



**March 2022**

A monthly publication of the  
East Martin Christian Reformed Church

# The Echoes



## **A View from the Pew**

When I see the chaos and turmoil in our country and in the world with wars, storms, and disasters, I am so thankful I know I am loved and saved by the God who not only created the world and the universe, but He rules and reigns! What a peace and joy that brings me, and I hope, for you, too.

I'm reminded of the story of King Jehoshaphat in II Chronicles chapter 20. He and the Israelites were surrounded by a vast enemy army. They went to God to ask what they should do. In verse 6 they acknowledge God reigns over all kingdoms. Power and might are in His hands, and no one can stand against Him. Then in verses 7-9 the king reviews what God has done for them in the past. In verses 10-12 he brings to God the concern Israel has for this vast army surrounding them, and admits they have no power against it and don't know what to do, but he admits, "their eyes are on God". In reply, God tells them not to be afraid or discouraged in verses 15 and 17, and they will not have to fight, because He will do the fighting for them. So King Jehoshaphat puts the choir ahead of the army to sing and praise God, verse 21, and God does exactly what He promised He would do. The enemy turned on themselves, and killed each other, verses 22-23, and all the Israelite army found were dead bodies, verse 24. There was so much plunder it took 3 days to collect it. So they praised God again, this time for their great deliverance, verses 26-28.

Psalm 20:7 says "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God." May our faith and trust grow day by day as we acknowledge God's great power and constant rule!

## **In Contact With Council**



1. Harold Wykstra opened the meeting of March 8 with devotions and prayer.
2. Minutes of the Council meeting of February 8 were read and approved.

3. Communications: Chris Leep requested her church membership records be sent to Martin Reformed Church. Motion passed.

4. Reports:

A. Report on the March meeting of Classis Kalamazoo by Keith Smit.

B. Pulpit Supply list reviewed.

C. Deacons' Report: Total receipts of \$17,695.39 were received in February. General Fund receipts of \$11,240.39 leaves us \$1,109.01 over ideal, and Ministry Shares receipts of \$1,461.00 leaves us \$5,404.91 short of ideal. The offering schedule for April was approved.

D. Search Committee: Proposed a second round of pastors to discuss.

5. Council visits: 3 reported

6. New Business:

A. Profession of Faith classes will start soon.

B. Amanda from Martin Resource Center will give an update on March 13.

C. Ladies Bible Study will start on March 14.

D. Ladies would like to send birthday cards to Post High Youth from East Martin. Approved.

E. A representative from Sylvia's Place would like to give a presentation on May 15. Passed

F. Communion will be celebrated on March 13.

G. Water samples from the church and parsonage were sent in and passed.

H. Mutual censure was observed.

7. Motion to adjourn passed at 8:42. Earl Wykstra closed with prayer. The next meeting is scheduled for April 12.



Amber Leep and Josh Westendorp are planning a fall 2022 wedding.

Amber is the daughter of Nate and Stacie and Josh is the son of Cliff and Amy.

They went to Holland beach to walk on the pier on January 8 and that's where Josh proposed. It is one of Amber's favorite places to go and the site of their first date.

They are very excited to start this journey together both knowing there will be ups and downs. But Josh and Amber are committed to stick together and build their relationship with Christ at the center and help each other stay strong as they grow closer to God in the process.

Congratulations Amber and Josh!





Thank you to all those who joined us in the celebration of Dan's life. We would also like to thank those who made contributions to East Martin Christian School in memory of Dan, for the beautiful flowers from church and also the wonderful lunch. The amount of support has been wonderfully overwhelming and we are grateful for the people surrounding us.

The Jager family

*A STRANGER'S GAME* by Colleen Coble  
(Suspense Fiction)  
*FOUNDATION OF LOVE* by Amy Clipston  
*LOVE'S DWELLING* by Kelly Irvin (Amish Blessings #1)  
*THE SPARK OF LOVE* by Amanda Cabot (Mesquite Springs #3)



### Look What's New in the Library

*MRS. WITHERSPOON GOES TO WAR* by Mary Davis (Heroines of WWII)  
A WASP embarks on an unsanctioned Secret Mission  
*DRAWN BY THE CURRENT* by Jocelyn Green (Windy City Saga #3)  
Lives depend on the truth she uncovers. She can't give up the search.  
*THE LADY'S MINE* by Francine Rivers  
(Another of Francine's good books)  
*COURTING MISFORTUNE* by Regina Jennings (Joplin Chronicles #1)  
*PROPOSING MISCHIEF* by Regina Jennings (Joplin Chronicles #2)  
*A HEART ADRIFT* by Laura Frantz (Historical novel - Great book)  
*AN AMISH QUILTING BEE* by Clipston—Fuller—Gray (Three stories)

### Potluck Mac and Cheese



Ingredients:  
3 cups uncooked elbow macaroni  
1—16 oz. pkg Velveeta, cubed  
2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend  
2 cups shredded white cheddar cheese  
1 3/4 cup milk  
1—12 oz can evaporated milk  
3/4 cup butter, melted  
3 eggs, lightly beaten

Cook macaroni according to package directions for al dente, drain.  
Transfer to a greased 5 quart crockpot. Stir in remaining ingredients.  
Cook, covered, on low 2 to 2 1/2 hours, stirring once.

## Tithes and Offerings for February

General Fund	\$11,240.39
Ministry Shares	1,461.00
Faith Promise	
Shaarda	150.00
Smit	120.00
Tiemeyer	95.00
Walker	90.00
Guatemala Orphanage	170.00
East Martin Christian School	1,169.00
Kalamazoo Christian High School	228.00
Elim Christian School	247.00
Gideons	649.00
Christian Neighbors	266.00
Martin Resource Center	810.00
Don and Nancy Smith	1,000.00

Total \$ 17,695.39

General Fund 1% ahead  
Ministry Shares 17% behind

## Offering Schedule for April

April 3: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares;  
PM—World Renew—DRS  
April 10: East Martin Christian School; PM—  
Resonate Global Missions  
April 17: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares;  
PM—Luke Society  
April 24: AM—Martin Resource Center; PM—  
East Martin Missions

## Greeters

April 3: AM—Bill and Bonnie Snook, Bob Katje  
April 10: AM—Dean and Carolyn Vander-  
Meulen, Harold Wykstra; PM—Larry and  
Phyllis Tuinstra  
April 17: AM—Jim and Cindy Mejeur, Glenn  
Leep; PM—Joan Kammeraad and Ida  
Westendorp  
April 24: AM—Henry and Nancy Tuinstra,  
Ryan Tucker; PM—John and Merrie Beth  
DenBoer

## Ushers

April 3: Bob and Bram Katje, Ryan Tucker  
April 10: Henry Tuinstra, Bruce Aukema,  
Chase DeMaagd  
April 17: Henry Tuinstra, Scott Tuinstra, Caleb  
Tuinstra  
April 24: Joe DeKoekkoek, Cameron Tuinstra,  
Dave Mejeur

## Nursery

April 3: Laura DeMaagd  
April 10: Hailey and Kylee Tuinstra  
April 17: Riley and Addison Tuinstra  
April 24: Rebekah Westendorp

## Library

April 3: Ida Westendorp  
April 10: Rena Lynema  
April 17: Linda DeYoung  
April 24: Ida Westendorp

For God  
*so loved*  
the world ...  
... that He gave his only son,  
that whoever  
*believes in Him*  
should not perish  
but have  
everlasting life.

John 3:16

*Christ Jesus lives today!*