



ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Weeks of July 12th - August 1st.

Summer Vacation!

The next Weekly Bread will come out the first week of August.

As staff is on vacation this Weekly Bread will keep you (mostly!) up to date through July.

If you have questions about something (date / time of meeting, etc.) please call the office or talk to someone within the group you meet with.

Have a great summer, everyone! :)

Youth Mission Trip Photos

The Youth Mission Trip to South Dakota was a great success!

Please plan on attending services on **August 2nd** for 'Youth Mission Trip Sunday' when you will hear more about their trip!

Thank you to everyone for your support and prayers!









Want to grow in your faith?

Want to grow in your faith? Have some questions you'd like to ask God? Need a break? Want to spend time in nature – relaxing, hiking, praying, meditating, connecting with others?

Well, here's your opportunity! How about helping plan a fall retreat?!?

This would be a great time to tackle these questions or others you may have on your mind.

Please contact Sandy or Bruce Salvo to get started planning now. You can email Sandy at the following email - spowers28@gmail.com or Bruce at the following email - sixfoot4@live.com . They have lots of great ideas, but they need your help to make a retreat a reality.

Vacation Bible School - August 10th - 13th

Mark your calendars!

VBS will be held August 10th-13th (Mon-Thurs) at St. Martin's from 9am - Noon.

Programming for kids entering K-5.

Watch for more announcements coming soon. (Questions? Contact Cassie Youth@stmartinscp.org)

Church Directory Pictures ... Thank You! (& late submissions)

Thank you to all church members for taking time out of your busy schedules to have your family picture taken for our new church directory. The church directory is very important to new members.

For members who were unable to participate the week of photo sessions ***there is still time to submit a family photo!*** Have a friend or neighbor take a digital picture (or use one you already have) of your family and ***submit it to the church office by July 15th.*** Questions? Please contact Doris Fish (203-5160), Carmen Fowell (798-2292) or the office (798-2777).

An Exciting Ministry Opportunity

We have been contacted by Community Connector Mindy Moore from United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Dane County to ***enlist our community to partner*** with her in ***providing opportunities for adults with varying degrees of disabilities in the Cross Plains community to broaden their support network.*** This is an excellent opportunity to be church outside our walls and into our community. You will be matched up with an adult that has similar interests as yours, providing an opportunity for individuals to make new connections outside of their families. What an exciting opportunity to share God's love with others, loving our neighbors as ourselves! You will have guidance from Mindy when being introduced, and she will help you establish a connection with your person before you go solo.

If you have any of the following interests, then you might be the perfect match!

Bowling / Shopping / Going out to eat / Going to Brewer's games / Fishing / Going on walks / Playing checkers / Love to watch sports / Love to watch musicals

If you are interested in finding out more, please let Pastor Kirsten know.

July Book Club

WHEN? THURSDAYS – JULY 16, 23, 30
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
WHERE? CROSSROADS COFFEEHOUSE (2020
MAIN ST., CROSS PLAINS)
WHY? TO TALK ABOUT HOW FAITH INTERSECTS
WITH LIFE
BOOK? PEACE LIKE A RIVER (BY LEIF ENGLER)

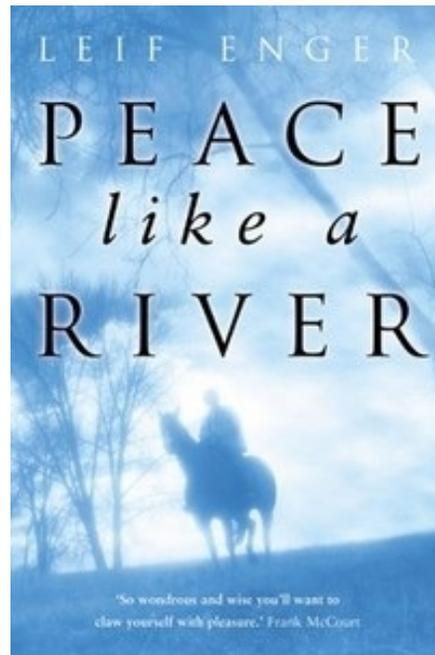
Book is available through the Cross Plains library.

All are welcome to attend even if you have not completed the reading.

Questions to ponder as you read the book, even if you are unable to attend the 9:00am weekly gathering.

- Where do I see myself in this story?
- What struck me as familiar in this story – something that you could identify with?
- How do these chapters talk about God and faith to you?
- What are some questions these chapters presented for you in terms of your faith and life?
- How does the story connect with today?
- Which character do you find most appealing and why?
- Which character do you find least appealing and why?
- How does this book show us that faith intersects with our daily lives?
- What can we learn from these chapters that would help us in our relationship with God?

We will read and discuss several chapters each week. Please join me to discuss this lovely book about life, faith, and how the two connect. - Pastor Kirsten



What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is part of our Christian identity. It is fundamental in describing who we Christians are as believers and disciples. Biblically founded, from the beginning - the first and second chapters of Genesis - God gives the first commandments – to till and cultivate and care for the earth. It is relational – God gives to us, and we give of ourselves to God in return. Stewardship should be viewed as God’s mission in this world, of which we are participants together.

Some have gone so far to say that stewardship is what we do after we say we believe. One definition of stewardship is simply “Giving to God.” Coming to understand stewardship holistically will allow us to transform our view of how we perceive this spiritual practice.

Looking at stewardship through this lens, we could challenge one another to adopt a philosophy of life which incorporates a theological form of self-management – thinking of God in our decision-making process. In doing so, we can begin to understand God’s grace working God’s purpose in this world through us. In other words, it becomes a reenactment of Christ’s life in Christ’s people.

The first time steward is presented in the Bible is in relation to an office or vocation in society – steward = servant (superior servant) – one accountable to a royal king or ruler and is a full representative of the master. (Genesis 43-44) In order for one to be considered a steward, they

had to have a humbleness of spirit, a lack of pretention or ostentation, and a parental behavior towards those whose welfare was the steward's responsibility.

Steward remains tied to the servant/manager role in the New Testament (Matthew 20:8; Luke 8:3; John 2:8) but evolves to take on a theological and metaphoric meaning, beginning in Luke 12:42ff with Christ as the master and stewards as Christ's true followers. Being steward then has obligations. "From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded." (Luke 12: 48b)

To read more, check out the following biblical passages found in an ELCA publication about stewardship.

Trusts God's Abundance – Peter and casting the net for fish – Luke 5:1-11

- a. Believes that we are called and freed to be caretakers of all that we are and have – Luke 18:18-25; Psalm 24
- b. Participates in and with God's generosity and an attitude of abundance rather than scarcity, for the sake of the health of the whole -Luke 8:4-8; Deuteronomy 26; 2 Cor 9:8; Cor. 12 and 14
- c. Embodies an attitude of abundance rather than scarcity, generosity and sustainability, and ongoing assessment of the integrity of our choices - Luke 10:38-4; Ex 34:6, Psalm 51:1, 69:16, 86:5; Joshua 24
- d. Is able to motivate a community journey through mission interpretation, gratitude for partnership, reframe conversation to highlight assets (not just money), and cast a vision for a vital future – Acts 13; 1 Thess 5; Proverbs 29:18

2. Holds a holistic perspective

- a. Stewarding our whole lives - 1 Cor 14; Romans 12
- b. Stewarding our time and energy – sloth, laziness, carelessness, time management, nutrition, rest - 1 Cor 9:19-23; Deu 6:5
- c. Growing in wisdom – developing our minds, faith practices, life-long education; articulating our personal steward journey and helping others articulate theirs - Matthew 5:13-16; Ephesians 4:15-16

3. Engages and critiques culture

- a. Engaging, contributing and developing our civic community - Romans 12:1-2; Romans 13
- b. Praying and contributing to good government, for harvest, for those who provide us with safety, caring of the earth, and all creation - Matthew 5:43-48; 1 Thess 5

4. Embrace financial health as an expression of faith

- a. Managing finances, eliminating debt, planning ahead, setting priorities for spending, saving for the future; cautioning against storing our excess, accumulating, being greedy – Luke 12; Romans 13:8; Luke 14:25-33
- b. Giving generously, living as disciples, servants of all – 2 Cor 9; Romans 14:7-8

'Simply Giving' direct deposit ...

Interested in using Direct Deposit for your church giving? You can find authorization forms (the 'Simply Giving' program) in the Narthex, under the Stewardship section, far right. If you would like a form emailed to you, contact the office and we will send one.

There is also a link for this form on the home page of the website (www.stmartinscp.org).

Super Summer Events at St. Martin's

Events that guarantee to provide inspiration and fellowship for all ages. *Invite your friends too!*

Surprise Sundays

July 19th – Bike-to-Church Sunday (worship, get some “gorp”, gab with others)
August 2th – Youth in Mission Sunday (Youth share mission trip experiences)
August 9th –Soul Purpose Sunday (Brian and Ed lead worship with Paula Elver joining)
August 16th – Sunday Buzz (worship, skit, kick off ELCA Malaria Campaign, “mosquito” treats)

Wonderful Wednesdays

July 22 – ***Spoke Folk Concert*** (potluck, be entertained by ‘Spoke Folk’, learn bike safety)
August 19th – Gather Round the Campfire (S’mores, storytelling, sing-a-long)

Renew your faith, enjoy fellowship with others – summer is here!

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

-- OFFICE: Ph: (608) 798-2777 Email: om@stmartinscp.org
-- Pastor Kirsten: PastorKirsten@stmartinscp.org
-- Youth Director: Youth@stmartinscp.org
-- Church Property Management Team (building & grounds maintenance requests / issues):
Property@stmartinscp.org

Church Calendar for July 12 - August 1

Sunday, July 12

9:00a - Sunday Worship
10:30a - Visiting Homebound Meeting L
7:00p - Sr. High Youth Group

Monday, July 13 6:30p - 8:30 Berry Hist Society FH

Tuesday, July 14

6:30a - 8:00 am - Men’s Bible Study L
7:00p - 8:30 Centering Prayer S
7:00p - 9:00 pm - Boy Scout Troop 87 LL FH

Wednesday, July 15 Open Schedule

Thursday, July 16 9:00am -- Book Club at Crossroads Coffee House

Friday, July 17 Open Schedule

Saturday, July 18 9:00 - 10 am Overeaters Anonymous LL

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Sunday, July 19

9:00a - Sunday Worship -- BIKE TO CHURCH SUNDAY!

7:00p - Sr. High Youth Group

Monday, July 20 6:30p - 8:30 Church Council Meeting L

Tuesday, July 21

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

7:00p - 9:00 pm - Boy Scout Troop 87 LL FH

Wednesday, July 22 *Spoke Folk!*

5:30p - Bike Safety (Cross Plains Police Dept.)

6:00p - Pot Luck Dinner (please bring dish to pass)

7:00p - Concert by Spoke Folk!

Thursday, July 23 9:00am -- Book Club at Crossroads Coffee House

Friday, July 24 Open Schedule

Saturday, July 25 9:00 - 10 am Overeaters Anonymous LL

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Sunday, July 26

9:00a - Sunday Worship

7:00p - Sr. High Youth Group

Monday, July 27 Open Schedule

Tuesday, July 28

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

7:00p - 9:00 pm - Boy Scout Troop 87 LL FH

Wednesday, July 29 7:00p - Centering Prayer

Thursday, July 30 9:00am -- Book Club at Crossroads Coffee House

Friday, July 31 Open Schedule

Saturday, August 1 9:00 - 10 am Overeaters Anonymous LL

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 July 12, 19 and 26th

If you have a conflict please arrange a substitute. If you traded with someone and your name is incorrectly listed, please remind the person you traded with. Thank you!

Sunday July 12

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis
Accompanist -- Debbie Miller
Song Leader -- Karen Windels
Greeters -- Tom and Gail Jonson
Lector -- Ann Houck
Communion Assistants -- Jeff & Janelle Hankel
Ushers -- Steve & Patty Hillebrand
Acolyte -- Valarie Niesen
Nursery -- Nick Hinz
Counting Team -- Team 5 (Brian Graedel, Kevin Boehnen)
Altar Guild -- Debbie Wipperfurth
AV Team -- James Hartung
Coffee & Treats -- Dana Fuhrman, Jeannie Hering-Schumann, Karen Seibel

Sunday July 19

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis
Accompanist -- Jan Doyle
Song Leader -- (open)
Greeters -- Mindy Eisele, Jeannie Hering-Schumann
Lector -- Jeff Miller
Communion Assistants -- Tom Johnson, Patty Harper
Ushers -- Steve Schunk, Kim Johnson
Acolyte -- Ella Rogers
Nursery -- Valerie Niesen
Counting Team -- Team 4 (Steve & Patty Hillebrand, Deb Wipperfurth)
Altar Guild -- Debbie Wipperfurth
AV Team -- Jason Niebuhr, Jeff Postle
Coffee & Treats -- Karen Seibel

Sunday July 26

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis
Accompanist -- Debbie Miller
Song Leader -- (open)
Greeters -- Bob & Redgy Nelson
Lector -- Jenni McCulloh
Communion Assistants -- Steve Schunk, Nancy Kurr
Ushers -- Susan Nelson, Amy Wildman
Acolyte -- Nick Hinz
Nursery -- Henry Hartung
Counting Team -- Team 3 (Mike & Kay Calvin, Alan & Patty Harper)
Altar Guild -- Deb Goplin
AV Team -- Phil Fish, Bill Windels
Coffee & Treats -- Doris Fish

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