



**November 2021**

A monthly publication of the  
East Martin Christian Reformed Church



# The Echoes



## A View from the Pew

### Give Thanks

This is such a great time of year to concentrate on our Heavenly Father's great love for us, and the blessings He lavishes on us. Psalm 136:1 says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His love endures forever." This great love is not only everlasting, but according to John 3:16 was what caused the Father to give us Jesus as our atoning sacrifice. It opened the way for us to have access to the Mercy Seat, and have a personal relationship with our dear Heavenly Father.

There is so much to thank God for. Food, clothes, houses, health, work, families, to just name a few things. The list could go on and on. And I'm very thankful for this body of believers at East Martin. God is very good, and so faithful!

I Thessalonians 5:16-18 tells us, "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." I pray that we live with an attitude of gratitude not just in this holiday season, but all through the coming years.

### In Contact With Council



The Council meeting of November 9 was opened with devotions and prayer by Glenn Leep.

The minutes of the Council meeting of October 12 were read and approved.

Reports.

- A. Deacons report: General fund receipts of \$13,905.00 leaves us \$10,135.79 short of ideal, Ministry Shares receipts of \$3,385.00 leaves us \$4,471.95 short of ideal. Motion to approve December

offering schedule passed. Motion made and approved to pay Freedom in Christ \$1,000 to help cover the cost of the books used in Josh Shaarda's Discipleship series.

- B. Worship Committee: Motion made and passed to have both Communion and the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 12.
- C. Education Committee: Motion made and passed to ask Mark Immink to lead the Youth Group in their Bible studies.
- D. Outreach Committee: November is Mission Emphasis Month. Hope Wassiner from Son-Life Camp will give a short talk on November 14, Joel and Tanya Tiemeyer on November 21 with a Pot Luck dinner to follow, and possibly a representative from Martin Resource Center on November 28.

Council visits: two visits were reported.

Old business:

- A. The Anchor building heat — three furnaces are fixed and working, the rest are being worked on.
- B. College students and military personnel gift packages are being put together and will be sent shortly.
- C. Thanksgiving envelopes are printed and will be set out.

New Business:

- A. There will be a Thanksgiving Morning Breakfast. Sue Tiemeyer is working on casserole recipes.
- B. Thanksgiving and Christmas worship services will be services of song and readings. There will be no worship services on New Year's eve or New Year's day.

Motion to adjourn passed at 8:35. Les Lynema closed with prayer. The next meeting is December 14.



The Search Committee has been busy going through pastor profiles, listening to sermons and narrowing down our top pick of pastors to consider calling. We also have had to put together a church profile. This is from the CRC Search Portal. It is 11 pages of questions about our church, the community we live in, our strengths and weaknesses, programs that we offer our congregation, and much more.

As a search committee we also decided that we wanted to do a personal profile on our church where we could include more specific details about events, mission trips, programs we have for all ages and share more about our passions, goals and areas to work on. These profiles take a lot of time to process all the information and to do them well.

Please keep our committee in your prayers. Thank you.

# Thank You

We would like to thank the congregation for all the cards, visits, and words of sympathy given after the passing of our husband and father.

For those who helped in any way at the funeral service we thank you for your willingness to help us at such a difficult time in our lives.

Thank you also for the words of encouragement and the visits during the months Carl was confined to Byron Manor. We rejoice in knowing that he is no longer suffering from the ailments of this world.

The Family of Carl Haveman  
Mina Haveman, Vern & Joanne Klaasen



## Library

PETERSON, TRACIE —  
*FOREVER MY OWN*

(Ladies of the Lake) #2

PETERSON, TRACIE — *WAITING ON LOVE*

(Ladies of the Lake) #3

BEVERLY LEWIS — *THE BEGINNING*

SUZANNE WOODS FISHER — *A SEASON ON THE WIND*

AMANDA COX — *THE SECRET KEEPERS OF OLD DEPOT GROCERY*

MELISSA KOSLIN — *NEVER MISS*

(Romantic Suspense)

DIANN MILLS — *TRACE OF DOUBT* (Fiction, Romance, Suspense)

CAROLYN MILLER — *DUSK'S DARKEST SHORES* (Regency Wallflowers) #1

## A note from our Librarian

I noticed a few books that have been out for a long time. Could you check if you have a book or books that you have forgotten about. Someone may be looking for it. Thank You!

And now would be a great time to say thank you to our librarian. We have an awesome library and you do such a great job. Thank you, Ida, for all the time you spend making sure we have great books to read.



## Christmas Card Service

A Christmas Card Service will be available beginning the first Sunday of Advent.

Just place your Christmas cards, along with your donation, in the basket by the church mailboxes. The cards will be delivered to the proper mailboxes.

## Mailing Addresses

A list of our military personnel and college students living away from home was in your mailbox last week in case you wish to send them a Christmas greeting.



Please note that Mitch should be home mid December so keep that in mind if sending something to him.

The addresses those not able to attend worship as they would like are in our church directory. Please remember them at Christmas time as well.

## The Christmas Shoe Tree



The East Martin Christian School Christmas program will be held Tuesday, December 7, at 6:30 pm and again on Thursday, December 9, at 1:00 pm in the school gym. The students will be performing the musical "The Christmas Shoe Tree". Family and friends are welcome to attend.



Don't forget you can designate East Martin Christian as your favorite charity

when ordering from Amazon and EMCS will receive a percentage of what you spend.



## Martin Area Resource Center

needs the following in December:

Cleaners: laundry soap, window wash, disinfectants (toilet and household), mops, brooms, sponges, hand soap, fabric softeners, dish soap, dishwasher soap.

## Recycle your corrugated

Don't forget to recycle your corrugated at the Martin Area Resource Center. Use the brown door (right next to the white door previously used). Place your flattened corrugated in the bins. They will turn it into cash to benefit the less fortunate in our community.

## Greeters

December 5: AM—Brian and Laura Westendorp, Kevin Bouman; PM—Ida Westendorp, Joan Kammeraad

December 12: AM—Elders; PM—Jeanine Katje

December 19: AM—Randy and Mary Bouman, Earl Wykstra; PM—Bob and Ruth Katje

December 25: Ryan and Jessica Tucker

December 26: AM—Bruce and Joanne Mejeur, Doug DeMann; PM—Chase and Laura DeMaagd

## Ushers

December 5: Bruce Aukema, Ryan Tucker, Nick VanderHeide

December 12: Henry Tuinstra, Tom Rook, Dan Jager

December 19: Nate and Andrew Leep

December 25: Cameron, Caleb and Scott Tuinstra

December 26: Joe DeKoekkoek, Dave Mejeur, Vern Klaasen

## Nursery

December 5: Riley and Addison Tuinstra

December 12: Rebekah Westendorp

December 19: Jen, Violet and Willow Tuinstra

Christmas Day: Laura DeMaagd

December 26: Hailey and Kylee Tuinstra

## Library

December 5: Nancy Tuinstra

December 12: Linda DeYoung

December 19: Ida Westendorp

December 26: Rena Lynema

## Merry Cranberry Freeze

- 3 cups of fresh cranberries, ground
- 1 1/2 cups of sugar
- 1 (8.5 oz) can drained, crushed pineapple
- 1 (8 oz) pkg cream cheese
- 1 cup whipping cream, whipped
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Combine cranberries and sugar. Add pineapple and nuts. Mix well. Add softened cream cheese. Fold in whipped cream. Pour in 6 1/2 cup ring mold. Freeze. Makes 10-12 generous servings.



## Tithes and Offerings for October

General Fund	\$13,905.00
Ministry Shares	3,385.00
Faith Promise	
East Martin Missions	30.00
Shaarda	165.00
Smit	705.00
Walker	245.00
Guatemala Orphanage	305.00
Don and Nancy Smith fundraiser	1,100.00
East Martin Christian School	1,224.00
Kalamazoo Christian High School	500.00
World Renew—DRS	485.00
Martin Area Resource Center	987.00
Growing Hope Globally	342.00
The Luke Society	330.00
Forgotten Man Ministries	378.00
Appalachia Reach Out	223.00
Kalamazoo Gospel Mission	500.00
Rehoboth Christian School	500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,309.00</b>

General Fund — 14% behind  
 Ministry Shares — 25% behind

## Offering Schedule for December

- December 5: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares; PM—Martin Resource Center
- December 12: AM—East Martin Christian School; PM—Pine Rest
- December 19: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares; PM—World Renew—DRS
- December 26: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares; PM—Resonate Global Missions

