

The Contact March

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Lent: Purple is typically associated with Lent, suggesting repentance and solemnity.

Sunday of the Passion: Scarlet is the preferred color of this first day of Holy Week, as it suggests the deep color of blood. (Scarlet is to be distinguished from the brighter color of red, which is appointed for the Day of Pentecost,

Days of Holy Week: Scarlet or purple may be used for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday: For this fourth day of Holy Week, celebrated as the institution of the Lord's Supper, scarlet or white is used.

Good Friday: No vestments or paraments are used on this day, after the stripping of the altar on Maundy Thursday night.

Vigil of Easter: White or Gold suggests of joy in the Resurrection is used on this night. Easter Day: Gold or white is suggested for this day. The gold color symbolizes that this day is the "queen of feasts," unique in the entire church year.

Message from Pastor Willie:

Fellow saints and sinners, greetings in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ!

I find myself rather anxious this time of year because of the number of transitions happening in various places. The weather outside is no longer frightful, though we have not finished up with whatever March may have in store for us. This morning, after a night of gentle rain, I found nightcrawlers all over the driveway. My garlic tells me that we have entered the growing season as some varieties have already reached six inches above the mulch. I put seed for radishes, carrots, kohlrabi, beets, and sugar snap peas in the ground before the end of February and I saw the very first sprouts this morning. The earth and her creatures are waking up from a bit of a strange winter.

I traveled yesterday to bring Belle home from Bloomington, Indiana for Spring Break and we will have the entire family under one roof during spring break this coming week. Which means that Grace and Belle are making summer plans for employment, transitioning from school to summer break.

As we continue the journey through Lent, we will soon transition to Holy Week and Easter celebrations to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord and his defeat of sin, death, and the devil through the cross and an empty tomb.

I find myself anxious this time of year, largely because of the challenges of keeping up with life. In times like these I lean into the sanctuary of daily prayer, scripture reading, and worship services. I am particularly drawn to the simple and reflective nature of the Midweek Lent services, which provide us with time to enjoy the presence of one another, gathered around God's Word with siblings in Christ, followed by a meal and fellowship.

I know that I am not the only person who encounters this season of transitions. If this time of year raises anxiety over the unknown, I encourage you to lean into God's Word. Observe the world around you, enjoy the warm sun and the gentle patter of rain quenching the ground which desperately needs moisture. Join us for worship on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings (March 24 and April 14 & 28), Midweek Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday. Sanctuary means "a place of refuge and protection". Gathering for worship together with others in our sanctuary provides us with a place of refuge and protection, a place of rejuvenation and connection with God and with one another, and a place where heaven and earth come together. Please join us for any and all of these worship opportunities. Bring your joys, sorrows, laments, and anxieties and lay them at the feet of the cross. To quote 1 Peter 5:6-7, cast your burdens onto Jesus, for he cares for you.

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Willie Rosin

Message from Pastor Willie:

Palm/Passion Sunday Reader's Theatre opportunity

For Palm/Passion Sunday this year we have a version of Mark's Passion history which includes three voices and a few auxiliary percussion parts – tambourine, suspended cymbal, and hand drum. If you are interested in helping with this we can use up to six people to help with the Passion history on Sunday, March 24th during the 9 a.m. worship service. Please sign up for your desired part and scripts will be available in the church office.

Family Faith Night resumes

Family Faith Night (FFN) will resume on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. Please join us!

Muscatine All-City Swing Dance

On Saturday, March 23rd, beginning at 7:00 p.m., join the SCJH Jazz Band and the MHS Jazz Bands for their annual All-City Swing Dance in the ballroom on the top floor of the Merrill Hotel in downtown Muscatine. This year will include Five Cats and a Jack jazz combo, a group put together by Pastor Willie Rosin for the event. Admission is paid at the door, food and drinks are available for purchase. Put on your dancing shoes and come out to support the fine arts in Muscatine!

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Altar Guild:

Week 1: Richardsons
Week 2: Perishos
Week 3: Pusateris
Week 4: Starkweathers
Sub: Hansons

Lunch Bunch

March 14 11:30 @ Applebees

April 11 11:30 @ Yacky Shack

MAR Birthdays Over 80:

*Mary Danner 03/06
*Inge Carle 03/11
*Bill Toyne 03/20
*Rose Marie Doyle 03/29
*Beatrice Minder 03/30

**George Blackwood 03/07
**Wilmer Denker 03/13
**Irmgard Shoppa 03/25

APR Birthdays Over 80

*Loryann Eis 04/03
*Riley Padgett 04/03
*John Evans 04/07
*Linda Maas 04/07
*Jean Hyink 04/22
*Helen Colony 04/26
*Dorothy Thompson 04/28

* 80-89 Years Young
** 90-99 Years Young
***100 Years Young

Did you know?

Total Offering Received For Week 3/3/24	\$6886
YTD Offering Received	\$39554
Remaining Weekly Offering Required to meet Weekly Budget	\$ 5708

YTD Food Pantry	YTD Laundry Love	YTD Quarters for Hunger
\$309	\$144	\$46.75

Contact News

All newsletter information and articles for the March/April Contact are due by the end of day on **April 5.**

Food for Thought

How awesome is it, that the same God that created oceans and mountains and galaxies, looked at you and thought the world needed one of you too!!



April 9

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

MAR Birthdays:

Abner Rosin 03/01
Ezra Rosin 03/01
Dave Pusateri 03/04
Chris Owens 03/05
Kent Heckman 03/08
Jerry Timm 03/08
Jeff Baird 03/09
Jami Schroeder 03/09
Abigail Frye 03/19
Virgil Schmitt 03/22
Jason Dornbush 03/24
Julie Evans 03/26
Gail Pusateri 03/27

APR Birthdays:

Kelsie Dornbush 04/01
Josephine Gillespie 04/03
Kathy Meyer 04/07
Isabelle Rosin 04/07
Sarah Perisho 04/08
Kathy Rusch 04/0
Mike Owens 04/0
Jacob Evans 04/1
Mary Schroeder 04/12
Ron Knause 04/14
Maura Garrett 04/1
Dee Miller 04/17
Rick Weiss 04/17
Vicki Pedersen 04/2
Avery Zybarth 04/22
Jane Keel 04/23/
Braedan Garrett 04/25
James Haage 04/25
Lori Andersen 04/28
Richard Jacobsen 04/28
Quinn Garrett 04/30

**Z book Club April 22
Diamond Dave's 5:30**

We are reading a book that Pastor Susan Bantz recommended that she has just finished reading. It is "Delicious" by Ruth Reichl. There are used copies available cheaply. And probably at the library.



Ruth Reichl is a born storyteller. Through her restaurant reviews, where she celebrated the pleasures of a well-made meal, and her bestselling memoirs that address our universal feelings of love and loss, Reichl has achieved a special place in the hearts of hundreds of thousands of readers. Now, with this magical debut novel, she has created a sumptuous, wholly realized world that will enchant you.

Billie Breslin has traveled far from her home in California to take a job at *Delicious!*, New York's most iconic food magazine. Away from her family, particularly her older sister, Genie, Billie feels like a fish out of water—until she is welcomed by the magazine's colorful staff. She is also seduced by the vibrant downtown food scene, especially by Fontanari's, the famous Italian food shop where she works on weekends. Then *Delicious!* is abruptly shut down, but Billie agrees to stay on in the empty office, maintaining the hotline for reader complaints in order to pay her bills.

To Billie's surprise, the lonely job becomes the portal to a miraculous discovery. In a hidden room in the magazine's library, Billie finds a cache of letters written during World War II by Lulu Swan, a plucky twelve-year-old, to the legendary chef James Beard. Lulu's letters provide Billie with a richer understanding of history, and a feeling of deep connection to the young writer whose courage in the face of hardship inspires Billie to come to terms with her fears, her big sister and her ability to open her heart to love.

FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

MAR/APR Anniversaries:

Scott & Michelle
Richardson 03/23

Jennifer & Zachary Taylor 03/27

*Reita & Larry Driskell 03/02

Mark & Julie Evans 4/02

Kelly & Greg Gillespie 4/04

Peggy & David
Starkweather 04/19

Usher Schedule

March

Jim Haage
Bill Toyne
Mike Batenhorst
Julie Haage
Jackson Evans

April

Riley Padgett
Mike Watson
Mark Perisho
Bill Toyne
Sarah Perisho

SUPPORT THE
YOUTH AND THEIR
ELCA TRIP TO NEW
ORLEANS 2024



Hy-Vee gift cards are \$20
but worth *over \$50!!*



For every card sold
the youth retain 75%!!

NOTE TO SELF

Lent is not about becoming
perfect, but rather it is about
growing in your faith.



FAITH. FAMILY. COMMUNITY.

Upcoming Meetings:

Mar 19 & Apr 16- 1:00 p.m.

Group 5 in the MPR

Mar 28 & Apr 25- 6:30 p.m.

Joy Circle

Reminders:

Men's Bible Study meets every Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. at the All American Diner.

Christians Underground

We have an additional Biblestudy/discussion group opportunity in Muscatine called Christians Underground. Pastor Aleese Kenitzer from Shepherd of the Cross leads this group in discussion about the Revised Common Lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday. They currently meet weekly on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. at Geo John's for about an hour. This invitation is open to all three ELCA congregations in Muscatine.

Fellowship of Christian

Athletes meets at Louisa-Muscatine High School on Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. in Room 109. Casey Cantrell is the local Huddle leader.

Midweek Lent Meals

March 13, 2024

Week 4: Individual Lament Scripture –

Psalm 102:1-11 Meal – Baked Potato Bar served by Group 6.

March 20, 2024

Week 5: Communal Lament Scripture – Psalm

44:1-10, 13, 17-26 Meal – Walking Tacos served by the Zion Church Council.



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray for Kristy Keith, Bill Tiecke, Patty Lange, Butch Doyle, Evelyn Christophersen, Billy Rueckert, Roger Roskens, John Robinson, Margaret Ames, Leroy Spaulding, Jan Pohl, Linda Brady, Evie Marr, Beth Simpson, Lori Norris, Riley Padgett, Barbara Sabbath & Pat Tiecke-Collins.

Jane Rosemary Claussen, 85, of Defiance, Ohio passed away on February 18, 2024



<https://www.rodenbergergray.com/obituaries/Jane-Claussen/#!/Obituary>

March LSI Article and Story

March is National Professional Social Work Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we are grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

At LSI, we believe every Iowan deserves the independence they need to thrive. LSI's Host Homes is an innovative way LSI is serving adults with disabilities. Through this program, an individual moves from Supported Community Living into a private family home with a carefully selected mentor. This program is built entirely around an individual's goals and interests, and LSI's extensive matching process ensures the mentor and mentee are a great fit.

Take a moment to read the following story from a Host Homes mentee:

“My journey with LSI's Host Homes started in early 2023. I've known my mentor for a few years while he provided hourly services to me. We learned about Host Homes and thought it would be a good fit for us. I moved into my mentor's home where he helps me maintain a daily routine with schoolwork, household tasks, daily living skills, improving independence, and more. I attend a college nearby and go to classes a few days a week. I am able to navigate the local bus system to access my community to attend classes and visit friends. My mentor is always available to transport me into the community as needed.

This summer, I went on a trip across the country with one of my classes. While on this trip, I was able to maintain my independence with limited support, but I knew my mentor would be available by phone to assist me with my coping skills and problem solving. This trip was a big success for me knowing I had support only a phone call away. I like LSI's Host Homes Program because my mentor supports me in the way I want to be supported, assists me with some daily tasks I struggle with, and understands me.”

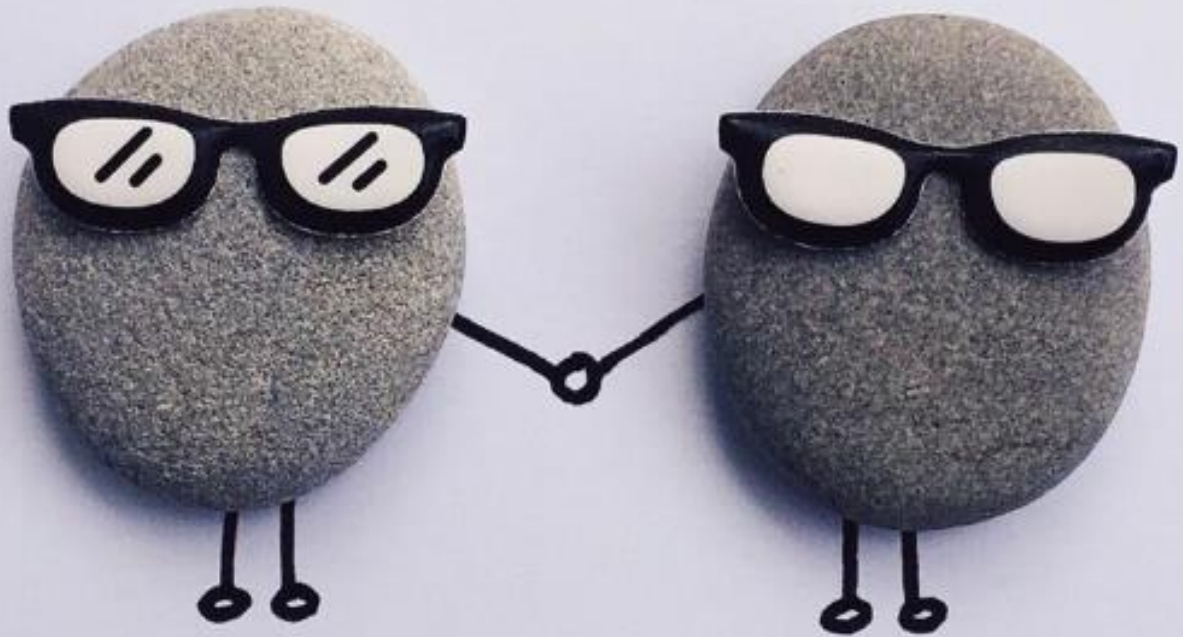
If you are interested in becoming a Host Homes mentor and helping a fellow Iowan achieve independence, please visit LSIowa.org/HostHomes for more information.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
BUDGET TO ACTUAL - Unified Fund
Month Ended February 29, 2024

	Unified Fund Feb 29, 2024 Actual	Unified Fund Feb 29, 2024 Budget	% of Budget	Unified Fund 2 months ended Feb 29, 2024 Actual	Unified Fund 12 months ended Dec 31, 2024 Budget	% of Annual Budget
Revenue						
Offering	\$ 15,351.61	\$ 25,734.25	59.65 %	\$ 32,404.49	\$ 291,311.00	11.12 %
Other Budgeted Income	98.64	500	20%	322.44	7,250	4%
Parsonage Fund Income	0.00	2,083.33	0.00 %	0.00	25,000.00	0.00 %
Total Revenue	15,450.25	28,318	55%	32,726.93	323,561	10%
Operating Expenses						
Staffing Expenses	15,782.96	17,418	91%	32,913.88	209,017	16%
Property & Office Expenses	4,573.34	5,083	90%	11,493.81	61,000	19%
Program Expenses	1,056.81	646	164%	1,690.52	9,000	19%
Benevolences	1,436.01	2,362.00	60.80 %	3,098.67	29,544.00	10.49 %
Total Operating Expenses	22,849.12	25,509	90%	49,196.88	308,561	16%
Operating Income (Loss)	(7,398.87)	2,808	-263%	(16,469.95)	15,000	-110%
Other Income						
Use of Sanctuary	-	-		250.00	-	
Unbudgeted Income	250.00	-		700.00	-	
Total Other Income	250.00	-		950.00	-	
Other Expenses						
Unbudgeted Expenses	-	-		1,000.00	-	
Total Other Expenses	-	-		1,000.00	-	
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (7,149)	\$ 2,808	-255%	\$ (16,520)	\$ 15,000	-110%

Invite-A-Friend-Month



During the entire month of April, let's be extra welcoming and invite friends/family/former members to church.

Zion is a warm outgoing community. Many people will enjoy worshiping with us. Invite someone today!

2024 Lenten Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 What are you most grateful for?	19 Pray for those who are in power	20 Pray for the sick	14 – Ash Wednesday Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return	15 Pray for the poor	16 Fast from meat	17 Pray for those that are alone
25 Pray for those who have died in the past year	26 Think about how the holy spirit manifests in your life	27 Pray for clean water	21 Pray for healthcare workers	22 Pray for those that work for justice	23 Fast from sugar	24 Pray for your congregation
3 Get up early and spend 15 minutes in prayer and silence	4 Pray for those in prison	5 Pray for help and the willingness to receive it	28 Pray for someone close to you that needs healing	29 Pray for those struggling with addiction	March 1 Be gluten, nut, and shellfish free today Pray for those with severe allergies	2 Fast from screens (no TV, no phone, etc.)
10 Think about a part of today's service that made your heart swell	11 Pray for soup kitchens and those that serve the poor	12 Pray for the youth of your congregation	6 Pray for the children of your congregation	7 Pray for peace among nations and unity	8 Fast from breakfast and lunch	9 Pray for forgiveness
17 What does it mean for Jesus to be "the King?"	18 Notice yourself being in judgment of others and stop	19 Fast from news Enjoy the silence	13 Pray for the young adults of the congregation	14 Pray for your minister and the ministers of your congregation	15 Fast from gossip	16 Pray for your ancestors
24 – Palm Sunday Apologize to someone you have hurt Make amends	25 Pay attention to someone you are tempted to brush aside	26 Pray for the person who brought you into your faith	20 Pray for new members of your congregation	21 Contemplate what it means for you to be content. What is stopping you?	22 Fast from political debate	23 Pray on the thought "how can I help?"
			27 Pray for the staff of your congregation	28 – Maundy Thurs Pray for the choir and those who serve in your parish service	29 – Good Friday Fast	30 – Holy Saturday Think of Mary after Jesus' death



2024 . MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 6:30 PM AA	2
3 LAUNDRY LOVE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA	4 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	5 CONTACT INFO DUE 7:00 PM SCOUTS	6 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 5:30 PM MIDWEEK LENT W/ SUPPER AFTER BY GROUP 5 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	7 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE	8 6:30 PM AA	9
10 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	11 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	12 1:00 PM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 7:00 PM SCOUTS	13 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 5:30 PM MIDWEEK LENT W/ SUPPER AFTER BY GROUP 6 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	14 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 11:30 LUNCH BUNCH@APPLEBEES 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	15 6:30 PM AA	16
17 Q FOR HUNGER 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA	18 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	19 1:00 GROUP 5 7:00 PM SCOUTS	20 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 5:30 PM MIDWEEK LENT W/ SUPPER AFTER BY THE COUNCIL 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	21 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M	22 6:30 PM AA	23
24 PALM SUNDAY FOOD PANTRY 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	25 PASTOR'S SABBATH 5:30 PM Z BOOK CLUB 6:30 AA	26	27 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	28 5:30 PM MAUNDY THURSDAY 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	29 7:30 GOOD FRIDAY WITH 1ST PREBYTERIAN	30
31 EASTER 8:00 AM WORSHIP 9:00 AM BREAKFAST 10:30 AM WORSHIP 5:00 PM AA						



2024 . APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	2 7:00 PM SCOUTS	3 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FPN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	4 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE	5 6:30 PM AA	6
7 LAUNDRY LOVE 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA	8 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA CONTACT INFO DUE	9 LUNCHTIME POTLUCK 7:00 PM SCOUTS	10 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FPN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	11 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@ YACKY SHACK 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	12 6:30 PM AA	13
14 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	15 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 PM AA	16 1:00 PM GR 5 MFR 7:00 PM SCOUTS	17 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FPN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	18 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M	19 6:30 PM AA	20
21 Q FOR HUNGER 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL/STORY 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA	22 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 AA	23 7:00 PM SCOUTS	24 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FPN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	25 6:30 AM CHRISTIAN ATHLETES L-M 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	26 6:30 PM AA	27
28 FOOD PANTRY 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:15 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:30 AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY 5:00 PM AA 6:00 PM WORSHIP	29 PASTOR'S SABBATH 6:30 AA	30 7:00 PM SCOUTS	31 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FPN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA			