



Week of July 24 - 30 2016

Pastor Kirsten Update!

Dear St. Martin's Family,

It is with great pleasure that I share with you that Pastor Kirsten will be back with us on August 1st, having been cleared by her doctor to return to work part-time. As many of you know, she suffered a brain aneurism in late February, and has undergone two medical procedures to repair the aneurism, the last on June 13th. As with these types of brain insults, the recovery time is typically long. Since Pastor has been working very hard to build up her stamina, she is now "ahead of the curve" on her recovery. Upon her return, the Church Council is committed to supporting Pastor Kirsten in whatever ways she may require. I know you will join me in making her return as smooth and stress-free as possible. Pastor continues to care so deeply for her church family and is eager to reconnect with everyone. We praise God for her past and continued healing.

Bishop Mary Froiland reminded me several times over the past months that our time without Pastor Kirsten will be hard, but that we can and will rise to the challenges before us by working together. While the past several months have certainly been challenging, together we have more than met those challenges. I thank God every day for the leadership of our Church Council and our congregation Teams. Their thoughtful, solid, fine work has not gone unnoticed.

Pastor Jack Finney has reminded us that the most critical prayer to pray is one of gratitude – gratitude for all we have been given by God. God has surely walked with us and blessed us during this unprecedented time of challenge. May the shared strength that we have demonstrated over the past several months continue to grow, so that we can carry out, with enthusiasm and dedication, the work God has called us to do in this place, at this time.

With sincere gratitude,

Karen Windels,
Church Council President

Please keep Pastor Kirsten in your prayers as she continues to recover! She appreciates your phone calls, cards and scheduled visits. (Home phone: 608-437-5472)

RALLY DAY HELP NEEDED

Rally Day is scheduled to follow Sunday Service on September 11th. This is a very important service at St. Martin's as it involves signup for Sunday School, confirmation, youth and much more! (TLC will also have a display table setup.)

The TLC team is looking for Rally Day volunteers to help:

- * Organize
- * Activities (face painting, games, etc.)
- * Music
- * Putting up posters, etc.

A volunteer organizational meeting will be held on Wed., July 27th at 6:30p in the library. All are welcome! *Please sign-up on sheet in the Narthex.*

FAMILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St. Martin's Family Vacation Bible School is now scheduled for three evenings -- August 9th, 10th and 11th (Tues, Wed & Thurs.) from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. This switch to an evening time **gives families an opportunity to participate and learn with their child in a fun and meaningful way** that will surely bring everyone closer to God and each other.

The format will look like this:

- * 5:30 to 6:00 PM -- A time to dine and fellowship together (light supper provided)
- * 6:00 to 6:15 PM -- A time for all ages to learn together as a large group.
- * 6:15 to 7:15 PM -- A time for kids and parents to huddle in small groups for an expanded learning time, grouped by child's age/grade mates. This time will include skits, crafts, games, videos, and other fun, hands-on activities.
- * 7:15 to 7:30 PM -- A time for all ages to gather together in song and prayer.

Our planning team needs help in the following ways:

- * Music leaders
- * Small group leaders
- * Large group instructors
- * Middle and High School youth to assist children (if interested, meet right after worship, July 10th)

Parent and Youth Participant meeting - Monday, July 25th 6:30 PM in the library

Registration for children age 3 through 5th grade begins on July 11th. Just go on the St. Martin's website, or fill out a registration form in the Narthex. Need help with child care for younger ones? Just indicate this on the registration form. Friends and an accompanying parent(s) are also welcome. Questions can be directed to any member of the planning team, Jeannie Hering-Schuman, Kim Johnson, or Karen Windels. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MON., JULY 25th.**

We are praying for volunteers and registrants to step forward so this year's VBS can take place!

MOM Backpack School Program

St Martin's is collecting the following items: Extra large backpacks (for high school students), dry erase markers, protractors, compasses, black Sharpies, Crayola crayons, 3 x 3 Post-it notes, scotch tape. Help MOM reach their goal of supplying 1,000 low income students with the tools they need to succeed in school. Please bring your donations to the table in the narthex. *Thank you!*

Habitat For Humanity Build

Saturday, Aug 6 in either Sun Prairie or West Madison (site to be determined) Join the St. Martin's Team! Call Maureen at 798-4820 for more information and to register.

Youth and Family Ministry Team Opportunity

The Church Council is seeking to establish a Youth and Family Ministry Team as outlined in our Constitution. This Team will work with Pastor and, hopefully, a Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator to establish and oversee our Christian education programs for St. Martin's children of all ages. We are hoping to get this Team off the ground before September. The Team would likely meet monthly to make programmatic and procedural decisions, as well as support our staff in executing the programs. If you are interested in serving in this vital ministry opportunity please contact Karen Windels (608-798-5031, or karenwindels@gmail.com). Thank you!

Our Legacy Fund in 2019

Fast forward to May of 2019... The special outdoor Sunday service has ended and we are milling around the Prayer Garden and talking about the wonderment of God's work in the Legacy Endowment Fund that St. Martin's created only a few short years ago.

The conversation goes like this:

"Wow, isn't it just wonderful how that \$2800 from the interest of the Endowment Fund provided seed money to help start the local Single Parent program. The program helps with child care expenses and offers grants for retraining in jobs. This program is one that gives hope for the future of these parents and children.

Also, that Legacy Fund helped a mission in the country of Chad. The mission started a Christian school that provides funding for teachers and to build their school. Our church joined a group of ELCA churches that created the Chad project, exposing 100's of children to the Gospel and basic education.

Yup, and that fund last year helped purchase quilting supplies, and paid for shipping St. Martin's hand-crafted quilts to earthquake victims in South Korea."

Now back to today when we are just establishing our fund. We ask you to pray and find in your heart the determination to assist in creating the principal needed to fund missions and good works for our future generations. Please consider looking into how you may use your will, cash gift, life insurance, common stock donation, trust designation or how a plan specifically tailored to your situation can be made part of this Endowment Fund. The Legacy Fund Board has made it simple to act, as you only need to meet with the experts at the ELCA Synod office in a confidential, non-binding appointment.

Please note that this Endowment Fund is NOT a part of any other St. Martin Capital Campaign or SHOULD NOT replace any regular offering to St. Martins. The St. Martin Legacy Endowment Fund is a way of leveraging you're planning to spread the Gospel and serves those in needs for generations into the future.

Using a will to fund an endowment

Did you know that everyone has a will? The question is, who wrote the will? If you wrote a will to disperse all of the gifts you have received from God over the years, then hopefully you considered giving part of those assets back to God. If you did not write a will, then upon your death, you take

all of those assets God has given you to a judge and say, "Here, God gave me all this, but you decide what happens now." Do you think God would want you or a judge to decide what to do with all that he has given you. Everyone needs to write their own will.

With a good plan you can give back to God leaving a donation that keeps giving long after your death. Although it's something most people don't like to think about, funds from your will can be directed to a specific purpose, such as the St. Martin's Legacy Endowment Fund. One way to use your will to fund an endowment is to use it to create a trust, such as a charitable remainder trust. In the charitable remainder trust, a certain amount of income can be paid to your beneficiary for a specified period of time or circumstance. After that, the remainder of the amount in the trust goes to a charity of your choosing, such as an endowment fund. Another way is to simply include a statement in your will that says: "After all my bills are paid, I want 10% of my estate (a tithe) to go to St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund."

Because it is important that the will have specific language regarding donation, it is crucial to have someone with expertise help with the preparation. ***For more information regarding this, please contact your own financial planner, attorney or:***

Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin

Rev. Larry Westfield
2909 Landmark Place, Suite 202
Madison, WI 53713
Telephone: 262-224-9574
E-mail: larry.westfield@elca.org

Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator Position

St. Martin's is seeking to hire a half-time, Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator who can work effectively with children of all ages.

The purpose of this position is to direct and coordinate a comprehensive and expanding ministry for our children, youth and families. This position will work with Pastor, our Youth and Family Ministry Team, parents and other lay ministers.

Send or email a cover letter and resume to St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 2427 Church St, Cross Plains, WI, 53528 or om@stmartinscp.org. A job description can be viewed on our web site, stmartinscp.org. (Or call Deb McCue – 798-3294)

Stayed 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).

'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).

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@stmartinscp.org

-- Pastor Kirsten: PastorKirsten@stmartinscp.org

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

Pastor Contact Information

If you need pastoral assistance, please call Pastor Jeff Miller (608-370-9155, or jwdmiller@outlook.com) or one of our emergency contact pastors: Pastor Rob Nelson (New Heights Lutheran W: 608-767-2247 or C: 608-513-0032) or Pastor Barry Hoerz (Vermont Lutheran W: 608-767-3312 C: 608-370-3100 vermontlutheran.org).

CHURCH CALENDAR

Upcoming Schedule (Also available on the church web site - www.stmartinscp.org - and in the Weekly Bread):

JULY 24 - JULY 30

Sunday, July 24

9:00a -- Sunday Worship

Monday, July 25

6:30p -- VBS Training for Volunteers

Tuesday, July 26

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

6:30p - Legacy Endowment Board L

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

Wednesday, July 27

6:30p -- volunteer Meeting for Rally Day L

Thursday, July 28

6:30p -- Centering Prayer

Friday, July 29 -- Open Schedule

Saturday, July 30

9:00a -- 10a 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; K - Kitchen

Worship Participants

JULY 24

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Jack Finney
Accompanist -- Sherri Hansen
Song Leader -- Karen Windels
Special Music -- Mark Richardson
Greeters -- Lee & Jacqui Swanson
Lector / Reader -- Lee Swanson
Communion Assistants -- Sean Frye, Dana Fuhrman
Ushers -- Kay Meier, Susan Nelson
Acolyte -- Henry Hartung, Cole Ferguson
Counting Team -- Team 5 (Brian Graedel, Kevin Boehnen)
Altar Guild -- Darlene Schulenburg
AV Team -- Phil Fish, Bill Windels
Coffee & Treats -- Karen Seibel (*cake from council*)

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