

Dear Friends in Christ,

A couple of Sundays ago, we heard how Zechariah had nine months of silence to ponder and pray. The story begins before the birth of Jesus when a priest named Zechariah *“was chosen by lot to go into the Temple of the Lord and burn incense... Then an angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah, standing on the right side of the incense table. When Zechariah saw the angel, he was startled and frightened. But the angel said to him, ‘Zechariah, don’t be afraid. God has heard your prayer. Your wife, Elizabeth, will give birth to a son, and you will name him John’”* Luke 1:9, 11-13 (NCV). To which Zechariah answers, *“What proof is there for this? I’m an old man, and my wife is beyond her childbearing years. The angel answered him, ‘I’m Gabriel! I stand in God’s presence. God sent me to tell you this good news. But because you didn’t believe what I said, you will be unable to talk until the day this happens. Everything will come true at the right time’”* Luke 1:18-20 (GW)

The sentences that Gabriel speaks in our text are the last words that Zechariah hears for nine months. In Luke 1:62, it says that people had to use signs to speak to him, meaning that he was not only mute, but was made deaf as well. God sent a mighty angel, Gabriel, to tell him that his prayers for a child were answered, and Zechariah, being very old at that point, couldn’t believe the news. God regards the broken-hearted and nothing can stop his resolve on their behalf. Prayer is a powerful blessing.

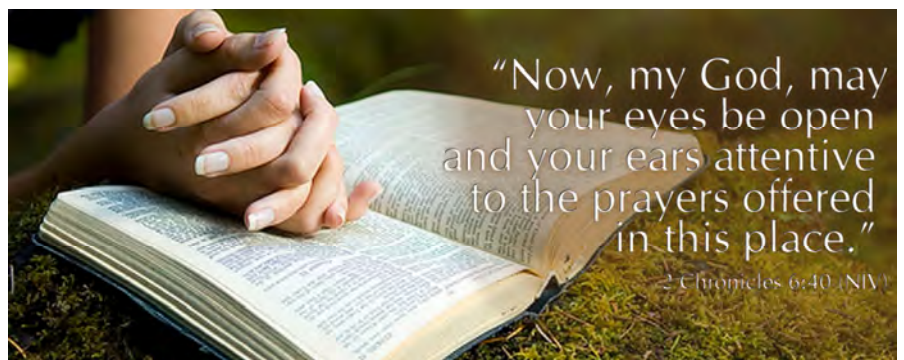
Why do we struggle so much to pray? That question has many answers, and we’ve probably heard most of them. We’re distractible, we’re lazy, we’re busy, we’ve had poor models, we lack a clear plan for how and when to pray, we’re overwhelmed by the sheer volume of people and things to pray for, our Adversary, the devil, opposes our praying, and the list goes on.

But I think a real reason for many of us is that we find prayer mysterious. We don’t understand how it works—or more accurately, we don’t understand how it doesn’t work. For example, we read promises in Scripture like this one:

*“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours”* Mark 11:24 (NIV).

Then we pray and we don’t see answers to our prayers like Zechariah and Elizabeth experienced. We’re left asking, what’s the problem? We may conclude that our faith is too pitifully small to move God, or that there must be too many unknowable, complicating factors inhibiting his answers. We end up as prayer agnostics either way, and we turn to prayer only when we feel very desperate. Verses such as Mark 11:24 must be for Christians with heroic faith.

But this is not the way God sees it. Prayer’s got nothing to do with a heroic faith. It’s about a relationship with God. The boundless promise —



“whatever [we] ask in prayer”—is an invitation to an intimate relationship with the Lord. Prayer is a confession of need, of inadequacy, of dependence, of repentance. Miracles do not belong to this world. They are the province of God alone. Prayer is not a transaction. Faith is not currency that we use to procure a response from God.

In any relationship there are two wills. God knows our will and seeks to protect us from it. Perhaps that’s why Zechariah was immediately silenced so that he could be strong in faith (Romans 4:20) rather than doubt. What we don’t know is God’s will. As the scriptures say, *“All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”*<sup>17</sup> *How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!*” Psalm 139:16-17 (NIV).

God listens to everything we pray about; that’s why Jesus said, “Whatever you ask in prayer.” And Jesus knows it’s hard for us too. He knows this promise presses us beyond our limits. He means it to. That’s why he made it. He is drawing us beyond what we’ve yet seen and experienced, and he’s calling out a trust in us that we don’t think we have—and are scared to really exercise. Jesus’ purpose is not to shame us for our little faith. He’s inviting us to press further up and in. One of the men who heard Jesus give this promise firsthand helps us understand what God is really after:

*“This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.”*<sup>15</sup> *And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.”* 1 John 5:14–15, (NIV)

It’s about confidence. How can John have such confidence toward God? He saw firsthand the love of Jesus, who gave Himself unto death for us. *“He personally carried our sins in his body on the cross so that we can be dead to sin and live for what is right. By his wounds you are healed”* 1 Peter 2:24 (NLT)

Prayer is the confident expectation that God is for us and that we can do nothing better than to cast all our cares and concerns, temptation and trials on God who truly cares for us. As with Zechariah, we should use our waiting times for God’s glory. Waiting was necessary to build confidence in God. Waiting in hope is a confession of God’s greatness and faithfulness. Faith is trusting that God is who he says he is and that he will do for us as he has promised.

Blessings in Jesus!

*Pastor Shawn*



**Clothing**

**July**



**School Supplies**

**August**

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**

We are featuring the summer months of July, and August this month! Items can be brought to the church office at any time. Please leave a note saying for OCC. Thank you!



*Elder Chairman's  
Message*

**Are We Like Zechariah – both Silent and Deaf?**

Hmmm, that's a new way to look at things. I hadn't thought of it like that before. New perspectives are often quite enlightening. This occurred to me upon hearing Pastor Shawn's message on June 24<sup>th</sup>, about Zechariah. We're all familiar with the exciting part of the story and the birth of John the Baptist, see (Luke 1:57-58) "Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. And her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her."

The emphasis in the lesson for our learning however, began much earlier in the account. (Luke 1:5-7) "In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron ... .. upright in the sight of God ... But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years."

Pastor Shawn's sermon highlighted Zechariah's human nature. His unwillingness to simply believe what the Angel Gabriel told him, specifically this tremendous news, that Elizabeth would be pregnant, and give birth to a son, whose name they would call John. While both Zechariah & Elizabeth were upright in the sight of God, Zechariah doubted what he heard from the angel. He even asked how this could be, since they were both old.

Why couldn't Zechariah believe that his prayers were being answered? Of all the people of Israel, why NOT him? Why doubt? Why question? God considered his family upright in his sight. What a blessing. Who are we to question God's plan and purpose for each of us?

Pastor's message, is that we should recognize that "God expects us NOT to doubt what we pray for". The angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah, while he was on duty and serving as priest in the temple. (Consider all of Luke 1) A perfect place for a visit from an Angel which stands in the presence of God, communicate this message sent from God, to a Servant of God, in the House of God, about God's plan!

Zechariah asked how to be sure of this, and because of his doubt, he had to remain silent until John was born and this prophesy fulfilled. Nine months passed, and he was silent, and could not hear or participate in any conversations with other people. What a profound and fitting punishment, for questioning God's plan. This was undoubtedly a very humbling and educational period for Zechariah as well, as he would be able to do nothing but function in silence and ponder what he had done, and what was to come. He likely spent much of the time studying and reflecting on scripture, and the angel's message in all its glory.

After the child was born, and on the eighth day, when preparing to circumcise the child, they were going to name him after his father Zechariah, but Elizabeth spoke up and said, "No! He is to be called John." When they made motions to Zechariah, he asked for a writing tablet, and to everyone's astonishment he wrote, "His name is John." Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue was loosed, and he began to speak, praising God. (see Luke 1:59-66)

May we learn from Zechariah, so that when we hear God's word, we DO NOT doubt God's plan for us. We often choose to be silent, when the opportunity to speak to one of The Lord's sheep, is going astray. May we each go forth and proclaim the Gospel and Christ Crucified, so that many more can be saved, and welcomed into the Kingdom of God, in fellowship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In HIS Service,

Kevin Donoho – TLC – Elder Chairman

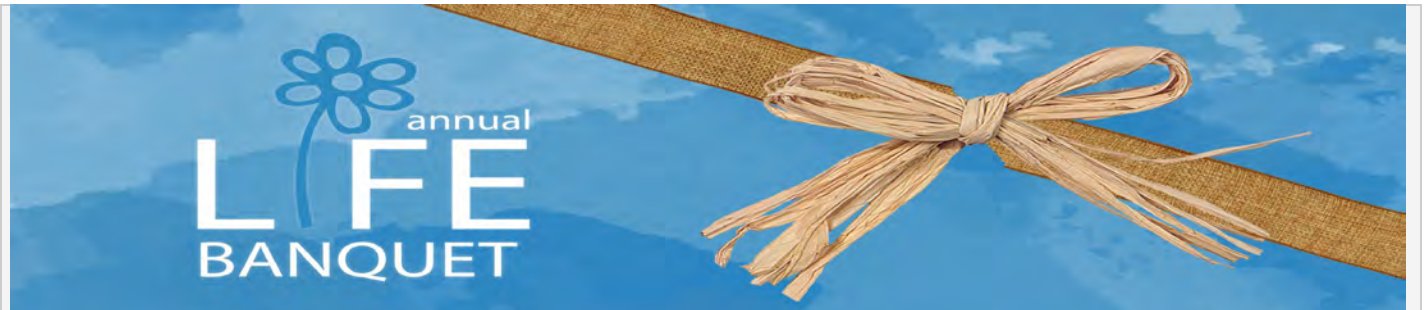


## Wee Disciples Preschool News

What a beautiful summer it has been. Praise God for the sun and warmth of this season. July is here already, and it is time to start thinking about the 2018-19 school year at the preschool. Enrollment for the coming year is ongoing throughout the summer and I have been meeting perspective families and giving tours of our preschool. Currently we only have a few openings left in the Tuesday/Thursday 2-day class for the fall. If you know anyone interested in preschool for their child, please suggest that they check out our website at [www.trinity-urbana.org](http://www.trinity-urbana.org), and feel free to share my contact information with families and friends. My email is [weedisclpespreschool@yahoo.com](mailto:weedisclpespreschool@yahoo.com).

Coming up in July new students will be contacted to schedule a home visit prior to the start of school. The Preschool Committee is planning to paint the hallway right outside the preschool classroom in early July. Thank you to Randy Niemann for prepping the walls for painting and for all the Preschool Committee for helping with on this project.

God's Blessings,  
Karen Rohrer, Director/Teacher



*And the Lord will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorced places; And give strength to your bones; And you will be like a well watered garden, And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail. - Isaiah 58:11*

## **SAVE THE DATE!** **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

Special guest: Jim Daly, President of Focus on the Family

6:30 PM (doors open at 6 PM)

Doubletree Hotel  
10 Brickyard Drive  
Bloomington, IL 61701

Dear Church Family,

We miss you and look forward to worship with you when we return.

Sterling is being well taken care of; he is with our daughter in Champaign. We have facetedimed with him, and the grandchildren of course . 😊

We give praise and thanks to God not only for his protection and care throughout this journey but for the opportunity He gave us to witness to our Australian family. Prayer was answered when they brought up the "religion topic" after asking Mom to say grace at dinner one night. God is Good, all the time.

We ask for your continued prayer as we will be with an additional family next week in Tasmania.

In Christ,

Hilary and Harry



A BIG thank you from the Watoto African Children's Choir that visited us. If you are so moved in your heart to support the Watoto community, here is the contact information:

Watoto USA  
13617 N. Florida Ave  
Tampa, FL 33613  
(888) 492-8686  
Email: [usa@watoto.com](mailto:usa@watoto.com)  
Or contact the church office.



**Trinity's LWML - Women in Mission** is meeting July 29th at 3:00p at the home of Linda Lindsay(3227 Greenwood Dr, Dewey) for a picnic. Those attending are asked to bring a dish. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Pastor Shawn Boylan will give the devotion. Just a reminder that July is also Mite Box month!



**LWML is collecting school kits for children** whose lives have been disrupted by war or some other disaster. Receiving a school kit is a sign that someone far away cares. Adults in literacy classes appreciate the supplies needed to learn to read and write.

Each school kit needs the following items:

- 4 – 70 sheets paper notebooks
- One blunt scissors
- One 12-inch ruler, or a ruler with centimeters on one side/inches on the other.
- One eraser approximately 2 ½" long
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One pencil sharpener
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- One box crayons, 16 or 24 count

There is a table set up in the narthex for the donated supplies. **THANK YOU** so much for your help and donations!

**YOUR LCMS AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS AT WORK:**

**LCMS CAMPUS MINISTRY**



The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod's Campus Ministry works through LCMS U, an initiative to connect and support Lutheran students as they head off to college and face countless challenges to their biblical worldview, doctrine, ethics and practices. It is also a place to connect and encourage parents, congregations and campus ministries as they seek to care for our students, so that all can bear witness to Christ on our nation's college campuses.

When a college student steps out of the comfortable sanctuaries of church and home, life is anything but normal. Today's post-modern college campuses provide an increasingly challenging climate. The reliability and truth of God's Word is often mocked, one's faith may be ridiculed.

Many Colleges and Universities have an LCMS campus ministry at their school, but others do not. College campuses are quickly becoming one of our mission fields. The opportunity for evangelism and mission is breathtaking.

For more information, families can go to [lcms.org/lcmsu](http://lcms.org/lcmsu).

**The following Trinity Small groups will continue to meet this summer.** If you have questions, please contact the church office or the person listed.

Breakfast Bible Study at Urbana Gardens (6:30a-1st & 3rd Thursday)	Helen Burch	hburch36@comcast.net
Young Adult & Families at church (12:00p-2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday)	Andrew Colosky	amcolosk@gmail.com
Pieces of Love at church (6:00p-1st & 3rd Wednesday)	Jen Holhubner	jholhubner@hotmail.com
Home Bible Study at Rouse's (6:30p-July 27 <sup>th</sup> )	Hilary Rouse	hilaryrouse@msn.com
Women in Mission at church (6:30p-July 10 <sup>th</sup> )	Gayle Holderfield	gh2729@att.com
Home Fellowship at Boylan's (6:30p-Thursdays)	Jill Boylan	jill@boylansweb.net

June Financial Report		June Attendance Report		
Date	Weekly Totals	Date	Attendees	Communion
06/03/2018	\$9,472	06/03/2018	165	142
06/10/2018	\$5,222	06/10/2018	139	120
06/17/2018	\$5,615	06/17/2018	159	136
06/24/2018	\$7,370	06/24/2018	150	120
<b>Weekly Budgeted Amount</b>	\$7,746			
<b>YTD Budget Amount</b>	\$193,641			
<b>YTD Receipts</b>	\$163,334			



**Come and join us at Trinity on July 13th at 7:00p**  
**THE BLACKWOOD QUARTET**  
**All Church Cookout**

Join us at 5:30p for a cookout before the Blackwood Quartet concert! The church will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, tableware, lemonade and water. Please bring a dish to share:  
Last name A-L: salad, veg or potato dish  
Last name M-Z: dessert



Looking forward to time together as a church family! You are welcome to invite friends and family. We just need an approximate number so we have enough burgers, etc. **Please sign up on the friendship pad during church or call the church office.**



**THANK YOU!** We would like to thank the members of the congregation for their willingness to host the Watoto Children's Choir on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Members opened their homes to the children and their chaperones overnight, provided food for the choir's dinner, ushered during the

concert, assisted in the setup and take down of equipment, etc. Thank you, also, for your monetary donations which will help change the lives of these children. We pray that everyone, who attended the concert, was blessed by their energetic message of God's love and redemption through song and dance. Please continue to pray for the members of the Watoto Children's Choir as they finish their Midwest United States tour in the next few weeks. God is truly working in the lives of these children.

Thanks again, Lowell & Jean Timm



Dear Trinity Urbana,  
It was so wonderful to get to spend a weekend worshipping and communing with you. We felt so welcomed and cared for during our time with you!  
We wanted to thank you again for joining us in bringing the gospel to France and putting the Bible back in the hands of the French! It means so much to have Trinity behind our family as we transition to life and ministry across the ocean. We're so thankful and excited to have you as partners in this mission.  
Grateful for you,  
Kristen, Don & Sevia Stout



Water consumption affects many aspects of our daily lives, and it's easier to lose fluids than it is to gain them. **Our bodies use water to regulate everything**, and need more depending on physical exercise, external heat, and sickness. Staying hydrated and healthy is important. Take a look at this list for signs of dehydration.

- 1) **Dry / Sticky Mouth** The lack of water can lead to the salivary glands not making enough saliva, resulting in a dry or sticky mouth feel, according to Mayo Clinic. This can also make swallowing more difficult.
- 2) **Less Frequent Urination** When the body does not receive as much water as it is losing in day-to-day functions, the kidneys start to retain water to make up for the higher concentrations of blood, according to Business Insider.
- 3) **Muscle Cramps** If the body does not have enough fluids when working out, the chances of muscle cramps increase, according to MedlinePlus. While the more common muscles to experience cramping are found in the leg, the feet, arms, hands, and abdomen are also likely to cramp as well.
- 4) **Dizziness** Mild dehydration can affect the cognitive behavior in certain individuals, according to "Water, Hydration and Health," a public manuscript regarding the effects of dehydration. This can lead to dizziness, problems in concentration, and in some cases short-term memory issues.
- 5) **Increased Heart Rate** With less water in the body, the blood volume decreases as a result, according to "Water, Hydration and Health," and so increases the heart rate of a dehydrated person. Another impact this has is lowering blood pressure when transitioning from laying down to standing up.
- 6) **Less Elastic Skin** Lack of water in the body will cause the skin to start to become tight, according to The International Dermal Institute, causing cracks from stretching that can bleed.
- 7) **Thirst** One of the most common symptoms, thirst is the body's way of communicating that it needs more fluids. Extreme thirst is a clear sign of dehydration and should be treated with sucking on ice cubes or sipping water.
- 8) **Dry, Cool Skin** Dry skin will look and/or feel rough and itchy. The skin will start to take on a scaly appearance when dehydrated and will be cool to the touch, according to the International Dermal Institute.
- 9) **Headache** Headaches and migraines can be caused if someone has lower than normal body fluids, but can be quickly dealt with by drinking water, according to "Water, Hydration and Health."  
According to PubMed, the average male should consume 3.7 liters of water and the average women should consume 2.7 liters.

However, these numbers will fluctuate based on daily exercise and heat stress. Be prepared by knowing the signs of dehydration and prevent it by drinking plenty of fluids daily; contact your healthcare provider if a dehydrated person loses consciousness as that can lead to possible complications and issues.

Please **SHARE** this with your friends and family.



## JULY BIRTHDAYS

07/01	Dan Roney
07/02	Al Willms
07/03	Jim Cook
	Toby Garrod
07/04	Gus Rossow
07/06	Dennis Daly
07/09	Hannah Newman
	Susan Sheppelman
07/14	Blake Burr
	Elsa Reifsteck
07/16	Andrea Nation
	Julianne Nation
07/18	Barbara Albers
07/20	Scotty Johnson
07/21	Joann Ohman
07/22	Loren Althoff
07/23	David Wetherell
07/24	Carolyn Wanagat
07/26	Holden Albers
07/30	Wendy Doebel
07/31	Charlotte Floyd

## JULY ANNIVERSARIES

07/02	Gary & Zoe Revell (24 years)
07/03	Ken & Mary Jo Rott (58 years)
07/04	Devin & Megan Althoff (10 years)
07/06	Dave & Linda Lindsay (33 years)
07/12	Dave & Linda Becker (32 years)
07/13	Steve Calhoun & Kathy Mueller (21 years)
	Tom & Donna Huxtable (44 years)
07/21	Mark & July Boudreau (41 years)
07/27	Bill Peifer & Karen Rohrer (22 years)



Paris Council will meet  
July 10th at 6:00p.  
Members, please make  
every effort to attend. A  
quorum is needed to act  
on important church  
business. Thank you.

"May the Lord *bless* you  
and *protect* you.  
may the Lord smile on you  
and be gracious to you.  
May the Lord show you his *favor*  
and give you his *peace*."  
Numbers 6:24-26

**USHERS**

<b>8:30</b>		Fred Holhubner & John Steer
	07/01	Brent & Blake Burr
	07/08	The Rossow Family
<b>10:45</b>	07/15	Debesai & Yosef Stifanos
	07/22	The Rossow Family
	07/29	Brent & Blake Burr

**ELDERS**

<b>5:30</b>	Saturdays: Larry Seggebruch	
<b>8:30</b>	Sundays: David Nation	
<b>10:45</b>	Sundays: James Rossow	

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

	07/01	Jill Boylan
	07/08	Risë Lange
	07/15	Deb Winkel/Hilary Rouse
	07/22	Sandy Burt (E) Carol Niemann (L)
	07/29	Pastor Shawn Boylan

**CANTORS/READERS**

	07/01	Donna Schaal
	07/08	Fred Holhubner
<b>8:30</b>	07/15	David Kuehn
	07/22	David Lange
	07/29	Risë Lange
<b>10:45</b>	07/01	Brent Burr
	07/08	Phyllis Johnston
	07/15	Randy Niemann
	07/22	Chris Roegge
	07/29	Brent Burr

**AUDIO/VIDEO**

	07/01	Jennifer Holhubner
	07/08	Karl Newman
<b>10:45</b>	07/15	Karl Newman
	07/22	Gayle Holhubner
	07/29	Gus Rossow

**ALTAR GUILD**

	Maurice & Liz Knocke
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**THOSE WHO SERVE:**

**Pastoral Care**

Pastor Shawn Boylan  
cell: 217.379.7443  
pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org

Pastor Donald Ehlers  
cell: 703.472.3624  
ddehlers@comcast.net

**Ministry Team**

Marianne Whitacre, Secretary  
Office Hours: M-Th 7:30a-2:00p  
7:30a-11:30a F  
Office phone: 217.367.8923  
marianne@trinity-urbana.org

Brenda Donoho, Organist  
home: 217.586.5865  
knbdonoho@gmail.com

Jason Gardner, Choir Conductor  
Cell: 317.670.0154  
jpg2@illinois.edu

Ruth Benton, Parish Nurse  
rabenton1@comcast.net

**Sunday School**

Jill Boylan Carol Niemann  
Allison Allender Nick Tsiakals

**Wee Disciples Preschool**

weedisciplespreschool@yahoo.com  
Karen Rohrer, Director/Teacher  
office: 217.607.2096  
cell: 217.778.5206  
Sara Sullivan, Board Chairman





# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH EVENT CALENDAR

# JULY 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30a Traditional Service 9:45a Sunday School/BP 10:00a Trinity WDWS 10:45a Contemporary Service	2	3	4 Happy 4th of July! Office Closed	5 6:30a Breakfast Bible Study  6:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Home Fellowship	6	7 5:30p Worship Service
8 CID Convention Springfield 8:30a Traditional Service 9:45a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Service 12:00p Young Adult Fellowship	9 CID Convention Springfield	10 CID Convention Springfield  6:00p Parish Council	11  6:00p Ministry Council	12  6:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Home Fellowship	13  All Church Cookout 5:30p Blackwood Quartet 7:00p	14  5:30p Worship Service
15 8:30a Traditional Service 9:45a Sunday School 10:00a Trinity WDWS 10:45a Contemporary Service	16  5:30p Property Management	17	18  6:00p Pieces of Love	19 6:30a Breakfast Bible Study  6:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Home Fellowship	20 <b>NEWSLETTER ITEMS</b>	21  5:30p Worship Service
22 8:30a Traditional Service 9:45a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Service	23	24  6:00p Elders	25	26  6:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Home Fellowship	27  Home Bible Study 6:30p	28  5:30p Worship Service
29 8:30a Traditional Service 9:45a Sunday School 10:45a Contemporary Service 3:00p LWML-WIM Picnic	30	31				