



St. Martin's 'Weekly Bread' DEC 22-28 2019

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



-- Christmas Eve Service -- Tues., Dec. 24th (7pm)

Wishing you God's richest blessings!

***Please join us for the
Christmas Eve worship service
on Tuesday evening! (Starting
at 7pm)***

Matching Challenge Update!

Come one, come all to church on Sunday to find out if we've met the Matching Challenge!

This is the final week with Sunday being the last day to contribute to the campaign.

Our total on last Sunday was \$23,225. Will we reach the \$25,000 mark? Come and find out!

The Line of Credit has been paid off!!! Why do we Love St. Martin's? That's easy ... it's YOU! Yes, YOU, made it possible for the Line of Credit to be paid off. Your generosity is overwhelming and we love you for it. The challenge, of course, going forward will be to avoid having to use it. Regular, consistent giving is the key.

See you Sunday!

Giving Closet

Thank you to everyone who has already donated items for this year's closet. We will continue to accept gently used bedding, blankets, toys, books, seasonal clothing, small appliances, etc., *through 12/15.*

Our Giving Tree families will be invited to shop the Christmas Closet when they pick up their gifts on Saturday 12/21. You can also pick up a list of Household & Healthcare Items from the Missions table that will be divided between all our Giving Tree families. *Thank you, everyone!*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

For the GIVING TREE / CHRISTMAS CLOSET

Friday, Dec. 20 (7 PM) - Wrap, tag and sort gifts purchased by our shoppers. Final preparation for our families coming the following morning.

Saturday, Dec. 21 (8-11 AM): Meet & Greet Families at Church, show them the Christmas Closet and encourage them to shop, help load their cars.

Plug in wherever you can whenever you can - it will warm your heart!!!

SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL MEETING!

The annual meeting will be on **Sunday, Jan. 26, 2020** (after the service). *Save the date!*

Submitting Items for Annual Report

Do you have something for the up-coming annual report? If yes, it is time to put your information together! **The due date to submit items is Monday, Jan. 13th.**

Please submit items to the office by email, MS Word (or text) format no later than noon on Jan. 13, 2020. *Thank you!*

2020 Envelopes

"Tis the time to pick up the 2020 Giving Envelopes. The weekly ones are in boxes and the monthly ones are in a small envelope.

PLEASE, PLEASE do NOT use them until January 5, 2020. Why??? Because I ordered fewer envelopes this year and many of you will have a new number. Please don't mess with my mind ... it's already as confused as it needs to be. Thank you. Lois Weiland, Bookkeeper

FAITH PROMISES

Did you miss out?? Did you either forget to hand in your Faith Promise or perhaps you were gone last Sunday. Don't fret!! You can do so this Sunday OR if you prefer, you can email Lois (LoisWeiland@gmail.com) and indicate what your Faith Promise will be for 2020. Please indicate if it is a weekly, monthly or annual donation.

We need YOU! Why? Because we haven't reached our 10% on either the number of Faith Promises submitted over last year and we haven't reached our 10% over last year total pledges. *Become a '10 percenter' and help us reach our goal!*

A big *Thank You* to all who submitted Faith Promises last Sunday (or before). *And a huge Thank You for so many who became 10 percenters!*

The Presence Jar (*with updated ideas!*)

The Stewardship Team is hoping to have an activity or event each month of 2020. We're starting early. On Sunday, we presented the 'Presence Jar' activity. It's easy to do. There is a sheet in the Narthex with activities to cut apart and put into a jar, bowl or similar container. Then each day, preferably in the morning, you pull one out and that's your "job" for the day. *It's really about YOU and taking care of YOU. Love yourself so you can love others.*

Here are additional things pulled from the jar ...

- Speak or send a word of Hope. Be a light in the darkness for those around you.
- Savor a snack. Whether a piece of fruit or a baked treat, take a moment to truly enjoy the experience of eating.
- Share a random act of kindness. Give a compliment, pick up a stranger's tab, give to a charity.
- Do an art project. Color, paint, stamp, scrapbook, sculpt.
- Decide what you will commit to. Yes to coffee with a friend, no to hosting your extended family.
- Listen to your body. Don't push through your feelings! Eat when you are hungry, rest when you are tired.
- Apologize. If something is weighing on your heart, seek reconciliation to find peace.

These are easy things to do. If you haven't picked up a sheet, stop in the Narthex to get one. Take one for your family or one for each person in your family. You can do this individually or your family can do the same thing that day. It's up to you. Get into the spirit of the season and have a heart!

Little Red Preschool (Registration Open)

'Little Red' is so excited to be partnering again with St. Martin's Church! We have appreciated being able to lease space to offer 4K Middleton-Cross Plains morning session (8:50-11:30am M-F), along with extended care hours and an after school program with free busing from Park Elementary.

We currently have registration open for legacy and St. Martins Families for 2020-2021 summer and school year. If you have any questions please contact Corena (608-886-2841 or cplittlered@gmail.com). *Thank you!*

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!*

Pre-Confirmation Classes - On Break (Dec.)

Pre-Confirmation classes (5th & 6th graders) are on break during Dec. and when they resume (Jan., 2020) will meet Wednesday nights, 6pm start.

Give Plus

As an alternate way of giving, consider using the 'Give Plus' app on your cell phones (can be downloaded through your app store). Once on, do a search for St. Martin's Lutheran Church. Then follow the prompts.

Lower Level Doorbell

As school starts, please remember the lower level doorbell is **only for use by Little Red staff and families of Little Red students**. (They don't have staff to answer if you ring.)

All others must enter the church through the upper level door by the office.

Thank you!



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!*

Upcoming Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER

Birthdays

12/21 Al Nelson, Nancy Rhude

12/23 Carole Radtke

12/24 Horst Gierke

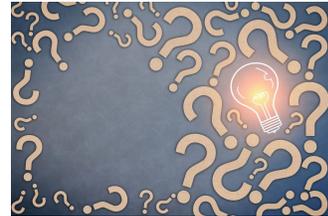
12/25 Kyla Schoenwetter

12/30 Kirsten Rhude

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

Questions? Comments? Concerns?

There's a box for that! A wooden box has been mounted on the wall along hall from Narthex to office, across from drinking fountains, to help with communication between members of the congregation and the Council. Forms are provided next to the box. We welcome all input and ask that you complete all of the fields on the form, including your name, in case clarification or additional information is needed. This is intended to address any questions or concerns people may have for the Council.



Stay Informed!

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

Want to submit something for the bulletin or Weekly Bread?

If yes, **please send it to the office** (om@smartinscp.org) **by 2pm the Wednesday before publication for consideration.** *Thank you!*

Church Calendar

Wondering about meetings at the church (when, where), if a room is available, etc.? Check the church calendar on the website—www.smartinscp.org. Events are updated on a regular basis. *Questions?* Send a note to the office (om@smartinscp.org) or call 798-2777.

Church Office Hours & Additional Email Addresses

Summer office hours:

Mon: 9 - 2 Tue: 10-2 Wed: 9 - 2 Thur: 10-2 Fri: CLOSED

Please call ahead (to make sure someone is here) if you want to stop by. Todd (building manager) may be in lower level office, especially during the morning, so you can call him (444-6765) if you need access to the building.

-- OFFICE: Ph: (608) 798-2777 Email: om@smartinscp.org

-- Church Property Management Team (building & grounds maintenance requests / issues):
Property@smartinscp.org

OFFICE HOURS (HOLIDAY WEEKS)

The office will have very limited hours during the holiday weeks (Dec. 23—27, Dec. 30—Jan 3). If you need to stop by please call ahead or email: (608) 798-2777 or om@smartinscp.org. Pastor Maggie is always available — see her contact info, below. *Thank you!*

Pastoral Care Contact Information

If you would like to contact Pastor Maggie, she can be reached by phone at the church (608) 798-2777 or cell at 608-515-8618 or by email PastorMaggie@smartinscp.org.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Also available on the church web site (www.smartinscp.org)

Sunday, Dec. 22

9:00a -- Sunday Worship

5:30p -- Narcotics Anonymous (library)

6:00p -- High School Youth Group (lower level)

Monday, Dec. 23 -- Open Schedule

Tues, Dec. 24

7:00p -- Christmas Eve Service

Wed., Dec. 25 — Merry Christmas!

Thursday, Dec. 26

6:30p -- AA Meeting (library)

Friday, Dec. 27 -- Open Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 28

9:15a -- Overeaters Anonymous (lower level)

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

Worship Participants (Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019)

Presiding Minister – Pastor Maggie

Accompanists – Kristen Warner, Jan Doyle (choir)
Choir Director - Kris Rhude
Song Leader – Karen Windels
Greeters – Jeannie Hering-Schumann, Ralph & Darlene Schulenburg
Lector / Reader Communion Assistant - Amy Wildman
Communion Assistants – Casey Peterson, Marci Bartlett
Ushers – Penny Eveland, Kay Meier
Acolyte – Sophia Eisele
Counting Team (2) – Marci Bartlett, Caleb Wickre
Altar Guild – Darlene Schulenburg
AV Team – Bill Windels
Coffee – Karen Seibel

Worship Participants (Christmas Eve, 12/24 -- 7pm)

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Maggie
Accompanists -- Kristen Warner, Jan Doyle (choir)
Choir Director -- Kris Rhude
Song Leader -- Karen Windels
Special Music -- Mark Richardson, Karen Windels, Amy Wildman
Greeters -- Doris & Phil Fish
Lector / Reader / Communion Assistant -- Lee Swanson
Communion Assistants -- Mark & Jenny Niesen
Ushers -- Bob & Redgy Nelson
Acolyte -- Megan Niesen
Counters -- Team (1) Jenny Niesen, Darlene Schulenberg, Gale Kooistra
Altar Guild -- Darlene Schulenburg
AV Team -- James Hartung

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