

Puckety Presbyterian Church
1009 Puckety Church Road
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

(Return Service Requested)

REMINDER:

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.
Zoom/video at pucketychurch.org



Puckety Church

*We are determined to be
the heart, voice, and
hands of God, making a
lasting difference in your
life, our community, and
the world!*

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication



Puckety Presbyterian Church

At Puckety we personally and collectively Honor God, Grow in Faith,
and Improve our Community and World.

March 2025

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Often at our Session meetings, at the end, we ask what “Stories of God” moving have we experienced (“God Sightings”). Well, this last time something immediately came to mind. The Saturday before (2/8), I woke up early to run using the treadmill downstairs. I wanted to get it in early because Wiebke and I had plans to celebrate her birthday. As I got to the bottom of the stairs to the basement, my eyes got wide and I blurted out something like, “Uh oh.” The basement had flooded ... significantly (*over an inch deep for most of the room, close to 2” in some places*). As I started wondering if it was from the rain or snow-melt, or “something else” I told Wiebke there was a ‘change of plans’ – instead of a “leg day” it was going to be an “arm day” – a failed attempt at levity. I started using a small (5 gallon) shop vac. It wasn't gonna get the job done. She went to get a bigger one (10 gallon because anything bigger would be too tough for me to keep carrying out). Since it was around 7am I didn't want to call anyone quite yet, I sent a text to one of the Upkeep team to let them know. I had planned to do most of the water removal myself, but between 7:30 and 8am, three of the Upkeep Team arrived ready to tackle the issue. Vince had done the necessary contact work to get a plumber (not easy as it was a weekend morning – basically had to go through *4 options*) ... Fran and Tim had both brought shop vacs, and we made quick work of the rest of the water (between 90 & 100 gallons all told – maybe more - *no exaggeration*). The plumber arrived around 9ish and they and our Upkeep team executed the immediate action of clearing the pipes and started steps toward a long-term solution.

Of course, after that the floor and surfaces needed sanitized and properly cleaned. Wiebke and I worked as a great team to get that done. This is the short version. What I want you to glean is that I saw God in it from the time I discovered the problem (it dawned on me that I found it quickly – on a run day instead of Monday morning – God helped me find it in good time) ... to the amazing response time of multiple members of the Upkeep Team, along with their sincere and servant-heart attitudes ... God cared for us by helping to take care of the crisis. Sure, there was more things to follow up on, but this is the kind of thing you can see God working in ... even through the frustratingly mundane things.

As Lent begins, I think of parts of Jesus' story – like at his last Supper (**John 13:1-17**) – definitely a ‘time of crisis’ for Jesus, but instead of focusing on his trouble, he took off his outer garment, wrapped a towel around himself, got a basin and “got to work” – washing their feet. At the end of the powerful demonstration, he used it to impress on them how they were now “clean” - spiritually cleansed by his work. When things go from “soiled” to “clean” it's not hard to find Jesus in those places. If you know about their ancient social norms, foot-washing was considered just as “icky” as what the Upkeep team and we had to do – it was the most menial task – reserved for the slave of the slave. Thing is, Jesus didn't *need* to do it; he *chose* to. Afterward he told them he had given them (us) an example (but of course it was WAY more than an example). So, now, when people “know we are Christians by our love” – particularly in acts of humble helpfulness – we can see Christ. And I did. I saw Christ in *Fran and Vince* and *Tim and Wiebke* (and *others* as the process continues). Where have you seen Christ of late? And finally ask, “How can I live in the coming days in such a way, that others may see Christ in me?” - *Pastor Brian*

Remember to check Puckety's website and social media!

Website: www.pucketychurch.org Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church
Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church Follow us on X (formerly Twitter): @churchpuckety



There are different ways to give to the mission of the church. If you choose to give electronically, click the button on our website or you can also make it even easier by using the Vanco Faith App! (*search Vanco App in the App Store or Google Play*). When you search for our church, put in "Puckety Presbyterian Church" For more information on how to use Vanco Faith click the link on pucketychurch.org. Thank you for your generosity!



The Puckety Praise Team is actively seeking out a drummer to play for Sunday morning services and Thursday evening rehearsals! They are also wanting to open themselves to any guitarists, vocalists, or any other musician who wants to dedicate their talents to the Lord. Come join us Thursday evening at 6:00pm in the Sanctuary if you or someone you know might be interested – please see Pastor Brian, Jesse O, or any member of the Puckety Praise Team for more info.

A Devotional for You Read Matthew 4:18-22 & 13:44-46

As we begin this season of Lent, let me share an excerpt from Dietrich Bonhoeffer's great work, *The Cost of Discipleship* (an excellent book to read for the 6 weeks of Lent. This is from the first chapter about "Costly Grace" – which is the kind he thinks the gospel offers:

"Cheap grace is the grace we bestow on ourselves. Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church fellowship & discipline, Communion without true confession. Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross ... Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will gladly go and sell all that he has. It is the pear of great price to buy which the merchant will sell all his goods. It is the kingly rule of Christ ... it is the call of Jesus at which the disciple leaves his nets and follows him. Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again, a gift to be sure, but also the door at which a man must *knock*. Such grace is *costly* because it calls us to follow, and it is *grace* because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ ... It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son ... and what has cost God so much cannot be cheap for us ... Costly grace is the Incarnation of God" (*The Cost of Discipleship*, p. 43-44). Therefore, let us never treat it casually, like something we would throw to the dogs.

Costly grace confronts us not with a blanket band-aid "that makes everything better" – it's a call to follow Jesus – it's grace because it's the only Way to true Life. Grace isn't earned (by it's very definition it's unmerited favor from God); however, in the form we find in Christ, grace is costly because it compels a person to submit to the yoke of Jesus and follow him. But remember, it's grace because, as Jesus says: "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Why? As someone once said, because he takes the side of heavy lifting. Nevertheless, discipleship is a journey that takes faith (not a single decision). Lent is a season for the purpose of reminding us of this – the ongoing nature of this walk, on a path that is not always clear, and yet it is blazed by the most trustworthy Pioneer of all. He began that trail with 40 days being tempted (*and triumphing*) for us in the desert (Matt. 4). Let's join together in 40 days of repentance and renewal.

Pastor Brian

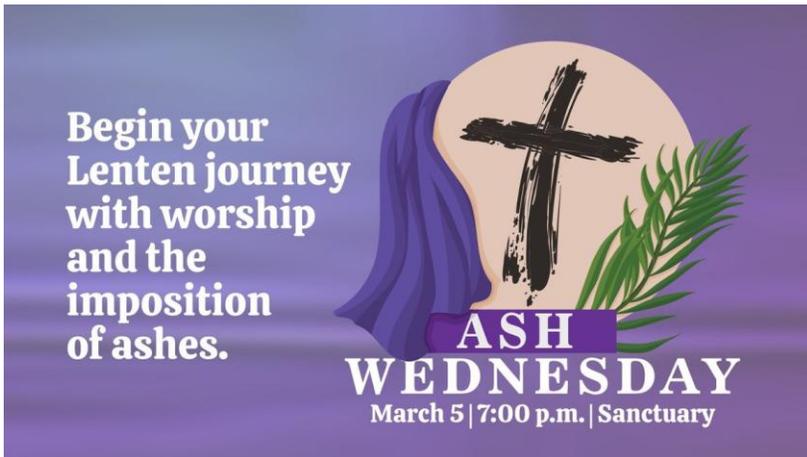


The Fellowship and Care Team will be holding a **Coffee Hour** on **March 16th** in **Faith Hall** following service. This gives us time to sit and converse with fellow church members, instead of a "How ya doin'?" in passing. Please join us for this gathering time.

Ordering for the **Annual Soup Sale** has passed. Fellowship and Care Team will be making your soup on **March 8**, which is the pickup date for your orders. If you placed your order, you can **pick up your soup at 4:00 in Faith Hall**. Cost of each soup is \$7. Please be prompt, as we have been there all day.



Meals 4 Children Food Packing has begun! If you would like to help with this ministry please reach out to Pastor Brian or Matt Wehrle.



The **March Ladies Lunch is on March 30.**

Since we are not meeting before this posting, I am scheduling Pizza Hut for this lunch. We will meet in Hope Hall by the display case, after service, and all (sort of) travel over together. Contact Denise Wehrle with any questions or if you need a ride.

Sunday Women's Bible Study:

As we continue to watch and discuss The Chosen season 4 we are adjusting our schedule for March. We will be meeting every Sunday in March EXCEPT the 30th so we can all enjoy Ladies Lunch out that day.

- March 2nd Episode 4
- March 9th Episode 5
- March 16th Episode 6
- March 23rd Episode 7



- 02 Maria Schafer
- 05 Alice Knopfel
- 09 Chari Burtner
- 16 Mick Dober
- 23 Beth Dober
- 30 Vince Appleman

Your Deacons:

- Sandra Ankney
- Pat Fish
- John McAllister
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Mira Whalen
- Kim Soulcheck
- Sandy Appleman
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Bruce Sproull
- Vicky Eckman

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Chuck West
- Vice-Pres.:** Maria Schafer
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky

DON'T FORGET!!!
ALL SOUPS NEED PICKED UP IN FAITH HALL ON MARCH 8TH AT 4:00PM.

Offering Counters:

- 02: Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
- 09: Chuck & Judy West
- 16: Jolene Kostelansky & Sophia Earhart or Matt Wehrle
- 23: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 30: Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky

Your Session:
 Deb Artman – Clerk
 Jolene Kostelansky
 Mick Dober
 Kelly Kapelewski
 Marilyn Crumley
 Helen Crissman
 Maria Schafer
 Sandy Schafer
 Chuck West
 Matt Wehrle



Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

Bookkeeper:

Debra Artman

Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

Music Ministry Specialist:

Jesse Oddis

Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:

Judy West

PRAYER REQUESTS!

If you are not on our prayer chain, please consider signing up for it. It only takes a minute to lift someone who may need your prayers! Call or email the office. We have an email prayer chain as well as a phone call prayer chain.

ATTENTION ALL SESSION MEMBERS, DEACONS, AND TEAM LEADERS:



Please be sure to check your mail slots in the metal cabinet at the top of the stairs often. You may receive correspondence or announcements that need your attention in a timely manner!



Pastor Brian and the Puckety Church Youth Group could use some more adult volunteers! To learn more about this awesome opportunity to help minister to our group of over 20 Youth Group members, please contact Pastor Brian. He would be glad to answer any of your questions or sign you up to help!



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

March 2:

Exodus 34:29-35
 Psalm 99
 2 Cor 3:12-4:2
 Luke 9:28-36

March 9:

Deut 26:1-11
 Psalm 91:1-2,9-18
 Romans 10:8b-23
 Luke 4:1-13

March 16:

Gen 15:1-12, 17-18
 Psalm 27
 Phil 3:17-4:1
 Luke 13:31-35

March 23:

Isaiah 55:1-9
 Psalm 63:1-8
 1 Cor 10:1-13
 Luke 13:1-9

March 30

Josh 5:9-12
 Psalm 32
 2 Cor 5:16-21
 Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32



Pastor Brian would like to extend an invitation to anyone who may be interested in joining his Wednesday evening small group from 6:30 to 8:00 pm each week starting April 23rd The Chosen Season 4. You will need to have a way to watch the

episodes on your own the week before each meeting. If you have a friend who isn't really connected to a church home, it's a great thing to invite someone to. It's a powerful season, so we hope you can join them. Feel free to contact Pastor Brian with any questions or if you would like to join his group.

Please consider joining any of our Ministry Teams here at Puckety Church in 2025!

- Outreach – Matt Wehrle
- Discipleship – Chari Burtner
- Praise Team (Band) – Jesse Oddis
- Choir – Lorraine Menk
- Fellowship and Care – Charlene McKay
- Worship – Jennifer McKay
- Upkeep – Vince Appleman
- AV Team – Wiebke Kilbert
- Youth Group Volunteers – Pastor Brian Kilbert
- Pulpit Assistants – Kelly Kapelewski

Origins: What does an evening of volunteering at Origins really look like? It starts at 5:00 Pm when all the volunteers meet together at Origins and get checked in. Then we are told what they need our help with. Usually it means sorting and organizing the bins. That means pulling a tote off the shelf, verifying that the clothing is in the right bin by checking size, type, season and gender. We put everything back into the bin in an orderly fashion and then take

it back to the shelf to grab another one. We look for items that are not in the right bin and put them in the right bins, pitch anything that is torn or dirty and make the bin look presentable for the next client to come and find clothing for their baby. We work together as a group so if lifting the totes is too much someone is always there to get them back where they belong. While we sort we chit chat and get to know the other members of our church. We find out that the face that we see sitting in the back pew shares interests or life experiences with us. We interact with clients as they come in, engaging with their children as we feel comfortable, help them find the bins they are looking for and are additional warm and welcoming faces. If you can't stand for long there are chairs and lower counters to work from. This is such an easy way to be the hands and feet of Christ to our community. Please consider signing up on the main bulletin board in the hallway so we have full teams each month. The volunteers for Tuesday March 11th are: Irene Nelson, John and Brenda McAllister.



- 2 Irene Nelson
- 3 Sophia Earhart
- 5 Richard Duncan
- 6 Melissa Baronie
- 7 Ben Johnston
- 9 Myrna Zellefrow
- 10 Helen Crissman
- 14 Jason Schwartz
- 21 Lisa Wilson
- 22 Zachery Schafer
- 29 Tim Eckman
- 30 Trevor Hazlett
- Sue Jamison
- Mark Cosentino

Youth Group

Youth group has been wonderful. We've had half a dozen new kids over the last month. But it's getting crazy – one Sunday we had 25 kids! Suffice it to say – we could use more adult volunteers, particularly if you're willing to help lead games or Bible study discussion once a quarter – please let Brian know. We had 17 for our Super Bowl Party on 2/9, watching the game on the big screen and lots of table activities. On Feb. 16th, for President's Day we had a special relay where we donned stovepipe hats and used our pipes (blowing noisemakers) to great amusement. On March 2nd, twenty of us will support the AVAC *Bowling for Blessings* Fundraiser (we filled up the 4 lane maximum) and we'll be going to Las Hachas on 3/23 and go see *The Chosen: The Last Supper* (Part 1) on 3/30. Please pray for this ministry, for the leaders, the students to grow closer to Christ, and for opportunities for the kids this spring to live out their faith.



Mark your calendars!!

Ash Wednesday – *March 5th* – we will have our evening Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 PM – please invite family, friends, or neighbors to join us as we begin our Lenten journey.

Election of Officers – *March 9th* – we will have the Congregational Meeting for the Election of Officers and Nominating Committee on Sunday 3/9 immediately after worship. All members are asked to attend.

March 30th - **Installation of Officers** during Morning Worship

Palm Sunday Profession of Faith – *April 13th* – our Confirmation Class along with De'Var Lakshmanan are scheduled to share their statements of faith and become active members of Puckety Church through public profession of discipleship to Christ on 4/13 during the 10 AM Morning Worship. Then there will be a Pie Social to celebrate in Faith Hall after worship. Join us as we affirm them and welcome them into the Body of Christ!

April 17th - **Maundy Thursday Communion Service** (7:00 PM)

April 20th - **EASTER**: Sunrise Service at 7:00 AM at Cemetery (*please bring your own chair and blanket!*) and Morning Service at 10:00 AM

Get Ready for Vacation Bible School 2025

We're thrilled to announce that **Vacation Bible School (VBS) is happening June 16-20, 2025!** This year's theme is "True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World." Kids will embark on an adventure learning how to navigate life's challenges by keeping their eyes on Jesus, our ultimate guide. **Online registration will be available soon!**

How You Can Help

To make this a successful event, **we need volunteers!** There are a variety of ways to serve, including:

- **Crew Leaders** – Guide a small group of kids through the evening's activities.
- **Station Assistants** – Help with crafts, games, Bible stories, and more.
- **VBS Setup & Teardown** – Assist in preparing and cleaning up before and after VBS.

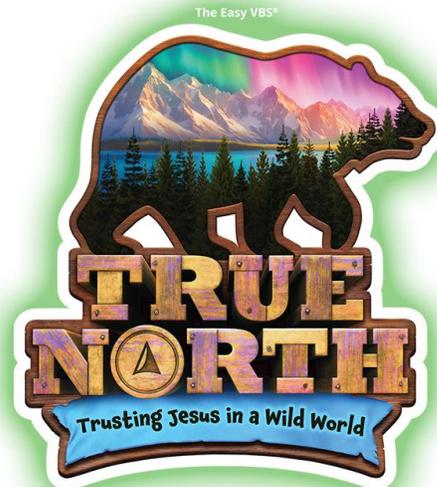
Donations & Supplies Needed

In addition to volunteers, we will need **materials and donations** to help bring VBS to life. A comprehensive list of needed supplies will be available in **April**, and a **food & snack supply list will be published in May**.

Prayers Needed

Above all, we ask for your **prayers** for the leaders, volunteers, children, and their families. Your support through prayer is invaluable as we prepare for an impactful and spirit-filled week.

For any questions, please reach out to **Nate Manges (814-414-5470)** or **Erika Manges (724-351-2527)** by call or text. Let's come together to make this VBS an unforgettable experience.



Life Line Screening will be here at Puckety Presbyterian Church on Thursday, March 13, 2025 offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family and your community, please register for these health screenings today. Please refer to the flyer on the bulletin board to get more info about how you can sign up. There is no time like the present to take action!

- Three ways to register:
- Call toll-free: 1-888-814-0466 promo code HSCA001
 - Online: <https://www.lisa.social/hasca>
 - Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607

There will be a Congregational Meeting after Worship for Election of Officers and Nominating Committee on March 9th.

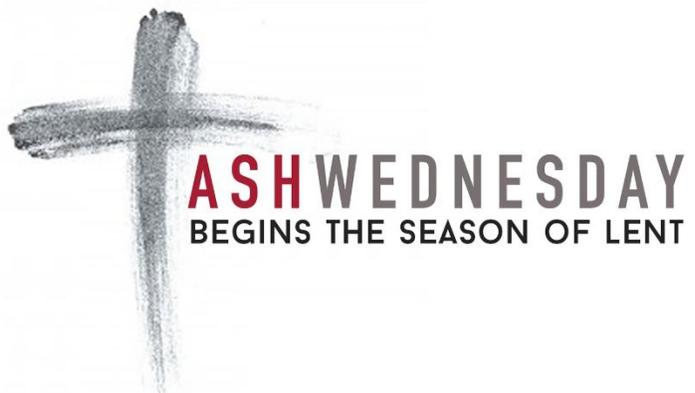
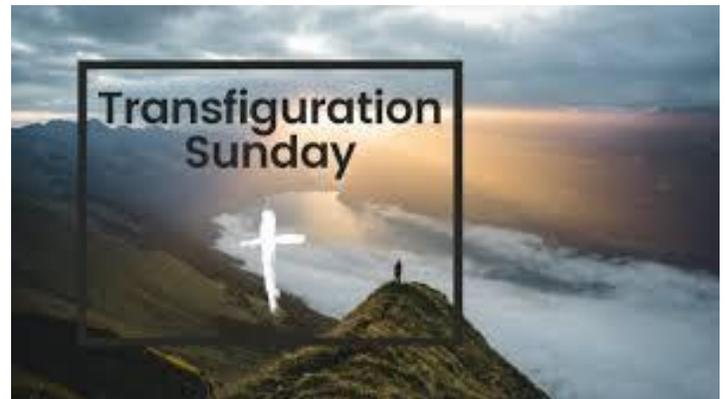
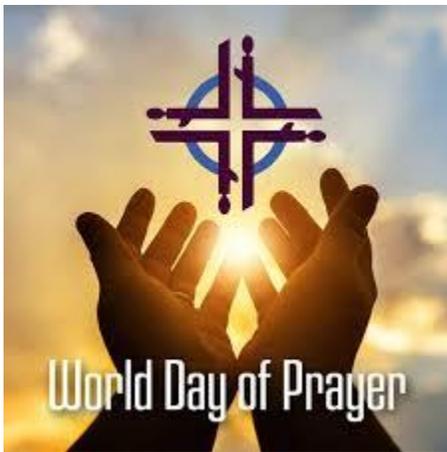
Please plan to stay!



The Deacons are asking for Puckety to help fill their food pantry! They are in need of non-perishable food items to replenish their supply after helping so many with Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes. Please place anything you donate by the metal cabinet in the ramp entrance hallway by the library. If you have any questions, contact Kim Soulcheck, John McAllister or Rodney Schafer. **THANK YOU!**

Looking for a ministry to plug into? Do you enjoy being behind the scenes? The AV sound board may be exactly what you are looking for! Please come back and ask any of the sound techs about the ins and outs of this ministry position. Time commitment is 45 minutes before worship and the hour of worship once a month if we can get a fourth person to volunteer. All training and equipment is provided.

Date	Presentation Creation	Presenter	Sound	Zoom host
3/2/25	Matt	Matt	Nate	Chari
3/5/25	NA	NA		Chari
3/9/25	Sandra	Sandra	Zach	Wiebke
3/16/25	Beth	Beth	Nate	Chari
3/23/25	Jenn	Joyce	Rodney	Chari
3/30/25	Wiebke	Wiebke	Zach	Chari



March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1	
2 Youth Group Bowling 8:30am Communion Class 10:00am Worship 11:30am Women's Bible Study 	3 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	4 2:00pm On The Move 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	5 Meals on Wheels 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 52527 7:00pm Worship Service 	6 1:00pm Meals 4 Children Food Packing 2:00pm On The Move 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	7 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 	8 9:00am Soup Sale Prep 4:00pm Soup Sale Pick-Up	
9 8:30am Communion Class 10:00am Worship   11:00am Congregational Meeting 11:30am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	10 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 5:30pm MS Group Meeting 7:00pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	11 2:00pm On The Move 5:00pm Origins Outreach 6:00pm Session Meeting 6:30pm Brownie Troop 20834 8:00pm N.A. meeting	12 Meals on Wheels	13 8:00am Lifeline Screening 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	14 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	15	
16 8:30am Communion Class 10:00am Worship  11:00am Prayer Walking 11:15am Coffee Hour 12:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	17 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting 	18 2:00pm On The Move 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:00pm Worship Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	19 Meals on Wheels 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 52527	20 1:00pm Meals 4 Children Food Packing 2:00pm On The Move 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	21 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	22	
23 Youth Group Axe Throwing 8:30am Communion Class 10:00am Worship  11:30am Women's Bible Study	24 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 12:00pm AA Meeting	25 2:00pm On The Move 6:30pm Brownie Troop 20834 8:00pm N.A. meeting	26 Meals on Wheels	27 2:00pm On The Move 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	28 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	29 10:00am Spang Birthday Party	
30 Ordination and Installation of Officers 8:30am Communion Class 10:00am Worship  2:45pm Youth Group Outing	31 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry 12:00pm AA Meeting						