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

April 2026

Puerto Rico Team

Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday Service 7:30pm
Good Friday Service 7:30pm
Easter Sunrise Service 7am
Easter Celebration Service 10am

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

Upcoming at St. Martin's ...

- **April 2- Maundy Thursday**
- **April 3- Good Friday**
- **April 5- Easter Sunday**
- **April 19- Confirmation Sunday**
- **April 26-Concert Series**
- **May 3-First Communion**
- **May 10-Music Sunday & Last day of Sunday School**
- **May 17- Concert Series**

Office Hours:

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

Matthew Wachtman
matthеww@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.

This Month in worship...

Altar Guild : Michelle Collins & Jess Short
Sound: Darren Sonnenberg , Cameron Thompson, & Bill Phelps
Usher Team Leader: Jim & Janet Wyse
Offering Counter: April 5- Jan Delaney
April 12-Janet Wyse
April 19-Jay Schnitkey
April 26-Darren Sonnenbrg
Communion: April 2, 5, 12, 19, & 26
May Newsletter Deadline -April 21

March Attendance & Offering

March 1- $ 2,972.00
109/58/167
March 8- $ 15,337.80
95/45/141
March 15- $ 11,499.58
94/60/154
March 22- $4,102.12
128/61/189

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

Holy Week & Easter

March 29 + Palm Sunday, 9am

Palm procession and the Sunday School students will sing. The tone of worship gradually shifts toward Holy Week.

April 2 + Maundy Thursday, 7:30pm

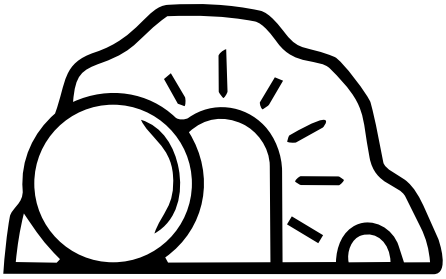
Worship will include Communion distributed at the rail and optional footwashing. Pastor Steve preaches with the theme "On the Night He was Betrayed" as we conclude our Lenten theme on the Lord's Prayer. Worship concludes with the removal of the Chancel furnishings and Altar paraments reminding us that Jesus was abandoned by the disciples and stripped of his dignity before his crucifixion.

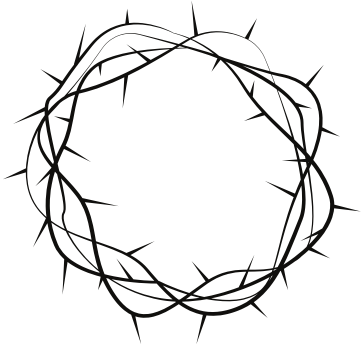
April 3 + Good Friday, 7:30pm

Worship will follow a Tenebrae tradition of telling the story of Christ's crucifixion according to Matthew's gospel, prayer and music. The Chancel Choir and string orchestra will lead worship. The community is typically invited to this worship service, so please share the invitation.

April 5 + Easter Sunday +
Easter Sunrise, 7am
Easter Breakfast, 8am
Easter Egg Hunt, 8:45am
Sunday School, 9am
Easter Festival Worship, 10am

7am and 10am will be different worship services with different sermons. 7am will include more contemporary music and 10am will be more traditional with the Bell Choir and Chancel Choir. Easter Breakfast is being hosted by St. Martin's Youth.





Confirmation

Confirmation will be April 19 . . . Ellison Benecke, Kayla Benecke, Andilyn Pinter, Emerlyn Pinter and Jalen Thompson will affirm the promises made by their parents, sponsors, and us at their baptisms. You are invited to be part of this next step in the faith journey for these five young people. As a faith community we are connected to them because of the promises we make as a congregation at each baptism to encourage and support them. We have all been involved in their growth as young Christians. Please remember them in prayer as they prepare to affirm their baptism through the Rite of Confirmation, and please plan on being present in worship that day.

Card Shower for Ivy Nehls

Shhh! It's a surprise....Ivy Nehls turns 80 on April 10th and as a surprise for her, her family is arranging a card shower to celebrate her! If you would like to send a card, please send to: 108 Magnolia Lane Bluffton, Ohio 45817.

April Concert Series: Harpsichord

Most of us have probably never heard a harpsichord live—and it's a completely different experience than you might expect. On our St. Martin's Concert Series, Dylan Sanzenbacher invites you into the sound world of the 16th–18th centuries, where composers wrote music full of humor, dance, and surprising drama.

Instead of long, heavy pieces, this program is made up of short, engaging works—variations on popular tunes, elegant court dances, and showy toccatas that would have impressed listeners just as much then as they do now.

Dylan, a peer of Matthew's at Baldwin Wallace, and specialist in early keyboard music, has a gift for making this repertoire approachable and alive. If you've ever been curious about early music—or just want to hear something genuinely different—this is an easy and enjoyable place to start.

Burger Bash

Coming Up: Burger Bash, Sunday, May 3rd – Ruihley Park.It's our community-wide ecumenical mission fundraiser to help improve lives in rural communities around the world through Growing Hope Globally.

Spring Cleaning?

Puzzles, fidgets, simple games? If those items happen to be in that cleaning out process, please consider donating them to the new After School Tutoring (AST) ministry here at St. Martin's. Our next session is March 18th. Simply put those items on a table in the Fellowship Hall and label them AST and we'll make good use of them. You are appreciated!

After School Tutoring – Thanks be to God!

1 John 3:16-20 – This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need but has no pity on him, how can the love of God be in him? Dear children, let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth.

And, once again, St. Martin's has shown our love with actions and truth, on Wednesday, March 18, during the second session, of the After School Tutoring (AST) ministry. Due to Spring Break, we had a (smaller than typical) group of 4 students. However, we had an abundance of volunteer tutors. Thank you Jesus!

Of course, the convenience of our church bus, makes a great way to know when the students are arriving. Jake is an amazing chauffer and the students were extremely happy with the transportation as they unloaded with giant smiles, hanging up coats and book bags, followed by bathroom visits to wash hands before snack. A lively conversation was held during snack time with chicken nuggets and broccoli being one of the best. Once snack was finished, another trip to wash hands was made. (To my regret, a quick exercise break did not happen.) A short prayer was said, and students found their supply boxes on tables while tutors followed to assist a child of their choice.

Because of my memory lapse, one student had way too much energy, and a quick "wiggle and jiggle" session had to be made. A great conversation with a lot of steps helped, and the student returned to finish school work. The other 3 students finished their work early, and were escorted to the basement to be amazed by Ms. Susan's science project. (The 4th finished school work with less "wiggles" and was able to join the basement group shortly thereafter.)

At 5 p.m. the kitchen crew informed us that their meals were ready and they came back to the Fellowship Hall for their supper.

A side note and Thank You to Bridget Lovejoy for bringing a coat for one of the students that came with only a spring jacket, in snow weather on Wednesday. This is a ministry that we, as children of God, can all be proud of. (If anyone has material possessions and sees his brother in need…) The need was shown and we showed up!

These ministries take ALL of us here at St. Martin's working together for our congregation and our community. Thank you Jesus, for giving us so many working, loving hands here in this place at this time. AMEN!

2026 Puerto Rico Mission Trip

We are back. Thanks for all the support and prayers from the congregation. Our mission trip to Puerto Rico was a great success in many ways. The mission team spent 8 days in Puerto Rico putting on a new roof for Jose through Techos pa' mi gente. Jose has been living with family since the Hurricane in 2017. This will give him and his son a fresh start.This is the 5th house that St. Martin has been involved with through TPMG. We have been working with the organization since 2018. It has been exciting to see how they have grown over the years as their organization has increased its reach. Now they are training local people in construction trades to be more prepared for the next hurricane to rebuild quicker. We will be hosting a coffee hour on March 29th to show some pictures and videos. Ask any of the team members about their experience.
Team members are: Bill & Diane Phelps, Albert & Yanira Reyes, Darren & Jane Sonnenberg, Aaron & Gabe Short, Aden McCarty, Jane Trudel, Barry Johns, Mike Short and JoAnn Liechty.

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

Darren Sonnenberg
Evangelism/Outreach Network

YOUTH EVENT

Free Event at Pettisville Missionary Church for Youth. If you are interested let Jake know. He will be reaching out with more information as the event gets closer.

St. Martin's Lutheran Church (ELCA)
Church Council Meeting
March 12, 2026

St. Martin's Church Council met on March 12, 2026, with Janet Wyse, Jan Delaney, Cameron Thompson, Jay Schnitkey, Steve Basselman, Jane Trudel and Darren Sonnenberg present. Darren Sonnenberg called the meeting to order. Devotions led by Jan Delaney

- **Pastor's report - Confirmation is April 19**
- **Council voted to recommend Ellison Benecke, Kayla Benecke, Andilyn Pinter, Emerlyn Pinter and Jalen Thompson for confirmation**
- **Council Minutes and financial report for February meeting reviewed and approved**
- **Staff are looking at emergency training (CPR, First Aid and Choking) and training on how to handle any violent intruder event, based on current events in the world**
- **Darren shared an update on the recent Puerto Rico Trip. Puerto Rico team will host Coffee hour March 29 with slides and update on the trip.**
- **Council voted to use $5000 from the Distributable Endowment Fund to support the mission fund, with the money being used to support the TPMG 5K race and future missions.**
- **After school tutoring program has started**
- **Discussion of fellowship hall heating/air conditioning repair and updates to ceiling tile and lighting**

Counters for April
o April 5: Jan Delaney
o April 12: Janet Wyse
o April 19: Jay Schnitkey
o April 26: Darren Sonnenberg

Devotions next meeting: Darren Sonnenberg
Next Meeting April 9, 2026, at 7pm

Meeting adjourned with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Trudel, Council Secretary

Pending Church Council Approval

St Martin's Lutheran Church
Income Statement
For the Two Months Ending February 28, 2026

	Current Month Actual	Current Month Budget	Year to Date Actual	Year to Date Budget
Revenues				
Operating Income	$ 21,048.21	$ 33,409.83	$ 39,563.62	$ 66,819.66
WPW Meals Inc	45.00	0.00	65.00	0.00
Johnson House & Short Haven	600.00	600.00	600.00	1,200.00
Interest	0.22	0.00	1,933.75	0.00
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	21,693.43	34,009.83	42,162.37	68,019.66
. SALARIES	16,557.84	16,641.16	33,115.68	33,282.32
. BENEFITS	7,672.51	8,177.58	19,769.14	20,855.12
. OFFICE EXPENSES	1,122.75	1,039.67	1,994.97	2,079.34
. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE	0.00	44.00	0.00	88.00
. YOUTH NETWORK	1,990.42	800.00	2,621.52	1,600.00
. WORSHIP NETWORK	312.34	965.00	1,606.13	1,930.00
. EDUCATION NETWORK	36.94	489.00	(485.87)	978.00
. EVANGELISM & OUTREACH	253.58	938.00	1,230.32	1,876.00
. PROPERTY NETWORK	3,887.35	4,471.58	11,948.00	8,943.16
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	31,833.73	33,565.99	71,799.89	71,631.94
NET OPERATING INCOME/(DEFICIT)	**($ 10,140.30)**	**$ 443.84**	**($ 29,637.52)**	**($ 3,612.28)**
NET BALANCE OPERATING	($ 10,140.30)	$ 443.84	($ 29,637.52)	($ 3,612.28)
NET BENEVOLENCE INCOME/(DEFICIT)	($ 1,431.27)	($ 3,427.85)	($ 2,614.82)	($ 6,855.70)
NET SUMMARY INCOME(DEFICIT)	***($ 11,571.57)***	***($ 2,984.01)***	***($ 32,252.34)***	***($ 10,467.98)***

Other Income	
FISH	$ 200.00
Friendship House	$ 20.00
Solid Rock	$ 30.00

Service, Fellowship, & Bible Study Groups

Mary- Martha Circle April 1 @ 1pm
led by Kris Jemmot

Parkinson's Group April 7 @ 1pm
led by Bonnie Lauber

Sewing April 14 & 28 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 April 13@ 7pm
led by Bridget Lovejoy

All are welcome and invited to participate in these groups!

Health Piece

SCREENING RECOMMENDATIONS

Screening for abdominal aortic aneurysms is important for people with significant risk factors. This includes those with a family history of aneurysm and those with related vascular conditions, such as peripheral arterial disease (PAD) and widespread hardening of the arteries (diffuse atherosclerosis).

For people without symptoms or a family history, there's not total agreement about who should be screened and at what age. Different medical and governmental bodies have slightly different recommendations.

There's one area of broad agreement: Men ages 65 to 75 who've ever smoked should have a one-time test for abdominal aortic aneurysm using abdominal ultrasound. In that same age group, nonsmoking men may be offered screening based on risk factors such as family history. The benefits of screening women ages 65 to 75 with a history of smoking or a first-degree relative (parent or sibling) who's had an abdominal aortic aneurysm are less clear.

Screening is advised for all adults over 75 with a history of smoking or a first-degree relative with an aneurysm who are in otherwise good health and have not yet been screened. Ask your healthcare team whether screening is appropriate for you given your health history and family history. Medicare often, but not always, covers screening.

April Birthdays

1—Bonnie (Wyse) Meyer
2—Lydia Grime
3—Dawson Liechty
Aden McCarty
5—Betsy (Wyse) Elting
Joshua Wyse
6—Audra Pinter
8—Gabriel Short
9—Cahlil Harris
Justin Thatcher
10—Ivy Nehls
11—Jessica Burgess
Drew McCarty
12—Jeremy Grime
Melanie Nagel
Chris Schmucker
15—Andrea Avers
16—Juergen Goertz
Judi Rupp
17—Dane Riley
MacKenna Whitacre
18—Andi Erbskorn
Fred Witte, Jr.
19—Mitchell Campbell
21—Tyrone Burks
Addison Thompson
22—Trey Sonnenberg
23—Bonnie J Lauber
David Schweinhagen
24—Ashton (Johns)Wyse
25—Joe Delaney
Anne McCarty
26—Emma Martenies
27—Bailey (Johns) Gerken
Bridget Lovejoy
Emma Thatcher
28—Millie Grisier
30—Meredith Jaggers

April Anniversaries

3—Paul & Pat Robison
8—Stan & Deb Schmidt
9—Jeff & Jo Ann Benecke
12—Brett & Shelly Conway
17—Rich & Joyce Winzeler
18—Caleb & Emily Turnbull

Prayer Concerns

Bonnie Badenhop
Colleen Kelly
Bonnie R. Lauber
Ann Ott
Dick Nagel
Bill Phelps
Peg Roth
Al & Lois Siewert
Joyce Winzeler
Paul Wyse
Joe Wyse

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

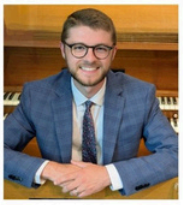
2025-2026 Season

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

April 2026

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 11:00—Tom Avers Funeral 1:00—Mary Martha Circle 3:15—After School Program 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—Kids Club 6:00—Adult Circle 6:00—Bell Choir 6:30—Catechism 7:30—Music Rehearsal	**2** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 7:30—Maundy Thursday Worship	**3** 7:30pm Community Good Friday Service	**4**
5-Easter 7:00—Easter Sunrise Service 8:00—Easter Breakfast 8:45—Easter Egg Hunt 9:00—Sunday School 10:00—Easter Celebration Worship	**6** 7:00—High School Bible Study 7:00—Adult Zoom Study	**7** 7:00-—Men's Breakfast 11:00—Staff Meeting 1:00—Parkinson's Group 5:00—Community Meal	**8** 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club 6:30—Catechism 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Rehearsal 7:30—Music Rehearsal	**9** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline 7:00—Church Council	**10**	**11**
12 9:00—Worship 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 10:30—High School Youth 6:30—Middle School Youth	**13** 7:00—Friendship Circle 7:00—Adult Zoom Study	**14** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 9:00—Sewing 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**15** 3:15— After School Program 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club 6:30—Catechism 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Rehearsal 7:30—Music Rehearsal	**16** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline	**17**	**18** Fellowship Hall Reserved
19-Confirmation 9:00—Worship 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 10:30—High School Youth 6:30—Middle School Youth	**20** 7:00—Adult Zoom Study	**21** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 8:00—Newsletter Deadline 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**22** 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Rehearsal 7:30—Music Rehearsal	**23** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline	**24**	**25**
26 9:00—Worship 10:20—Sunday School 10:30—Adult Sunday School 10:30—High School Youth 3:00—Concert Series 6:30—Middle School Youth	**27**	**28** 7:00—Men's Breakfast 9:00—Sewing 11:00—Staff Meeting 5:00—Community Meal	**29** 3:15— After School Program 5:15—WPW Meal 6:00—WPW Worship 6:00—Kids Club 6:30—Adult Circle 6:30—Bell Rehearsal 7:30—Music Rehearsal	**30** 7:00—Women's Breakfast 9:00—Bulletin Deadline		

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

SINCE 1866
ANCHORED in the CROSS
Our story is still unfolding
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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