



## ***Week of Nov. 5-11 2017***

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Some people are proud of themselves for being so humble! It is not easy to heed the call in the gospel for next Sunday, to be humble as was Christ. Come to worship, and give God the glory, and God will give you all the glory you need.

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## **Clocks '*Fall Back*' this weekend ...**

Remember to *set your clocks back 1 hour before you go to bed Saturday night.* (Yes, you get an extra hour of sleep!) *Sweet dreams!*

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## **Attention Sunday School Parents!**

There will be a ***short meeting Sunday (11/5) after worship*** in the Library to discuss the Sunday School children's Christmas Program. Y'all please come!

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## **Culver's Saturday!**

Culver's is celebrating 25 years in Cross Plains! The custard makers have invited St. Martin's Youth Group to share in the fun.

***The Youth Group will receive 7% of sales THIS SATURDAY Nov. 4th!***

To make the deal even sweeter Culver's shakes will be \$1.99! That's a throwback to prices 25 years ago!

Please treat yourself, and your family, to Culver's this



Saturday. It's a tasty way to support St. Martin's Youth!

P.S. -- You will see Culver's Share Days all next week. Culver's wants to raise \$2,500 in 8 days for 8 local non-profits. We are proud to be asked to be one of them!

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## Take the Challenge

Are you a risk taker? Do you enjoy a challenge? Do you wish to make a difference? *Then we have the challenge for you!* An anonymous donor has approached *The Legacy Endowment Fund* (LEF) with a \$10,000 challenge. Your donation will be matched dollar for dollar, which means that we could reach our goal of \$25,000 to start making distributions from the Legacy Endowment Fund. *The Challenge runs through Dec. 1, 2017.*

As of Oct. 24 we have collected over \$4,000 towards the Challenge. *Will you be the next one to help raise the money towards the \$10,000?*

To make a donation, use a Green donation envelope available in the Narthex. Make your check payable to Mission Investment Fund or St. Martin's Lutheran Church. Please put number 54750500005705 in the memo area. Checks can also be mailed to St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 2427 Church Street, Cross Plains, WI 53528. Thank you - The LEF Board

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## Become a 'Founding Member'

From now through Nov. 1 is a good time to become a "Founding Member" for St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund. Contribute \$2500 or more before Dec. 1 and you will be a "Founding Member." (See the requirements below.) During the "Challenge Drive" ending Dec. 1, 2017 (see information, above), individuals contributing \$2,500 qualify, as their \$2,500 is matched totaling \$5,000. Founding members and all members will be recognized on a plaque in the Narthex. We also have some other ideas to visually identify the many who become members unless people choose to be anonymous. Putting the fund in your estate plan is a traditional way to contribute to an endowment fund; however, contributing during your lifetime will give you the satisfaction of seeing your money being put to work to spread the Word of God and/or help needy members within and beyond our church wall.

### *The Living Vine Legacy Membership Defined*

Founding Members of St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund:

- are required to give a current gift/s of \$5,000 or more to the Fund
- must contribute \$5,000 before the first \$100,000 is collected for the Fund

Members of St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund:

- may give a current gift or asset of any amount to the Fund
- or notify the Fund's Board of Directors that they have completed the paperwork to include the Fund in their estate plan

Fund member/s will be recognized in name only in Church Communications and on a name plaque in the narthex, unless the donor requests to be anonymous.

*Thank you!*

St. Martins Lutheran Church - Legacy Endowment Fund

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## **New Member Sunday - Nov. 12th**

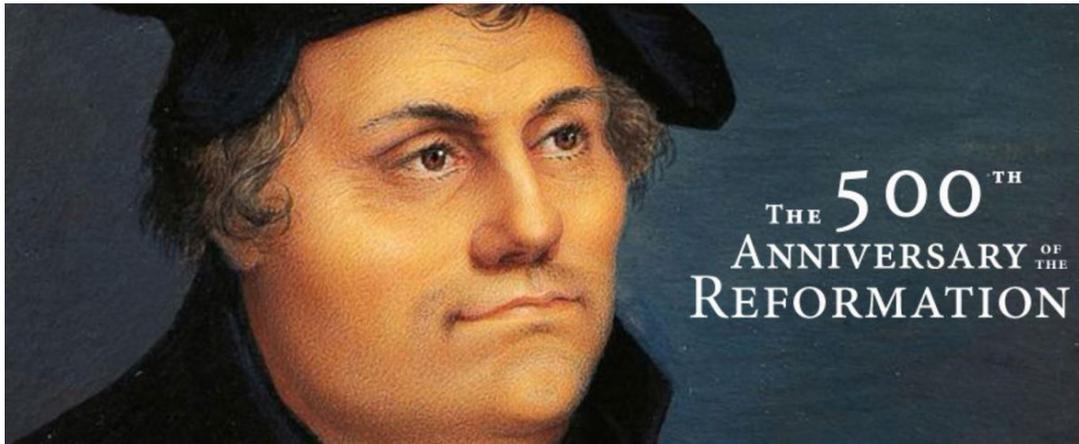
*Are you considering becoming a member of St. Martin's, or know someone who might want to join? Please notify the office (798-2777 or om@stmartinscp.org) or Pastor Kirsten (pastorkirsten@stmartinscp.org). New members will be received on Nov. 12th.*

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## ***Synod-Wide Reformation Events -- All are welcome!***

Worship Planning teams invites everyone to be involved in one or all of the upcoming celebrations marking the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. These will include a synod event in Janesville – an ELCA event in the Twin Cities – and an ecumenical event (Lutheran and Catholic Bishops co-presiding) in Milwaukee.

Please see information below and articles in following weeks!



### ***Saturday, Nov. 4th -- Reformation Commemoration***

Join the Reformation 500th Choir! All choirs and singers are invited to join in the SCSW-ELCA sponsored Reformation 500th Commemoration

**Date:** Saturday, Nov. 4th

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Location:** First Lutheran Church of Janesville (612 N. Randall Ave)

This ecumenical event will feature full orchestra, handbell groups, and a festival choir composed of many different Protestant and Catholic backgrounds. Through music, word and prayer, we will highlight the role the Reformation has served in the development of the modern age. Above all, our joint commemoration focuses on the amazing mercy and love of God in Jesus Christ, the firm foundation by which all people of God stand.

For more information and to sign up, please contact Jan Knutson, (jknutson604@gmail.com -- 608-921-6534)

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## St Martin's Highlight -- Missions

Missions reaches beyond the doors of our sanctuary to support Local Ministries (MOM, School Backpack Drive, Feed Our Children - Park School Week-end Snack Program, Heights Unlimited Food Pantry, Plant A Row Garden, Giving Tree, Habitat For Humanity, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Undies Sundays, Porchlight, LUAD, Madison Area Jail Ministry) and Global Ministries (Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran World Relief – Quilts and Personal Care Kits, Global Health Ministries – Infant Care Kits, ELCA Always New Campaign, God's Global Barnyard, World Hunger). Funds to sustain the many ministries are raised by generous designated giving and congregational donations throughout the year.

The Mission Team is comprised of Pastor K, Maureen Berghoefer (TLC representative), Bob Nelson, Phil Fish, Doris Fish, Van Valaskey, Debbie McCue and Kathy Graedel and meets regularly to review the Mission calendar, evaluate each ministry at its completion, determine continuing ministries, retire those that have run their course and consider new opportunities brought to them by the congregation. Missions offers many diverse, short term opportunities for congregational participation and continues to thrive on the financial support, hands on volunteerism and prayers of St. Martin's.

"Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matt 25:40

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## Grief Support Seminar

When you are grieving a loved one's loss, the holiday season can be especially painful. Join us for an encouraging seminar 'Surviving the Holidays', **Saturday, Nov. 18 (10 a.m. - Noon) at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 7337 Hubbard Ave., Middleton.** There is a \$5 fee. For more information, contact Maureen at 798-4820, msberghoefer@tds.net.

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## ***"Congregational Ethics Members Relating to Former Pastors"***

Upon the advice of the Synod Office, the information below is being shared. This document has been signed by Council President Mark Richardson and Pastor Kirsten Curtis. Please read it carefully to assist in the transition process.

*"Congregational Ethics Members Relating to Former Pastors"*

We believe that the Holy Spirit is acting when a clergy person is called to the office of pastor. We also believe that the Holy Spirit is acting when it is time for that pastor to accept another call; including the call into retirement. How the congregation responds to previous pastors is critical for the health of the congregation and the entire Church. Unhealthy expectations from a congregation of a previous pastor will negatively impact the congregation's ability to receive the ministry of the

pastor(s) that follow.

Congregational members make and maintain loving and caring relationships with their pastors and their family members. Within the realm of friendship it is appropriate to continue such relationships. Hospitality is always proper. It is not appropriate to engage them in discussions or to seek their advice concerning congregational matters or the current pastor.

The title of "Pastor" is appropriate for the person who has been called to your congregation. While that person serves you it is appropriate to address him/her by "Pastor." Once that person ceases to hold the congregational office of pastor, all the responsibilities of that office are removed from him/her and the title of pastor is no longer appropriate to use for that person. Technically, they are still "Reverend" and are still a clergy person, but not your pastor.

The members should not turn to a former pastor at emotional and ceremonial times with expectations that the person will perform any pastoral acts, i.e. weddings, funerals, baptisms, home communions, etc. What is important at these times is that we know God is with us and blesses us. We are baptized children of God. We each have a relationship with God. The challenge is to indeed trust God and God's presence in our lives. These times are special opportunities to allow the called pastor to minister to you and, thereby, build relationship with you.

Whether it is a pastor who has been called by the congregation or an interim under contract, it is the responsibility of each member to love them, forgive them, and to turn to them for pastoral leadership. The concern of not knowing, or being known, by the "new" pastor is each member's responsibility to address.

Pastoral ministry is grounded in the relationship between the people and the pastor. Unfortunately, in our sinfulness, this relationship occasionally ends in discord. It is appropriate for the people through the congregation council to give to the Bishop a reflection of concerns. It is equally important that the congregation be reflective and honest about its part in the brokenness. It is vital that the congregation seek out the proper care and healing to better ensure healthier choices, relationships, and behaviors in the future. Unrealistic and diverse expectations are at the heart of most congregational conflict, if there are difficulties, your synod staff can assist you with appropriate resources.

When the clergy person leaves in the midst of conflict, it is inappropriate to continue to speak negatively about the former pastor and diminish the possibility of that one moving forward in a new ministry relationship. The challenge is found in Luther's word, "but defend him/ (her), speak well of him/ (her), and put the best construction on everything" (The Small Catechism, 8th Commandment).

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## **Trick or Treat for the Hungry - 2017!**

Thank you to everyone for your donations to 'Trick or Treat for the Hungry'! Over 230 pounds of food, and many boxes, were donated! *(And an additional thank-you to Jim Doyle for delivering everything to 'MOM's' food pantry!)*



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## Church Council -- Position Openings

There will be two Congregational Council position openings to be filled this coming year. Ron Goplin and Kyla Schoenwetter will be stepping down from Council this year, after having served their terms.

For interested congregation members who would like to be considered for a position on Council, please reach out to one of the three Council Nomination committee members, in person or by phone: Maureen Berghoefer (608)-347-9504, Joyce Richardson (608)-413-0204 or Matt Wildman (608) 798-1882.

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## Confirmation fun!



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## **Black Earth Food Pantry -- Need for volunteers**

*Informational meeting about Black Earth food pantry to recruit additional volunteers.*

Can You Help Us? Want to make a difference in the world? Start here, at home. The Heights Unlimited Community Service Center needs you!

We feed and clothe families, the elderly, and the jobless. Those with low-paying work who can't make ends meet. The young moms who need our free food so they can pay the rent and not become homeless. The cancer patient, too poor and sick to shop, so we help her friend pick up her food. All these individuals come through our door.

Do you have a compassionate spirit? You can help us help them. Come to either of two information sessions on **Monday, Nov 6, or Wednesday, Nov 8, at the Black Earth branch of the State Bank of Cross Plains. Both meetings begin at 7:00PM and will run a half hour.**

You don't need experience, and training is easy. You can work out front or behind the scenes. You can rescue food, unload trucks, take out the trash, shop with customers, or choose many other tasks that make this charity run.

Our work is simple but our hearts are full. Join us.

*Have a question?* Call Carole Ecker (608-767-9367) or Joyce Evers (608-795-2353).

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## **Rotation Workshop Sunday School Off to a Great Start!**

*Many thanks to the teachers and shepherds that have stepped up for our first rotation. Our next 5 week rotation will occur from now through Nov. 26th. We are in need of a few shepherds for this unit, so please sign up for an opportunity to work and play with our Sunday School kids. A teacher/shepherd sign-up sheet can be found in the Narthex near the Sunday School bulletin board. No experience is needed to teach or shepherd, and any assistance is greatly appreciated!*

All questions can be directed to any member of the Youth and Family Ministry Team, or call Karen Windels 798-5031.

### ***Note to Parents ...***

Soon we will be presenting new Bibles to Sunday School children 3rd grade and under. If your Sunday schooler is age 3 through third grade, we need to know if they have already received the Spark Story Bible.

Please let Karen or the office know (Karen; karenwindels@gmail.com or 798-5031, Office: 798-2777 or om@stmartinscp.org). Thank you!

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## **Feed Our Children**

Please sign up at the table in the Narthex if you can help with shopping or packing the week-end snack backpack program for Park Elementary kids. A rotational schedule will be prepared to include all volunteers and make the work load light.

Food Donations for the month of Oct and Nov will focus on the Feed Our Children Program. Please bring your offering to the Mission Table in the narthex. Suggested items are: instant oatmeal packets, single serving cereal boxes, granola bars, single serving fruit cups, fruit squeezes, small cans of soup, chicken/tuna, mac & cheese boxes, ramen noodle packets, Spaghetti O's with meat, noodle mixes (Rice a Roni, Knor, etc), crackers packaged in sleeves, peanut butter or Nutella (single servings or 8-12 oz plastic jar), individual packets of pretzels, peanuts, cookies, Goldfish crackers, etc, individual servings of hot chocolate.

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## **Who is Adam Lohrman?**

If you happen by the office and notice someone you don't recognize, it might be Adam Lohrman. Adam is using the spare office as a work space as he completes work on his Doctorate in Theology (from Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago). Adam's hours fluctuate, but you might see him after regular office hours so don't be surprised! (And fee free to say 'hi!')

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## History of the Old Businesses of Cross Plains

On **Monday, Nov. 13th** (*starting at 6pm*), the Historical Society will be doing a Power Point Presentation on the History of Old Businesses of Cross Plains. It will be presented by Becky Nolte and narrated by the President of the Society, Lyle "Doc" Esser.

The presentation will be held at St. Martin's in the sanctuary. This will be similar to his popular walking tours. Doc Esser has an incredible amount of knowledge and stories regarding the history of Cross Plains, so this is an event you don't want to miss!

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## Choir Director Needed

The Worship Planning Team (WPT) is seeking a volunteer choir director for the senior choir. We're looking for someone to lead rehearsals at 8:00 on Sundays and be present to lead us in our 9:00 Sunday services as well as special occasions (e.g., Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday).

Ideally, this person can join us at WPT meetings (1st Thursday each month), or we can coordinate and plan through other means as needed. We can provide music selection or coordinate with the director in any way that is helpful.

We are a welcoming choir and hope to find a leader who loves music, singing, and praising God as much as we do. We also have some promises of back-up leaders (with advance notice), so the new director will be supported with regard to their schedule.

This could be a rewarding opportunity for any musician (active or retired) or for a music student at the university or high school level. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in directing our choir, please contact any member of the Worship Planning Team: Pastor Kirsten, Debbie or Jeff Miller, Jan Doyle, Sherri Hansen, Karen Windels, Deb Goplin.

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## Birthday & Anniversary Announcements

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

### Nov. Birthdays

11/3 - Christopher Wright, Erin McCauley  
11/4 - Julie Blaha, Paxton Schreiber  
11/9 - Mark Niesen, Elijah Schluter  
11/14 - Jack Turnipseed  
11/16 - Nancy Kurr  
11/16 - Mindy Eisele  
11/18 - Jacqui Swanson, Patty Harper, Dan Trappe  
11/19 - Shawn McCue  
11/21 - Rebecca Brunner, Valerie Niesen  
11/26 - Robert Shields  
11/29 - Jodie Green

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## 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: Pastor Curtis (798-2777), Mark Richardson (413-0204), Gordie Esser (438-4176), Matt Wildman (798-1882), Kyla Schoenwetter (434-4950), Jenny Niesen (798-2132) or Ron Goplin (798-2518).

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## 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).

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## Suicide Prevention

*Need to talk to someone, or know someone who needs to talk to someone?*

Dane County Suicide Crisis Line: (608) 280-2600

National Suicide Prevention Line:

1-800-273-TALK (8255)

1-800-SUICIDE (784-2433)

For Veterans Press 1, En Español Oprima El 2

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## 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](mailto:om@smartinscp.org)

-- Pastor Kirsten: [PastorKirsten@smartinscp.org](mailto:PastorKirsten@smartinscp.org)

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

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## CHURCH CALENDAR

*Also available on the church web site ([www.smartinscp.org](http://www.smartinscp.org))*

### Nov 5 - 11 2017

#### **Sunday, Nov. 5**

9:00a - Sunday Worship

#### **Monday, Nov. 6**

6:00p - Youth & Family Ministry Team L

6:30p - Property Management Team FH

#### **Tuesday, Nov. 7**

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

7:00p - Boy Scout Troop 87 LL / FH

#### **Wednesday, NOV. 8**

6:00p - Confirmation Class (Bible Lesson)

#### **Thursday, Nov. 9**

4:00p - 6:30p — Cross Plains Business Fair (St. Francis Xavier Church)

**Friday, Nov. 10** -- Open Schedule

#### **Saturday, Nov. 11**

8:45a - 10a Overeaters Anonymous LL

*L—Library; FH—Fellowship Hall; S—Sanctuary; YR—Youth Room; LL—Lower Level Classroom*

***Save the Date!***

**Saturday, Dec. 2nd** - Holiday 'Cookie Walk' (9-11am) Have a question? Please contact Gail Johnson [gailjmadwi@gmail.com](mailto:gailjmadwi@gmail.com).

***Planning ahead? Christmas Services***

Thursday, Nov. 23 - Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Francis Xavier (7:30pm)

Sunday, Dec. 24th - Children's Program (9am)

Sunday, Dec. 24th - Candlelight Service (evening)

Monday, Dec. 25th - Christmas Day Service (9am)

## **Worship Participants - Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017**

Presiding Minister—Pastor Kirsten Curtis

Accompanist -- Debbie Miller

Song Leader -- Timmy Curtis

Special Music -- Ron Goplin

Greeters -- Tom & Gail Johnson

Lectors / Readers / Communion Assistant -- Doris Fish

Communion Assistants -- Bob & Redgy Nelson

Ushers -- Remington Lockwood, Deb Wipperfurth

Acolytes -- Lexi Boehnen, Kemper Curtis

Counting Team -- Team 3 (Mike & Kay Calvin, Alan & Patty Harper)

Altar Guild -- Deb Goplin

AV Team -- James Hartung

Coffee/Treats — Darlene Schulenberg, Lori Madigan

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