

Welcome to the Church at Martinsburg!

Whether this is your first time or your next time, whether you are a member or a first-time guest – we want to connect with you! Use the white card with this Loop to relay information to your church staff. Please complete the front so we can update our records and use the back to request information or share your prayer requests. As your pastors, we are honored to pray for and serve you.

This Week's Announcements

Gospel Class: Interested in membership? The Gospel Class is a great way to see what our church believes and what is expected of our covenant members. Our next class will be February 23rd. To sign up, email contact@martinsburgchurch.org.

Community Groups: Community groups are in full swing! Community is an essential part of our Christian life. We want to develop community and meaningful relationships committed to a common vision – to make much of Jesus in the lives of individuals and our community. For more information on meeting dates, times and locations go to groups.martinsburgchurch.org.

Member's Gathering: Member's Gathering is coming up on March 3rd! Stay tuned for more information (location, times, etc.).

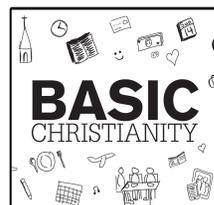
Pastor On Call: If you have an emergency and need to get a hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg's Pastor on call.

This Week's Ripple Report

This week's Ripple Report comes from Pastor Jacob. He tweeted a picture saying, "One of my favorite tasks for our church! G4 kids are instrumental to our mission!" Every month, the pastors and staff write an encouraging note to the children that come to C@M. The kids that come to C@M will be the next church planters, pastors, missionaries, Bible teachers, etc. Children's ministry is more than having a place to watch children while their parents worship. It is fertile soil for the seeds of the gospel to be planted, watered, rooted, and flourish. Just like the adults, the kids are growing to proclaim, reach, connect, and go.



Resources for Sunday, February 3, 2013



This Sunday's Sermon:

Title: "Forgiveness"
Scripture: Ephesians 4:31-32
Bottom Line: Being forgiven frees you to forgive others as God has forgiven you.

Community Group Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday's message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. Before this sermon, how would you have defined "forgiveness"? Has your definition changed?
3. What is the risk in waiting to "feel ready" to forgive someone?
4. Have you ever made "trust" a prerequisite for forgiving another person? How might doing so delay forgiveness?
5. When we hurt, it's tempting to "forgive" yet avoid that person in the future. In reconciling ordinary conflicts, how is this wrong? When might it be right to distance yourself from a person who is sinning against you? What does forgiveness look like when reconciliation has not yet occurred?
6. How often do others hear you ask, "Will you please forgive me?" Why are these words so difficult to say? Will you commit to make them a sincere part of your daily dialogue?

Missionary Toolbox: Christian Forgiveness

"What is forgiveness, specifically? When someone has wronged you, it means they owe you, they have a debt with you. Forgiveness is to absorb the cost of the debt yourself. You pay the price yourself and you refuse to exact the price out of the person in any way. Forgiveness is to a) free the person from penalty for a sin by b) paying the price yourself. We are told that our forgiveness must imitate God's forgiveness in Christ. *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you* (Eph. 4:32). a) How did God forgive? We are told that He does not 'remember' them. That cannot mean that God literally forgets what has happened – it means he 'sends away' the penalty for them. He does not bring the incidents to mind, and does not let them affect the way He deals with us. b) How did God forgive 'in Christ'? We are told that Jesus pays the price for the sins. 'It is finished' means 'it has been paid in full' (John 19:30). The Father gave up His Son, and the Son gave up His life. God absorbed the cost in Himself." (Keller)

This Week's Reading:

Monday:	Ephesians 1:7-8	Thursday:	Jeremiah 31:33-34
Tuesday:	Matthew 6:9-15	Friday:	Matthew 18:21-35
Wednesday:	Luke 17:3-4	Saturday:	Colossians 3:12-14



How is God working?

Let us know!
#ripplereport