St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance Street
Archbold, Ohio 43502

419-445-4656
Website: www.the-welcome-place.org
E-mail: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

December 2025

Strikepoint Bell Choir on All Saints Sunday

Sharing the Warmth Setup

Sunday Morning Worship
9am-In Person & Live Broadcast
10:20 Sunday School

Wednesday Worship
6pm in Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE
5:15- Meal
6:00-Worship
6:00-Kids Club
6:30-Catechism
6:30-Adult Circle
6:30-Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:30-Chancel Choir Rehearsal

This Month at St. Martin's ...

- **December 7 & 10- Youth Christmas Parties**
- **December 13- Outback Youth Event**
- **December 11 & 13- Rehearsal for Christmas Program**
- **December 14- Kids Christmas Program with Puerto Rico Brunch to follow**
- **December 21- Chorale Christmas Festival**
- **Christmas Eve- 4pm & 7pm Services**
- **Christmas Day- 9am Service**

Upcoming in January : Annual Meeting January 25

ANCHORED in the CROSS
Our story is still unfolding
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Office Hours:

Pastor Steve Basselman
steveb@the-welcome-place.org
Monday-PM
Tuesday-All Day
Wednesday-PM
Thursday-All Day
Friday-AM

Matthew Wachtman
matthew@the-welcome-place.org
Music & Worship Director
Tuesday- All Day
Wednesday- PM
Thursday-AM
Friday -AM

Jake Keil
jakek@the-welcome-place.org
Youth Director
Sunday- All Day
Tuesday-AM
Wednesday-PM

Whitney Wyse
stmartin@the-welcome-place.org
Office Manager
Tuesday- AM
Friday-AM

Coffee Hour & Wednesday Meal Sign Up

COFFEE HOUR AFTER WORSHIP
There are many open spots for Coffee Hour! Please sign up in the entryway if you are able and willing to help out!

WEDNESDAY MEAL HELP
Erinn Thompson is coordinating the meals for Wednesday nights. Scan below or connect with Erinn.

Scan Me

This Month in worship...

Altar Guild : Janet Wyse & Jan Delaney
Sound: Darren Sonnenberg , Cameron Thompson, & Bill Phelps
Usher Team Leader: Mark Weaver
Offering Counter: December 7 -Nona Rupp
December 14-Jan Delaney
December 21-Jo Ann Benecke
December 28-Jay Schnitkey
Communion: December 7, 21, 24, 24, & 28
December Newsletter Deadline- December 18

November Attendance & Offering

November 2- $ 6,494.92
163/22/185
November 9- $12,574.01
108/20/128
November 16- $10,352
145/22/167
November 23-$5,726.13
131

Online Giving

If you would like to access the giving page by mobile you can scan the QR code and set up recurring donations or make a one-time donation. TO make changes or stop recurring donations you will still need to go to https://givingtools.com
If there are any questions about electronic giving email Jo Ann Liechty at the email treasurer@the-welcome-place.org

Contact the Church Office: stmartin@the-welcome-place.org to receive our Friday Emails!

Visit our Website www.the-welcome-place.org for updates on Youth & Concert Series as well as bulletins for Live Broadcasts

St. Martin's Youth Programming

December Youth Schedule

Kids Klub is meeting December 3rd & there will be a Christmas Party on December 10th. There will be NO Kids Klub on December 17, 24, & 31.

Middle School & High School Youth will help with Christmas Cheer on Sunday, December 7th. The High School will be helping load trucks during Sunday School that day. Middle School AND High School will meet at the Fulton County Fairgrounds in the afternoon. The time for that will be announced the week before this event via email. Afterwards, High School & Middle School will meet at the church from 6:30-7:30 for their Christmas Party. There will be games, snacks, ugly Christmas Sweater Contest, gingerbread house contest, & a white elephant gift exchange ($15 limit).

Middle school will NOT meet in the evenings on December 14, 21, and 28. High School will continue to meet in the mornings in December. Middle School will start back up January 4th, 2026.

Parents Night Out is December 13th. Please sign your kids up as space is limited. The churches that are involved are St. Martin's Lutheran, St. John's Lutheran, and St. John's Christian. It will get opened to the public in December.

Puerto Rico Mission Trip Brunch Fundraiser

Sunday December 14, 2025

After the Childrens Christmas Program

Allproceeds goto the

Mission Trip

February 22-March 1, 2026

Make Checks out to St. Martin's Lutheran Church

Memo Line: Mission Trip

Thank you!

Bill & Diane Phelps, Albert&YanriaReyes, Jane Trudel,

Aaron Short, Gabe Short, Mike Short, Barry Johns, JoAnn Liechty, Aden McCarty

Darren and Jane Sonnenberg

Our Mission Team Is Ready!

We are excited to share that a team of 13 volunteers from St. Martin will be traveling to Puerto Rico from February 22–March 1 to help repair a home whose roof was destroyed by hurricanes. This project is coordinated through Techos Pa' Mi Gente ("Roofs for My People"), a local organization dedicated to restoring safe housing for families in need.

With our team assembled, we are now moving into the planning phase—booking airfare, housing, and van rentals. We even have photos of the home we'll be repairing.

How You Can Help

Your support makes this mission possible. Would you consider giving a gift toward the trip?

- **$100 – Groceries for the team**
- **$500 – Housing for one volunteer for the week**
- **$1,000 – An airfare ticket**
- **$700 – Van rental**

Gifts of any size are deeply appreciated. Please note "mission trip" on your donation so it can be directed appropriately.

Upcoming Fundraisers

The team will host a brunch on December 14, following the children's Christmas program. We hope you'll stay, enjoy a meal, and support our mission efforts. We also plan to host a coffee hour early in the new year—more details to come!

Meet the Team
Bill & Diane Phelps
Albert & Yanira Reyes
Darren & Jane Sonnenberg
Aaron & Gabe Short
Aden McCarty
Jane Trudel
Barry Johns
Mike Short
JoAnn Liechty

Thank you for your prayers, encouragement, and generosity as we prepare to serve our neighbors in Puerto Rico.

https://www.facebook.com/techospamigente.pr/

TECHOS PA' MI GENTE

Darren Sonnenberg
Evangelism/Outreach Network

Church Directory Update

The Church Directory has been up and running for a year and a half now! We are noticing it as a helpful tool for our congregation as it gets a lot of traffic week to week. We'd like to remind you that you can go online and make any changes for you and your family or contact the church office to do it for you. Any changes of address, please send to the church office so the directory and database can be updated. At the beginning of every year, the church office will update anything that we notice needs refreshed. Thank you all for your help and participation making the directory a helpful tool for our congregation.

Whitney Wyse -Office Manager
stmartin@the-welcome-place.org

Vacancies on Church Council for 2026

The Nominating Team is requesting members of Congregation to prayerfully consider serving in any of the upcoming vacancies on Church Council listed below. Any member may submit a name for consideration, but please keep in mind that candidates must be voting members, attend worship and participate in Holy Communion regularly, and be an active participant in at least one ministry team. The following vacancies are available for the 2026-2028 term:
Council President
Council Secretary
Member-at-Large

Please contact Cameron Thompson or a member of the Nominating Team (Janet Wyse or Jan Delaney) no later than December 1st, 2025, with your considerations. Thank you!

Mary Martha-Women's Circle

You are invited:

We will begin a new Bible Study in January for those who are interested in Growing Older and Wiser! Mary Martha Circle has selected this topic for their next study. We would love to have you join us starting on January 7th at 1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall..
If you are interested and would like the Bible Study guide, please let Kris Jemmott know by December 15th so that the guides can be ordered.

CHRISTMAS SIP & SING

Come join us at Knotty Vines Winery, on Monday December 8th from 5:30-7:30pm for our Christmas Sip & Sing Event. Come with your amateur singing voices and join the holiday spirit with your St. Martin's family. Knotty Vines will have their menu items available.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR END OF YEAR GIVING TO GO ONTO YOUR 2025 STATEMENT PLEASE HAVE IT TO JO ANN LIECHTY BY DECEMBER 20TH. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

END OF YEAR GIVING

2025 CHRISTMAS CHEER

Christmas Cheer Tree: Please support Fulton County Christmas Cheer by taking tags from the tree in the Narthex and purchasing the items on the tags. Your donations help to put food on the table of local families & gifts into the hands of children on Christmas morning. Please bring the items back to church by 10am on 12/7/25. If you're not able to pick up tags, you can donate monetarily via fultoncountychristmascheer.org. Together we can do great things!

PARKINSONS GROUP

The Welcome Place- Parkinson's Support Group will be celebrating 10 years of the support group at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Archbold on Tuesday, December 2, with a pot luck sharing, & praying that there will not be another 10 years before a cure is found. We always remember: GOD'S WORK! OUR HANDS!

Thank you!

Thank you to Dan's St. Martin's Family. From birth, confirmation, communion, marriage, and finally his death, his church family has been here and supported him at every turn. There are not enough words to tell everyone within this congregation how thankful we are to have a church family that always shows up.

Whether you gave a memorial, sent flowers, a card, a visit, dropped off food, called to check on family, or just showed up at the right time for a kind word or hug, thank you SO SO much. Dan loved St. Martin's and we will all cherish the times spent with family and friends in this, HIS house.

With much love and appreciation,
Angie, Richelle & Matthew Avers,
Curt & Leta (Avers) Beck,
Tom Avers Family,
Carolyn (Ruwe) Avers Family
Jessica Harris Family

St. Martin's Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Church Council Meeting
November 10, 2025

St. Martin's Church Council met on November 10, 2025, with Janet Wyse, Jan Delaney, Cameron Thompson, Jay Schnitkey, Jane Sonnenberg, Steve Basselman, Nona Rupp and Jo Ann Benecke present. Nona called the meeting to order and Jay led devotions and prayer.

·Minutes from October 9, 2025 meeting as well as from a vote to change service providers to Fraas for the HVAC system were reviewed and approved.
·Financial report from October 2025 was reviewed and approved. Chris Ziegler, Robin Trudel, Janet Wyse and Jo Ann Liechty were approved as the financial review team.
·Pastor Steve and Jake are in conversation with the Archbold Elementary Principal about the formation of some type of after school program. There will be a meeting to discuss this further on Thursday. Evaluations for staff were completed recently by Mutual Ministry.
·No reports from Memorial Committee, Youth Network, Stewardship Network and Technology Team.
·Council accepted a bid from Kern's Carpet Care for $949.00 to clean the fellowship hall, entryway and stairs. This will occur shortly after Christmas. Some of the spotlights in the sanctuary will be replaced with LEDs to help with longevity. The keypad lock at the Lodge will be repaired or replaced. Twin City will provide snow removal for the winter season, and Butch is working on a list of volunteers for clearing snow at the door and sidewalks.
·12-13 people will be going on the trip to Puerto Rico to provide roofing in the spring of 2026.
·Council approved the purchase of a used piano for the fellowship hall since we are currently without a piano. Memorial Funds will be used for this purchase, at a cost of $6,500.00, which is a wonderful deal on this piano.
·Erinn Thompson is looking for someone to replace her as Education Network Coordinator. She has a lot on her plate with the addition of Wednesday evening meal planning.

New Business:
Nona Rupp will be contacting Thrivent to see if they can provide some education for our congregation on the availability of funds to be used for a variety of projects.
Offering counters for December:
December 7 – Nona Rupp
December 14 – Jan Delaney
December 21 – Jo Ann Benecke
December 28 – Jay Schnitkey

Janet Wyse will provide devotions for the December meeting, which will be held on December 11, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Ann Benecke, Council Secretary
***Pending Church Council approval.**

St Martin's Lutheran Church
Income Statement
For the Ten Months Ending October 31, 2025

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Revenues				
Operating Income	$ 24,495.95	$ 31,207.25	$ 270,156.01	$ 312,072.50
WPW Meals Inc	20.00	0.00	585.00	0.00
Johnson House & Short Haven	550.00	550.00	5,500.00	5,500.00
Interest	2,232.83	0.00	8,940.19	0.00
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	27,298.78	31,757.25	285,181.20	317,572.50
. SALARIES	15,664.77	15,748.10	156,647.70	157,481.00
. BENEFITS	7,264.78	8,057.18	76,502.79	80,571.80
. OFFICE EXPENSES	911.60	947.50	8,331.79	9,475.00
. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE	0.00	44.00	0.00	440.00
. YOUTH NETWORK	685.39	750.00	7,608.60	7,500.00
. WORSHIP NETWORK	555.60	916.00	5,570.09	9,160.00
. EDUCATION NETWORK	(1,020.39)	489.00	3,519.70	4,890.00
. EVANGELISM & OUTREACH	2,459.60	1,047.00	7,623.43	10,470.00
. PROPERTY NETWORK	1,811.75	3,758.50	34,031.74	37,585.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	28,333.10	31,757.28	299,835.84	317,572.80
NET OPERATING INCOME/(DEFICIT)	**($ 1,034.32)**	**($ 0.03)**	**($ 14,654.64)**	**($ 0.30)**
NET BALANCE OPERATING	($ 1,034.32)	($ 0.03)	($ 14,654.64)	($ 0.30)
NET BENEVOLENCE INCOME/(DEFICIT)	($ 1,147.00)	$ 0.00	($ 16,609.00)	$ 0.00
NET SUMMARY INCOME(DEFICIT)	***($ 2,181.32)***	***($ 0.03)***	***($ 31,263.64)***	***($ 0.30)***

Other Income	
Christmas Cheer	$ 100.00
Friendship House	$ 20.00
Solid Rock	$ 40.00

Service, Fellowship, & Bible Study Groups

Mary- Martha Circle December 3 @ 1pm
led by Kris Jemmot

Parkinson's Group December 2 @ 1pm
led by Bonnie Lauber

Sewing December 9 and 23 @ 9am

Men's Breakfast Every Tuesday @ 7am
led by Johnathon Poulson at McDonalds

Women's Breakfast Every Thursday @ 7am
led by Gwen Grisier at the Home Restaurant

Friendship Circle December 8 @ 7pm
led by Bridget Lovejoy

All are welcome and invited to participate in these groups!

Health Piece

HEALTH TIPS

SKIN MEDICATION TYPES

Many factors go into determining the right type of topical medication. These include your skin condition, where the product is being applied and the product's stability. Types of topical medicines you may encounter include:

- *Ointments* — These are mostly made up of lipids such as oils, fats and waxes and have low water content. They're often thick, greasy, and tough to spread on and wash off. But they are powerful moisturizers and can hydrate even thickened skin. "Ointments act like a greenhouse roof," says Dawn Marie Davis, M.D., a Mayo Clinic dermatologist. "This allows your skin to catch up with its own self-humidification versus having the moisture leak out."
- *Creams* — These contain more water and less lipid, making them less greasy and easier to spread — but less hydrating. Creams can be used on the body and face and work well on skin folds.
- *Lotions* — These contain even more water, so they tend to be runnier and thinner and to soak in more — and more quickly. The water evaporates quickly, making lotions a good choice for "weepy" skin conditions such as eczema.
- *Gels* — Many gels have an alcohol base, so application can sting. Gels wash off easily, but this means they can come off with sweat. "Acne medicines often come in gels. The alcohol base helps break down oil and dead skin," says Dr. Davis. "And there's no greasy residue."
- *Solutions* — These are clear liquids that are easy to spread and work well on the scalp. Like gels, some solutions contain alcohol. They soak in quickly, but they can run.
- *Foams* — These dry quickly and leave little residue, making them a particularly good option for the scalp and other oily or hairy areas. ■

December Birthdays

3—Joshua Basselman
Jo Ann Benecke
4—Paul Wyse
5—Joyce Kinsman
7—Molly Conway
8—Cory Erbskorn
Brady Johns
Jocelyn Thompson
9—Jane Trudel
10—Cameron Thompson
11—Allison Reyes
12—Merrill Short
13— Jackie Schweitzer
14—Audrey Bernath
Michael Short
16—David McDonel
18—Tess Pinter
19—Eric Blair
Madison Gray
21—Shannon Liechty
22- Dianne Parsons
26—Carol Schroeder
28—Jennifer Wyse
29—Hayden Thatcher
Liam Thatcher
30—Matthew Sevey
31- Russell May

December Anniversaries

2—Harry & Lisa Kohv
David & Angie Liechty
3—Bummer & Susan Dominique
10—Brian & Lindsay Baden
11—Shane & Hilary Poulson
17—Gene & Jan Delaney
29—Chandler & Ashton Wyse
31—Ken & Whitney Wyse

Prayer Concerns

Bonnie Badenhop
Jan Delaney
Bonnie R. Lauber
Anne McCarty
Ann Ott
Thana Morong
Dick Nagel
Bill Phelps
Peg Roth
Al & Lois Siewert
Joan Smith
Mark Thatcher
Joyce Winzeler
Joe Wyse

Homebound-Milla Kohv and Jerry & Alice Geiger
Those who serve in our military- Patrick Cirenza, Bradly & Victoria Nilsson, Kennedy Hartung, Brendon Johns, & Kasyn Schaffner

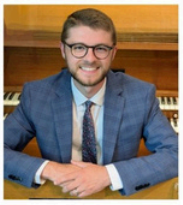
2025-2026 Season

St. Martin's Concert Series

Sunday, Sept. 28, 3:00pm

Of Spirit, Strife, and Serenity

St. Martin's own Matthew Wachtman kicks off the season with a spirited organ recital.



Sunday, Nov. 9, 3:00pm

Piano Duo

Jeff and Vanessa Nicholas perform works for 4-handed piano by Brahms, Dvorak, and more!

Sunday, Feb. 8, 3:00pm

Cleveland Celtic Ensemble

NE Ohio musicians play on pipes, flute, violin, whistle, and harp.

Sunday, April 26, 3:00pm

Baroque and Roll

Dylan Sanzenbacher presents a concert of early music, with a hands-on harpsichord demonstration.

Sunday, May 17, 3:00pm

Dreams and Delights

Mezzo soprano Lisa van der Ploegs explores the power of dreams through music.

All programs are free and take place at:

St. Martin's Lutheran Church + 203 S. Defiance St + Archbold, OH

(419) 445-4656 + www.the-welcome-place.org

Yes! I want to help support St. Martin's Concert Series!

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

Email: _____

____ Patron ($150 or more)

____ Sustainer ($75-150)

____ Friend ($25-75)

Include me on the Concert Series

____ email list

To sponsor an entire concert, contact Matthew Wachtman at matthew@the-welcome-place.org

St. Martin's Concert Series

Please return this form and your check made out to St. Martin's Lutheran Church (Concert Series on the memo line) to:

St. Martin's Lutheran Church
203 S. Defiance St.
Archbold, OH 43502

December 2025

St. Martin's Lutheran Church 203 S. Defiance Street Archbold, OH 43502 Phone: 419-445-4656

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 7:00—Zoom Bible Study 8:00—Zoom Chosen Group	**2** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 11:00—Staff Meeting 1:00—Parkinson's Group 5:00—Community Meal	**3** 1:00—Mary-Marty Circle 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club 6:30—Catechism 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30—Choir Rehearsal	**4** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline	**5**	**6**
7 Holy Communion 9:00—Worship 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 10:30—High School Youth 6:30—Middle School/ High School Christmas Party	**8** 5:30—Sip & Sing 7:00—Friendship Circle 7:00—Zoom Bible Study 8:00—Zoom Chosen Group	**9** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 9:00—Sewing 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**10** 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club Christmas Party 6:30—Catechism 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30—Choir Rehearsal	**11** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline 6:30—Christmas Program Rehearsal 7:00—Church Council	**12**	**13** 9:00—Christmas Program Rehearsal 6:00—Parents Night Out Event @ Outback
14 Kids Program 9:00—Worship 10:00—Brunch 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 5:00—Bell Choir at St. Paul	**15** 7:00—Zoom Bible Study 8:00—Zoom Chosen Group	**16** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**17** 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:30—Catechism 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30– Bell Rehearsal 7:30—Choir Rehearsal	**18** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline 9:00—Newsletter Deadline	**19**	**20**
21 Holy Communion 9:00—Worship 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 10:30—High School Youth	**22** 8:00—Chosen Zoom	**23** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 9:00—Sewing 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**24** 4:00— Christmas Service 7:00—Candlelight Service	**25** 9:00—Christmas Day Service 9:00—Bulletin Deadline	**26**	**27**
28 Holy Communion 9:00—Worship 10:30—Adult Sunday School	**29** 8:00—Carpet Cleaning	**30** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 5:00—Community Meal	**31** 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship			

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203 S. Defiance Street
Archbold, OH 43502

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