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FEBRUARY NEWS

2024

Peace Lutheran Church
Fremont, Indiana

355 E. State Road 120

Fremont, IN 46737

Church Phone: (260) 495-4306

www.plcms.org

A member of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Peace Resources

PHONE NUMBER — 260-495-4306

Office Extensions:

Secretary- 301

Pastor Teeple- 302

Kristin McGee- 304

Amber Vonderau- 309

Wee Creations Office- 350



NEW NUMBERS!

We welcome you to
join us for our
Worship Services

Sundays

8:00am Worship

9:15am Educational Hour

10:30am Worship

Monday, Feb 5th only

6:30pm Worship

Wednesdays, Feb 14th-20th

6:30pm Worship

Church Text Messages

& Email App

To sign up for church text messages:

Send a text to the number **81010**.

In the message type “**@peacefrem**”.

You will receive a text

asking for your name.

Respond with your first and last name.

You will receive text messages regarding
church updates.

***If you have already
signed up, you do not need
to sign up again.***

WEBSITE — www.plcms.org

EMAIL ADDRESSES — at church:

Pastor Jeff Teeple – PastorT@plcms.org

Sara Miller – Director@weecreations.org

Kristin McGee – Admin@plcms.org

Jodie Church – JChurch@plcms.org

Emily Disbro – Secretary@plcms.org

Amber Vonderau – Amber@plcms.org

Hope Korte – ComfortDog@plcms.org



RightNow Media – Please remember all the resources that are available to you and your family free of charge through RightNow Media! It is a clearinghouse of videos, Bible studies, and podcasts that help you grow in your faith toward God and love for others! If you haven't signed up (and even if you have!) be sure to access this amazing library of Christian material! (Checkout the link in our e-news to sign up!)

SUBSCRIBE

E-News – Just a reminder that we continue to publish our e-news and announcements every week. If you haven't signed up to receive e-news through your email, please email Pastor Teeple and he will get you signed up! If you did sign up and haven't seen it, please double check your SPAM folder; it is an email that comes from the Secretary's email address: secretary@plcms.org

A Letter from the Pastor

Dear Christian friends,

As we step into the month of February, the air is filled with a sense of love – flowers, candy hearts, love songs...it's all around us! It is a time when our hearts are naturally drawn to all the expressions of love, and what better source of love to focus on than the boundless love of our Savior, Jesus Christ?

But in the hustle and bustle of our daily lives, it's easy to lose sight of the profound love that Christ has for each and every one of us. As we navigate the challenges of life, we want to find solace in the assurance of Christ's unwavering love. So especially in this month, we intentionally pause and reflect on the enduring love that proceeds from our Lord. In John 3:16, we are reminded, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." And in our **worship** services, we have the end of Epiphany, the Feast of the Transfiguration, Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of Lent!

February is also an opportune time to **demonstrate** Christ's love through our actions. We can be intentional about demonstrating kindness and compassion to those around us. Whether it's a simple gesture of encouragement, a helping hand, or a listening ear, through the Holy Spirit, our love for others reflects the selfless love that Christ has poured into our hearts. 1 John 4:19 tells us, "We love because God first loved us." And Galatians 5:22-23 reminds us of the fruits of the Spirit – chief among them is love, that is a love that transcends boundaries and transforms lives. That's what we are about as individuals AND as a congregation: "We Are Called to: Praise and Proclaim, Learn and Love, Care and Celebrate!"

Just as February symbolizes the heart, we also focus on the **vitality** that comes from being rooted in Christ. In John 15:5, Jesus says, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." Our spiritual vitality flows from our connection with Christ. That connection nurtures our faith and empowers us to live lives that glorify His name.

In addition to all this in our spiritual journey, we are excited to share a glimpse into our ongoing **building project**. There has been a lot of progress over the past weeks! This endeavor is not merely about bricks and mortar; it's a testament to our commitment to creating spaces where Christ's love and vitality can thrive! As we build, we can envision these spaces as extensions of God's love, welcoming all who seek Christ and spiritual nourishment. Your continued support and prayers for the success of this project are greatly appreciated.

So in this month of love and vitality, I want to challenge us to: 1. unite in prayer and worship, 2. lift up our hearts and lives to others in gratitude for the love of God that knows no bounds, and 3. seek the vitality that comes from abiding in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. I hope our actions will be a message to this community and region about the transformative power of His love, bringing hope and joy to those we encounter!

Together with you in God's love and grace,
Pastor Jeff Teeple

Lenten Worship: Guided to the Cross

Lent is a season when we are Guided to the Cross. Throughout this holy time, we are drawn to Calvary to live.

On Sunday mornings each week, we will look at the symbolism of different crosses that we see: the Orthodox Cross, the Jerusalem Cross, the Latin Cross, and others. In connection with Holy Scripture, we will consider their meaning and symbolism in our faith journey.



In our midweek worship each week, the services in our series reveal how Christ and his cross serve as examples for us of how to live our lives for and through our crucified Lord and Savior.

We will be guided to: forgiveness, hope, love, peace, trust, perseverance, sacrifice, and humility. Make plans to attend to your faith journey and be Guided to the Cross!

Upcoming Services

NO WORSHIP MONDAY, FEB 12

Ash Wednesday 2/14/24 at 6:30pm

Lent Worship:

Wednesday 2/21/24 at 6:30pm

Wednesday 2/28/24 at 6:30pm

Wednesday 3/6/24 at 6:30pm

Wednesday 3/13/24 at 6:30pm

Wednesday 3/20/24 at 6:30pm

Palm Sunday 3/24/24

Maunday Thursday 3/28/24 at 6:30pm

Good Friday 3/29/24 at 6:30pm

Easter Sunday 3/31/24



Soup Suppers

Starting the week AFTER Ash Wednesday, before our Lent Services we will be having our soup suppers.

Supper starts at 5:30pm.

There is a sign-up sheet on the information desk for those who would like to sign up to bring a soup, bread, or dessert.

BIZARRE BIBLE STORIES

Once upon a time, a bunch of children came across a prophet. They began to make fun of him and his baldness, as children are prone to do...So the prophet cursed the children, and two bears came out of the woods and ate them. The end.

Want to hear more great stories like this?

**Join Deaconess Gina Teeple for adult Bible class between services,
starting February 4 at 9:15am.**

GriefShare

Starting up again in April.
They will meet on Tuesdays at
6:00 pm starting
April 2nd-June 25th.

This is a program designed for those who have experienced a loss through death. Even if you decide to come at the last moment, you are by all means welcome.

Group facilitators are Doug and Luanne Haupt. Please feel free to contact them with any questions.



 **Family
Promise**

“My times are in your hands!” Psalm 31:15

The Family Promise shelter is being newly painted and the guests have been dispersed to different hotels. The meals for the week of January 15th were not needed even though all of the cooks and drivers were signed up and ready to go!

As I digested this message, Psalm 31:15 came to mind! What a reminder of something my friend had shared with me only weeks earlier! It was then, that I remembered Who was in control! I thanked God for His hand in the improvements gracing the shelter and the fact that our volunteers need not endure the frigid temps! Praise God!

With that comes a reminder, our next opportunity comes the week of March 18th, oh, and thankfully God has this!



GROWING IN CHRIST

"...it was God who made it grow." - 1 Corinthians 3:6

Construction Update



Demolition of the connecting hallway began in January. They have also started work on the drainage systems. Due to the frigid temps later in the month, there wasn't much else going on outside the property. We had contractors inside rerouting electric lines and cables and such to prepare for the demo of the connector between the church and Wee Creations. We had quite a bit of activity in the west and south parking lots, as Wee families and staff used the gym entrance for drop off and pick up (which will happen periodically as things happen in the northeast lot). Everyone is being very patient and understanding with last minute, temporary changes!



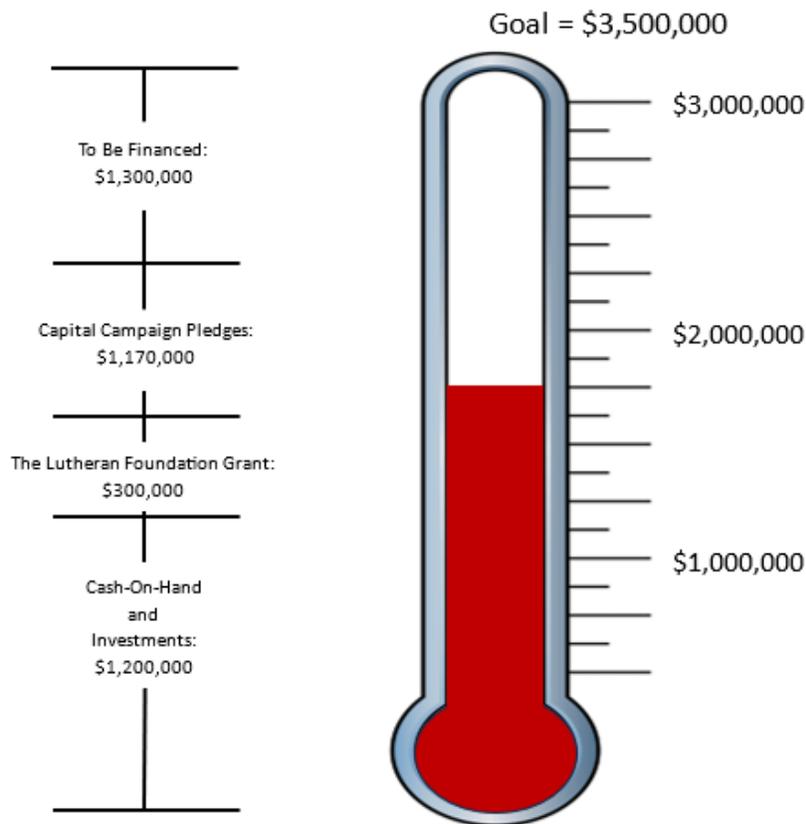
GROWING IN CHRIST

"...it was God who made it grow." - 1 Corinthians 3:6

We had many requests from people in the congregation asking for reminders about what they committed to the Capital Campaign and what they had contributed so far to their commitments. If you submitted a confidential commitment card, you should have received a slip of paper with these numbers included with your annual contribution statement for 2023. It was much easier to include this update for everyone than to keep track of who had requested this information. **Please understand that this is merely a personal update.** Please contact Kristin McGee if you have any questions or concerns

Building Project Thermometer Information

Updated 1/26/24.



UPDATE

Breakdown of Funds Received (58% Complete):

- \$1,200,000 from Congregation (100% complete)
- \$ 300,000 from The Lutheran Foundation (100% complete)
- \$ 527,860 from Pledges (45% complete)
- \$ 5,388 from non-Pledge money to reduce financing
- \$1,294,612 needed for financing

Kindness
is in your blood.



Help save a life.

Schedule your
blood donation
appointment today.



The Next Peace Lutheran Blood
Drives are:

Wednesday, March 27th

1:00pm-5:00pm

Wednesday, May 29th

1:00pm-5:00pm

There are still plenty of open
appointment spots,
if you are interested in donating.
Just go to the link below and search
for our drive to see the available
times and schedule an appointment.

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

or call:
1-800-RED CROSS

Monday	9:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday	9:00am - 3:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am - 1:00pm
Thursday	9:00am - 3:00pm
Friday	9:00am - 1:00pm

Our Secretaries' Office Hours



**Submissions to announcement sheets, e-news,
and monthly newsletters may be directed to
secretary@plcms.org**

PLCMS Welcomes New Staff Member



Peace Lutheran welcomes Emily Disbro to the staff as an additional secretary/administrative assistant. Emily grew up in Kendallville, Indiana, and attended East Noble High School. After graduation, she earned a BA degree in History from Indiana University-Fort Wayne. While most recently a stay-at-home mom, Emily has work experience in museums, medical office scribing, and substitute teaching.

Emily and her husband, Ben, have three children. They live on her husband's family farm in Edon, Ohio, and raise cows, pigs, and many acres of corn, wheat, and beans. Emily enjoys spending time with her family, cross stitch, and reading. Emily and her family attend Columbia Church of Christ in Edon and her favorite Bible verse is Joshua 1:9.

Emily is excited to join the team at Peace Lutheran and looks forward to working with the congregation. Her email is secretary@plcms.org.



PEACE

NEWS AND NOTES

FEBRUARY 2024

- February 4 Sunday School 9:15 AM
- February 11 Sunday School 9:15 AM
- Youth Serve Sunday 10:30 AM
- Jr./Sr. High School Movie Night 5-7 PM
- February 18 Sunday School 9:15 AM
- February 25 Sunday School 9:15 AM
- Elementary Youth Group 11:30-1:00

High School is studying the books, 
 "A Young Man After God's Own Heart" and "A Young Woman After God's Own Heart." Books are available from Amber.
 I hope you consider joining us!



Join us for Sunday School each week from 9:15-10:15!

PRE K-
GRADE 12

YOUTH SERVE SIGN UP

SIGN UP THROUGH THE QR CODE TO HELP AT CHURCH ON EITHER 2/11 OR 3/10.



LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

SHARING THE
LIFE-CHANGING
MESSAGE OF
JESUS' LOVE WITH
MORE THAN

180,000

STUDENTS, THEIR FAMILIES
AND THE COMMUNITY

RAISING UP THE NEXT GENERATION OF FAITHFUL CHRISTIAN DISCIPLES

- Experiencing and celebrating God's lavish gifts of love, grace and mercy
- Sharing those gifts with others
- Being transformed by God's Word
- Clinging to the cross of Jesus

EARLY CHILDHOOD > 1,677
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS > 191
MIDDLE SCHOOLS > 625
HIGH SCHOOLS > 103
TOTAL > 2,594

PROVIDING EXCELLENT ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- Developing love for and excitement about learning
- Excelling at reading, writing and effective communication
- Training minds for success at the next academic level
- Creating a strong work ethic, critical thinking skills and the ability to relate well with others

LEARN MORE

888-THE LCMS (843-5267)

lcms.org/school-ministry





2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

CONNECTED

CONNECTED TO
CHRIST

lcls.org/futherschoolsweek lcls.org/schoolministry



2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

CONNECTED TO THE
FATHER

lcls.org/futherschoolsweek lcls.org/schoolministry



2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

CONNECTED

CONNECTED TO THE
SPIRIT

lcls.org/futherschoolsweek lcls.org/schoolministry



2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

CONNECTED

CONNECTED TO HIS
COMMISSION

lcls.org/futherschoolsweek lcls.org/schoolministry



2024
CONNECTED
NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

CONNECTED

CONNECTED TO THE
CHURCH

lcls.org/futherschoolsweek lcls.org/schoolministry



Stephen Minister Testimonial

"Being a Stephen Minister has been a very rewarding experience for me. I had been looking for a new way to serve God."

"We trained for Stephen Ministry throughout the covid pandemic. Sometimes we distanced and met in person, other we zoom called."

"Being able to journey and support someone during a crisis has impacted my in several ways. Hopefully, I've been a small part of bringing our time together to closure. Sharing time together with my Care Receiver, we soon formed a strong bond. When my Care Receiver shared concerns, our trusting relationship grew even stronger. Knowing your hurting Care Receiver feels safe and comfortable with you is such a good feeling. When you begin to see progress through increased openness, faith, and strength in your Care Receiver, it is rewarding. You know God is working through both Care Receiver and Stephen Minister. Something I didn't realized would happen was how much my own faith grew right along with my Care Receiver's faith!"

"I cannot begin to explain how much our bi-monthly group discussions with other Stephen Ministers and our leaders has meant to me. Their strong faith, support, and encouragement always is there for me."

"When I was a new Stephen Minister, I was told by an experienced Stephen Minister that I would learn from my experiences equally or more than my Care Receiver would learn from me. She was definitely right!"

Anne Griffith – Stephen Minister – Peace Lutheran Church

Dove Tails



I am heartbroken. I lost one of my dear friends and coworker, Ezra Comfort Dog. He worked with the Toledo team that also lost my friend Anna this year. He was mainly assigned to the court system where he helped small humans feel comfortable in the court room so they could answer questions, but he would also get deployed when a tragedy occurred. He taught me to enjoy frozen green beans and to stand tall with confidence. He was a gentle giant that loved going to work every day. He will be missed dearly, and I know the hearts of the Toledo team are heavy.

On a more positive note, we welcomed a new Comfort Dog, Damascus, to the Comfort Dog pack! She belongs to St Paul Lutheran in Napoleon, OH. Weather kept us from meeting in person on the day she officially got her vest, but I can't wait to meet her and show her the ropes. I hope she loves this job as much as I do! I am sure we will get to work closely together.

Besides the normal visits that I love, I got to go on two special visits this month so my handlers could talk about my ministry to some humans who wanted to learn about me. Do you know what that means? My ministry is GROWING! I do like to tell new humans about me and the job my team does in our community. Thanks to the help of our church member, Jana Gepfert, I am going to be visiting new friends at MSD. If you see her, tell her thank you BUT DON'T LICK HER FACE. I guess that's bad.





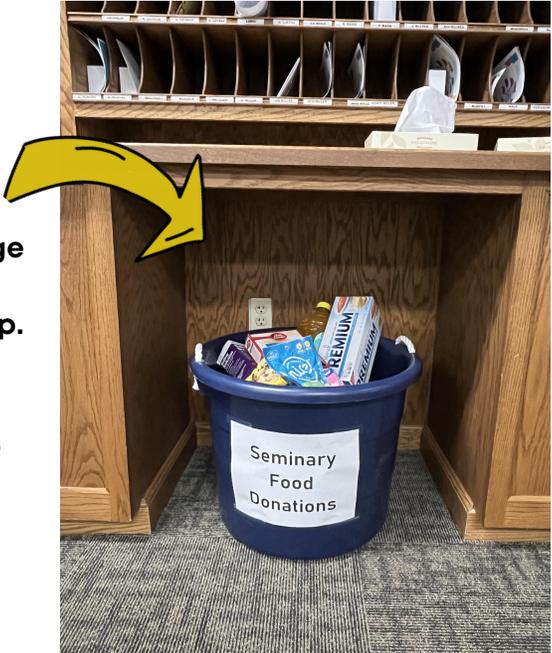
The Food Co-Op at Concordia Theological Seminary is open to all seminary students and their families. Food and household items are available to these families at no charge. Students volunteer service time for the privilege of shopping. The Food Co-Op is set up like a small grocery store.

The Food Co-Op relies solely on the generous donations of perishable and non-perishable food and household items from individuals and congregations.

Peace contributes monthly to the Food Co-Op through the donations of members. There is a large blue bucket that sits underneath the mailboxes; that bucket is our donation bin for the Food Co-Op. Please consider donating each month! While all pantry type donations are welcome anytime, this month's donation focuses on drinks.

Wish list items include:

- Juice
- Coffee
- Tea
- Hot chocolate packets
- Powdered drink mixes like lemonade or Kool-Aid



RIGHT TO LIFE
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA



LIFE DEFENDERS WORKSHOP

Learn how to make the Case for Life!

Life Defenders workshops equip attendees to become effective ambassadors for life.

Mike Spencer of Project LifeVoice will equip you to speak confidently and graciously to the most pressing moral injustice of our time: legalized abortion.

This workshop is open to adults and students 7th grade and older.

Saturday, February 10th, 2024, 9am to Noon

\$5 Registration

Pleasant View Church of Christ, 200 Fox Lake Road, Angola, IN 46703

Pre-register at www.ichooselife.org/LDAngola

or call 260.471.1849

Lenten Almsgiving Project



The mission of Elijah Haven of LaGrange and Steuben Counties is to provide a safe, healing, nurturing environment for individuals affected by domestic violence and to advocate violence-free living.

At Elijah Haven's short-term emergency shelter, women and children can find refuge from their abusive situation. Since most have fled from home suddenly, personal hygiene items are often needed by every resident, young and old, as well as household supplies for the shelter.

The **Lenten Almsgiving Project**, organized by Peace's **Lutheran Women in Mission**, will furnish supplies for clients of Elijah Haven and for the upkeep of the shelter house. Over the six weeks of Lent, beginning with Ash Wednesday, you are invited to support this project! Please bring items to the Fellowship Hall and place on the designated table.

Week 1 – February 14 – 20

Toothpaste, shaving cream, personal razors



Week 2 – February 21 – 27

Kitchen towels, dishcloths



Week 3 – February 28 – March 5

Shampoo, conditioner, body wash

Weeks 4 through 6

More info to come!

These items are also appreciated, any week, Ash Wednesday through Palm Sunday

Gas & grocery gift cards, Walmart gift cards

Working together, we help those in crisis in our own community!

Almsgiving = Giving freely to relieve the poor.

Super Bowl

SNACKS

Chicken Bacon Ranch Dip

Ingredients:

- 6 slices bacon, chopped
- 1 (8-oz.) package cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 c. sour cream, room temperature
- 2 tbsp. ranch seasoning mix
- 2 c. shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided
- 1 1/2 c. chopped cooked chicken
- 4 oz. diced pimientos, drained
- 6 green onions, thinly sliced and divided
- Tortilla chips, crackers, or raw vegetables, to serve

Instructions:

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. In a 12-inch skillet, cook the bacon over medium heat, stirring often until crispy, about 8 minutes. Using a slotted spoon, remove the bacon from the pan to a paper towel-lined plate.
3. In a medium bowl, use a rubber spatula to soften the cream cheese until very creamy and smooth. Add the sour cream and the ranch seasoning mix, whisking until very well combined. Fold in 1 1/2 cups of cheddar cheese, chicken, pimientos, 5 sliced green onions, and all but 1/4 cup of the bacon.
4. Spoon the mixture into a 1 quart casserole dish. Top with the remaining 1/2 cup of cheddar cheese and reserved 1/4 cup of bacon.
5. Bake on the center rack until bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes. Sprinkle with the remaining sliced green onion.
6. Serve immediately with tortilla chips, crackers, or raw vegetables.

Recipe found on <https://www.thepioneerwoman.com/food-cooking/recipes/a46001131/chicken-bacon-ranch-dip-recipe/>



The Original Chex Party Mix

Ingredients:

- 3 cups Corn Chex™ cereal
- 3 cups Rice Chex™ cereal
- 3 cups Wheat Chex™ cereal
- 1 cup mixed nuts
- 1 cup bite-size pretzels
- 1 cup garlic-flavor bite-size bagel chips or regular-size bagel chips, broken into 1-inch pieces
- 6 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- 1 1/2 teaspoons seasoned salt
- 3/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon onion powder

Instructions:

1. In large microwavable bowl, mix cereals, nuts, pretzels and bagel chips; set aside. In small microwavable bowl, microwave butter uncovered on High about 40 seconds or until melted. Stir in seasonings. Pour over cereal mixture; stir until evenly coated.
2. Microwave uncovered on High 5 to 6 minutes, thoroughly stirring every 2 minutes. Spread on paper towels to cool. Store in airtight container.

Recipe found on <https://www.chex.com/recipes/original-chex-mix>



February

BIRTHDAYS

2/1 Chris Harwood
2/2 Ron Heilman
2/3 Donna Webb
2/4 Elliot Teeple
2/8 Roger Rupright
2/9 Linda Reidenbach
2/11 Don Alfeld
2/12 Gene Melcher
Jenni Sorg
2/13 Roger Diehm
Carol Harkins-Outman
2/16 Rocco Bergquist
Paula Huguenard
2/18 Joan Wright
2/19 Sharon Aldrich
Shannon King
Craig McGee
2/20 Julie Clary
Lucy James
2/21 Ken Donaldson
Judy Hostetler
2/22 Jeff Frastaci
2/23 Brian Harris
Rev. Don Wunrow
Andrew Mann
2/24 Kelly Kobelak
2/25 Rose Ehle
Brady Baas
Kaia McNamara
2/26 Gary Huguenard
Nancy Zimmerman
2/28 Steve Wright
Dave McDowell
2/29 Bob Gepfert

ANNIVERSARIES

2/2/1996 Terry & Karen Dalrymple
2/4/1995 Joe & Liz Thomas
2/16/1974 Rick & Earlene Panning
2/17/1973 Ken & Carol Frenger
2/17/2017 James & Barbara Wagner
2/24/1968 Gary & Carol Sturgis

Altar Flowers

2/4 Jo Anne Rowe

2/11 Available

2/18 Available

2/25 Donna Biddle



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
8am - Worship 9:15am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship/HC	10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Worship	10am - WCM Chapel	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 5pm - Special Olympics - 6pm - Handbells 7pm - Adult Choir	9:30am - Bible Study	10am - SM Superv.	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8am - Worship/HC 9:15am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship	10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - NO WORSHIP	8:30am - Circuit Pastors' 10am - WCM Chapel 6:30pm - BOD Mtg.	Ash Wednesday 9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 5pm - Special Olympics - 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - Worship/HC 7pm - Adult Choir	Newsletter Deadline 9:30am - Bible Study	6pm - Gym set up-scouts	9am - Gym reserved - Scouts
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8am - Worship 9:15am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship/HC	10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Gym reserved - 5:30pm - Scouts	10am - WCM Chapel	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 5pm - Special Olympics - 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - Lent Worship 7pm - Adult Choir	9:30am - Bible Study	10am - SM Superv.	12pm - F-Hall Reserved
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8am - Worship/HC 9:15am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship	10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts	10am - WCM Chapel	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 5pm - Special Olympics - 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - Lent Worship 7pm - Adult Choir	9:30am - Bible Study		
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
8am - Worship/HC 9:15am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship	10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts	10am - WCM Chapel	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 5pm - Special Olympics - 5:30pm - Soup Supper 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - Lent Worship 7pm - Adult Choir	9:30am - Bible Study		