

Pastor:

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Church Council

President and Fellowship:

Heather Tuckfield

Vice President and Worship & Music:

Marianne Drumm

Recording Secretary/Fellowship:

Alison Poltorak

Christian Education: Sara Wetz

Financial Secretary: Glenn Hollenbeck

Church Treasurer/Memorials:

Mick Thistle

Finance Chairperson/Social Ministry:

Greg Maxwell

Youth Representative/Design: Rick Ruhf

Evangalism: Jonathan Aselfine

Memorials: Mick Thistle

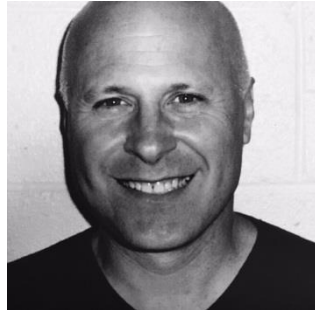
Property: Tim Doyle

Chair, School Board: Molly Michaelson

Youth: Tony Tuckfield, Elizabeth Haroth

President Emeritus: Steve Raabe

**March Newsletter Deadline:
February 26th**



From Pastor Dave

For baseball enthusiasts, the coming weeks bring excitement because spring training starts soon! Historians say that spring training is about as old as baseball itself although there are arguments about the exact origins. The best evidence points to 1870 as the first time when the Cincinnati Red Stockings and Chicago White Stockings organized baseball camps in New Orleans. Others, however, argue that it wasn't until 1888 when "the Washington Capitals of the National League pioneered it when they held a four day camp in Jacksonville." Either way, it's an important part of the game. Time is intentionally taken to sharpen ones game in order to give 150%!

As you probably know, the word LENT comes from an old English word that literally means- SPRING. It's one of the oldest observations of the Christian church and its purpose has always been the same: self-examination, penitence, and focus on the spiritual life to enable growth in faith. The earliest church fathers wrote about Lent but it appears that it may have only lasted 2-3 days rather than 40, as today. "In 325, the Council of Nicea discussed a 40-day Lenten season of fasting, but it's unclear whether the original intent was just for new Christians preparing for baptism—but it soon encompassed the whole church." And it still does.

I like to think of Lent as our spring training - time to intentionally sharpen ones *spiritual* game in order to live as God's children 150% in this world of need.

Towards this end, I plan to preach a **spring training theme** through Lent. The lessons point us both to the interior spiritual dimensions of our lives and to how we live and grow in faithfulness: wilderness time, imitation time, suffering time, returning time, and anointing time. Along with the lessons, hymns, and visual aspects of our worship we will be invited to grow during the 40 holy days.

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and I hope you can worship on that day. The kids of our Day School will receive the ashen sign of the cross during their morning chapel service on February 10th and then we will offer services at Noon and 7PM. The imposition of ashes reminds us of our mortality, our sinfulness---and our need for a Savior.

Subsequent Wednesdays (February 17, 24, March 2, 9, and 16) we will hold Soup/Salad Suppers in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 5:30PM, followed by Evening Prayer from 6:15-6:45PM. We will use the beautiful Holden Village Evening Prayer and hear lessons and spiritual readings within this brief time of worship.

As you will see in this newsletter (and as I hope you've already heard) you have opportunity to learn from Dr. Jen McNeel as she returns home to lead us in a wonderful day retreat on March 5th. This day will bless you and enhance your Biblical knowledge. Maybe this will be part of your 2016 spring training too? I hope so!

Please know that I thank God for each of you and remain grateful to be your pastor. I hope to see you in church soon.

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Dave+



Lenten Bible Retreat

Saturday, March 5th from 9AM-2PM

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

"Dunces, Dogs, and Disciples: Exploring Characters in the New Testament Gospels" led by Dr. Jen McNeel

Have you ever wondered why Nicodemus seems so dumb? Have you ever wondered why Martha gets such a raw deal? Come explore what recent historical and literary biblical scholarship has to say about these and other stories in the Gospels. Among other things, the retreat will examine: Mary and Joseph: What were the neighbors thinking? The Canaanite woman: A dogged mother; Nicodemus: Dunce or disciple? The woman at the well: A literary makeover; Mary and Martha: More than a personality test.

This delightful day of Biblical exploration, fellowship, and prayer will bless you! The day includes morning refreshments and lunch- cost is \$15. Dr. McNeel received her M.Div. from Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg and her Ph.D. from Union Seminary in Richmond...and her home church is...St. Martin's!! Contact the church office at 410-263-4723 to register. Friends are, of course, welcome!



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Many centuries ago, a tradition grew in Europe to use all the fat and lard in the house just prior to the Lenten season of fasting. It was part of the important recognition that Lent is a time for introspection, repentance, and renewal in Christ. Hence, the day before Ash Wednesday became known as “Fat Tuesday”. Churches in many places still mark this day by eating kinklins, fastnachts, or pancakes.

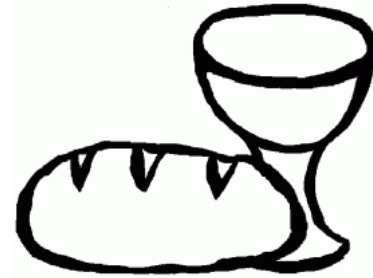
Here at St. Martin’s the tradition is tied to our wonderful Boy Scout Troop who does the set-up, clean-up, cooking, and serving. Our part is simple—we come, eat, and enjoy!

We hope you’ll support our troop on Tuesday, February 9th in the gym from 5-7:00PM.



Thursday Volleyball Continues

The St. Martin’s winter volleyball fun continues each Thursday evening in the gym from 7-9PM. All adults of any skill level are welcome to show up and play—it’s a great way get some exercise, enjoy some good competition, and make new friends. Just show up!



Congratulations to our 1st Communicants

On February 7th, the festival of Transfiguration, we celebrate with four young people as they receive their First Holy Communion. Kyle Kolakowski, Maddie Prost, Jack Shenk, and Annika Standish have all gone through First Communion classes with Paula Thistle and Pastor Dave and now are ready to receive the Sacrament of the Altar. Following the service, you will have an opportunity to congratulate them and share in a piece of cake! Please pray for them as they come to this important milestone in their faith life.

ADULT FORUM—Sunday, February 7th in Fellowship A at 9 am

Betty Knupp, who teaches art history, will continue to explore religious paintings at the National Gallery of Art. We will look at the different ways artists have depicted the “Madonna and Child” and examine narrative scenes inspired by the Bible.

Betty has planned a bus trip to the National Gallery of Art and the Phillips Collection in Washington on Tuesday, February 23. At the NGA, you will have a tour on “Religious Masterpieces” and have free time to explore the special exhibit, “*Power and Pathos: Bronze Sculpture of the Hellenistic World*” showing 1/4 of the most beautiful Greek sculptures from 2,000 years ago. After lunch, we will visit the Phillips Collection and enjoy tours of the special exhibit, “*Seeing Nature: Landscape Masterworks from the Paul Allen Collection*” (co-founder of Microsoft). Paintings range from Canaletto to Monet to O’Keeffe. *The cost of the trip is \$38*, payable to Elizabeth Knupp and is all inclusive except for lunch. Please sign up by February 10 and indicate departure from St. Martin’s at 9AM or Davidsonville Park and Ride at 9:15AM.

Scout Sunday

In many churches, the month of February is a time to lift up Scouting. This year at St. Martin's, youth and leaders from our Troop 771 will be with us during the 10AM service on Sunday, February 14th. The Scouts will help within worship and we'll have an opportunity to thank them for their faithful efforts.

Flying Quilters

The flying Quilters will meet on Monday, February 8th and 22nd in Fellowship Room A/B from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please consider joining us. You don't need sewing skills. If you can put in a pin or tie a knot, we can use your help. Bring a lunch and stay for the day, or come for whatever time you can. This is a great way to serve others and also meet some new people (and we always have a good time!). Any questions please contact Judy Houston at 410-263-3888 or djhouston1@comcast.net.

Holy Archangels Orthodox Church Update

As you may know, our Christian friends from Holy Archangels Orthodox Church have rented our Fellowship rooms each Saturday evening and Sunday morning for the last four years. They recently announced the good news that have secured a new, more suitable worship space and so their last Sunday with us was January 31st. As this small congregation goes on their forward way, the council gave them a loving gift of \$500, and also waived the last month's rent—to help them with start-up costs in their new space. Also, when they first came to St. Martin's, Tim Doyle had painted a beautiful painting of an eastern European woman that was placed just outside of Fellowship B—and the painting was given to them as a gift from Tim/St. Martin's and a reminder of our love and prayerful connection to them. We wish them well as this new chapter begins!

Congratulations to Our Newest Members

On January 31st St. Martin's celebrated 19 new members who joined the church: Patricia and Donald Dorn-Lopez, Amy Hubbs, Karl Kamp, Lisa Lasfargues, Greg, Enid, Dylan, and Evan Roemer, Mary Rosekrans, Scott, Pam, Rebekah, Rachel, and Ryan Schrier, Gene, Stowe, Silvio Sibley and Rosana Crupi. Please continue to welcome and pray for these folks as we walk the journey of faith together!

New Adult Forum Class: Walk with Luther

A new adult forum class will be held on Sundays, February 14, 21, 28, and March 6 examining the fascinating historical figure and Christian leader, Martin Luther. Pastor Dave and Pastor Kendall Summers will be teaching this class that will use the classic book, *Here I Stand* (Roland Bainton) as our guide. The hope is that this class will help folks understand more about history, spirituality, and faith. The class will be held in the Fellowship Wing and all are welcome! Related to this, there is still time to sign up for Pastor's Dave's ***Footsteps of Luther Tour*** which includes visits to the key Luther sites in Germany as well as side trips to Prague and cities in Austria from July 11-22 this year. If you're interested in traveling with the group, brochures are available in the narthex or you can call Pastor Dave at 240-457-2043.



Prayer Shawl Ministry:

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, Feb 18, 1-4 pm** at the home of Karin McCabe. Her address is 16113 Pointer Ridge Drive, Bowie, MD 20716. If you have questions, please call Karin at 301-249-6537. For those unable to meet with us, please keep knitting and crocheting; Pastor Dave continues to find loving homes for our efforts. If you have a family member or friend who would like a prayer shawl or lap throw, please contact Pastor Dave or Dottie Hall (301-262-6213). We mail these "tangible hugs from God" out of town.

Save the Date....

USNA Tour Fellowship:

On Thursday April 14th, Mel Tuckfield will be conducting a private walking tour of the **US Naval Academy** for the congregation and friends of St. Martin's Church. Included in the tour are the beautiful grounds, Noon Formation (weather permitting), Lejeune Hall, Dahlgren Hall, Bancroft Hall, Memorial Hall, Navy Chapel, John Paul Jones Crypt and more. A tour is typically 1 ½ hours but Mel has agreed to provide an extended tour of 2 ½ hours. Maximum number of guests are between 25-30 so first come first serve. Plan to be at the USNA Visitor Entrance rain or shine not later than 10:15 in order to get through Security. A 100% ID check is required so bring a picture identification. A 13 minute movie begins at 10:30 and the tour will begin promptly at 11:00. Bring your walking shoes and note that the tour will cover approximately 1 ½ miles. The cost of the tour is \$8.00 Students, \$9.00 Retirees and \$10 Other Adults. Provide cash or check to Heather Tuckfield not later than March 30th since payment has to be made to the USNA two weeks in advance. More details will be provided in the March Table Talk.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

A Women's Ministry at St Martin's has been born!

An enthusiastic group of 7 women met on Jan 31 to bring about the delivery.

The debut of the ministry will be a birthday breakfast on **Saturday, February 27th** at the Eggcellence eatery by Pet Smart in Annapolis. We'll begin at 8:30 AM. This will leave all mothers and singles time for other Sat. activities. We look forward to the group being a focal center for spiritual growth and support as well as fellowship fun and encouragement. Life is a challenge for working women and mothers as well as for at-home women and retirees. We hope to reach all ages and stages of women in our programs and activities. All women of St Martin's are invited to join in our Birthday Party Breakfast. Watch for the sign-up sheet as we need number info for the restaurant.

Hope to see you there!

Blessings from your birth moms, Joan, Peg, Penne, Phyllis, Heather, Marianne & Sandy

WSWSMLC@gmail.com



EASTER DEDICATIONS

Dedications for Easter flowers to beautify our sanctuary on Easter, and/or gifts to our homeless and hungry neighbors will be received through Sunday, March 6th. The cost of flowers is \$17.00

per plant. Make checks payable to *St. Martin's Lutheran Church*. Plants may be picked up after the service on Easter Sunday.

Please complete entire form and return in the offering plate.

Dedication to read as follows:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

of lily plants ordered: _____

of hydrangea plants ordered: _____

Check one:

Flowers to be picked up _____

Flowers to be given to ill or home bound* _____

PLEASE FILL OUT THIS SECTION

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Your envelope number _____

I would like to offer the following:

For our homeless and hungry neighbors

\$ _____

For dedication of lilies/hydrangeas

\$ _____

*If at all possible, we request you deliver the flowers to the ill or home bound yourself.

NOTE to Sunday tellers: please initial here to verify receipt of payment. _____



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Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 7, after the 8 and 10 am worship: Super Bowl Soup Bar Fundraiser.

Sunday, February 7, during 10 am worship, 1st Holy Communion for 5th graders.

February 9: 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm: Pancake Supper (Gym)

February 10, Ash Wednesday Service at Noon and 7 pm

Wednesdays (February 17 – March 16): Lenten Supper/Worship: 5:30 pm

Saturday, March 5, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm: Bible Retreat

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

Carole Komenda	February 3
Robert Bartel	February 6
Peter Fischer	February 9
Beverly Fossum	February 9
Nicholas Drumm	February 17
Dr. Robert Pribble	February 17
William Edgerton	February 18
Tim Doyle	February 19
Brian Wetz	February 21
Elinore Pribble	February 22
Barbara Freeman	February 28

Anniversaries

Clarence and Juliette Kragh	February 21
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**Vacation Bible School for 2016 will be
August 1-5.**

Our theme is "Surf Shack - Catch the Wave of God's Amazing Love". The children will be exploring how to put their faith into action as they learn how God

"Creates", "Helps", "Loves", "Calms", and "Sends". As before we will be presenting 5 Bible stories (2 from the Old Testament and 3 from the New Testament) all different from last year. We had a wonderful experience last summer and hope to make this one even better!

We could also use some props to decorate the church. We could use pool noodles, boogie boards, beach towels, buckets and sand toys,

beach balls, inflatable life rings etc., beach umbrellas, drift wood, large shells, leis, party lanterns or other beach related items.

If you can help in any way, contact us at vbsSMLC@gmail.com.



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

February 2016

Calendar Rev. 1/30/16
Please continue to check our website's **News & Events** tab for any new updates.

1

7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

2

3

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

4

7 pm Volleyball (Gym)

5

6

7

8 am Worship
8:30 am Youth Soup Bar
9:00 Sun. School
9:00 Adult Forum (A)
9:15 am Choir
10 am Worship
11:15 Youth Soup Bar Fundraiser

8

10 am Flying Quilters (A,B)
7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

9

5 pm Pancake Supper (Gym)

10

7 am Men's Bible Study
10 am Staff Meeting
12 & 7 pm: Ash Wednesday Service (S)

11

7 pm Volleyball (Gym)

12

13

14

8 am Worship
9:00 Sun. School
9:00 Adult Forum (A)
9:15 am Choir
10 am Worship; Scout Sunday

15

Presidents Day
Church Office Closed
School Closed
7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

16

School Closed
7 pm Church Council Meeting

17

School Closed
7 am Men's Bible Study
10 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Lenten Dinner/Worship
7 pm Choir (S)

18

School Closed
1 pm Prayer Shawl Mtg.
7 pm Volleyball (Gym)

19

School Closed

20

21

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

22

10 am Flying Quilters (A,B)
7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

23

9 am Nat'l Gallery of Art Bus Trip (Departs)

24

7 am Men's Bible Study
10 am Staff Meeting
5:30 pm Lenten Dinner/Worship
7 pm Choir (S)

25

7 pm Volleyball (Gym)

26

7 pm School Bingo

27

8:30 am Women's Ministry Breakfast (Eggcellence)

28

8 am Worship
9:00 Sun. School
9:00 Adult Forum
9:15 am Choir
10 am Worship
5 pm Conf. Dinner with Pr. Dave

29

7 pm Adult Bible Study (L)

Sunday	45 pm	AA (A, B, and C)
Monday	3 pm	Extended Day Prg (Art & G)
Tuesday	3 pm	Extended Day Prg (Art & G)
Wed	10 am	Staff Meeting (CF)
	3 pm	Extended Day Prg (Art & G)
	6 pm	Cub Scouts (G)
	7:30 pm	Boy Scouts (G)
	7:45 pm	AA (A)
Thursday	3 pm	Extended Day Prg (Art & G)
Friday	3 pm	Extended Day Prg (Art & G)



1120 SPA ROAD ANNAPOLIS, MD 21403

St. Martin's Evangelical Lutheran Church

1120 Spa Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21403
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.

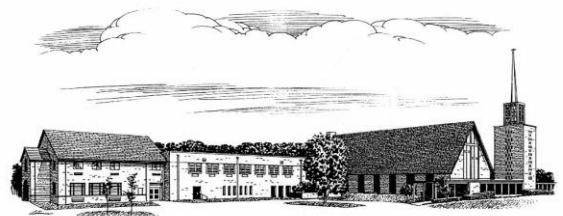
Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.

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!