A close-up photograph of a cluster of bright pink flowers, possibly geraniums, with soft, layered petals. The background is a blurred mix of green and brown, suggesting foliage and earth.

Rather, it should be that of
your inner self, the unfading
beauty of a gentle and quiet
spirit, which is of great worth
in God's sight.

1 Peter 3:4 NIV

In This Issue

- Letter from the Pastor
- Summer Schedule Changes
- Peace Sports
- Volunteer Appreciation
- Ice Cream Social
- Building Project Update
- Peace Financial Statement
- Ministry Updates
- This Years Confirmands
- and MORE!



MAY 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

**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.***

**We welcome you to
join us for our
Worship Services**

Sunday

8:00am Online and In-Person

9:15am Educational Hour

10:30am In-Person

Monday

6:30pm In-Person

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!)



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 friends in Christ,

As we enjoy this wonderful spring season, our hearts are filled with gratitude and anticipation for the blessings ahead. I am delighted to share with you the exciting events and milestones that await us in the coming weeks.

I want to extend a warm invitation to each and every one of you to join us in worship as we gather in fellowship to hear God's Word and receive His good gifts. Our spiritual journey is enriched when we come together to lift our voices in unity, seeking forgiveness and peace, guidance and inspiration from the One from whom all blessings flow. Your presence in our congregation is cherished and valued, and we eagerly anticipate the joy of worshiping together! Use this as a month to invite others to worship with us – there's a lot happening!

First, we have the privilege of celebrating significant milestones in the life of our congregation. Youth Confirmation on May 19 marks a pivotal moment in the faith journey of four young members as they affirm their commitment to Christ and His teachings and receive Holy Communion for the first time. Let's surround them with love and encouragement as they take this important step in their spiritual development!

So too, as we celebrate Pentecost that same day, we are reminded of the profound significance of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the birth of the Christian Church. As Christians we open our hearts to the transformative power of the Holy Spirit, allowing Him to guide us in our mission to be: "Friendly People – Growing in Christ; Called to Praise and Proclaim, Learn and Love, Care and Celebrate."

As we observe Memorial Day, let us honor the courageous men and women who have sacrificed their lives in service to our country. Their selfless dedication and unwavering commitment to freedom serve as a testament to the values we hold dear as a nation. May we never forget their sacrifices and work to uphold all for which they fought so bravely.

Finally, In the coming weeks, we will have the privilege of welcoming a new Associate Pastor into our church family. This addition to our ministry team is a testament to the growth and vitality of our congregation, and I am confident that he will bring a wealth of knowledge, passion, and dedication to our congregation and community. As we prepare to extend a warm welcome to him, I invite you to join me in prayer for his smooth transition and for the blessings that he and his family will bring to our church. Together, let's embrace this opportunity to deepen our bonds of fellowship and to continue serving the Lord with joy and enthusiasm. Stay tuned for more details in the weeks to come. I am eager to share this journey with all of you and to witness the ways in which God will work through our newest team member to bless and enrich our congregation and school.

Lastly, I encourage you to embrace and appreciate the busy ongoing building campaign that is transforming our facility. Through your generous contributions and unwavering support, we are witnessing the physical and material growth of our collective vision for a building that more deeply reflects the love, grace, and community of God here. We can rejoice in the progress we have made and remain steadfast in our commitment to this important work. Thank you for your support and enthusiasm!

In closing, I invite you to join me in embracing all the celebrations that permeate our life together this month. Let's worship God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – with grateful hearts and give thanks for the blessings He gives to us. All peace to you in Christ Jesus, the risen and ascended Lord.

Pastor Jeff Teeple

SUMMERTIME

SCHEDULE CHANGES

- Last day for Handbell Practice- 5/15
- Last day for Choir Practice- 5/15
- Last Day of Sunday Bible Class- 5/19
- Last Day of Online Bible Class- 5/22
- Last Day for Adult Bible Class- 5/23
- Worship Times Change to Summer Hours- 5/26
- Office closed Memorial Day- 5/27
- Fellowship Hall closes as demo work begins-5/28



PICKLEBALL BEGINS SOON

Pickleball starts up in the gym:

Wednesday, May 15
4:30pm - 6:00pm

and will continue on
Wednesdays through October.

MEN'S DODGEBALL EVENT

Calling all men to a dodgeball
game happening in the gym on:

May 5
High Noon

Adult Bible Study



Come join us as we continue to
explore

"THE CHOSEN"!

This study takes place
at 9:15am in the Fellowship Hall
during adult Bible study hour

This study will take a close look at how THE CHOSEN wonderfully captures the struggles, joys and transformative moments that shaped the lives of those chosen to follow the Messiah. Each week, as time allows, we will discuss the character dynamics, the cultural differences and the timeless messages that resonate from the early moments in the life of Christ. It's not just about watching a series; it's about engaging with the word of God in a fresh and profound way.

This study will continue through the end of May.



FIRST ANNUAL
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

ICE CREAM *Social*

AS OUR WAY TO SAY THANK
YOU, OUR CHURCH STAFF
INVITES ANYONE AND EVERYONE
WHO HAS VOLUNTEERED IN ANY
CAPACITY HERE AT PEACE IN THE
PAST YEAR TO JOIN US FOR AN
ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

MAY 23

12:00 PM-1:00 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU DO HERE
AT PEACE LUTHERAN!



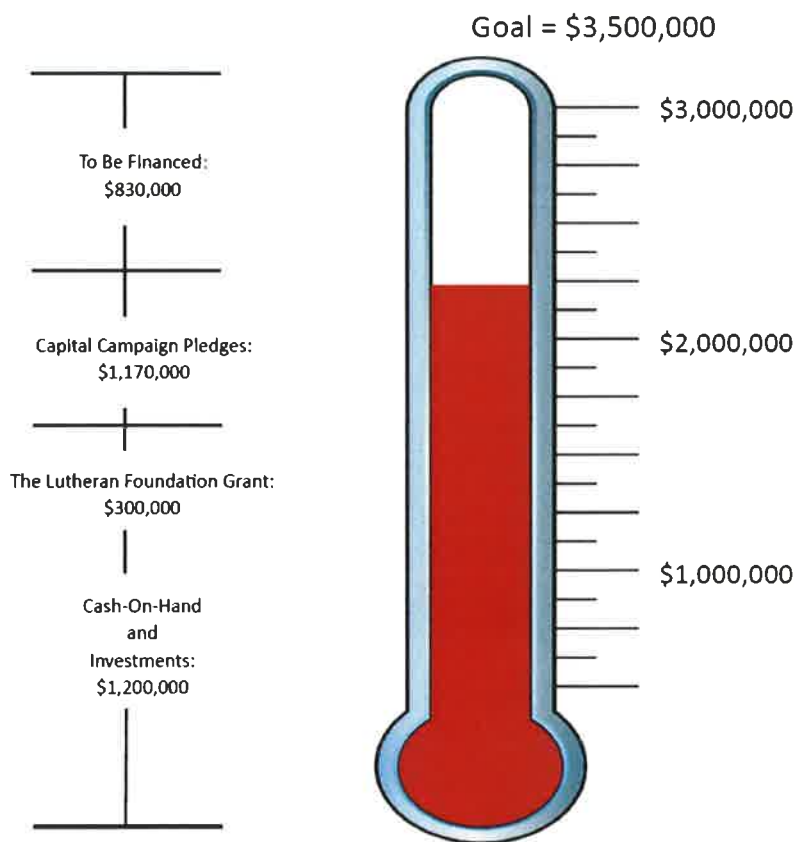
GROWING IN CHRIST

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

Building Project Update

Building Project Thermometer Information

As of April 21, 2024



Breakdown of Funds Received (64% Complete):

- \$1,200,000 from Congregation (100% complete)
- \$ 300,000 from The Lutheran Foundation (100% complete)
- \$ 614,159 from Pledges (52.4% complete)
- \$ 114,247 non-Pledged/over and beyond pledge amt to reduce financing
- \$ 12,039 toward Matching Mortgage Reduction Campaign
- \$ 703,714 needed for financing

April saw a lot of progress on our new addition! Steel framing was completed, including the installation of the beam signed by members during Easter services. Wood framing continues as inside walls take shape. Shingles have been added to the roof and windows have been installed.

Underground utilities were installed and the east wall of the old library was removed. Windows in the Spaulding Room and along the east wing were removed and drywalled.





From the Executive Committee:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. The season of spring and its renewal is upon us. We welcome its beauty and blessings outside as well as here in our church community. With your generous contributions, love, and support, new and wonderful things are being accomplished at Peace. Together we are living out our mission statement to "Praise and Proclaim, Learn and Love, Care and Celebrate." Responding in that same love, we want to share with you that at the end of the first quarter, our envelope contributions have fallen below our normal giving levels.

January-March Envelopes Budget: 130,000.00

Actual: 101,819.60

-28,180.40

As you know the envelope giving meets the day to day expense of our ministry. Your continued support to meet all of our mission goals is greatly appreciated.

In Christ's love,

Doug Haupt, Rick Kirkton, Mark Bienz, Dan Haffner and Jill Crosby

PEACE YOUTH NEWS

May 5th-Last Day of Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School for this school year will be on May 5th. We will be having a pancake breakfast from 9:15-10:15 for all families on that day to celebrate all we've learned.

May 12th-Graduate Sunday

We will be honoring all high school and college graduates at both services with a special slideshow. If you have not already done so, please email Amber (amberg@plcms.org) a baby/toddler photo and a senior photo with your future plans. College graduates, we only need a recent photo and future plans.

May 19th-Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Sunday will take place May 19th at the 10:30am service.

Camp Lutherhaven



To celebrate 75 years of ministry, Camp Lutherhaven's Summer Camp theme this year is WILDFIRE. It only takes God's spark to set his people and the world on fire for Jesus! Based on Psalm 78:4, "...tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds for the Lord," because 75 years ago, the spark of telling the "glorious deeds" of God was ignited at Camp Lutherhaven.

This summer Lutherhaven continues the legacy of fanning God's wildfire of love to the next generation. They would love to have youth join them this summer for an incredible outdoor adventure!

Visit <https://lutherhaven.org/> for more information.



Peace Youth Group members were able to tour the new addition. The children were able to explore the new office suite and enjoyed seeing the work in progress.



Peace Lutheran



Confirmands 2024

Confirmand

Witness Speech Topic:

Confirmation Verse:

Avery Evelyn Judson

Holy Baptism

Isaiah 41:10 *"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*

Andrew James Miller

The Ten
Commandments

John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."*

Summer Olivia Ross

The Lord's Prayer

Numbers 6:24-26 *"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."*

Carter Lee Vonderau

The Apostles'
Creed

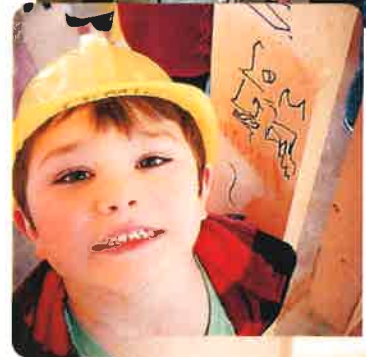
Joshua 1:9 *"Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened and do not be dismayed for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*

Confirmation, a rite many churches celebrate each spring, has biblical roots. In Acts 8, Peter and John are sent to lay their hands on new believers and pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit. In the early church, new Christians — usually adult converts — received baptism and confirmation as one ceremony. As more children were brought for baptism, pastors and priests would baptize, but only bishops would "confirm" a baptism, or make it official. Thus, the baptized were granted full membership in the church through confirmation.

Now confirmation allows young people, often after intensive Christian education, to profess for themselves the faith into which they were baptized. Confirmation serves as an important faith milestone, as young adults purposefully embrace a life of discipleship.



We had some BIG FUN in the new building! The children and teachers put on construction hats, and went into Miss Sara's new office and signed our names. It was very fun watching the wonder and excitement in the kids' eyes as they looked around the new space!



DOVE TAILS



Hello Friends!!

This month I visited Jac-Cen-Del High School in Osgood, IN. I worked with my friends Naomi Comfort Dog, Claudia Comfort Dog, and Magdalene Comfort Dog. We were sent there because a boy who was almost done with high school died suddenly. Their “Top Dog” asked us to come back in May since the students will be missing their friend at something called prom and graduation. These young humans felt the love and comfort by me and my other four-legged friends. That makes me feel so good.

One of my other visits this past month was to Angola Middle School. I was told by a teacher there that after I left a young human got in trouble (probably barking, or licking, or something). She was told to wait in the hallway for a teacher to come and talk with her. She seemed really upset. This teacher that shared this with me said that the only thing she had was my business card, which has a picture of me on it. She said that girl just stared at my picture and read my card. She also said that it calmed the girl down and was a source of comfort. I am glad my picture could be of comfort since I couldn't be there to snuggle her.



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.

48 tubes of toothpaste, 55 dishcloths, 25 boxes of Kleenex

Peace congregation collected supplies for Elijah Haven Intervention Center of Steuben and LaGrange Counties during Lent. By supporting the short-term emergency shelter, we help to provide a safe place for women and children who need refuge from an abusive situation.

30 bottles of body wash, 93 washcloths, 43 bottles of liquid hand soap . . .

As victims of domestic abuse move from crisis and learn to live in new and safe ways, they need healing, nurturing, and education. Elijah Haven continues in relationship with these women, encouraging them as they gain independence.

23 bottles of dish soap, 18 kitchen towels, gas and grocery gift cards. . . .

The spiritual discipline of almsgiving continues throughout the year. Consider and remember those in need and those in crisis in our community! Your generosity in serving the needs of others demonstrates the compassion and love of Jesus!

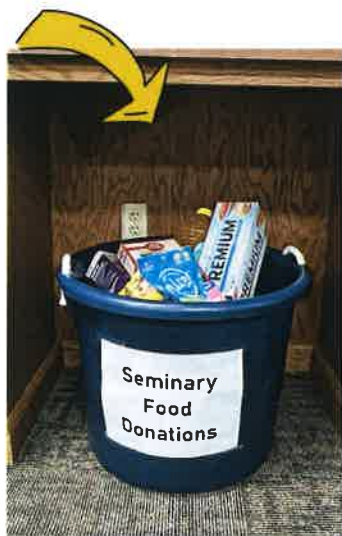




Mental Health Awareness

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. As part of our Mental Health Awareness Program, we are looking at the epidemic of "Loneliness" through the month of May.

We were not created to live in a vacuum. A person may LOOK like they are surrounded by friends and engaged with others, but that doesn't always tell the true story. You will find information on the table under the Mental Health Wellness bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall. Please take a moment to read about the epidemic of Loneliness and how it can impact your mental health. It lists helpful ideas on how to combat that feeling of loneliness. Please feel free to share it with a family member, a friend, or whoever you may feel suffers from loneliness.



Peace contributes monthly to the Food Co-Op at Concordia Theological Seminary 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 donations are welcome anytime, this month's donations focus on breakfast items such as:

- oatmeal
- cereal
- toaster pastries
- pancake mix
- muffin mix
- granola bars

ACTSFW
FOOD & CLOTHING CO-OP



Help save a life.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today.



Peace Lutheran Blood Drive

Wednesday, May 22th
1:00pm-5:00pm

If you are interested in donating, please visit:

www.redcrossblood.org

or call:

1-800-RED-CROSS



WHAT IS STEPHEN MINISTRY AT PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH?

Stephen Ministry is a way congregations can provide high-quality care and outreach to hurting people in our Peace congregation and surrounding community.

Stephen Ministers are congregation members who have gone through 50 hours of training to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care. Each Stephen Minister is matched with a hurting person—men are paired with men, women with women—and meets weekly with that person to listen, care, pray, and encourage.

Stephen Ministers care for those dealing with grief, a major medical crisis, job stress, divorce or broken relationship, a chronic care situation, loneliness, financial struggles, end of life or hospice situation, a major life transition, and many other life difficulties.

A Stephen Minister **is**:

- A child of God who walks beside a hurting person;
- A caring Christian who really listens;
- A member of our Peace congregation who has received 50 hours of training in how to provide distinctively Christian care;
- A person who is ready to focus on your needs;
- A trustworthy confidant who will keep everything you say—and even your identity confidential;
and
- Someone who will faithfully meet with you on a weekly basis.

A Stephen Minister **is not**:

- A counselor or therapist;
- A problem-solver;
- Someone who runs errands or helps with chores; or
- A casual visitor.

Why Stephen Ministry? Because the Bible tells us to:

“Love one another as I have loved you.” – **John 15:12**

“Bear one another’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

Galatians 6:2

“Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.” **Romans 12:15**

“Encourage one another and build each other up.” **1 Thessalonians 5:11a**

“Serve one another in love.” **Galatians 5:13**

If you know of someone who is hurting that could use someone to walk alongside them in their difficulty, please don’t hesitate to contact one of our Stephen Leaders here at Peace (Ellen Luepke, Rick Kirkton, or Pastor Teeple). Also, if you have an interest in receiving more information about **becoming a trained Stephen Minister**, also contact Ellen, Rick, or Pastor Teeple.



Blessed to be a blessing...Genesis
12:3

"Thank you for all the wonderful meals this week. They were enjoyed by all. They did ask me to see if I could get the chicken enchilada casserole recipe.

I believe it is one they want to try on their own in the future. We appreciate you and all that you do for us. We are truly blessed!"

This message was sent to me in regards to meals delivered to Family Promise during March! How great is that?! They were blessed by those of you who either made, delivered, or prayed for those who did!

Our next opportunity to be a blessing comes May 20-24. The sign-up sheet is now available on the information desk.

Blessed
to Be a
Blessing

GriefShare®

Grief Support Group

*Help and encouragement
after the death of a
loved one*

At a GriefShare group,
you'll find understanding,
guidance, relief, and a safe
place to navigate the
challenges of grief.
Come join us!

Contact Us Today

Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 PM
Continues now through June 25
Peace Lutheran Church
Fremont, IN
Call or text Luanne Haupt
260-639-7339
with any questions or concerns

griefshare.org



BIRTHDAYS

5/2	Mary Anne Hibbard	5/19	Patti Haffner
5/3	Al Hermann		Abby Hinchliffe
	RuthAnn Hullinger	5/20	Maya Harris
5/4	David Biddle	5/21	Marie Font
	Katie Kirkton	5/22	Jaspin Brown
5/5	Karla Cordes	5/25	Sue Korte
5/6	Bill Eyster		Ryan Smith
5/7	Don Ahlersmeyer	5/27	Mary Fortuna
5/11	Ashley Oberst	5/28	Karen Spake
	George Oberst	5/29	Jennifer Hagerty
	Connie Sweeney		Jaxon Brown
	Nick Biddle		Jayse Brown
5/12	Joe Mowrey	5/30	Grey Baals
	Sarah Koch	5/31	Stan Sweeney
	Jazmine Lahnum		
	Dean VonDeylen		
5/13	Marion Hatcher		
	Curt Shelburne		
5/14	Marty Jackson		
5/15	Debbie Jo Miller		
	Lauren Teeple		

ANNIVERSARIES

5/4/1968	Steve & Joan Wright
5/7/2022	Tom & Carol Harkins-Outman
5/15/1993	Don & Jennifer Alfeld
5/16/1992	Dave & Tammy Panning
5/25/1963	Bruce & Linda Yerks
5/28/1966	Marty & Judy Jackson

ALTAR FLOWERS

5/5	Steve & Linda Soldano
5/12	Donna Cooper
5/19	Dave & Tammy Panning
5/26	Steve & Charla Cygan

History of Mother's Day

Anna M. Jarvis (1864-1948) loved her mother dearly. It was Anna who first suggested a national day to honor all mothers.

At a memorial service for her mother on May 10, 1908, Anna gave a carnation, her mother's favorite flower, to each person in attendance. Within a few years, the idea to honor mothers gained popularity, and Mother's Day was soon observed annually in many large cities of the United States.

On May 9, 1914, by an act of Congress, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday of May as Mother's Day. He established the day as a time for "public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country." By then, it had become customary to wear white carnations in honor of departed mothers, and red carnations to honor the living. This custom continues to this day.

Sun		Mon		Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri		Sat	
28		29		30		1		2		3		4	
				Pastor Conference		9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 6pm - Handbells 7pm - Adult Choir						10am - Election equipment	
5	8am - Worship 9-11am - Last SS for youth 9-11am - Pancake Breakfast 9-11am - SS/BC 10:30am - Worship/HC 12pm - Dodgeball 1-30pm - Gym Rsvnd-MRBL	6	10am - Women's Study 11:45am - Election set up 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Worship	7	Pastor Out of Office 6am - Election - Fellowship 10am - WCM Chapel 6:30pm - Grief Share	8	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - BOD Mtg. 7pm - Adult Choir	9	Ascension	10am - SM Superv.		11	
12	Pastor Out of Office	13		14		15		16		17		18	
	Ascension (Recognized) Graduate Sunday Mother's Day 8am - Worship/HC 9-11am - BC 10:30am - Worship/HC		10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Worship		10am - WCM Chapel 6:30pm - Grief Share		9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 4:30pm - Pickleball 6pm - Handbells 6:30pm - BOD meeting 7pm - Adult Choir		9:30am - Bible Study 11:30am - Staff Mtg 6:30pm - WCM Graduation 6:30pm - WCM Spring Prgrm				
19		20		21		22		23		24		25	
	Confirmation Sunday Pentecost 8am - AK Mission Send-Off 8am - Worship/HC 9-11am - BC 10:30am - Worship/HC		10am - Women's Study 5:30pm - Scouts 6:30pm - Worship		10am - WCM Chapel 4pm - CD Mtg 6:30pm - Grief Share		9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 10am - Online Zoom Bible 12pm - Red Cross Blood 4:30pm - Pickleball		9:30am - Bible Study 12pm - Vol. Ice Cream Social	10am - SM Superv.		Alaska Mission Team Leaves	
26	Holy Trinity 8am - Worship/HC 10am - Worship/HC	27	Church Office Closed Memorial Day WCM Closed 10am - No Women's Study 6:30pm - No Worship	28	10am - WCM Chapel 6:30pm - Grief Share	29	9:30am - Sewing/Crafts 4:30pm - Pickleball	30		31		1	