

TRINITY TIDINGS

132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinitymburgoffice@gmail.com



Look at the birds!

April 2023

Many of us have chosen a Lenten discipline. I hope you are experiencing God's presence through these new disciplines. I have chosen to take on a morning prayer walk. As I walk, I breathe in deeply -- breath in gratitude and breath out stress and discouragement. I often pray for each of you. As I have walked these past weeks, I have paid more attention to the signs of spring blossoming all around. The air has become fragrant. The flowers are showing their colors. The birds are chirping.

Spring is a wonderful sign of resurrection that reminds me of a silent retreat that I took some years ago. I stayed alone in a small cottage in Lancaster County. Each morning of the three days of retreat, I sat outside to read scripture and pray. On the last morning, the lesson was from Matthew 26:26 – 29

"Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these."

These words came as an invitation to look and listen to the beauty and sounds of God's good creation all around me. Gifts I had been missing because of busyness and fatigue. As I recall that morning, I remember that suddenly I could hear the sweet voices of birds singing. They had obviously been singing all along, but I had been too distracted to hear them. Since that morning, when I hear birds singing, I remember God's gift of that morning.

Springtime holds the promise of rebirth in the signs of flowers that begin to bloom, light green grass emerging from dormancy to new life, and birds singing their songs of joy. May these gifts of the Spring Lenten season also remind us of the coming resurrection day and of Jesus who brings new birth from all that seems lifeless.

Look at the birds of the air, consider the lilies of the field.



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TRINITY
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
ON MAIN
"Sharing God's Love"™



132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

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Worship Notes



8 AM WORSHIP GREETERS

Greeters are now being scheduled for the west door on Sunday mornings beginning at 7:45. The front door will remain locked with a sign directing worshipers to the side door.

Acolytes and Crucifers are currently being scheduled by Debbie Schue through the church office. She is using an online scheduling tool called Sign-Up Genius.

Anyone grade 5 to adult is welcome to be trained to be an acolyte. Crucifers should be old enough to manage the weight of the cross.

Being an acolyte or crucifer is an honor for young people as families seek to involve their youth in serving God. This is also a marvelous way for youth to be welcomed into the worship of our church. A young person's faith is formed significantly as they regularly join with people of all ages in worship.



If you are an existing acolyte or crucifer --- thank you! If you are interested in being trained as an acolyte, please let Pastor Karen know any Sunday morning, by calling the church office at 717-766-2662, or by email at pastorkjd@gmail.com

Hearts · Hands · Voices

Local workshops for church musicians

sponsored by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

Did you know that Pastor Karen Durbin and Minister of Music Melissa Jacoby have been invited to present a workshop at the "Hearts Hands Voices" retreat at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lancaster, PA on Saturday, April 22? This day long retreat is focused on current resources for enlivening the church's song. Their workshop at the retreat will focus on nurturing relationships between pastors and pastoral musicians.

Other topics for the day Include:

- understanding and reporting copyright usage,
- exploring the new All Creation Sings worship resource,
- learning about resources for contemporary music.

This event is sponsored by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

Snax n Study



Join us at 8:45 am for fellowship and breakfast, and then stay for an insightful study and conversation with others. We have a wonderful group of teachers for this class including: Ja'net Gochenauer, Amy Boyer, David Durbin, Melissa Jacoby, Stacey Zeller, and Pastor Karen Durbin.

We will not meet as a class on Palm Sunday, April 2, or on Easter, Sunday April 9, but will resume on April 16.

Our spring schedule resumes with:

April 16 - "The Life of the Apostle Paul" with Rick Staves, led by David Durbin.

April 23 - 12 Years in the Making – a session led by Stacey Zeller using scripture and her interest/hobby of collecting obituaries.

Beginning April 30 – a six session DVD study of Moses, an Adam Hamilton series exploring the sites of Moses' life, from the Nile River to the Reed Sea, from Mt. Sinai to the desert wilderness

A Snax n Study Class 12 Years in the Making

Somehow, Pastor Karen managed to talk me into facilitating a Snax n Study discussion about the hobby that I've had for the last 12 years. I call it "weird;" she calls it "unique" and "interesting!" So here it is... I collect obituaries.

I generally don't keep the entire article, but I'm into my second journal of documenting what fascinates me the most about obituaries... how people describe the process of passing away. Some people "die." Some people "pass away." Some folks are escorted to Heaven by angels, whereas God sometimes comes and picks people up where they are. Some people submit their final change of address, and still others sink their final putt.

Are we "going toward" our final spiritual resting place, or are we being "pulled" to it? Is it ok to be funny in an obituary (I hope so!)? How, and for what, do we want to be remembered?

Full disclosure, I'm certainly not an expert in this, so I don't claim to be "teaching" anything here, but I'm hoping that we can share a comfortable, non-threatening conversation about this inevitability... perhaps even having some fun as we do it... and offer a different way of considering this newspaper staple.

Join the conversation on Sunday, April 23 ... yummy breakfast items are typically ready by 8:45-ish, and the discussion will begin around 9:00 am. ~ Stacey Zeller

It's Snax and Study Time and you are invited!



It's been a while and it's not what you're expecting – same old... same old Sunday School.

We are a multi-age group having fun while learning about Biblical times and current times with Jesus. We are alive and hungry and boy do we love to eat, as all good Lutherans do.

Come and See,
Come and eat,
(a really good breakfast!)
Come and be with friends learning about Jesus.

We can't wait to see you at
8:45 a.m. Sunday Morning!

Music Notes



Church Music Sunday is April 30.

Join us on Sunday, April 30, when hymns, anthems and music written by women will accompany our morning worship services, including performances by our bell choir, chancel choir, instrumentalists and children.



"...listen to those around you, as they hold the faith for you."

In recent weeks, we have heard the above phrase in our order of worship during Affirmation of Faith, when we confess our faith with words of the Apostles' Creed. Barn Geese Worship, the resource guiding us in questions of Lent, puts it this way:

Today we affirm our faith by answering questions, to truly consider what we believe. If you are unable to affirm each statement, listen to those around you, as they hold the faith for you.

Such power and confidence of the assembly (**all** of us) to join our voices in unison and profess aloud what we believe. And yet also, space and grace for **each** of us in moments - even seasons - of questioning, doubt or struggle. To be bolstered. Carried. Included.

Before I learned to play handbells (a few years ago), it was perplexing to me how the ensemble - each ringer with just two notes, one in each hand - would play hymns and anthems like any other musical instrument. Being accustomed to the availability of 88 keys (piano) or 2-1/2 octaves (saxophone), I wondered how this could be possible. With only two bells?

It took just one rehearsal to appreciate what "*only two bells*" meant: none of us ever has to play **ALL** the notes. We **listen** to everyone around us, to our left and right, up and down the tables with the tones of the scale, each of us ringing our bells in tempo to bring the music to life.

Now that I've been here for over a year, I continue to be amazed and impressed at all the moving parts, dedicated hands and willing hearts that support, sustain and grow your worship, ministries, outreach and community. All of these efforts - divvied up like bells in each of our hands and then performed all together - bring God's love and presence to life here at Trinity and beyond these walls. And like a musical work or the affirmation of what we believe (or hope to believe), you "*hold the faith for us.*"

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."
~ I Corinthians 12:27*



Calling All Youth, Grades 7-12!

Youth Group

We are now partnering with Kellen Michalowski, youth director at St. Peter's Lutheran in Mechanicsburg and St. Mark Lutheran Church in Harrisburg for youth group. This opportunity is open to all youth. Youth group typically meets on the fourth Sunday evening of each month at St. Peter's from 5:30 – 8:30 pm with teaching, all kinds of games, and prayer. Other events include retreats and service opportunities.

The next youth group meeting is March 26.

Check out this link for more info:

<https://stpetermechanicsburg.com/schedule-forms-youth/>

Confirmation Class at Trinity

Confirmation classes at Trinity will continue with Pastor Karen meeting once a month.

Our new curriculum is

"Manna and Mercy: A Brief History of God's Unfolding Promise to Mend the Entire Universe,"

by Daniel Erlander. There are 16 sessions geared toward youth that take us from the beginning through God's dream of Shalom for us and the world.



with St. Peter's youth group, SPYG.

Our youth are invited to a lock-in with SPYG on **April 12, 5:15 pm to April 13, 9:30 am**. Activities for the evening may include the Nerf Arena in Harrisburg, games, snacks, movies, hanging out for the night, and breakfast. A medical release is required, so let Pastor Karen know if your youth is going so she can send you that form.

Harrisburg Confirmation Camp

We will be participating with St. Peter's for the Harrisburg Confirmation Camp, June 18-24. Camp is open to all youth 7-11 grade.

SYNOD NEWS

The Lower Susquehanna Synod has an on-line newsletter that provides information about what is going on around the SYNOD! Just go to the LSS website: <http://www.lss-elca.org/>

Winter Community Dinner Highlights...

Our February 19 Community Dinner was a lovely evening with our neighbors, at Buhrig's Gathering Place.

Attendance was record-breaking, with 96 guests and about 30 volunteers. It was nice to see familiar faces as well as some new ones. It was so wonderful having such a delicious meal, awesome music, smiling servers, and people sitting amongst the tables from all different churches with one mission - to care for our neighbors with Jesus' love.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to help with set-up, serving the food, and clean-up!

Our next dinner will be May 21 at First Church of God.

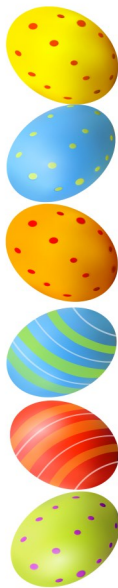


Upcoming Events

CALLING ALL EASTER BUNNY HELPERS!



The big EB is looking for folks to help hide the eggs for the Easter egg hunt on Friday, April 7. I am asking all volunteers to be at Trinity by 10 am so there is time to hide all 800 eggs. Any questions, just ask Denise.



Good Friday Prayer Walk & Easter Egg Hunt

Join us on Good Friday, April 7 for a Community Prayer Walk ending with an Easter Egg hunt on the lawn at Trinity Church. The prayer walk will begin at 10 am at First Church of God. The Easter Egg Hunt, for ages 2-12, will begin at 11:30 at Trinity Church. We hope to see you there!

MAUNDY THURSDAY



The Maundy Thursday Agape Meal is on April 6 at 6:30. The sign-up sheet for meal ingredients is on the bulletin board inside the west entrance. Let us know what you are able to bring.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

resumes on April 20.
Join us in fellowship hall at
11 am as we continue our
study of the gospel
according to Matthew.



Our next Community Dinner will be held on May 21, 5 pm, on the lawn at First Church of God on Main Street. These dinners are held seasonally and are sponsored by five downtown churches in Mechanicsburg: St Mark Lutheran, Mechanicsburg Brethren in Christ, St. Paul's UCC, First United Methodist, First Church of God, and Trinity Lutheran. Watch for sign up sheets to volunteer to bring food, or to help out.

Trinity on Main will host the Community Dinner in July.

Community Outreach



FREE

Adult Clothing

Saturday, April 15
9-11am



Trinity's Closet on Main
132 E. Main St.
Mechanicsburg, PA

Trinity's Closet on Main and Blessing Box Ministries

Thank you for your ongoing support of Trinity's Closet on Main and our Blessing Box ministry. Non-perishable food items continue to be in high demand, and the clothing closet is well attended.

Trinity's Closet on Main has received four rolling storage bins on wheels, a large rolling shoe rack, and some non-perishable food items. These were purchased with a Thrivent Grant received by Ja'net Gochenaur. Thank you Ja'net for these gifts, and thanks to Thrivent for their participation in outreach for our community.

"God Moments" from the March Clothing Closet

Attendance at Trinity's monthly Clothing Closet remains high, and every month, we are reminded that the need for the ministry remains strong as well. This month, we were blessed with a donation of around a dozen pairs of brand new black ankle boots. Melissa Jacoby and I were working the "express check-out" table and got to hear first-hand just how important these boots ended up being to someone.

A woman came to our table with a few items including the boots, and she said how tickled she was to have found them. Her father was sick and not expected to live much longer... in fact, it was a surprise that he had made it through the night. She came to Clothing Closet hoping to find an outfit that would be appropriate for his funeral, and she was thrilled to find these new black boots that she would be able to wear for it. Unfortunately, however, she was unable to find a suitable outfit that she could wear with them, but this was a good start.

She must have made conversation with another of the attendees in the room and shared her story because as we were talking, this other woman, who had checked out earlier, left, and come back, reached around her as we were talking, and handed her a \$50-bill. She told this woman to take the money and go buy herself a new outfit for the funeral. The woman was speechless, and shaking, at this beautiful and unexpected gift. Frankly, it took us all a moment to compose ourselves.

Eventually, as we continued to get her checked out, we asked if she wanted to keep the couple of hangers that she had picked up, and she said no, she doesn't have a place to hang clothes at the shelter where she is staying.

The Clothing Closet and the Blessing Box are incredibly important ministries to our neighbors in ways that we may never even fully know, but honestly, I almost always come away from that day feeling ministered to myself. There is room, and need, for more volunteers each month. We've been blessed recently to draw a few volunteers who are not Trinity members or attendees to come and help. But we would love to have more! Please consider joining us one month. I promise it will be worth your time.

~ Stacey Zeller



CREATED FOR COMMUNITY

This is Christ's Church. There is a Place for You Here.

The 2023 Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly

Synod Assembly "Created for Community"

Gathering under the theme, "Created for Community," our 36th annual Synod Assembly will celebrate the presence of God in and through our congregations, our conferences, and our synod. The business of the assembly will begin the evening of June 2 and conclude at the end of the day on June 3. The business agenda includes worship, adoption of the 2024 budget, and essential elections.

The format for Synod Assembly will be 'hybrid,' with Edification Day and one of the Assembly Business days taking place via Zoom and one Assembly Business Day taking place in person. The Assembly Edification Learning Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 20, 2023. The Assembly Business days are scheduled for June 2-3, 2023.

Trinity's Synod Assembly representatives are Mike and Deb Hartman, and Pastor Karen Durbin.

Hearts · Hands · Voices

Local workshops for church musicians

sponsored by the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

Current Resources for the Church Musician

This one-day event focuses on current resources for enlivening the church's song. Workshop sessions offered on the topics of copyright reporting, exploring All Creation Sings, learning about contemporary music resources, and nurturing good relationships between pastors and pastoral musicians.

**Lutheran Church of
the Good Shepherd**
750 Greenfield Road
Lancaster, PA

April 22, 2023 | 9:00-4:00

Registration

Register online at <https://alcm.org/event/lancaster-pa/>.

Rates (includes lunch)

Regular registration (\$45)

Full-time student (\$20) - includes one-year ALCM membership

Presenters

Karen Durbin, Melissa Jacoby,
Valerie Lefever Hughes, Adam Lefever Hughes,
Erik Teichmann





Need help? If you know someone needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us. (717) 432-2087

Wish list: Please see website for specific needs by Center: www.nhm-pa.org

We could use your help!

Please prayerfully consider volunteering time at New Hope Ministries! www.nhm-pa.org

MEN'S BREAKFAST

The men will meet for breakfast on **Thursday, April 27** at 8 am at CC's Kitchen, 70 E. Main Street, Mechanicsburg. David Durbin leads each month with some words of inspiration from scripture and a lively discussion. All men are welcome!



*Synod Assembly,
June 3, Trinity Lutheran,
Camp Hill.*

*Greater Harrisburg Concert Band
on the lawn,
Friday, July 15, 7 pm*

*Outdoor Worship and picnic at
Koser Park, September 10, 10 am.
(8 am worship will be held at the
church)*

save
the
date®

Office Contact Info
Church & Staff Office Hours
Mon. – Thurs. 9 AM – 2 PM
(other hours as needed)

Phone: 717-766-2662
trinityburgoffice@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/TLCMech
<https://trinity-on-main.org/>

Pastor Contact Info

Pastor Karen Durbin

Email: pastorkjd@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby

Email: trinityburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue

Email: trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

EMERGENCIES & HOSPITALIZATIONS

We want to know when you or someone close to you needs pastoral care. Please contact Pastor Karen or the church office using the contact information above in the event of a newly diagnosed disease, hospitalization, or rehabilitation. Due to HIPAA regulations, this is the only method we have to know of your need. You may also contact Pastor Karen if you are in the midst of a life transition: a birth, a death, a move, a job loss/change, an empty nest, retirement, etc. or are experiencing a spiritual, physical, emotional, or financial crisis.



April Birthdays

2 Curtis Moats
 4 Zachary Schmick
 5 James Lynch
 12 Shelby Sieber
 16 John Hafer
 28 Lena Wagenheim
 30 Danielle Sabatini
 30 Rebecca Zielonis

Is your birthday missing? Please let us know so we can update our database!

If you see any of these folks during April, be sure to wish them well on their birthday!

March Council Meeting Highlights for Tidings

There will be a brunch following the 10:15 am worship service on Palm Sunday, April 2nd.

There will be a Church Music Sunday Tea following the 10:15 am worship service on Sunday, April 30th.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to staff the church parking lot on Jubilee Day, June 15th, for vendor parking between 5:00 – 11:00 am. Money raised will benefit New Hope Ministries. Please consider helping, and watch for more details to come.



UPCOMING SUNDAY EVENTS

April 2: 9 am, Confirmation Class
 11:30 am, Palm Sunday brunch
 April 9: 6:30 am, Easter Sunrise Service
 10:15 am, Festival Worship w/Music
 April 16: 8:45 am, Snax n Study
 April 23: 8:45 am, Snax n Study
 April 30: Church Music Sunday
 8:45 am, Snax n Study

TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER, items for Tidings are due into the church office by the 10th of each month for the following month's issue. Thank you!



THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®

You're invited



Mark your calendar for a FREE SHREDDING EVENT. We'd love to have you.

Bring your personal and business documents, confidential papers and anything else that you would like shredded professionally and securely! All shredding will be done on site. Bring it all and help us shred a TON! Please remove all binder clips, paperclips and spiral binding. Please do not bring in any container or box that you want returned.

We are excited to be partnering with New Hope Ministries for this event. Please bring a donation for this non-profit. New Hope is currently in need of personal care and hygiene items as well as cleaning supplies. Non-perishable goods are also welcome.

Event details

Thursday, April 27, 2023
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 New Hope Ministries
 99 W Church Street
 Dillsburg, PA

Hosted by

Kingdom Focused Financial Group

Please RSVP by April 21, 2023. Call Kingdom Focused Financial Group at 717-502-1100 or email kingdomfocusedfinancialgroup@thrivent.com.

Join us during Holy Week!

**Palm / Passion Sunday,
April 2:**

Worship, 8 am & 10:15 am
Palm Sunday brunch follows
10:15 worship

**Maundy Thursday,
April 6:**

Agape Meal & Worship,
Begins at 6:30 pm in
fellowship hall

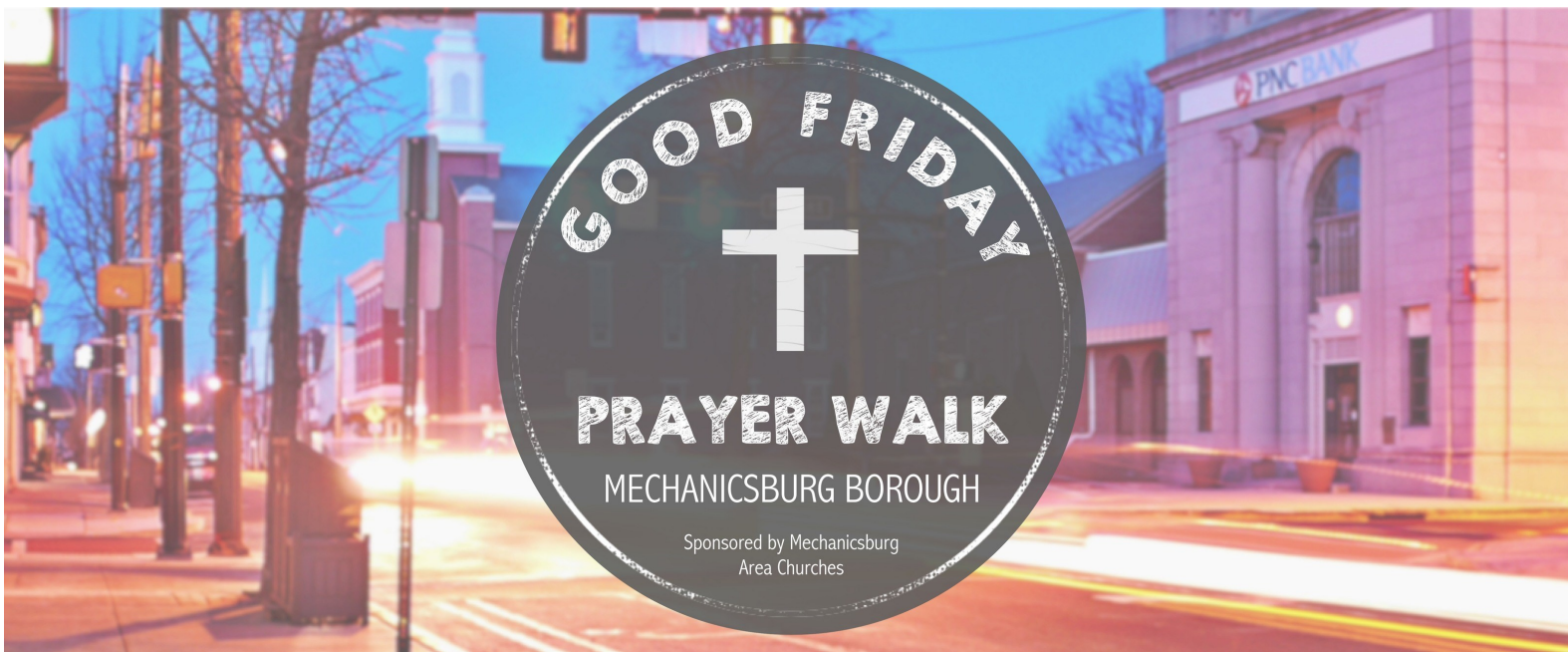
**Good Friday,
April 7:**

Prayer Walk, 10:00 am,
Trinity on Main
Easter Egg Hunt, 11:30 am,
Trinity on Main
Tenebrae Service, 7:30 pm

**Resurrection Sunday,
April 9:**

Sunrise Service, 6:30 am
(begins outside in front of
church)
10:15 am, Festival Worship





*Good Friday,
April 7, 2023*

EASTER EGG HUNT FRIDAY, APRIL 7 11:30 AM



Trinity-on-Main
132 E. Main Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
717-766-2662
www.trinity-on-main.org

Egg hunt
for kids 12
and under!
Come join
the fun!



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 8 am Spoken Service Worship 9 am Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music 11:30 am Palm Sunday Brunch following worship	3	4	5	6 Maundy Thursday <u>6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Agape Meal & Worship</u>	7 Good Friday <u>10 am Prayer Walk</u> <u>11:30 am Easter Egg Hunt</u> 7:30 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Service	8
9 <u>Easter Sunday</u> 6:30 am Sunrise Service 10:15 am Festival Worship with Music	10	11 10 am Community Dinner Planning Mtg	12 6:15 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	13 7 pm Church Council	14 4 pm Set up for Trinity's Closet on Main	15 <u>9-11 am Clothing Closet</u>
16 8 am Spoken Service Worship <u>8:45 am Snax n Study</u> 10:15 am Worship with Music	17	18 9:15 am AARP Driver Safety Training Class 10 am Coffee & Conversation @ <u>Eckel's Ice Cream Fountain</u>	19 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	20 <u>11 am Bible Study</u> 7 pm Worship & Ministry Meeting	21	22
23 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music	24	25	26 6:15 pm Bell Choir 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal	27 <u>8 am Men's Breakfast</u> 11 am Bible Study	28	29
30 <u>Church Music Sunday</u> 8 am Spoken Service Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 10:15 am Worship with Music						