



APRIL

THE CONTACT




**LUNCHTIME
POTLUCK**

Zion Lutheran Church
Signup is on the
narthex bulletin board
12:00 NOON

Tuesday April 14

Get together



Evening Table Worship



EVERY 2ND & 4TH
SUNDAY EVENINGS
@6PM

April 12 & 26
May 10 & 24
June 14 & 28

WHAT'S INSIDE

PG. 1 LUNCHTIME POTLUCK

PG. 2 COUNCIL CORNER

PG. 3 OFFERING

PG. 4 APRIL SHOWERS
BRING NEW SOCKS

PG. 5 PRAYERS

PG. 6 LSI

PG. 7 FINANCIALS

PG. 8 EASTER LILIES

PG. 9 HUMOR

PG. 10 HELP NEEDED

PG. 11 CALENDAR

PG. 12 CALENDAR

Birthdays Over 80

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

April Birthdays*

- *Loryann Eis 04/03
- *Riley Padgett 04/03
- *Kathy Meyer 04/07
- *Helen Colony 04/26
- *Dorothy Thompson 04/28

April Birthdays

- Kelsie Dornbush 04/01
- Josephine Gillespie 04/03
- Sarah Perisho 04/08
- Kathy Rusch 04/08
- Mike Owens 04/09
- Jacob Evans 04/11
- Mary Schroeder 04/12
- Ron Knause 04/14
- Maura Garrett 04/15
- Ryan Smith 4/15
- Dee Miller 04/17
- Rick Weiss 04/17
- Vicki Pedersen 04/20
- Jane Keel 04/23
- Braedan Garrett 04/25
- James Haage 04/25
- Lori Andersen 04/28
- Joe Putnam 4/28
- Richard Jacobsen 04/28
- Quinn Garrett 04/30

Contact News

Newsletter information and articles for the next Contact are due by May 5.

**ZION LUTHERAN CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

1. Trivia Night raised \$600 for table fees and \$270 for 6 auction baskets to be used for Youth activities.
2. Council approved Ash Wednesday offerings, any subsequent Lenten offerings, and Good Friday offerings be added to the Zion General Fund.
3. Easter Breakfast will be on Sunday, April 5th, from 9:30-10:30 a.m.
4. Stacey Ramos will be a delegate for the SE Iowa Synod meeting on May 15-16 in Cedar Rapids. A male delegate is still needed to attend with Stacey.*
5. The Garden of Eatin' blessing will be on Sunday, May 17th.
6. Council approved Peggy Starkweather and Sheryl Mercer to cover Denise's vacation on May 18-22.

*Jim Haage will go as our male delegate



**SUPPORT THE
Garden of Eatin' MONTH!!
NEEDS LIST**

**GIFT CARDS/CERTIFICATES
TAYLOR'S
HYVEE
MENARD'S**

**MONETARY DONATIONS ARE WELCOME
WRITE "GARDEN" MEMO**

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME



OFFERING

Birthdays Over 80

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

May Birthdays

- *Allen Miller 05/10
- *Ria Meyer 05/23

May Birthdays


- Cindy Hank 05/03
- Tyler Baars 05/06
- Beth Batenhorst 05/08
- Ella Schroeder 05/08
- Jacob Dornbush 05/09
- Leslie Watson 05/10
- Mason Smith 05/11
- David Hanson 05/12
- Ellie McCleary 05/14
- Auggie Franklin 05/15
- Oliver Thompson 05/17
- Garrett Stalkfleet 05/17
- Briar Evans 05/18
- Stacey Ramos 05/19
- Asher Dornbush 05/20
- Reita Driskell 05/20
- Roger Putnam 05/26
- Alexandria Steele 05/26
- Carolyn Dittman 05/27
- Braelynn Steele 05/29
- Lexi McCleary 05/30
- Cheryl Jacobsen 5/31

Altar Guild:

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


Total Offering Received For Week 4/5/26	\$4,394
YTD Offering Received	\$62,696
Remaining Weekly Offering Required to meet Weekly Budget	\$4,414

YTD MCSA	YTD Laundry Love	YTD Quarters for Hunger
\$600	\$320	\$265
SHP	Synod Ben/Outreach	Youth
\$290	\$139	\$624



Z BOOK CLUB Meeting

THE KEEPER OF HIDDEN BOOKS
by Madeline Martin



From the author of *The Last Bookshop in London*: While Nazi forces ravage Warsaw, a book club risks everything to protect banned books – by hiding them away in a crumbling library... Inspired by true events, this “richly detailed, emotional” USA Today bestseller “will captivate historical fiction lovers” (Chanel Cleeton).

April 14 | 5:30PM

@ Diamond Dave's
563-263-5074
Zion Lutheran Church

* 25+

**50+

April Anniversaries

Greg & Kelly Gillespie 4/4

*David & Peggy Starkweather 4/19

May Anniversaries

Brandon & Kathleen Davis 5/8

*Doreen & Neil Borde 5/14

**Tim & Vivien Halloran 5/30

Usher Schedule

April

Jim & Julie Haage

Mike Batenhorst

Susan Smith

Bill Toyne

May

Tom Welk

Mike Watson

Mark & Sarah Perisho

Upcoming Meetings:

Joy Circle

April 23 6:30 p.m.

May 28 6:30 p.m.

Group 5

April 21 1:00 p.m

May 19 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM

April 9 @ Peking

May 14 @ Momma Mia

APRIL SHOWERS BRING NEW SOCKS

FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL,
ZION HAS BEEN ASKED BY LAUNDRY LOVE
TO DONATE SOCKS
TO FILL A URGENT AND DESPERATE NEED
IN THE COMMUNITY.

FOR MEN, WOMEN, BOYS OR GIRLS

LAUNDRY LOVE IS NOW PROVIDING
VOUCHERS FOR UP TO 100 FAMILIES
EACH MONTH AND OVER ONE-HALF
OF THE FOLKS THEY SERVE ARE KIDS.

THANK YOU!!



**SPRING
CLEAN UP DAY**

MAY 2, 2026

Contact
Stacey Ramos 563-571-0363
OR
563-263-5074

**Lawn mowing
Trimming
Pick up debris**



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 Bible study/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 Zion Lutheran church for about an hour. This invitation is open to all four ELCA congregations in Muscatine.



Please Pray for: Kristy Keith, Butch Doyle, Linda Brade, Beth Simpson, Karolyn Subbert, Faith McCleary, Judy Sebbert, Tyler Baars, Martha Carley, Carolyn Kemper, Eric Pohl, Roger Roskens, Tammy Welk, Maria Gui, Cindy Devick, Steve Andersen, Sheryl Mercer, & Bob Danner.



Please use this QR code to get somebody put on the prayer list!!



~CALL COMMITTEE~

The Call Committee would like to thank each of you for taking the time to complete the congregational survey. Your thoughtful insights are helping to shape our Ministry Site Profile, and we are pleased to share that we are nearing completion of this important step. We look forward to the next phase of our journey and will continue to share our progress.

Mark the dates below!
Registration details coming soon @christiandaycamp

Registration opens April 1

This year, we'll dive deep into Jesus' love and how we can share it with others. Get ready for a summer full of sunshine, friendship, and growing closer to Jesus — the Son who makes every wave worth catching!

Catch the Wave

<p>Preschool Ages 3-5</p> <p>Attend one or all! <i>Kids must attend with an adult</i></p> <p>JUNE 8, 15, 22 Rain date: June 29 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM <i>Supper provided!</i></p> <p>One-Time Registration fee: \$10</p> <p>Discovery Park 3300 Cedar Street, Muscatine</p>	<p>Middle School Completing 6th-8th</p> <p>Special youth RETREAT!</p> <p>JUNE 10 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM JUNE 11 9:00 AM to JUNE 12 @ 12:00 PM</p> <p>Registration fee: \$20</p> <p>Saulsbury Recreation Area 2007 Saulsbury Road, Muscatine</p> <p>Camp Celebration at the Aquatic Center on June 27th!</p> <p>christiandaycamp.org</p>	<p>Elementary Completing K-5th</p> <p>Two sessions <i>Kids can attend ONE</i></p> <p>JUNE 16-19 or JUNE 23-26 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM</p> <p>Registration fee: \$20</p> <p>Saulsbury Recreation Area 2007 Saulsbury Road, Muscatine</p>
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Growing Hope: LSI's Spring Plant Sale

Spring is an exciting season at LSI, and this year brings an especially meaningful milestone for our Global Greens program. After many years of renting space, we are grateful to share that LSI has purchased our local greenhouse in Des Moines, IA. This step allows us to expand our work and continue creating opportunities for the refugees and immigrants we serve.

Our Global Greens program brings together individuals and families from many different countries who are building new lives in our communities. In the greenhouse, participants grow flowers, vegetables, and hanging baskets while learning valuable job skills, practicing English, and forming friendships. It is a place where people from around the world work side by side, gaining confidence and experience as they move forward in their new home.

The **Spring Plant Sale** is an important part of making this program possible. The plants sold during the sale are grown and cared for by the refugees and immigrants in our program. Every purchase helps support training, supplies, and the ongoing work of LSI as we walk alongside newcomers adjusting to life in Iowa.

For our participants, the greenhouse represents more than a place to grow plants, it is a place to grow opportunity, community, and hope.

We invite you and your congregation to support this ministry by visiting the greenhouse during the plant sale, sharing the event with friends and neighbors, and keeping the families we serve in your prayers. When you purchase plants from LSI, you are not only preparing your garden for spring you are helping cultivate new beginnings for our newest neighbors.

Thank you for your continued partnership in this important work.

Give By Mail
Lutheran Services in Iowa
3125 Cottage Grove Ave
Des Moines, IA 50311

2026 Lutheran Day on the Hill

What a meaningful day we shared at this year's Lutheran Day on the Hill. More than 285 people registered for the event, with over 220 participants gathering at the Capitol to lift their voices in faithful advocacy for a better Iowa. Together we engaged in thoughtful conversations with elected officials and shared the importance of policies that reflect our shared values of care, justice, and compassion.

FINANCIALS

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church BUDGET TO ACTUAL - Unified Fund Month Ended March 31, 2026

	General Fund Mar 31, 2026 Actual	General Fund Mar 31, 2026 Budget	% of Budget	General Fund 3 months ended Mar 31, 2026 Actual	General Fund 12 months ended Dec 31, 2026 Budget	% of Annual Budget
Revenue						
Offering	\$ 18,938	\$ 21,420	88%	\$ 58,401	\$ 235,045	25%
Other Budgeted Income	231	750	31%	2,782	9,000	31%
Parsonage Fund Income	-	6,250	0%	-	25,000	0%
Total Revenue	19,169	28,420	67%	61,183	269,045	23%
Operating Expenses						
Staffing Expenses	9,309	14,229	65%	26,515	171,222	15%
Property & Office Expenses	7,442	5,086	146%	19,347	61,026	32%
Program Expenses	333	1,058	31%	1,150	12,700	9%
Budgeted Benevolence Expenses	1,840	1,908	96%	5,684	24,097	24%
Total Operating Expenses	18,925	22,281	85%	52,697	269,045	20%
Operating Income (Loss)	245	6,140	4%	8,486	-	
Other Income						
Unbudgeted Income	200	-		512	-	
Total Other Income	200	-		512	-	
Other Expenses						
Total Other Expenses	-	-		-	-	
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 445	\$ 6,140	7%	\$ 8,998	\$ -	
Fund Balances						
	As of Mar 31, 2026					
Unified Fund	\$ 127,150					
Building Fund	69,899					
Memorial Fund	10,599					
Fellowship Hall Fund	4,138					
Youth Fund	9,698					
Designated Benevolences	3,065					
Quilters Fund	2,347					
Innovative Ministries Fund	191,618					
Flower Fund	1,400					
Garden Fund	2,500					
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	1,416					
Total Fund Balances	\$ 423,830					



EASTER LILIES

IN MEMORY

CHERYL & RICHARD JACOBSEN
DALE & SUE WILDER
CHARLES POTTER
DAVE & DENISE BULCKE
KURT & KIM SEARS
SUE ROBINSON & FAMILY
ALBERT AMES

BRENDA HATCHER & PAULA MILLER
RUTH STARKWEATHER
MARCIA CROOKS

OUR FAMILY
OUR PARENTS
UNDERGROUND FAMILY
NICOLE ROSSEEL
MARY & KEITH BUTCHER
JOHN ROBINSON
ROBERT, JANET,
PETER & MARGARET AMES
KENNETH & JEAN ORR
HARRY STARKWEATHER
BELOVED DEPARTED

IN HONOR

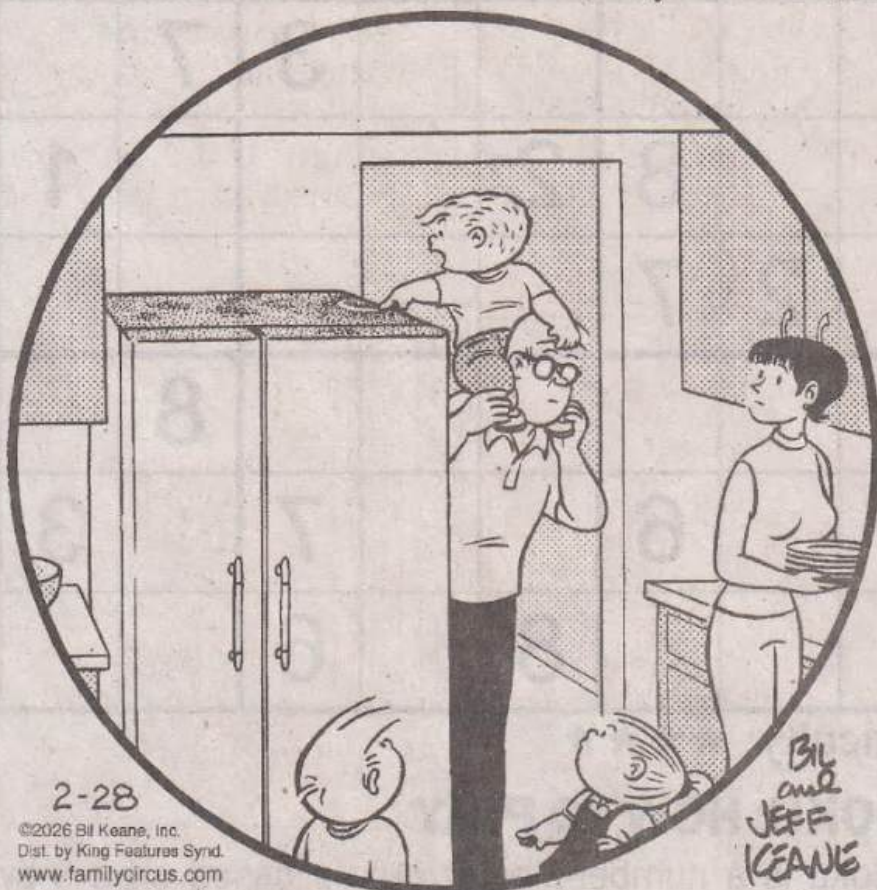
CHERYL & RICHARD JACOBSEN
CHARLES POTTER
DAVE & TERRI HANSON
KURT & SHARON STADTWALD
MARCIA CROOKS

SARA & DAVE REUSSWIG
OUR LORD & SAVIOR. WE ARE THANKFUL FOR FAMILY-MATTHEW,
AMBER, HENRY, PHIL, ALICE, LILY, EMILY & PATRICK. WE ARE
GRATEFUL FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US. PRAISE GOD

OUR LOVED ONES
ABOVE GROUND FAMILY
KIDS & GRANDKIDS

HOPES OF PEACE
EASTER BLESSINGS FROM





“Father Forrest said people are made out of dust. Who are we putting together up here?”

A LITTLE HUMOR

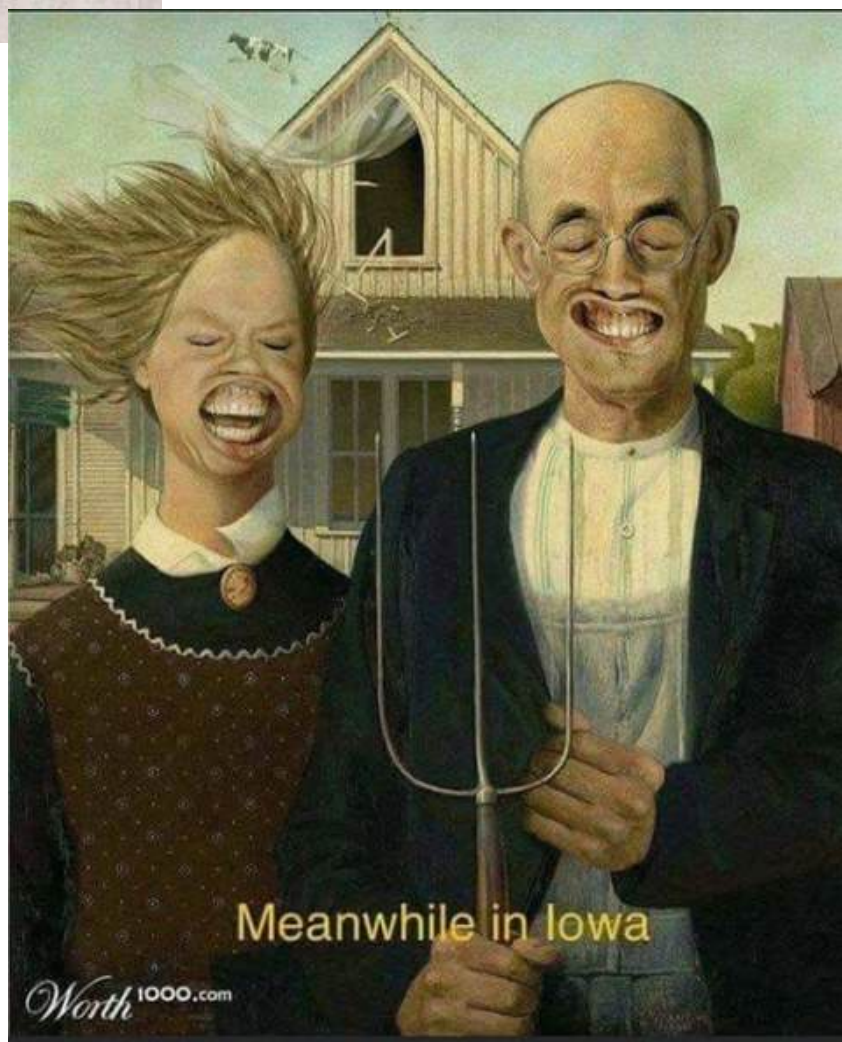
LAUNDRY LOVE

Consider volunteering!!

April 23
8:30-11a.m. & 4:30-8 p.m.

MidTown Laundromat
1508 Isett Ave, Muscatine, IA

Events are the 4th Thursday of the month (except Thanksgiving and Christmas.)
Helpers need to also bring their smiles and engage with folks as they feel comfortable.



Dear Friends,

The information boards in the Fellowship Hall have not been updated in several years. So, I have volunteered to refresh the boards with keeping the history while updating the current events sections.

The refreshed layout will contain the following information:

Youth

National Youth Conference – every 3 years, Fund Raisers (yard work, Trivia Night) Activities (bowling, pizza parties), Faith Family Night
Sunday School, Xmas Program
Communion, Confirmation and Bible Classes, Christian Day Camp, Scholarships

Committees

Social Ministry, Property/Building
Youth Memorial
Parish Education Trust
Council Altar Guild

Music

Senior Choir, Bell Choir
Orchestra, Other gifted musicians

Social Settings for Learning

Book Club, Men's Bible Study, (breakfast group)
Circles

Helping our Community

Sauerkraut Supper Garden of Eatin'
Emmus Café, Trust Grants

Other Boards

Historical documents, History of past Pastors
Confirmation Class photos, Church expansions through the years

If you have any of these types of photos, from 2025, please either email them to me at Rugbygirl_81@hotmail.com or bring the photos into the office and Denise will hold them for me. Please make sure that the photos you bring in is a copy, as the photo once placed on the board, might not make it back to you for some time. Make sure you have your name and contact information on the back of the photo so that it can be returned to you. Additionally, add the names, places and dates of those in the photo so that we can identify it when we place it on the board.

Once the boards are updated, we will try to stay on top of the information so that every year, old pictures can come down and new pictures can go up. So with the new year just beginning, get out your phones and start taking photos for our board.

Thank you for all your assistance.

Sarah Stalkfleet

2026. APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:30 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	2 MAUNDY THURSDAY	3 GOOD FRIDAY 6:30 PM WORSHIP 6:30 PM AA	4
5 EASTER GARDEN OF EATIN'/SOCKS 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP	6 CONTACT INFO DUE 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	7 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 7:00 PM SCOUTS	8 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	9 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@PEKING 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE	10 6:30 PM AA	11
12 GARDEN OF EATIN'/SOCKS 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	13 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	14 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 12:00 LUNCH TIME POTLUCK Z BOOK CLUB@ 5:30 DIAMOND DAVE'S 7:00 PM SCOUTS	15 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	16 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	17 6:30 PM AA	18
19 GARDEN OF EATIN'/SOCKS 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP	20 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	21 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 1:00 PM GR.5 MFR 7:00 PM SCOUTS	22 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	23 8:30-11 AM & 4:30-8 PM LAUNDRY LOVE 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	24 6:30 PM AA	25
26 GARDEN OF EATIN'/SOCKS 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	27 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	28 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 7:00 PM SCOUTS	29 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 6:00 PM FFN@GRACE LUTHERAN 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	30		

2026. MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 6:30 PM AA	2 YOUTH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY 9AM-3PM
3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GRADUATES 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP	4 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	5 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 7:00 PM SCOUTS	6 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	7 6:30 PM ALL COMMITTEE MEETING	8 6:30 PM AA	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY PLANTING FLOWERS 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	11 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	12 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 1:00 PM MEMORIAL COMMITTEE 7:00 PM SCOUTS	13 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	14 11:30 AM LUNCH BUNCH@ MAMA MIA'S 6:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING	15 6:30 PM AA	16
17 BLESSING OF THE GARDEN 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP	18 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	19 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 1:00 GROUP 5 5:30 TRUST FUND MEETING 7:00 PM SCOUTS	20 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	21	22 6:30 PM AA	23
24 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP 6:00 PM WORSHIP	25 3PM KITCHEN USAGE 6:30 PM AA	26 9:30 AM QUILT GROUP 12:00 LUNCHTIME POTLUCK 7:00 PM SCOUTS	27 6:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY 12:00 CHRISTIANS UNDERGROUND 6:00 PM FFN@ GRACE LUTHERAN 6:15 PM BELL CHOIR 7:00 PM CHOIR 6:30 PM AA	28 8:30-11 AM & 4:30-8 PM LAUNDRY LOVE 6:30 PM JOY CIRCLE	29 6:30 PM AA	30
31 10:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:00 AM WORSHIP						