



ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



Week of Oct. 30 - Nov. 5 2016

Choir Rehearsals are Sunday before church (8am) in Music Room. All are welcome!

Young Adult In Global Mission, Laura Hermanns, will be speaking to our Congregation Oct. 30th

Hear about God's work being done in Rwanda and 12 other countries through the ELCA's Young Adults in Global Mission Program. A leadership development program for young adults, YAGM volunteers walk alongside global partners in a model of solidarity and accompaniment during a year of service and growth.

Laura Hermanns will share her personal experiences as a young adult missionary and will talk about how you can become or support a YAGM volunteer! She will be preaching on **Sunday, October 30**, and sharing more stories of her experiences after worship, as well.



Please stay after church for question - answer session with Laura

She will share more information about her experiences! Please join the discussion!

Stay for cake on Sunday - Reformation Sunday!

Enjoy some cake after service on Sunday (and make sure to attend Q/A session with our speaker, Laura Hermanns).

Update -- Trick-or-Treat for the Hungry (bring items to church)

Please bring your canned goods/non-perishable food items to church this Sunday for the food pantry if we missed your house on Wednesday night.

Festival Choir (Oct. 29th)

The Festival Choir of Madison has a concert on **Saturday, Oct. 29th, at 7:30 PM**, at the First Unitarian Society Meetinghouse in Madison. It is titled "Da Pacem Domine," a prayer for peace after the 15th anniversary of 9/11. Featured will be lush and healing music from a wide variety of contemporary choral composers, much written in the past few years.

Accompanying it will be lighting design by Andrew Schmitz. It will be an evening to soothe and renew your souls especially given the times we live in. Check out the following link to one of the pieces: [Festival Choir Song 'The Heart's Relection'](#)

Messiah (Dec. 9th)

St. Martin's members will be involved in the only performance of **Messiah** this year with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra on **Friday, December 9th**. *Mark your calendars and get your tickets if you are interested as this one typically sells out.*

COMMITMENT SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 13, 2016 – THINGS TO CONSIDER...

Based on a biblical understanding of Stewardship, Chick Lane says, “Stewardship is a word that describes how a follower of Jesus Christ faithfully travels through this life. There is a direct correlation between generosity and growing in faith.”

Rev. Lane was the keynote speaker at the recent Bishop’s Convocation that I attended. His topic of expertise is Stewardship. He’s written books and presented all over the U.S. His information has resulted in years of practicing stewardship in various church contexts, serving as an ELCA pastor. I found him to be thought provoking and insightful. Here are the takeaways from his presentations.

- Everything belongs to God. (Psalm 24: 1-2; Psalm 95: 3-6; Psalm 89:11)
 - o With God there is no transfer of ownership!
 - o God created and owns all things, so the question for us to consider is – what would God have me do with all this?

- We are all stewards.
 - o We take care of something that belongs to someone else – God.
 - o Stewards must be trustworthy and accountable. (1 Corinthians 4: 1-2)
 - o Stewards exist to serve others in a responsible way. (1 Peter 4: 10)

- There is duty and delight in living a generous life.
 - o 1 Timothy 6: 17-19
 - o 2 Corinthians 9: 6-8

Rev. Lane warned about the threat of money, citing Matthew 6: 24 – “No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” The more one has, the greater the threat. (Matthew 19:22)

Now each of us has a chance to make a promise to God to give back from what God has entrusted to our care,

- Giving of our time
 - Sharing our talents
 - Giving money
- to support God’s mission through St. Martin’s ministry.

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things and all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” (2 Corinthians 9: 6-8)

Please prayerfully complete your Commitment Card when it arrives in the mail and return on Sunday, November 13, 2016.

Upcoming events and volunteer opportunities:

October 30: Reformation Sunday

November 6: All Saints Sunday

November 20: Gift tags put out for the Giving Tree – First chance for people to pick up the tags so they can pick up the presents (hopefully at great Black Friday sales)

November 23: Ecumenical Thanksgiving service – This year it will be held at St. Martin's

November 27: Decorate the church for the Christmas season – The more hands, the lighter the load

December 3: Cookie walk – An excellent time to help out by making cookies and by helping that day to set up, package, sell, and clean up

December 17: Giving tree give away – Help is needed to organize presents and get them to the families. The families come to the church for the presents.

Update from The Committee: Restoring God's House

We are raising dollars needed to complete the upper parking lot consisting of paint lines and improvements, repairing and painting lines to the bottom parking lot, and paint the church.

The membership voted at the annual meeting in January, and we are responding to your vote to move forward and Restore God's House, our church from the recommendations from the property management committee.

The painting of the church took place this summer and came in under budget at \$12,430 and was paid for by the money that was set aside. This leaves us with a goal of raising \$54,000 to complete the upper and lower parking lot. ***We thank those that have already responded with your donations over \$38,000, now we need your help to fill in the gap.*** (Pledged - uncollected - \$4,500)

The upper and lower parking lots are our avenue to welcoming our congregation and guests. For some, they drop off their Sunday school youth, for others they bring prepared meals for the homeless shelter (year round use), funerals, Boy Scout Troop & Overeaters Anonymous meetings, fellowship gatherings, weddings, confirmation meetings, cookie walk, regular Sunday worship and more. It gets used, and it's not safe.

We need everyone's help to make this happen. We are asking for you to pray on your contribution, make a onetime gift, or a monthly gift over the duration of 2017. We ask that you please reply with your pledge gift amount by December 31, 2016 so the committee and property management team can work on securing bids for spring 2017. Please make checks payable to St. Martin's Restoring Appeal, mail to the church or place in the basket during our Sunday service offering. Your gift qualifies for Federal/State tax deduction and you will receive a receipt.

Thank you for your support of restoring God's House, our church.

It will take everyone in our congregation, joining together to make this effort move forward.

Committee of Restoring God's House

Council Invites Your Input

Starting in September, Church Council welcomes your participation in the first 15 minutes of each Council meeting 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. Church Council meets on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 PM in the church library. Contact any one of us at the following numbers: Pastor Curtis; 798-2777, Karen Windels; 798-5031, Gordie Esser; 438-4176, Greg Hinz; 798-1556, Kyla Schoenwetter; 434-4950, Mark Richardson; 413-0204 or Ron Goplin; 798-2518.

Audit Team Vacancy

The Church Council is seeking an interested person for the Audit Team. No experience is required to participate – just a willingness to crunch a few numbers, learn from others and monitor St. Martin's finances. The Audit Team does most of its work in the fall months. Terms of office are three years. If you are interested in this important ministry opportunity, please contact Karen Windels (798-5031) or Pastor Curtis (798-2777).

You are Invited! Basic Financial Planning 101 Seminar

You are invited to a no-cost seminar offered by the St. Martin Legacy Endowment Fund. Everyone will come away with information useful for the young or old. Discover ways to donate to what you feel is important and do so with positive tax benefits that will help you “plan smartly”! Learn about simple Power of Attorney and Medical directives and much, much more. All information reduced to simpler terms and take home outlines.

On **either Saturday, Nov. 5, at 9:00am or Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 6:30pm** you are invited to a seminar at St. Martin’s Church where experts will provide valuable financial insight and recommend various types of gifts to consider for meeting your goals that would be of benefit to you and the church. The seminar’s purpose is to educate. There will be no solicitation of funds.

- Coffee & Treat (Welcome)
- Prayer and Board Introductions
- Basics of Financial Planning
- Endowment Fund Planned Giving Options
- What is your Next Step to Consider?
- Q & A Session with Presenters

Refreshments will be served.

Mark Your Calendars for either seminar session:

Saturday, Nov. 5th (9:00-10:15 am)

or

Wednesday, Nov. 9th (6:30-7:45 pm)

Save the Date: Holiday Cookie Sale!

Saturday, December 3rd from 9am-11am, Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheets to volunteer at the sale and/or bake are posted in the narthex. Leave your holiday baking to us! Fill a cookie box provided with your holiday favorites baked by members of our congregation, weigh and pay! It's that easy! Free refreshments, door prizes! Join us!

Barb Rittler has hand-knitted the gorgeous wreath (picture) and donated it to the cookie sale fundraiser as a *silent auction* item. *Bidding will start Sunday, Nov. 6th and end on Sat., Dec. 3rd after the cookie sale.* Watch for wreath display and bidding numbers in the Narthex.



Thank you in advance to everyone that helps to the success of this community outreach / fundraiser for St. Martin's. Gail Johnson

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 in 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!

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Oct. 30 - Nov. 5th

Sunday, Oct 30

8:00a -- Choir Rehearsal CR

9:00a -- Sunday Worship

NO High School Youth Group tonight

Monday, Oct 31 -- Open Schedule

Tuesday, Nov. 1

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

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

Wednesday, Nov. 2

6:00p -- Confirmation Extravaganza (at Bethel Lutheran)

Thursday, Nov. 3 -- Open Schedule

Friday, Nov. 4 -- Open Schedule

Saturday, Nov. 5

9:00a -- 10:15a -- Legacy Endowment Fund Workshop S

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 - Sunday, Oct. 30

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis

Preaching -- Laura Hermanns

Accompanist -- Sherri Hansen

Song Leader -- Karen Windels

Greeters -- Darlene & Ralph Schulenberg

Lector / Reader -- Casey Peterson

Communion Assistants -- Bob & Redgy Nelson

Ushers -- Debi Wipperfurth, Alicia Houck

Acolyte -- Lexi Boehnen

Counting Team -- Team 4 (Steve & Patty Hillebrand, Deb Wipperfurth)

Altar Guild -- Kim Mahaffey

AV Team -- Alan Curtis

Coffee / Treats -- Karen Seibel, Elizabeth Collin

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