

Bethesda Life-Line

Worship Services*

Bethesda now has a YouTube channel! Please check out last week's service



(<https://www.youtube.com/BethesdaLutheranChurchMalmoMN/videos>), as well as on our Facebook page



Bethesda Mission Statement:

We will **LIVE** and **SERVE** through **FAITH**
we will **ACT** with **LOVE** and **KINDNESS**
we will **GIVE** hope and **SUPPORT** to all

June 4 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

June 11 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

June 18 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

June 25 Sunday Worship 9:00 AM
Communion

Upcoming Events

June 14 Father's Day

June 19-22, 2023-Vacation Bible school

August 19th Corn feed



Happy Father's Day June 14th



CHURCH SPRING CLEANING

June 14, 9:00 am

We will be cleaning the yard,
Windows & cutting limbs. We need your help!
Property Committee



Vacation Bible School

The Best Week of Summer will be June 19-22!!
Please invite any children in your life to join the experience. Paper registrations in fellowship hall or on line at church website or Facebook. We would like to have the registration by June 12 but walk-ins are welcome.

Please check the bulletin boards for opportunities to buy items to donate or sign up for a job.

During the 4 days we have classes, learn songs, have great snacks, and play outside. On Thursday they will pack Operation Christmas Shoe boxes. Wednesday evening we will join the Malmo Lions picnic and sing for the community. On Sunday June 18 we need help taking down tables and chairs after church please consider staying to help!! Thank You!



From the Pastor

“He existed before all things, and all things are held together in him... and he reconciled all things to himself through him—whether things on earth or in the heavens. He brought peace

through the blood of his cross... Once you were alienated from God and you were enemies with him in your minds, which was shown by your evil actions. But now he has reconciled you by his physical body through death, to present you before God as a people who are holy, faultless, and without blame.”

(Colossians 1:15-22)

“So then, if anyone is in Christ, that person is a new creation; what is old has passed away—look, what is new has come! And all these things are from God who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and who has given us the ministry of reconciliation. In other words, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting people’s trespasses against them, and he has given us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making His plea through us...” (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)

As I have shared about my internship experience on the Pine Ridge Reservation and especially now that a group of us are planning a trip out to South Dakota this July (15-21), one question I have gotten more than a few times already regards the name of the place we are headed – the Pine Ridge Reconciliation Center.

Because I often note, usually by forgetting the new name, that it was called the Pine Ridge *Retreat* Center when I served there. Why the switch? What is the difference between “Retreat” and “Reconciliation,” besides the fact that “Reconciliation” sounds fancier?

Well, besides sounding a bit fancier, it makes a missional statement about the important biblical practice of reconciliation. Don’t get me wrong, retreat isn’t a bad practice either. As I remind the church council every time I ask about vacation time, even Jesus sought out a little time by himself now and then.

But the ministry of that place has never really been about retreat, about getting away from it all. As the

mission statement posted on their website proclaims, the Center’s goal is “fostering mutual trust, respect, and understanding while addressing the deep poverty that exists on the reservation.” When we pastors preach about service and love, they aren’t meant to be two topics. Love and service are meant to be indelibly bound together, and to properly love someone, we usually need to know a little about them.

That requires time. Sometimes it requires a little background work. But ultimately it requires engaging in honest, yet respectful, conversation, and, probably, in listening more than we speak. So that we build trust and feel comfortable sharing joys and sufferings, and all those mundane details that help define our lives. And then, as understanding grows, those relationships grow, and then it is only natural that we will do what we can to help, even if sometimes the best we can do is to just keep listening.

That is why a central component of the ministry of the Reconciliation center has been the cultural immersion experiences, like the one our group has scheduled for this July. While sometimes groups will assist in work projects, unlike many other “mission trip” types of programs out there in the world, that really isn’t the focus of the Center.

Too often people go on those trips, build something (which could be a lovely and much needed something), and mostly just stay in their own little group space. Then they go home without ever really getting to meet the people they are trying to help, but feeling good about themselves anyway.

Which really paints a different kind of picture than the one that Paul is painting in the passages above. Paul is speaking of something much deeper, something that demands much more out of us, but which also draws more deeply on the grace of God. Sometimes those honest conversations are difficult conversations. That is why people often associate reconciliation work with apologizing, but it is really meant to be deeper than that too.

Because, as we all learned as children, you can say you are sorry for hitting your brother, with enough sincerity to appease your parents, but that doesn’t really mean you won’t do it again. As Paul writes in his letter to the Corinthians, reconciliation equals new creation. A relationship is

remade in the work of reconciliation. That may involve a little confession and forgiveness, but reconciliation is more than just nice words, it involves a change to one's life.

As part of our "cultural immersion" experience we will be listening to a series of speakers and led on guided tours from local members of the Lakota Sioux community – community leaders & elders, artists and musicians, a schoolteacher who also raises bison, and just regular folks living their lives. We will also visit some of the big cultural institutions and museums too, but getting to know people is the heart of the program.

Our little group is getting excited for the trip! We will have a temple talk on the first Sunday in July, as we are doing a little fundraising before we head out there. We hope to defray some of the fuel costs and help cover expenses for our younger group members. But we also hope to have a little extra to leave as a donation for the Reconciliation Center. We also plan to open the Veggie Stand starting the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend to also help fundraise. We appreciate any support you can offer, whether that is buying some baked goods or just praying for us!

And don't worry, we will make sure to take plenty of photos and tell stories of our trip when we return! Keep an eye on our Facebook as July approaches, and feel free to find the Center's Facebook page or visit their website: www.pineridgereconciliationcenter.org

Blessings to you as we enjoy these early days of summer!

Yours in Christ,
Pastor James Muske

<u>General Fund</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>YTD</u>
<i>(Envelope Giving)</i>		
Income Actual	\$19,701	\$ 60,841
Budget Actual	\$11,500	\$ 46,000
<u>All Funds</u>		
Total Income Actual	\$25,152	\$ 75,328
Total Income Budget	\$12,446	\$ 49,783
Expenses Actual	\$23,936	\$ 65,742
Expenses Budget	\$12,733	\$ 50,932
Actual Over/(Short)	\$ 1,216	\$ 9,585



Bethesda Lutheran

Minutes of May 15, 2023

Council Meeting

In attendance: Gary Sjerven, Pastor
James Muske, Mary Braun, Judie Birk, Dean Malotky, Dick Stebbins, Darlene Christensen, Joanne Stueven, and Donna Ansell

The meeting was called to order by council president Gary Sjerven. Pastor James gave the opening prayer.

Secretary's Report:

Motion was made to accept the minutes of the April meeting by Mary Braun and seconded by Joanne Stueven and passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Financial view and current month activity for May was presented by Mary Braun. Due to a couple RMDs and memorials that have come in, we are looking good. It was noticed that the electric bill was up. It was noted that for next year to budget more for electric. Motion was made by Dick Stebbins to accept the treasurer's report, seconded Mary Braun and passed.

Pastor's Report:

- Preparing for the Council Retreat
- Pine Ridge Trip Preparations
- Three funerals
- Meeting with Mutual Ministry committee

Old Business

One service at 9 am — Survey significantly towards one service a month. Pastor suggested to have an extra occasional option but will discuss with Worship and Music.

Installation of the Centennial Stained Glass in the window - Sue will be contacted to connect with Gary.
Adopt a Highway - June 1st

New Business

Communion Glasses — Gary mentioned he saw an ad in the recent Lutheran magazine. These glasses come with a rack for the dishwasher. This needs to be discussed with the Altar Care group — Gary said he would like to be included in discussion.
(saintsavers.com)

Pine Ridge Scholarships - Pastor said they plan to do some fundraising, at the veggie stand, potential raffle basket; movie night. Mary mentioned that there is

money in a Scholarship fund with Edward Jones. June's blessing box and temple talk will be Pine Ridge.

Sidewalk - Gary mentioned he will be getting bids for the front sidewalk; Also have another bid for fixing the roof.

Building Cleanup is June 15th - Windows to be caulked, garage cleaned out; yard to clean, etc. Volunteers needed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Braun and seconded by Dick Stebbins and passed.

The next council meeting will be on June 19.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Birk, council secretary.

WELCA Meeting – May 17, 2023

Chairperson Sue Samuelson opened the mtg. with 21 members present.

Jeannine gave devotions. The purpose & mission statements were read.

The secy's report was accepted as written in the April Lifeline.

Dianne gave the treasurer's report with a bal. on hand of \$7,720.45. Motion by Janice, second by Jenny to accept the report. Motion passed.

Old business:

- There were 335 jars of jelly made on May 5th. Price per jar remains at \$5.00.
- Crafting brainstorm is Mon., May 22nd at 9 am.
- Summer gathering is June 12-13th. Darlene is our delegate.
- Six new long handled spoons were ordered. A new freezer needs to be ordered. The old freezer will be donated to Salem West. The oven element has been replaced.

New business:

The date for the corn feed has been set for August 19th, 2023 from 4:30-7:00. Cost will be \$12 for adults & \$5 for children ten yrs & younger.

- Motion by Shirley, 2nd by Cheryl to give \$1,000 toward the Pine River Reservation trip. Motion carried.

The women packed 63 personal care kits to be delivered to Lutheran Social Services.

The mtg was closed by members saying the Lords Prayer.

The next meeting will be Wed., August 16th at 10 am. Char Berg, secy.



Council members and several committee leaders attended a council retreat at Camp Onamia on May 15-16. We discovered how our personalities work together with each of us taking an Enneagram personality test prior to meeting. We had an evening worship with a beautiful sunset over Lake Onamia. Several bible studies filled us with the Holy Spirit as we discussed ways we fill our church life throughout the year. We are truly blessed.

Join the Crafters!

Crafters met to brainstorm ideas on Monday, May 22 for this year's bazaar on October 28th. Lots of great ideas to work on this summer. Dates for Crafters meetings are: June 5 & 26; July 17 & 31; Aug. 14 & 28; Sept. 11 & 25; Oct. 2 & 16.



We'll be working on making a variety of Christmas trees from wood ones to chenille if you have ideas, Let us know. Other ideas are beaded garland, flowers, gnomes, crosses, and many more. Come and join us. Also we encourage all the crafters to think of cool things to make at home.

CHAIR YOGA CLASSES are offered on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9:00am. Class last 40 minutes.



Help! We need Coffee Servers for June.

SERVERS NEEDED please sign up so we may continue to enjoy coffee & fellowship after service. The signup sheet is on the bulletin board mounted in fellowship hall next to the serving window. **You don't have to bake;** there's plenty of treats in the freezer.



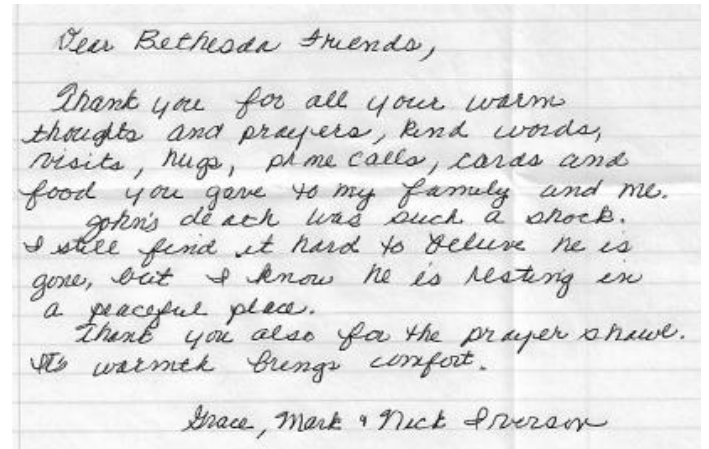
Thrivent Action Team Event

Twenty-one women participated in Bethesda's Thrivent Action Team event on May 17th to benefit Lutheran World Relief. They assembled 63 personal care kits that will be delivered to the in-kind event at the WELCA Summer Gathering on June 12-13 in Grand Rapids. In addition to the care kits the May Blessing Box donations will be sent directly to Lutheran World Relief to benefit their work around the world. A big thank you to all who donated money, items for the kits and who helped assemble them.



Thank you's

Greetings one and all, members and friends of Bethesda Lutheran Church. Thank you kindly for remembering me in Prayer and Love during my Recovery from Total Shoulder Replacement and Blood Transfusions to regain my Strength. I am feeling stronger as I continue with my recovery. Sincerely, Lois Johnson



SUMMER LAWN MOWING

Please enjoy the outdoors and sign up to help mow the church lawn. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Judy Wuorio's celebration of life is Sunday June 11th in Duluth from noon to 4 pm. If you would like to carpool contact, Dianne Jones.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

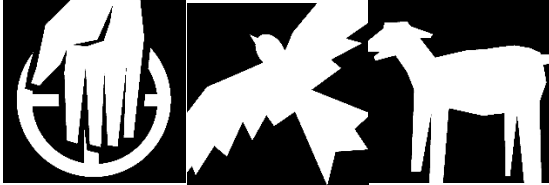
the week of
June 19 -22



Inspirational Vision

Charley Boswell, a former University of Alabama football star with hopes of a professional baseball career, lost his eyesight in World War II. But that did not stop him. He went on to become the National Blind Golf Champion 17 times. He was quoted as saying, "I never count what I've lost. I only count what I have left."

Symbols for the Trinity



The liturgical calendar calls [the Sunday after Pentecost] "Trinity Sunday" — a day set aside to "celebrate" the unique triune character of our God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Symbols for the Trinity include a circle inscribed within an equilateral triangle. Actually, during the first eight centuries of Christian art, the image of the triangle for the Trinity was not widespread — although on one of the gravestones in the catacombs there is a triangle in which the monogram of the name of Christ was placed.

The three persons were often represented in art, but they were shown separately. The first time they seem to have been placed together was in the fourth century, and that representation consisted of "the Hand, the Lamb and the Dove," which is said no longer to exist.

—Homiletics

2023 Year of Service Loaves and Fishes update MONDAY JUNE 26TH

On January 9th and March 20th, Bethesda folks volunteered at First Lutheran in Aitkin as we helped prepare, pack, serve and clean up at the Monday night Loaves and Fishes community dinner. Over 170 meals were served each night. **The third and final meal Bethesda is scheduled to help with is Monday, June 26th.**



We need **6 volunteers** with 2-3 coming early (2pm) to help prep the meal and 3 more to come at 3-3:30 to help pack, serve and clean up. We will be finished by 5:30pm.

In addition, Bethesda provides 200 wrapped desserts (cookies) to be included in the meal. **Volunteers are needed to make cookies** and to help pack them up after church on Sunday, June 25th.

Please let me know if you would like to help with the meal on Monday June 26th or if you could provide us with cookies. There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall for cookie making.

Thanks in advance for your service!

Julie Swaggert, 763-229-9121 or
jswaggert@gmail.com



Well, the choir has gotten back to singing again. We started in May with Jesus Messiah! This is always the request of Denny and is a favorite of all the choir & the congregation!!

We are busy working on old and new songs. Our numbers are off and on right now. We are always looking for new members. Come on Tuesday nights @ 5:30, and give the choir a try!!

The Choir will be singing on June 4th, "Heavenly Father, We appreciate you!" It is an old hymn I remember singing in our Children's choir back in the day. I will not be there to direct as my Grandson, Brett Stabb will be graduating high School in Fairmont.

The choir will be singing again on June 18th, "Heavenly Father", for Father's Day! The choir will also be singing at the Lions Community Picnic on June 21st. So, it will be a busy month for all of us! Remember is you would like to give the choir a try, we practice on Tuesday nights at 5:30.

Thank you,
Sheila Penoyer

A FREE VIRTUAL EVENT!



Arthur Monsetin's adult children have come together to decide a course of action for their beloved father who is struggling with Alzheimer's disease. Long ingrained familial tensions come to the surface as Peter, Karen and Jamie wrestle with how best to treasure their father as they also come to terms with his limitations.

In-person viewing sites (which includes Bethesda Lutheran Church in Malmo) OR via your own computer at home!

Thursday, June 29, 2023 • 10 am - Noon

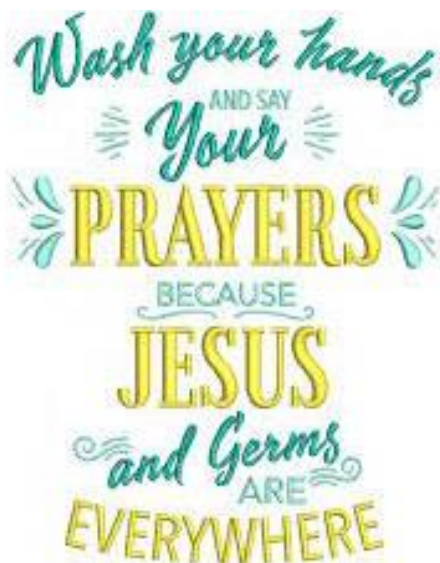
Reserve tickets and get additional details:

<https://aitkin-garden2023.eventbrite.com>

or call: (877) 810-7776

Reservations required; attendance is limited.

Signup sheet for attending in person at Bethesda are in the Fellowship Hall.



2023 SUMMER OUTDOOR GOSPEL CONCERTS

EVERY SATURDAY 7:00 P.M.

Malmo Free Church, near Jct. of Hwy 18 & 47, NE Lake Mille Lacs
21927 322nd Ave, Isle, MN 56342. (320) 684-2201 - Indoors in if rain
Bring a lawn chair if you like—Free will offering taken.

6-3-23 Due North - Old Country, Bluegrass, and Gospel music.

6-10-23 The Garms Family - With over 15 instruments on stage, they can transition from a straight-up Southern Gospel group to an entire bluegrass band.

6-17-23 The Skogen Family - a local family with powerful vocals singing your favorite songs.

6-24-23 Mike & Ted - this Duluth area band shares stories in song form. A toe-tapping mix of tunes for all ages.

7-1-23 No Concert - Happy 4th of July!

7-8-23 Mystery Mountain Boys - They provide toe-tapping Gospel, and old time Christian music with a wide variety of instruments.

7-15-23 The Song Masters - They are known as the longest continuously singing southern gospel group in the Midwest.

7-22-23 Northern Lights Revisited – from east central MN, singing and playing gospel favorites.

7-29-23 Higher Call - a Men's Gospel Quartet from the Twin Cities Area.

8-5-23 Fool 4 Old School - from Jordan/Belle Plaine, this group shares a love of old-time gospel and bluegrass music.

8-12-23 Headin' Home Quartet - a Men's Gospel Quartet from Iowa.

8-19-23 Hawkinson & Friends - a local Country Gospel group that features steel guitar, lead guitar, rhythm guitar, bass guitar and drums.

8-26-23 The Klassen Family - a family group from Worthington, MN.

Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo
21590 State Highway 47
Isle, MN 56342

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Paid
Permit No. 25
Aitkin, MN 56431

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Lifeline Mission

We will **LIVE** and **SERVE** through **FAITH**
we will **ACT** with **LOVE** and **KINDNESS**
we will **GIVE** hope and **SUPPORT** to all



Bethesda Telephone Directory

Church	brcmalmo@gmail.com	(320) 684-2123
Fax		(320)-684-2836
Toll Free		(877) 684-2123
Church Web site		brcmalmo.org
Facebook page		Bethesda Lutheran Church of Malmo

Pastor	James A. Muske	(320) 684-2123
Council President	Gary Sjerven	(651) 231-6556
Vice President	Donna Ansell	(320) 537-1893
Parish Nurse	Darlene Christensen	(320) 279-0097
Parish Nurse	Kathy Berland	(218) 838-6181

To share articles and/or information, mail to:

Sue Stebbins, *Lifeline Editor*

c/o Bethesda Lutheran Church

Email address: bllnews@juno.com

All articles due on or before the 20th of the month

Activities & Events

June 2023

If anyone is unable to fulfill an assignment below, please find your own substitute AND notify the coordinator

USHERS by Gary & Brenda Sjervin

- June 4 Barry & Donna Ansell
- June 11 Chuck & Elsa Carlson
- June 18 Sue & Al Samuelson
- June 25 Lee & Barb Forrester

GREETERS by Gary & Brenda Sjervin

- June 4 Lee & Barb Forrester
- June 11 Mary Braun & Janice Olson
- June 18 Gary & Brenda Sjervin
- June 25 Dick & Sue Stebbins

Altar Care Dianne Jones

- June Barb Forrester and Patti Smith
- July Elsa Carlson and Mary Vukelich
- August Sylvia Tapelt and Linda Southworth

Sunday Hospitality

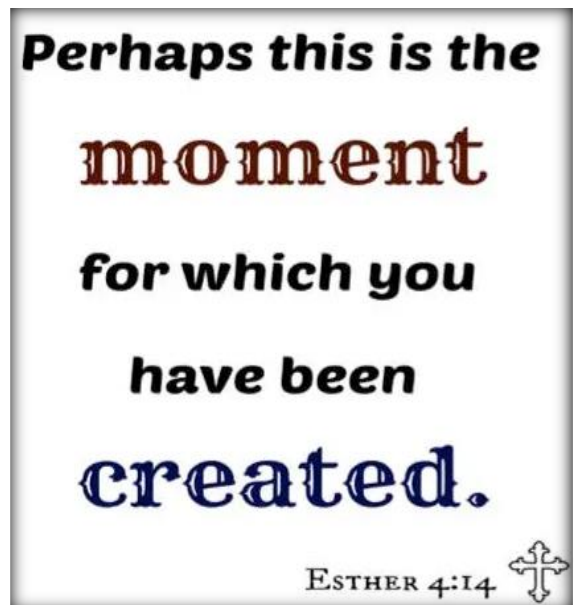
- June 4 Jeannine Bruesewitz & Judy Seifert
- June 11 Janice & Wayne Olson, Winnie Zahradka
- June 18 Merrily Jones, Linda Southworth, & Penny Sjoquist
- June 25



- | | | |
|------|----|------------------|
| June | 1 | Lois Falk |
| June | 1 | Sandra Pullen |
| June | 1 | Paula Spetz |
| June | 2 | Dennis Petersen |
| June | 4 | Bruce Carlson |
| June | 4 | Sharon Whipple |
| June | 12 | Lyle Nyberg |
| June | 17 | Glenice Peterson |
| June | 19 | George Larson |
| June | 20 | Wayne Danielson |
| June | 20 | Dennis Hennessy |
| June | 21 | Craig Dressely |
| June | 21 | Dean Malotky |
| June | 22 | Edward Grap |
| June | 29 | Ruth Jaszczak |



- June 4 Cheryl & Dean Malotky
- June 8 Susan & Sam Samuelson
- June 9 Joanne & Dave Stueven
- June 12 Mary Kramer-Long & Steve Long
- June 18 Sandra & Kevin Skow
- June 20 Sheila & Doug Penoyer
- June 26 Lucinda & Jonathan Mickelson
- June 28 Laurie & Norman Westerlund





June 2023

Bethesda Calendar of Events



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:00 Chair Yoga 10:00 Ditch Clean up	2	3 8:00 am Veggie Stand
4 9:00 Worship Communion	5 9:00 Crafters 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	6 9:00 Chair Yoga 4:00 Bells 5:30 Choir	7 9:00 Women's Bible Study	8 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:00 Chair Yoga	9	10 8:00 am Veggie Stand
11 9:00 Worship Communion	12 11:30 Pinochle 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	13 9:00 Chair Yoga 9:00 Quilters 4:00 Bells 5:30 Choir	14 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:00 Church Clean up	15 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:00 Chair Yoga	16	17 8:00 am Veggie Stand
18 9:00 Worship Communion Father's Day	19 11:30 Pinochle 10:00 Council mtg 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	20 9:00 Chair Yoga 4:00 Bells 5:30 Choir Newsline Deadline	21 9-4:00 WIC 9:00 Women's Bible Study	22 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:00 Chair Yoga	23	24 8:00 am Veggie Stand
25 9:00 Worship Communion	26 9:00 Crafters 11:30 Pinochle 2-5 Loaves & Fishes 7:00 p.m AA & Alanon mg	27 9:00 Chair Yoga 9:00 Quilters 4:00 Bells 5:30 Choir	28 9:00 Women's Bible Study	29 8:00 R.o.m.e.o.s 9:00 Chair Yoga 10:00 Remember Project	30	