



“Return to the Lord”

One somewhat obscure, but interesting Bible story is recorded in the 12th chapter of Judges. It was a time of intertribal conflict. Gileadites and Ephraimites quarreled and fought. Gilead was victorious and the soldiers of Gilead guarded the shores of the Jordan in order to capture any Ephraimite fugitives. It was known that the Ephraimites could not pronounce the “sh” sound, so the Gileadites tested all by asking them to say “shibboleth”, which is the Hebrew word for ear of corn or stream. Ephraimite fugitives pronounced the word as sibboleth not shibboleth and were caught.

Shibboleth has entered the English language and describes something, most often a word that distinguishes one people from another. Even more broadly, a shibboleth is a catchword, phrase or slogan that sets groups apart from one another. I would invite you to think of the words from the prophet Joel that are heard on Ash Wednesday, “return to the Lord” as our Lenten shibboleth. As the Bear Butte conference leaders met in retreat this week, we were challenged with the question, “Why Lent?” Especially for congregations like Grace, who have a weekly Wednesday evening worship tradition already, why Lent? What difference does Lent make?

Well, church, what sets the season of Lent apart from other seasons in the church is the invitation to return to the Lord.

“Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping and with mourning. Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord our God for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and relents in punishing.” Joel 2:13-14

We are invited to make a 40-day commitment to prayer, to fasting, to giving as we prepare for the celebration of Jesus victory over sin and death on Resurrection Sunday. Making our Lenten shibboleth, “return to the Lord,” can mean a physical return to worship on Sundays and/or Wednesdays during Lent. Making our Lenten shibboleth, “return to the Lord” can mean a committing or recommitting to daily prayer, Bible reading or a devotional. Making our Lenten shibboleth, “return to the Lord” can mean giving more of our time or resources (money and talents) to a particular ministry or service project. Whatever way you are being led, let’s let Lent show in our lives and our worship.

With You On The Way,

Pastor Carla



**GRACE LUTHERAN
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22
6:30 P.M.**

**COME AND TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON
THE SACRIFICE OF
OUR LORD AND SAVIOR**

**LENTEN SUPPERS BEGIN AT 5:30
LENTEN SERVICES: FEB. 22-MARCH 29 AT 6:30**

Serving Grace February 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Position	February 5	February 12	February 19	February 26
Greeters (2)		Dan and Sheri Boy	Wilson Family	Matt and Amanda Kelly
Ushers (4)	David Lyons	Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange and David Lyons	Dale & Mary Ellen Kreutz
Assisting Ministers	Tim Potts	Kim Webber	Tim Patmore	JD Williams
Lesson Reader (1)	Tim Patmore		Melissa Pankratz	Koyer & Quintin Kelly
Serving Communion	Kenya Schummer	Dan and Sheri Boy	Mikayla Wilson	Bonnie Lange
*Coffee Hosts (3)	Bonnie Lange and Ruth Smit	Ardith McFarland and Ken & Jean Beug	Dan & Sheri Boy, Sandra Boy and Shryock Family	Lindsey Duprel
Sunday Acolytes	Holland and Isla Rohde	Alex Weingartner and Quintin Kelly	Lily Wilson and Jenika Leonhardt	Mason McGillivray and Lane Duprel

*Coffee Hosts— please bring 4 dozen cookies each, help set up, serve and clean up. Worship helper instructions are located near the greeters' welcome table.

~ WEDNESDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE ~

Position	February 1	February 8	February 15	February 22
*WNL Meal Hosts	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Tim and Debbie Patmore	Ash Wednesday Rachel Circle
Wednesday Night Acolytes	Elle King and Jolei Avery	Tenlee and Talen Koontz	Madeline and Olivia Vliem	Pate Gunderson and Brinley Heikes

February Serving Grace Members

Adam, Ronald
Aldren, Emma
Avery, Dan and Dadra
Bisson, Paul and Mary
Boy, Dan and Sheri
Boy, Sandra & Plaggemeyer,
Aisha
Casteel, Clayton and Janice
Collins, Sharon
Dietz, Jamie and Dana
Duprel, Lindsey
Enright, Dillard
Gabriel, Larry
Greslin, Don and Judy

Hall, Clint and Judi
Hayes, DeWayne
Hencke, Bryan and Tammy
Jorensen, Barney and Dawn
Kelly, Matt and Amanda
Kohle, Melissa and King, Matt
Kreutz, Dale and Mary Ellen
Kreutz, Matt
Kreutz, Vivian
Lange, Bonnie
Lisko, Russell and Patsy
Pankratz, Chris and Melissa
Paul, Yvette
Petersen, Kimberly

Reder, Hope
Roth, Al and Rosemary
Roth, KayDe
Shryock, Nick and Michelle
Shuck, Denise
Smit, Ruth
Stubstad, Carol
Vilhauer, Dean and Candy
Weimer, Jan
White, Lyla
Wiedmann, Ron and Gloria
Wilson, Pete and Mikayla

Serving Grace March 2023

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE ~ 9:00 AM

Serving Grace sign up board is located near the entrance of the church.
If your name is listed below, please sign up for March before February 20.

Position	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
Greeters (2)				
Ushers (4)		Al Weidenbach and Brandon Caneva	Bonnie Lange and	Dale & Mary Ellen Kreutz
Assisting Ministers	Tim Potts	Garland Dobler	Tim Patmore	Kim Webber
Lesson Reader (1)				
Serving Communion				
*Coffee Hosts (3)				
Sunday Acolytes	Elle King and Jolei Avery	Tenlee and Talen Koontz	Madeline and Olivia Vliem	Pate Gunderson and Brinley Heikes

Aga, Lynn and Karmen
Anderson, Kevin and Janis
Berg, Randy and Connie
Blakeman, Jenna and Jesse
Calhoon, David and Webber,
Kim
Chapman, Dan and Lynelle
Dobler, Ward and Garland
Gutsche, Janet
Haivala, Bob and Debbie
Heikes, Rod and Shannon

Johnson, Rosalee
Kaiser, Linda
Keeton, Russ and Joanne
Klein, LeRoy and Cindy
Konold, Gene and Audrey
Kreutz, Kent and Heather
McFarland, Ardith
McGillivray, Brandon and Ma-
randa
Mullins, Darlene
Pickar, Ed and Ranae

Pudwill, Shawn and Danilee
Raftevoid, Casey and Heidi
Rock, Brice
Ruby, Dick
Schneider, Gene and Colleen
Sjomeling, Jason and Celena
Walker, Paulette
Weitzel, Larry and Ann
Wolf, Jake and Rosalie
Wolf, Brad and Jaime



PROJECTOR OPERATORS IN FEBRUARY

1st Sunday: Debbie Patmore
2nd Sunday: Michelle Williams
3rd Sunday: Debbie Patmore
4th Sunday: Bob Tesch

ALTAR GUILD IN FEBRUARY

Mary Ellen Kreutz and Lynette Kvanvig



GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNION SERVERS

1. Come to the sacristy during the offering.
2. When Pastor says, “Come, for all is ready.”, go out to the altar, as you will be served communion first.
3. The Assistant Minister will serve Pastor and vice versa.
4. The Assisting Minister will indicate which side you will serve.
5. Start serving from the wall side to the middle – altar rail first and then the front pew.
6. Those serving bread will hand the bread and say, “This is the body of Christ given for you.” The wine servers will follow, hold the tray while the communicant takes the cup, and say, “This is the blood of Christ shed for you.” The acolyte will collect the cups.
7. Children and others not receiving communion are invited to receive a blessing from the server of the bread. The server will place his/her hand on the person and give a blessing similar to “The Lord bless and keep you.”
8. An assisting minister will assist you with refills. If there is no help when the wine tray is empty, leave it at the altar and get a full one from there.
9. After regular communion, serve communion to anyone with special needs.
10. Wait to serve communion to the musicians until they stop the music and the communion prayer has begun.
11. After communion, take all trays and covers to the sacristy. Leave the chalice, patens, and the host box on the altar.



GUIDELINES FOR USHERS

GREETING:

1. Arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the service.
2. Turn the lights on. The panel of switches should have the top row and the two switches on the right of the second row turned on. These are the chancel and nave light switches. The two to the left on the second row are for dimming/brightening the main lights. Hold these switches up to make sure the lights are bright for the Sunday service. If a video is presented, dim the lights until the end of the video, then turn them back up.
3. Please make the worshipers feel welcome. You are also a greeter and will make the first impression on them.
4. Distribute the regular bulletins to the adults and distribute children's bulletins as needed. Stand at each side and in the middle of the aisle as you distribute the bulletins. Stand near the pews to prevent congestion at the back of the church. You may usher people to their seats. Never seat anyone during a prayer, but wait until the prayer is finished.

WORSHIP SERVICE:

5. After the service begins, one of the ushers must count the worshipers (including all the children and the worship leaders). Do this from the balcony. Record the number on the clipboard in the drawer in the table at the back of the church.
6. Offering plates are in the ushers' cabinet. Have the plates uncovered and ready. Come forward as soon as it is time for the offering. Offering should be received starting from the front and proceeding to the back. Two ushers should be on the outside aisles and two ushers in the center aisle. After the offering, two ushers shall bring the plates to the front and give them to the acolytes.
7. Be alert for any emergency.

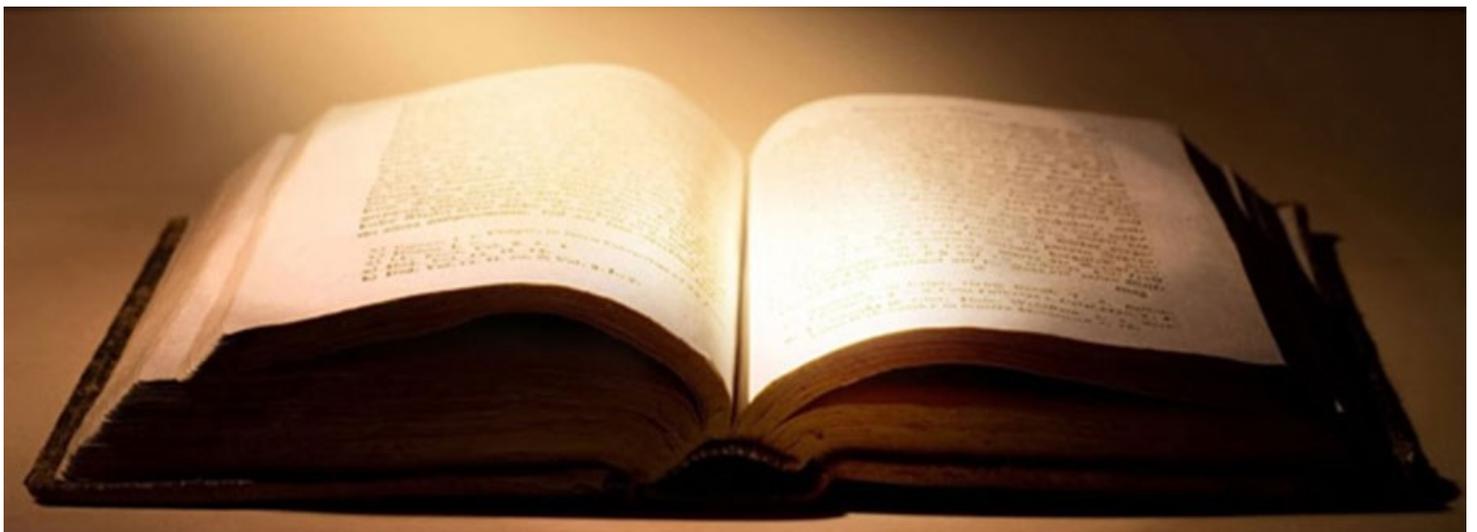
COMMUNION/AFTER SERVICE:

8. During communion, ushers should put down the kneelers in the front pews and begin ushering communicants to the altar rail first and then to the front pew. Two ushers should stay in the center aisle on each side by the front pew to usher people to the rails and two should usher communicants from each pew. Time them getting to the front so they don't have to wait long in the aisle. (When communion is continuous, only two are needed to usher communicants from their pew.)
9. After the service, pick up any papers/trash left in the pews and put hymnals in their proper place.



GUIDELINES FOR LESSON READERS

1. A copy of the lection sheet may be obtained from the parish office. The texts are also published in the monthly newsletter which is available online. Please prepare by practicing the readings at home. Clarify any questionable words, names or pronunciation in advance. Analyze the readings so that you understand the text and will be able to translate its meaning to the listeners.
2. When the introduction to the lessons is being read, proceed quickly to the front and stand next to the assistant minister so there is no lag time on the radio broadcast.
3. Adjust the microphone so that your mouth is directly in front of it. You will be able to hear your voice being projected, so adjust accordingly.
4. Before you read the lesson, announce the source. Say, "The first (or second) lesson is written in _____." Avoid saying, "The first lesson is found in _____."
5. The Psalm is read responsively. But you should read both verses so that the radio listeners can hear and understand the Psalm. Remember that it is one Psalm, not Psalms.
6. When you conclude the second reading, say, "Here ends the reading."
7. Project your voice as you read. The microphone only amplifies. Do not hurry through the readings. Take your time and read with feeling, so that all may gladly hear and learn the Word of God.



GUIDELINES FOR GREETERS

1. Arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the service.
2. Wear the name tags provided for you. They will be on the table near the cry room.
3. Stand near the entrance near the inside doorway. Keep the area between you and the ushers as open as possible.
4. Greet all people as they come into the church. Provide a smile, handshake, and a verbal greeting. You will provide their first impression of Grace Lutheran. Take the initiative and greet them first.
5. If you are aware of visitors, remind them of our prayer cards in the pew and give them a Grace Lutheran Church brochure and pin. Invite them to the coffee hour and/or Sunday school if they have children.
6. If possible, after the service, greet those who were visitors.



GUIDELINES FOR COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

1. There should be cookies, bars, or other snacks available for Sunday coffee hour. If two families are serving, each should bring 6 doz.
2. Coffee and juice will be mixed in the kitchen. Check the refrigerator for leftover juice to be used.
3. Coffee must be made and turned on before the 9:00 am service. Make both big pots of coffee and one small pot of decaf each Sunday. More may be required depending on the Sunday demand.
4. Set out offering basket, napkins, and cups.
5. After everyone has passed through the line, you may offer refills of coffee, juice, and treats.
6. Clear and wipe off tables when people leave.
7. Take coffee offering to the office if a teller does not pick it up.
8. Coffee hosts will serve from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. If anyone stays after 11:00 am it will be their responsibility to clean up.
9. Please clean dishes, coffee pots, counter tops, etc.. in the kitchen before leaving.

We thank you for your time and service to our church in this way. Coffee fellowship is an important ministry of this congregation.

Notes to Serving Grace people:

1. Please try to have at least one experienced person serve each week, especially when there are new people. These experienced people will help show the new ones how to make coffee, find serving trays, etc..
2. Instructions for making coffee are on the cupboard above the coffee pots.
3. Please keep your receipts and turn them into the office if you would like to be reimbursed.



2023 YEAR TO DATE

OFFERINGS

\$16,229.45

EXPENSES

\$23,349.51

BUDGET

\$21,322.92



JANUARY ATTENDANCE

Sundays

Jan 1 - 72

Jan 8 - 112

Jan 15 - 105

Jan 22 - 114

Jan 29 - 68

Wednesdays

Jan 11 - 40

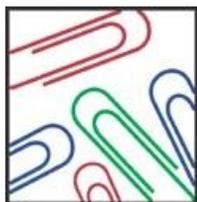
Jan 18 - 40

Jan 25 - 31



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Debra Rasch, Sharon Rank, Judy Rupe, Donzetta Strandjord, Jon Christopherson, Kathy Christians, Marjorie Jutting, Cindy Milek, and the family of Jesse Whitford.

On-going prayers: Ed Pickar, Donna Larson, Jody Wilke, Dale Kreutz, Morgan Myers, Ramona Hultman, Tori Tetrault, Bill Molitor, Ally Tedder, Marcia Potts, Larry Schemmel, Robert Johnson, Joy Conway, Dawn McCarthy, Eleanora Miller, our homebound members and those serving in the military. *(Please notify the office of changes)*



FROM THE
CHURCH
OFFICE

Deadline to submit items for the March newsletter is *Monday, February 20th.*

Please send your newsletter items to Keri at gracelutheran@rushmore.com.
Let us send you an email with a link to our newsletter when it's posted to our website.
If you are interested, please send your email address to the office at:
gracelutheran@rushmore.com or call Keri at 347-2713.

Did you know... Our website contains the weekly worship bulletins, monthly newsletter, sermon broadcast, monthly calendar, Council and Committee minutes, and much more. For a printed copy, see the info rack at the entrance of the church.

Check it out at: www.sturgisglc.org.

See special events on Facebook.



Has your address or phone number changed?

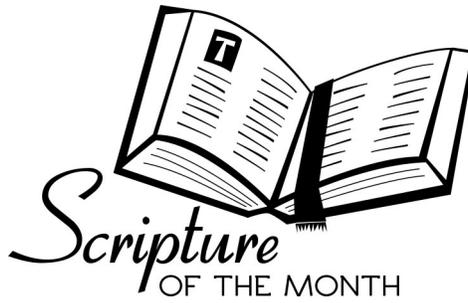
Please let Keri know at 347-2713 or e-mail us at gracelutheran@rushmore.com.

February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a[9b-12]
 Psalm 112:1-9[10]
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16]
 Matthew 5:13-20

February 12

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
 Psalm 119:1-8
 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 Matthew 5:21-37



February 19

Exodus 24:12-18
 Psalm 2
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Matthew 17:1-9

February 26

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
 Psalm 32
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11

9 AM SUNDAY WORSHIP RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORS

The radio broadcast calendar for 2023 is posted on the bulletin board in the entryway of the church. You are invited to place your name on the date you wish to sponsor. You may also call the office 347-2713 to reserve a date. The cost per broadcast is \$65. Partial sponsorships are invited and encouraged.

Feb 5 - In memory of Jean Kopren.

Feb 12 - Laurie & Kevin Schlepp & girls in honor of Herb Cleveland's 92 birthday on Feb 20.

Feb 19 - Rasmuson Family, in memory of Marine Cpl. Seth Dean Rasmuson

Feb 26 -

Offering Information

Send your offering to PO Box 577, Sturgis, SD 57785, or drop off at the church in the Cross box outside the Office

To Use Venmo:

1. Scan the QR code with your smartphone.
2. Login or setup your account (first time only).
3. Make your gift.



The Red Bucket Ministry For the 1st Quarter

Camp Scholarships for all 5th Grade Students

Leave a donation in the Red Bucket located in the back of the church and your donation will help send all of our 5th grade students to summer camp at Outlaw Ranch.



Register Now For Summer 2023

Happy New Year! Summer may seem far away, but it will be here before we know it. Remember to visit www.losd.org to register for a wonderful faith-filled experience at a Lutherans Outdoors camp (Klein Ranch, NeSoDak, or Outlaw Ranch) for Summer 2023.

Our early bird discount ends April 17th.
Be sure to register soon to receive the biggest savings.

Register TODAY!

Lutherans Outdoors in South Dakota welcomes ALL to explore and experience Christ's love in community and creation.



All singers are invited to join the Community Easter Cantata Choir. Practices will be held at Grace Lutheran on Sundays from Feb. 19-March 26. Performances are April 2 and 4. Call Marlene at 605-347-1375 or email kotabgmc@rushmore.com to register so that a book can be ordered for you. You'll love it!



Come and join a weekly Bible Study on Matthew starting on Thursdays at 9:30 am in the Rose Room. All are welcome.



Men's Prayer Breakfast
Saturdays at 8am
at Uncle Louie's
restaurant in Sturgis.
All men are invited!



Dave Martinson Big Band Concert and Chocolate-Tasting Party 2:00, Sun, Feb. 19 Community Center Theater

FALL/WINTER 2022/2023 PLANNED GENEROSITY PROMOS September 25-February 26

(NOTE: Most of these pieces are not date-specific and may be used whenever time and space permit.)



FEBRUARY 5: **Setting an example.** A Christian preamble to your will or trust might be the last opportunity you have to share your faith and set an example of stewardship for those you love. We have sample language to share with your attorney that can be customized into your final message as an introduction to your will or trust. Contact Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD at 605.274.5030 or visit www.lpgsd.org for more information.

FEBRUARY 12: **Want to see lower taxes and increased income?** Perhaps a charitable gift annuity is the answer. The benefits include a tax deduction; lifetime fixed payments of tax-advantaged income as high as 9% depending on your current age; and possible capital gains tax relief as well. Contact Lutheran Planned Generosity of South Dakota at 605.274.5030 or visit our website at www.lpgsd.org for more information.

FEBRUARY 19: **You make a difference.** The words of gratitude and appreciation received at LPGSD from ministries and individuals that benefit from faithful, generous gifts are evidence of how your generosity makes a difference. Here are two examples: "This is so inadequate, but, thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We now have the 'space to place new steps of change.'" "I was just recently given the news that my seminary debt was entirely cleared. I am so grateful to all the generous donors who sponsored grants that have provided my family peace of mind." Call 605.274.5030 or visit www.lpgsd.org for information about how your life can make a difference.

FEBRUARY 26: **Putting stock in something that matters.** A gift of appreciated investments could offer the opportunity to decrease taxes and even increase the size of your gift to insert church/organization name here. This strategy can even allow you to reset the cost basis in those investments you want to keep as a part of your portfolio. Call Kathy McHenry at Lutheran Planned Generosity of SD at 605.274.5030 or email kmchenry@sdsynod.org for more information.

your life can make a difference

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Sioux Falls, SD 57197

Office: 605.274.5030
kmchenry@sdsynod.org

Cell: 605.868.8754
www.lpgsd.org



February BIRTHDAYS

2 Lane Duprel
Addison Keeton

3 Dillard Enright

4 Betty White

5 Marcia Potts
Joan Morgan

6 Kris Little

8 DeWayne Hayes

9 Sheri Boy
Brian Bergman

10 Tillie Karrels

11 Liane Meyer

13 Mary Bisson

14 Patsy Lisko

15 Tonya Atyeo
Melissa Kohle

16 Randy Bender
Tim Myers

17 Kathleen Mailloux

18 Taesha Monahan
Kelly Aldren
Blain McGillivray

19 Neil Hultman

20 Carrie Bunkowske

23 Christian Pankratz

25 Ann Bertolotto

26 Gail Mortenson

27 Brandon McGillivray

28 Chloe DeKraai

29 Shawn Mechling
Aisha Plaggemeyer



February ANNIVERSARIES

7 Einar & Gail Mortenson

10 Ed & Ranae Pickar

14 Kermit & Marge Erion- Johnson

21 Robert & Marie Kaufman

Grace Lutheran News and Events

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>1 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>Camp Promo Night 5 pm Kids Alive 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service</p>	<p>2 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>5:30 pm Council Meeting</p>	3	<p>4 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Uncle Louie's</p>
<p>5 New Member Installation 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p>	<p>6 Pastor's Day Off</p>	7	<p>8 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service</p>	<p>9 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>3:45 pm Education Mtg</p>	<p>10</p> 	<p>11 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Uncle Louie's</p>
<p>12 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p>	<p>13 Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15 8:30 am Quilting</p> <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service</p>	<p>16 9:30 am Bible Study</p> <p>7:00 pm GLCW Meeting</p>	17	18
<p>19 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p>	<p>20 Pastor's Day Off</p>  <p>Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>21</p> <p>5:30 pm Worship Meeting</p>	<p>22 8:30 am Quilting</p>  <p>5 pm Kids Alive 5:30 pm WNL Supper 6:30 pm HS Youth 6:30 pm WNL Service</p>	<p>23 9:30 am Bible Study</p>	24	<p>25 8 am Men's Prayer Breakfast at Uncle Louie's</p>
<p>26 9:00 am Worship (HC) 10:00 am Coffee Hour Journey with Jesus 10:30 Choir</p>	<p>27 Pastor's Day Off</p>	<p>28 GLCW Circles</p> <p>1:30 pm Martha/ Rachel Circle</p> <p>5 pm Mary Circle</p>				