

THE TRINITY TIMES

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY, 2019

From the pastor

Dear ones!

2018 was a remarkable year here at Trinity in that nothing was especially remarkable! Like any other congregation, we met weekly for worship, regularly observed the sacrament of the Lord's Supper monthly, had Sunday school for adults and children, attracted a consistent group of worshippers, paid our bills, and ended the year with far less of a deficit than we had anticipated at the beginning of the year. The stability of church life in 2018 was not remarkable, but considering the turmoil and tension this congregation has been through over the past years, "not remarkable" was wonderful and welcome.

So now that we have our "sea legs" (to call upon our sailboat image), it's time to strike out for deeper water. It's time to put away the phrase, "we've never done it that way before," and envision how something that has never been done before could be done. It's time to eliminate the phrase, "but we've always done this" and be more creative in our thinking. It's time to reach out to people who look or act different from us and invite them to be an active part of our work and worship. It's time to stop thinking about how Trinity used to look in days gone by and instead take a good look at who we are in 2019—focusing on how we can serve Christ with our gifts and talents. It's time to engage with our neighbors in and around Trinity, find out their needs, and serve them in the way that Christ calls all of us to love our neighbors.

God has given us a beautiful space and place to be used for God's glory. In what ways can you imagine our building and property being shared with members as well as neighbors? Here are a few ideas:

- *Religious classes for special needs children and youth (and we have started one class already!).
- *A community garden, in cooperation with Linden Waldorf and the surrounding neighborhood.
- *Providing space for support groups to meet and for community groups to gather.
- *Increasing the number of musical events on site.
- *Spanish language classes or English language classes.
- *A weekly Bible study.
- *A summer day camp.

Of course, ideas just sit there lifeless if someone isn't willing to shake them out, organize them, and put them forward. Some ideas are good but require more resources than we currently have. And not every idea tried has to succeed—some ideas can be tried and discarded, or improved upon. Trinity can be a place for members and non-members, religious folks and not-so-religious folks have permission to dream big and crazy, and permission to fail if something doesn't work.

What ideas do YOU have rolling around in YOUR mind and heart?

Trinity members and friends, now that we've had an unremarkable year, let's make 2019 *remarkable*, keeping in mind the word of the prophet Isaiah:

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." (Isaiah 55:8-13)

Peace,
Sally



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The Trinity Times is published monthly. We welcome news items and other contributions from members and friends of Trinity. Bring your articles to the church or e-mail them to the editor, Judy Schomber (schomberstat@aol.com), by the 20th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF
 Sally Hughes, Pastor
 William E. Berger, Minister of Music
 Linda Rogers, Office Manager
 Charlie Bundy, Facilities Manager

SESSION MEMBERS
 Vira Baker (2020) Hank Howerton (2020)
 Vera Billington (2021) Paul Parker (2021)
 Bill Dougherty (2020), Matt Rutherford (2019)
 Phil Elbert (2019) Hank Schomber (2019)
 Aad Zeeuw (2021)

FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE AND LECTIONARY READINGS

February 3 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Celebration of the Lord's Supper
 Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 71:1-6;
 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; Luke 4:21-30

February 10 Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
 Isaiah 6:1-8 (9-13); Psalm 138;
 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

February 17 Sixth Sunday after Epiphany
 Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1;
 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26

February 24 Seventh Sunday after Epiphany
 Genesis 45:3-11, 15; Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40;
 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50 Luke: 6:27-38



Girl Scouts®

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES ON FEBRUARY 3

Cookies! After worship on February 3rd, Girl Scout troop #1347 will be in East Hall selling Girl Scout cookies. This troop meets regularly at Trinity. For those of us whose children have "aged out" of scouting, this is a great opportunity to support this troop AND get delicious cookies!



Samoas



GS S'mores



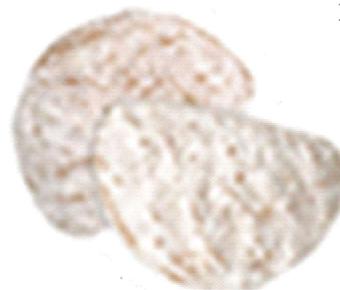
Thin Mints



Do-Si-Dos



Trefoils



Savannah Sniles (Lemon)

MOZART IN NASHVILLE CONCERT AT TRINITY ON FEBRUARY 2

Mozart in Nashville Concert will be Saturday, February 2, at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary: As part of the Mozart Birthday Series, "Modern Music for Orchestra" will be the theme for this upcoming concert coordinated by Roger Weismeyer of the Nashville Symphony Orchestra. Featured soloists will be Bill Wiggins, Joshua Dent, and Kaitlyn Raitz. The concert is free; donations will be accepted in behalf of refugee and immigrant children in Metro Public Schools.

Cellists Kaitlyn Raitz and Josh Dent will present a piece by Giovanni Sollima. This Italian composer was a cellist influenced by a wide array of genres from baroque to minimalism, jazz to rock, and ethnic traditions from the Mediterranean to film and theatre music. His music is regarded as 'post-Minimalist' and is perhaps best exemplified by "Violoncelles, vibrez!". Originally written for two cellos and orchestra, the piece was later arranged for cello octet in honor of the tenth anniversary of the death of the great Milanese teacher Antonio Janigro. Described by The Guardian as featuring 'breathtaking sonorities ambiguities and audacities' and by The Times as a 'real crowd tickler', this delightful and dramatic piece perfectly shows off the ensemble's virtuosity in shaping and exploiting their unique sound.

William Wiggins, who played timpani in the Nashville Symphony for almost 50 years is performing an 18th century century concerto for six timpani and orchestra composed by Georg (Jiri) Druschetzky. A Czech/Bohemian oboeist/timpanist/composer, Druschetzky worked as a military musician in various posts in Austria and Hungary in the late 18th early 19th centuries. The Concerto for Six Timpani and Orchestra was written ca. 1790.

For this performance Professor Wiggins will be using instruments similar to ones which the composer and his contemporaries would recognize. Unlike modern pedal timpani, these instruments are simple copper bowls tuned by means of T-handled screws around the circumference of the bowl. The pitch of each drum is fixed for the duration of the piece, comprising a C major scale from G to E. The drum heads are natural skins as opposed to the synthetic film of today.



Do you enjoy singing? We invite those who wish to be part of our music ministry to do so by contacting Will Berger at will_berger@bellsouth.net. If you have special gifts to offer we encourage them.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Bring a can or two of nonperishable food to place in the soup pots for the Souper Bowl of Caring on Sunday, February 5. Donations will go to Second Harvest Food Bank.

A simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat" has inspired a youth-led movement to help hungry and hurting people around the world.

This prayer, delivered by Brad Smith, then a seminary intern serving at Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, SC, gave birth to an idea. Why not use Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football and fun, to also unify the nation for a higher good: collecting dollars and canned food for the needy? Youth could collect donations at their schools and churches in soup pots, and then send every dollar DIRECTLY to a local charity of THEIR choice. That was 1990. Today the Souper Bowl of Caring has a \$10 million dollar goal (food and money donations) for 2019.



ADULT EDUCATION IN FEBRUARY

The Adult Sunday school class, with Sally leading it, invites you to join it .

The class is a Bible Study class which focuses on different books of the Bible, and themes from the Bible approached from different and interesting perspectives. The class is designed for folks who know little about the Bible and those who know the Bible reasonably well. The only text for the class is the Bible, and for those who forget to bring one, there are plenty of Bibles available in the parlor. Led by Sally, the format is questions, answers, and discussion. Join us each Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the parlor for stimulating Bible study!

We are studying “Old Testament Stories from the Backside” by J. Ellsworth Kalas. Kalas is good at taking familiar Bible stories and presenting them in a creative way.

J. Ellsworth Kalas is professor of Homiletics and has been part of the faculty at Asbury Theological Seminary since 1993, after thirty-eight years as a United Methodist pastor and five years in evangelism with the World Methodist Council. He has been a presenter on DISCIPLE videos, is the author of the Christian Believer study, and has written more than thirty books, including the popular “Back Side” series and Longing to Pray: How the Psalms Teach Us to Talk with God.

SESSION HOLDS ANNUAL RETREAT

The newly constituted 2019 Session held a Saturday retreat on January 26 in the church parlor. The agenda included planning for the year, relations between church and Linden Waldorf School, and other issues facing the congregation. It was the first Session meeting for elders Vera Billington, Paul Parker, and Aad Zeeuw.



photos by Hank Schomber

TRINITY IS ON THE MOVE!

Over the last two years our membership has grown by more than 30percent. That growth rate is probably among the best in the country for churches like ours—or for any except new congregations.

Our membership currently stands at 63, which is just over half the 120 goal the Presbytery's Oversight Committee is encouraging us to reach by the end of this year. We all need to continue to be alert to folks who may be interested in joining Trinity.

Our work with Dr. Bill Wilson and the Center for Healthy Churches continues. The Trinity Vision team of Vira Baker, Phil Elbert, Bob Guest, Benita Sims and Aad Zeeuw has been meeting and will meet with Dr. Wilson on February 12.

The session approved a Congregational Conversation following worship on February 24 to bring everyone up to date and get input from all members and friends.

THE LITURGICAL YEAR

The festivals and seasons of the Christian year (or liturgical calendar) offer a way to order the annual life of the church according to the life of Christ and the events of salvation history. The Revised Common Lectionary provides a set of Scripture readings from the Old and New Testaments that is both organized around the Christian year and attentive to the broad themes and narratives of the biblical story.

The Directory for Worship elaborates: As God created and appointed days, God created a rhythm of time and appointed seasons for worship. In the Old Testament, people observed seasons of fasting and feasting as occasions for festival worship of God. Jesus kept these festivals. For the Church in the New Testament, the festivals were transformed in meaning and purpose by Jesus' life and teaching, his death and resurrection, and by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' birth, life, death, resurrection, ascension, and promised return give meaning to the seasons which order the annual rhythm of worship and guide the selection of lessons to be read and proclaimed in the life of the Church. (W-1.3013)

Through two millennia of Christian worship, a certain cycle of festivals and seasons has emerged and is now recognized and observed throughout the ecumenical church. Some of these events (Pentecost, Holy Week and Epiphany, e.g.) can be traced to the earliest centuries of Christian practice; others (Trinity Sunday and Christ the King, e.g.) developed later in the history of the church. God's work of redemption in Jesus Christ offers the Church a central pattern for ordering

worship in relationship to significant occasions in the life of Jesus and of the people of God. The Church thus has come to observe the following days and seasons:

Advent, a season to recollect the hope of the coming of Christ, and to look forward to the Lord's coming again,

Christmas, a celebration of the birth of Christ,

Epiphany, a day for commemorating God's self-manifestation to all people,

Lent, a season of spiritual discipline and preparation, beginning with Ash Wednesday, anticipating the celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ,

Holy Week, a time of remembrance and proclamation of the atoning suffering and death of Jesus Christ,

Easter, the day of the Lord's resurrection and the season of rejoicing which commemorates his ministry until his Ascension, and continues through

the Day of Pentecost, the celebration of the gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

The church also observes other days such as Baptism of the Lord, Transfiguration of the Lord, Trinity Sunday, All Saints Day and Christ the King. (W-3.2002)

From:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/christianyear/>

OFFICE HOURS FOR SALLY HUGHES

Sally has office hours Tuesday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and also by appointment if someone needs to come by earlier or later.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Doug Milam – 3

Vira Baker – 4

Vera Billington – 4

Susan Brockett – 5

Jon O'Brien – 8

Devan Stahl – 17

Eleanor Elbert – 19

Paul Berger – 22

Jimbo Cook – 25

Allen Brown – 26

Our apologies if we have missed your birthday or if it is incorrect. If we have missed or muffed your special day please call the church office at 297-6513 and let us know.

SPECIAL GROUP ACTIVITY MEETINGS

*****Wandering Presbyterians** head for the stars (in the sky)! On Monday, February 18, we're heading for the Planetarium at the Adventure Science Center. We'll have a live educator to answer questions, and we'll explore exactly what will be visible in that night's sky! We are receiving a group discount rate of \$17 per person both for the Planetarium experience (30 – 40 minutes) and tour of the science center. There's a Subway on the 2nd floor where folks can get coffee/beverages, eat lunch, etc. with a beautiful Nashville skyline on the wall. So after the Planetarium experience, you can explore other exhibits, have a coffee break or lunch at the Subway. Everything is accessible and there are elevators. Carpool will leave from church at 11:10 a.m., returning approximately 1:30/1:45 p.m. Interested in making a reservation? Sign up in the East Hall or Narthex, e-mail or call the church office.

*****Presbyterian Women** meet Tuesday, February 5, at 11 a.m. in the Trinity parlor. We will study lesson 6, "God With Us Through Our Trials" from our study book, *God's Promise: I Am with You*. Please bring a sandwich or salad for lunch. Presbyterian Women meets the second Tuesday of the month, September through May.

PICK UP YOUR PICTORIAL CHURCH DIRECTORY

New Pictorial Church Directories are ready! If you haven't yet picked up a new church directory they are available for you to pick up in the East Hall on Sundays or in the church office. Please call or e-mail the church office with any updates/corrections. Please respect that the directory is for use of participants in Trinity's ministry and is not to be forwarded to others or sent to a mailing list. Many thanks to Aad Zeeuw for taking most of the photos for this first self-produced picture directory!

THE ONLINE CALENDAR

For a complete list of activities, visit www.trinitypresnashville.org and click on “church calendar”. The calendar is updated regularly as activities are added, deleted, or changed. If your committee or group schedules a meeting using the church’s facilities, please contact Linda (297-6513 or office@trinitypresnashville.org) so your meeting can be placed on the calendar, or if there is a facilities conflict, it can be resolved before scheduling.

TRINITY TRACKINGS

If you have any news or announcements to share with the congregation, please pass them along to Sally via e-mail or word-of-mouth or drop a note in the offering plate on Sunday so they may be shared in the next Trinity Trackings column. Any and all tidbits of news are welcome!



Congratulations to our three new elders, who were ordained/installed during worship on January 13:

Vera Billington, Paul Parker, and Aad Zeeuw

We were pleased to see Jimbo Cook and his sister Mary Ann in church on January 20

Honorably retired Executive Presbyterian Warner Durnell worshipped with us on January 20

HOW TO SUPPORT PRESBYTERIAN

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Support those affected by the California wildfires: If you would like to support the work of the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), gifts may be made online to DR000165 (US Wildfires) or by phone at (800) 872-3283, or by check, which can be mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



**PRESBYTERIAN
DISASTER
ASSISTANCE**

CONGREGATIONAL CONVERSATION ON FEBRUARY 24

There will be a Congregational Conversation with Dr. Bill Wilson, from the Center for Healthy Churches, following worship on February 24. The purpose of the meeting, approved by the Session, is to bring everyone up to date and to get input from all members and friends about how to move Trinity forward.

Dr. Wilson met with the congregation last year and introduced us to the concept of the Sailboat Church as a way to set goals. Subsequently, we read and discussed “The Sailboat Church” by Joan Gray in multiple sessions and decided, with Session approval, to ask Dr. Wilson to lead us in setting goals and following the framework of the “sailboat church”. As a result Dr. Wilson suggested the formation of a Vision Group, which consists of Vira Baker, Phil Elbert, Bob Guest, Benita Sims, and Aad Zeeuw. The Vision Group has been meeting regularly and will meet with Dr. Wilson on February 12.

The next step in the process will be the Congregational Conversation. Please make plans to attend and give your input.

SOUP AND CHILI POTLUCK



photos by Hank Schomber



The popular annual Soup and Chili Potluck was January 27 following the Annual Meeting during worship. Thirty-six folks had their choice(s) of wonderful homemade soups and chilis, accompanied by cornbread and oyster crackers.





FROM OUR MISSION WORKER, KARLA KOLL

Dear companions in mission,

Grace and peace to you at the beginning of this new year. I am grateful for these cool and breezy quiet days of vacation that allow me an opportunity to share with you. My husband, Javier, and I escaped for one night to the Caribbean coast to celebrate his birthday, but otherwise we have been enjoying our home here in San Jose. My computer also decided to take a vacation and is refusing to boot up, which has reduced my temptation to do work at home as well as my ability to communicate while I am supposed to be taking a break.

I am very thankful to those who have supported us with your prayers during recent months as we have shared our home with people who have had to flee Nicaragua. The two young people who were staying with us were moved by RET International, the organization that administers the programs of the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) here, to a safe location in another city in Costa Rica. I worry about them being alone and far from any support networks, but they are now out of our hands, though not out of our thoughts and prayers.

Our home has not been empty. Twenty people, most of them refugees from Nicaragua, gathered here for a turkey dinner on Christmas Eve. The day after Christmas, my PCUSA colleague Tracey King-Ortega and her family stopped in for a couple of nights before heading to a beach. They will be back for one more night at the end of their vacation. PCUSA mission co-workers Mark Hare and Jenny Bent, along with their two daughters, will also be here for a night before they return to the Dominican Republic where they serve.

The Latin American Biblical University (UBL) has been officially closed since December 14th, but there are three students from Peru who have stayed on campus to begin work on their bachelor's theses. I've been stopping in to check on them. I am sure Elena, Miriam and Samuel would appreciate your prayers. The offices reopen on January 7th, but I will be back at work from the 2nd. I have a lot to do to get ready for the new academic year. During the first term, 10

which begins on January 14th, I will be teaching two courses. In the bachelor's program, I will be teaching students in the classroom and on-line about God's mission and the multiple ways all followers of Christ are called to participate in mission. At the licentiate level, a couple students and I will be reconsidering eschatology in times of climate change.

We are also preparing to receive two visiting groups who are coming to Costa Rica to learn about the context and the content of our work in theological education at the UBL. On January 8th, a group of five people from the Presbytery of New Brunswick arrive to spend a week with us. During our years in Princeton I was active in this presbytery and four churches in this presbytery help provide for my support year after year. This is the first time a group has come from the presbytery to see for themselves the work their gifts help to make possible. A group of students from Eden Theological Seminary will arrive on January 19th to explore how theology is being done in Latin America today. At the UBL, we are excited to be part of the spiritual formation of our visitors as we all strive to be faithful to God's reign of peace and justice.

Of course, the situation in Nicaragua is never far from our minds and hearts. On December 20th, the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts (gieinicaragua.org) sent to Nicaragua by the Organization of American States to investigate the violent incidents which took place between April 18th and May 30th presented their report. Of the 109 deaths studied by the group, 95 were caused by gun shots to the head or chest. The GIEI found evidence of widespread violations of human rights by the National Police, armed groups aligned with the government, and the judicial system that amount to crimes against humanity by the regime of Daniel Ortega y Rosario Murillo. The GIEI found no evidence in the spontaneous protests to support the government's claim that the police were responding to an organized coup attempt. In recent months laws passed by the govern-

(continued on page 11)

**FROM OUR MISSION WORKER,
KARLA KOLL**

(continued from page 10)

ment of Nicaragua have effectively criminalized any form of protest against the regime. In recent weeks the government has canceled the legal standing of several well-established non-governmental organizations, including the Nicaraguan Center for Human Rights (CENIDH), and shut down several independent media outlets. As detentions and disappearances continue in Nicaragua, more refugees are finding their way here to Costa Rica. Even in the midst of mounting repression by the government, I take hope in the vision for a more democratic future being developed by groups inside and outside of Nicaragua. In the meantime, Javier and I will continue to do what we can to support the refugees who have become part of our lives here.

As the new year begins, I am profoundly thankful for the network of sisters and brothers around the world who support me with their prayers and make it possible for me to be part of encouraging women and men throughout Latin America to deepen their faith as they gain skills for leading their communities. I look forward to hearing from you and I hope to communicate more regularly in the months ahead. Emmanuel has come; God is with us. May we walk with courage into the future.

Blessings,

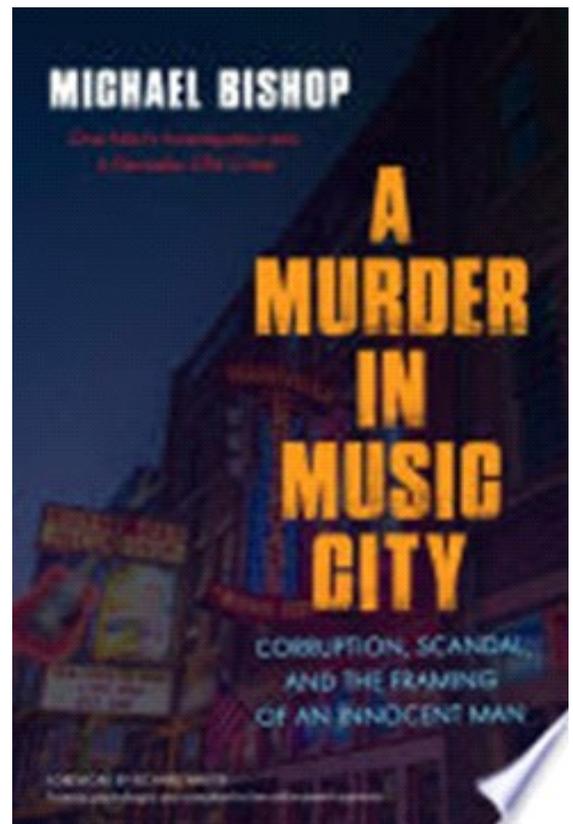
Karla

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Rev. Dr. Karla Ann Koll
Latin America Biblical University
Apartado 901-1000
San Jose, Costa Rica

Karla's Webpage @Presbyterian World Mission

**AUTHOR MICHAEL
BISHOP TO DISCUSS HIS
A MURDER IN MUSIC CITY
ON MARCH 21 AT
TRINITY**

Author Michael Bishop will speak at Trinity on Thursday, March 21 at 1 p.m. If you grew up in Nashville, enjoy reading and/or are captivated by a true murder mystery, you might want to read *A Murder in Music City* and plan to come hear the author talk about the book (OR just come and hear the author speak – and then you might want to read the book!). This captivating story is about the author's unraveling of the criminal trial in the 1960's that wrongfully convicted John Randolph Clarke of murdering Paula Herring. Following his presentation, there will be time for questions and answers and casual discussion. Books are available through Amazon or Parnassus Books. Refreshments will be provided. For a reservation, sign up in the East Hall or Narthex, call the church office at 615-297-6513, or e-mail office@trinitypresnashville.org.



February 2019

A calendar that includes all building use, including LWS, can be found on the church website: www.trinitypresnashville.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 3 pm Mozart in Nashville Concert
3 <i>Souper Bowl Offering</i> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship/Communion After Worship: First Sunday Fellowship Time	4 * 8 pm – AA Meeting	5 11 am Presbyterian Women	6	7 8 pm – AA Meeting	8	9
10 9:30 am Sunday School 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	11 * 8 pm – AA Meeting	12	13	14 6 pm – LWS Circus 8 pm – AA Meeting	15	16
17 9:30 am Sunday School 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time	18 * 11:10 am Wandering Presbyterians leave for Adventure Science Center Planetarium & Tour 8 pm – AA Meeting	19	20 Newsletter Articles Due	21	22	23
24 9:30 am Sunday School 10:15 am Choir Rehearsal 11:00 am Worship After Worship: Fellowship Time Congregational Conversation with Bill Wilson	25 * 8 pm – AA Meeting	26 7 pm – Session Meeting	27	28 8 pm – AA Meeting		

* Church Office closed on Mondays