



Apr. 2024

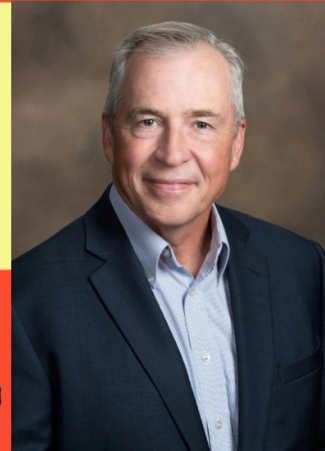
Martin's Lutheran Church, Casselton

701-347-4289 martinslutheran.com

MMARTIN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WE HAVE EXCITING NEWS!

**Pastor Corey Bjertness
accepted the call to serve as
Martin's Senior Pastor and
his first Sunday is Easter!**



**EASTER WORSHIP
7AM & 9:30AM
SUNDAY MARCH 31ST**



We welcome Pastor Bjertness to Martin's and look forward to his Pastor's thoughts starting in the May/June Newsletter.

Pastor Mark made lunch for the Quilters on March 20th. When the meal ended they presented him with a Martin's original quilt. We will miss your smile, kindness, and stories Pastor Mark.



COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 2024

These notes are from the most recent Council Meeting on March 6. When approved by the Council at their next meeting on April 10, the minutes will be added to other minutes in the Council Minutes Binder in the Conference Room.

March meeting notes:

President Stacy Link called the meeting to order and Pastor Walka shared devotions. February minutes were approved, finances were reviewed through the end of February, and bills were approved.

There were updates from committees including there is a group of youth and adults volunteering to serve a meal at the NDSU Lutheran Campus ministries, planning is happening for this summer's campus ministries, planning is beginning for Summerfest and several facility projects this summer. Service groups are proceeding in a good way. There is a need for increased participation in March and April. Work is also starting on setting up the process for Martin's Senior Scholarship program later this spring. The Garage is soon to be completed.

All required papers for calling Pastor Corey Bjertness to be Senior Pastor have been delivered to the Synod Office and Pastor Corey will be receiving the official letter of call very soon. New business includes the purchasing of outdoor canopies for summertime use and the checking into better art hanging systems for hanging art in the church building.

In the area of music planning, a Hand Bell fund has been established and conversation was initiated regarding our next fall appreciation day and the possibility of the Nolan Weisz and Band returning to Martin's this summer or fall.

The next New Member Gathering will be May 8 and New Member Sunday is May 12th.



The upstairs storage space has been needing some organizing and thanks to Wendy & Paris Mensing, it is getting it.

Money Talk

Mar. 2024

March Contributions	\$ 21,361.40
Monthly Approved Budget Year to Date	\$ 77,533.06
Contributions Year to Date	\$ 77,149.12
Actual Expenses Year to Date	\$ 73,049.98
Operating Balance	\$4,099.14

All figures are as of 3/25/24

The Mortgage is paid off!

If you have not made changes to your electronic New Building donation Joan will be contacting you to see how you would like to reallocate those funds.

701-347-4289

Thank you for generosity!

Baptisms

Blessings...

Gwendolyn Debra Glogoza

daughter of

Andrew & Margo Glogoza was baptized on
Sunday, Mar. 3, 2024.

What a blessing to celebrate!

Blessings...

Walker Iver Madsen

son of

Brady & Kaylee Madsen was baptized on
Sunday, Mar. 10, 2024.

What a blessing to celebrate!

Funeral Group Volunteers

Now that we have the Funeral Coordinators in place, we would like to ask for volunteers to be added to our current Funeral Group Volunteer list to give of their time for setting up the Fellowship Hall, serving and cleaning up from serving a meal or snacks after a funeral. This time does not include cooking for the meal, nor does it include baking unless the Service Group for that month is unable to get enough baking volunteers. Please consider if you could give a few hours of time to serve.

Call, email the office, or sign up in the kitchen and we will add your name to the list.

701-347-4289 office@martinslutheran.com

Pastors Thoughts

April 2024

Members and Friends of Martin's,

There is a verse of an old pop song that ran through my head as I sat down to say thank you for inviting me to walk with you these past months.

*Keep smiling, keep shining
Knowing you can always count on me, that's for sure
That's what friends are for
For good times and for bad times
I'll be on your side forever more
That's what friends are for!*

It is a wonderful blessing...that on Easter Sunday at Martin's, after losing beloved Pastor Mike Jacobson and living through a long search for a new pastor, Martin's will welcome new Senior Pastor Corey Bjertness! We are people of the resurrected Christ called to proclaim God's love and hope. We at Martin's are cheered on by the Saints to let our lights shine brightly on this community of Casselton and beyond.

Again, thank you for your presence in my life. It has been an honor to receive your hospitality and a privilege to serve in your midst. To each of you, from the youngest to the oldest, my warm regards and best wishes that God's Spirit will continue to grow and go with you. My only regret is that there has not been enough time to get to know many of you more deeply.

As Martin's moves into a unique time of mission and ministry, celebrate your many gifts that God has provided you. Be kind to your neighbors, hold fast to your friends, serve others with generosity, and bring new energy in the name of Jesus to others. For me, I will try to do the same while I get more dedicated to retirement! We will be living in Moorhead for a few more years so maybe I'll see you along the way!

These verses from Paul help guide my life. I share them with you for your faithful journey:

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
Romans 12:9-13*

God's blessings!

Pastor Mark



Spring

The word, "Lent" is a shortened form of the Old English word, "lencten" meaning the season of Spring. As the church season of Lent ends and Easter begins we start to experience the fullness of Spring outside in our yards as flowers emerge and risk the uncertain weather to bask in the growing warmth of the sun's rays. Spring is often a time of dramatic change as we move past the vernal equinox and shift more decidedly toward summer and away from winter.



Many people still hold the practice of Spring cleaning where things not looked at for a while are gone through and more intention is given to their place in the home either bringing them out again or discarding them. Michelle and I jokingly call the curbside pick up of trash the great neighborhood get together as we all visit outside and mull over what our neighbors have put out. In our Christian faith, Easter gives us the promise of new life and the hope that goes along with that where sin, death, and the devil do not have the last word. I imagine that this Springtime will be an exciting time at Martin's as we begin a new chapter in the life of this congregation with Corey Bjertness in the role of Senior Pastor. We will be reminded in many ways of the essence of 2Corinthians 5:17 that in Christ there is a new creation. May our risen Lord Jesus lead us and bless you this Easter and the 50 days that follow.

Peace,
Pastor Keith

ableTM
GAMES

Scan to Volunteer

able
GAMES
2024

- Scoring Runner
- Traffic Control
- Volunteer Check-In
- Athlete Relations
- Co-Ability Crew
- Crowd Control
- Hospitality
- Judging
- Equipment Load In/Load Out
- Admissions
- Athlete Check-In

" You have the chance to meet some incredible people, make a positive impact in their lives, all while supporting your community! It could be life changing for you "

- **Desiree Kinzel**
2022 ABLE Games Volunteer

ABLE Games 2024 Cornerstone Bank Arena April 4th-6th

May-Service Group 2
Meeting April 7 during Coffee Time

- Joshua & Lila Bjerken
Brad Braaten
Austin & Marjie Broden
Josh & Jamie Bullock
Julie Burgum
Kim Eberhardt
Nathan & Rachel Faleide
Richard & Karen Faught
Derek & Jenica Flanagan
Dean & Tonya Giermann
Donald & Karen Giermann
John & Christine Goodall
Chris & NaCole Haug
Jennie Jacobson
Jesse Jacobson
Scott & Marsha Kent
Michael Krabbenhoft
Judy Langer
Barb McDermott
Heather McDermott
Tabitha McDermott
Scott & Wendy Mensing
Jesse & Nicole Munsterman
Jamie & Lisa Narum
Ron & LeAnn Roth
Derrick & Rebecca Rygg
Bill & Sana Stansbery
Curt & Ardyth Steele
Ellen Sterner
Steve & Dawn Strand
Darrell & Nancy Sweep
Dan & Mary Zimmerman
Jay & Nikki Zimmerman
* Denotes coordinator.



Service groups, ask NOT what the church can do for you, but what YOU CAN DO for the church!!!

After many phone calls to update our membership information, we have started a new process for our monthly service groups. In the past a member of your group called you to either serve at fellowship hour or bring cookies and if they filled the needs, you were not called. This process left many members not having a way to serve the church and many felt as if they were never called. Now the service groups will be in charge of filling the many areas that are needed EVERY week at Martins.

It takes between 20-25 people most Sundays, not counting musicians, pastors, offering counters, and sound people, to make each service run smoothly.

We are also adding a Service group "Fellowship Social" the month before your actual service month so each member can meet their group members, put a name to a face, and initial sign-ups can be done. During this time, we will run through what is expected for each job and questions can be answered at that time. After that meeting those who were not able to attend will be called to fill in empty areas. The group, the service coordinator and I will meet after church on the FIRST SUNDAY of the month. We hope this process will help eliminate the last-minute weekly needs of the church. Together we can make Martins a strong, faithful, serving community.

Erin Baumgarten



Thank you for helping support Martin's Lutheran Church.

F.Y.I.

Rachel Circle Bible Study using *Gather Magazine* will meet **Apr. 10th** at 2:00pm. Newcomers welcome.



HOLY YOGA CLASSES

Class times will be determined each week. Fee for the class is a donation to the Food Pantry, as we love our neighbors as ourselves!

WIDOW'S GROUP
Widow's Group will meet **Apr. 1st & 15th** at Sundance, 10:00am.
Newcomers are welcome.
For information, contact Judy Orvik.
730-6704

The quilters will meet at 9:30am **Wednesday, Apr. 3, 10, 17, 24**. Bring an item to share for potluck lunch and join us to put quilts together, tie and sew.
Newcomers are invited to join.

Please help us keep up to date information by letting the office know if you have had a life changing event; moved, married, divorced, new baby, or your child has gotten married for example. 701-347-4289

New Member Gathering
If you have been visiting Martin's and would like to join, please talk to one of the pastors or contact the office. We will be sending letters to interested families in April. There will be a New Member Gathering **May 8th @6:00pm**.
701-347-4289 or office@martinslutheran.com
New Member Sunday will be **May 12th**.



Kris & Vanessa Vanderbusch are in the states visiting from Australia where they do mission work with Cru. While here they are visiting Grandpa Arlen and traveling to other area churches to share their story and the work they are doing in Australia. The kids are hoping to try as many different restaurants as they can and maybe play in some fresh snow.

April 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Office Closed</i> 10:00am Widows Grp (Sundance) No Piano Lessons	2 6:00pm VBS Meeting	3 <i>Pastor Keith out 3-18</i> 9:30am Quilters	4 4:00pm Piano Lessons	5	6 A. Vanderbusch Birthday Party (Private Gathering)
7 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Coffee/Service Grp.2 Meeting	8 4:00pm Piano Lessons	9	10 9:30am Quilters 2:00pm Rachel Circle 7:00pm Council	11 4:00pm Piano Lessons	12	13
14 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Coffee 1:00pm Hoffman/Baumgarten Shower	15 10:00am Widows Grp (Sundance) 4:00pm Piano Lessons	16	17 9:30am Quilters	18 4:00pm Piano Lessons	19	20
21 9:30am Worship 10:30am Sunday School/Coffee	22 4:00pm Piano Lessons	23 12:00pm Health Cabinet	24 9:30am Quilters 2:00pm Fold Newsletter	25 4:00pm Piano Lessons	26 <i>Joan out 4/26-5/1</i>	27
28 9:30am Worship/7-12th Gr. PW Singers/Noisy Offering 10:30am Sunday School/Coffee Senior Scholarship/photos & biographies due	29 4:00pm Piano Lessons	30				

Dates to Remember

April 28th-Deadline for Senior information and Scholarship App.

May 5th-Last Day of Sunday School, Students Sing

May 8th-New Member Gathering

May 12th-New Member Sunday

May 19th-Senior Recognition Service/VBS Registration Deadline



River of Life

VBS 2024



June 3rd-6th from 1pm-4pm
PreK thru completed 4th grade

Capacity is 150 voyagers for this adventure!

Register by Sunday, May 19th
\$10 per child or \$20 per family

"Let everyone who is thirsty come. Anyone may receive the water of life as a gift." Rev. 22:17

Registration forms are available online in the Martin's website and in the information rack by the front doors.



RED WILLOW MINISTRIES

**1651 Jacob Dr
Binford, ND 58416**

Scan to Register!



Red Willow Bible Camp and Park River Bible Camp have their summer schedule posted and registration is open! Make plans with your friends now to take advantage of Early Bird registration discounts and before popular programs fill up. Also, as a reminder, Martin's will provide a match, up to \$100 for you to go to a faith based summer camp! Make your deposit and payment less the \$100 and let us know which program and camp you signed up for so we can send the final \$100 to the camp on your behalf.

 Eastern North Dakota Synod

**practicing faith
retreat**

FOLLOWING JESUS

**April 26-28, 2024
Red Willow Ministries**



Scan to register. This retreat is for both rostered and lay leaders looking for time away to explore the stories of Jesus and what it means in their daily lives. There are 9 rooms available for on-site lodging or you can commute. Pay what you can. Approximate cost \$150 or \$300 with lodging.

Education News

May 5th—Last Day of Sunday School & Kids will be singing
June 3rd-6th-VBS

High School Seniors

Attention Seniors!

Martin’s Lutheran Church is pleased to announce that we will be awarding up to three scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each! These scholarships are available to any graduating high school member of Martin’s who is pursuing a post-secondary education and has a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher. Seniors, please contact the church office to receive an application. Please fill it out, print it (no handwritten entries please), and return your application to the church office by Sunday, **April 28th**. You may email it to the office also. Scholarships will be awarded during Senior Recognition Sunday (**May 19, 2024**).
office@martinslutheran.com

A letter will be sent to the High School Seniors asking for information that will be shared in the May/June Newsletter. Please watch for this in April. We will also ask for a senior picture to be included in the Power Point for Senior Recognition Sunday, **May 19th**. Please have the biography and pictures to the office by **April 28th**.

**Next Noisy Offering:
Sunday, April 28th
\$68.63 has been given
toward this goal so far!**



Noisy Offering Goes Toward:
\$250/per share for a water well
10 shares of \$250 = \$2,500 total
through ELCA Good Gifts

With a water well, 500 families can gain access to clean, safe water.

If you or someone you know would like a visit from a pastor, please call or text one of the pastors. Pastor Corey Bjertness (320-905-1332) or Pastor Keith Walka (701-335-6213) or call the church office (347-4289) or email them:
pastorcorey@martinslutheran.com
associatepastor@martinslutheran.com

MARTIN'S AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 587
CASSELTON ND 58012

Non Profit Org.
US POSTAGE PAID
Casselton ND
Permit No. 41

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

1
1

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

April 7th

9:30am-Worship (ELW) w/Comm.

April 14th

9:30am-Worship (PW) w/Comm

April 21st

9:30am-Worship (CBW) w/Comm

April 28th 7-12th PW Singers

9:30am-Worship (SOW) w/Noisy Offering

MISSION STATEMENT

*Named, claimed, and sustained by God,
Martin's Lutheran is a worshipping
community which gathers together to
hear the Word, learn about God's love,
and to provide support for one another.*

*Together we respond to Christ's
command to share the Good News and to
serve our neighbors -- across the street
and across the world.*