



November 2022

A monthly publication of the
East Martin Christian Reformed Church

The Echoes



A View from the Pew

THANKSGIVING

Colossians 3:16 tells us, "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God." At this Thanksgiving season I want to look at a couple of passages in Psalms to get our hearts focused on our great God, and what He's done, and why He deserves our praise and worship.

Psalm 146:1 & 2 says, "Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 147:1 says, "Praise the Lord. How good it is to sing praise to God, how pleasant and fitting to praise Him." And verse 7 tells us to "Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving."

Psalm 136 is another great song of praise and thanksgiving. Every verse ends in the refrain "His love endures forever". Verse 1 tells us, "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good." Verse 4 reminds us "He alone does great wonders". The verses following tell of God's amazing creation, and how God led Israel out of Egypt and through the desert to the promised land. As God's people we know He still leads and directs us day by day. Thanksgiving is such a great time to reflect on God's amazing love and faithfulness. I pray it will draw us closer to Him through the coming years.

In Contact With Council



1. The Council meeting of November 8 was opened with devotions and prayer by Keith Smit. Keith read from Nehemiah 6:1-9.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.
3. Correspondence: Membership transfer request by Amanda Klaasen Whuk, Jared and Jackie Klaasen to Martin Reformed was approved.

4. Pulpit supply is good thru November.
5. Deacons report: Counted ballots for the painting project. Passed.
Offering schedule moved, supported and passed.
6. Worship: Christian Neighbors will be here November 20. Cadet Sunday is December 4. Communion is set for December 11.
7. Ten Council visits were made.
8. Motion to adjourn was made, supported and passed. Bob Katje closed in prayer and has devotions next month.



Council is pleased to announce that Rev. David Prince is our new interim pastor effective November 14. He will start doing visits with the congregation and will be leading us in worship starting December 4 and every other Sunday for 3 months.

Please welcome Pastor David and his wife Patrice.

Beginning in January, our church will once again take turns corresponding weekly with our missionaries, Josh and Mandy Shaarda. There will be a pre-addressed stamped envelope in your mailbox for you to write a note of greeting, news from home and encouragement to the Shaarda family. Do not include a bulletin.

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.



The GEMS would like to thank the congregation for their kind and generous support of our East Martin CRC GEMS program.

Our Advent themes

- November 27: Hope — Isaiah 9:6 “O Come O Come Emmanuel”
- December 4: Peace — Romans 5:1; Luke 2:14 “Silent Night”
- December 11: Love — Matthew 18:12-14; John 3:16-17
“How Deep the Father’s Love for Us”
- December 18: Joy — Luke 2:8-20 “How Great Our Joy”
- December 25: The Birth of Jesus — Luke 2:1-20 “Joy to the World”





Look What's New in the Library

UNDER THE STARRY
SKIES — TRACIE

PETERSON (Love on the Santa Fe #3)

A GEM OF TRUTH — KIMBERLEY

WOODHOUSE (Secrets of the Canyon #2)

ESCAPE FROM AMERSTERDAM — LAURA-

LEE BLISS (Heroines of WWII)

SUNDOWN — SUSAN MAY WARREN (Sky
King Ranch #3)

A DAUGHTER'S COURAGE — MISTY M.

BELLER (Brides of Laurent #3)

BENEATH THE BENDING SKIES — JANE
KIRKPATRICK

WE WERE KINGS — COURT STEVENS
(Guilty or wrongly accused)

WHEN STONE WINGS FLY — KAREN
BARNET (Interesting story in the Smoky
Mountains)

DANGEROUS BEAUTY — MELLISSA

KOSLIN (What is the price of freedom?)

THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAINS —
PEPPER BASHAM



East Martin Christian
School presents "Miracle at
Midnight" on Thursday,
December 8, at 6:30 p.m.
Kindergarteners through
8th graders will participate.

Come and enjoy the even-
ing at East Martin.



Don't forget you can designate East Martin
Christian as your favorite charity when order-
ing from Amazon and EMCS will receive a per-
centage 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.

Tres Leches Cake

1 box Duncan Hines white cake mix

3 egg whites

1/2 cup vegetable oil

1 cup water

1 can sweetened condensed milk

1/2 cup milk or evaporated milk

1 pint whipped cream

2 T. brown sugar

Assorted fresh fruit (strawberries, blueberries,
etc)

Make and bake cake according to package
instructions. When finished baking, remove
cake from the oven and poke holes with spoon
handle all over the cake. Pour the milk/
evaporated milk and sweetened condensed
milk over the entire cake. Allow to cool com-
pletely in the refrigerator. Once the cake is
cool, whip your whipping cream and brown
sugar until firm. Frost your cooked cake with
whip cream. Then top with assorted fresh fruit.

This cake was served at the GEMS fundraiser
dinner on November 6.

Greeters

December 4: AM—Cadets; PM—Bruce and Renee Aukema
December 11: AM—Elders; PM—Cameron and Kristie Tuinstra
December 18: AM—Joe DeKoekkoek, Harold Wykstra, Ryan Tucker; PM—Stan Leep, Earl Wykstra
December 25: AM—Adrian & Wilma VandenAkker, Scott Tuinstra; PM—No service

Ushers

December 4: Cadets
December 11: David Rillema, Kevin DeKoekkoek, Glenn Leep
December 18: Bruce Mejeur, Dennis DeYoung, David DeYoung
December 25: Adrian VandenAkker, Les Lynema, Roger Anderson

Nursery

December 4: Hailey and Kaylee Tuinstra
December 11: Riley and Addison Tuinstra
December 18: Rebekah Westendorp
December 25: Jen, Violet and Willow Tuinstra

Library

December 4: Linda DeYoung
December 11: Ida Westendorp
December 18: Rena Lynema
December 25: Nancy Tuinstra

Offering Schedule for December

December 4: AM—Cadets (local); PM—Cadets (denominational)
December 11: AM—General Fund/Ministry Shares; PM—Youth Unlimited
December 18: AM—East Martin Christian School; PM—Martin Resource Center
December 25: General Fund/Ministry Shares; PM—Kalamazoo Christian High School

Tithes and Offerings for October

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|------------------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$14,392.23 |
| Ministry Shares | 3,180.00 |
| Faith Promise | |
| Shaarda | 1,686.00 |
| Smit | 206.00 |
| Tiemeyer | 131.00 |
| Walker | 176.00 |
| Guatemala Orphanage | 256.00 |
| East Martin Christian School | 1,609.00 |
| Zion Christian School | 278.00 |
| Memorial Fund | 255.00 |
| Martin Area Resource Center | 25.00 |
| Son-Life Camp | 1,109.00 |
| Guatemala Mission Trip | 40.00 |
| Project Hope | 271.00 |
| Right to Life Education Fund | 370.00 |
| Bible League | 219.00 |
| Wycliffe Bible Translators | 229.00 |
| Total | \$24,432.23 |

General Fund — 31% behind
Ministry Shares — 16% behind

