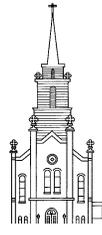


TRINITY TIDINGS



132 E. Main St. Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

717-766-2662

trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's hard to believe we're almost through the season of Lent. I have a spiritual sister who regularly asks, "How is it with your soul?" So, I ask you. How is it with your soul? How is your experience with Lent so far? What insights did you gain through the spiritual practices you adopted during Lent? What changes did you see as a result? And most importantly, what plans do you have in place to continue nourishing and caring for your soul as we move into the Easter season?

For, you see, what we practice grows stronger. Without intention, we can slip backward into old habits of resisting the spiritual discipline that's necessary to continue growing in spiritual maturity. Paul tells us in his letter to the Corinthians, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17) Scripture shows us that when we encounter Jesus, transformation is the natural outcome. Transformation of our hearts and minds results in new, loving attitudes and behavior. It's a given!

Sunday, March 29, begins Holy Week, the most sacred time in the church year. That week we walk together with Jesus to the cross. The worship services are designed that we not just talk about but experience, using our senses, the events of Jesus' passion.

Palm/Passion Sunday, we begin the service waving palm branches with the crowd shouting "Hosanna to the son of David" as Jesus rides a donkey on the way to the temple. Later, in that same service, emotions turn dark. We read the Passion shouting "Crucify Him" with those same crowds. On Maundy Thursday, we sit with the disciples at Jesus' Last Supper, hear His final teaching on love and leave with Him to the garden to pray. Good Friday, we walk with the crowds to the cross and grieve as He dies, and the Paschal Candle is extinguished.

Soon the words "Christ is risen. He is risen indeed, Alleluia!" will ring through our sanctuary. Those words will mean so much more when we first slog with Jesus through the pain, suffering and betrayal of His passion and crucifixion. We can only get to the victory over death of Easter through the horror of Good Friday. That's what gives us hope in our own lives. There IS resurrection from the ashes of defeat and despair.

Come! Join us this Holy Week. I promise Easter will be that much more inspiring and meaningful this year.

Blessings on your journey,
Pastor Barb



April 2026



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



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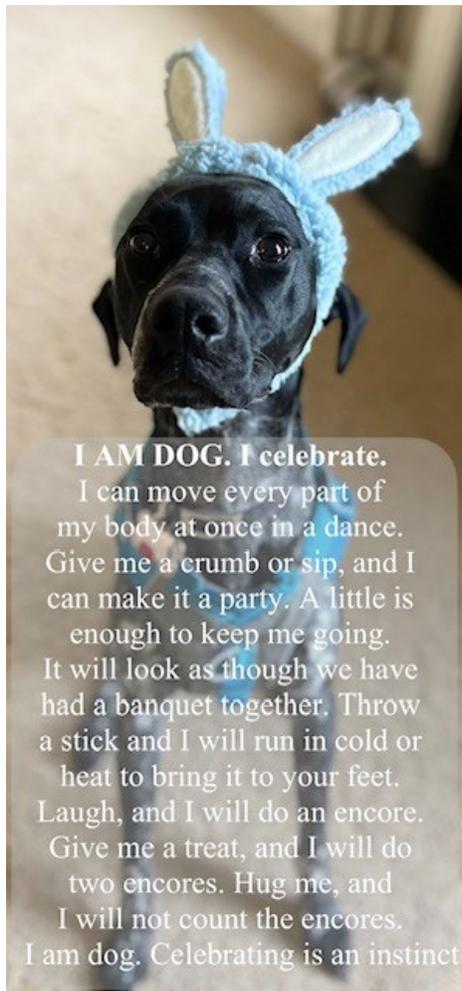
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Music Notes

[Holy Week and Easter are very meaningful yet also quite busy for all our musicians. So Buddy the Dog asked if he could offer a hand - er, paw - and write for Tidings this month.]



I AM DOG. I celebrate.

I can move every part of my body at once in a dance. Give me a crumb or sip, and I can make it a party. A little is enough to keep me going. It will look as though we have had a banquet together. Throw a stick and I will run in cold or heat to bring it to your feet. Laugh, and I will do an encore. Give me a treat, and I will do two encores. Hug me, and I will not count the encores. I am dog. Celebrating is an instinct.

Besides all the things I've learned since becoming the "dog who needed a home" in my household (sit, stay, roll over, etc.), I've also gleaned some knowledge about the Easter season. Each year around this time, my primary caretakers (Koen, Melissa) are over at church...A LOT! Late into the evening, several days in a row, and also *REALLY* early on a particular Sunday morning. And while I have yet to "help" Pastor Barb and the Minister of Music choose hymns (keeping my paws crossed though, that there might be a chance - *LOL!*), I have discovered that the scripture readings for Easter always include Psalm 118:

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. ~ Psalm 118:24

It sounds *just* like something I've read in one of my favorite books, *Dog Psalms*. The author, Herbert Brokering (also a pastor and hymn writer), draws connections between lessons learned from beloved canine companions and his own spiritual life: reflecting, praying, and speaking to our Master (God). He writes first in the "voice of dog" and then an accompanying "human" version. So in a tail wag to Psalm 118 and our hopeful anticipation of Christ's triumph over death and resurrection to eternal life, here are excerpts from the dog psalm *Celebrate*:



God,
You created celebration. You began the work with a great light. We still light candles. Candlelight is the promise of your nearness and presence, a signal for song and sacrament. We are marked to celebrate. Celebrating is a gift of the Spirit. All generations have sung their psalms and flown their homemade kites. God, in a piece of bread shared, you have hidden glory; in a seed buried, you have hidden a garden; in an acorn fallen, you have hidden a forest; in Jesus you have hidden yourself. So be in me that I may be at peace in the world.

Christian Education Opportunities

Snax n Study - Spring 2026

by Stacey Zeller

Snax n Study will continue through the Spring of 2026, and we continue watching the very popular series *The Chosen*. We have now begun season five. Volunteers sign up each week to provide "snax" and to lead the conversation around that week's episode. Our plan is to meet every Sunday except Palm Sunday (3/29) and Easter Sunday (4/5). The schedule and sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board outside Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!



Bible Study

will resume on April 15, and is held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. Each week Pastor Barb leads a time of study and discussion on the lectionary readings for the upcoming Sundays. All are invited!



MEN'S BREAKFAST

continues the fourth Thursday of each month, 8 am at C.C.s Family Restaurant on Main Street, Mechanicsburg. Upcoming dates are April 23 and May 28.



FIRST SUNDAY KIDS

Easter Sunday, the children will explore the story of Jesus rising from the dead. We are excited to share with them this most important story of Jesus. Hope to see you there!

First Sunday Kids meets the first Sunday of each month during 10:15 worship. We will be meeting on April 5 and May 3. Please check out the pictures from our class lessons on the bulletin board. We appreciate your continuing support of our children and this important ministry at Trinity!

"Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3

Holy Week Worship

PALM SUNDAY



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

March 29 - Both worship services will begin outside on the front steps, in a procession of "Hosannas" and palm waving to the sanctuary where we will sing, worship and hear the Passion.

April 2 - Maundy Thursday:

There will be a Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 12 noon in the sanctuary.

In the evening, an Agape Meal will begin at 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. After a simple meal, Holy Communion will be shared around tables. We will walk in silence to the sanctuary for absolution, and observe the stripping of the altar in recognition of Jesus being stripped of his clothing and life on Good Friday

April 3 – Good Friday:

11 am - 12:15 Prayer Walk through town with other Mechanicsburg churches. You are invited to gather to walk and pray with others. We will meet at the Park on the Square, 1 E. Main Street, and walk through the Borough and pray for residents, schools, libraries, and businesses. The walk will end at First Church of God, 28 E. Main Street, for prayer & worship.

7:30 pm - Good Friday Tenebrae. This is a quiet reflective service with readings and prayer around the cross to remember Jesus' death and sacrifice for us.

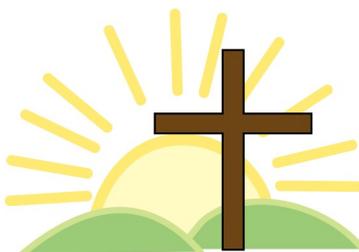
April 4 – Holy Saturday:

You are encouraged to spend some time in personal reflection and prayer.

April 5 – Resurrection Sunday:

6:30 am - Sunrise Worship. Gather with us on the steps outside the church. We will light the fire of the resurrection and follow the light and the cross into the sanctuary.

10:15 am - Festival Worship in the sanctuary. Join us as we celebrate the joy of the resurrection, the ringing of alleluia bells, worship with full liturgy, Holy Communion, joyous music, and hymns.



Women at the Well

Calendar of Events for 2026

To all of the Women at Trinity, we have an exciting year planned! These activities and events are available for all of you to participate in. If you have any questions, please contact either Amy or Ja'net, or watch for more details in future Tidings and on our bulletin board next to the Library. All sign up sheets are/will be on the bulletin board, or you can call into Debbie, the church secretary, and she will make sure you are signed up!

This is our schedule of fun things for you, your daughters, sisters, mothers, grandmothers, and female friends to attend:

March 24 (Tuesday) 6:30 p.m. Needle Night for those who like to knit, crochet, embroider, latch hook etc. You can bring your own projects to work on, or you can work on different projects that are on-going. We provide the yarn. We are meeting in the library. This will be our last meeting until after our Easter Break, and we will resume on April 21st.

Our Stitch'n Servants are an independent group that works on various projects. We are currently working on a few more blankets for the animals at Speranza Animal Shelter. Next, we will be working on prayer patches to be made and given out to our Church members and friends later this year. Contact Ja'net or Patsy if you would like to participate.

April 21 Needle Night will resume meeting every other Tuesday in the Library, 6:30pm to 8pm.

April 24 (Friday) 6 p.m. + other dates - AED class for all assisting ministers and anyone interested in learning. We will be sponsoring a one hour informative and hands-on class four times this year, refresher courses twice a year, and full classes for those interested later on. Please sign up on the bulletin board. Classes will be held in Fellowship Hall on the third Friday at 6pm on April 24, July 7, October 17, and January 4. Amy will be teaching the course. This is open to all members of Trinity Church.

CPR classes - we are looking into offering this course later this year. Classes will be limited to

10 participants and held in Fellowship Hall. Brynn will be the instructor. Further details to follow.

April 28 WATW BBS will resume with the movie, "The Shack". We are inviting all (family & friends) who would like to see this movie to meet us in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 p.m. We will have refreshments afterwards. BBS will meet every other Tuesday in the Library. If you would like to join us for an in-depth discussion on the book and movie. Please purchase the book, "The Shack" on Amazon. We will send a chapter reading itinerary to you.

May 3 (Sunday) 11:30 a.m. Dutch Apple Theater for lunch and the showing of Oklahoma! Sign up by March 15. Cost per WATW is \$78, to be paid to Amy by March 29th. More details to follow...

November 11 (Sunday) Christmas Cookie Exchange 12 p.m. We had so much fun last year that we are doing it again. Please bring two dozen cookies, one dozen to exchange with others and one dozen to share with our homebound members. Be ready to have fun and hear those old favorite Christmas songs.

December 5 (Saturday) Christian Life Assembly Christmas play 2 p.m. Cost not known at this time. Details to follow.

December Messiah College Christmas Concert. Dates not known at this time. Cost varies on age (was \$10 for Seniors & \$15 for others). Details to come...

Other activities to come Mother & Daughter events and Women's One Day Retreat. Watch for details to come!



Youth News

Youth Group

All Trinity Youth are invited to participate in St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Mechanicsburg, Youth Ministries. Director of Youth Ministry, Kellen Michalowski, has graciously invited our youth to be part of all the great stuff that is available. Koen Thomas has been an active participant since last year. Ask him if you want to know what the vibe is.

There are two age tracks:

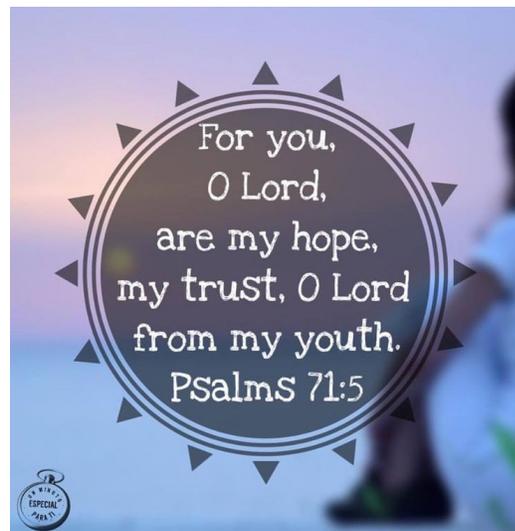
SPYG is open to all current middle and high school age youth (6th through 12th grade).

SPYG Jr. is our "junior" youth group, open to all current elementary school aged youth (kindergarten through 5th grade).

Confirmation Classes continue Sunday mornings at 9 am.

Are you looking for a way that you can serve at Trinity Church?

If you are, please consider signing up to help during the worship services. We can always use Greeters, Assisting Ministers and Lectors. If you feel you would like to help in one of these areas, please contact the church office or let Pastor Barb know!



Are you feeling a nudge from the Holy Spirit to serve the wider church? Our synod is in need of disciples to be nominated for an election to the synod council. The election will take place at the synod assembly. The synod council acts just like our congregation council except it makes decisions guided by the Holy Spirit for the benefit of ministry for the entire synod. If interested, please contact Pastor Barb.

FYI: Synod Council meetings are hosted in hybrid format for every meeting unless otherwise noted. Members wishing to be present in person meet in Meeting Room 237 in Trinity Lutheran Church, 2000 Chestnut Street, Camp Hill. A digital option is available by ZOOM for members wishing to attend electronically or unable to attend in person.



Community Outreach

Blessing Box Update

Thank you to all that has donated food and personal care products this year. Your ongoing support is a true blessing to our local community. We have received 649 items so far this year. Our goal for 2026 is 3100 food or personal care items.



Blessing Box Needs:

Cereal
Canned Pasta
Peanut Butter
Jelly
Rice
Spaghetti Sauce
Hamburger Helper
Pasta and Rice Pouches
Baked Beans
Canned Meats (Chicken, Spam)
Peanut Butter or Cheese Crackers
Granola Bars

 **FREE** 
Adult Clothing
Saturday, APRIL 11
9-11am



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



Trinity's Clothing Closet Update:

Many thanks to all who help with Trinity's Closet on Main. Please remember that all donations must be in closed bags and labeled with your name and phone numbers. Bags should not be left outside the church. Our next clothing closet will be held on Saturday, April 11, 9-11 am.



Need help? If you or someone you know needs help with food or dealing with a financial crisis, please contact us.

(717) 432-2087 or
www.nhm-pa.org

Volunteer with us!

There are many volunteer opportunities available at New Hope Ministries. Please give us a call, or visit our website to see how you can be a part of our ministry!

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/>

Birthdays, Etc.



4/2	Curtis Moats
4/4	Zachary Schmick
4/5	James Lynch
4/7	Larry Etchison
4/9	Shea Arbogast
4/12	Shelby Sieber
4/28	Lena Wagenheim
4/30	Danielle Sabatini
4/30	Rebecca Zielonis

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

Aarp Driver Refresher Course - April 21 & 22 (8-hr course for first-timers) April 23 (4-hr course for returning students)

When you take the AARP Smart Driver™ course, you could be eligible for a multi-year discount on your auto insurance. Plus safer driving can save you more than just money. The course teaches proven driving techniques to help keep you and your loved ones safe on the road.

Additionally, you'll learn:

- Important facts about the effects of medication on driving.
- How to reduce driver distractions.
- How to maintain the proper following distance behind another car.
- Proper use of safety belts, air bags, anti-lock brakes and new technology found in cars today.
- Techniques for handling left turns, right-of-way, and roundabouts.
- Age-related physical changes and how to adjust your driving to compensate.

Cost is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Please call the church office to register. Classes will be held in the fellowship hall at Trinity Church.

Church Council Highlights

- Charles and Lisa Smith were received into membership on February 15th .
- FOX 43 News did a live report of Trinity's "Ashes to Go" ministry event.
- The handrails have been fully funded and will soon be installed.
- The Annual Audit found no errors and noted that Trinity's finances are sound.
- Trinity's Wedding and Funeral Policies are going to be reviewed and updated.

April Prayer Pause:

Give us eyes to see, Loving God, to see as you see, and to see those people you see. Remind us that you have called us to be a sent-out people, not a stay-put people. Help us to move beyond the stained glass, into the world you love and for which Christ died.

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 Barbara Barry
Email: pastorbbarry@gmail.com

Minister of Music Contact Info

Melissa Jacoby
Email: trinityburgmusic@gmail.com

Parish Administrator Contact Info

Debbie Schue
Email: trinityburgoffice@gmail.com

TIDINGS DEADLINE:

JUST A REMINDER that the deadline for newsletter items is the 10th of each month for the following issue.

Holy Week is fast approaching... We are looking forward to seeing everyone here, and please feel free to invite friends or relatives to join us and be inspired as well!

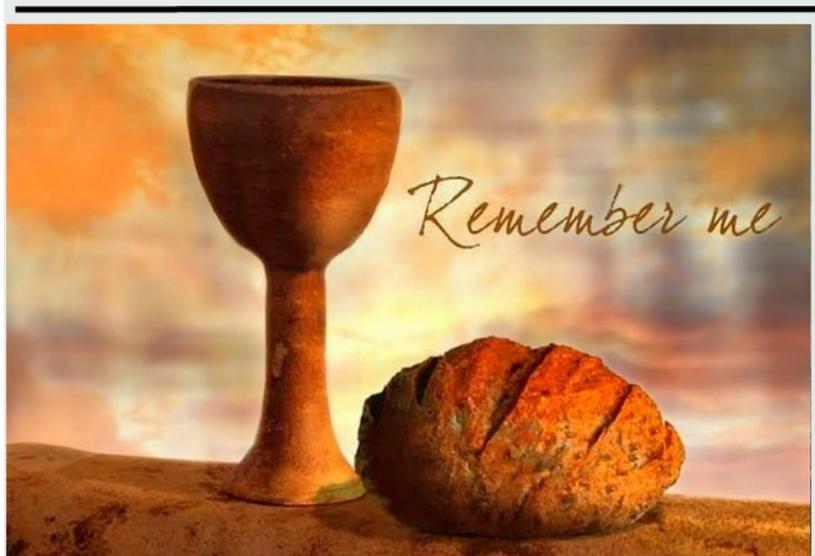
Palm Sunday March 29

8 & 10:15 am

Worship with Holy Communion
beginning outside on the front steps, in a
procession of "Hosannas" and palm
waving to the sanctuary!



Maundy Thursday April 2



12 pm, Worship in the
Sanctuary

6:30 pm, Agape Meal &
Worship begins in
Fellowship Hall.





Mechanicsburg Area Churches invite the community to the

GOOD FRIDAY PRAYER WALK

Friday, April 3 | 11 AM to 12:15 PM

Led by local pastors, prayer walkers will start at one of the prayer sites and then cover the surrounding area in prayer.

Participants are invited to join together at 12:00 PM at Mechanicsburg First Church of God for closing prayer and worship. All are welcome!

Starting Prayer Sites

Mechanicsburg Area Senior High
500 South Broad Street

Turning Point Church
201 East Green Street

St. Mark Lutheran Church
117 West Keller Street

Park on the Square
1 West Main Street

First United Methodist Church
135 West Simpson Street

Closing Prayer & Worship

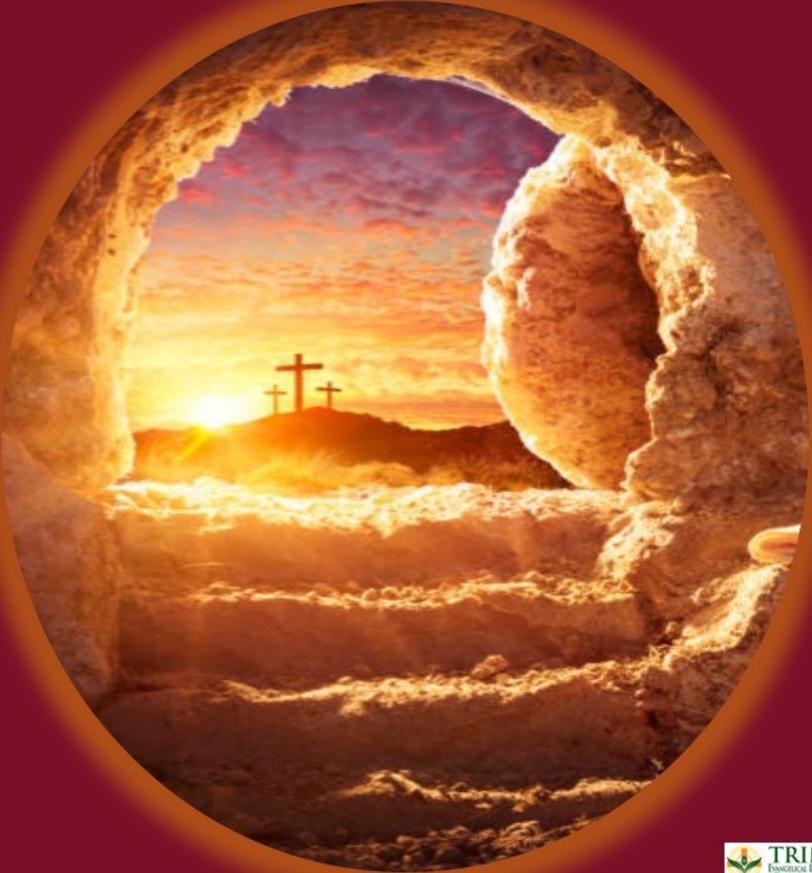
Mechanicsburg First Church of God, 28 East Main Street

Visit [Mechanicsburg & Upper Allen Area Churches](#) Facebook page for more information.



Good Friday Tenebrae Service

April 3
7:30 pm

Resurrection Sunday, April 5

6:30 am, Sunrise
Service (begins outside
in front of church)

10:15 am, Festival
Worship



APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		3	1	2 Maundy Thursday	3 Good Friday	4
			6:30 pm Bells 7:15 Choir	12 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Meal & Worship	11 am Prayer Walk 7:30 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Worship	
5 Easter Sunday 6:30 am Sunrise Worship 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship 10:15 am First Sunday Kids	6 Church office closed	7	8	9	10	11 9 am, Trinity's Closet-on-Main
			6:30 pm Bells 7:15 Choir	7 pm Church Council	4 pm, Set up for Trinity's Clothing Closet	
12 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship	13	14	15	16	17	18
			6:30 pm Bells 7:15 Choir 7:30 pm Bible Study			
19 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music Blanket Blessing at both services	20	21 9:15 am AARP Driver Refresher Course (4 hour) 6:30 pm Women at the Well Needle Night	22 9:15 am AARP Driver Refresher Course (Pt 1., 8 hour) 6:30 pm Bells 7:15 Choir	23 8 am Men's Breakfast 9:15 am AARP Driver Refresher Course (Pt 2., 8 hour)	24 6 pm Women at the Well AED Class	25
26 8 am Spoken Worship 8:45 am Snax n Study 9 am, Confirmation Class 10:15 am Worship with Music	27	28 6:30 pm Women at the Well Book Study	29 6:30 pm Bells 7:15 Choir	30 1 pm Staff Mtg		