

# The Churchline

A Christ-centered Family Church Growing Forward Together

St. Martin United Church of Christ - P.O. Box 1037, 3229 High Ridge Blvd. - High Ridge, MO 63049

Vol. 149 - No. 11

November 2017

Grace reminded me that I had an article due for *The Churchline*. So here I am writing from a motel room in Shreveport, LA, after spending an amazing weekend in Dyess, AR attending the inaugural Johnny Cash Heritage Festival. I was among family and friends. Many I already knew; many I met and made for the first time over the weekend. Sure, there were celebrities present, like Rosanne Cash and Kris Kristofferson, but I was also enriched by the likes of Larry Sims, Claude Gilmore, and my Aunt Helen. The whole weekend was filled with music. The last song we sang as one: "Will the Circle Be Unbroken."

Which prompts me to think theologically. Often when we *think* about God, we do so by imagining God as an object "out there," a supreme being distinct from us with whom we have some sort of relationship, either impersonal or personal. But when we *experience* God, say, in a deeply heartfelt way, we meet God more from a place in intimacy, more as a subject who moves us from "in here," similar to when Cleopas and his friend met Christ as they broke bread in Emmaus: "Were not our hearts burning?" they asked one another.

The God we worship is our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. And though these vitalizing actions of God began long ago for many of us, they all operate in the present tense: God *creates* all that God *loves* through you; God *redeems* all that God loves through you; and God *sustains* all that God loves through you. This vast and vital process is also as specific and concrete as Jesus. That's the mystery, the mystery of Christ's living and risen life brimming through you.

This same God lives through St. Martin as a community of faith. Though we sometimes struggle to name why we attend church, one of the main reasons is that we can only know God fully as part of a worshipping and serving community. Scripture, time and again, teaches that our love from and for God can only be experienced *through* the Body of Christ. There are frontiers of God's presence that can only be explored and celebrated through one another.

God is within, without, and all about us. That's how vast and how vital God is. When we worship together, it's as if God the Coach says to us, "Okay, team, let's bring it in." And so we do. God gathers us from our widespread addresses, our political persuasions, our personal differences, our economic disparities. We bring it in. We circle up just as we know God encircles us.

Remember, "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" is not a question. It is a statement. We will it. We resolve to circle up. Unbroken. Because God wills it.

Christ's love,

Pastor Terry



**USHERS**

11-05 Dale Rose                      Fred Dishner

11-12 Marie Gates

11-19 Jim Bauer

11-26 Gary Malone                      Shirley Ogden  
Richard Small                      Nancy Huck

**Fellowship Hour  
8:30-9:20**

11-05                      Shirley & Donna

11-12                      Gary & Gerri

11-19                      Don & Grace

11-26                      Ginger & Bette

**Greeter Schedule  
For Worship Service**

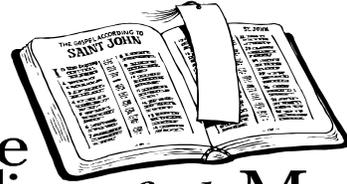
11-05 Sandy Neralich

11-12 Bette Ford

11-19 Don Self

11-26 Gary Malone

**Thanks to the people who fold the Churchline in October. They are Billie, Beverly, Carol, and Gary.**



**Bible Readings for the Month**

11-05 Josh 3:7-17                      I Thess 2:9-13  
Mic 3:5-12                      Matt 23:1-12

11-12 Josh 24:1-3a                      I Thess 4:13-18  
Sol 6:12-16                      Matt 25:1-3

11-19 Judg 4:1-7                      I Thess 5:1-11  
Zeph 1:7, 12-18                      Matt 25:14-30

11-26 Ezek 34:11-16                      Eph 1:15-23  
Ps 100                      Matt 25:31-46

**READERS**

11-05 Cheryl Patton

11-12 Gerri Malone

11-19 Fred Dishner

11-26 Donna Goede

**Our Church Mission:**  
To be responsible and caring in reaching out to all people so that everyone may experience the unconditional love and grace of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

# NOVEMBER Anniversaries

- 04 Tim & Nancy Huck
- 07 Jim & Tina LaJeuness
- 09 Bill & Shirley Miller
- 13 Fred & Kathy Dishner
- 26 Celeste & Mike Lowes
- 26 Dick & Frankie Small



- 01 Brandy Votrain
- 01 Ron Small
- 01 Shane St. Clair
- 03 Max Ogden
- 11 Virginia Washington
- 13 Julie Schmieder
- 16 Desiree Dickey
- 18 Gary Barton
- 20 Dean Emmert
- 23 Joan Cavagna
- 24 Brenda Phye
- 28 Kathy Dame



## Aluminum Cans

Please continue to bring your empty cans to the church—rinsed hopefully! Every little bit helps! Don't forget also to bring your newspapers, junk mail and magazines. Please do not add aluminum pie tins or foil to the cans since the center does not accept them, Thanks to everyone for remembering to bring cans to the container in the Fellowship Hall.

### STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship Committee would like to thank everyone for their gifts to Neighbors In Need. We collected \$476 toward clean water projects.

### SEARCH COMMITTEE

The Search Committee has finished the profile. The profile has been sent to the Search and Call Steward Consultant for the Missouri Mid-South Conference for approval. We ask for your continued prayers in our journey for a permanent pastor.

### ADOPT A FAMILY

We will be packing baskets for 5 families on Sunday, December 10, 2017. We like to include one wrapped gift for each family member. See Ginger for name, sex and age of a family member if you wish to purchase a gift, \$20.00 is plenty to spend. Nonperishable food, paper goods, dish detergent, laundry detergent are all needed. We also like to include gift cards for perishable items from Shop & Save so we would appreciate cash donations that we turn into Shop & Save gift cards. Our church receives 5% on the sale of these cards. Thank you for your help. LCM Committee

# **WOMENS FELLOWSHIP**

We had a great meeting on October 5 with lots of Fall and Halloween decorations and refreshments provided by Gerri Malone and Karen Schaefer. Thanks to Bette Ford for taking the eye glasses collected by our church members to Immanuel United Church of Christ for the Festival of Sharing project. We made final decisions on the Family Banquet. Everyone please plan on bringing your family and friends for an enjoyable evening on Saturday, November 4 at 6 p.m. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board, please add your name and number of folks you are bringing to our dinner and show. Our next Women's Fellowship meeting is Thursday, November 2. We plan on decorating the tables and making final arrangements for the "Four Seasons" themed Family Banquet. We plan to have fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad and pie. Looking forward to a fun and enjoyable evening with lots of good food and great entertainment!

Love to all,  
Diana Ross  
President Women's Fellowship

## ***ST. MARTIN PRESCHOOL***

The Preschool has been focused on all the changes that have been happening in the fall and getting ready for Halloween. Come by and see our two-headed pumpkin! We will have a party in class on Oct. 31. Our Bible lessons have introduced Daniel and King Solomon, and this week Queen Esther. The children enjoy learning about the many interesting stories of the Old Testament. We

learn a new letter and a number or shape each week.

In November look for the tree in our hallway. We would like as many church family members as are interested to add a leaf to our tree with a blessing written on it. Leaves will be by the tree. What are you thankful for?

## ***Please Remember These People in Prayer:***

### **Shut-Ins**

Virginia Ahlvers  
Hazel Rose  
Joan Roth

### **Health Concerns**

Mary Ann Potthoff  
Sheila Zagarri  
Judy Cope  
Ruth Hart  
Dee St. Clair  
Sara Back  
Michael Patrick  
Doris Loveland  
Sondra Thee  
Wayne Jaros

## **THANK YOU**

I want to thank everyone who has contributed in any way for my great grandson, Owen Salters. Your loving support of me and my family has meant so much to us. A special thanks to those who came to his memorial service. Pastor Terry and St. Martin folks are the greatest.

God Bless,  
Billie York

## COUNCIL NEWS

# MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

From Church Council's Meeting:

The roof repair will begin very soon. The Council has accepted the bid from Vince Graye Tile and Slate Roofing Company. They will be doing extensive work on the sanctuary roof and around the bell tower. Following their work there is much more to be done. Gutters and fascia will be replaced and then interior work will begin to repair wall plaster and paint. Thank you to all who had input and voiced their opinion about the project. All can agree that the maintenance and preservation of our facility is a priority. Please continue to pray for this project and that needed funds come to us to complete all parts and have funds for additional issues that always arise. Thank you to Don Ford who found a company to install a security Fence on the low roof at the back of the church which should help keep vandalism down and protect our investment. A new air conditioning unit will be purchased and installed to replace the one damaged beyond repair by the vandals.

Anyone who has been in the Fellowship Hall should have noticed the shine on the floors. Thank you to Men's Fellowship who did repair to some tile and arranged for the floors to be stripped, waxed and buffed to such a beautiful shine!

The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee will meet at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, November 1.

It takes many hands and many prayers to keep our facility and church in such a great shape. Thank you to all who help in anyway. As we move towards the season of Thanksgiving and a time to count our blessings let us all say a special prayer for our church and the service we have to God. Help us to be good stewards and work together to accomplish much. In His name,

*Donna, Church Council President*

The Men's Fellowship met on the first Saturday of October. We enjoyed breakfast together. We discussed the projects that need to be done here at church. We have the ok for a contractor to repair the sanctuary roof. Don Ford has contacted the contractor to get the repairs moving. Dale Rose will be working on the walls around the trash dumpster, weather permitting. Don Ford and I repaired the tile in the area of the elevator. Newcombs Flooring stripped and refinished the flooring in the fellowship hall, bathrooms and kitchen. A bid has been accepted for a fence to be installed on the flat roof to protect the air conditioners. The men also served lunch for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday service. God Bless, Fred

## Memorials

***The following individuals donated to the St. Martin United Church of Christ***

### ***Memorial Fund***

***In Memory of  
Karen Boemler***

**By Harry & Myra Boenker**

### **Roof Fund**

**In Memory of  
Owen Salters**

**By Esther McNamee  
Jeff & Tiffany Sherrill  
Don & Bette Ford  
Clardean Schmieder**

**In Memory of  
Robert Small**

**By Don & Evelyn Long**

## **Pairs 'N Spares**

The activity on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> was a huge success! Over 30 people attended our annual hot dog roast and hayride! The weather was perfect and the food was outstanding. Everyone had a great time. Many, many thanks to Don and Grace Self for hosting this event! They served delicious chili and perfectly roasted hot dogs. We also enjoyed several special desserts plus s'mores. Don had to take two trips around the fields so we all could notice the eagle's nest.! The rest of the evening was spent chatting and sitting around the fire pit. Thanks again, Don and Grace. It was great!

Note: \$50 was donated to the Sunday School Kids and Youth.

Last month's activity was a trip by 14 members to Illinois to visit Eckert's Farm. We enjoyed the meal served in their restaurant. Afterwards some people checked out their store. Later some of us indulged in their soft-serve ice cream. Thanks Billie for planning this enjoyable event.

Does anyone have an idea for another activity? In December we will need help in decorating our sanctuary and church building. This will take place on Saturday, December 2.

Frankie Small

## **SSK and YOUTH**

Everyone will see SSK and the Youth performing a fun holiday song in the Family Banquet on November 4th! Also, in November, our youth will have a service project benefitting The Covering House. This organization provides refuge and restoration, using the least restrictive environment, for sexually exploited and trafficked children and teens, providing safety, dignity, and freedom utilizing top level staffing and oversight. The youth will create a list of supplies that are needed to build their Blessing Bags that they will deliver at the end of November to The Covering House. If you are interested in more information about the organization, their website is [www.thecoveringhouse.org](http://www.thecoveringhouse.org). Thank you for supporting SSK and the youth group. A list of supplies will be available soon.

Any questions regarding the project, please contact Liz at 314-368-0368. Thank you! - Liz Downer & Jane Small

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Poinsettia Order Form

Poinsettia orders are being taken to decorate the sanctuary during the Christmas season. The Cost is \$10.00 per plant. Order deadline December 10, 2017.



Number of Poinsettias ordered: \_\_\_\_\_

*Named of Loved Ones*

(Circle one)      **HONOR or MEMORY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**HONOR or MEMORY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**HONOR or MEMORY:** \_\_\_\_\_

You are encouraged to take your Poinsettia home **after**  
the  
Christmas Services

(You may place this form in the offering plate with payment or  
mail to St. Martin UCC, P.O. Box 1037, High Ridge, MO 63049)

--See Bulletin for Deadline--





**Spares 'n Pairs dine at Eckerts**



# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mtg 5:30 pm 7pm Prayer and Bible Study Matt. 23:1-12	2  7pm Women's Fellowship	3	4 9am Men's Fellowship  Family Banquet 6:00 pm
5 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship w/ communion & Children's Church	6	7	8  7pm Prayer and Bible Study Matthew 25:1-13	9  7	10	11
12 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church	13  7pm Stewardship Mtg.	14  7pm Council Meeting	15  7pm Prayer and Bible Study Matthew 25:14-30	16	17	18
19 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church Lunch following the service.	20 Churchline Articles are due	21	22 9am Fold Churchline  7pm Thanksgiving Eve worship	23	24	25
26 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church Lunch Totenfest	27	28  7pm Worship Mtg	29  7pm Prayer and Bible Study I Corinthians 1:3-9	30		

St. Martin United Church of Christ

PO Box 1037

High Ridge, MO. 63049

## NOVEMBER CHURCHLINE 2017



**POSTMASTER: TIME-VALUED MATERIAL  
PLEASE EXPEDITE DELIVERY.  
THANK YOU! \***

**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

St. Martin United Church of Christ

Worship Time and Children's Church:

9:30 AM Sunday Morning

Website: <http://stmartin-ucc-hr.50webs.com>

Email: [stmartinucchr@gmail.com](mailto:stmartinucchr@gmail.com)

*636-677-5602*