

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 2024

Post-Scripts
a monthly publication

Pastor's Corner

Ahh March! That means that *Spri ...* Nope, can't say it; I can't give you all false hope when I feel more snow coming (*"Beware the Ides of March!" – I bet it's gonna hit on the 15th*). It might be cold on St. Patrick's Day (*a Sunday this year*). So, the question is: *to kilt or not to kilt?* Guess we'll see. But more seriously, something from Patrick of Ireland has come to mind. I have been feeling *Christ's presence all around me* recently, including with what's going on through Puckety. And if you know Patrick's prayer called the "Breastplate," you know that's what it's about. I'd like to adapt it here from a personal prayer to a kind of *charge & benediction* for all those who seek His presence:

Bind unto yourself today the strong name of the Trinity, the Three in One, and One in Three. Bind to you forever by power of faith, Christ's incarnation, and his death on the cross for your salvation. His bursting from the spiced tomb; his riding up the heavenly way; his victory on the day of doom, bind it to yourself today.

Christ be with you, Christ within you, Christ behind you, Christ before you.

Christ beside you, Christ to win you, Christ to comfort and restore you. Christ beneath you, Christ above you, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger. Christ in hearts of all that love you, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

Bind unto yourself today the strong name of the Trinity, the Three in One, and One in Three, of whom all nature has creation, eternal Father, Spirit, Word. Praise to the Lord of our salvation, salvation is of Christ the Lord. Amen.



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 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!

Congregational Meeting

The annual **Congregational Meeting** for the *Election of Officers* and the 2024-2025 Nominating Committee will be Sunday March 17th. Members are asked to remain after worship to participate in the meeting. NOTE: The service for *Ordination & Installation of Officers* will be the following Sunday – March 24th – on Palm Sunday. Please join us as we celebrate the call of God, and show support to those the Lord has called to lead us.

From the Hearts & Hands of Session

*The **Capital Campaign Team** could fill 3 pages with information to update you, but we'll try to summarize as briefly as we can. The Soup & Sandwich Gathering and Fundraiser was a huge success (continued thanks to the Fellowship & Care team who spent the better part of the weekend preparing the 200+ quarts of soup that was served and sold and the generosity toward other parts of the event). The fundraiser (2/11) raised over \$1,200 profit. Puckety received initial gifts that day close to \$10,000. The following Sunday, we received more large initial gifts. In short, as of 2/25, we have approximately \$33,000 raised toward our goal of \$120,000. First ... it must be said ... God is AMAZING! This feels like the *loaves and fishes*, because only through God's grace, only through the moving of His Spirit, does something like this happen! And we have been able to be a part of it, see it with our eyes, and proclaim how faithful the LORD is in his provision. We thank all who are giving generously in support of this campaign. Of course, we will continue to need monthly giving in addition to our normal giving to the general mission of the church. We are still looking for more pledges for this 5-year project – please use the *Pledge Cards* (with envelopes) in the pew racks and put in the Pledge Card box on the piano (this information is used only by the Financial Secretary). We'd like to encourage all to communicate their pledge by Sunday March 17th.

We will continue to communicate the progress of the campaign each month for the roof, the parking lot, and sign. It's wonderful to see God's **GRACE** – *over our heads, under our feet, and plain to see!* And it's all "paving the way for ministry!"

*The **Outreach Team** would like to remind everyone that at the Coffee Hour hosted by the Fellowship & Care Team on Sun. March 17th after Worship, we will have a representative from TryLife (Family Life Network) – Allie Sedlacek – to give a presentation on activity and opportunities to help at TryLife in Lower Burrell. Please plan to attend, and feel free to prepare a question for her that may help Puckety in our partnership. NOTE: a special "Mother's Day" collection will be promoted in May (final collection date of May 12th) of specific items to help the mother clients of TryLife – "honor your mother by supporting a mom." Reminder: we will collect the last part of the Love Offering for **MUST** (Myanmar Undergraduate School of Theology) on Palm Sunday, **March 24th** – the *One Great Hour of Sharing* envelopes have been dedicated to this collection.

Finally, the Outreach Team would like to invite YOU to be part of Burrell's COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS event at Huston Middle School on Thur. April 11th (4:30 to 7 PM). We're sending a team to represent Puckety, but we would love YOUR help! Not only is it a great way to support our relationship with the school, we also have the opportunity to connect personally with lots of people in the community to give a "face" to Puckety and what we're about. We're given the chance at this event to network, advertise, and communicate the ministries and opportunities at Puckety. If the small group ministry has blessed you, come with a testimony. If you're using RightNow Media and have been blessed, come share your experience. The event will be inside. Please let Matt Wehrle (724-396-6775) or Pastor Brian if you can come for a portion of the event.



- 03 Sophia Earhart
- 10 Alice Knopfel
- 17 Chari Burtner
- 24 Mick Dober
- 28 Beth Dober
- 31 Vince Appleman

Your Deacons:

- Sandra Ankney
- Pat Fish
- John McAllister
- Cecil McCutcheon
- Brandy Roland
- Mira Whalen
- Kim Soulcheck
- Sandy Appleman
- Fran Kapelewski
- Nita Serene
- Brenda McAllister
- Rodney Schafer

Corporate Officers:

- President:** Jennifer McKay
- Vice-Pres.:** Maria Schafer
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky

God & Church Recognition

On Sunday March 24th (Palm Sunday), during the 10:00 Morning Worship, we will recognize 3 of our Scouts (*Jason Schwartz, Jacob Taylor, and Owen Taylor*) on their completion of the **God & Church** program. Congratulations, young men.

Your Session:

- Deb Artman – Clerk
- Jolene Kostelansky
- Jennifer McKay
- Kelly Kapelewski
- Marilyn Crumley
- Helen Crissman
- Maria Schafer
- Sandy Schafer



Pastor:

Reverend Brian Kilbert

Administrative Secretary:

Kelly Kapelewski

Bookkeeper:

Debra Artman

Choir Director:

Lorraine Menk

Organist/Pianist:

Jesse Oddis

Housekeeper:

Irene Nelson

Financial Secretary:

Judy West

Offering counters:

- 03: Deb Artman, Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
- 10: Chuck & Judy West
- 17: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart & Matt Wehrle
- 24: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 31: Janet Karan, Deb Artman & Jolene Kostelansky

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!

The Deacons are in need of donations of any non-perishable food items for the Deacon's Pantry. Place your items outside the metal cabinet beside the library door. THANK YOU!



The Bible readings are from "Book of Common Worship"

March 3:

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Cor 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 10:

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3,17-22
1 Eph 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 17:

Jer 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12
Heb 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

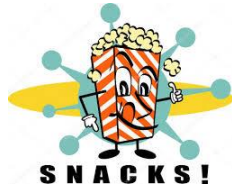
March 24:

Mark 11:1-11
John 12:2-16
Psalm 118:1-2,19-29
Phil 2:5-11

March 31:

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
Isa 25:6-9
Luke 24:13-49

Crafternoon: Life has thrown us a few loops and crazy weather days but we will be meeting on March 10th after worship to craft together. Bring a lunch and the latest project you are working on. This group is open to any crafter and any experience level.



Please help provide youth group snacks!! There is a sign-up sheet in the hallway.



- 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 Jameson
- Mark Cosentino

rightnow MEDIA

A GIFT FROM OUR CHURCH

Free Access to +25,000 Bible Study Videos— Anytime, Anywhere, from Any Device

Scan the QR code to create your free account and start browsing.

android chromecast iPhone & iPad Roku Apple TV firetv

Our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Crystal Clark who passed away on February 17.



Holy Week

We want to encourage all our members, regular visitors, friends and family to please worship with us throughout Holy Week at the various services – try to invite 3 new people to our Holy Week services (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Easter) - not just Easter Sunday.

- *Palm Sunday (March 24th) at 10:00 AM
- *Maundy Thursday (March 28th) at 7:00 PM (Tenebrae with Communion)
- *Easter Son-Rise (March 31st) – sunrise service at 7:00 AM (Puckety Cemetery) NOTE: Bring your own chair and blanket!!!
- *Easter Morning (March 31st) – 10:00 AM

[Reminder to all to please have *all* Easter flower orders in by the March 17th deadline – watch your bulletins]

A devotion for you - Read Mark 1:14-15 & Luke 4:17-21

We're now well into the season of Lent. But each year, this important season begins with one word – a word found in several of the texts in the Gospels and Epistles this time of year – a word often spoken from the lips of our Lord Jesus ... “Repent (and believe” – we must never forget to proclaim both! They go together; one does not come without the other!) Now, just mentioning the word “repent” will result in a wide array of reactions, considering there are so many popular cultural ideas tied to it. Some jump to fire-and-brimstone. Others, who want to avoid unpleasantness, avoid the word altogether ...

But what if there's a much better way? Imagine receiving a message *so good* that it caused you to rethink your entire life. The bank made a mistake years ago calculating your mortgage and now suddenly you discover your house is paid off, or the doctors call to say the diagnosis was wrong, and you don't have cancer after all. These examples represent the best kind of news: your future is no longer clouded by debt; your fears of endless treatments vanish in a moment. The good news has come from afar and has pitched its tent with you. The old reality is gone, and new day is born. But you quickly discover a problem: the morning after the good news arrives you wake up still worrying about money, or still thinking about hospital rooms. And we immediately understand why: we have spent months, even years, thinking about life based upon our problems. Financial woes are daily woes. Health concerns are like a houseguest who has moved in forever.

Old habits die hard. To receive good news, to *really receive it*—to take it in and discover a new freedom—requires a turning to a new way of life. More than that, it is a turning to the Way and the Life. This turning has a biblical name: repentance. But someone might say, “I thought repentance meant simply trying harder or feeling guilty to avoid bad stuff.” Someone has lied to you. At its very core, the word repent means to take a good hard look your life, then turn from the trappings of the world, so that you can cling to the truth of God, modeled by His Son, and empowered by His Spirit. The ‘trick’ is: you need a valid reason to examine your life and turn. A positive mental attitude is not enough; simply trying harder won't change your world. There must be some firm reality that *changes the equation, forgets the past, or presents a future filled with joy*. Better yet, all three! Jesus presented this powerful reality when he said, “The Kingdom of God is breaking in. Right here, right now.” He wasn't describing some new program or advocating a new philosophy. Jesus proclaimed that the world would be forever different because God had come down, and he would do whatever was necessary to set people free. God would not be stopped: the old order of things was condemned, and a new order was made real.

He invites us to move to the side of victory with these words: “The time has come. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the good news.” Examine your life and turn from the world and all of its idols, because everything has changed. We discover repentance is the humbled soul's response to God's grace. “Repent” is the first word of the good news. It's the first step on the adventure of discipleship (*and the first step each day after*). Belief comes as we help others examine their way of life based upon what God has already done. But first this must be applied to us. Are we examining our life, turning from that which opposes God and His goodness? Are we living with this kind of repentance? This is a major part of what Lent is all about. Come, examine your life, turn from sin and the ways of this world, “humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.” (1 Peter 5:6)

- Pastor Brian

Women's Sunday Bible Study:

We are still going through Season 3 of The Chosen. On March 3rd we will meet to discuss Episode 4. We will meet on March 17 after the coffee hour and TryLife presentation to discuss Episode 5. Bring your lunch and questions!

make a splash this summer!

PUCKETY CHURCH VBS!!!

Join us as we dive into oceans of fun with
VBS SCUBA!!

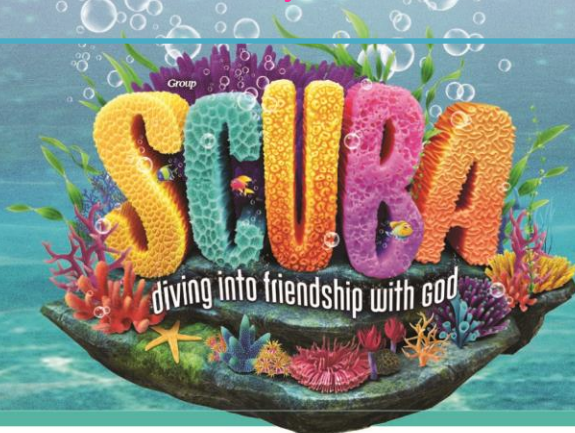
June 17-21, 2024 6:00pm – 8:15pm
All children ages 4 to entering 6th grade
are invited!

Sign up at the link on pucketychurch.org
or using the QR code below:



It's sure to be a swimmingly good time!

****arrive at 5:40 PM the first day to register
and meet your crew****



The Discipleship Team and VBS Directors would like to make an appeal for help as **CREW LEADERS** who can volunteer each night to guide the kids from station to station and help engage them in the activities.

The seas are looking smooth for some SCUBA activity! Keep your eyes open for a smack of jellyfish that will lead us all to the donation board on Easter Sunday!



Also, a reminder to all volunteers to make sure their State Clearances are up to date:

Criminal Background:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/PA-Child-Abuse-History-Clearance.aspx>

Child Abuse History:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/KeepKidsSafe/Clearances/Pages/Criminal-Background-Check.aspx>

Youth Group

What a fun month we had. One of the highlights was definitely SNOW-TUBING on February 11th at Boyce Park! Looking at the pictures you wouldn't know that it was FIFTY (50) degrees outside in the sunny brightness. We had 13 kids and they had a blast (the adults had just as much fun! – Many thanks to the drivers/chaperones that helped make it a success!). On March 3rd, we will participate in AVAC's Bowling for Blessings fundraiser to help families in our community. We have 12 students and 4 adults ready to bowl! Our group hopes to raise close to \$300 for AVAC. We just finished Francis Chan's Bible Study on "The Heart of God" (*RightNow Media*). We've started one with Tim Tebow called *Shaken*. Please continue to pray for the students to be open to the power of the gospel, to engage not only in the games, but the discussion, and prayer. We want to finish off the school year strong, and we know we need to do good work for that now.





Let's Be Healthy Together!

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

Life Line Screening will be offering preventive health screenings on Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

As part of the screening event, Life Line Screening will offer *low-cost* take-home colorectal cancer tests called FIT (Fecal Immunochemical Test) in recognition of March as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. These tests are simple, accurate, and recommended for the early detection of colorectal cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control, the risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with age. More than 90% of cases occur in people aged 50 and older.

Other preventive screenings provided check for stroke risk, abdominal aortic aneurysms, and osteoporosis. Puckety Presbyterian Church is pleased to make these important screenings available by hosting Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings.

Screenings are fast, painless and affordable. Three key tests check for blocked carotid arteries, an irregular heart rhythm called atrial fibrillation, and high blood pressure, which are the three leading risk factors for stroke. Strokes are the third leading cause of death in the U.S., yet, with preventive strategies, 80% of strokes can be prevented. Other tests check for abdominal aortic aneurysms and hardening of the arteries in the legs. A bone density screening to assess osteoporosis risk is also offered and is appropriate for both men and women. Many events also offer blood tests, including cholesterol, glucose and c-reactive protein screenings.

For more information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment, call **1-844-591-7160** or go to <https://llsa.social/HC> or text the word **circle** to **216-279-1607**. Pre-registration is required.

See below for the updated **AV schedule for March.**

Date	Presentation Creation	Presenter	Sound	Zoom host
3/3/2024	Brian	Joyce	Zach	Chari
3/10/2024	Jenn	Sandra	Rodney	Chari
3/17/2024	Matt	Matt	Nate	Chari
3/24/2024	Sandra	Sandra	Nate	Chari
3-28-24 Maundy Thursday	Wiebke	Joyce	Zach	Wiebke
3/31/2024 Easter	Matt	Matt	Zach	Chari/Deb

We are still very much in need of 2 additional sound techs to volunteer to help with our worship services. This is a great behind the scenes way to help be involved in an amazing ministry. We provide training on the sound board. No previous experience needed and not computer is involved, just a phone with headphones so you can hear how the sound is transmitting to our Zoom and Facebook users. Please see Wiebke or Nate if you are interested in shadowing a sound volunteer to see if this is something you may be interested in.

Looking for a way to give back to the community and use the gifts God has given you. As a church we have committed to spending one evening a month at the TryLife Center helping them with tasks to keep the center hospitable for their clients. Usually this means sorting through bins and verifying that the clothes that are in the bin are the right size, item type and season. There is a sign up list in the hallway for the second Tuesday of every month. Accommodations for those that cannot stand or carry bins are easy to make so this opportunity is really open to everyone in the church young and old. The March volunteers are: Matt Wehrle, Denise Wehrle, Irene Nelson, John McAllister and Brenda McAllister. There is room for anyone else who feels moved to join the group, just sign up on the sheet! If you have questions please see Wiebke or Matt.



We have launched our **Church Capital Campaign!** We are asking everyone to participate and give over the course of the campaign. And we want to give you the *choice* of telling us what your pledge will be. After prayerful consideration, if you are willing to communicate the amount, you can use the Voluntary Pledge Cards (confidential use) in the pew racks, with the accompanying envelope. You may put your card in the Pledge Box on the piano. **Our grand total as of February 25th is \$34,715.94!!** The Campaign Team is here to discuss any questions you might have through the process!

We are dedicating our **One great Hour of Sharing** offering to **MUST, the Myanmar Undergraduate School of Theology.** This offering begins on **Ash Wednesday, Feb. 14** and ends **Easter Sunday.** MUST has current financial needs due to increasing their school staff for an increase in students. Also, they are saving to purchase a field to grow rice due to inflation of triple the former price. There will be special envelopes in the pews and reminders as we begin this period of sharing.



The Deacons will be filling Easter Food Baskets again this year. Please fill out the information below and place it in the offering plate or on Kelly's desk before March 17th. The baskets will be ready for pick-up on March 23rd @ 9:30am.

SPONSOR'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____

FAMILY'S NAME _____ PHONE # _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN _____

Puckety Church was featured in the most recent "On the Road with Redstone." You can find the video on YouTube (search for "On the Road with Redstone - Puckety). If needed, you can type this into your search engine bar: www.youtube.com/watch?v=yj1jD3E6Pog

SAVE THE DATE!!

2:00 pm – Rain or Shine!
Sunday, March 24, 2024

Our Third Annual Free Community Easter Egg Hunt



- *Pre-K to 5th grade *Free Basket Raffle, Face Painting, and Popcorn
- *Meet the Easter Bunny and take your own pictures!

There are flyers with more information at the doors as well as a sign-up sheet in the hallway - we need volunteers!



The adult choir is working on both Lenten and Easter music at the same time during these weeks of Lent. In about 75 minutes each Thursday evening, we work on songs from asking for forgiveness, to thanking Christ for his selfless sacrifice, to the waving of palms, to the meal at the Last Supper, to resurrection! You may have noticed that the choral songs during Lent are different in mood and character, and in the lyrics we ask for help and forgiveness to be better people. We always pray each week for our efforts to be pleasing to God and bring the congregation, and ourselves closer to God. Thank you to the congregation for the robust and heartfelt singing at worship. We feel sure it is, in fact, pleasing to God.



MARCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 10:00am Worship 6:00pm Youth Group	26 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry	27 1:00pm Ladies Bible Study 5:00pm Worship Team Meeting 6:15pm Daisy Scout Troop 6:30pm Town Hall Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	28 Meals on Wheels	29 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 26234 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	1 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 	2
3 Women's Bible Study 10:00am Worship 12:45pm Youth Group Bowling Third Sunday in Lent	4 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	5 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	6 Meals on Wheels 6:00pm Deacons Meeting	7 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 26234 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	8 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	9 
10  10:00am Worship 11:30am Crafternoon 6:00pm Youth Group Fourth Sunday in Lent	11 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 7:00pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting 8:00pm Scouts God and Church	12 8:00am Lifeline Screening 1:00pm Ladies Bible Study 5:00pm FamilyLife Network Ministry 6:00pm Session Meeting 6:15pm Daisy Scout Troop 8:00pm N.A. meeting	13 Meals on Wheels	14 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	15 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	16
17 Fifth Sunday in Lent 10:00am Worship 11:00am Congregational Meeting 11:30am Coffee Hour   12:00pm Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Youth Group	18 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 1:00pm Sewing Guild 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting	19 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 46799 8:00pm N.A. meeting 	20 Meals on Wheels Mr. Rogers Day	21 5:00pm Girl Scout Troop 26234 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	22 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	23 Egg Hunt Prep 8:00am DKG Meeting
24 Palm Sunday 10:00am Installation and Ordination of Officers 10:00am Worship 2:00pm Easter Egg Hunt 	25 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group 10:30am Card Ministry	26 1:00pm Ladies Bible Study 5:00pm Worship Team Meeting 6:15pm Daisy Scout Troop 8:00pm N.A. meeting	27 Meals on Wheels	28  7:00pm Worship Service	29 GOOD Friday Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	30
31 One Great Hour of Sharing M.U.S.T.  7:00am Sunrise Service  10:00am Worship	1 Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group	2 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	3 Meals on Wheels	4 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	5 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	6

