

The Welcome Place

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
Archbold, Ohio

www.the-welcome-place.org



St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 South Defiance Street
Archbold, Ohio 43502
419-445-4656
Rev. Paul Reichert, Pastor
Deacon Steve Basselman

You're always welcome at...

St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Who Are We . . .

We are The Welcome Place

Our Mission as a Church, we are. . .

Welcoming friends and strangers with God's love

Working to build deeper relationships with Jesus

Witnessing to share God's love with everyone

When We Meet Together . . .

Sunday

9:00 am Worship

Our Sunday morning service is a convergent style of worship with multiple styles of music. Each service is theme-based and is firmly rooted in our Lutheran tradition at the same time acknowledging that we have a big God and that no single type of music can respond to all that God is. We have a rich heritage of music given to us throughout the centuries and new texts and melodies are continually being composed to aid God's people in worship. Our worship brings the old together with the new to create a unique expression of praise and thanksgiving.

10:30 am Sunday School (September—May)

For all ages 3 through Adult

We have a graded program for pre-school through High School and two Adult classes. This is a time to meet together to study God's Word, learn that Jesus died on the cross to save us and how faith in God brings hope even in times of trouble.

Wednesday

Welcome Place Wednesday (September—April)

5:15—Welcome Meal (meal is served on Wednesdays all year)

6:00—Welcome Place Kids - activities for Kids ages 3 thru 6th Grade

6:00—Welcome Place Worship (informal worship held on Wednesdays all year-except Lent)

6:30—Study for 7th & 8th Graders

6:30—Welcome Place Adult Circle and Book Club

6:30 - Adult Bell Choir

7:30—Chancel Choir

Sunday Worship. . .



The order we follow for worship is printed for you in the ivory worship folder each week. When Lutherans gather, we are all active participants in worship through words and music. You are invited to respond in the dialogue of our worship with the words in the **bold print** and through the music of the songs we sing. We stand at various points in our worship when our praise or words are directed to God. We sit when we are active listeners of God's Word. Please stand as you are able when indicated by the worship leader or the * in the worship folder.

Worship lies at the heart of how we understand ourselves together. While some of the approaches to worship may differ from one congregation to another, we hold certain things in common.

There is a basic pattern for worship among Lutherans.

We gather. --God's Spirit calls us together.

We encounter God's Word. --God speaks to us through readings from the Bible,

We share a meal at the Lord's Table. --God feeds and nourishes us in a saving way.

And we are sent into the world. --God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Worship is about what God is doing and our response to God's action. Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The cross is the central symbol that marks our worship spaces and when Lutherans worship, singing fills the air. The voices of all the people joined in song and the participation of all the people in the worship is a witness to our conviction that in worship we are being drawn into God's own saving story.

When We Celebrate Communion. . .

In Holy Communion (a simple meal) Lutherans recall the saving acts of God through Word, bread and wine, and are connected with Christ and with Christians of all times and places. In this sacrament, we are fed with the Body and Blood of Christ.



We offer Holy Communion on a regular basis and on all special days like Christmas, Easter and other church "festivals". All baptized people are welcome to come forward for communion. Young people who have not yet received communion for the first time are still welcome to come forward for a blessing.

The bread we offer is usually a small wafer and we offer both wine (dark colored glasses) and grape juice (light colored glasses). You may choose either an individual glass or the common cup to receive the wine.

On some Sundays, we offer communion through a continuous line or by kneeling at the altar rail. Please come forward by the center aisle as directed by an usher and return to your seat by the side aisle.

Sunday School. . . You are welcome to join us for further study of God's Word after worship at 10:30.

Study opportunities for all ages meet from September through May throughout the building.

Christian Education Team Leader: Jen Basselman

Sunday School Team Leader: Jess Gericke



Preschool through 4th grade meets in the church basement

Pre-School – Grade 2 follows the SPARK curriculum when they meet which engages all of the senses with a mix of traditional learning and hands-on activities. Music is an essential part of their gathering time each week. This group sings in worship occasionally throughout the school year. Pre-Schoolers receive a Bible when they begin Sunday School.

Grades 3 & 4 dig deeper into their Bibles as they follow a pattern of reinforcing the same Bible readings that were a part of worship that same day. Third graders receive a Bible from the church that they use through the 6th grade.

5th through 8th grade meets on the second floor of the Fellowship Hall

Grades 5 & 6 follow a two-year rotation between the Old and New Testaments. The Bible is not just a bunch of stories that happened a long time ago. We study how some of these stories are still connected to our lives today and by showing how the Bible's story is also OUR story.

Grades 7 & 8 meet on Sundays to reinforce what was learned at Catechism the previous Wednesday night and look at Wednesday's topic in a different way.

High School class meets in the Lodge at the south end of the parking lot

High School focuses on a variety of different topics including current events, Bible study and what it means to be a Lutheran teen.

Adult classes meet in the Fellowship Hall and the Nursery



Cecily's Class is a diverse group of people that meets in the Fellowship Hall following coffee time each week. Challenging topics and lively discussion can be expected each week. Their offerings support inmates affiliated with the congregation and outreach ministries that they also sponsor.

Beth's Class meets in the Nursery as a "Worship Rewind" taking time to discuss the content of that week's worship. Continued sermon discussion, the scripture readings, or maybe the words of a hymn can all be a part of their reflection each week.

Sunday Fellowship Time. . .in the Fellowship Hall after worship

We gather every Sunday following worship for coffee, cookies and conversation between worship and Sunday School

Welcome Place Wednesday. . .

Welcome Place Kids meet in the basement at 6pm September through May. This is a growing ministry that involves more than just kids from St. Martin's. With activities, Bible stories, and mission projects this group of kids knows what it means to do church more than just on Sundays!
Welcome Place Kids Team Leader: Caleb Wyse



Welcome Place Circle meets at 6:30 as a visible outreach ministry that brings seasoned adult Christians with a lifetime of faith together with those adults just beginning their faith journey. Leader: Cecily Rohrs

Adult Book Club meets at 6:30 to discuss books on a variety of topics. Their conversation is lively and all are welcome to join them. Leader: Beth Reichert

Youth Groups. . .



F.R.O.G Group (Fully Relying On God) is our youth fellowship group for 5th thru 8th graders. This ministry's activities are developed around its purpose to include service events or social events in a safe and positive environment during the school year. Faith, Fun, and Fellowship!

FROGs Leaders: Cameron & Erin Thompson

Luther League is our high school youth ministry that combines service, fellowship and discipleship.

LL Leader: Adam Grisier

Other Youth Education Opportunities. . .

First Communion instruction is offered to any young person age Kindergarten and older. Classes are held each spring and open to young people ready to participate more fully in the life of the church. Readiness for this instruction is held with conversation between Pastor Paul and parents. Contact Pastor Paul for any questions about this ministry

Catechism is a two-year program for 7th & 8th graders leading up to their decision to affirm their baptisms through Confirmation. These classes are held each Wednesday during the school year and include a variety of topics central to the Lutheran Church. Contact Pastor Paul for more information about this ministry.

More Fellowship & Bible Study Opportunities. . .

Monday Night Bible Study – Mondays during the school year at 7:00pm – Pastor Paul

Tuesday Morning Men's Group – meets at McDonald's, 6:30am every Tuesday

–John Poulson

Women's Breakfast Bible Study – meets at Home Restaurant 6:30am every

Thursday – Gwen Grisier

Mary Martha Circle – monthly women's Bible Study – Barb Poston

Friendship Circle – monthly (September-May) women's fellowship – Bridget Lovejoy

Outreach and Social Ministries. . .

Furniture Ministry –weekly furniture delivery and recycling for any in need – Jerry Rohrs

SWAT Team (Service With A Telephone) – outreach to members in need – Jane Sonnenberg

Women of St. Martin's – missionary sponsorship, Lutheran World Relief, quilts, sewing etc. – Kris Jemmott

Women's Sewing Day – monthly gathering to quilt and assemble LWR materials. Usually 9am to 2pm once a month with lunch at a local restaurant.



**In Service
Together**

Worship & Music Ministries. . .



Chancel Choir, Adult Bell Choir, Strikepoint Youth Bell Choir, Worship Arts Team, Altar Guild, Homebound Communion, Worship Assistants, Greeters, Funeral Visitation and Vigilance Team

Worship Coordinator: Steve Basselman

Yearly Events. . .

Rally Day – our kick-off to the program year. For the past decade, we have used Rally Day as a mission project for Lutheran World Relief. We have collected and assembled over 5,000 school and care kits through the years.



Christmas Program – presented by the Sunday School kids usually happens the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of December each year.

May Music Festival – highlights the worship and music ministries through a unique worship experience in May each year.





Paul F.H. Reichert, Pastor
Steve Basselman, Deacon
Church Office

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Sunday Worship 9:00am
Sunday School 10:30am
Wednesday Worship 6:00pm

St. Martin's is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



