

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're honored to pray for & serve you.

## This Week's Announcements

**New Group in Inwood!** A new community group began this past week. Dennis & Lisa Williams will facilitate a group in the Inwood area. If you're interested in being a part of this or any other group, please visit the Welcome Table in the Regal lobby or [groups.martinsburgchurch.org](http://groups.martinsburgchurch.org).

**Parent/Child Dedications** will take place on Mother's Day (May 12<sup>th</sup>). If you'd like to dedicate your child, visit [dedication.martinsburgchurch.org](http://dedication.martinsburgchurch.org).

**Graduate Recognition** is coming up on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you have completed any degree this year, we'd like to honor you and your achievements. Visit [graduate.martinsburgchurch.org](http://graduate.martinsburgchurch.org) to get signed up!

**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.

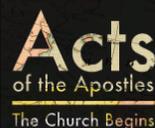
## This Week's Ripple Report

Last Saturday, community group leaders met together to reflect on God's amazing work in our groups and to press ahead and prepare for the future work the Lord has for us. Community groups reflect Sunday morning gatherings on a daily basis. Group members are family as they get to know, serve, love, and pray for one another. Jamie Leatherman shared, "We have seen people realizing that just because they grew up in church, that it doesn't mean they are a Christian. The group has become more like a family than people meeting one night a week. They're helping each other in relationships, parenting, and life in general." Are you in a group? If you're not, join one today!



How is God working?

Let us know!  
#ripplereport



## This Sunday's Sermon:

**Title:** *Hitchhiker's Guide to Evangelism*  
**Scripture:** Acts 8:26-40  
**Bottom Line:** The Word demands a response, and your response determines your direction.

## 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. What passage of Scripture was the eunuch reading? In Acts 8:35, Philip told him the good news about Jesus beginning with this Scripture. How was Philip able to do this? Could you ask the same question Philip asked (v.30)?
3. Why is the Old Testament relevant for us? Consider 1 Corinthians 10:1-12, especially vss. 6 and 11. Also Luke 24:25-27, 32.
4. Discuss some ways that you follow Philip's "as you go" method of sharing the Gospel. What does this look like in your own family? For example, how do you teach Jesus throughout the day to your children, teens, or spouse?
5. Have you responded to the good news of Jesus like the eunuch? This would be a great time to be certain you understand the gospel. Have you obeyed Jesus by being baptized? If not, what prevents you?

## Missionary Toolbox: Preach the Gospel – Use Words

1. **Let your gospel words be comprehensible.** In our bid to be accurate about theological issues, we must also make certain we are comprehensible. We want to declare the biblical gospel in a culturally accessible manner. This requires us to define theological words as well as embrace the language of the people to whom we speak wherever appropriate.
2. **Let your gospel words be earnest.** Life-saving "good news" should be offered with sobriety, sincerity, and zeal. No one listens to proclamation about serious issues presented in frivolous ways. When preaching Christ, we need clarity and sincerity.
3. **Let your gospel words be heard outside the local church.** Making disciples means giving the gospel to those outside the church... as the ones sent by God (that's us), we should be ready to "tell the story" to the unconverted people in our neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.
4. **Let your gospel words be heard inside the local church.** The gospel should be spoken in the church because even the redeemed can drift back toward the opposite temptations of legalism and lawlessness. One of the most important things a Christian does is to redirect other Christians back to Jesus through the good news of the gospel.

(From *Preach the Gospel, and Since It's Necessary, Use Words* by Ed Stetzer)

## This Week's Reading:

<b>Monday:</b>	Isaiah 53	<b>Thursday:</b>	Philippians 1:14-18
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Romans 10:13-15	<b>Friday:</b>	1 Corinthians 15:1-4
<b>Wednesday:</b>	1 Corinthians 9:16-19	<b>Saturday:</b>	1 Corinthians 1:21-24