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Church Council

President and Stewardship:

Steve Raabe

Vice President and Fellowship:

Heather Tuckfield

Secretary and Christian Education:

Linda Wetz

Financial Secretary: Glenn Hollenbeck

Church Treasurer and Finance:

Mick Thistle

Finance Chairperson: Greg Maxwell

Design: Rick Ruhf

Evangelism: Jonathan Aseltine

Memorials: Mick Thistle

Property: Tim Doyle

School Board: Joe Stensland

School Treasurer: Molly Michaelson

Worship & Music: Marianne Drumm

Youth: Amy Buckner

President Emeritus: Larry Laubscher

Social Ministry: (Barbara Freeman)

Easter 2015

Dear Friends in Christ,

Martin Luther once wrote, "our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time." Indeed, the long awaited season of spring offers sensory reminders all around us. The message is that we belong to a God who is in the business of giving and restoring life. The message is one of hope.

While this beautiful message can be seen within nature, it reaches its pinnacle when pertaining to humanity. The Gospel promise of resurrection for us has the power to change everything about the way we live and the way we die. It has the power to infuse our lives with meaning and turn us in directions of love and generosity. And this is why Holy Week is so important, because it addresses those foundational things that are at the "ground of the soul", to use a term uttered by some of the Christian mystics.

So then, we enter into Holy Week with anticipation. Through the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, we trust that God's Spirit will again make clear the depth of love that led Jesus to Calvary for us. When we gather on April 5th to sing glad Alleluias, we realize that Christ's victory over death directly impacts us and defines who we are in this world. These are deep, mysterious, and wonderful things that should not be taken lightly. This stuff gets to the essence of our identity...it matters.

I pray we'll all keep a good holy week. It's not about fulfilling religious requirements or going through the motions. It's about Christ Jesus and his love for each of us and how we receive the gift of his dying and rising.

Maundy Thursday- 2PM and 7PM

Good Friday- 2PM and 7PM

Easter- 9AM and 11AM

Joyfully, let us walk the sacred journey to the Garden Tomb...and then let us continue to follow Him until at last we see Him face to face.

I hope to see you in worship this week (and every week you're able to come!). Thanks for your faithfulness and grace.

Your Brother In Christ,

Dave+

NEW MEMBERS CLASS

A new members class will be held on Thursday, April 30th from 7-9PM in the Fellowship Wing. If you'd like to join St. Martin's or just explore what it means to be a follower of Christ within this congregation—you are welcome to come! New members will be received on Sunday, May 3rd. Please speak with Pastor Dave if you have questions.

HOME COMMUNION TEAMS

Several folks have signed up to begin our new home communion ministry but I'm still looking for more. This ministry will involve "adopting" a homebound member and taking holy communion to them every month or so. Special training and ongoing encouragement will be in place as you carry God's love into the life of one of our dear members. Questions or to sign up—please contact me at any time (240-457-2043 or chapsdo@gmail.com). Thanks! – Pastor Dave+

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Good news! The Church Council recently ratified (by unanimous vote) a new Child Protection Policy. This important policy will ensure that we are always providing the safest and best worship and learning environment for our kids and adults. Many thanks to the team that carefully crafted this document. All teachers, youth workers and volunteers working in these ministries are required to attend training. The first sessions are available on either **Thursday, May 14 @ 6:30PM** in the Fellowship Hall or **Sunday, May 31st at 9:00AM** in the art room. Questions- or if you'd like to read the document, please contact Sara Wetz (slwetz@verizon.net) or Pastor Dave.

Good Friday

As we continue our Lenten journey, join us at St. Martin's for a special Good Friday service at **2:00 p.m.** and **7:00 p.m.** with a monologue dramatization depicting Mary, the Mother of Jesus. Our own Heather Tuckfield will take on the full scope of human feelings that we can only imagine Mary endured, and the full depth of a mother who has witnessed the brutal death of her son.

Flying Quilters

The quilt group will meet April 6th and 20th in Fellowship Rooms A/B from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Bring a lunch and stay for the whole day or come for whatever part you can. We could use some more members. You do not need any sewing skills. Our group could use an ironing board. If you would like to donate one or if you have any questions, please contact Judy Houston at 410-263-3888 or djhouston1@comcast.net.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are starting a new ministry to provide prayer shawls and small quilts for Pastor Dave to give to people as a way to share our love and concern. Recipients might include those undergoing serious medical procedures, those who have recently lost a loved one and shut-ins. We are looking for people who knit or crochet to make some simple shawls for this program. You can work on them at home or join a group to work together. The shawls can be of any design or yarn. If interested in helping, please call Judy Houston, 410-263-3888 or djhouston1@comcast.net.

Vacation Bible School 2015

Vacation Bible School for 2015 will be July 6-10. Our theme is "G-Force – God's love in action". The children will be exploring how to put their faith into action as they "Move!", "Act!", "Care!", "Follow!", and "Share!" As before we will be presenting 5 Bible stories (2 from the Old Testament and 3 from the New Testament).

July is getting closer and we are already making plans. We can always use volunteers. If you can't volunteer during the week of VBS, we will have some opportunities for helping with crafts or decorations that can be done evenings or after church on some Sundays.

The theme includes action items like skateboards, bikes, scooters and race cars. If you have anything that could fit the theme that we could use that week, we would appreciate it (things like old license plates, bicycle wheels,

skate boards, bike helmets, etc.). We also need 2 sheets of 1/2 inch thick foam insulation and rolls of bulletin board paper in various colors.

If you think you can help in any way or have any questions, please email me at judyhouston2@gmail.com or call me at 410-263-3888.

News from the Endowment Fund

Interesting information for you to know:

1. The Fund is completely separate from the Church.
2. The Fund is governed by a board, elected by you.
3. Gifts to the Fund are invested long-term in dividend stocks, which are expected to appreciate in stock price as well. All stocks owned by the Fund raised their dividends in 2014.
4. Only interest and dividends may be expended. The Fund's principal is not touched.
5. The Endowment Fund recently reached \$ 208,000. (This total is subject to fluctuations in the stock market.)
6. Awards from the Fund are granted to projects that are not included in the church budget but which furthers the mission of St. Martin's Lutheran Church.

We welcome your donation in any amount. Envelopes are in the pews. Make your check payable to St. Martin's Endowment Fund. Your gift is a tax-free charitable donation. Best of all, your gift may be given in memory of someone or in honor of someone in perpetuity. Thank you to our steadfast donors. Thanks to Anna Marie and Gene Humphrey for their recent generous gift.

News:

We welcome Judy Svoboda and Mick Thistle as new members of the Endowment Fund Board. Pastor Dave attends all board meetings.

Recent awards from the Endowment Board were:

- \$500 to The Samaritan House
- \$500 to Arundel House of Hope
- \$1,000 to St. Martin's Youth for their Synod Retreat road trip, precursor to the National Lutheran Youth gathering in Detroit.

Music Ministry News

March was a busy month in our music department. With our numbers predicted to be low this year due to travel, all three choirs were hard at work preparing special music for **Holy Week** and **Easter**. God bless our four bell ringers (Deb, Louisa, LeAnn and Julianne) who were presented with challenging handwritten arrangements for only eight hands! On Palm Sunday, Doug Hole offered a pensive saxophone piece during Communion. For the first time this year we are having some local, gifted students accompany our evening anthems on Maundy Thursday (violin and cello) and Good Friday (French horn). On Easter Sunday we have a new brass group coming from the Baltimore area to help enhance our hymns with special arrangements.

On top of all this preparation, we hosted 2 concerts. Thanks to Martha Hollenbeck, we have pictures from the **Ugandan Kids Choir Concert** in the hallway outside the sanctuary. We had a good turnout despite it being held during the ice storm on March 1. Special thanks and appreciation to the many volunteers who spent the entire day making sure all the details were addressed both inside and outside of the building. The **National Concert Band of America** also chose St. Martin's to host their concert as part of their 40th anniversary year series on March 22. We hope to see this renowned band of retired military musicians again at St. Martin's in the future.

There is always room for more voices and ringers in our choirs. We encourage anyone who may be considering this to please join us as soon as possible. If you can't make rehearsals at 7 pm on Wednesdays or 9:15 am on Sundays, please let Kerry know. We can also schedule a daytime rehearsal for those who don't like to drive at night. Remember that singing is good exercise for the heart and, for some, it's a lot more fun than going to the gym!

Choir Anthem Dedications

If you'd like to dedicate a new anthem in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Kerry Heyes. The dedication will be noted in the bulletin when the anthem is sung and a letter of acknowledgement may be sent to the individual or family. The current donation is \$40 and helps defray our music costs.

LMS Clothes Sorting

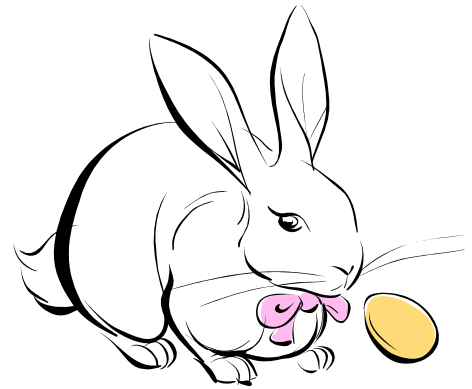
On Thursday, April 9, we will once again be sorting clothes for the Lutheran Mission Society. We will meet in Fellowship Rooms A and B between 9 and 9:30 am. Questions? Contact Bev Fossum at 410-571-5810 or bevfossum@icloud.com.

Chipotle Youth Group Fundraiser

On **Tuesday, April 14**, from **5 to 9 pm**, the Youth Group will be having a dinner fundraiser at the Chipotle in Edgewater. We need everybody and their family, friends and neighbors to plan to come out. Eat in or take out (or both!) We earn 50% of the business we bring in so plan to enjoy supper at Chipotle that Tuesday. Come for the food, fellowship and to help the youth make this fundraiser a big success. Flyers can be found in the hallway.

Church Office Volunteers Needed

Do you have a couple of hours in the afternoon during the week to help out in the church office? Office duties would include answering phones and general office support such as copying, collating and distributing church publications. If you are interested, please let Christine know in the church office.



Theatre and Art News



Adult Forum on April 12, 19 and 26: Paintings That Inspire.

Betty Knupp will explore religious masterpieces on 3 consecutive Sundays in April at 9 am in the library lounge. Many of the greatest works of Western art were inspired by the Bible and God's creation of the natural world. She will select paintings of different historical periods and styles and various subject matter.

Betty teaches art history at Anne Arundel Community College and two private classes in Annapolis, including one at St. Martin's on Tuesday afternoons in the spring and fall.

April 12: Introduction: Madonna and Child and the Life of Jesus

April 19: Narrative Biblical paintings

April 26: Landscapes that inspire and show God manifest in Nature

Theatre event for St. Martin's Members and friends: *Ernest in Love*

You are invited to a performance of *Ernest in Love* at Colonial Players, 108 East Street, Annapolis, on **May 3 at 2pm**. Our own Heather Tuckfield is in the play! This musical version of *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde (considered the funniest play written in English) is the story of two affluent young ladies who are courted by two young self-indulgent gentlemen. Each man has been slightly dishonest in order to get what he wants. When all is revealed to everyone, it leads to an unexpected happy ending.

The group rate is \$15. Sign up soon so we know if more than 20 reserved tickets are needed. Give checks payable to Elizabeth Knupp (or cash in an envelope with your name on it) to Betty by no later than April 13. We hope you and your friends will join us for a fun afternoon. Knuppster@aol.com or 410-956-4881

Holy Week Services

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday; 8 and 10 am Service.

Maundy Thursday, April 2: 2 and 7 pm Service.

Good Friday, April 3: 2 and 7 pm Service.

Easter Sunday, April 5: 9 and 11 am Service: *There will be a pot-luck breakfast after the 9 am service and also an easter egg hunt for the children at 10:30 am.

Happy Easter!

Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary is not listed here, please provide the church office with the information so you can be included next time!

Birthdays

Jacqueline Janovsky	4/8
Darrell Dempster	4/9
Carleen Parker	4/10
Shelley Netzer-Edgerton	4/11
Julianne Page	4/13
Ruth Schmale	4/13
Lyndsey Remner	4/15
Donnaleen Trump-Starkey	4/21
Sally Dempster	4/22
Joseph Morrison	4/26
Donna Hole	4/27
Louisa Day	4/30
Carol Shaw	4/30

Anniversaries

Mark Tenhonsel & Lyndsey Remner	4/13
Robert &Carolynn Goldberg	4/17
Ron & Gerri Simmons	4/17

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

April 2015

Calendar Rev. 3/26/15
 Please continue to check our website's **News & Events** tab for any new updates.

7:30/45 am Bells (S); 8 am Choir (S)

(Rehearsals on Easter Morning)

1

7 am Men's Bible Study
 10:15 am Staff Meeting
 6:30 pm Bell Choir
 7 pm Choir (S)

2

Maundy Thursday
 2 pm Service (S)
 6 pm Choir Rehearsal
 7 pm Service (S)

3

Good Friday
 School Closed
 2 pm Service (S)
 6 pm Choir Rehearsal
 7 pm Service (S)

4

5

Easter Day
 9 am Worship
 10:15 am Pot-Luck Breakfast
 10:30 am Easter Egg Hunt
 11 am Worship

6

Church Office Closed
 School Closed
 10 am Flying Quilters (A,B)

7

School Closed

8

School Closed
 7 am Men's Bible Study
 10:15 am Staff Meeting
 7 pm Choir (S)

9

School Closed
 9 am LMS Clothes Sorting (A,B)

10

School Closed

11

12

8 am Worship
 9:00 Sun. School & Parent Forum
 9:00 Adult Forum
 9:15 am Choir
 10 am Worship

13

7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

14

7 pm Finance Committee Mtg
 5 pm Chipotle Fundraiser (SHY)

15

7 am Men's Bible Study
 10:15 am Staff Meeting
 7 pm Choir (S)

16

17

18

19

8 am Worship
 9:00 Sun. School & Parent Forum
 9:00 Adult Forum
 9:15 am Choir
 10 am Worship

20

10 am Flying Quilters (A,B)

21

7 pm Church Council Mtg (B)

22

7 am Men's Bible Study
 10:15 am Staff Meeting
 7 pm Choir (S)

23

24

25

26

8 am Worship
 9:00 Sun. School & Parent Forum
 9:00 Adult Forum
 9:15 am Choir
 10 am Worship

27

7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

28

29

7 am Men's Bible Study
 10:15 am Staff Meeting
 7 pm Choir (S)

30

7 pm New Members Class (A)



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St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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410-263-4723

E-mail: Church@StMartinsOnline.org

Web site: StMartinsAnnapolis.org

The Rev. Dr. David G. Oravec, Pastor

chapsdo@gmail.com

Sunday Worship: 8:00 am, 10:00 a.m.

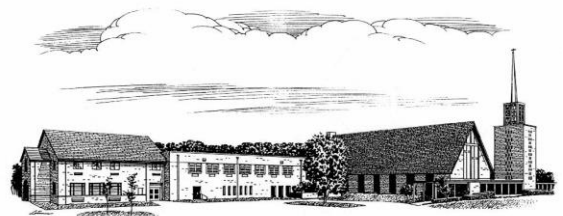
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

St. Martin's Lutheran School

Pre K 3's through Grade 8

410-263-8016 or 410-269-1955

Mr. James D. Moorhead, Principal



**St. Martin's Mission Statement:
Welcoming all and growing together
to share God's love and serve Christ
with energy and joy!**