

Congregational Clarion

AMERY CONGREGATIONAL UCC

WELCOME

June

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU

THANKFUL
THIRTEEN

PASTOR'S POINT

by Barry Schaefer

Well has summer finally arrived? Well... I'm not sure. One thing I am sure about is June is the month in which Father's Day occurs. Given this holiday matched with Mother's Day, we are given, each spring, to consider our parents. To do this kind of "remembering" can be both pleasant and painful, each according to our own personal histories. Let us with this sensitivity consider this:

"Our Father who are in heaven...", the opening words of our Lord's prayer. God is often referenced as a "father" and as "Our Father".

Recently, I delivered a message about Jesus giving instructions to his disciples. He was in the Upper Room, as what was his Last Supper with them. He told them this:

John 14:18-19 ESV "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. (19) Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live."

Jesus is promising to never leave us, to be there as our parent, strong and sure, constant and faithful. It must be incredibly difficult being orphaned, the feelings one might have, the thoughts one might think. To have God, our father, bless us with His continual presence is amazing.

When we think of our fathers during this time of year, let us remember that they are people just like us, complete with the same type of feelings,

weaknesses, strengths and achievements as we have. They are people trying to do their best in all circumstances. Our fathers are prone to failures, as well as successes. In their humanity our fathers are simply, children of God eager to please as well as to please. As much as the child needs the father, we children need our fathers, both earthly and heavenly.

The second half of this month's scripture verse speaks of a future time when Jesus is not seen (by the world) but is seen (by the disciples). The last phrase is intriguing, "Because I live, you also will live." With these words we are right back to that "fathers stuff" again. Our fathers have created us. They have left not only an emotional mark on our lives, they have left an indelible mark onto our physical beings, their traits, in part, are our traits. Our fathers do indeed live on within us, from emotions to hair color they are alive with us.

So if your father is living have a good talk with him. Tell him how you feel about him. Let him know of your love for him. Let him know of the blessings you have received from him. Let him know, in your own way, how grateful you are to him for not being left an orphan, for his steadfast love to you through all your life, and for your love to God, The Father, seen in him. Amen!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Page

Birthdays	2
Members/Friends	2
Youth	3,4
Events	5
Faithful Servants	6
The Godly Father	7
Council Meeting	8
Pastor's Report	9
Calendar	10

Happy Father's Day June 16th

A father should be his son's first hero,
and his daughter's first love



HAPPY JUNE BIRTHDAYS

06/06 Mary Adams

06/06 Keli Ash

06/07 Rae Wooldridge

06/16 Nancy Sigsworth

06/20 Layla Rondeau

06/22 Bill Faughn

06/23 Scott Edin

06/27 Samantha Ross

06/30 Beryn Scott

06/30 Jake Carnine

JUNE BIRTH FLOWERS

The rose is the June birth flower. Its sweet fragrance and timeless beauty heralds the advent of summer like no other bloom. The name "rose" is derived from the Latin word rosa. During the height of Rome, roses were grown extensively in the Middle East and used as medicine, perfumes, and at celebrations as confetti.

The honeysuckle, a symbol of happiness and devoted affection is the other birth flower for June.

Sociability, humorousness and talkativeness are the common characteristics of people born in the month of June. They are not at all discreet about their personality and they hardly hesitate to show what their real character is. Most of them are born under the zodiac, Gemini, and are ruled by the planet Mercury, which is associated with youth. Individuals born in the month of June often exhibit childlike traits and are cheerful, restless and full of life. They are very intelligent and are extremely inquisitive in nature. Though they are intellectually sound, their lack of concentration power can hinder their career growth. Their analytical bent of mind gives them the capability to see both the sides of a coin. But then, an extremely critical nature makes it hard for them to take decisions. Also, they lack will power and at times rely on others to solve their problems.



Golden Age Manor

220 Scholl Street
Amery, WI 54001

(715) 268-7107

Kathy Picotte

Willow Ridge

400 Deronda Street
Amery, WI 54001

(715) 268-8171

Riverbend

475 Golfview Lane
715.268.9949

Beth Sorensen

Water's Edge

410 Harriman Ave.
Amery, WI 54001

Betty Jansen

Evergreen Village

611 Harriman Avenue
(715) 268-6640

Marian Peterson

Gussie Fennern

Baldwin Care Center

650 Birch St.

Baldwin, WI 54002

Mary Monson Apt. 27

Memory Care

215 Birch St. W

Amery, WI 54001

Dorothie Mueller

Jeanne Murphy

Evelyn Monteith Halverson

Ginny Nelson

Sylvia Utter



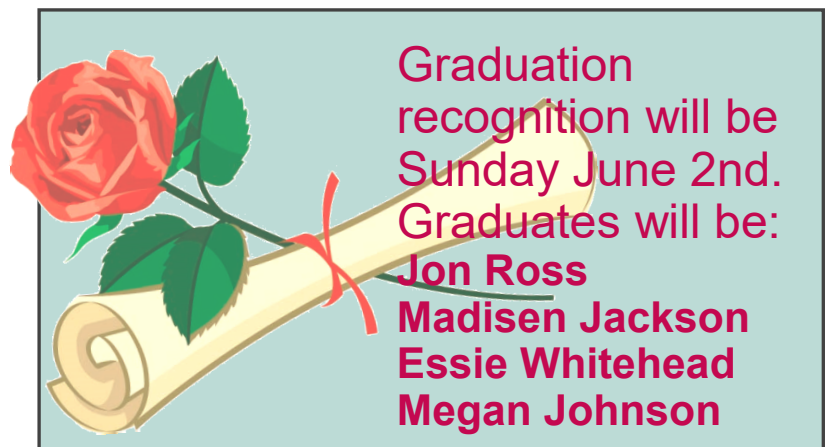
from your YOUTH MINISTER



The Congo Kids would like to thank you for your support with our Youth Rummage Sale fundraiser. Whether you donated towards our cause or shopped at our sale, we couldn't have held our sale without your support, love and prayers so **THANK YOU!!**



"Your mother and I need more time to save for your college education. We'd like you to go back to Kindergarten and start over."



**Wednesday
June 5th**

Please join us for our final Homework & Hangout of the school year.

Following an early supper, we will walk

to Michael Park for Hope Alive - a free family friendly event to kick off summer in our community. There will be live music, bounce houses, games and a petting zoo, along with food vendors if you wish to purchase snacks. Parent pick up time is at Congo Church at 8:30pm.

*For with
God nothing
shall be
impossible.*

-Luke 1:37

Friday, June 7th –Salvation Army Fundraiser at Amery Fire Hall 4pm-8pm. Congo kids are invited to help at the dunk tank after school. Please bring money for a free-will offering hot dog supper. See Charlotte to sign up to help

Ruby's Pantry Service and Swim Day

Saturday June 8

All youth are invited to help serve at Ruby's Pantry on Saturday June 8th starting at 8am. Following clean up and lunch we will enjoy and afternoon pool party at Charlotte's house. Parent pick-up at Charlotte's house is 3pm.

Saturday June 15

Amery craft fair clean up

We are inviting Congo kids to volunteer to help clean up the park following the craft art fair. We would start the clean up at approximately 1:30 pm. Please let Charlotte know if you are able to help! Ice cream rewards following the clean up!

Dicks Brat Stand youth fundraiser Wednesday, June 19th 9am-3pm
Following the fundraiser, we will go back to Congo for Hang out and devotions. At 5:45 we will depart for Summer FUEL at Deronda Lutheran Church from 6pm-8pm.

Pick-up time is 8:15 at the Congo Church. You must RSVP to charlotte at 715.338.6929 by Sunday, June 16th in order that we have ample time to arrange for transportation. Adult driver are needed. If you are able to help, please contact Charlotte.



Community VBS

Registration is now open! Dates are Sunday June 23 - Thursday June 27th, for kids in grades Pre-K through 5th grade. June 23 VBS 5pm-7:30. June 24-27 noon-5pm Afternoon fun, 5pm-7:30pm dinner & VBS

Middle school and high school youth are encouraged to come help with our younger kids. Please see Charlotte for more details!

Youth Director Contact Information:

Charlotte Gillen

715.268.7390; ext. 12

715.338.6929 (cell)

Youth.ameryucc@gmail.com



MISSION TEAM 20TH ANNIVERSARY

This year, our Mission Team will embark upon their 20th trip to build houses for Habitat for Humanity. Sunday June 9 we will be hosting a special worship service and a special dinner in honor of this feat. The worship service and the special 20th year trip will be held on Sunday June 9th. Worship will be at 10am and the Special 20th anniversary meal will be following the service, with meal serving to be approximately at

11:30am. **IF YOU ARE NOT A MISSION TEAM MEMBER YOU MUST MAKE A RESERVATION by June 2nd** Reservations are necessary so that adequate meal provisions can be purchased. This is not going to be a pot-luck type of meal, but one that more like an honorary banquet. Join us in celebrating 20 years (and counting) of building for the Lord through Habitat for Humanity.

FAMILY TABLE

Please join us at the Congo Family Table on Wednesday, June 19 at 11:30 am .

Call Rae
715-268-7390, by Sunday,
June 16 to make your
reservations.



ALL ARE WELCOME

Free Will Donation

June
Events

Please Join Us For The
Eagle Scout
Ceremony For Zachary Silvis

Saturday June 22, 2019
1-4 p.m.

Amery Congregational Church
201 Harriman Ave N
Amery, WI 54001

Reception following ceremony



Prepared. For Life.®



**TROOP 9146
AMERY, WI**

RSVP to Joy Silvis at
(715)338-9973 or
jksilvis@yahoo.com

FAITHFUL SERVANTS

BY JOYCE SCHAEFER

A faithful servant is one who is a devoted and helpful follower. There are numerous ways to be a faithful servant for our Lord. You just have to find your unique way to be a servant. The idea of servant hood is to humble yourself, submit to God and meet the needs of others. Well, I have two of these faithful servants to talk to you about, Cheryl and Dave Bowman. I am blessed to call these two family, as you know Cheryl is my sister and Dave my brother-in-law. They moved to Amery in 2007, deciding that retiring in Wisconsin would be a great idea and of course Barry and I agreed. Not only were we blessed to have these two

move here but so was our church. Both Cheryl and Dave go over and beyond for our church, each have been on various committees since joining our church family. They both have been a part of our Mission Team year after year and of

course that also means being a part of our Dinner Theater. Both Cheryl and Dave have been actors. More recently, Cheryl has been one of our kitchen helpers and of course one who comes in early and then just stays until the work is done. Dave has done acting, but more recently has done our lights and sound, and of course always stays for the clean-up. Cheryl is one of the key leaders for our Women's Fellowship group. It is always Cheryl who tries to get our group together periodically for some devotion and fun times. Cheryl is also top on the list when the need arises to coordinate a funeral luncheon. It is also Cheryl who initiated getting together a group of our age peers, The Primetimers. Do you ever wonder how it is that we have

beautiful flowers in those gorgeous containers outside of our church building? Well, it is thanks to Dave and Cheryl. For every season it is they who make sure that new items are either planted or placed into those containers. Dave's Master Gardener skills also keep flowers and rose bushes growing for us in front of the church.

What about at Christmas, ever wonder who is responsible for the beautiful wreaths on our outside doors or the hallway to the Fellowship Hall, yes, it is Cheryl and Dave. Also, when it is not Christmas time, the decorations on the table outside of the church office and on that

wall, are also due to Cheryl and Dave.

On Wednesday's, Dave is a faithful helper with not only Homework and Hangout but also with High School Youth group. Dave is a favorite of many of our kids for helping with

homework (he actually gets it, unlike some of us). Dave also helps out with our Ruby's Pantry coming early to help get things set up and staying until the clean-up is finished. Both Cheryl and Dave have been Confirmation Mentors, Cheryl was and Dave is currently. This too is a major time commitment. Through all of these commitments, you never hear Cheryl or Dave complain because that is not what a faithful servant does. They do this because they are committed Christians who know and understand that this is what the Lord expects of us all, to be humble and to follow and to help others on the path.

Faithful servants never retire. You can retire from your career, but you will never retire from serving God.

Rick Warren

quote fancy



FATHER'S DAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 16TH

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

The Godly Father

By Rev. Kenneth W. Hagin

We should always be grateful for examples of a Godly father. Thankfully, I have a number of examples in my life, including my own father, Kenneth E. Hagin, and my father-in-law, V. E. Tipton. Whether in life or in memory, godly fathers teach and train us how to live lives that are pleasing to our Heavenly Father. That's why Father's Day is so important. So, I want to take a look at the characteristics of a godly father. The letters f-a-t-h-e-r provide us with a good way to remember these characteristics.

F—Faithful. A godly father is faithful, honors his marriage vows, protects his children, and shows constant allegiance to his Heavenly Father. In Genesis 22, Abraham displayed his faithfulness when he, out of obedience to God, was willing to offer Isaac, his son, as a sacrificial offering.

Another example of this faithfulness is God Himself. Hebrews 11:6 tells us that God is faithful to reward those "...that diligently seek him."

A—Affectionate. A godly father loves his children and shows it. Everyone needs to feel loved. If children do not get the affection they need from their fathers, they will be forced find it elsewhere. But when a father shows affection to the family with a pure and sincere heart, he strengthens and unites the family. Affection instills faith and security in children. If children know that their father is there for them and are confident in his love for them, they will not hesitate to go to their father in their hour of need.

T—Trusting. As a godly father teaches his children biblical principles and moral values by being an example for them to follow, he develops trust and faithfulness in his children. He expects them to make the right decisions when they need to, even when he is not around. Trust between a father and his children generates happiness, hope, confidence, and security. Also, as a father trusts his children more, they trust him more. The more

children trust their father, the more confidence they have in trusting God.

H—Honorable. A godly father is honest and meets his obligations promptly. In doing so, he protects the integrity of his family's name. Even if the father doesn't realize it, his children watch him. If children observe their father taking exception to rules, they will see the exception and take it as the rule. And it has been said that what parents do in moderation, children will do in excess. As a godly father lives a life above reproach, he lays a path for his children to walk uprightly before the Lord.

E—Energetic. A godly father is not slothful or lazy. He provides for his family. Paul's instructions to men in the treatment of wives would also apply to treatment of the whole family. Ephesians 5:25 says, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." The godly father gives of himself to his

family. He spends energy on his children; he pays attention to them. He also teaches his children—by example—to spend their energy helping other people and not just themselves.

R—Rewarded. A godly father is rewarded. By raising his children in a godly manner, he is rewarded by seeing his children mature and achieve success. I have always had more pleasure watching Craig and Denise achieve things than I did in achieving things for myself. And what a joy it is to see your children make quality decisions on their own, hearing from God for themselves! What a reward it is to see Craig and Denise both working with us in this ministry. It's rewarding to see your children grow up and bless others with what they do!

I challenge all fathers to be godly fathers. Your children are watching. People in your community, your neighborhood, and even in your church are watching. There may be children around you who do not have natural fathers to look up to. Be an example for them. Be a godly father!



Council Meeting: May 14, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Pastor Barry Schaefer, Sheldon Betzold: Moderator, Virginia Ormsby: Treasurer, Sandy Morris: Clerk, Charlotte Gillen: Youth Director, Chad Leonard: Trustees, Sherry Monson: Deacons, Abby Betzold: Congregational Giving, Rae Wooldridge: Congregational Giving, Julie Smith: Recording Secretary

Pastor Barry opened the meeting with prayer at 6:00 pm.

Abby read the Council meeting minutes from April and they were reviewed. Julie motioned to approve the minutes, Char seconded and they were voted on and approved.

TREASURER: Virginia presented the Treasurer's Report. She and Chad stated that essentially we are in better shape than last month. However, for the overall year of 2019, we are still experiencing a deficit. The Treasurer's report for April was voted on and approved.

CLERK: Sandy reported that one wedding took place last month and Pastor Barry officiated at that ceremony. No other new changes to report on the church rolls.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Not present.

YOUTH: Char presented her April report. Many of the Youth's activities for April were involved with planning and presenting the **Son Rise Service** for Easter morning. The wonderful service was followed by a hearty pancake breakfast. Another service project the Youth participated in during April was Feed My Starving Children (held at a mobile pack at the Polk County Fairgrounds) Together they packed enough food to feed 82 children for a year!

TRUSTEE: Chad discussed items that were covered during the recent Trustees meeting. They discussed the need to have accurate descriptions and expectations of all personnel associated with the church. Also several pews in the church are in need of repair. Changes to improve and update the sound system within the sanctuary are planned for after Memorial Day weekend, the first part of June. No Trustee meeting is scheduled for June because of the Mission Trip.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: Char presented the report that was submitted by the Christian Ed. Committee. She highlighted that VBS this year has been scheduled for June 23-27 here at the Congo. (It is our turn to host; past 2 years were at First Lutheran.)

DIACONATE: Sherry brought up a concern on how committees are selected to usher. Sometimes we are short of ushers. She said that we might need to find ways to improve on the current system. Ideas were brought forth and discussed. Also ways to assure that coffee fellowship is scheduled correctly and ways to improve on that were also discussed.

BOARD OF CONGREGATIONAL GIVING: Abby said her committee did not meet last month, but will be having a meeting this Sunday. Some discussion was held about e-giving as opposed to traditional offerings.

MISSION AND SOCIAL CONCERNS: Not present.

PASTOR REPORT: Pastor Barry discussed and highlighted a few of the items that were presented in his written report.

CALENDAR REVIEW: The June calendar was reviewed and discussed. A few revisions and corrections were made on the calendar and then approved.

OLD BUSINESS: Rae discussed pricing for inscriptions for *The Tree of Life* memorial and revisions and possible updates were discussed. She explained that she is formulating a form to be filled out by persons purchasing a memorial leaf. This would help to clarify expectations and provide a lasting record for the church.

NEW BUSINESS: Abby brought up questions regarding giving and financial commitments and if they have changed in light of recent church revisions and stewardship campaigns. Chad explained that the amount of giving is very similar to last year; no dramatic changes have been noted. Discussions were held on strategies and ideas to help close the financial shortfall for 2019.

The successful Walleye Dinner will probably be scheduled again for the Lenten season. Sherry brought the idea of the Chicken and Biscuits Dinner. In the past this has been a successful fundraiser, and outreach for our church, but it is difficult to try to schedule it during the busy fall season, especially with all the competing Fall Fest activities. Pastor Barry emphasized the importance of working in conjunction with other churches. Not only can we schedule around their dinners/activities, we can also promote each other's events. His said our Dinner/Theater was widely promoted throughout town. To achieve this goal of knowing when our neighboring churches are hosting events, Pastor asked Julie to provide a worksheet/listing of local churches events and meals. This way, we can work to avoid scheduling conflicts. Julie will put something together by the next Council Meeting. (July)

Chad motioned for adjournment, Virginia seconded.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Julie E. Smith, Recording Secretary



Pastor's Report for APRIL 2019

I AREAS OF ACCOMPLISHMENT

Upper Room/Communion Holy Week meal and program was held during Holy Week, Maundy Thursday (4/18) this year. This year's meal represented a bit of a change in that we made baked potatoes, instead of boiled potatoes. Let it suffice that this change was so the meal preps were easier. I have to admit, that the end product was tastier and very much easier to prepare. I'll sore that as a win, win! Many thanks to our resident lamb producer, John Mayer for his wonderful lamb again this year. Great work with your lamb/sheep production.

Holy Week preparations include the making of the unleavened Matzo bread this year. Our youth made all of our Matzo and again it was wonderful for them to help in our holy week preparations. They had much to do in preparing for their Son Rise service, and were consumed with that kind of activity.

Son Rise Service, was a great success on many levels this year. First the youth and Sunday school did a great job in presenting the worship service. Many thanks to Charlotte and all of the other adults who made this service one of the highest attended services of the year. It all goes well when you combine youth, Sunday school, and their families. To speak the truth, I was not sure that the service would fall together, but as always, the youth rose to the occasion and did a great job. Thank you to all for this wonderful worship experience led for us by our youth.

Dinner Theater preparations were a constant under current all through April and Holy Week. Our opening night performance was just 5 days after Easter, which gave no one any time to recover from Easter and Holy Week. My hats off to our author Dr. Barry Tulkki, to our actors and to our support staff of kitchen, publicity, and housekeeping who so tirelessly gave of themselves for this production, "For the Love of Lefse". Great job was done by all, much hard work, great "kingdom building" for our church! Thanks All!

Youth Group work takes up the rest of the time. The functions are too varied and time consuming, but as you can see with our Son Rise service, there are beginning to have dividends paid out to us. Thanks to all of our youth workers for their tireless and "tiring" efforts. You are doing a wonderful job. Keep up the hard work.!

II Other Ministry

WEDDING: Pati Ryan, Jim Rutledge, at Chanhassen Dinner Theater, April 13, 2019





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 10:00 AM Worship/Memorial Recognition 11:15 AM Missions & Social Concerns Mtg.	27 Memorial Day	28 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Pastor's Hours 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 10:00 AM Bible Study	29 9:00 AM Pastor Office Hrs. 10:00 AM Office Open 3:30 PM Homework & Hangout 4:30 PM C2000 Class 5:45 PM Family Dinner 6:30 PM Boomball - Final Day of Youth Group	30 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Money Management	31 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open	1
2 10:00 AM Communion 10:00 AM Worship/Graduation Sunday 11:15 AM Diacolate Mtg.	3 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	4 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Pastor's Hours 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 10:00 AM Bible Study	5 9:00 AM Pastor Office Hrs. 10:30 AM Office Open	6 9:30 AM Local Communion 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Dementia Friendly Choir Practice 7:00 PM Money Management	7 8:30 AM Distant Communion 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open	8 6:00 AM Food Set-Up 7:30 AM Rudy's Pantry Registration Begins 8:00 AM Youth Service and Funday 9:00 AM Rudy's Pantry Registration Closes and Food Distribution Begins
9 10:00 AM Worship/Mission Team Send-Off Service 11:30 AM Mission Team 20th Anniversary Dinner	10 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	11 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Pastor's Hours 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 10:00 AM Bible Study	12 Newsletter Submission Deadline 9:00 AM Pastor Office Hrs. 10:30 AM Office Open	13 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Money Management	14 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open	15
16 10:00 AM Worship/Mission Team Return Service	17 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	18 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Pastor's Hours 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 10:00 AM Bible Study	19 9:00 AM Pastor Office Hrs. 9:00 AM Youth Brat Stand Fundraiser at Dick's 10:30 AM Office Open 11:30 AM Family Table Meal 6:00 PM FUEL at Deionda Lutheran Church	20 8:15 AM Minutemen 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM CIA Board 7:00 PM Money Management	21 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open	22 1:00 PM Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Zach Silvis
23 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Missions & Social Concerns Mtg. 5:30 PM VBS	24 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 12:00 PM Afternoon Fun, Dinner, VBS 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	25 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM Pastor's Hours 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 10:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Afternoon Fun, Dinner, VBS	26 9:00 AM Pastor Office Hrs. 10:00 AM Office Open 12:00 PM Afternoon Fun, Dinner, VBS	27 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open 12:00 PM Afternoon Fun, Dinner, VBS 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM Money Management	28 9:30 AM Senior Dining 10:00 AM Office Open	29
30 10:00 AM Worship/Noisy Kettle 11:15 AM Pot Luck						