

Those Serving This Week Dec. 10, Those Serving Next Sun. Dec 17, 2017

<i>Serving</i>	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 10:45 am	Sunday 8:00 am	Sunday 10:45 am
<i>Lay Assistant</i>	Denny Fent	Jim Matzke	Larry Prueter	Tony Quinn
<i>Prayer Partners</i>	Tim & Veronica O'Connell		Gladys Raymond/Marianne Nelson	
<i>Ushers</i>	Les Davis /Maxine Schmitzer /Dawn Prueter /Wayne Benkert	Darin Peterson /Dave Sawchuk /Tim Bender /Fred Irrer	Mike & Larry Prueter/Adam Weigandt/Jeff Wendt/Jeff Jones/Frank Sauder	Dale Trinklein /Andrew Hausbeck /Gary Ranke/Allen Hughey /Matt McFatridge
<i>Reader</i>	Chris Bailey	Vanessa Sanders	Al Fruendt	Sharon Prested
<i>Altar</i>	Mary Lee/Jenny Hughey		Sylvia Veitengruber/Kathy Baker/Mary Anne Schmitzer	
<i>Acolytes</i>	Casandra Solinski	Harley Vanier	Cam Prueter	Sean Coughlin
<i>Greeters</i>	Elaine Knight /Jackie Lee /Ruth Herzog /Carla Miller	Marianne Nelson	Louie & Janet Schultz/Maxine Schmitzer/Elysia Novess	Al & Donna Reinert
<i>Tech Booth</i>	Paul Kuck /Larry & Sandy Gotham	Michelle Huizar/Jeff & Christa Crawford	Paul & Adelle Kuck/Larry Gotham	Dawn Prueter /Dave Sawchuk /Shannon Coughlin
<i>Refreshments</i>	Carmen Sawchuk thru' MaryAnn Timmreck		Jamie Torrez thru' roger Zissler	

Serving Wed. December 6, 2017

Volunteer: Youth

Serving Wed. December 13, 2017

Volunteer: Youth

Stewardship Corner

Christmas is a time for giving and receiving gifts. After all, Christmas is when God gave the greatest gift you will ever receive: the gift of His Son. While that gift remains uppermost in your mind, you still enjoy receiving and giving other gifts to your family and friends. Sometimes, with limited funds, it's difficult to make your money stretch so you can give to all you love. Some of the greatest gifts cannot be bought with money. What's easier: to take \$20.00 to the mall and find a tie for your dad or sit down and ask him what it was like when he was a teenager? What's easier: to buy your wife a sweater or treat her and your family to a special dinner that you cook? What's easier: to find the latest toy for your son or daughter or to coach them in soccer in the back yard? Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).



Reaching, Bringing, Touching

News & Notes - December 10, 2017

10995 Canada Road, Birch Run, MI 48415 (989) 624-9204
www.stmartinbirchrun.org stmartin@stmartinbirchrun.org

No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father. Be on guard! Be alert! Mark 13:32-33a

Holiday Worship Schedule

- Wednesday, Dec.13th Advent 2 at 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, Dec.20th Advent 3 at 7:00 pm
- Sunday, Dec. 24th Christmas Eve at
10:00 am Traditional/communion
4:00 pm Contemporary Service
7:00 pm Traditional/communion
- Monday, Dec. 25th Christmas Day at 10:00am with communion
- Sunday, Dec. 31st One Worship Service with communion at 10:30am with 5th Sunday Potluck to follow.

For more details check the church's newsletter or website.

"Helping Hands" Caring Tree Ministry

The tree is in the Narthex to help families in the community who need assistance with Christmas. Please take a paper shape ornament and purchase the item needed. Return item unwrapped with the ornament tag included so we know who the gift belongs to. Gifts need to be **returned no later than Sunday, December 17th.** Thanks in advance for your help.

6:00 pm Suppers before Advent Worship

Our Family Ministry is working to help raise funds for our youth service trip to help others. The meals will begin at 6pm in the Fellowship Center with a freewill donation to cover the costs & help the youth. Join us December 13th, & 20th for this time of food & fellowship to help us all prepare!

Advent Services on Wednesdays

This December will include dramas put on by some of the **Sr. High Youth. Everyone** join us in the Sanctuary, Wednesdays beginning on December 13th at 7:00pm and continuing December 20th!

Youth Drama Reminders: Don't forget to check with Randy for your script to see how we're connecting the Gospel lesson. This helps **all of us** consider our preparations for Christ's coming. Sundays are our main day to prepare for those dramas.

Advent Devotionals

Are available for you to take for your spiritual growth. Watch for these booklets entitled *Love Came Down* and please take one to grow closer to God with your family. These studies will start in advent and run through the season of Epiphany!

Staff Gift Boxes

There are gift boxes located at the back of the sanctuary for all our staff. If you would like to write them a quick note or card, place a gift card, or a monetary gift to show appreciation of them. The boxes will be out until December 27, 2017.

Spiritual Gifts

Wondering *how you can best serve God with what He's Blessed you with?* You have an opportunity starting on *January. 9th at 6:00pm*, that Tuesday, to explore what spiritual gifts God has blessed you with, and then you can consider what you can do in His Kingdom. If you'd like to attend this special class, *Please Sign Up or Check with Randy or Pastor* for what you will need to do *ahead of time*. Hope to see all of you there!

Room Usage this Winter

Our Trustees are updating the settings for the thermostats in our building in order to maximize efficiency and savings. If you are *planning on using one of our rooms* then you will want to check with one of the Trustees or the church office to insure that we can have it ready for your use, Thanks!

Christmas Cookie Walk

Burt United Methodist Church, 12799 Nichols Rd., Burt on Saturday, December 16 from 9am until 12 noon.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO ATTENDED & PRODUCED OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SERVICE!

We appreciate that you made time to see and hear OUR Little Lambs of St. Martin, the FUTURE of our church!

They boldly proclaimed the baby in the manger, Jesus, and His Love for this world. This Christmas Service included our Sunday school children, FaithWeaver students, and Peace of Mind Daycare children.

Please keep this in mind for December 2018 (specific Sunday TBD).

In Christ's Service,
Stephanie

Financial Peace University

Thursday, January 11 - March 8, 2018 / 6:00PM-8:00PM

St. Martin Lutheran Church / [10995 Canada Rd / Birch Run](#)

Coordinators: Carla, Randy, Stephanie [\(989\) 624-9204](#)

Online Class Registration Link: <https://fpu.com/1052915>

Welcome to Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University! We would love to have you join our January 2018 Class. There IS financial HOPE! Join us and see. Call the church office at [\(989\) 624-9204](#) and ask for Randy or Stephanie.

Walk-ins are welcome, but if you know in advance that you'd like to join this class it is preferable that you are prepared with all of your student materials pre-ordered the week prior.

Thank You

Just a big thank-you to everyone who helped this yea with the Children's Christmas Service presented this past Sunday evening. Especially want to thank the children for doing a fantastic job bringing the message of Jesus coming into the world and how we all need to keep our focus on "The Main Thing" this time of year, that Little babe in Bethlehem, our Dear Savior Jesus.

So if you helped in anyway to get "Our Little Stars of the play" in dialogue or song to the stable on that very special night, we Thank-you for all your efforts. You know who you are dear volunteers. Also, a very special Thank-you to Meijer's Birch Run for their generous donation of the gift bags for the children and also Diann Duby for her donation of the delicious oranges presented that night. God bless You all through this Christmas season and the coming year. Jane Schemm

Bottles for Babies Campaign

We are partnering with Pregnancy Resource Center 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 thru February 11th, 2018 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 Feb 11th. More information will be available at the "Spotlight" Communications Board in the Narthex. Thank You.

Franklin Avenue Mission

Look for the sign up sheet to serve at the mission in December is located at the Welcome Center.

Last Week's Attendance

Wed. 7pm	24
Sunday 8:00 am	100
Sunday 10:45 am	112
Total	236
Visitors	53