
The St. Martin Communicator

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

October 2018

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

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. (Mark 1: 35)

My day planner is bursting at the seams. Each small square on the calendar is crammed with conflicting responsibilities: council, choir, Bible study, visits, shut-in communions, services to plan, babysit grandchildren, and driving my daughter to doctor appointments. Sometimes it's just too much! And as I am in the midst of my busy life, God continues to call me to spend quiet time with Him and I want that quiet time with my Lord. I need it!

How can I fit in one more thing? Doesn't God understand how important all my activities are? So I rush through a token devotion and go on with my day.

When life is overwhelming, setting aside time for prayer and devotions is not easy. Surely diving into the work of the day brings more progress than stepping aside for prayers. Jesus understood the pressure of time. His brief years of ministry were limited, and there were so many people who needed the truth, forgiveness, and healing. His disciples needed to be taught. The Father's plan needed to be carried out. Yet Jesus made prayer a priority.

As busy as life might be, we will never carry the weight of responsibility that Jesus did. He came to redeem the entire human race. Yet instead of frantic urgency, he consistently modeled a life of prayer, retreat, of seeking a quiet place.

Martin Luther said, "I have so much to do that I shall spend the first three hours in prayer." That level of commitment, along with the consistent examples of Jesus, should inspire us to find our own solitary peace and time each day to spend time in prayer.

If your day feels too full, take a risk and schedule some prayerful time first, trusting Jesus to provide what we need for all the other responsibilities.

Blessings,
Pastor Devie

Oktoberfest! **Sunday, October 7**

9:15 Sunday School

10:00 Worship

Lunch will follow worship. Bring a German dish or dessert to share.

Drinks will be provided – pop, milk, German beer & wine

St. Martin's 175th Anniversary Celebration!

Sunday, November 11

9:30 Sunday School

10:30 Worship

The Rev. John Macholz, Bishop of the Upstate NY Synod, will preside.

A banquet will follow at 12:30 at Alder Creek Banquet Facility (at Adam's Fire Co.) Tickets on sale before and after worship now through October 28, or contact Barb Bush.

Adults - \$20; Ages 6-18 - \$10

5 & Under - Free

ACOLYTES

- Oct. 7 Kristen Kania & Nicholas Haring
- 14 Lucy Ohrum & Alex Kania
- 21 Savannah Powell & Shyanne Powell
- 28 Jackson Randles & Addison Ohrum

READERS

- Dennis Sattelberg
- Connie Bach
- Bud Scheller
- Jim Wanamaker

"HI" GUYS

- Jeff Root
- Nadene Maxwell
- Steve Knab
- Tom Wehling

USHERS: Steve Knab – Capt., Gordon Schumacher, Caroline Weaver, Eric Hawkins, Jillian Weaver, Mike Barber

GREETERS

- Oct. 7 Brian & Kathryn Peterson
- 14 Dave & Carol Wunderlich
- 21 Wendy Lange & Bill Hollenbaugh
- 28 Jane McDermott & Ann Zimmerman

COMM. SETUP/CLEANUP

- Oct. 7 Elder
- 14 Barb Bush
- 21 Vivian Cosentino
- 28 Kris & Steve Knab

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- Elders
- Barb Bush & Linda Prohaska
- Will Bush & Dennis Sattelberg
- Sally Knox & Laurie Deverell

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 October 2018:

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Oct. 2 Alex Kania | 14 Jo Ellen Laderer | 25 Jessica Carter |
| 3 Kirsten Ferree | 19 Jane McDermott | 25 Chris Donovan |
| 12 Daniel Proefrock | 20 Gary Ennis | 26 Brian Carter |
| 13 Jonathan McManus | 23 Cheryl Foss | 27 Olivia Peterson |
| 13 Casey Quintern | 24 Robert Bohnstadt | 28 Nora Radhakrishnan |
| 13 Jim Wanamaker | 25 Tim Bush | 28 Betty Wehling |

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Aug. 26 75	Sept. 2 56	Sept. 9 83	Sept. 16 89	Sept. 23 86
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MEMORIAL RECEIVED: In memory of Chester Broeker – Virginia Broeker

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OCTOBER BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES will be celebrated October 28: Mona Belling, Virginia Broeker, Laurel Dolpp, Tim Giberson, Grace Hallgren, Kristen Kania, Josh McManus, Sharon Murphy, Cierra Owen, Harold Owen, Phillip Owen, David Wanamaker, Nathan Wunderlich

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WEDNESDAY MORNING Bible Study continues with *Unshakable Hope*. Join us at 10:00am.

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LUNCH BUNCH will meet on Monday, October 1, at 12:30, at Hilltop Restaurant, Transit Rd., Lockport. Give your reservation to Barb Bush.

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ALL SAINTS SUNDAY is November 4. We will remember all the Saints who have entered eternal glory this past year from St. Martin. If there are other family and friends to be remembered, please give Pastor Devie the names by October 28.

BOOK CLUB will meet on Tuesday, October 16, at 7:00pm, at Eileen Belling's. Read *Below Stairs* by Margaret Powell and join the fellowship.

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KYLE KNAB had moved. He currently has a temporary address as he is scheduled to be deployed and will not be able to receive mail. Please keep him in your prayers.

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PLEASE – No items are to be donated to the kitchen without consent from Nancy Smith. Thank you!

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OCTOBER CIRCLE MEETINGS:

- Hope Circle: Tuesday, Oct. 9 9:30am at church
- Hostesses: Eileen Belling & Florence Doran
- Bible Study Leader: Sharon Murphy
- Peace Circle: Thursday, Oct. 18 7:00pm
- Hostess: Linda Prohaska
- Bible Study Leader: Sarah Bohnstadt



I'd like to express my heartfelt thanks for the tremendous help with the kitchen renovation! The Kitchen Cabinet (Pastor Devie, Florence Doran, Nancy Smith, and myself) did our best to be good stewards with your generous donations. Steve Knab built a new shelf for the sound system, spearheaded the floor waxing, and kept us up to date on donation amounts. Julien Thiele helped me choose fabric and sew curtains. Our Community Luncheon heroes and coffee hour providers were flexible in the midst of chaos. Jeff Thiele made sure our bills were paid. Jim and David Wanamaker attached hardware, moved the refrigerator (yikes), sanded and oiled the butcher block, and did countless other jobs I dreamed up. So many of you cheerfully helped with emptying the kitchen out and reorganizing it. None of this could have happened without the humbling generosity of all of you. The project has been fully funded!

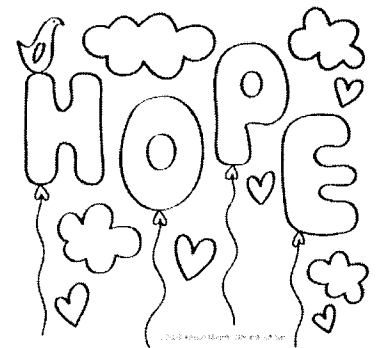
Thank you! - Jennifer Wanamaker

Thank you to Nancy Smith for coordinating the Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ & Basket Raffle fundraiser for the past 15 years. Thank you for your leadership! We thank the congregation for your participation as we shared our gifts with members of the congregation, community, and world. God has truly blessed us. And good news! Tammy Carter has volunteered to "take the reins" from Nancy and continue this ministry.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL is off to another wonderful start!

During October we will have a huge food drive for the Interchurch Food Pantry in North Tonawanda! If we collect 500 items, Thrivent will donate \$500 to the food pantry! This will be so helpful to them! Here is a list of items the food pantry is always looking for: pasta, potato, rice side dishes, personal care items, soup, cereal, canned pastas, peanut butter & jelly, canned fruits or veggies, canned tuna or chicken, spaghetti sauce.



Our theme for the year is **HOPE - He Offers Peace Everyday!** We will sing songs about hope and will learn verses to carry in our hearts about hope. The first one is from Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

We have a Sunday School class for all ages! Please join us for fellowship each week. What a blessing it is to be able to grow in our faith together!

Feeling HOPEful!
Michele Thiele, Sunday School Supt.

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THE YOUTH GROUP (Grades 7-12) will meet Sunday, October 21, from 6 to 8:00pm. Further information will be given at Sunday School and in the bulletin.

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St. Martin Member Giving Report

(through 9/2/18)

Congregation giving - through following number of weeks -

35

	General	Benevolence	Total
Offerings received to date	\$ 100,035	\$ 19,135	\$ 119,170
Offerings needed for budget to date	100,095	19,217	119,312
Giving compared to budget	<u>\$ (60)</u>	<u>\$ (82)</u>	<u>\$ (142)</u>
Giving is behind budget to date			\$ (142)

Jeff Thiele, Treasurer

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING – September 10, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. Pastor led with devotions.

Present were: Pastor Devie Ellis, Rick Bush, Dan Daboll, Denis Sattelberg, Barb Bush, Jim Wanamaker, Brian Carter, Jeff Thiele

Vice President: Jessica Dows

Secretary: Rick Bush

Chair of Trustees: Dan Daboll

Approval of minutes from last meeting.

Officer Reports:

Treasurer: Giving to date is about even with last year. Only \$7900 of projected 10K was needed for kitchen appliances.

Pastor: \$9 shipping per box for Operation Christmas Child. First Communion will be Nov. 4. Rally Day attendance was lower. Send out reminders next year. 10 am worship for Octoberfest (Oct 7th)

Elders: 175th Anniversary meeting next Monday.

Trustees: Dennis will call for winter plowing. Map available for setting up tables for Chiavetta's dinner; setup on Sept 16 after church. Ladies room toilet to be fixed. Downstairs fountain needs repair. Ladies room upstairs has roof leak. Dan will look at it.

Organizational Reports:

Sunday School: The Thrivent Challenge Food Drive is under way! Items will be collected and counted each week during Sunday School Opening. Has our church registered for this via the Thrivent website? The deadline for registration is October 14.

On Sunday, September 16, Linda Prohaska will be recognized for her many years of service to St. Martin as a Sunday School teacher. Any idea how long? She will still lead birthdays during Opening. We are so thankful for her dedication to Sunday School at St. Martin.

Rita Weaver, Dean Weaver, and Carol Wunderlich will work together to teach the age 2 - Grade 2 classes. They will begin by singing together, break for lessons/activities and then come together at the end for a snack.

Michele proposes December 9th for the Sunday School Christmas program. Please discuss and let her know if Council approves of that date.

Women of the Church: Basket to donate for Historical Society.

Luther League: No adult volunteered to be leader. The group will organize itself with an adult to supervise. First meeting Sep. 16 and then every 3rd Sunday of each month.

Committee reports:

Memorial: \$1500 left of fund.

Stewardship/Evangelism: Outreach is growing. Some money was offered. Thanks to community lunch group. 53 visitors and 17 helpers.

Investment: Dennis possible to take Jim's spot on Investment Committee.

Prayer Garden: Need to start winterizing.

Web Page: Completed.

What's After Worship: Cleanup for after events.

175th Anniversary: Waiting on invitations, cancel current ones and make our own. Tickets on sale after services.

Kitchen Cabinet: Huge thank you for removing old stuff and organizing everything.

Old Business:

Chair lift donation - \$800 to install, permits pending if needed. Another source to get an estimate from. Sinding of steeple waiting to be fixed.

New Business:

Food pantry project, Oct 1st to 31st. Mic is not working. Sunday services are not being recorded. Stream spot service looked at to switch to.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Bush, Secretary

TWIN CITIES COMMUNITY OUTREACH will have their 10th annual Basket Bonanza on Sunday, October 7, at Sikora Post, Payne Ave., NT, from noon – 3:00pm. The proceeds from this annual event are used to maintain the facility that is home to Meals-on-Wheels, the NT Food Pantry, and the Clothes Closet.

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A little girl was asked by another classmate, “What is it like to be a Christian?” The girl replied, “It’s like being a pumpkin. God picks you from the patch, brings you in, and washes all the dirt off you. Then he cuts open the top and scoops out all the yucky stuff. He removes the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc., and then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside of you to shine for all the world to see.

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Dear friends,

Recently I accompanied a colleague from the ELCA Global Mission office in Chicago on a visit to some of our Lutheran companion churches in the Republic of South Africa and in Namibia. We met with the leadership of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN) in the capital city Windhoek and with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN) in Oniipa in the northern-most part of the country.

In Oniipa we stopped in at the Infohut project and met with the very knowledgeable and enthusiastic coordinator.

The Infohut is an innovative program supported by the ELCA (World Hunger Fund) and coordinated in the region by the Lutheran Communion in Southern Africa (LUCSA). www.lucsa.org There are Infohuts operating in Zimbabwe and Malawi as well.

The goal of the Infohut project is to create an HIV-free generation. The Infohut uses computers and especially designed software learning programs as tools to engage with and educate young people. Participants learn computer literacy and share information on HIV and AIDS, sexual reproductive health, relationships, conflict resolution and other life skills.

The course lasts for four months and is offered as a morning or evening class. At Oniipa there are also special computer skills classes offered for local parish secretaries and church administrators.

The coordinator observed: “The Infohut helps people a lot. They learn about life’s challenges and how to overcome them.”

Thank you for your prayers and support and your participation in God’s mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson ELCA Global Mission Regional Representative - Southern Africa Johannesburg September 17, 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

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German Harvest Dinner

in celebration of the

17th anniversary of the

establishment of Holy Ghost, St. Peter
and St. Martin Lutheran Churches.

Sat. October 27 at 5:00 PM

Holy Ghost Lutheran School
6630 Luther St. (corner of Niagara)
(Bergholz) Niagara Falls, NY 14304

**Reserve tickets (\$25) by calling
Dianne Retzlaff at 731-9763 before
10/13**



MENU: Salad, Breaded Pork Chops, Potatoes & Gravy, local squash, wedding cabbage, local applesauce, Homemade pies, beverages

MINI BASKET AUCTION

**Sponsored by The Historical Society
of North German Settlements in WNY**

Dennis Sattelberg will be presenting a brief history of St. Martin at the dinner.

October 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 9:00am Quilting 12:30 Lunch Bunch at Hilltop Restaurant, Lockport	2	3 10:00am Bible Study 7:00 Choir	4 6:30 Fall Conference Assembly at Abiding Savior	5	6 12:00 Free Community Luncheon
7 OKTOBERFEST! 9:15 Sunday School 10:00 Worship 11:15 Oktoberfest Pot- Luck Luncheon	8 9:00am Quilting 7:00 Church Council	9 9:30am Hope Circle	10 10:00am Bible Study 7:00 Choir	11	12	13
14 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School	15 9:00am Quilting	16 7:00 Book Club	17 10:00am Bible Study 7:00 Choir	18 7:00 Peace Circle	19	20
21 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School 6:00 Youth Group	22 9:00am Quilting	23	24 10:00am Bible Study 7:00 Choir	25	26	27 5:00 German Harvest Dinner at Holy Ghost Lutheran, Bergholz
28 9:00 Worship Anniversary of Bap- tisms 10:15 Sunday School	29 9:00am Quilting	30	31 10:00am Bible Study 7:00 Choir			