
The St. Martin Communicator

St. Martin Lutheran Church, 322 Old Falls Blvd., N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

February 2018

Pastor: The Rev. R. Devie Ellis Church: 693-4415 Home: 264-4646 stmartinlutheran.org stmartin@wny.twcbc.com

Jesus...was led by the Spirit into the wilderness for 40 days, being tempted by the devil. - Luke 4:1-2

After his baptism, Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted. During those 40 days of fasting and prayer, Jesus stood firm in the face of temptation, refusing to turn from the path of suffering that lay ahead of him. Jesus provides us a pattern for our 40-day journey through this season of Lent.

Jesus had fasted 40 days and was hungry. Satan tempted Jesus to turn stones into bread. "You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." During our Lenten journey, we too live by "every word that comes from the mouth of God." We spend time in the Word, in personal devotions, and in special Lenten Bible studies. We attend worship services where we hear the Word. Jesus is the Word and our Bread of Life. We are fed and nourished in faith as we listen to him.

Satan tempted Jesus by taking him to the highest point of the Jerusalem temple. Jesus was challenged to throw himself down and allow the angels to stop his fall. Jesus responded, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."

During Lent, we humble ourselves before God and pray that our hearts would not be hardened by sin and unbelief. We follow our Savior to the cross, where he submitted to his Father's will for the sake of our salvation.

Jesus' third temptation was to fall down and worship Satan. "Be gone, Satan. For it is written, 'you shall worship the Lord Your God and him only shall you serve.'"

We are often tempted by the world's ways with its dazzling wealth and the lure of glory and wealth. During the season of Lent, we repent of our sins and turn away from our sinful desires and the tempting voices of the world. We worship and serve our Savior who laid down his life for us on the cross.

During this 40-day season of Lent, we follow our Lord through the wilderness as he prepares to take the path to the cross. We feed on the Word, we humble ourselves and submit to the will of God. We repent of our sins, turning away from the temptations of the world and our own sinful desires. In repentant joy we follow Jesus to the cross – and then to the empty tomb!

Together on our Lenten journey,
Pastor Devie

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Philadelphia Eagles vs. NE Patriots

The youth will be in the narthex with soup kettles marked, "Eagles" and "Patriots." Put your donation in the soup kettle of your favorite team! The money will be given to the NT Food Pantry. Nonperishable food items and toiletries will also be collected.

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ASH WEDNESDAY

February 14

Imposition of Ashes & Holy Communion

11:00am – Spoken Worship Service

7:00pm – Worship Service

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MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Thy Will Be Done

Experience the Season of Lent

"Not as I will, but as you will," Jesus prayed to his Father the night before he went to the cross for our salvation. And that is our prayer as well for Lent as we seek to do God's will in our own lives, as we draw near to the observance of Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection during Holy Week. During the mid-week Lenten services we will focus on a different aspect of God's will at work among us. We will begin each service with a light dinner at 6:00 and worship at 7:00.

Feb. 21: Abiding Savior, Rev. Fred Kopp preaching

Feb. 28: St. Martin, Rev. John Scarafia preaching

March 7: St. Mark, Rev. Fred Kopp preaching

March 14: Augustana, Rev. Emily Ebert preaching

March 21: Trinity Old Lutheran, Rev. Devie Ellis preaching

ACOLYTES

Feb. 4 Alex Goodman & Aaron Wunderlich
11 Jackson Randles & Nicholas Haring
18 Savannah Powell & Shyanne Powell
25 Addison Ohrum & Kristen Kania
Ash Wed. 7:00 – Bryan Weaver & Braydin Weaver

READERS

Jessica Dows
Kris Knab
Bud Scheller
Andrew Thiele
Ash Wed. – Nancy Smith

“HI” GUYS

Nadene Maxwell
Tom Wehling
Jeff Root
Steve Knab

USHERS: Jeff Root – Capt., Scott Giberson, Brandon Wunderlich, Nathan Wunderlich, Dan Daboll, Kellen Daboll

GREETERS

Feb. 4 Mike & Chris Barber
11 Rob & Sarah Bohnstadt
18 Tom & Sue Ohrum
25 Dan & Patty Daboll

COMM. SETUP/CLEANUP

Feb. 4 Jessica Dows & Sally Knox
11 Chris Barber
18 Patty Daboll
25 Barb Bush
Ash Wed. Barb Bush

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Jessica Dows & Sally Knox
Will Bush & Linda Prohaska
Patty Daboll & Nancy Smith
Barb Bush & Dennis Sattelberg
Barb Bush

Ash Wed. 7:00 – Dennis & Karen Sattelberg
Lenten Service, Feb. 28 – Lloyd Ziemendorf & Sally Knox

If you cannot fulfill your task for communion on a given Sunday, please call a substitute or contact Chris Barber at 525-1149



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! To the following members who celebrate another year of God’s blessings in February 2018:

- | | | | | | |
|--------|------------------|----|-----------------|----|--------------------|
| Feb. 1 | Kylie Goodman | 13 | Marie Feist | 19 | Peggy Giberson |
| 3 | Rick Becken | 13 | Julien Thiele | 20 | Sabre Powell |
| 3 | Sally Knox | 15 | Michele Thiele | 20 | Brandon Wunderlich |
| 5 | Vivian Cosentino | 17 | Ted Belling | 26 | Lydia Masters |
| 9 | Jeff Haring | 17 | Emily Wanamaker | 27 | Millie Sattelberg |

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Dec. 31 75 Jan. 7 70 Jan. 14 86 Jan. 21 73

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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

February 4, following worship.

The Sunday School will do a service project during the meeting, followed by a visit from the Zoomobile.

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FEBRUARY BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES will be celebrated February 25: Sharon Borton, Kellen Daboll, Patricia Daboll, Rich Goodman, Chaise Haring, Sue Ohrum, Susan Ohrum, Chelsea Parkes, Ron Stillinger, Julien Thiele, Rita Weaver

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HOPE CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, February 13, at 9:30am, at church. Hostess is Sharon Borton. Bible Study Leader is Pastor Devie. We will be cleaning the kitchen on Saturday, Feb. 17, at 9:00. Thank you to those who are coming to help.

PEACE CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, February 20, at 6:00pm, at church. Hostess is Nancy Smith. Bible Study Leader is Sarah Bohnstadt. This is the night we will clean the kitchen.

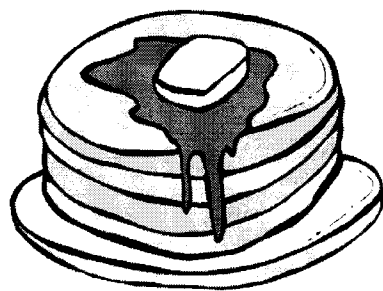
LUNCH BUNCH will meet Monday, February 5, at noon, at The Hideaway. Call Barb Bush for reservations.

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BOOK CLUB will meet Tuesday, February 6, at 7:00pm, at Jennifer Wanamaker’s. Read *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn and join the group for good fellowship, discussion, and dessert.

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JESSICA DOWS is a great asset to our youth programming at St. Martin. But she has given notice that she cannot continue her work with our youth after the Houston Gathering in July. Her work schedule and other activities will not allow her the time she needs to do this ministry. So, your help is needed! If you have the time and desire to volunteer for youth ministry, please talk to Jessica, Jim Wanamaker, or Pastor Devie. Please pray that God would touch your heart for this awesome ministry.



Come Enjoy a Pancake Breakfast!

Following worship on Sunday, February 11

Enjoy hot pancakes and sizzling sausage prepared and served to you by the St. Martin youth!

Come support the youth and help raise money for the upcoming 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX!

Tickets are \$3 for kids, \$5 for adults

Please join us!

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SUNDAY SCHOOL: Thank you hugs to everyone who helped the Sunday School children collect items for the service project for Lockport CARES. The care kits will be assembled on February 4th and will help the homeless people who visit the Lockport shelter.

Our memory verse for February will be Matthew 22:37-39: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself."

We will collect hearty soups for the Food Pantry for February.

God is Love!

Michele Thiele, Sunday School Supt.



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Good News!

Jessica Carter was inducted into the French Honor Society at Sweet Home High School.

Do you have "Good News"? Fill out the "Good News" form on the table in the narthex and give it to Pastor Devie or place it in the offering plate.

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LENTEN BIBLE STUDY – *Thy Will Be Done*: 10:00am on Wednesdays beginning February 14.

This 6-week study for Lent will help us in our quest to seek God's will in all aspects of our lives, especially in terms of our identity, our dreams for the future, our world view, and our response to Christ the Crucified. Each session will include scripture readings about a biblical character to use as a reference point, questions for discussion, and prayers.

Ash Wednesday: God's Will & God's Promise – Abraham & Isaac

Week 1: God's Will & My Inadequacy – Moses

Week 2: God's Will & My Dreams – David

Week 3: God's Will & My Identity – Mary

Week 4: God's Will & My Worldview – Paul

Week 5: God's Will & My Response – Lydia



Franklin Graham, President

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December 29, 2017

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

Samaritan's Purse responds immediately in the wake of disaster, providing for urgent physical needs and sharing the hope of the Gospel. In many places, our teams stay long after the crisis has faded from the headlines to help victims rebuild their lives.

We continue to work in Texas, the Caribbean, Iraq, Nepal, and many other regions recovering from disaster—helping families get back on their feet and sharing the enduring hope of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your prayers and gifts, which help us tell them that God loves them and has not forgotten them. **"I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands"** (Isaiah 49:15-16). May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Franklin Graham

St. Martin Member Giving Report

(through 12/31/17)

Congregation giving - through following number of weeks - **53**

| | <u>General</u> | <u>Benevolence</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Offerings received to date | \$ 150,559 | \$ 29,475 | \$ 180,034 |
| Offerings needed for budget to date | 149,179 | 28,800 | 177,979 |
| Giving compared to budget | <u>\$ 1,380</u> | <u>\$ 675</u> | <u>\$ 2,055</u> |
| Giving is ahead of budget to date | | | \$ 2,055 |

Jeff Thiele, Treasurer

February 2018

Sat

Fri

Thu

Wed

Tue

Mon

Sun

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|---|------------------|-----|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 12:00 Free Community Luncheon |
| 4 9:00 Worship Souper Bowl of Caring 10:15 Annual Meeting 10:15 Sunday School Service Project & ZOO-mobile Visit 11:15 Confirmation | 5 9:00am Quilting 12:00 Lunch Bunch at Hideaway | 6 7:00 Book Club at Jennifer Wanamaker's | 7 7:00 Choir | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 11 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 10:15 Pancake Breakfast 11:15 Confirmation | 12 9:00am Quilting 7:00 Church Council | 13 9:30am Hope Circle | 14 11:00am Spoken Service 7:00 Ash Wednesday Worship 8:00 Choir | 15 | 16 | 17 9:00am Hope Circle Kitchen Cleaning |
| 18 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 11:15 Confirmation | 19 9:00am Quilting MARCH NEWSLETTER TYPED | 20 6:00 Peace Circle at Church | 21 6:00 Lenten Dinner at Abiding Savior 7:00 Lenten Service | 22 7:00 Choir | 23 | 24 |
| 25 9:00 Worship Anniversary of Baptisms 10:15 Sunday School | 26 9:00am Quilting | 27 | 28 6:00 Lenten Dinner at St. Martin 7:00 Lenten Service 8:00 Choir | | | |