

The Pastor's Corner

Dear Family in Christ,

As we journey toward our “Eventual Christmas” in 2025, we focused on the tradition and message of the Old Testament Prophets during the first week. Last week, we contemplated the faith, the obedience, the love of Mary. This week, it’s Joseph’s turn!

Let me share with you a passage about Joseph I found in *Who Will Roll the Stone Away?* by Mercy Oduyoye.

That young woman, Mary of Nazareth, has gone down in history as the Mother of God.

What about the man who is to marry her? He stood by Mary because he too has heard the voice of God and he too believes that Mary’s submission to God’s purposes will bring new life to the whole human community...

Here is a man who stood in solidarity with a woman he loved and trusted. A man who had an ear tuned to what God is saying to him and to the world.

Does the story have a message for us?

Of course, I believe it does! I trust you do, too! That will be our work to explore this day!

Love,

Your pastor,

Jeff

PRAYER REQUESTS		
Men & Women Serving in the Military The Homebound Ruby Bachman Shirley Brown Cecil Deiterich Judy Goontz	Charlene Hindman Floyd Longwell Nettie Mason Stevie Poe Norm Riggs Bill & Rae Stuart Dale Ware	Danny Winland Pat & Jim Wobig Unspoken Requests of our Hearts The Lost <i>The rose on the altar is a reminder to pray for those in need.</i>

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

16 Whitey Bohrer, Liam Nichols Clements, Tom Standiford 17 Jessa Anderson, Holly Kocher, Carter Seckman 18 Barry Bohrer, Bill Feeney, Linda Fonner 19 Janet Jones 15 Tom & Debbie Herrick 17 Vince & Kay Monseau

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Today
4:00 Cantata

Monday, December 15
9:00 Care Choice

Tuesday Dec. 16
9:00 Care Choice

Wednesday, Dec. 17
5:00 Praise Team
6:00 Chancel Choir

Thursday, Dec. 18

Friday, Dec. 19
5:00 Little Lambs Christmas Program

Saturday, Dec. 20

Sunday, Dec. 21
9:00 Praise Worship
10:45 Traditional Worship
4:00 Small Group Class

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***Christmas Cantata** is today at 4:00 PM followed by an all church dinner. Bring a covered dish or two to share.

***5 inch pot RED poinsettias** are available for \$10.00 to decorate the sanctuary. Paid orders due by December 18. See flyer for more information.

***In the narthex, you’ll find our Star Tree.** Take a star and write the name of someone who brightens the corner of your life. Place your completed star in the basket, and it will be hung on the Star Tree throughout the Advent season.

***PJ’s for Open Door** are due back by December 15. A signup sheet is on the round table in the narthex.


***Youth Festival of Lights** December 23 at 7:00.

***Christmas Eve Service**, December 24 at 6:00 PM

***Helping Hand** is in need of macaroni & cheese and Jiffy cornbread mix.

***Gifts of Grace Room** is in need of glass cleaner, dish detergent, king blankets, and hoodies size 2T through size 16.

***Giving**—Gifts to the Church can be made by using the following QR code, through the Realm App or by placing your offering in the box at the rear of the sanctuary.



New Martinsville United Methodist Church

10 Howard Jeffers Drive
New Martinsville, WV 26155

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Kanode
(304)563-2812

December 14, 2025

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 A.M.
Contemporary Worship

10:45 A.M.
Traditional Worship

Communion First Sunday of Each Month

All are welcome to share Christ’s Table

Mary was pregnant.
Mary yet remained a virgin.
The Holy Spirit conceived the child within Mary.
That child was God’s son. That child was God-In-Humanity.
It made, it makes, no earthly sense whatsoever.
It makes all the God-sense in creation, though.
Joseph accepted that. Joseph greeted that.
Joseph rejoiced in that.

From An Eventual Christmas

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:30 a.m. Christ’s Disciples in Conference Room
10:00 a.m. Elementary in Preschool room
Middle/High school in Library
Adult Classes
Open Hearts in Conference Room
4:00 Small Group in Library
6:00 Youth (schedule varies-see bulletin)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday
9 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Welcome Guests

We are delighted to welcome you to the service of worship at New Martinsville United Methodist Church. If you are visiting with us for the first time this morning, we hope you feel truly at home and welcomed among us. We are so glad you are here!

Vision

A people who are being transformed by the Spirit of God into the likeness of Jesus Christ and are being sent out to transform their world.

Scripture

Fourth Sunday of Advent Luke 2: 8-20
The Shepherds

Follow us on:

YouTube, Facebook & Realm Connect

Our 9:00 a.m. service is carried live on Channel 18 on Optimum Cable and 99.5 F.M. on your radio dial.

Podcast—www.facebook.com/TheAlternativeSermon

Contact Information

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