



St. Martin's 'Weekly Bread' March 29 - April 4, 2020

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

Virtual (on-line) Worship Services!

Sunday, 9am and Wednesday, 7 pm!

Facebook Live

Links are available on our church website ... Stmartinssp.org (Click here)

Note from Pastor Maggie

Grace and Peace to you, my beloved siblings in Christ!

It's hard to believe that it was only a month ago that I last wrote to you as we welcomed in the season of Lent. You may have seen the joke going around on social media that says "I meant to give up things for Lent, but I didn't mean to give up this much!" (Forgive me. Humor is my go-to coping mechanism in times of stress!)

What a strange and disconcerting world we find ourselves in now. In just a short time, it feels like everything we know has changed. Coronavirus has disrupted our lives in ways we couldn't have even imagined, and the repercussions continue to ripple every day. No doubt we will still be healing months, perhaps years from now, long after spread of the virus is contained.

Was this uncertainty what it was like for Jesus when he fasted for 40 days in the wilderness and endured the Devil's temptations? Was this something of what the Israelites felt when they wandered through the desert with Moses in search of the Promised Land? Or how about Noah stranded on the ark with the beasts of the land? In some ways, maybe. Was God there with God's

people throughout those times of trial? Did God's promise remain? Yes, most certainly. Is God with us here? Definitely.

Without a doubt, we will be changed by this experience. But the joy that we can take from this is that we have a choice in how we will be changed. We can use this as an opportunity to awaken our sense of empathy for our neighbors. We can find ways to reconnect. We can strengthen our spiritual practices. We can emerge from the isolation, from the wilderness, with a new understanding of what it means to be Church.

I want to give you an update on some opportunities to connect and some suggestions for things to do at home. I hope to update this list weekly so you have an unending variety of options to connect with your family here at St. Martin's!

- Worship with us online live on Sunday mornings at 9 AM on Facebook! ([For link to St. Martins Facebook page click here.](#)) Videos are also posted online for later viewing at any time on YouTube. ([For link to St. Martins YouTube page, click here.](#))
- Continue to use Facebook for various ways to stay connected throughout the week, as well as the most up-to-date information about what is going on at church.
- Use the Pandemic Hope devotional ([for link to devotional click here!](#)). You can also follow along once a week with Pastor Maggie on Wednesday nights at 7 PM as she works through the devotional at home. Look for the live link on our Facebook. Videos are also posted online for later viewing at any time on YouTube.
- Join us in daily prayer at 1 PM. No need to be online, just pause for a moment to say a prayer and join with us in Spirit.
- For our families with children, Karen Windels emailed out some fun activities to do at home to help teach the meaning of Easter and Holy Week.
- For our teens, Lars is organizing a Zoom meeting to hangout together this Sunday evening.
- Look out for our Holy Week At Home kits, to be distributed on Saturday, March 4th! These are kits put together by Pastor Maggie and Lars (while wearing gloves!) containing items and instructions for celebrating Holy Week at home. We will have a kit available for every family which we will distribute in the church parking lot at a safe CDC-compliant distance. For those who are unable to leave their homes, we will deliver a kit to you. Please let us know if you need delivery or let us know if you know someone to add to our delivery list at pastormaggie@stmartinscp.org.
- Join us for Bible Study via Zoom! Choose from two options:
 - o Sundays at 10:30 AM to resume the study of Revelation. *Use this link and enter the password "revelation"*: <https://luthersem.zoom.us/j/112310391?pwd=L0VDVzNjZnFQY1N2ZHBjV0FMOGN1Zz09> ([Click here for direct link to Sunday Bible Study.](#))
 - o Tuesdays at 7:00 PM to start a new study on Esther. *Use this link and enter the password "esther"*: <https://luthersem.zoom.us/j/923990232?pwd=M0IsZnZMeUwvY0t4OEZBVjJ1ZldpUT09> ([Click here for direct link to Tuesday bible study.](#))
- Plus, stay tuned for more! We will be updating this list as new options become available.

Please note that during this time all in-person pastoral care visits are suspended except in the event of an emergency. *Please contact me at any time at 608-515-8618 (or pastormaggie@stmartinscp.org) and I will be glad to talk with you!*

Peace be with you all,
Pastor Maggie

Schedule Updates & Changes

The church schedule, office hours and events are constantly changing, being updated.

Check the church website (www.stmartinscp.org) for updates. Announcements will also be made through the Weekly Bread and by email.

As always, you can contact Pastor Maggie with questions. Her phone number at the church is (608) 798-2777, her cell number is (608) 515-8618. Email: PastorMaggie@stmartinscp.org.

Thank you for your understanding!

Plant Sale (discontinued)

The Prayer Garden / Plant Sale Team has decided to discontinue the plant sale.

Our decision is based on the lack of interest in participation by the congregation along with the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 virus.

The team would like to thank those that have participated in any way to the success of the sale in past years. *Thank you all!*



Flu Prevention

Some health tips

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

As always, if you feel unwell or think you might be contagious, we encourage you to stay home.

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!

Canstruction event CANCELLED

The Missions Team announces Canstruction, our focus on ending local hunger during the Lenten season by building a St. Martin's structure out of cans, has been **cancelled** due to COVID-19.

While Canstruction has been cancelled, hunger has not, it has in fact been accelerated during the pandemic due to businesses closings and layoff increases. While the MOM food pantry has been closed, a drive through pantry with pre-packed food boxes has been established to continue to meet the needs of our neighbors.

Please Note: MOM is NOT accepting food or clothing donations at this time.

They are working closely with Second Harvest and the rapidly changing recommendations for food safety and distribution. Financial donations, however, are gratefully accepted. You can make your check payable to St. Martin's (no cash, please) with MOM indicated on the memo line and place in the lock box located outside the church office door until services are rescheduled. We will make a single donation to MOM from all donations received. Once church resumes, you can bring your donation to the Mission table. *Thank you!*

Lower Level Door Policy Change

Starting May 1st all lower level doors will remain locked at all times, including before and during Sunday Services.

To enter the building please do so through the main level doors.

*If you have any questions, please talk to a council member.
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

Pre-Confirmation classes (5th & 6th graders) meeting on Wednesday nights, starting at 6pm. *(Please remember to enter building through lower level doors.)*

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!*

Birthdays & Anniversaries

MARCH 2020

Birthdays

3/21 Matt Couey and Bertrand Couey

3/23 Sharon Johnson, Henry Hartung, Kate Wenning

3/24 Lee Swanson, Oliver Wenning, Kevin Boehnen

3/25 Amy Kjol

3/30 Alexandria Boehnen

3/31 Samantha Roll

APRIL

Anniversaries

4 Jim & Jan Doyle

26 Ralph & Darlene Schulenberg, Bruce & Sandy Salvo

Birthdays

4/2 Oscar H. Wendt, James Sebree

4/5 Jordan Green

4/6 Cora Schoenwetter

4/7 Oscar Seibel

4/11 Alan Harper

4/12 Nancy McCauley

4/15 Patty Hillebrand, Ryan McCulloh, Ethan Schluter

4/17 Robert Miller

4/18 Adam Herring

4/22 Philip Fish

4/23 Barbara Durham

4/24 Janet Klock

4/25 Van Valaskey

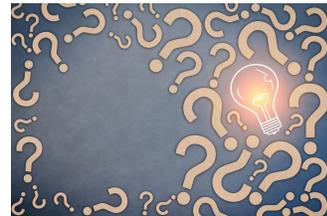
4/26 Kelly Klock

4/30 Richard Haller, Elaine Meister, Kim Mahaffey

Know of an addition? Correction? Please let the office know (om@stmartinscp.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@stmartinscp.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.stmartinscp.org. Events are updated on a regular basis. *Questions?* Send a note to the office (om@stmartinscp.org) or call 798-2777.

Church Office Hours & Email Addresses

Office hours:

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 Phone: (608) 798-2777

-- OFFICE Email: om@stmartinscp.org

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

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@stmartinscp.org.

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Sunday, March 29, 2020

9:00a -- Sunday Worship -- ONLINE! Check website for links: www.stmartinscp.org

5:30p -- Narcotics Anonymous (library)

Mon., March 30 -- Open Schedule

Tues., March 31 -- Open Schedule

Wed., April 1 -- Open Schedule

Thur., April 2 — 6:30pm -- AA Meeting (library)

Friday, April 3 -- Open Schedule

Saturday, April 4 — 9:15a -- Overeaters Anonymous (lower level)

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

Worship Participants (Sunday, March 29, 2020)

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

Presiding Pastor -- Pastor Maggie

Video Team -- Geoff Peterson

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