
The ECHO

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Volume 69 Issue 9

September 2022

September 2022 CALENDAR

THURSDAY, September 1
11:30 Women's Fellowship
5:00 Women's Book Study
SUNDAY, September 4
10:00 Worship & Sunday school
MONDAY, September 5: Labor Day
4:00 Dining out at Finish Line
L. C. AND CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED
THURSDAY, September 8
5:00 Women's Book Study
SUNDAY, September 11
10:00 Worship & Sunday school
MONDAY, September 12
ECHO INFORMATION DUE
TUESDAY, September 13
6:30 Church Council Meeting
THURSDAY, September 15
5:00 Women's Book Study
SUNDAY, September 18
10:00 Worship & Sunday school
WEDNESDAY, September 21
7:00 Men's Fellowship
THURSDAY, September 22
5:00 Women's Book Study
SUNDAY, September 25
10:00 Worship & Sunday school
THURSDAY, September 29
5:00 Women's Book Study

FAITHFUL SERVERS FOR AUGUST

September 4
Hopper Usher Team
Lay Reader: Linda Hansel
Nursery: Amy May
Children's Church: Charlotte & Rayna Meyer

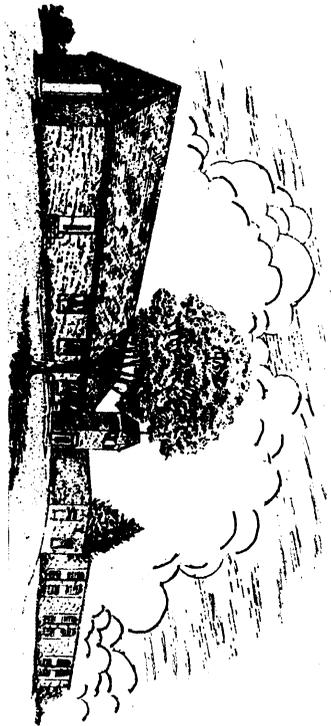
September 11
Noble Usher Team
Lay Reader: Randy Wakeland
Nursery: Christie Kavanagh
Children's Church: Stacy Spicer

September 18
Bohle Usher Team
Lay Reader: Michael Williams
Nursery: Charlotte & Rayna Meyer
Children's Church: Dani Jetensky

September 25
Wakeland Usher Team
Lay Reader: Rich Koenig
Nursery: Tammy Birkenbach
Children's Church: Racheal Wakeland

ST. MARTIN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
7890 Dittmer Ridge Road
Dittmer, MO 63023-1112
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME DATED MATERIAL
September 2022



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ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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MISSOURI
63023
PERMIT #1



How do you describe yourself when you make an introduction? Hello, I am Scott. I am a Christian minister, I am from St. Louis, I am a fairly good amateur magician (?), I am a Cardinals fan. I could go on and on (but why would I?!).

As the Autumn season arrives and the kids go back to school we are going to focus upon INTRODUCING them to Jesus in Sunday School on Sunday mornings at 9:00 a.m. Christ, himself gave us ample information for making just such an introduction. In the Gospel of John there are SEVEN ways in which Jesus describes himself which will each be a subject for our lesson time with the children in coming weeks. Here is how Jesus wants to be introduced:

- “I Am” the bread of life – John 6:35
- “I Am” the light of the world – John 8:12, John 9:5
- “I Am” the door of the sheep – John 10:7
- “I Am” the good shepherd – John 10:11
- “I Am” the resurrection and the life – John 11:25
- “I Am” the way, the truth, and the life – John 14:6
- “I Am” the true vine – John 15:1

One more thing that I AM is – I am looking forward to seeing you – and your kids in Sunday school!

Pastor Scott



Confirmation classes for 2023 will be starting soon. If you have a child, grandchild, niece, or nephew who is interested in joining the class, please notify the church office. Children should be entering 7th grade or above. Information regarding an orientation meeting will be coming soon, along with an outline of the class and the class meeting times.

Welcoming Others

God does not have favorites
Romans 2:11

She’s not like us,” the woman said as we cleaned the church kitchen. Smiling, I turned to her and said, “And isn’t that great?” Unmoved, she walked away without replying.

When we truly open the doors of our churches and our hearts, we need to be ready for people who are “not like us.” If we greet them with acceptance, not just tolerance, we open ourselves to a variety of experiences. New people, different people, can lead to diversity in music, in dress, and maybe even in the menu for church luncheons.

As my sister in Christ expressed her discomfort with someone who wasn’t like her, I wonder if that was how the women of Israel discussed Rahab when she joined them. Did they consider her unworthy of divine purpose because her life was so very different than theirs? Did they feel more worthy than she to be used for God’s plan?

The timeless beauty communicated in Rahab’s story is that the outsider is loved and welcomed into the loving heart of God. As the people of God, Christians are called to carry out this hospitality on earth.

Today, let’s look at each person we pass with open and loving eyes. Let’s step beyond tolerance into acceptance and learn to love others for their place in God’s plan.

Change the World

Why do you call me “Lord, Lord,” and do not do what I tell you?
Luke 6:46

My friend Adam and I were camping, celebrating my decision to follow Christ. As I sat by the campfire, wrestling with the responsibility of my new faith, I felt a firm encouraging hand on my shoulder. I knew it was Jesus – Emmanuel, God with us.

I once would not have appreciated God’s presence with me. When I was young, there was a Christian television ad which claimed that “God might not change your circumstances, but he certainly changes you.” Back then I didn’t want to be changed; I just wanted God to fix things with miracles like those in the Bible.

Only after my fireside encounter with Christ, as I read the whole Bible for myself, did I see beyond the miracles. Jesus expected his followers to live out his teachings by doing for others and choosing God over power. I discovered that discipleship means being transformed so that we can help change the world rather than sitting back and waiting for God to change it for us.

Being a Christian means not just saying “Lord, Lord” but doing what Jesus said. Following Christ’s teachings is scary sometimes, uncomfortable at others. It can cost us money, jobs, friends, family, even our lives. But God promises to be with us as we walk the way of Christ, being changed ourselves so that we can change the world together.



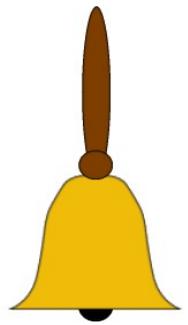
Greetings from your church council. Thank you to Stella Viehland for our annual kick off for the 2022-23 school year. Plans are underway for the St. Martin's Family Fun Fair (previously known as the Fall Festival). Terri Green has pulled this off so well in the past, she will lead us again into a successful year. In order to proceed with this event, though, we need to renew our Safe Serv certificates. Information regarding the certification will be available

through email, the fliers in the narthex, and in the ECHO. If you need internet access to complete this, notify the church office, bring your laptop, and you can complete the course at the church. There are a few laptops that you can borrow for this at the church. There have been a few cases of Covid in our church family. We request, at this time, masks be worn during services and social distancing is observed. There are masks available at the church. Also, please visit and fellowship outside, after service instead of the narthex.

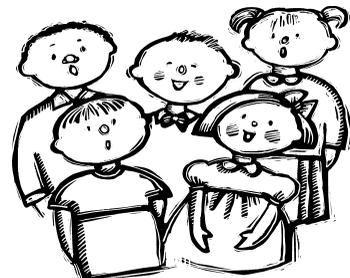
Please search your hearts. We have a council position opening. Our council offers a unique opportunity to actually see the behind the scenes working of the church. It's a valuable learning experience where you can work with diverse people offering many different opinions. Our dialogues are always open allowing us to see a bigger picture, and reach what we hope are the best decisions for the local church. We all bring different ideas to the table, but, together in our discussions, we are able to develop solutions that often alone we would never have even considered. If you are interested in joining this team, please let a council member know. Our church is a team of "we" not "me." Come join us!



The Peace Pantry is in need of the following items all year. Please feel free to donate these at any time: ketchup, mustard, jelly, sugar, flour, spices, cake mixes and icings, hamburger helper, rice-a-roni, canned potatoes, canned mixed vegetables, instant potatoes, canned ravioli, or other like items.
Thank you.



Children's Bell Choir and the Children's Chancel Choir will practice each Sunday morning at 9:45 before church upstairs in the nursery. The Choirs will perform the 2nd Sunday of each month and also the 5th Sunday, if there is one, during the worship service. We look forward to the children participating and sharing.



Children's Choir



A group of ten ladies met at Frankie G's Restaurant in Imperial on August 4th for a nice lunch. There was much laughter and lots of good food.

At this time, we plan on holding our meeting on September 1st in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck lunch. However, since there has been a recent Covid outbreak, this could change. If we do make other plans, you will be contacted by email or through the Phone Tree. Announcements will also be made during Sunday Service.

All women of the church are invited to join us. We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 11:30 am for a meal and lots of social interaction. Please come and bring a friend.

Respectfully submitted by
Sandy Roland



St. Martin's Men's Fellowship wishes to thank everyone that made our men's fundraising effort such a success. Thank you, contributors, organizers, workers, Radeacker's Market, and Bucheitt's. The total contributions are still coming in so we will soon report a total that will be sent to Shannondale ministries for their mower fund. The drawing for the three night stay at Wilderness Club on Table Rock Lake near Branson will be over Labor Day weekend.

40 Hours in the Wilderness
Son/Father Rites of Passage Experience

We were blessed from having co-led our first First Rites of Passage Son and Father 40 Hours in the Wilderness experience. We were exhausted from all the physical fun, including a 20-mile canoe trip and campout on a gravel bar on the Current River, making kiva ladders and important milestones for surrounding each other.

Thank you Mid-America Disciples Men, UCC Missouri Mid Conference, Illuman of the Ozarks and Shannondale Outdoor Ministries for partnering and combining forces to make this possible. This was so impactful, you bet that we will schedule it again for next summer.

Blessings,
Jack Nobles & Paul Koch
Co-Leaders



ANNOUNCING ST. MARTIN'S FAMILY FUN FAIR
(formerly known as the Fall Festival)

Date: October 1

Time: 2:00—8:00

Serving Food: 3:00—7:00

Menu: Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Brats, chips,

It's time to emerge from Covid and have a family/congregation/community Fun Fair

Live Music

Horse Drawn Wagon Rides

Snacks at the ice cream shed (Provided by our Boy Scouts)

Yard Games

Face Painting

Ice Cream

Cobra Car Club

Country Store (homemade baked goods, jellies, jams, produce)

We have decided to change the Fall Festival to a Community, family format. The St. Martin's Learning Center, St. Martin's Youth, St. Martin's Men's and Women's Fellowships are all contributing. Everything will be prepared and served outside. We will have music on the main stage, yard games on the lawn and snacks provided by our Boy Scout Troops. We have many more items on our list and as soon as we have confirmation we will pass these items on to you. We only have 5 weeks to make plans so it's all hands on deck. We will accept and appreciate all the help we can get. If you cannot make the event, but would like to support it, you can designate your offering or make a donation to help cover the costs. We are asking for donations of individual single serve chips, lemonade, coffee, and candy. This list may grow so stay tuned. Please watch your Sunday bulletins, emails, and all call messages for updates.

Let's pull together as a congregation as we kick Covid to the curb and host a fun family event for our congregation and community!!

If you have questions, concerns, or would like to help with anything you can contact Terri Green 314-803-7372 or tgreen6509@gmail.com.

We also need members to take the serve safe course that is required by the Health Department. The link for this and the instructions for the course are shared on Page 5.

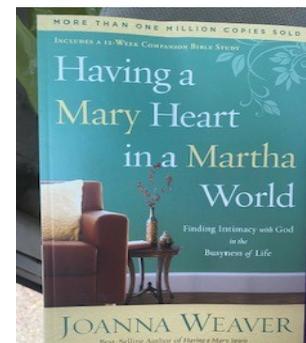
ONLINE BASIC SANITATION COURSE

1. Go to www.responsibletraining.com and set up an account and password.
2. Select **express checkout box.**
3. Select **MISSOURI**
4. Select **Food Handler**
5. Select **MISSOURI Food Handler**
6. Select **Add Course (cost 6.99)**
7. Select **CHECKOUT**
8. Complete **Step 1 Shipping Info**
9. Complete **Step 2 Billing Information**
10. Complete **Step 3 Complete Checkout**
11. Start the course

You are able to take the course 3 times to achieve a passing score. Remember your **User ID & Password.**

After completing the course, remember to print your certificate. Keep the **ORIGINAL** for your records. **Give a COPY to the church office.**

If you experience issues with the responsible training website, you may call technical support at 512-996-0909 or email at info@safewayclasses.com. Office hours are Mon-Fri. 9am—8 pm



Women's Book Study will begin a new 12 week study on "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" on Thursday, September 1 at 5:00 pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. If you are interested in joining us, please come. You can also call the church office for more information.



LOOK WHO IS HAVING A BIRTHDAY

80 + years

Leo Meyer, Sr. 9/6

Ron Short 9/12

Bill Doss 9/20

LOOK WHO HAS AN ANNIVERSARY

25 + years

Harold & Becky Selby 9/3 45 years

Ricky & Mary Fortner 9/6 36 years

Leroy & Joan Kramme 9/8 60 years

Gene & Ruth Ann Gillman 9/16 55 years

Tom & Donna Scanlon 9/21 48 years

Steve & Michele Dierker 9/23 33 years

Roger & Polly Weber 9/24 40 years

Nelson & Carol Weber 9/27 42 years

Donald & Karen Ritchey 9/30 55 years

Mike & Anna Rowden 9/30 44 years



John Doyle
Tom Davis
Jamie Schneider



Arlo Strupp
June 11, 2022

Parents: William & Madeline Strupp
Grandparents: Steve & Darlene Strupp