy to use prompts help you get set up easily, quickly. There's no fee to you and a small fee to the church.

-- Paypal -- We have PayPal set up on our website. You do not have to have PayPal account of your own.

-- Direct Deposit. Many of you already use this method. If you wish to set this up, contact our bookkeeper, Lois Weiland, by calling 608-220-3123.

Questions? Call Lois!

Prayer List

If you would like to add a name to the prayer list, please call/email Pastor Maggie (pastormaggie@stmartinscp.org) or the office manager (om@stmartinscp.org). Names will stay on the list for six weeks unless otherwise indicated by the prayer requester. Prayer requesters are responsible for making sure their loved ones are placed and remain on the list. *Thank you for your help in praying for those in need!*

Dane County Health Info and FAQ

If you have questions about Dane County Health orders, check out the following link: [Public Health Dane County](#)

Want to talk to someone at the health office? They can be reached at 608-266-4821

Stay up-to-date with Synod Newsletter '*What Matters*'

Stay connected to synod happenings, news, & events! To receive copies of the electronic newsletter '*What Matters*', email Assistant to the Bishop for Media, Communications & Leadership Development, Deacon Vicki Hanrahan (vickih@scsw-elca.org) and asked to be added ... *a great way to find out what is happening in the synod!*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

AUG.

Birthdays

8/23 Susan Nelson

8/29 Ralph Schulenberg, Elizabeth Meier

8/31 Karen Wenning

Know of an addition? Correction? Please let the office know (om@stmartinscp.org). Thank you!

Pastoral Care During COVID-19

During this time, all in-person visits are suspended, save for emergency situations. But that doesn't mean that we aren't here to provide support! Pastor Maggie is available for private phone calls or Zoom meetings.

If you would like to make an appointment, please call/text her cell at 608-515-8618 or send her an email at PastorMaggie@smartinscp.org.

Church Office Hours & Email Addresses

Office hours: Thursdays, 9a-1pm

If you want to stop by please call ahead to make sure someone is there.

OFFICE Phone: (608) 798-2777

OFFICE Email: om@smartinscp.org

Property Management Team (building & grounds maintenance requests / issues):

Property@smartinscp.org

-- Todd (building manager) can be reached at 444-6765.

Stay Informed! Monthly Church Council Minutes and Financial Reports can be found in the narthex (on the bulletin board), when the church is open, for your review. Please review, make copies as you would like (but please put the original copies back).

Church Calendar Wondering about meetings (if happening, when, where), if a room is available (when COVID restrictions are lifted), etc.? *Check the church calendar on the website—* www.smartinscp.org. Events are updated on a regular basis, as the office is notified. *Have a question?* Send a note to the office (om@smartinscp.org) or call 798-2777 (email contact is preferred).

CHURCH CALENDAR

All events are subject to change, especially with COVID-19 Virus restrictions. Calendar is also available on the church web site (www.smartinscp.org)

Sunday, Aug. 23 2020

-- 9:00a -- Sunday Worship. Live on Facebook. Check website for links: www.smartinscp.org

-- 5:30p -- Narcotics Anonymous

Mon., Aug. 24 -- Open Schedule

Tues., Aug. 25 -- Open Schedule

Wed., Aug. 26 -- Open Schedule

Thur., Aug. 27

-- 6:30pm -- AA Meeting

Friday, Aug. 28 -- Open Schedule
**Saturday, Aug. 29* -- Open Schedule

Have an update? Please send a note to the office (om@stmartinscp.org)

Worship Participants

On-Line! Check church website for links: www.stmartinscp.org

Presiding Pastor -- Pastor Maggie

Video Team -- Geoff Peterson

Pastor Maggie on Vacation (Aug. 24-30)

If you have need to contact a pastor, please contact Council President Greg Valaskey who will make connections for you. (C: 608-206-2057 or H: 798-3413)

Remember - *Pastor Maggie is available!* If you would like to talk to her or make an appointment, please call / text her cell at (608) 515-8618 or send her an email at PastorMaggie@stmartinscp.org.

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