



Week of Sept. 3-9 2017

In last week's gospel reading, Jesus praised his disciple Peter. This coming week, Jesus rebukes him, calling him Satan. Come to hear this continuation of Matthew's story, and receive the life that only Jesus can give.

Choir is on summer break -- Look for practices to resume later in summer, early fall

PLEASE - No through traffic in parking lot

For safety reasons ('The Little Red Preschool' using lower level rooms, children in area, etc.), please do ***NOT*** use the parking lot for through traffic. *Thank you!*



Please stand by our neighbors as we begin the long road to recovering from Hurricane Harvey, one of the most catastrophic storms to hit the country in more than a decade.

Lutheran Disaster Response's affiliate is actively present, collaborating with community leaders and officials to initiate the proper responses, particularly the long-term recovery efforts. Together, we have a strong history of working with disasters in the Gulf Coast area. Recovery efforts are expected to take years, and Lutheran Disaster Response will be there to accompany those affected through every phase of this disaster.

We invite you to stand by our neighbors on the Gulf Coast during this time. Your gifts ensure that our church will be able to provide help and hope for those left homeless or otherwise affected by this disaster for years to come.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, designated for "Hurricane Response – United States" will be used entirely (100 percent) for this disaster until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. Give today to support the needs in this response and others like it.

WAYS TO GIVE

By mail

Make checks payable to
Hurricane Response - United States
and send to:
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
P.O. Box 1809
Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

By phone

Call 800-638-3522
to make a donation with a credit card. Operators are ready to assist you Monday through Friday,
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Central Time.

Give on line

< [Click here for ELCA Hurrican Relief](#) > Or < [Additional relief link](#) >



ELCA Commitment to Confronting Racism and Anti-Semitism

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), stands against all forms of hatred and discrimination. The church believes that cultural, ethnic and racial differences should be seen and celebrated as what God intends them to be—blessings rather than means of oppression and

discrimination.

The ELCA's social statement "Freed in Christ: Race, Ethnicity and Culture" states: "Racism—a mix of power, privilege, and prejudice—is sin, a violation of God's intention for humanity. The resulting racial, ethnic, or cultural barriers deny the truth that all people are God's creatures and, therefore, persons of dignity. Racism fractures and fragments both church and society."

The social statement, adopted by the ELCA 1993 Churchwide Assembly, calls on the church to make confession for complicity, name the spiritual crisis at the roots, commit to change and make pledges to public witness, advocacy and action to confront racism.

"We recognize that the kind of violence we witnessed in Charlottesville last weekend is very real and affects all of us," said ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton. "We need to stand up firmly against racism and anti-Semitism, show up for and advocate with others. Jesus, who makes visible those who are invisible, is already there. We need to show up, and we need to listen in each of our communities."

The ELCA is a church that belongs to Christ and Christ's church universal, where there is a place for everyone. The job of Christ's people today is to celebrate the diversity of God's creative work and embrace all people in the spirit of love, whatever race or ethnicity, economic status or gender.

[< Read full statement by clicking here >](#)

Rotational Sunday School Meeting THURSDAY

When: Thursday, Sept. 7th (7 PM)

Where: Fellowship Hall

What:

- * Experience a Rotation Sunday School lesson in one of our new classrooms.
- * Learn how Rotation Sunday School works.
- * Get familiar with curricular themes and classroom materials.
- * Sign up to be a Teacher or Shepherd in one of the four classroom settings.

Who:

- * All Parents of Sunday School children.
 - * All prospective teachers and shepherds.
 - * Any congregational member who wants to learn more about our new format.
 - * Anyone who wants to support Rotation Sunday School at St. Martin's.
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Movie Night – Sat., Sept. 9th

We will be watching *Hidden Figures* on Saturday night, Sept 9 (starting at 7 P.M.) Make plans to join in this time of fellowship!

Here's a brief summary of the movie.

“Three brilliant African-American women at NASA -- Katherine Johnson (Taraji P. Henson), Dorothy Vaughan (Octavia Spencer) and Mary Jackson (Janelle Monáe) -- serve as the brains behind one of the greatest operations in history: the launch of astronaut John Glenn (Glen Powell) into orbit, a stunning achievement that restored the nation's confidence, turned around the Space Race and galvanized the world.”

Attention High School Parents

Please make plans to attend an *important meeting after church on Sunday, September 10*, to talk about faith formation plans for our youth for next summer. Watch for an email next week with more information.

RALLY DAY - 2017 - SEPT. 17th

It's time to plan for the fall and holiday season activities available at St. Martin's. Events on Rally Day (Sunday, Sept. 17th) include:

- 9:00am - *Worship Service*
- 10:00am - *Ministry information displays* in the Narthex and Library
- 10:30 - *Youth activities (including the 'Loin's Train')*
- 11 to 11:30 - *Pie auction!* Don't miss it! (Proceeds to missions)
- 11:30 - Enjoy a classic Lutheran *Pot Luck Luncheon Meal*. (Hot dogs and beverages to be provided, bring a dish to pass.)

Plan to be there and invite a neighbor or friend!

All are welcome!



Sunday, September 17th, 2017

“Workshop Rotation Sunday School” Comes to St. Martin’s Sept. 24th!

Starting Sept. 24th, St. Martin’s children ages 3 through 4th grade will experience a new and exciting format to build their knowledge of the Bible. Our new program is called “Workshop Rotation Sunday School”, where we teach the same Bible story for five weeks. Each week children (grouped by age/grade) will rotate to a new and unique workshop setting. The Youth and Family Ministry Team and volunteers have been hard at work over the last month re-creating four classrooms that feature art, movie-watching, story-telling/drama, and cooking, so that our kids can learn the main Bible story in a variety of interesting and fun ways, engaging all of their senses. Each five-week rotation begins with a large group gathering of all the children; during that time, they will be introduced to the Bible story, learn well-loved, kid-friendly Bible songs, engage in child-chosen mission activities, and build friendships. This is followed by four weeks of rotation to each of four workshop settings, where the Bible Story is re-learned. Our Sunday School instructional time takes place during the worship service from 9:15 to 9:45 AM each week.

To date, our classroom spaces are almost ready, so be sure to venture downstairs to see the progress. But wait – there’s more: *we are looking for dedicated teachers and shepherds (assistants) to make this important ministry a reality.* Are you passionate about drama, love telling children’s stories, have artistic interests, are a movie buff, can accompany easy songs on the piano or guitar, or like to cook? Do you enjoy working and playing with kids? If the answer is yes to any of these questions, we want to hear from you! Teachers and assistants will sign up to teach for a rotation of four weeks at a time, for as many rotations as they choose, with just one lesson to teach for the entire four-week rotation. All lesson plans and materials will be provided for teachers. No previous teaching or Sunday School experience is necessary.

If you are interested in sharing your interests and talents with St. Martin’s youngest members, please contact Karen Windels, Sunday School Coordinator at 798-5031, or karenwindels@gmail.com. *This is going to be a BLAST!*

Reformation Festival Hosted by Luther Seminary and National

Lutheran Choir - Oct. 27-28

Spend this Reformation weekend learning and reflecting on the future of our faith from leading scholars, theologians and musicians assembled by Luther Seminary and the National Lutheran Choir. Everyone from lay people to worship leaders can enjoy this two-day festival filled with workshops and presentations by more than 20 theologians and musicians.

Other highlights include:

- An optional Oktoberfest dinner followed by a premiere performance by the National Lutheran Choir of Holy Spirit Mass a new choral work commissioned for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.
- A closing festive worship service at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, with ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preaching and massed choirs from area churches along with the National Lutheran Choir.

A complete schedule, including registration information is available at:
<http://www.luthersem.edu/reformation> or < [Click here](#) >

Matching Gift Challenge

The St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Directors is pleased to announce a \$10,000 matching gift challenge by a generous anonymous donor. During the challenge, taking place through Dec. 1, 2017, your contribution will be matched dollar-for-dollar up to \$10,000. We are required to accumulate \$25,000 in the fund before we can start using interest to promote our fund's mission of spreading the Word of God and helping the needy within and beyond our church walls. Currently we have \$14,383 in the fund and we see this as an opportunity to start putting the Legacy Endowment Fund to work for making a difference in the lives of people.

1. Either make check payable to St. Martins Lutheran Church or Mission Investment Fund and put the following account number in check memo: 54750500005705
2. Or, send check directly to St. Martins Lutheran Church, 2427 Church St, Cross Plains, WI 53528 or use Green Challenge Grant Envelopes in Narthex

Lower Parking Lot Re-Surfacing

The lower parking lot will be re-surfaced in *Mid-Sept.* (estimated date moved up, but exact date not set).

During work please note:

- Lower lot will be completely closed during work – no parking and no access to building through lower level doors. (Drive from upper lot will be blocked off.)
- Access to lower level of church building will be through main doors (upper level), then stairs or elevator down until work is completed.
- Lower level doors should not be used to exit building unless there is an emergency. (Signs will be posted.)
- Work is expected to take 3-5 days, depending on weather.

School Backpack Drive

Thanks to everyone who participated during the month of August. A list of items donated by the people of St. Martin's is posted on the Mission bulletin board in the narthex. Thank you to our MOM liaison Kathy Graedel for delivering!

Feed Our Children

The Park School Week-end food program, has scheduled an informational meeting following worship service in the library on Sunday, Sept 10. If you are unable to attend, please contact Doris Fish or Debbie McCue so they can share information with you.



'Penny the Pig'

Penny The Missions Pig says, "I like it here!" Please stop by the Missions Table today and feed her with your donation towards the Lutheran World Relief Healthcare Kits

Book Donations

Please consider donating your children, fiction-non-fiction, self-help, action, travel, health, mystery, romance, spiritual, poetry, drama books etc. to the 'Little Library' (located by the prayer garden) that is experiencing a lot of visitors this summer. Place your books inside or contact Gail Johnson (gailjmadwi@gmail.com) for larger donations. Thank you! Gail Johnson

St. Martins Legacy Endowment Fund (LEF)

On *Saturday Oct. 21st*, and repeated on *Monday Oct. 23rd*, your St Martins Legacy Endowment Board will be hosting "Important Elements to Financial Planning Seminar". *More details to follow, all are welcome to attend, so please mark your calendars now.*

We will continue to introduce Legacy topics in the Weekly Bread, at future temple talks, and at the upcoming seminar.

You created the Legacy Endowment Fund (LEF), the congregation, on January 25, 2015. The

purpose of LEF is to enhance the mission of St. Martins Lutheran Church apart from the general operation of the congregation. Gifts to this Endowment Fund ensure the continuation of the many ministries and missions of St. Martins into the future. It is the intent that distributions from the Fund shall not be used for the annual operation budget of the Congregation.

The Legacy Endowment Fund Board is pleased to announce a \$10,000 matching gift challenge by a generous anonymous donor. Currently we have \$14,383 dollars in the LEF and need \$25,000 in the fund before any distributions from the fund can be made. This gift match challenge is a blessing and we look forward to its success.

Consider giving a gift which will change lives for generations to come. Gifts to the Fund can come in many different forms such as Cash, Investment Accounts, Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds, Retirement Plans, Insurance, Personal Property, Real Estate, Business Ownership Interest, and other Assets. The Endowment Board is here to help you carry out your legacy wishes and oversee investments in the Fund.

Checks can be made to St. Martin's Lutheran Church Legacy Endowment Fund. To arrange a personal and confidential visit, or to learn more, please contact the Office or email LEF@stmartinscp.org

Please note that the LEF is NOT part of any other St Martins capital campaigns or SHOULD NOT replace regular offerings to St Martins.

St. Martin's Legacy Endowment Fund is an opportunity to strengthen St. Martin's faith journey for the future through legacy giving. The faith of tomorrow blooms from the seeds of today.

LEF Congregation Liaison,
James Hartung

Madison Area Jail Ministry Opportunity

Madison Area Jail Ministry Annual Meeting is Sat., Sept 9 (9-11:30 AM). Valuable training and important updates will be provided along with opportunities for brain storming and conversation with other liaisons, the chaplains and Executive Committee. **Who will represent St. Martin's?** Please contact Maureen if you are able (msberghoefer@tds.net).



Choir Director Needed

The Worship Planning Team (WPT) is seeking a volunteer choir director for the senior choir. Our excellent director, Debbie Miller, is stepping back from this position soon so she can devote more time to family, friends, and travel.

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) including Debbie, 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.

Birthday & Anniversary Announcements

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

Sept. Birthdays

9/3 Debbie Miller
9/7 Gary Trappe
9/9 Cathy Kittle
9/13 Michelle Schreier, Heather Foseid, Nolan Esser
9/15 Brian Graedel
9/17 Reggie Curtis
9/19 Doris Fish
9/20 Mark Wipperfurth
9/23 John Hagman, Jon Roll
9/25 Patty Neumueller
9/26 Jeff Miller
9/29 John Wenning

Sept. Anniversaries

9/3 -- Christopher & Amanda Wright (5)
9/9 -- Oscar H. & Rebecca Wendt (55)
9/12 -- Steven & Patty Hillebrand (13)
9/13 -- Ryan & Jenni McCulloh (8)
9/22 -- Glen & Debra Meister (37)
9/27 -- Linda & James Sebree (37)

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).



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).

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

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

OFFICE CLOSED MONDAY SEPT. 4th

In observance of Labor Day

CHURCH CALENDAR

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

Sept 3 - 9th 2017

Sunday, Sept. 3rd

9:00a -- Sunday Worship

Monday, Sept. 4th — *Office Closed* (Labor Day)

Tuesday, Sept. 5th

6:30a -- Men's Bible Study L

7:00p -- Boy Scout Troop 87 FH

Wednesday, Sept. 6th

6:00p — Legacy Endowment Fund Board Meeting L

6:00p-8:00p -- Confirmation Family Meeting FH

Thursday, Sept. 7th

6:00p — Sunday School Teacher Training L

7:00p -- Rotational Sunday School 'Experience' FH

7:30p — Worship Planning Team L

Friday, Sept. 8th — Open Schedule

Saturday, Sept. 9th

8:45a -- 10:15a Overeaters Anonymous L

7:00p -- Movie Night ('Hidden Figures')

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

Worship Participants - Sunday, Sept. 3, 2017

Presiding Minister -- Pastor Kirsten Curtis

Accompanist -- Sherri Hansen

Song Leader -- Timmy Curtis

Greeters -- Ryan & Jenni McCulloh

Lector / Reader / Communion Assistant -- Sandy Salvo

Communion Assistants -- Bob Nelson, Maureen Berghoefer

Ushers -- Amy Wildman, Matt Wildman

Acolyte -- Lexi Boehnen, Joelle Jackson

Counting Team -- Team 2 (Marci Bartlett, Donna Blumer)
Altar Guild -- Dob Goplin
AV Team -- James Hartung
Coffee & Treats -- Carmen Fowell, Jeannie Hering-Schumann

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