



ST. MARTIN LUTHERAN CHURCH

February 2018

Welcome!

ST. MARTIN—LUTHERAN CHURCH
James Chinery, Pastor
Stephanie Revard, Dir of Music
Randy Bickel, Family Life/Youth
Lori Quinn, Administrator
Renee Mason, Dir. POM

10995 Canada Road
Birch Run, MI 48415
989-624-9204

Sunday Worship 8 am & 10:45 am
Wednesday 7 pm
www.stmartinbirchrun.org

SHOWING CHRIST'S LOVE
TRANSFORMING LIVES
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

ASH
WEDNESDAY



Remember that
you are dust, and to
dust you shall return.
Ecclesiastes 3:20



St. Martin News

Men's Bible Study

Meets every Thursday at 6:30 pm, for more details contact church office 624-9204

Bottles for Babies Campaign

We are partnering with Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) to help raise funds for this faith-based non-profit organization. PRC, (formerly Abortion Alternatives), provides many free services to the community dealing with pregnancy and parenting. The campaign runs from January 28 through February 11, in recognition of Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. The bottles are on display at the "Faith Waites Dresser" so you can take one home anytime. Be sure to return it on Sunday February 11th. More information will be available at the "Spotlight" Communications Board in the Narthex.

Women's Spring Retreat – SAVE the date!

Our 2018 Ladies Retreat will be March 2, 3 & 4, 2018 at The Springs in Gladwin, (1950 N M 30, Gladwin MI 48624). Our theme: *Steppin' Out in Faith*. Where has God taken you? What next adventure does He have planned for you? Round up your girlfriends, plan a mother/daughter weekend.. Let's Step out in Faith together. Registration forms are on the welcome center counter to be filled out and turned in. Deposit of \$45 due by January 31st. Final payment is due by February 4. If you have any questions please contact Karla Mishler at 989-928-0376.

Lenten Services & Soup Suppers

Beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 14th, we enter the church season of Lent with a special communion & imposition of ashes service at 7:00pm. Lent is that special time of the year in which we have some extra time for spiritual reflection & repentance! Then each of the following Wednesdays until Palm Sunday & Holy Week, we'll have a special time for Worship with the 7th & 8th Grade confirmands joining Pastor & Stephanie in leading our time together with God. Each of these weeks we will have a Soup Supper starting at 6:00pm, with congregational participation in bringing soups and desserts, with grilled cheese & pickles being provided. So mark your calendars and plan on joining our walk together through Lent!

“Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord, all the earth.” (Psalm 96:1)

Worship and Music Notes—February 2018

THANK YOU FROM THE REVARO FAMILY for the Christmas cards, monetary gifts and gift cards that were presented to us during January 7th Worship Services. There were beautifully decorated envelopes and some cards/gifts were even given anonymously. We would love to thank each “one of the flock” personally, but we don’t know who you are! (God knows who you are, though.) God has truly blessed not only me, as your Minister of Music, but also my family who feel very welcome when they attend worship. The body of Christ is alive and active here at St. Martin Lutheran Church; and, it was refreshing to experience Christ’s love firsthand through your holiday cards and well wishes!

SONG OF THE MONTH: The song on the right is both a contemporary song and a hymn. Of course, the hymn was composed first, much earlier than the contemporary song was set to music. The bolded words of the contemporary chorus remind us that Christ is our Cornerstone and He is to be the foundation of our lives. He and His Word give us strength, hope and support in a lost world during unstable times with sinful people.

The familiar hymn verses remind us that:

Jesus’ blood and righteousness are what we can place our trust in.

Our anchor is rooted in the cross of Christ and the promises of His Word. Even in storms, God holds onto us and keeps us securely in place with Him.

A faith in Jesus guarantees us a place in heaven one day. John 3:16 states: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

CORNERSTONE BY HILLSONG

(Hymn: My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less)

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' name

**Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all**

When Darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil

**Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all**

**Christ alone; cornerstone
Weak made strong; in the Saviour's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all**

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found;
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless stand before the throne.

+++++

Be uplifted in this song and in the Lord!

Do you have a song in your heart? Call Stephanie at (989) 372-4065 to offer your praise to the Lord in worship!

Prayer List

Megan Rosier
 Janet Peters
 Sharon Bickel
 Bevly Becker
 Al Reinert
 Ryan
 Cade Knoll
 Chris VanNess
 Charles Bishop
 Karla Zissler
 Fred & Beryl
 Lanie & family
 Bryan Costello
 Linn Matzke

New Members

Gordon Gotts
 Adam Rice
 Christina Young,
 Kingston & Maddox
 Stricker
 Vicki Young



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PLEASE RUSH

DATED MATERIAL

Published Monthly

**Sportsman's Dinner & Auction – Saturday,
 March 17th**

Plans are in the works for our sportsman's dinner & auction, which will be held at Frankenmuth Legion Hall at 3:00 pm as a fundraiser for our Helping Hands Ministry. There are many great outdoor items & vendors and a wonderful menu for this great event! Buy your tickets in the church office – Monday through Friday 9-4:00pm. Also, we need items (homemade or retail) for the auction and monetary donations. If you can help in any way, please contact our SMD Chair: Larry Prested or the church office. Thanks for your efforts to make this a successful ministry.

Communion Instruction

Instruction will begin *February 25, at 9:15am* in the Confirmation Room for any *5th-8th grader* who hasn't gone through this time of preparing for receiving the Lord's Supper. There's a handful of lessons that the *young person & parent* will need to attend. If you have any question you can check with Randy.

Stephen Ministry Friends

Would you like to be trained on how to visit our homebound and ill members? Become a Stephen Ministry Friend! Special training dates are **Tuesday, February 6, 13, 20 & 27 from 6-8pm**. This was formerly known as our Care Team Ministry. Many are not able to take the training but want to support Stephen Ministry, so we have developed Stephen Ministry Friends offering more ministry opportunities to fit your gifts and time availability.

First, each Stephen Friends trainee will have a person assigned to pray specifically for them as they go through the training. Typically, a current Stephen Minister is assigned to each Stephen Friends Trainee. Since we don't have any Stephen Ministers yet to fulfill that role, Stephen Ministry Friends can stand in the gap.

Second, there is an incredible amount of paperwork that is constantly being completed and we'll also need an Stephen Ministry Friend willing to inventory the forms and make sure that we always will have enough on hand. Forms will be completed after each event of training as well as after Supervision and Continuing Education sessions.

Thirdly, Stephen Ministry funding through those who have a special passion for this ministry would be greatly appreciated. This can be done through an anonymous gift or by making a contribution to Stephen Ministry in honor or memory of someone or a special occasion.

Finally, as the program grows, other needs will become evident and we can implement our Stephen Ministry Friends as needed, empowering the program and the church at large.