

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. 7

July 2017

May I take a moment to give thanks for the gift of worshiping with you? I don't just mean what happens on Sunday mornings. Worship is at the heart of all we do. Worship dovetails with worth. When we worship we declare to all the worth of our relationship to God in Christ. By our very lives, we make these declarations. How we do our jobs, live out our retirement, interact with our spouse and families, treat the clerk at Schnuck's or the guy in the fire-engine red Dodge Charger who cuts us off in traffic—these are all occasions to live more fully, however we might falter, into the Christ we declare most worthy of our absolute love.

Worship comes as both a gift and a task. In other words, some days are better than others. Last Thursday, I had to work at it. It was "Meatloaf Thursday" according to The Ridge Café. I was back in the church office after a fairly intense week of driving to Louisiana to celebrate my father's 84th birthday. Let's face it: I was spent. I wanted to sleep in till noon, eat some meatloaf, then grab a nap and call it a day. But I was being called to worship, so I invoked the Lord, or the Lord invoked me, and I headed to High Ridge.

Worship does not depend on our emotions; though it embraces and addresses how we feel. Worship does not fit into our schedule; we fit into and are formed by the One we worship. Worship, I'm trying to say, vitalizes our living by drawing us into the larger life of faith. We are alive, not just scraping by and killing time. We find ourselves caught up in a life that is God-created, Christ-redeemed, and Spirit-sustained. Everything we're about on Sunday morning—our prayers, announcements, children's sermon, songs, expressions of gratitude, our laughter and joy, the funny shoes I wear, even the sermon itself on some Sundays—is, at best, a dress rehearsal for what's really real: the daily experience of God's quirky grace.

Worship is a gift. We come to God because God has already come to us in Christ. We gather because God gathers us. We love because God first loved us. And we are gifts: from God, to each other, back to God—that's how our life flows. So we needn't fret over whether we're worthy, or good enough, or special. We can let all this go because we live with, in, and within the One who declares us beloved. In that Mystery is all the self-worth we'll ever need. When God's enough, we're enough. We're set free to take risks, fail, experiment, play, and pray our way into the fullness of life that is ours in Christ.

After morning worship yesterday it was Pizza Sunday at St. Martin. We held our second "Hopeful Conversation" with another generous turnout and good energy. We explored together the question of our calling: What is God calling us to become at St. Martin? The room was filled with openness, concern, suggestions, and deep listening. Afterward, I saw Miss Edna wrestling with her walker and juggling her oxygen tanks. She'd used up one and it was time to switch to another. I never knew how heavy oxygen could be! She was spent but happy—happy to speak her life, to be heard, engaged, and loved. Which is what we all want: to be valued and to spend our breath doing what's valuable. So we worship our way through our days. We breathe it all in, whether on "Meatloaf Thursday" or "Pizza Friday," declaring the worth of our God through thick and thin.

Gratefully,
Pastor Terry



USHERS

- 7-2 Dale Rose Fred Dishner
Kathy Dishner
- 7-9 Marie Gates
- 7-16 Jim Bauer Clardean Schmieder
- 7-23 Gary Malone Shirley Ogden
Richard Small Nancy Huck
- 7-30 Don Self

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

- 7-2 Ginger & Bette
- 7-9 Johnny & Bert
- 7-16 Craig & Glinda
- 7-23 Don & Evelyn
- 7-30 Shirley & Donna

- 8-6 Don & Grace
- 8-13 Gary & Gerri
- 8-20 Ginger & Bette
- 8-27 Johnny & Bert

**Greeter Schedule
For Worship Service**

- 7-2 Fred Dishner
- 7-9 Sandy Neralich
- 7-16 Bette Ford
- 7-23 Grace Self
- 7-30 Gary Malone



**Bible
Readings for the Month**

- 7-2 Gen 22: 1-14 Rom 6: 12-23
Jer 28: 5-9 Matt 10: 40-42
- 7-9 Gen 24: 34-38 Rom 7: 15-25
Song of Sol 2: 8-13 Matt 11: 16-19
- 7-16 Gen 25: 19-34 Rom 8: 1-11
Isa 55:10-13 Matt 13: 1-9, 18-23
- 7-23 Gen 28: 10-19 Rom 8:12-25
Isa 44: 6-8 Matt 13: 24-30
- 7-30 Gen 29: 15-28 Rom 8:26-39
I Kings 3: 5-12 Matt 13: 31-33,

READERS

- 7-2 Diana Ross
- 7-9 Grace Self
- 7-16 Cheryl Patton
- 7-23 Fred Dishner
- 7-30 Gerri Malone

REMINDER: We still need memorabilia from any of our church family veterans for the display in the Fellowship Hall.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Esther McNamee, Fred Dishner, Suzanne Cavagna and anyone else that was involved in providing and framing the WAVES poster in recognition of my service during World War II. I truly appreciated your thoughtfulness.

Syble Self

JULY Anniversaries

01 David & Beth Osterhage
06 Don & Grace Self
11 Jeff & Susan Dempsey
24 Tanya & Steve Warren

Thanks to the people who folded the Churchline in June. They are Marla, Doris, Clare and Harry.

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.

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.



01 Nadine Gremmler
04 Patty Sherrill
14 Jackie McAdams
16 Barb Montano
20 Bette Ford
20 Judith Scott
20 Glenda Barton
25 Shannon Bell
26 Fred Dishner
26 Rebecca Downer
28 William E. Friebe
28 Carol Reeves



WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

We will have no meeting in July. Enjoy your summer break and join us the first Thursday in August as we prepare for the new activities of the Women's Fellowship. If you have never attended a meeting, August would be a great time to come join us!!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The men met for our monthly meeting. We enjoyed a delicious breakfast together. We discussed the projects that we are working on and also the projects that need to be done. We can still use some help with grass cutting and trimming the grass around our church. We had a wonderful Memorial Day service and lunch.

The men are very thankful for all of the support and help that we receive from each other. We're thankful for Rev. Terry and his support and input in our men's group.

God Bless, Fred

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Thanks for your donations to the mission offering "Strengthen The Church." We collected \$371.00. Our mission project for July is "Christmas in July." We will collect food and other items for Feed My People. They have need for food because the children are home from school for summer vacation. A flyer is attached listing suggested items. Thanks for your help.

Please Remember These People in Prayer:

Homebound

Virginia Ahlvers

Hazel Rose

Joan Roth

Health Concerns

Mary Ann Potthoff

Sheila Zagarri

Judy Cope

Ruth Hart

Dee St. Clair

Curtis Israel

If you know someone who needs to be added or removed from our prayer list, please contact the church office.

Memorials

The following individuals made donations to the Sign Fund in memory of

Gordon Osterhage

Karen Schaefer

Esther McNamee

Pam Bauer

ACCOMPANIST OPENING

We're currently searching for a pianist or organist to play for our 9:30 service and help with the choir. If you know of anyone with those skills, please talk to the Personnel Committee or Grace Self.

ANNUAL CHICKEN DINNER SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

Please mark your calendar now, and plan to help with this event. We will serve chicken dinners from 11:30 to 6:00 p.m. Let Ginger know how you would like to help. Let Evelyn Long know if you can help with the Country Store. She needs craft items and food items to sell, as well as workers on Sunday, September 24th. Other work days to prepare the dinner are Thursday, September 21st at 9:00 a.m. and Saturday, September 23rd at 9:00 a.m. Ask Dick Small and Don Long to help set up tables and chairs. We need everyone to help with this day.

A Basic Sanitation Course class will be held at the High Ridge Elks Club on July 19th. There is a \$20.00 charge for this class. Please give to Ginger by July 10th.

Chicken Dinner Committee

ST. MARTIN PRESCHOOL

We completed a very successful week of daycamp with four great kids! Our Theme was "Exploring Our World" and we learned about lakes, rivers, mountains, deserts and gardens. We studied "The Garden of Eden," "Noah," "Jesus Walking on Water" and "Moses and the Ten Commandments." We had arts, crafts and songs, and ended the week with lots of water fun--thanks to Don Self for joining in the water fight!

We have begun enrolling for the fall Tuesday/Thursday classes and are excited for new beginnings. We hope the word spreads about our preschool and that our numbers increase! We are so thankful for the support from so many. We have great playthings for our playground thanks to so many being generous! Especially to Dale Rose for the wonderful new slide and swing set and to others who have donated sand and water tables, chairs and another slide. We can't wait for the kids to play and enjoy!

We are on break now until August 22 when fall classes begin--spread the word to friends, neighbors and all that we still have openings! Finally please add my co-teacher Denise, to your prayers as she has shoulder surgery in early July. God's Blessing to all!

Bake Sale for Canoe Camp at Shannondale



COUNCIL NEWS

At the June meeting of the church council we learned about the plans for Vacation Bible School and hope the week is successful. Thank you to all who are planning to work at this endeavor. We also established plans for two new book study events--one "The Shack" has been a popular book and movie. We will discuss the book and view the movie later in the summer. And then we will learn more about Islam and the Middle East as we read *The Land of Blue Burqas* which is the story of a missionary in Afghanistan and her life among the Afghan women. We hope many will join in the discussion of a culture so often in our news today.

Church Council has been concerned about our leaky sanctuary roof awhile. The men have been gathering bids to have much needed repairs done. In July we will look closely at the bids and it will likely need a special congregational meeting to approve such an expenditure. Please pray for this project and look into your own heart as to how you can help our church cover this much needed repair. More information will come after the next meeting.

Two of our most popular fund raising efforts are coming very soon. The Bargain Hunter's sale will be in August and our annual Chicken Dinner is always in September. Much help is needed at both of these events. The Bargain Hunter's sale brings many from our community into our church but requires lots of set up--if you can help please contact the women's group or watch for announcements as to when this will take place. For the Chicken Dinner Ginger has need of people to bring many items that help prepare for the dinner and need all to consider working the day of the event. They say many hands make all jobs easier so please do your part! And invite friends and family to both events!

Yours in Christ,
Donna Goede, Council President

SEARCH COMMITTEE

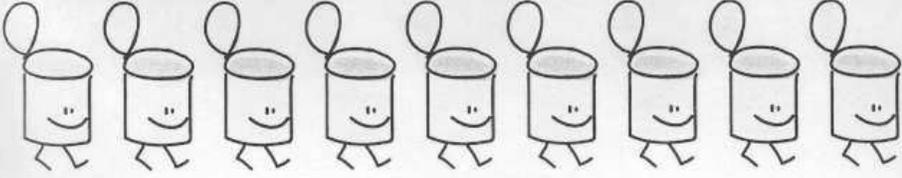
The Search Committee continued its work. Thank you to those who participated in our second "Hopeful Conversations" on June 25th. We received some good information and will incorporate it within our church profile.

Christian Education

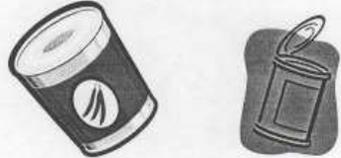
July is a very busy month for Christian Education! VBS is July 17 thru July 20. Please invite all of your friends and family to Journey to Congo! Don't forget, we will be collecting school supplies during VBS week which will be donated to Feed My People.

The Youth Group has been working hard earning money for their Canoe Camp which is July 16 thru July 20. Canoe Camp is based out of Shannondale

in Salem, MO. The girls have been adopted to do different jobs at member's houses. If you have a job around your house that you need help with, please call Liz at [314-368-0376](tel:314-368-0376). I know a youth will help you! And your donation will go directly to the Youth Group Camp Fund. The girls also baked some wonderful treats at a bake sale they held during the Hopeful Conversations gathering. Thank you to all who donated for the camp. The girls are very appreciative.



St. Martin's UCC FOOD DRIVE



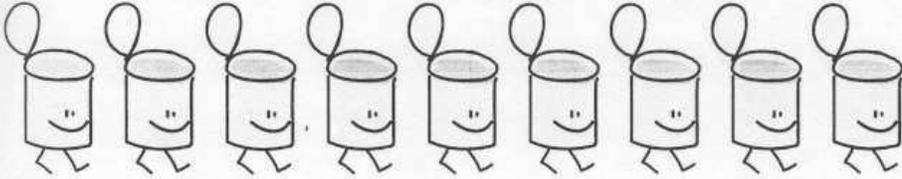
ALL FOOD COLLECTED WILL BE DONATED TO
FEED MY PEOPLE

Please bring the items to church and we will make sure they are delivered



SOME ITEMS THE PANTRY IS IN NEED OF THIS SUMMER:

Dinner Kits	Personal Care Items	<u>NO PERSHABLE ITEMS</u>
Canned Stew	Tooth paste	Noodles
Peanut Butter & Jelly	Toiletries	Cereal
Canned Fruit	Toilet paper	Soups
Canned Veggies	Soap	Dried beans
Canned Meat	Detergents	Crackers
Canned Chicken and Dumplings	Cleaning Supplies	Rice

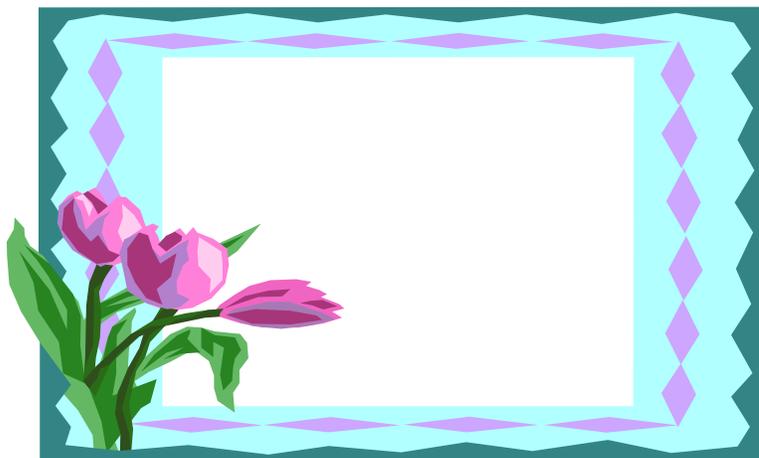


JULY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9am Men's Fellowship
2 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship w/Communion & Children's Church	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church	10 Stewardship Mtg. 7:00 pm	11 Council Meeting 7:00pm	12	13	14	15
16 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church 1:00 Search Committee	17 Churchline Articles are due 6:15-8:00 Vacation Bible School	18 6:15-8:00 Vacation Bible School	19 6:15-8:00 Vacation Bible School	20 6:15-8:00 Vacation Bible School	21	22
23 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church	24	25 7pm Worship Mtg	26 9:00 AM Fold Churchline 7:00 Search Committee	27	28	29
30 8:30 Fellowship Hour 9:30 Worship & Children's Church	31					

St. Martin United Church of Christ
PO Box 1037
High Ridge, MO. 63049

JULY 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: stmartinucc@sbcglobal.net

636-677-5602