
The St. Martin Communicator

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

June 2018

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

The world is beginning to awaken. It's 5am and I'm awake. I'm not sure the reason because I wish I could go back to sleep, but I don't. So I listen to the birds singing their songs. I look over the peaceful lake and I thank God for His beautiful creation. It is a peaceful time to go to God in prayer.

God comes to us and braces us with His presence in the most unlikely places and in the most unlikely times. I'm sure you could give many examples of those unlikely times and places. The most unlikely place God has ever met us was on a cold, hard wooden cross so long ago. Who would have thought that God would love us so much that He would send His only Son to die for us?

And even today, we find ourselves unexpectedly face to face with the One who created us, redeemed us, and makes us holy. There we are in our routine, with all the possible bases covered, and like a sleepless spring morning, God comes to us and makes us stop and take notice.

Where is God in your life? If you're like so many people, you get busy and it takes God getting right in your face to make you pause and take notice. During the summer months we vacation, go to weekend "getaways," enjoy the summer activities, and rejoice in the warmth and sunshine. Yet in the midst of the summer "busyness" my prayer is that you will remember who it is that makes our summertime and recreation possible.

We all deserve time to refresh ourselves during the summer months after our hectic and cold winter. But don't vacation from church the whole summer. When on vacation, worship! (Bring a bulletin from your visiting church. I enjoy reading how other churches worship.)

When you are at home, commit yourself and your family to join your St. Martin family. We still "do" ministry in the summertime and the church continues to need you as you need the church.

Blessings and enjoy the summer,
Pastor Devie

* * *

JOINT ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 10
10:30am Worship

Abiding Savior will worship with us as we celebrate their 60th anniversary and St. Martin's 175th anniversary.

A chowder luncheon will be served following worship.

Help us celebrate this day!

(Come help cut up veggies on Saturday, June 9 at 9:00am.)

* * *

SENDING OF OUR YOUTH

Sunday, June 24, 9:00am

Our youth will be attending the Gathering in Houston beginning June 26 and returning July 1.

Join the worship as we send our youth and chaperones with prayers and blessings.

Happy Father's Day!

ACOLYTES

June 3 Jackson Randles & Addison Ohrum
10 Bryan Weaver & Alex Goodman
17 Savannah & Shyanne Powell
24 Braydin Weaver & Kristen Kania

READERS

Laurie Deverell
Vivian Cosentino
Bud Scheller
Emily Wanamaker

"HI" GUYS

Nadene Maxwell
Jeff Root
Steve Knab
Tom Wehling

JUNE USHERS: Tom Wehling – Capt., Ken Hallgren, Matt Hallgren, Kirsten Ferree, Ian Hawkins, Aaron Wunderlich

GREETERS

June 4 Ron & Diane Stillinger
11 Steve & Kris Knab
18 Rick & Rebecca Bush
25 Gary & Cindy Ennis

COMM. SETUP/CLEANUP

June 4 Elders
11 Kris & Steve Knab
18 Vivian Cosentino
25 Chris Barber

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Barb Bush & Laurie Deverell
Nancy Smith & Dennis Sattelberg
Barb Bush & Jim Wanamaker

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 June 2018:

June 3 Jillian Weaver	12 Andrew Thiele	24 Sharon Murphy
3 Sue Wehling	13 Bryan Weaver	25 Becky Kraatz
7 Andy Plewniak	19 James Regnet	27 Dee Mowrey
9 Tim Giberson	22 Jeff Thiele	28 Donna Belling

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

April 29 78 May 6 86 May 13 88 May 20 101 Ascension Day 19

MEMORIALS RECEIVED:

IN MEMORY OF BETTY MCANINCH: Linda Gerlach, ValuSelling Associates

* * *

THE JUNE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS & OFFICERS WILL BE SUNDAY, JUNE 17, FOLLOWING WORSHIP.

* * *

PLEASE SIGN UP in the narthex to host a coffee hour this summer. A snack and drink for approximately 50 people are all that is needed.

* * *

JUNE BAPTISMS: Mitchell Boehnke, Tammy Carter, Pastor Devie, Lillian Kazmierczak, Kyle Knab, Alyssa McManus, Andrew Peterson, Sabre Powell, Maya Radhakrishnan, Jackson Randles, Dennis Sattelberg, Karen Sattelberg, Minnie Sattelberg, Erica Wehling, Aaron Wunderlich, Carol Wunderlich

* * *

LUNCH BUNCH will meet at The Grapevine on Niagara Falls Blvd, on Monday, June 4, at noon. Make your reservations with Barb Bush.

BOOK CLUB will meet Tuesday, June 12, at 7:00pm, at the home of Chris Barber. Read *Lilac Girls* by Martha Hall Kelly. This novel is based on a true story of Caroline Ferriday, a NY socialite who brings Polish Ravensbruck survivors to the U.S. This is history – women’s history – that should never be forgotten.

* * *

THE WEDNESDAY MORNING Bible Study continues through the first week in June. Bible study will resume in September.

* * *

HOPE CIRCLE will meet Tuesday, June 12, at 10:00am for Bible Study and a pot-luck picnic.

PEACE CIRCLE - TBA



Dear Saint Martin Family,

The David Belling family wishes to thank you for all the prayers, cards, visits, and phone calls over the years of David's illness. The memorial service was beautiful. Julien's music added much to the service.

Pastor Devie, we can not thank enough. They go back to the time of interviewing her to come to us as a pastor. David would brighten up when she would visit. They covered many subjects, but he always enjoyed the talks about the Bible and the Lord.

God bless all of you,
MonaLou and Family

* * *

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2018 HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES!

JACOB CARTER – Sweet Home High School, attending University at Buffalo

PHILLIP OWEN – Lockport High School, attending NCCC

HANNAH PARKES – North Tonawanda High School, attending Buffalo State College

BRANDON WUNDERLICH – Starpoint High School, attending Syracuse University

DANIELLE DOROGI – Niagara University, BS in Education/English as a 2nd Language

We will recognize our graduates at the worship service on June 17.

* * *

Thank you for another terrific Sunday School year!! I am so thankful for our families that make Sunday School a part of their week! Thank you to the dedicated and loving Sunday School teachers: Linda Prohaska, Dean & Rita Weaver, Jennifer Wanamaker, Jessica Dows, Jim Wanamaker, and Dennis Sattelberg. I am also grateful to Julien Thiele for all she does weekly for our Sunday School, to Jeff Thiele for his role as treasurer, and to Wendy Lange for her role as financial secretary.



I look forward to enjoying the beauty at HiWay this week! I will be able to make choices that I will enjoy all summer long, thanks to your generous gift! See you in church over the summer!

Love and hugs,
Michele Thiele, Sunday School Supt.

* * *

Good News!

Caroline Weaver won her division in the state level baton twirling competition. She will travel to South Bend, Indiana (Notre Dame) in July to compete at Nationals. She will represent New York State in the Senior Intermediate Majorette competition.

Jillian Weaver was recently inducted into the National Honor Society at Mt. St. Mary High School. She also competed in the New York State Miss Majorette competition and placed 2nd in her division.

Kaitlyn Urban, granddaughter of Will & Barb Bush, graduated from St. John Fischer with a B.S. in nursing.

Jania Otto, granddaughter of Eileen Belling, graduated from the University of Rochester with a Master's degree in Creation Arts Therapy.

If YOU have good news to share, there are forms in the narthex to fill out and return to the church office for the next newsletter.

ST. MARTIN PIECEMAKERS: In April the Piecemakers were able to ship 91 quilts to Lutheran World Relief. This makes a grand total of 4597 quilts for LWR from St. Martin. Thank you for your generous donations of fabric, sheets, blankets, drapes, quilts, etc. that made it possible to complete our project. We also received \$500 from Thrivent that we used to purchase polyester batting for fillers and sheets for backings. Many people around the world will be "touched" by your generosity. We thank you! We also thank the Thiele and Wanamaker families for helping to pack the quilts into boxes for shipment, and Jeff Root and David Wanamaker for delivering the boxes to the shipping site.

Piecemakers: Connie Bach, Carol Belling, Eileen Belling,

Mona Belling, Suzanne Belling, Linda Eichler, Millie Sattelberg, Diane Stillinger, Julien Thiele, Ann Zimmerman

* * *

175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE: In addition to compiling recipes for a new cookbook, we would like to put together a new *Reflections* booklet. Any special memories you'd like to share – from childhood or adult memories of growing up in St. Martin to being a new member – your stories are all special. There will be an envelope on the table in the narthex. The cut-off date is September 1. Thank you! - Barb Bush

* * *

Follow the ELCA Youth Gathering

30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA will gather in Houston for a week of faith formation – the ELCA Youth Gathering. They'll engage in the theme "This Changes Everything" guided by Ephesians 2:8: "For by grace you have been saved

through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God." The days will be filled with interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, with the goal that every young person will grow in faith and be challenged and inspired to live their faith in daily life.

Explore all the aspects of the ELCA Youth Gathering program at **ELCA.org/Gathering**, and experience the Gathering with participants in Houston this summer by following the stories on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter using #ELCAYG2018.

* * *

Dear friends,

You have probably heard the saying: "Give a person a fish and she/he will eat for a day. Teach a person to fish and he/she will eat for a lifetime." There is much truth to these words but it is also much more complicated as some have pointed out, observing that it also depends on whether the person has access to or ownership of the pond.

I recently accompanied the director of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa – Development Service (ELCSA – DS) to visit projects in the Mount Frere area in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. This mountainous region was previously known as the Transkei homeland under the apartheid regime. Its name in isiXhosa is kwaBhaca, or "place of the Bhaca 'refugee' people." The current government is working to improve infrastructure such as roads, electricity, hospitals and schools. However poverty, unemployment - especially among the youth - and HIV & AIDS still affect many in the towns and surrounding rural communities.

The ELCSA Development Service has been active in the area for almost twenty years working with women, men and youth in consultation with local government structures and experts to listen to and assess the needs and priorities of the communities and to provide relevant advice, support and training. Recently ELCSA DS has been sponsoring several accredited "micro-MBA" courses for entrepreneurs which, over 5 days of intensive training, provide essential knowledge and skills on topics such as market investigation, marketing techniques, buying, costing, pricing, cost calculation and selling.

During our visit we met with Home-Based Care-givers and members of several other groups engaged in nutrition and market garden projects. The project members welcomed us with a song in isiXhosa, "The road is long, it needs strong people." They talked about the many challenges of living and farming in a mountainous area including access to water, transportation, soil erosion, hail storms and even snow in winter. They also proudly shared their successes and expressed thanks for the faithful accompaniment of the ELCSA Development Service. The ELCSA DS field officer is well known and respected in the communities and regularly visits the groups to get feedback and provide advice.

Your generous offerings to ELCA World Hunger assist in supporting the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa – Development Service (ELCSA – DS). Thank you for your prayers and support and for your participation in God's mission locally and globally.

Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson, ELCA Global Mission Regional Representative, Southern Africa Johannesburg, May 16, 2018

My blog page address is: <https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/> Please note the link to my online giving page on www.elca.org: community.elca.org/SouthAfrica



Ready for an adventure?!!
July 30th - August 3rd is sure
to be a week to remember!
We'll be "rescued by Jesus"
together!

Registration for Shipwrecked VBS has begun! Just follow the link at stmartinlutheran.org to register your child. Once your family is registered, pick up a CD in the narthex of all of the amazing music.

VBS is down the street at St. Paul Lutheran from 9:00 - Noon. Please remember to send your child in sneakers, play clothes and sunscreen. We will be having an active, fun time!

We need teens and adults who would like to be Crew Leaders! Crew Leaders may register online or may sign up in the narthex. Please let us know your shirt size and plan to attend the Training Meeting at 7:00 P.M. on July 24th at St. Paul.

SOS! Help needed gathering supplies!
You can be a HUGE part of VBS by taking a life preserver off of the bulletin board and shopping for that item.
Please return items to the kitchen by July 15th.
(Please refrigerate items that need to stay cold.) Thanks in advance for your support!

We are also in need of an adult to lead the Games Station. Please see Michele if you'd like to join the team!



3445 Sheridan Drive
Amherst, NY 14226
(716) 836-4868
trinityoldlutheran@verizon.net
www.trinityoldlutheran.com

April 18, 2018

*"Now that I, your LORD and Teacher, have washed your feet,
you also should wash one another's feet." John 13:14*

Dear Congregations,

God's Work our Hands (and Generous Giving)!

I am pleased to announce that we collectively made a large impact on the plight of refugees and immigrants both locally and nationally. Throughout the Lenten season, Abiding Savior Lutheran, Augustana Lutheran, Lutheran Parish of the Tonawanda's, St. Martin Lutheran, and Trinity Old Lutheran collected \$1,324. This money was divided equally between Journey End Refugee Services and Lutheran Immigrant and Refugee services of the ELCA.

On Maundy Thursday, 40 of us gathered together at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church for worship and service. The readings for the night mentioned Jesus telling his disciples to imitate his washing of their feet by washing other's feet and serving. We organized and loaded up a truck full of goods donated by all the churches. These household, school, and personal items will be shared with refugees and immigrants as they settle in the Buffalo Area.

To God be the Glory.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Frederick W. Kopp".

The Rev. Frederick W. Kopp

June 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9:00 Worship 10:15 Coffee Hour	4 12:00 Lunch Bunch at The Grapevine	5 12:00am Hope Circle Potluck Picnic 7:00 Book Club	6 10:00am Bible Study	7	8 9:00am Prepare Veggies for Chowder	9 12:00 Free Community Lunch
UPSTATE NY	SYNOD ASSEMBLY IN ROCHESTER					
10 10:30 Worship Chowder Luncheon Following Worship	11 7:00 Church Council	12 10:00am Hope Circle Potluck Picnic 7:00 Book Club	13	14	15	16
17 Father's Day 9:00 Worship Graduate Recognition 10:15 Congregational Meeting Coffee Hour	18 7:00 175th Anniversary Committee Meeting JUNE NEWSLETTER TYPED	19	20	21	22	23
24 9:00 Worship Anniversary of Bap- tisms Youth Gathering Send- ing	25	26 Youth Gathering in Houston, TX June 26—July 1	27	28	29	30