

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

LOVE – LEARN – SHARE – SERVE with eternal purpose through faith in Jesus Christ

NOVEMBER 2022

Cookies for Acton 4

Cookies are needed to help Acton Elementary with their Cookies with Santa event. Have in by December 2nd.

Ball & Blankets 6

During November we are collecting balls and blankets for the Fletcher Place Christmas Event.

Advent is Here 7

November 27th marks the beginning of Advent. Our Advent sermon series this year focuses on the hope of Christ.

Crop Walk Dinner 9

The November Fellowship Dinner on the 16th will benefit The Crop Walk. Join us for an Italian Feast at 6:00pm.

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actonumc.com

From the pastor's desk



A Time to Wait and Prepare

BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

It is the strange time of year where we aren't quite sure what holiday it is, what season we're in. Halloween is days away as I write this, and there are already Christmas decorations in the stores. I suppose if you allow the profit-driven corporate keepers of culture determine your life, you're ready for Christmas. I'll admit, I love the secular season with goodies and movies, decorations, and music. But this is not the season observed by Christians tying in their faith and the birth of Jesus Christ in a way that allows reverence and growth.

Now, regardless of the season and tradition in worship and observation, I want you to dial in for joy. If you get in to putting up your tree and making cookies and watching movies and belting out some Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye in the car: Do it! After the pandemic, I've come to the realization that life is short and do what you need for your own mental health. Christmas can come with a great deal of positivity and happiness. We can multi-task. We will even gather the ladies December 4th for the annual Advent Tea and hold candles singing *Silent Night*. Yet on Sunday mornings in Advent, we have a very important, urgent, and tradition we must observe.

In worship, in the quiet of the moment Sunday morning we will sit in the uncertainty, sit with our pain

and our discomfort, sit with our worries, and wait. We will wait for God. We've been praying and asking and pleading with God and now there is silence. Is God hearing us? Are we important enough for God to answer us? We don't like waiting and we certainly don't like being uncomfortable, when so many around us are celebrating. But this is our way. We wait. We must give God the space to work, and we must have the faith to demonstrate to God that we trust what

God never just hands out great joy without a time to prepare for it.

God will do, whatever that is. When we wait, we learn more about ourselves and how we are living our lives. In the quiet of waiting, we see who we really are. We don't like that either because we know we can be better, be more kind and be more generous. Waiting makes us take

stock of all that is in our hearts. It's so much easier to jump both feet into "Joy to the World" because it's what we want and what makes us feel good. But that's not God's way. God never just hands out great joy without a time to prepare for it. That is Advent: a time to wait and prepare.

I'll wait with you, to see how God responds and on the other side of Christmas we will have made more room to carry more joy into the new year.

Matthew

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

NOVEMBER EVENTS

10thGod's Bounty
16thFellowship Dinner
20thSweet & Savory Sale
20thHanging of the Greens

DECEMBER EVENTS

4thAdvent Tea
8thGod's Bounty
18thSweet & Savory Sale
21stFellowship Dinner
24thChristmas Eve Worship
25thChristmas Day Worship

JANUARY EVENTS

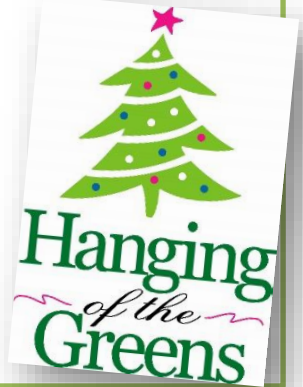
12thGod's Bounty
18thFellowship Dinner
28thLadies' Breakfast

TEAM MEETINGS

Staff Parish November 1st
Strategy Council November 8th
Trustees November 15th
Missions January 25th
UMW Board January 9th

Check calendar for times

CALLING ALL HANDS for a few hours of work to get our place ready for Christmas. We will be putting up our tree and getting the other decorations out on November 20th after worship. There are jobs for everyone. Chili will be served for lunch.



STUDY GROUPS

Sunday mornings @10:35 (The Kitchen)
Adult Class – *The Wired Word*

Wednesday mornings @ 10:00 (Church)
Women's – *In Search of Wisdom*

Wednesday evenings @ 6:00 (Barb McCormack's home)
Women's – *So What's the Difference*

Friday mornings @ 9:30 (Church kitchen)
Women's – *Ten Women of the Bible*

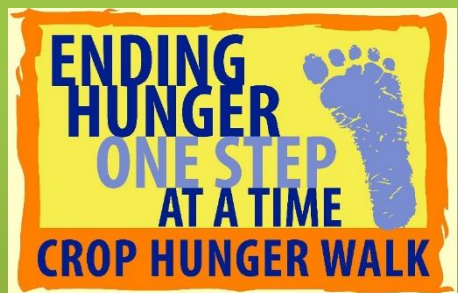
Saturday mornings @ 8:00 (Church kitchen)
Men's – *Books of 1 & 2 Thessalonians*

Checkout page 8 for more details

ADVENT TEA

DECEMBER 4th ~ 4:00PM

Start the Advent Season with an evening of entertainment, music, and delicious food. If you are interested in hosting a table, please sign-up at the display. Tickets go on sale November 13th for anyone interested in attending.



**FELLOWSHIP DINNER
NOVEMBER 16TH**

Dinner is served at 6:00

HOSTED BY
MISSIONS & UMW

GOOD TO KNOW

TIDBITS OF AUMC NEWS



Join the women of the church on *November 28th at 6:30pm*. They will be discussing *When We are Young and Brave* by Hazel Gaynor. The women will be meeting at *Margie Bartnick's clubhouse*. All are welcome. See Audrey Roberts with questions.



The Structure of the United Methodist Church

The local church is the visible extension of Christ in the world today. It has ministries in education, worship, stewardship, outreach, evangelism, membership care and spiritual formation.

The executive branch is the Episcopacy which are Bishops that are elected for life from the ranks of ordained ministers. They function as spiritual and administrative leaders for their area.

The Conferences are the legislative branch that are made up of clergy and laity. General conference is the primary lawmaking body, five jurisdictional conferences elect bishops and direct programming, the annual and district conference is the basic unit of the church, and the charge conference is the governing body of a local unit.

Taken from *About Being United Methodist*, 2007 Edition.

Acton **SINGLES**

The Singles group is having a pitch-in Thanksgiving Feast on November 20th at 11:30am. Please see Trudi Wolfe or Susan French for information or directions.



Flu Shot Clinic Update

Thanks to the 30 folks who came to the clinic in October. This was an all time high!



Did you notice the lighting and painting of our beautiful cross? Thanks Larry for getting this done.

Cookies for Acton Elementary



Acton Elementary has requested cookies for their Cookies with Santa program in December. Please have cookies (homemade or store bought) into the office by 9:30am on Friday, December 2nd. If homemade, please label for allergy help.

GOOD TO KNOW

TIDBITS OF AUMC NEWS



Balls & Blankets for Fletcher Place

Each year Fletcher Place Community Center has a Christmas event for local families. The center provides much needed items to the families including balls and blankets to the kids and teens. Acton's part is to provide 50 balls and blankets for the cause. Can you pick up a ball or blanket while you are out? **Donations need to be in by November 27th.** Leave donations at the display at church.

Balls include basketballs, nerf footballs, volleyballs, soccer balls, and playground balls.

We will also be helping with sorting and distribution for the Fletcher Place Christmas the week of November 28th and December 5th. If you can help, please let the office know or sign-up at the display. More details will be forthcoming. See Barb Wiley with any questions.

ADVENT CAUSE

During Advent we will be collecting for the UMCOR Domestic fund that is currently being used for Hurricane IAN Relief

Grab a tag off the Christmas tree starting November 27th and give what you can.



November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia and is a type of brain disease caused by damage to nerve cells in the brain.

Today, an estimated 6.5 million Americans, age 65 and older, are living with Alzheimer's dementia. Talk to your doctor and learn more at alz.org.

If you have any questions for our Parish Nurse, please contact Margie Townsend.

WEAR TEAL ON NOVEMBER 13th



As of September 30, 2022

Income \$213,733..... 77% of budget
Expenses..... \$203,905..... 73% of budget

2023 ANNUAL BUDGET

Finance is starting to work on the 2023 budget and a big part of that is estimating our giving. You can help by pledging what you think you will give in 2023. Please make sure to turn your pledges into Kay Lynne Zietlow, by November 20th, via email or by using a pledge card.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH FAMILY & FRIENDS



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Sally Grau, Rae Ann Woodrow, Irma Meyer (Steve's mom), Lou McIntosh, Kathy Phillips, Chris Rosemeyer, Greg McConaughey, Linda Hicks, Paula McIntosh

SYMPATHIES: Family of Roberta Marlow (Cynthia Reifeis' mother)

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS: Alexandria Meyer, Maddie Woodrow, Amy Johnson, Olivia Woodrow, Cherilynn Spicer, Ruth Crowel, Will Tope

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Adam Walters, Joseph (Andy) Roberts, Lucas Lamkin, Jamie Boles, Nick Crane, Travis Beasley

If you have a prayer request, please call the office, or fill out a prayer request card during Sunday worship so that we may pray for you and your loved ones. A request for prayer can also be sent out to other members on email or added to the prayer list but we know that details of prayer requests can be private so information and updates will only be shared if requested.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

SHARE THE BLESSINGS YOU HAVE RECEIVED

FLETCHER PLACE CHRISTMAS

During the month of November, we will be collecting balls and blankets for the Fletcher Place Christmas Event. Appropriate balls include basketballs, nerf footballs, volley balls, soccer balls, and playground balls. Blankets will be given to children, teens, and the homeless. Have donations in by November 27th and Missions will make sure they get delivered.

We will also be helping with sorting and distribution for the Fletcher Place Christmas the week of November 28th and December 5th. If you can help, please let the office know or sign-up at the display. More details will be forthcoming.

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, November 9th
6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, November 10th
10-11:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can help, see Mary Jo Ensich

NOVEMBER

Loose Change and \$1 Collection
Fletcher Place



DONATE TO GOD'S BOUNTY

Pick up a bag from the God's Bounty display and bring it back filled with nonperishable food. Someone from Missions will make sure it gets delivered to our local food pantry, God's Bounty.

**Chicken & Beef Chunky Soups
ARE IN HIGH DEMAND**

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

FROM THE PULPIT

November 6 Getting Slavery Out of the People Exodus 20:1-21
 November 13 From Ugliness, A Beauty Emerges Deuteronomy 7:1-11
 November 20 Stories that Shape Us 2 Kings 2:1-15
 November 27 Advent: Watch Matthew 24:36-44

Watch. Turn. See. Dream. Peace. Word.

By observing Advent, the church begins the Christian Year by focusing on the promises for the culmination of all things in Jesus Christ. We anticipate the Christ's second coming to fulfill all things as a means to prepare ourselves for the celebration of his first coming during Christmas season. During Christmas season (through the Feast of Epiphany), we join the shepherds in their adoration of the newborn Messiah and Mary and

the magi in their contemplation and visceral experience of the implications of God becoming flesh and dwelling among us. The promise of this series is to reorient the church to our hope in Jesus Christ for the culmination of all things in the age to come, and now in this age to celebrate, contemplate, and join the heavens themselves in declaring Jesus Christ as the hope of the world.



We should
 certainly count
 our blessings,
 but we should
 also make our
 blessings count.

Neal A. Maxwell

RADICAL HOSPITALITY

BEING THANKFUL

If you search on the word “thank” in the bible, it shows up 133 times. Here are just a few.

Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.
 Psalm 106:1

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
 Colossians 3:17

I will praise God's name in song and glorify him with thanksgiving.
 Psalm 69:30

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

FLETCHER PLACE CHRISTMAS EVENT



This year's Fletcher Place Community Center's Christmas event for local families is the week of December 5th. **Acton's part is to provide 50 balls and blankets.** Balls include basketballs, nerf footballs, volleyballs, soccer balls, and playground balls. Blankets will be given to kids, teens, and the homeless. **Have donations in by November 27th.** Donations can be left at the display at church. Missions will add to the donations to make sure we hit our 50 total.

We will also be helping with sorting and distribution for the Fletcher Place Christmas event the week of November 28th and December 5th. **If you can help, please let the office know or sign-up at the display.** See Barb Wiley for more information.

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

The Fall Blood Drive in October had 15 donors for a total of 18 units. **This has the potential to save 54 lives!** Thanks to all who were able to donate.



CHRISTMAS DAY AT ROBERTS PARK

Roberts Park United Methodist Church has been providing a meal for the homeless in downtown Indianapolis on Sundays for the past 20 years. **Anyone wishing to help with the Christmas meal should contact Bruce McKay.**

We will also be **collecting men's socks in December** to hand out on Christmas Day along with the sack lunches. Missions will be purchasing women's socks and gloves to also hand out. **Look for the display that will be out next month for more information.**

ECHO DONATION

ECHO provides self-sustainable hunger solutions for small farmers around the world. **Their headquarters is in Fort Meyers, Florida,** and recently sustained damage as a result of hurricane Ian. Missions has approved to donate **\$1,000** of the Amazing Mission Fund to ECHO.



AMAZING MISSION FUND

Thru September 30, 2022

Balance: \$5,988.55
ECHO: \$2,000
Save the Children (Ukraine): \$2,000
UMCOR Sunday Match: \$903.75
SAWS: \$500
UMCOR School Kits: \$305.81
Pack Away Hunger: \$3,100
Robert's Park Meal: \$363.00
Habitat for Humanity: \$1,000
UMCOR (KY flooding): \$1,500
Lucille Raines (elevator): \$1,000
Kairos Prison Ministry: \$800

OTHER MISSION OUTREACH

Thru September 30, 2022

Loose Change:
Brightwood Community: \$305.34
Fletcher Place: \$488.38
Vida Nueva: \$608.01
UMCOR International: \$155
UMCOR Ukraine: \$100
UMCOR Sunday: \$1,205.75
UMCOR School Kits: \$54
ECHO: \$6,125

WAYS TO GIVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection
Amazing Mission Fund
Kroger Gift Card Rewards Programs

WAYS TO SERVE

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursday
Mission Team Meeting – January 25th
Roberts Park UMC Meal – December 25th
SAWS Builds – See Ken Grubb

There are circles of people that the Spirit of God wants to touch and bless, and you are the person through whom the Spirit wants to work. Conspire with the Spirit to bring blessing to others.

We Make the Road by Walking

LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



What is the Crop Walk?
The Greater Indianapolis Crop Walk for the Hungry helps eliminate hunger around the world and around the corner. The walk is sponsored by Church World Services and supports local organizations such as Gleaners Food Bank, the Church Federation of Indianapolis, the St. Vincent DePaul Society, the Indian Christian Leadership Conference, and Second Helpings.

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD

If you are not able to join us at the Fellowship Dinner, you can still donate to the cause. Simply put your donation in the Sunday offering plate and mark it for The Crop Walk. You may also give on-line at actonumc.com or text CROPWALK to 44321.

Questions?

Bill Howell is our contact and can be reached at 317-407-0534 or abhowell6102@sbcglobal.net.

How Can I Help?
In past years, there has been one day in October that folks gathered in the Butler Tarkington neighborhood and walked together. Last year, instead of walking at Butler, Acton held a walk at our October Fellowship Dinner. This year we are dedicating the November Fellowship Dinner to the Crop Walk. Come and learn more about The Crop Walk and walk with your friends and family. This is a free will offering meal and all are welcome.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH — ALL ARE WELCOME

Sunday School SCHEDULE

ADULT CURRENT EVENTS

The Wired Word

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Kitchen

Sandy G. & Charlie W.

YOUTH

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Youth Room

Denise Gaunt

BIBLE GAMES (PreK-5th)

1st Sundays, 10:35-11:15am

Children's Chapel upstairs

KID'S OWN WORSHIP (PreK-5th)

After children's message

9:45-11:15am

Children's Chapel upstairs

Everyone is welcome to drop in a class at any time. If you don't see anything that interests you, reach out to the church office or Pastor Matthew.

YOUTH GROUP

Join us for dinner, games, fun, fellowship, and faith building lessons

Sundays, 5:30-7:00pm, at Church.

See Andy or Diane Crane

Bring your friends!



THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

WEDNESDAY'S WOMEN OF FAITH

In Search of Wisdom

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church

see Becky Repass

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

So, What's the Difference

Wednesdays, 6:00pm, Barb McCormack's

see Gayle Kerns

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS

Ten Women of the Bible

Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, Church Kitchen

see Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS

Books of 1 & 2 Thessalonians

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen

see Dan Repass



WOMEN OF ACTON

TOGETHER IN MISSION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

United Women in Faith?

United Methodist Women is also known as the United Women in Faith and is the largest denominational faith organization for women in the world. We are focused on mission and providing opportunities for women to grow spiritually.

If you attend a United Methodist church, you are a member of the United Women of Faith. Also, you do not need to be a member of the church to be a United Women in Faith.

At Acton there are opportunities for all women including:

- Host Fellowship Dinners
- Reading Circle
- Acts of Kindness
- Blanket Ministry
- Women's Luncheons
- Women's Retreat
- Craft Fair
- Advent Tea

Every woman, please, think how you may enjoy becoming a part of the Acton United Women of Faith.



United
Women
in Faith



Thank you to everyone that helped with another successful Craft Fair. We raised \$3,697 between booth rentals, sales in the church booth, and the café. That money will be used to support our missions over the next year. We also collected almost \$328 in admissions for The Lucille Raines Residence here in Indianapolis. Thanks again for all who contributed!

MINISTRIES

Prayer Blanket Ministry

- ~Make quilts for those suffering
- ~See Mary Ann Puckett to help
- ~Call the office for a blanket

Acts of Kindness *and beyond*

- ~Sweet & Savory sale – November 20th
- ~Helping our congregation in all ways
- ~Third Sundays
- ~Call Audrey Roberts to help out

Reading Circle

- ~November 28th 6:30 @Margie Bartnick's
- ~*When We Are Young and Brave*
- ~See Audrey Roberts for information

Hosting Fellowship Dinners

- ~November 16th for Crop Walk
- ~See Margie T or Gayle if you can help with November's meal

Craft Fair

- ~Another successful one in the books!
- ~Main mission fundraiser

Advent Tea

- ~December 4th
- ~Sign-up to host a table
- ~See Margie T. to help

BIBLE STUDIES

- ~Wednesday mornings at 10:00am
- ~Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm
- ~Friday mornings at 9:30am

ADVENT TEA
December 4th @4:00pm

**SIGN-UP TO
HOST A TABLE**

**Tickets go on sale
November 13th**

KIDS KORNER

WELCOME TO KIDS KORNER, a page just for kids and their families. Learn about what the children are studying on Sunday and see what fun events are upcoming for the kids and families. There's also a Bible story to help you dig into God's word. Enjoy!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY WORSHIP & FUN

Our Kid's Own Worship includes kids PreK through 5th grade. They come upstairs to the Children's Chapel for fun and learning after the children's message. The kids have their own worship followed by snacks, games, crafts, science experiments and mission projects.

The first Sunday, kids stay in worship with their families so they can share the Lord's Supper with us – make sure to come to the Children's Chapel upstairs after worship for Bible Games. All ages welcome!

If you kids need to leave after worship, make sure to pick them up from the Children's Chapel at the top of the stairs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSIONS IN NOVEMBER

Food for God's Bounty
Coins for Fletcher Place
Dinner for The Crop Walk
Balls & Blankets for Fletcher Place

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

November 16th, 6:00pm

November Lessons

I will live in the Lord's house as long as I live. Psalm 23:6

Nov. 6 Bible Games after worship

Nov. 13 ... David Dances 2 Samuel 6:1-19

Nov. 20 ... David's Son Builds the Temple 1 Kings 6; 8

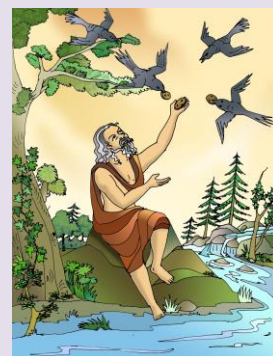
Nov. 27 ... Elijah and the Ravens 1 Kings 17:1-16

**BIBLE
GAMES**

FIRST SUNDAY
EACH MONTH

**Have you
memorized
your latest
Bible verse?**

BIBLE STORY



ELIJAH
1 KINGS 17:1-16

Who all gave
Elijah food?
Was there enough
flour and oil?

YOUTH GROUP

ACTON TEENS IN ACTION



The youth had a fun time at Trunk-n-Treat!



SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH GROUP

~November 6th
~5:30-7:00pm, at Church

YOUTH GROUP

~November 13th
~5:30-7:00pm, at Church

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

~November 16th
~6:00pm, church

COSMIC BOWLING

~November 18th

NO YOUTH GROUP

~November 20th

YOUTH GROUP

~November 27th
~5:30-7:00pm, at Church

COSMIC BOWLING

NOVEMBER 18TH
DETAILS TO COME!



Ministries for our Community

Joining the fun

Scouts from Troop 104 and 219 had a “trunk” at this year’s Trunk-n-Treat.



Eagle Project

Brianna has a start on her Eagle Project.

Science Time!

The preschool kids did Pumpkin Jack science projects this year.



SCIENCE
RULES



Enjoying God's Goodness

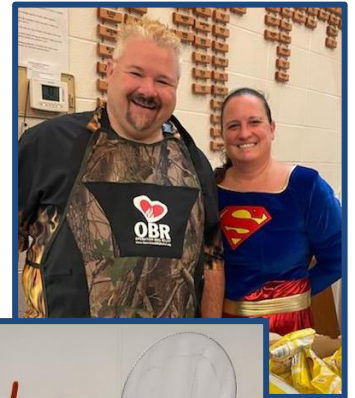
Sorting Clothes & Such

A group of ladies spent a few hours in the basement at Fletcher Place Community Center sorting clothing and household goods donations.



Trunk-n-Treat


Another great year for our annual Trunk-n-Treat event. Thanks to everyone that helped. Has anyone seen a dancing cow around here?



Fall Family Fun

The weather was perfect for a cookout and hayride. Smore anyone?

NOVEMBER 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:30 Worship 10:35 Sunday School 2:00 Eagle Court 5:30 Youth Group	31 	1 6:00 Staff Parish 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Robotics	2 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Choir Practice	3 6:30 GS Troop 1827 8:00 AA	4 9:30 Women Study	5 8:00 Men Study
6 9:30 Communion 10:35 Sunday School 10:35 Bible Games 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:30 Youth Group	7 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	8 6:00 Strategy Council 6:30 Robotics	9 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Choir Practice	10 8:00 AA GODS BOUNTY	11 9:30 Women Study	12 8:00 Men Study
13 9:30 Worship 10:35 Sunday School 5:30 Youth Group	14 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	15 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:00 Trustees 6:30 Robotics	16 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Choir Practice Fellowship Dinner	17 6:30 GS Troop 1827 8:00 AA	18 9:30 Women Study YOUTH COSMIC BOWL	19 8:00 Men Study
20 9:30 Worship 10:35 Sunday School 11:30 Singles Feast SWEET & SAVORY HANGING GREENS	21 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	22 6:30 Robotics	23 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Choir Practice	24 OFFICE CLOSED 	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 8:00 Men Study
27 9:30 Worship 10:35 Sunday School 1:00 GS Troop 200 5:30 Youth Group	28 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	29 6:00 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Robotics	30 10:00 Women Study 6:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Choir Practice	1 6:30 GS Troop 1827 8:00 AA	2 9:30 Women Study	3 8:00 Men Study