



Week of Feb. 18-24 2018

Soup Suppers -- Start next week!

Lent soup suppers will be *served at 6pm on Wed. Feb. 21 & 28, March 7, 14 & 21.*

Each week a different Team Leadership Circle (TLC) will set up, serve and clean up. Sign up sheets will be in the narthex for volunteers to bring soup, bread, milk and cookies. (Please have items at church by 5:30pm and have soup HOT and ready to serve. Chicken noodle soup will be available each week.)

Team Schedule: Feb.21 - Church Council; Feb. 28 - Congregational Care and Management & Operations Teams; Mar. 7 - Missions Team; Mar. 14 - Worship & Music Team; Mar, 21 - Youth & Family and Confirmation

Thank you everyone for you help!

Racial Equity Event

A Racial Equity Ministry Event has been planned by our South Central Synod of Wisconsin. The synod has had some education events to help give a Christian perspective on race equality issues. You are invited to the remaining presentations in Feb, and March: Looking through an African-Centered Lens presented by Rev. Stephen Marsh, Lake Edge Lutheran Church.

Part II: Sunday **Feb 18** (*note date change*) -- The River of Struggle: Black Life in the Americas

Part III: Sunday, **March 11** -- The Secret of Joy: How the Struggle Continues

All events will be held at New Life Lutheran Church (7564 Cottage Grove Rd., Madison) and begin at 4:00pm, ending about 6:00.

Please check What Matters for a more detailed description and a brief bio for Rev. Marsh. (www.scsw-elca.org/Communications/WhatMatters/WhatMatters2017-12-27.pdf) CLICK following link for description: [Race Equity Event](#)

CHILI SUPPER!

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, February 18th!** Come join us for a Chili Supper *fundraiser for the 2018 National Youth Gathering*. All money raised will help offset transportation costs for the Youth Gathering.

Three youth from St. Martin's will be traveling to Houston, Texas for the Gathering this coming June. The Chili Supper is sponsored by several churches in the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin: Evangelical, Immanuel, Barneveld, Two Steeples, Perry, West Middleton, St Martin's and New Hope Lutheran Churches.

Bring your appetites because there will be red chili, white (chicken) chili, and vegetarian chili, along with bars, cookies, and beverages. Prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children, and kids under 5 are free. **There will also be a silent auction.** We hope to see you there and appreciate your support of our youth!

What: Chili Supper Fundraiser

When: Sunday, February 18th

Time: 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Where: Evangelical Lutheran Church, Mt. Horeb (315 E Main St)

Annual Meeting Summary

The annual meeting was prayerfully opened at 10:22 AM Sunday the 21st of January.

- **Reports:** The Secretary's report and the Treasurer's report were approved by vote. The President's report and the Team reports were included in the annual report for individual reading. There was no Pastor's report.
- **Budget:** The budget was approved with minor adjustments. The adjustments were to the Senior High Youth line item to show that they are self-funding, and adding a line for the call team and fund that with \$3,000. Gordie talked about finding support staff from Wartburg. This will be ongoing but has not born fruit yet so we decided to begin advertising again for a Youth and Family Ministry position and to increase the hourly rate to make it more attractive. We also added a line item for a Music director, primarily a choir director. The position would probably not start until fall. \$5,000 was budgeted for this item.
- **Elections and nominations:** For council, Gail Johnson, (Vice President) and Ryan McCulloh were nominated and elected to the council. Mark Richardson, Matt Wildman, (Secretary), Gordie Esser, (Treasurer), and Jenny Niesen, (President) are the other four members. The call team members were also introduced as Mark Richardson (Council Liaison), Marci Bartlett, Maureen Berghoefer, Galyn Hartung, Van Valaskey, Rick Weiland, Amy Wildman, Dana Furhman, and Linda Sebree. Jeff and Debbie Miller were nominated to be synod representatives this year.
- **New Business: Columbarium:** Jackie Swanson gave an informational report on the need for a columbarium. This is a place onsite at the church where ashes are buried. Tom Johnson recommended creating a team to look into regulations and cost.
- **Comment/Suggestion Box:** Jenny Niesen showed the congregation a new comment/suggestion box for communication with Council including forms to fill out and drop in the box.
- **Change in the church schedule:** Cheryl Hartung made a motion to change the start of our

regular service from 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM. After discussion she agreed to table this motion until April 8th so that more research and information could be disseminated before a vote.

• **Closing prayer at 12:17 PM.**

CHOIR for LENT!

The Adult Choir will be back for the Lenten Season (through Easter) with *rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7pm in the choir room.*

When mid-week Lenten soup-suppers begin (2/21) rehearsal time will change to immediately after the service. On Sundays when the choir will sing rehearsals will be from 8:15a-8:45a.

Future dates we plan to sing include two Sundays in Lent (2/25 & 3/11), Palm Sunday (3/25), Maundy Thursday (3/29) and Easter (4/1). *Please considering lending your voice to this short-term commitment!*

Interested? Have questions? Please contact the accompanist (Sherri Hansen) at 608-234-8570 or email her at sherrihansen@tds.net.

40 Days of Prayer

The Call Team would like your feedback on a book called, "40 Days of Prayer". The author is Mark Tidsworth who was the keynote speaker at last year's Synod Convention and was well received by those in attendance. The Call Team feels that the prayer book is not only a resource for individuals and families, but a great way to start talking about the needs and wants of our congregation. Christian churches are seeing a need to undergo a transformation to connect and adapt to today's culture. We are looking for the right Pastor for St. Martins. Someone who will help us grow as disciples of Christ, guide our work together as gathered disciples in the way of Christ, and keep us focused on God's mission in the world.

For the next two Sundays (Feb. 11th & 18th), the Call Team will be handing out the "40 Days of Prayer" to every family at St. Martin's Church. We are offering this as a resource to you and your family in hopes that you read, discuss the meaning of the devotionals, pray for renewed focus to what it means to be a follower of Christ and what we as followers in Christ desire in our next Pastor.

The books will be provided to you and your family free of charge; however, if you are moved to make a donation toward the purchase of the books, please place \$4 in the offering plate. The primary book for our future discussion with the congregation, written by Tidsworth, is entitled "SHIFT – The Three Big Moves for the 21st Century Church." If you would like a copy of the book, then talk to a Call Team member and we can order directly for \$17. The order will be placed at the end of February. It is a wonderful resource and well worth the read. We pray that you are moved by the "40 Days of Prayer" guide. We feel it will stir your imagination in preparing you for visioning, discernment, renewal and a refocusing on the essence of Christian discipleship. Please also review the questions inserted in the prayer book. The Call Team will be looking to you and your families for your thoughts, feelings, wants and needs in the coming days and months ahead as they prepare the congregational profile. Please do not let these questions limit your thoughts, but use them as blocks to build a new foundation in Christ at St. Martins Church.

The Way of The Cross

Our theme for Lent this year is “The Way of the Cross”. Midweek services will emphasize this theme in message and symbols displayed in the chancel area. In addition, there will be an opportunity for everyone to make their own cross during Wednesday soup supper times (6-7pm). Beautiful hardwood crosses are available for kids and adults to decorate using a variety of medium. They will be located on tables in the Fellowship Hall. Families may take as many sessions as they choose to complete their cross. We want to thank Elaine Meister for making these beautiful crosses for our congregants. This Lenten activity is co-sponsored by the Youth and Family Ministry and Worship Planning Teams.

UNDIES SUNDAYS!

Collecting your freshly shopped or gently used undergarments at the Missions Table *during the month of February* to benefit local clothing closets. Socks, t-shirts, briefs, boxer shorts, panties, bras, sleepwear, disposable diapers and infant onesies in all sizes are needed and appreciated. “Penny” the Missions Piggybank will also be happy to receive your financial donation and volunteers will do the shopping for you. *Thank you!*

Call Team Report

The Synod strongly suggests all Call Teams be comprised of a diverse group of active members representing a cross-section of the congregation. The breakdown of the 2018 St. Martin's Call Team follows—Gender: three males, three females, two female alternates; Age: 17 to 70+

Membership Length: 3 to 40+ years; Teams Represented: Council (current member at large, past president, past treasurer, past staff member); Missions & Community Outreach; Stewardship; Youth & Family Ministry (Senior youth, Sunday School) with all members active in Fellowship and Worship & Music.

On Feb. 1 the Call Team met to determine internal expectations for one another and identified three key support goals asked from the congregation—prayer, patience & feedback.

Photos and contact information of each Call Team member will be posted on a bulletin board in the narthex with space for congregational feedback and/or questions. Members of the Call Team are: Marci Bartlett-Chair; Amy Wildman-Secretary, Mark Richardson-Council Representative, Galyn Hartung-Spiritual Guide, Van Valaskey-Pastoral Discernment, Rick Weiland-Finance, Maureen Berghoefer-Communications, Linda Sebree & Dana Fuhrman-Alternates. The Call Team has been reviewed and approved by Council.

Madison Area Jail Ministry Awareness: “Mothers In Chains”

Wisconsin Jails have routinely shackle pregnant women during prenatal visits, and used belly chains during labor and delivery. This practice inflicts the burden of shame on the mother and the American Medical Association states is a health risk to both mother and child. A bill has been introduced to provide guidance on when and how correctional officers may restrain women in labor. Keep "Mothers In Chains" in your prayers.

Enrich your faith and meet others through some fun activities!

Want to get together for the Olbrich Garden Tour in July? Head over to Mt. Horeb for a paint class on wood? A paint class in the fellowship hall? Enjoy a performance at the Middleton Performing Arts Center, or the outdoor American Players Theatre?

Let's have some fun together! Join Kathy Graedel on discussing the first activity, offer ideas, etc. (Contact Kathy Graedel brikathy@chorus.net)

Have A Heart Success!

Have A Heart is A Success! Last Sunday the Sunday School children invited the congregation to "Have A Heart" by selecting a delicious and passionately decorated heart-shaped cookie, compliments of our kids. In return, the congregation responded to the children's mission appeal to contribute coins for orphaned children in Africa who are in refugee camps. Their mission appeal was part of the Good Samaritan unit now being studied in Sunday School. We are happy to announce that the proceeds from last Sunday will now provide life-saving meals for 6 orphaned children for one month! The Sunday School children want to thank you all for the over-the-top support for their "mini mission". Your generosity helped our kids experience the true meaning of being a 'good Samaritan'

Norwegian Meatball Dinner

Vermont Lutheran Church (9886 Vermont Church Road, Black Earth) invites you to enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat meal of Norwegian meatballs, lefse, gravy and potatoes, green beans, pie & beverages **this Sunday, Feb. 18** (seating starts at 11:30am). This is a fund raiser for the ongoing outreach ministry of the church, such as our local food pantries. Reserved seating tickets are \$14 each for up to 120 people for the one seating at 11:30. Call Peter Antonie, 767-2641, to reserve your tickets. Thank you for your support!

Sunday School needs a file cabinet

Does anyone have a 4-drawer, legal size file cabinet they do not need any longer? As part of our effort to conserve space and keep organized, we need this item to store our curriculum. Contact the office manager if you can help (call 798-2777 or email om@stmartinscp.org). Thanks!

VBS -- SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School ('VBS') is now *scheduled for June 11th (Monday) through June 14 (Thursday)*. Watch for details to follow!

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.

Birthday & Anniversary Announcements

Do you (or someone you know) have a birthday coming up? Anniversary? Let the office know by sending a note (om@smartinscp.org) with dates and names. (For birthdays, we only need month and day ... birth year, age, not needed *unless you want to provide it!*)

Council Invites Your Input

Church Council welcomes your participation in the first 15 minutes of each Council meeting (third Monday of month) for the purpose of sharing your ideas and insights. If you are interested in participating in this open forum time, please let one of the Council members know of your interest. Council meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the church library. Contact any member at the following numbers: Jenny Niesen (798-2132), Mark Richardson (413-0204), Gordie Esser (438-4176), Matt Wildman (798-1882), Gail Johnson (575-0170) or Ryan McCulloh (712-8530).

Weather Issues / Closings

Church closing information can be found on the church web site (www.smartinspc.org), by calling the office (798-2777), watching 'ticker' on Channel 3, Madison, or check their website, channel3000.com.

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 out 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

Scheduled office hours are:

Mon: 8:30 - 3:30 Tue: 10-2 Wed: 8:30 - 3:30 Thur: 10-2 Fri: 8:30-10:30

Call ahead if you want to stop by (in case there has been a last minute change).

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

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

-- Pastor Jeff: Email: stmlcpastorjeff@gmail.com; Cell: (608) 217-9821

Interim Pastor Contact Information

If you need to contact our Interim Pastor, Jeff Tomberlin, you can call the office (798-2777), call him direct (cell: 608-217-9821) or email him (stmlcpastorjeff@gmail.com).

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Feb. 18-24 2018

Sunday, Feb. 18

9:00a -- Sunday Worship S

Monday, Feb. 19 -- Open Schedule

Tuesday, Feb. 20

6:30a -- 8:00 am -- Men's Bible Study L

Wednesday, Feb. 21

5:00p -- Confirmation – Lent (Bible Lesson)

6:00p -- Soup Supper FH

7:00p -- Lent Mid-Week S

Thursday, Feb. 22 -- Open Schedule

Friday, Feb. 23 -- Open Schedule

Saturday, Feb. 24

8:45a -- Overeaters Anonymous LL

L—Library; FH—Fellowship Hall; S—Sanctuary; LL—Lower Level Classroom

Worship Participants - Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Jeffrey Tomberlin

Accompanist -- Debbie Miller

Song Leader -- Karen Windels

Soul Purpose -- Ed Neumueller, Brian Graedel, Paula Elver, Holly Van Gilder

Greeters -- Oscar & Karen Seibel

Lector—Reader / Communion Assistant -- Kathy Kittle

Communion Assistants -- Owen Roenneburg, Marci Bartlett

Ushers -- Jacqui & Lee Swanson

Acolytes -- Ollie Wenning, Joelle Jackson

Counting Team -- Team 5 (Brian Graedel, Kevin Boehnen)

Altar Guild -- Deb Wipperfurth

AV Team -- Jeff Postle

Coffee Fellowship — Karen Seibel

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