

The Covenant Connections

SMLC: <http://stmartinwebster.org/>

stmartinwebster@gmail.com

BLC: www.bethlehemlutheranchurch.org

blcpenfield@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER 2020

Praise be to God that Covid cases have been decreasing! There are many reasons I say that, both for others and for myself, but in regards to our functioning as a congregation, it means that we can hopefully start worshipping together in person. **We plan to gather in person in our sanctuaries for worship on the 13th at our regular times.** I have been looking forward to this not only to have that direct interpersonal interaction, but as it will be my first worship with you as your pastor in our sanctuaries!

We acknowledge that it will only be a percentage of the congregation that will feel comfortable gathering physically, and that technology will continue to be the means for our whole community to keep connected. We are still working on how best to connect our online participants with our live in-person worship.

We have been visualizing and planning what the in-person service will be like. It will feel very weird as we follow safety guidelines. We won't be able to have fellowship or sing or probably not even sit in our usual seats! We are not ready to start up in-person Sunday School, or bible studies, or other activities, and do not know when we will be. We also don't know if we will have to go back to "online only" later this fall as the variables that regularly bring the flu season come into play. We make plans because we are hopeful and want to be ready, but we do so not knowing for sure what the fall will bring.

We are faced with decisions which we will make, even though they will only be able to be judged correct or incorrect through hindsight. We can't expect to not make mistakes. We pray that God will protect us and keep us steadfast amidst the uncertainty!

For in this time of uncertainty, we hold fast to what we do know. We do know that we will continue to be bound together into a community through Christ whether that community is expressed physically or virtually. We do know that we will be able to worship, whether physically together or virtually. We do know that the Holy Spirit will be present with us and will be working through us to breathe life into our community.

Pray for us and our mission. Pray that God will guide us forward to continue spreading the transformative power of Jesus Christ to a world that needs the Gospel's hope now more than ever. Then expect to see God doing just that.

PASTOR KOREY



FELLOWSHIP & PRAYER

MISSION



To help Pastor Korey learn our names he has asked us to wear name tags while attending church.

Printed name tags with a clip on the back will be available in the narthex. *Please* put your name tag on before entering the sanctuary.

Upon leaving the sanctuary, please return your name tag on the name tag board.

Please tell Nancy or Ed Currier if your name tag is missing. Stick-on paper tags will be available if for some reason yours is not there.

NANCY CURRIER

Fall Chicken BBQ – Drive Thru

Saturday, September 19

St. Martin Lutheran Church, Webster

St Martin Lutheran Church's *Drive Thru* Chicken BBQ will be held **Saturday, September 19th** from 4:30-6:30 at St Martin (813 Bay Road, Webster).

Dinners of ½ chicken, salt potatoes, coleslaw, roll, and butter are available for \$10.00.

The event this year will be Drive-Thru only. Cars will enter our parking lot, following signs, and purchase tickets using exact payment. Cars will then proceed to the front entrance to pick up boxed dinners. Dinners will be assembled according to CDC recommendations.

Due to current health restrictions, pie slices and other desserts will not be available.

To reserve your tickets, call the Curriers at 671-1482 or ercurrier@aol.com

Proceeds support our Christmas Stocking Project reaching over 500 local youth in Monroe and Wayne counties.

MISSION

AN EVENING WITH SANTA

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH, 2020



Our Evening with Santa Event has been such a popular event. Now with all the Covid concerns, we are looking at a different way to do things this year.

We will not be able to do what we have in the past...games, crafts, cookie decorating, free pizza, etc.. Therefore, our current idea is to transform the Fellowship Hall into a **Christmas Wonderland**. The Fellowship Hall would be set up like a maze, with the path leading past different “stations” or “booths”. We would put large “X”s on the floor in front of each booth, have people go through the maze in family groups, and say “you can’t go to the next X until the family ahead of you has left.

As we look at this plan, we are anticipating needing a tremendous amount of help from the congregation. We would like to have each “station” designed and set up by a different group. This could be a family group, the choir, the Men’s Breakfast Group, or two or three friends working together. The groups would have the freedom to pick their own theme...A nativity scene, an old-fashioned Christmas, a doll-house Christmas, a sports theme, Santa’s Workshop, etc. We are even considering a contest, of sorts, with our guests able to vote for their favorite station. We are also thinking about a “goodie bag” to be handed to the children as they exit, with cookies, candy canes, etc., and information about Christmas Eve services and the Food Pantry.

In order to carry this out, we need to know who would be willing to set up a “station”. At this point, we are not sure how many stations there will be, but it will be quite a few. Please let us know ASAP if you would consider setting up something. (It could probably be set up a day or two ahead, so not everyone is there working at once).

We have also considered what will happen if there is another flare-up of Covid. In that case, we will set up something outside for Santa, and people will have a chance to drive by and wave to him.

If you are willing to help with this in any way, please **Mary**

Lou Alexander at [315.524.9083](tel:315.524.9083) or email

alextree@rochester.rr.com.

THANK YOU!!!!



our Church Family

MISSION

You are INVITED To INVITE Others

Your Evangelism Team focuses on developing and implementing programs to address the Faith Practice INVITE for both the community and members of the congregation.

⇒ **What we do now:**

- ◆ Maintain guest book
- ◆ Send hand written notes to guests the week following their visit
- ◆ Encourage greeters to have visitors sign the guest book
- ◆ Develop, revise and stock Welcome Folders
- ◆ Update and maintain supply of St. Martin brochures
- ◆ Maintain supply of St Martin calling cards and magnets

⇒ **Invite the congregation and public to:**

- ◆ Chicken bbq's
- ◆ Pork bbq's
- ◆ Mardi Gras pancake supper
- ◆ Seek ways to improve and maintain inviting appearance of building
- ◆ Build and ensure relationships with those who use our building
- ◆ Boy Scout Troop 110
- ◆ Girl Scout Troop
- ◆ AA
- ◆ Other activities

⇒ **We invite you to help with:**

- ◆ New ideas in developing ways to invite people to St. Martin
- ◆ Ways in which we might become a more inviting congregation
- ◆ Contacting former members inviting them to worship and events
- ◆ Contacting former visitors inviting them to worship and events
- ◆ Developing PR for events and maintaining the road-side signage.

If you are interested in serving in any way, we invite you to contact Nancy or Ed Currier
ecurrier@aol.com or call 585.671.1482.

MISSION



WHEC IS A HUBBARD BROADCASTING COMPANY

In case you missed it, check out Pastor Korey's Interview on Sunday, August 9th with Raven Brown, Weekend News Anchor on News 10 NBC, using the link below:



<https://www.whec.com/rochester-new-york-news/local-churches-adjusting-to-their-new-normal-/5821743/?cat=565>

CHRISTMAS STOCKING PROJECT


Yes, during the summer heat we need to look forward to our Christmas stocking project. In previous years, some of the proceeds of the two chicken barbeques and all the proceeds of the pulled pork barbeque have been given to the Christmas stocking project. However, the spring chicken barbeque was canceled. We are hoping to have the fall chicken barbeque as usual in September, and also do the pulled pork barbeque in October. What does this mean for the Christmas stocking project? It looks like we could be very short of money this year. Usually we spend about \$5000 on the 500 stockings and the items for them. Currently there is about \$500 in that fund.



How can you help? Monetary donations, of course, would be very helpful. In addition, we will be looking for socks for boys and girls ages 3 to 11. Later this fall, mittens will be added to the "wanted" list. The Mad Hatters, working at home, have somewhat over 300 hats completed so far. Fleece fabric and yarn are always appreciated by our hat sewers, knitters and crocheters. Thanks for your help with this important outreach program.



September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
*8:45am BLC Video Worship *10:30am SMLC Worship	Labor Day					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
*8:45am BLC In Person Worship *10:30am SMLC In-Person Worship Returns 11:45am Zoom Sunday School •RIT Meal Ministry	6:30pm Joint SMLC / BLC Council Meeting @ BLC					4:30pm Drive-through Chicken BBQ @ SMLC 
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
*8:45am BLC In Person Worship *10:30am SMLC In-Person Worship 11:45am Zoom Sunday School						
27	28	29	30			
*8:45am BLC In Person Worship *10:30am SMLC In-Person Worship 11:45am Zoom Sunday School						

* Bethlehem's services have been recorded beforehand, but will switch to in-person on Sept. 13th, with an online option available to watch from home. St. Martin's services have been over Zoom, but will also switch on the 13th to in-person with an online option as well. Come join us in a way that works for you!






St. Martin Lutheran Church

813 Bay Road
Webster, New York 14580
Phone: 585.671.1899
Email: smartinwebster@gmail.com

September 2020 Worship Leaders

	Sunday Sept 6th	Sunday Sept 13th	Sunday Sept 20th	Sunday Sept 27th
LECTOR	Christian Kulak	Barb Devers	Carol Geier	Dick Detwiler
ASSISTING MINISTER	Nancy Currier	Sharon Haffen	Karen Kunzer	Mary Lou Alexander
COUNTERS	Jeff Peters & Ed Currier	Jeff Peters & TBD	Cindy Gomez & Melinda Spry	Maurice Kildal & Tom Potucek
ALTAR GUILD	Nancy Lewis	Nancy Lewis	Nancy Lewis	Nancy Lewis
ORGANIST	Mary Ann Peters	Mary Ann Peters	Mary Ann Peters	Mary Ann Peters



ST. MARTIN LUTHERAN CHURCH TREASURER'S REPORT
JULY 2020
OPERATING FUND (OPS)

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE Over/(Under)
CURRENT MONTH INCOME	7,995	7,125	-870
CURRENT MONTH EXPENSE	8,843	7,595	-1,248
CURRENT MONTH NET	-847	-470	377
YEAR TO DATE INCOME	55,967	50,072	-5,895
YEAR TO DATE EXPENSE	61,900	50,010	-11,890
YEAR TO DATE NET	-5,933	62	5,995

July income was only 11% under budget!!
June expenses were 14% under budget.

- * What happened to the income? Probably two things: (1) Traditionally contributions are lower during the summer, (2) Covid-19.
- * What's going on with expenses?
 - We have not been in church to see things to spend money on.
 - We have two big bills coming up (\$4,500 to Synod & about \$4,900 for insurance).

I believe that we will be financially OK for 2020. However, I expect we will have a significant challenge to be able to develop and adopt a balanced budget for 2021. I strongly recommend we seriously think about ways to increase income & reduce expenses.

FUNDS SUMMARY 2020

	BEGINNING BALANCE	YEAR TO DATE BALANCE	YEAR TO DATE CHANGE
OPERATING FUND	35,489	35,497	9
RESTRICTED FUNDS	19,592	19,567	-25
ST. MARTIN IMPROVEMENT FUND	-3,130	-3,278	-148
INVESTMENT FUND	29,992	26,143	-3,850
ENDOWMENT FUND	6,720	6,724	3
TOTAL CASH/INVESTMENT ASSETS	88,663	84,653	-4,010

BALANCE IN MAJOR RESTRICTED FUNDS:

Memorial Fund	7,701
Replacement Fund	7,387
Christmas Stocking Fund	525
St. Martin Improvement Fund (SMIF)	-3,278
Food Pantry	951

JMA, Treasurer August 2020



our Church Family

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

SMLC Council Highlights

Due to Covid concerns, Joint Worship with BLC will not happen this year.

Projected date of re-opening church is Sunday, September 13. Council reviewed and adjusted SMLC Re-Opening Plan, submitted by the Re-Opening Team. A detailed plan will be sent to all members.

Carol Geier thanks everyone for their generous donations of food, gloves and time for the Little Free Pantry. Because of the pandemic it has been very busy. Lots of people are in need of food. We continue to get donations from BJ's, Hegedorn's Market, Schutt's Apple Mill, as well as Panera donations three evenings a week.

The Little Free Pantry has received funding from Thrivent (\$250), The Elk's Club (\$500) and St. Martin's Insurance Company (\$750). All funds will be used to purchase food.

The Stewardship Team is working on a narrative budget for 2021.



BLC Council Highlights

Pastor's Report: Discussion regarding a possible update to our BLC website. If we keep the current program it is suggested that the software be updated. We reviewed a possible new site/software (Wix) that Alison had put together which can be supported for approx \$12/mo. Sandy will speak to Sarah to see if she and/or Ella would like to continue managing the day to day maintenance.

Property report: Al informed us that the Town of Penfield will be out to flush the ditch & will use a camera to check integrity. If all is good, it will allow for the County to come in and replace the basin. Once the basin is in, we will need to purchase the pipe/stone and connect the gutters into the system.

He received a quote for gutter cleaning on all the buildings on the BLC property for \$250/trip. It is suggested that they perform this service 2xs/year.

We are waiting on the snowplow contract which historically arrives in August. This covers plowing for 3" or more.

Estimates are coming in this week for needed driveway and parking lot repairs.

Outreach report: Money continues to come in for the Meals on Wheels program. We will need the contact information from Laurie Brooks so that a check can be sent to the program from what has been collected thus far.

Faith Formation: Sally reports that the Women's Bible Study is still meeting monthly. The Prayer group meets at 11:30 on Wednesdays in the Prayer Garden weather permitting.

Youth: Laura reports that yes, the Sunday School does have a FB page if there is anyone interested in being added. In the past this has been a place to share candid photos of the kids, as well as getting information out to parents as needed.

Concerns about what Sunday School will look like going forward when we are able to reopen church. ear marked for them directly into the accounts.

our Church Family



Happy Birthday

Bethlehem September Birthdays

Emily Francis	9/2
Norma Leisten	9/4
John Brooks	9/8
Charlotte Jane Zmaczynski	9/10
Kathy Crandall Leisten	9/11
Chris Donahue	9/13
Robyn O'Grady	9/22
Tom O'Grady	9/23
Dylan Reilly	9/24

SMLC August Birthdays

Cindy Gomez	9/2
Joy Montana	9/4
Jacob Simmons	9/6
Kristen Ciulla	9/7
Gavin Kulak	9/8
Jim Lockwood	9/8
Bryan Podgorski	9/11
Adrienne Olear	9/11
Jeanette Lockwood	9/16
Makayla Mohrman	9/21
Allyson Mohrman	9/21
Amie Kulak	9/23
Bernie Ewano	9/24
Doug Gomez	9/24
Nancy Elder	9/25
Heid Kildal	9/25
Kimberly Cawley	9/29



Bethlehem August Anniversaries

Jim & Laurie Brigden	9/4
Steve & Sandy Borkhuis	9/12
Chris & Kerri Donahue	9/29

SMLC August Anniversaries

Tim & Laurie McGrath	9/5
Jason & Melanie Simmons	9/23



Our Church Family

Sunday Worship & Council Mtgs.

Bethlehem: 8:45^{am} Worship

Council meets on 2nd Monday of the month

Sunday Worship & Council Mtgs.

St. Martin: 10:30^{am} In Person Worship

Sundays 11:45^{am}

Zoom Sunday School after worship

Pre-K thru 5th Grade

Council meets on 2nd Wednesday of the month

The next newsletter for

October 2020

Deadline - September 15th

SMLC Altar Guild Sign-up

Altar duty is now on a weekly basis. A signup sheet is posted on the board downstairs. Please consider taking a Sunday (or more) to serve on the guild. Thank you.

Items can be left in the mailbox outside my door. Mailed to my address above or sent by email. Would you like the church to be more “green”? You may also consider switching to the electron version of Covenant Connections by emailing me at stmartinwebster@gmail.com. Thank you! Nancy Nesbitt



Online Giving at SMLC

You can give online during worship or at home by using your smartphone! To the side is a QR Code, which can be read by the QR Code reader app on your smartphone (free to download). Scan it, and it will bring you to Vanco, the company with which St. Martin has set up an online giving program.



our Church Family

SMLC Directory

Pastor.Korey Finstad
Director of Music Mary Ann Peters

Church Council

President Doug Gomez
Vice President Paul Haffen
Secretary Sharon Haffen
Treasurer / Finance. Jim Alexander
Outreach Carol Geier
Activities Kris Weingartner
Christian Education. Jamye Potucek
Member-at-Large. Mary Lou Alexander
Evangelism Ed Currier
Worship and Music Anne Mitchell

BLC Directory

Pastor.Korey Finstad
Director of Music Evelyn Lam

Church Council

President Sandy Borkhuis
Vice President Dick Howard
Secretary Laurie Brooks
Property Al Neels
Faith Formation Sally Steinmiller
Congregational Life. Nancy Smith
Finance Sarah Frick
Treasurer. Joe Geiger
Worship Ministries Lorrilyn Schlinger
Outreach Ministry Dave Schlinger
Youth Ministry Laura Simmons

REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

At Bethlehem...

Gary Steinmiller, Ed Borkhuis, Ken Francis, Finnegan O'Grady, Alice Tynan, Carl Bauer, Gary Ayers, John Heckle, Shirley Bauer, John Brayer, Emily Briggs, Jean Gage, Nancy Gotte, Shirley Jennejohn, Lin Maier, Kay Heckle, Jean Lund, Patty Martins, Daniel Rose and family, Nancy Smith, Bev Steele, Cecilia Anderson. We also pray for those in the military and their families: Morgan Hauer, Sharon Verges, Brad Verges, Javier Alagarin, and Mark Baker.

At St. Martin...

Nancy Currier, Jeannette Lockwood, Jim Matteson, Pat Urso (friend of Kristine Weingartner), Sarah McHugh (friend of the Moore family), Pastor Ron Willman and his wife, Barbara, Joyce Fellows (Kim Cawley's mother), Kathy Malta (friend of Anne Mitchell), Harry Hilbert Jr. (son of Harry and Becky Hilbert), Caurie (daughter-in-law of Becky Hilbert), Aidan Weingartner (grand nephew of Kris Weingartner), Karin Ewanow, James Simmons, and people serving in the military, especially Bryan Podgorski. Also, all Law Enforcement Officers, especially Scott Ewanow, Eric (son of Becky and Harry Hilbert), Eric Weingartner (nephew of Kris Weingartner), Josh (son of Sharon and Paul Haffen), and Eric (nephew of Cindi Smith).

If you would like names added or removed from the prayer list, please contact the church office at St. Martin, and Laurie Brooks if you're at Bethlehem.



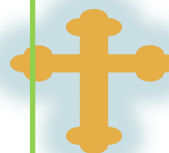
St. Martin Evangelical Lutheran Church
813 Bay Road
Webster, NY 14580

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1767 Plank Road
Webster, NY 14580



Pastor Korey's Contact Info

St. Martin: 585-671-1899
Bethlehem: 585-872-1425
Cell phone: 585-402-8451 ****NEW****
Email: rev.Korey@gmail.com



Lay Readers	Nancy Currier
Altar Guild	Nancy Lewis
Ushers	Doug Gomez
Coffee Hr.	Jeff & Mary Ann Peters
Greeters	Nancy Currier

Laurie Brooks

Bethlehem Lutheran Church,
1767 Plank Rd, Webster, NY 14580
Email: lbrooks@yahoo.com



Nancy Nesbitt

St. Martin Lutheran Church Office
813 Bay Rd, Webster, NY 14580
Email: stmartinwebster@gmail.com

St. Martin Lutheran Church
813 Bay Road
Webster, New York 14580
585-671-1899

www.stmartinwebster.org

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, & Thurs., 9-1:00^{pm}

Worship: 10:30^{am}

Zoom Sunday School: 11:45^{am}
Pre-K thru 5th



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
1767 Plank Road
Webster, New York 14580
585-872-1425

www.bethlehemplutheranchurch.org

Worship: 8:45^{am}

Contact Information for Pastor Korey Finstad

St. Martin: 585-671-1899
Bethlehem: 585-872-1425
Cell phone: 585-402-8451 ****NEW****
Email: rev.Korey@gmail.com



Newsletter



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ARTICLES TO BE PUBLISHED IN
THE OCTOBER NEWSLETTER TO NANCY NESBITT BY
SEPTEMBER 15, 2020. YOU CAN EMAIL THEM TO
STMARTINWEBSTER@GMAIL.COM. THANK YOU!

