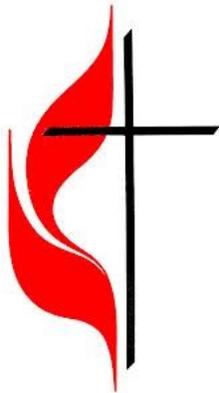


# Aldersgate Hinge

December 2013 / January 2014



## From the Pastor

Many of us are list makers, especially this time of year. We make lists of who to invite to our Christmas party, what we need to buy for everyone on our list, what we need to get at the grocery store, and of course “things to do.” And of course, there’s the list of what we hope someone will give us for Christmas. Yet, most of us want something more. What most of us really want for Christmas are gifts that never wear out, things like hope, peace, joy, and love. This year during Advent, the Sunday messages will focus on these important gifts so we will experience “A Life-Giving Christmas” this year instead of one that drains our energies.

Part of having a life-giving Christmas is spending time each day in prayer and reflection. If you haven’t picked up an Advent devotional, *Living the Gospel Life*, be sure to get one and use it.

As we continue our “All IN” focus, I want to remind you that the Advent and Christmas seasons are great times to INvite those for whom you’ve been INterceding (praying) and INvesting time in to join you for worship or a special activity. The cantata will be offered at the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services on Dec. 22. Christmas Eve candlelight services are as follows: 5:00 p.m. Family Service; 7:30 p.m. Traditional Service; and 11:00 p.m. Communion Service. “O Come, All Ye Faithful!”



On January 5, we will celebrate the coming of the Magi. Jan. 12 is the baptism of the Lord. Then on Jan. 19 I will begin a four-week series based on Adam Hamilton’s book, “*Why? Making Sense of God’s Will.*” We will wrestle with the difficult questions, “Why do the innocent suffer?; Why do my prayers go unanswered?; Why can’t I see God’s will for my life?; and Why God’s love prevails.” This might be another good time to invite someone you’ve been praying for.

Tom and I wish the best for you this time of year and pray that you will have a life-giving Christmas and countless blessings in the new year!

*Pastor Anne*

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**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

*Transforming Lives and Serving Christ with Joy*

4115 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, New York 14616-1216 • (585) 663-3665 • [www.aumcgreece.org](http://www.aumcgreece.org)

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# Our Ministry of Concern

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## Prayer Concerns

People are added and removed from our ongoing prayer list upon request. Please call Chitie Edgett or the church office to ADD, REINSTATE, or REMOVE names.

**In Hospice Care:** John Sobus

**Recovering at Home:** John Best, Joanne Cripe (sister of Jane Shukitis), Tracy Maggio, Joan Michlin, Dan Rothfuss, Jan Rothfuss

**Those with Ongoing Health Concerns:** Vonnie Ackerman, Victor (Corkie) Alloco (friend of Kim Latragna), Hayden Armendinger (father of Debbie Kennedy), Dick Bailey (friend of Candy Metzger), Nancy Beers (granddaughter of Mavis), John Best, Bonnie Bush (friend of Bobbi & Rich Mohrmann), Amanda Condrow (friend of Louie VanKouwenberg), Ursalee Crepinsek (cousin of Myrle/Beverly Johnson), Sarah Crough (niece of Doug & Nancy Jones), Logan Desmone (child of friend of Lisa Deutsch), William Donahue, Valerie Eckels, Robert Fisher, James Fuller (brother of Mary Finacchairo), Deb Germain (friend of the O'Connors), Steven Gray (brother of David Gray), Shirley Grierson, Becky Hess, Vi Hutchins (friend of Chris Palmer), Rich Keller, Addison Lorraine Kelly (daughter of Jessica Christie and Aaron Kelly), Kyle Kephart (father of Tim Kephart), Mark Kurzen (friend of Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann), Barb Jeffers, Bob Jeffers, Betty Judd, Madeline Larabee (great granddaughter of Nancy Bailey), Kim Latragna, Ruth Loomis, Steven Lynch (son of Sylvia Lynch), Sylvia Lynch, Tom Marsh, Gary Martin (brother of Carole Jermyn), Charlotte & Patrick McCabe (daughter & son-in-law of Betty Baybutt), Joan Michlin, Ardis Nerby (mother of Lisa Deutsch), Kathy Peck, Karly Pellman (granddaughter of Seward & June Griffin), Kathy Montgomery Peterson (sister/sister-in-law of Ivan & Gloria Montgomery), Kamran Pickering (grandson of Donna Colangelo), Gordon Preston, Donna Sarnacki (sister of Judy Hare), Susan Tuck Rooksby (friend of Bobbi & Rich Mohrmann), Elaine Roney (sister of Meg Jones), Dan Rothfuss, John Sobus, Jr., David Stanley, Mike Tharrett (friend of Annette Thompson), Suzanne Unell, Ashlee VanKowenberg's Grandpa Gassett, Hal Wagner, Denise White (daughter of Gloria & Rick Baker), Mark Williams (son-in-law of Bob Wiederhold)

**Christian Sympathy** is extended to the families of Barbara Robinson and Marion Vogelsong.

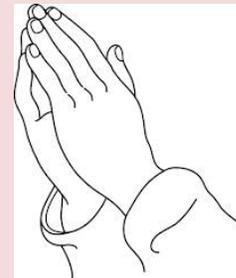
## Prayer Chain

This ministry has currently adopted an Email method to communicate the joys and concerns lifted up at both Sunday worship services. Each participant prays for each person/situation in their own way.

For those without an email address who want to be part of a Telephone Tree method, please contact the church office or me.

(1 Timothy 2:1)

Chitie Edgett, coordinator  
663-5849



**Nursing Homes/Living Centers:** Nona Antczak — Seabury Woods; Jeanne Barr, Maurice & Evelyn Deuel — Hilton East; Mavis Beers, Phoebe Brown, John Hayashi, Karl Goenitz (Lorraine Christie's father), Phyllis Keegan — Edna Tina Wilson Living Center; Rosetta Knapp — Crimson Ridge Gardens; Jean Smith — Crimson Ridge Meadows; Phyllis Little — Legacy; Len Mack, Martha Thomson — Woodlands; Fred Hild — The Hurlbut

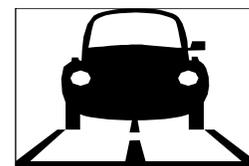
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## Parish Visitations

Call the church office when someone enters the hospital or is discharged or if you, or someone of whom you are aware, desire a pastoral call. This will help provide better pastoral care and avoid unnecessary trips. Arrangements for the Sacrament of Holy Communion are encouraged. Both pastors and the lay visitation ministers visit regularly and would be happy to include others in the visitation schedule.

## Transportation Ministry

Please call the church office if you need a ride for a doctor's appointment.



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## *From the Pastor of Visitation and Membership Care*

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Dear Aldersgate Family,

As we approach another Advent, our church visitors are preparing to deliver “goody” baskets to our shut-ins. As we were going over the lists, we found that at least nine of our 2012 shut-ins have been called to their heavenly home during this year. We rejoice with them, but they are missed! We are all reminded that we never know what the New Year will bring – but we serve a Savior who conquers our fears! This is demonstrated in a poem that appeared in the *Joyful Noiseletter* (used by permission) titled...

### **The Poetry of Christmas**

*Pastor Edd Myers of Freeport (PA) United Methodist Church used the “Risen Christ by the Sea” church bulletin as his Christmas card last year. This is, in part, the poem he composed for the back of the Christmas card:*

*“In Advent we prepare for God’s coming to this earth.*

*On Christmas we celebrate God’s arrival in Jesus’ simple birth.*

*Coming as a baby seems such an unusual plan.*

*I’d expect the Almighty’s offspring to be a super-human.*

*But God does things in ways that we don’t expect.*

*Such a humble incarnation should cause us to reflect.*

*Perhaps God didn’t want to overwhelm us with awesomeness and might.*

*The desire was to be with us, and into darkness shed some light.*

*The picture that I’ve sent you for this Advent/Christmas time is my favorite interpretation of God’s gift to humankind.*

*Why has it been my choice for quite some while?*

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*Because it shows us Jesus sharing hope – thru a smile.*

*I believe Jesus came for and loved the entire human race.*

*And in spite of what was done to him, forgave all, revealed God’s grace.*

*As you experience Advent, Christmas and enter the New Year with a smiling, resurrected Emmanuel, you have nothing to fear.*

May God grant you and yours a blessed and peaceful Advent, Christmas and New Year!

Sincerely,

*Pastor Jerry*

### **Thank You!**

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and phone calls. Prayers really do work, and I’m feeling so much better.

John Best



**ALL** items for the February Hinge are due to Karen Sladden by **January 15.**

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# Aldersgate United Methodist Women

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## Valerie Clark to Speak on Experience in Haiti at Saturday, January 18, General Meeting

Plan to arrive in the **Ide Center** around **9:15 a.m.** to get your coffee and pastry and settle in to hear our speaker for the morning, Valerie Clark, tell us of her mission trip last year to Haiti.

Haitians still need our help, but there are a wide variety of opportunities to be in service. Most of us know Valerie as a former District and Conference UMW Officer. She was, however, a teacher in the Rochester City School District and in Hilton Central Schools, and currently is an instructor in the teacher education program at SUNY Brockport. Her role was to provide staff development training to Haitian teachers, a little different challenge from the usual construction projects with which we are more familiar. She will speak both to the challenges of addressing the much different needs of teachers there and of adjusting to what we could euphemistically call a much simpler living environment.

After a short business meeting, we'll get to work on our needlework projects: baby gowns, receiving blankets, pillowcase dresses, school bags, Warm-Up Rochester afghans, and children's quilts.

At noon we'll break for lunch, then work until 2:30-3:00.

You are welcome to join us for all or just part of the day. The cost for the day is just \$5.00, which will cover the food and help subsidize the cost of some of the materials we will be using. The sign-up sheet will be on the Opportunities Board in January.

### ALDERSGATE UNITED METHODIST WOMEN UPCOMING DATES

**Mondays, Dec. 9 & Jan. 13** – Sew 'n Sew's in Room 1 at 1:00 p.m.

**Thursday, March 27** – General Meeting in the Ide Center at 6:15 p.m.

**Saturday, April 12** – Communion Breakfast, Locations TBA

**Tuesday, April 15** – Meal in the Upper Room in the Ide Center, 6:30 p.m.

## Morning Circle

On **December 17**, Morning Circle will enjoy "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever." Even if you have read the book or viewed the video, you will laugh (or cry) along with the rest of us. It's a Christmas classic!

Our **January 21** topic will be "**Poverty**," one of the current UMW Mission Studies. We'll take a look at national and international concerns, but we also will address our local concerns. Please be alert to newspaper articles, for instance, for stories about the impact of poverty in the Rochester area. Bring to the meeting for discussion the information you find.

This is also the meeting at which we hold a Pledge to Mission service. These pledges support mission work among women, children, and youth across the United States and around the world.

Morning Circle meets at 11:00 a.m. each month generally in the Church Parlor. Bring a light lunch. Hostesses each month bring dessert and beverages. For more information, see Cindy Purzycki (225-4220) or Bobbie Eckert (225-9582).



## Reading Circle

For their Christmas selection this year the Reading Circle has chosen the classic, *Little Women*, by Louisa May Alcott. Carole Jermyn will lead the discussion at the Thursday, **December 5, meeting in the Church Library**. The selection for **January 2** is *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez.

Books from the Public Library are available in advance in the church library each month. Please be sure to sign your name when you take one out and to cross it off when you return the book so that others can read it.

Reading Circle meets at 1:00 PM on the first Thursday of each month. Members take turns leading devotions and serving refreshments each month. New members and visitors are always welcome. For more information, contact Helen Wolter (621-1904) or Frances Crabtree (315-5077).

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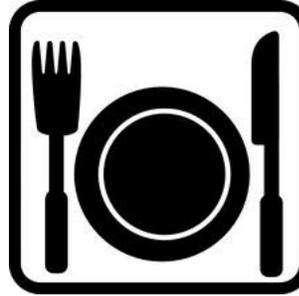
## End-of-Year Giving by AUMW

On November 9, after viewing the important video “Not My Life” about human trafficking around the world, the members of UMW held a short business meeting, primarily to determine their end-of-year giving. United Methodist Women are required to “empty their treasures” for mission at the end of each year, keeping only enough for expenses anticipated in the very near future.

From the Craft & Collectibles Show, \$945 (half the net proceeds) was put in the General Benevolence Fund of the church to be used by the Missions Committee of the church for their projects as we do every year. Individual pledges to mission that have come in recently will be sent to the Genesee Valley District to help meet the District pledge of support for UMW missions around the world. The remaining \$900 was distributed as follows: White Gifts - \$300, Greece Food Shelf - \$300, and Emergency Boiler Replacement at Emmanuel UMC - \$300. We are most thankful for all those who give of their time and resources to support all these missions. Through our dollars we are truly transforming lives and serving Christ with joy.

## Ruby Tuesday’s News

We never dreamed when we started that our one-Monday-a-month outing was going to last so long! The move to Ruby Tuesday’s has gone smoothly, but we haven’t burned any bridges at Applebee’s! Getting approval for both Sunday and Monday in November was a computer accident, but we now have approval to do the **first Sunday & Monday** of each month **through July 2014**.



For those of you who have been asking, we have received a total of **\$972.08** for our Building Fund from Ruby Tuesday’s to date. Twenty percent does indeed add up faster than ten percent!

So — be there or be square, as people used to say. **Sunday & Monday, December 1 & 2, and January 5 & 6** are reserved for Aldersgate. Don’t forget to bring the voucher from your church bulletin with you.

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## Mission News

### Christmas Offering Designated

Like many other missions, this has been a difficult year for **Cookson Hills Center**, the United Methodist program in Eastern Oklahoma headed by **Meri Whitaker**. Many good things have happened there this year, primarily their moving into the renovated restaurant next door, which has allowed them to reorganize and expand their cottage industries, craft shop, food and clothing pantry, intake services, childcare facilities, and senior programs. On the other hand, the financial challenges have also been great. We have received more than the usual number of letters from Meri appealing for our help. Consequently, the Missions Committee decided to designate half the Christmas Offering to provide some additional support. Good work is happening there in both Cookson Hills Center and Canterbury Chapel, the 12-Step church she pastors.

For many years half the Christmas Offering has gone to provide financial support to **Gateway-Longview**, a United Methodist-related agency that has provided services to children and families since 1890. Although based in

Buffalo, the agency provides services throughout the Western New York area. Gateway-Longview is the largest single non-governmental agency serving children and families in Western New York.

Their programs include Niagara Day Care; Therapeutic Preschool; an Elementary, Middle, and High School Day School Treatment Program; Foster Care and Adoption Services; Respite Services; Residential Treatment; Spiritual Life Development; Supervised and Transitional Independent Living and much more. We can be thankful that our United Methodist Church is able to respond to these needs in Western New York with skilled staff, well-equipped facilities, and Christian love.

Both in supporting Gateway-Longview and in supporting the work at Cookson Hills Center, we are changing lives through our dollars. Your check to Aldersgate marked “*Christmas Offering*” or placed in the Christmas Offering envelope of your weekly envelope set will go to support these two ministries of outreach.

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## Mission News Continued

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### Election Day Bake Sale Boost Funds for Community Dinners

For an off-year election, we had a surprising result this year: a record **\$456** from the sale of baked goods and crafts! There was a generous outpouring of excellent baked goods, and continuing to host four Election Districts really boosts the number of people passing through. All of our regular customers showed up.

Our presence also gave us the chance to let people know about our Community Dinners and other upcoming events and to remind people that we are here and active in their community. One person we see every year has recognized that we are a praying church and comes to us regularly with prayer requests.

We thank everyone who supported this annual sale with baked goods, staffing, and purchases.

### Habitat Shed Completed

Those of you who came to church on Sunday, November 10, saw our Habitat shed nearly finished in the parking lot near the south entrance. The day before, **Derek Smith, Michael Smith, Bud Kress, and Ray Poling** worked all day to put the shed kit together. On Sunday, **Adam Smith** was added to the work crew to complete the job. Flower City Habitat for Humanity delivered the kit and picked up the completed shed. The project was funded by our 2013 Lenten offering boxes.

Also that Saturday the UMW held its General Meeting and Project Day and some of our Hispanic youth and adults were at work cleaning the chapel from top to bottom. The three groups of workers joined together for lunch to enjoy pizza, salad, and dessert provided by UMW. It was a good day for all!

### Emmanuel UMC is Without Heat

Just as the weather turned colder, 50-year-old boilers that have been kept running for the past five years with patchwork fixes have quit. More than half their facilities, including the pastor's housing (an apartment within the church), are without heat. They plan to make the repairs in stages and need \$8,000 right away to buy and install replacement heaters; then they need an additional \$4,000 to condition several areas of the building for better heat efficiency. Aldersgate sent a check for \$1,000

right away from General Benevolence funds and some immediate donations. Emmanuel is appealing to other sources, but additional help is not certain. We regard them as a "sister" church. We have helped them in the past, and they have been a partner with us in the start of our Hispanic ministry. Your gift or check payable to *Aldersgate UMC* and marked for "**Emmanuel Boilers**" will be sent directly to help them in this emergency.

### Expect Relief Efforts in the Philippines to Last a Long Time

The United Methodist Committee on Relief has already approved grants to provide food, water, and water purification tablets to victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The focus is first on Tacloban City, Leyte Province, which was hit hardest. For prompt delivery and restoration of the local economy, the food will be purchased as close to the disaster sites as possible. Immediate assistance will also be given to local churches and groups in providing disaster relief. The Philippines is one of the countries of the world where The United Methodist Church is growing most rapidly; so there are already missionaries and local UM members on the ground there. If you would like to support UMCOR in this disaster relief effort, your gift or check should be payable to *Aldersgate UMC* with the notation "**Philippines Relief.**"

### Human Relations Day, January 19

Human Relations Day is an opportunity to celebrate our United Methodist connections. The special offering this Sunday supports Community Developers, UM Voluntary Service, and the Youth Offender Rehabilitation Program. Individually our impact may be limited, but through our United Methodist connections we can change lives! Please be generous.

### Thank You!

A big "Thank You" to Ray Poling for all his work over the past few years replacing the many fluorescent light fixture ballasts that have burned out or weakened in our facilities. Thanks, Ray! You keep us in the light!

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# Christmas Season Events & Opportunities

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## White Gifts Christmas Program

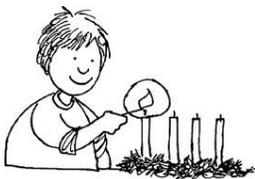
Helping Needy Families for 43 Years  
**Help Make a Difference!**

The Aldersgate tradition of providing Christmas dinner and gifts for needy families continues this year. We intend to provide help to at least 16 families. We need family sponsors as well as monetary donations. Volunteers are also needed to shop, wrap, organize and deliver all the groceries and gifts. Please consider helping with this important holiday ministry.

Contact Jan or Tracy Winter at church or by phone (225-4927) for more information and to volunteer in this very rewarding venture as soon as possible. You may also email Jan at: [jwinter@frontiernet.net](mailto:jwinter@frontiernet.net).

## Advent Devotionals

This year's Advent devotional, "*Living the Gospel Life*," will be available to start reading after Thanksgiving and will be located in the Gathering space.



The children will receive their special Advent devotional in Sunday school.

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## Called to Be Faithful Campaign Results

Thank you for your faithful responses to our annual fall finance campaign to underwrite our ongoing ministries at Aldersgate in 2014. As of November 10, we have received 78 pledges totaling \$195,495. If you have not already made a pledge, it is not too late. There are additional pledge cards on the ushers' table just inside the sanctuary doors. They are also available throughout the year from the church office.

The members of Aldersgate do not make pledges lightly, and the Finance Committee knows we can count on those that are made. We do make projections of income

## For Those Facing a Difficult Christmas

A special video titled, "*Getting through the Holidays*" will be shown at the Grief Share meeting at 11:00 a.m. **December 7**. If you or someone you know has experienced a major loss, you are welcome!

**"Blue Christmas" Service:** Blue? Yes, blue as in the blues. As in "I am feeling blue." Not everyone is up and cheery for Christmas. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future, and a number of other human situations make parties and joviality painful for many people.

There is a growing attentiveness to the needs of people who are blue at Christmas. Increasing numbers of churches are creating sacred space for people living through dark times. Such services are reflective, accepting where we really are, and holding out healing and hope.

Here at Aldersgate, we will have such a service of healing and hope on Saturday, **December 14 at 11:00 a.m.** in the Chapel. If you are "hurting" or know of others who would find such a service helpful – come. All are welcome!

## Christmas Cantata, December 22

Come hear this year's cantata, "*Mary, Did You Know?*" performed on Sunday, December



from other sources, such as giving from those who don't pledge, rental income, and the loose offering in the plate, but we can plan with more confidence when we have reasonable certainty that the financial support is available. Right now projections of income fall around \$50,000 short of anticipated expenses over the course of the year. That's why your pledge is important!

We do realize that sometimes circumstances change for our members in the course of the year. You may also raise or reduce your pledge during the year. Ultimately, your commitment is between you and the Lord. We thank you, but it is His work you are supporting.

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## Church Events & Opportunities

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### Three Kings' Day Celebration: 'El Día De Los Reyes' — January 5

For many Christians, the holiday season doesn't officially end until the 12th day of Christmas known as the "Feast of the Epiphany" or "Three Kings' Day."

The holiday falls annually on January 6 and marks the Biblical adoration of baby Jesus by the three Kings, also referred to as Wise Men or Magi. According to the Gospel of Matthew, the men found the divine child by following the Star to Bethlehem. The Hispanic people had named the three kings as Melchior, Caspar, and Balthazar – representing Europe, Arabia, and Africa respectively – who travelled in order to give baby Jesus presents.

Los Reyes festivities come in different shapes and sizes across the globe from community parades to three-day celebrations at Disneyland. Others simply make the holiday by having the kids leave out notes and candy for the Wise Men and water for their camels and wait for "Los Reyes" to leave gifts on that day.

Here in Aldersgate, the Hispanic Ministry will be celebrating that tradition on January 5<sup>th</sup>. After our worship service, we all will gather, share a dinner, and will give presents -that we had collected from our members to our kids and as well as some community kids.

Aldersgate Hispanic Ministry invites you to be a part and to celebrate our tradition with us on that day.

Grace and peace to you,

*Hector*

### SAVE THE DATE

#### ALDERSGATE'S ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

February 1, 2014

4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Enter the contest or come and taste the Chili for \$2.00 and vote for your favorite Chili.

Bowls of Chili will be available after the voting for \$5.00.

Cooks please sign up on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

**\*SPECIAL\***

We will also have a Silent Auction of baked goods.

Everyone is invited for

### Saturday Game Nights

on

December 21 & January 18 at 6:00 p.m.

in Rooms 3 & 4

Featuring card games and board games.

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### Responses to "Calling Cards"

During the recent finance campaign, we asked you to let us know how you were responding to the "Call To Be Faithful." The question was interpreted in different ways, but here is what some of you told us:

- Became a cheerful tither from reluctant giver
- Become more compassionate
- Become more open to God's will (vs. my will)
- Welcome faith as a journey with God's constant presence rather than a destination
- By answering prayers when I was doubting
- God changed my heart as a young supervisor to be more compassionate to my charges needs, and to be merciful when in a position to judge
- Every day I learn to listen to God!!
- God has changed my heart by showing me how important he is in my life. (I am nothing without him.) I have learned he is first in my life and he continues to help me keep the faith and believe in him, feeling his love and holy spirit, his presence everyday enjoying life with him!
- While being bullied as a teen, if Jesus didn't appear to me I wouldn't be alive today but dead. He saved my spirit and life.
- Encouraging my friends and especially family to find a faith community church
- Reaching out to and serving our immediate community

Date	Topic	Activity
December 1	A Child Is Born	Isaiah Ornament
December 8	A Message to Mary	Muffin-Liner and Doily Angel
December 15	A Message to Joseph	Joseph's Toolbox
December 22	Happy Birthday Jesus!	Happy Birthday Jesus Party!!
December 29	"Why Christmas Trees Aren't Perfect"	Reading the story "Why Christmas Trees Aren't Perfect" and making a Felt Christmas Tree Pencil

## December Lessons

As we head into the Christmas Season we are excited to be learning and growing in our relationship with Jesus Christ as we celebrate His birth during our Sunday School Classes. We will be basing our learning on the scripture "She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger." Luke 2:7.

## Christmas Eve Play & Liturgical Dance

Practices for our **Christmas Eve 5:00 p.m. Service Play** will begin soon in the Sanctuary! Below is the play practice schedule.

Date	Time
Friday, December 6	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 13	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 20	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 23	6:00-7:00 p.m.

Practices for **The Liturgical Dance** to Silent Night will begin Sunday, December 1st in Room 8.

Date	Time
Sunday, December 1	10:30-11:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 8	10:30-11:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 15	10:30-11:00 a.m.
Sunday, December 22	10:30-11:00 a.m.

## Confirmation Class Celebration, Dec. 15

The Confirmation class will read the scripture lesson and light the Advent wreath during the 9:30 Worship service on December 15. Afterwards, they will meet their new mentors from the church and have a Christmas celebration in Room 2.

## Happy Birthday Jesus Party, Dec. 22

**"It's going to be BIG...It's going to be BRIGHT!"** We are having a Happy Birthday Jesus party in Sunday school on December 22 during both worship services. Cake and punch will be served. In the spirit of Christmas, we also ask each child to bring a special gift for Jesus. It might be canned/nonperishable food for our Greece Food Shelf or a new (gently used) children's book to donate in our White Gifts or community dinner programs.

We will also watch the brand new Veggie Tale movie titled, "Merry Larry and the True Light of Christmas." This movie is about a little girl with a big heart who changes everything when she shows the people at Spring Valley Mall what Christmas is all about.

## Family Christmas Eve Service at 5:00 p.m.

The December 24 Family Service is geared toward children and will be led by the contemporary team. The children are putting on a play titled, "The Grumpy Shepherd." If your child would like to participate, please let Rhonda or Julia know or call the church office (663-3665). Practices begin on December 6<sup>th</sup> (see schedule at left).

Date	Topic	Activity
January 5	The Wise Men- Epiphany	Star Mobiles
January 12	Jesus at the Temple	Jesus Matching Game
January 19	Jesus' Baptism	What is Baptism? Painting with Straws
January 26	Jesus in the Synagogue	Paper-Towel-Tube Scroll Holder

On December 29, the children will listen to a very special story titled: *"Why Christmas Trees aren't Perfect"* by Richard H. Schneider. They will also craft an original Christmas tree pencil.

### January Lessons

January's Sunday School lessons will come from the unit *"The Life of Jesus"* based on the scripture "Jesus matured in wisdom and years, and in favor with God and with people." Luke 2:52. We will learn through activities where the children will hear, understand and experience Bible stories, be encouraged to apply the stories to their lives, and to serve others in their own church and community.



### Celebrate Snowflakes, January 18

Our very first **Snowflake Saturday Event** will be held on January 18th from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in the Ide Center.

We will be learning about how God Loves Us Snow Much through snowflake crafts, a snowflake science experiment, decorating snowflake cookies, snacks, and hot cocoa with recreational time at the end! Look in future bulletins for more information.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### December Birthdays

Rodger Burkhart	December 1
Zuni Garcia-Simons	December 10
Maria Stanley	December 10
Samantha Christie	December 11
Linda Uebelacker	December 13
Shannon Forbes	December 16
Nora Spindler-Miller	December 18
Katie O'Connor	December 20
Stephanie Bock	December 22
John Sobus	December 24
Cindy Roza	December 24
Noel Anderson	December 25
Carol Pearson	December 25
Kathy Savage	December 25
Andy Deutsch	December 27
Fran VanKouwenberg	Dec. 27

Daniel Savage	December 28
Leslie Edgcomb	December 30
Bobbie Eckert	December 31

### December Anniversaries

Brenda & Rick Donovan	Dec. 3
Chris & Cori Loudon	Dec. 8
Terry & Nancy Young	Dec. 13
Harry & Roxanna Muthersbaugh	Dec. 22
Ed & Shirley Geier	Dec. 26
Nancy & Ken Rex	Dec. 28

### January Birthdays

Brenda Donovan	January 1
Brian Jones	January 1

Christine Rice	January 3
Barb Draft	January 4
Carole Jermyn	January 8
John Grizzanti	January 9
Wilma Shaughnessy	January 11
Joseph Michaloski	January 19
Jan Rothfuss	January 19
Rich Keller	January 19
Len Mack	January 20
Holly Deutsch	January 20
Sara VanKouwenberg	January 23
Roger Forbes	January 27
Nancy Jones	January 31
Kim Latragna	January 31

### January Anniversaries

Bill & Wendy Peeck	Jan. 3
Don & Nichole Ruggles	Jan. 30

## Our Church Staff

### Anne O'Connor

Pastor

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### Gerald A. Wolter

Pastor of Visitation & Membership Care

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### Jennifer Min-Young Lee

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### Lea McQuown, Custodian

Evelyn Welker, Housekeeper

Robin Fox, Nursery Attendant

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## Serving in Worship in Dec. & Jan.

### Ushers

- |       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
|       | <b>9:30 AM</b>  | <b>11:00 AM</b>                                   |
| 12/1  | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Hal & Scott Wagner   | Tom & Zuni Simons,<br>Terry & Nancy Young         |
| 12/8  | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Susan DeVincentis,<br>Evelyn Welker  | Nancy Bader, Karen Best,<br>Betty Hild, Mary Sims |
| 12/15 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Ray Poling, Shawna Bigler  | Dean & Jackie Hogestyn,<br>Gary & Denise Hogestyn |
| 12/22 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Rich & Bobbi Mohrmann  | Tony & Carolyn Gilson,<br>Eric & Kim Lindenau     |
| 12/24 | 5:00 p.m. Gordon, Sue, Mike & Nick Spicer<br>7:30 p.m. Al & Myrt Holmes, Ray & Bob LaFlair, Larry VanAllen<br>11:00 p.m. Naomi Moss, Tom Simons |   |

- |       |   |  |
|-------|---|--|
| 12/29 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Larry VanAllen, Naomi Moss | Bud & Carol Kress,<br>Nancy Bader, Ray LaFlair |
|-------|---|--|

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
|      | <b>9:30 AM</b>   | <b>11:00 AM</b>                                   |
| 1/5  | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Hal & Scott Wagner                  | Tom & Zuni Simons,<br>Terry & Nancy Young         |
| 1/12 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Susan DeVincentis,<br>Evelyn Welker | Nancy Bader, Karen Best,<br>Betty Hild, Mary Sims |
| 1/19 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Larry VanAllen, Naomi Moss          | Dean & Jackie Hogestyn,<br>Gary & Denise Hogestyn |
| 1/26 | Al & Myrt Holmes,<br>Ray Poling, Shawna Bigler           | Tony & Carolyn Gilson,<br>Eric & Kim Lindenau     |

### Acolytes (11:00 AM)

- |       |                                 |      |                                 |
|-------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| 12/1  | Michelle Maggio, Marie Sims     | 1/5  | Zachary Farrell, Elijah Tyler   |
| 12/8  | Stephen Samuel, Zachary Farrell | 1/12 | Matthew Thomson, Marie Sims     |
| 12/15 | Natalie Bock, Emma Bock         | 1/19 | Natalie Bock, Emma Bock         |
| 12/22 | Chase Tyler, Max Tyler          | 1/26 | Stephen Samuel, Michelle Maggio |
| 12/29 | Usher                           |      |                                 |

### Scripture Readers

- |       |                    |                    |
|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
|       | <b>9:30 AM</b>     | <b>11:00 AM</b>    |
| 12/1  |                    | Nancy Young        |
| 12/8  | Susan DeVincentis  | Wilma Shaughnessy  |
| 12/15 | Sara McHugh        | Kathy Peck         |
| 12/22 | Bobbi Mohrmann     | Sue Accapezzato    |
| 12/29 | Kathy Bernardi     | Confirmation Class |
|       | <b>9:30 AM</b>     | <b>11:00 AM</b>    |
| 1/5   | Confirmation Class | Nancy Young        |
| 1/12  | Scott Wagner       | Annette Thompson   |
| 1/19  | Dave Roza          | Melissa Powell     |
| 1/26  | Cory Loudon        | Confirmation Class |



**Aldersgate United Methodist Church**

**www.aumcgreece.org**

4115 Dewey Avenue

Rochester, NY 14616

Non-Profit Org.

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## **Unexpected Building Repairs Cause Unexpected Bills**

We all enjoy the beautiful building and rooms in which we worship, meet, and enjoy so many gatherings and activities. This past summer, however, we had to make emergency repairs to the elevator, damaged during an electrical storm, and to the heating and air conditioning system. Preventive maintenance has also been done to keep this from happening again and to ensure that everything else is running smoothly.

While insurance did help pay for part of the elevator repairs, all these unexpected expenses have put a strain on paying our usual bills. Please keep the church in your prayers as we get through the end of the year. Any gifts or extra donations for "Building Maintenance" are most welcome!

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# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## **All Church Advent Celebration**

**Sunday, December 1**

**12:15 - 2:30 p.m.**

**Lunch:** Bring a dish to pass

**Contemporary Worship Band** playing with great music!

**Family Activities:** Make a family Advent Wreath, Christmas Cards & Wrapping Paper, Clove-scented Pomander Ball, Colorful Loom Bandz, & Christmas Glitter Ornament

**Basketball** in the Ide Center after lunch

**Sign Up Today!**



# December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>1</b> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 12:15 PM Advent Festival Potluck (Ide, K) 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p><b>2</b> Aldersgate at Ruby Tuesdays 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p><b>3</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 6:15 PM Boy Scouts (8) 7:00 PM SPRC (3/4)</p>	<p><b>4</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 11:00 AM Career Navigator Group (3/4) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)</p>	<p><b>5</b> 1:00 PM Reading Circle (L) 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Stewardship (L)</p>	<p><b>6</b> 1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p><b>7</b> 11:00 AM Grief Share (P)</p>
<p><b>8</b> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 1:30 PM American Music Recital (S, G) 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N)</p>	<p><b>9</b> 1:00 PM Sew n Sew's (1) 6:00 PM Trustees (O) 6:00 PM Girl Scouts (3/4) 6:00 PM Staff Meeting (L) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM ACWT (S)</p>	<p><b>10</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (2) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P) 7:00 PM Stress Class (8)</p>	<p><b>11</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 11:00 AM Career Navigator Group (3/4) 10:00 AM—2:00 PM Hispanic Pastors(3/4) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)</p>	<p><b>12</b> 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Finance (4)</p>	<p><b>13</b> 1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p><b>14</b> 11:00 AM Blue Christmas Service (C)</p>
<p><b>15</b> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p><b>16</b> 7:00 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)</p>	<p><b>17</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 11:00 AM Morning Circle (Ide) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Ide) 7:30 PM Investment Club (O)</p>	<p><b>18</b> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 11:00 AM Career Navigator Group (3/4) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)</p>	<p><b>19</b> 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:00 PM Ch. Council (4)</p>	<p><b>20</b> 1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p><b>21</b> 11:00 AM—1:00 PM Cantata Rehearsal (S) 6:00 PM Game Night (3/4)</p>
<p><b>22</b> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship—Cantata 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship—Cantata 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N)</p>	<p><b>23</b> 7:00 PM ACWT (S)</p>	<p><b>24</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (S) 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Service (S) 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Service (S)</p>	<p><b>25</b> <i>Christmas Day</i></p>	<p><b>26</b> 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)</p>	<p><b>27</b> 1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)</p>	<p><b>28</b> 4:00—6:00 PM Community Dinner (Ide, K)</p>
<p><b>29</b> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N)</p>	<p><b>30</b> 7:00 PM ACWT (S)</p>	<p><b>31</b> 9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2)</p>		<p><b>AA MEETINGS (FH)</b> Daily (except Sun.) 7:30 AM Sunday 7:00 AM. Sunday 7:30 PM (3/4) Monday 7:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM Thursday (Women) 7:30 PM</p>	<p><b>ALANON</b> Monday 7:00 PM (8) <b>GAM-ANON</b> Friday 7:00 PM (2) <b>GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS</b> Friday 7:00 PM (3/4)</p>	

# January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>AA MEETINGS (FH)</b> Daily (except Sun.) 7:30 AM Sunday 7:00 AM. Sunday 7:30 PM (3/4) Monday 7:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM Thursday (Women) 7:30 PM	<b>ALANON</b> Monday 7:00 PM (8)  <b>GAM-ANON</b> Friday 7:00 PM (2)  <b>GAMBLER'S ANONYMOUS</b> Friday 7:00 PM (3/4)	<i>1</i>  <b>New Year's Day</b>	<i>2</i>  1:00 PM Reading Circle (L) 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Stewardship (L)	<i>3</i>  1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)	<i>4</i>  11:00 AM Grief Share (P)	
<i>5</i> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship—3 Kings Day (C, N, FH) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	<i>6</i>  Aldersgate at Ruby Tuesdays 6:30 PM Boy Scouts ( ) 6:30 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	<i>7</i>  9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:15 PM Boy Scouts (8) 7:00 PM Stress Class (2)	<i>8</i>  10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)	<i>9</i>  7:30 AM Dewey Ave. Round Table (3/4) 5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P) 7:30 PM Finance (4)	<i>10</i>  1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)	<i>11</i>  11:00 AM Grief Share (P)
<i>12</i> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N)	<i>13</i>  1:00 PM Sew n Sew's (1) 6:00 PM Trustees (O) 6:00 PM Girl Scouts (3/4) 6:00 PM Staff Meeting (L) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 6:30 PM ACWT (S)	<i>14</i>  9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (2) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	<i>15</i> 10:30 AM Exercise (Ide)  12:00 PM Men's Lunch at Ezzy's 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)	<i>16</i>  5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	<i>17</i>  1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)	<i>18</i>  11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 2:00—4:00 PM Snowflake Saturday (Ide, K) 6:00 PM Game Night (3/4)
<i>19</i> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N) 6:30 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	<i>20</i>  6:30 PM ACWT (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P)	<i>21</i>  9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 11:00 AM Morning Circle (Ide) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 6:30 PM Boy Scouts (8)	<i>22</i>  10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)	<i>23</i>  5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 6:00 PM Contemporary Worship Enhancement Team (O) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (2) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	<i>24</i>  1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)	<i>25</i>  11:00 AM Grief Share (P) 4:00—6:00 PM Community Dinner (Ide, K)
<i>26</i> 8-8:30AM Prayer Meeting (P) 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 9:45 AM Children's Sunday School 10:45 AM High School Sunday School (2) 11:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School (P) 11:15 AM Children's Sunday School 3:00 PM Hispanic Worship (C, N)	<i>27</i>  6:00 PM Girl Scouts (3/4) 7:00 PM ACWT (S)	<i>28</i>  9:00 AM—2:00 PM Library Work Time (L) 9:45 AM Sm. Group (Caupp) (2) 1:00 PM Sm. Group (Coburn) (2) 6:00 PM Boy Scouts (Ide) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (O'Connor) (P) 7:30 PM Investment Club (O)	<i>29</i>  10:30 AM Exercise (Ide) 5:00 PM Exercise (Ide) 6:30 PM Prayer (8) 7:00 PM Choir (S) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (P) 7:30 PM Hispanic Youth (FH)	<i>30</i>  5:00 PM Bell Choir (G) 7:00 PM Sm. Group (Sisson) (P)	<i>31</i>  1:00 PM Exercise (FH) 6:00 PM LIVE Youth (YR) 7:00 PM Bi Lingual Bible Study (8)	