

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

*(Return Service Requested)*

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**REMINDER:**

Sunday Worship: 10:00 a.m.  
Zoom/video at [pucketychurch.org](http://pucketychurch.org)



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# *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.

October 2023

### Pastor's Corner

Post-Scripts  
a monthly publication

It's *October* – my favorite month! I love it for many reasons (there's not enough space here), but I love how it's the time to remember our heritage from the *Reformation*, including the "Sola's." For example: *SOLA GRATIA* (grace alone). Someone might ask, "What does that mean?" Simply it means, our being put right with God is something HE does – it's a gift, not our own doing – we're in good standing not by our works. But the German Reformer said, "We are saved by grace alone, but that grace is never found alone!" Okay, what does *that* mean? Instead of *explaining* what it means (this time), I think I'll *describe* what it *looks* like... Grace is what *spills over from the fullness* of something.

When Jesus was in any sort of social setting, do you know what His natural reaction was? To serve. Why? Because He was *full*. He came not to be served; He came to serve, to add, to complete. His idea of "working a room" wasn't networking, smooth-talking, or manipulating people for His own benefit. It was to make sure everyone walked out knowing God better than when they walked in. You've probably met a few people who are truly secure. They have a sense of contentment in their lives. They know who they are. They are not concerned with comparison or competition; they are *at peace*, and they continually *add value to others*. Maybe you are one of those people. I know I want to be one. I want to live like Jesus. Jesus always seems to find creative ways to add value to people. You know that kind of person – no matter how bad the meal was you just cooked, they find a way to compliment it (sincerely)! No matter how crazy your kids are behaving,

they find a way to make you feel like amazing parents of amazing children. Can you imagine what it would look like if all of us – families, friends, churches – lived and loved from a place of inner fullness? (Grace overflowing from the fullness of grace received?)

It would look a lot like heaven on earth. John 1:16 says that "we have received from His fullness." How do we receive? We don't earn it. We don't deserve it. We don't develop it. We simply trust it, believe it, and receive it. Our mindset should be: "God, I want to live *by grace*; I receive from Your fullness today. I am who I am by Your grace. I find my rest and contentment in who You are through me." I'm not talking about repeating some formula or magic prayer. I'm talking about becoming aware of what God has already made available to us. We can receive from Jesus' fullness to the point where we are emotionally, mentally, & spiritually filled. This eradicates one of the greatest hurdles in relationships and community: *insecurity*. Insecurity is more than just an emotion; it is a deep sense of deficiency and incompleteness. It paralyzes us relationally. It isolates us. People can be all around us, yet we feel profoundly alone, because we think we don't measure up or we aren't good enough. I've got bad news and good news. The bad news is we are right in our self-assessment. We don't measure up and we aren't good enough. But the good news is *Jesus is enough*. He's more than enough. And if we lean on Him and receive from Him, we will be enough as well. We all need community. When we find our completeness in Jesus, His fullness helps us become better friends, better spouses, better parents, better employees, better neighbors ... better servants of Christ! It's amazing how many people I run into who say, "I just don't have any good friends anymore." You would think it would be easier to make friends the older we get, but in fact, it's often harder. We get burned, we get disillusioned, we get manipulated, and eventually we give up. We start to keep people at arm's length to protect ourselves. Jesus wants to remove the scar tissue – to wholly heal. He wants to help us relate socially the way He did – thinking of and serving others. Ironically, we are most protected against hurt not when we withdraw and isolate ourselves, but when we serve others with no strings attached. Jesus is the relationship that completes us. When we find true friendship in Him, it frees us to discover real relationships with others at a level we never thought possible. Jesus is the one who fills us. And when we're full, we're free. That's what *Sola Gratia* looks like ... How can you serve others today? - Pastor Brian

**Remember to check Puckety's website and social media!**

Website: [www.pucketychurch.org](http://www.pucketychurch.org) Like and Follow on Facebook: Puckety Presbyterian Church  
Follow us on Instagram: Puckety Church Follow us on Twitter: @churchpuckety

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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](http://pucketychurch.org). Thank you for your generosity!

From the Hearts & Hands of Session

**\*Photo Directory Project** – we want to thank all our members and friends of the church for the excellent participation thus far (we've had over 70 sign-ups for photo appts. on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>) – “Go PUCKETY!” If for some reason you haven't signed up, I think there's 2 or 3 remaining slots, but you need to sign up NOW (before Oct. 7<sup>th</sup>) – go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com) ... click “Photography Appt Scheduling” ... put in code: *pa1031* ... put in password: *photos* ... and select one of the few remaining slots. The whole appt. takes about 40-45 minutes. For your time you will receive a free 8x10 portrait and a free directory. And once again, “Thank you!” to everyone who has joined in this endeavor to strengthen the unity of our church family!

**\*Update on the Projector** – Most of you know we have been without a front screen projector for about a month. We want to thank you all for your patience. The Worship & A/V teams have been working together on the situation (assessment, research, consultation with *Music N' Stuff* in Blawnox, and planning). *Special thanks to Jennifer McKay* for the extra time she spent with the technician who came to evaluate. After much discussion (you can ask Pastor Brian, Jenn, or Matt W. for more details if necessary), it was determined the old projector is not just severely outdated, but not worth repairing as it would cost us much more in the long run with annual maintenance. It was decided that 1) a new laser projector is the best option (better than TV monitors for *numerous* reasons) and 2) we will work with *Music N' Stuff* to purchase & install a projector that would work with our screen with better visibility (partly because of their history and knowledge of our set up and good relationship).

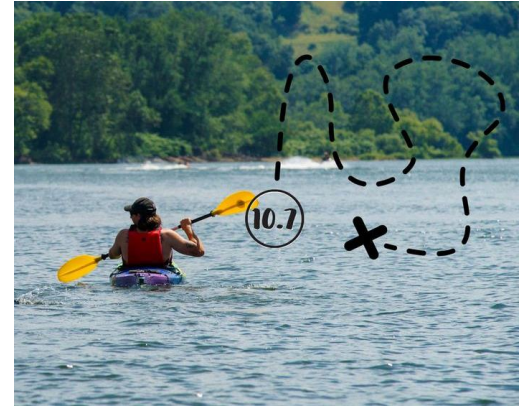
This will be an expensive project, but we have carefully assessed the situation and weighed the many factors. It was voted on to use the *Memorial Fund* as well as the *A/V available budget money* for this project. It will also take a little more time because of the “backed up” work schedule of the company. Our goal is to have the new projector installed by mid-November, in time for the start of Advent. Thank you for your prayers, support and patience.

**\*Small Groups** – we now have 4 small groups regularly meeting (and will add another at the end of the month): **\*Women's Bible Study** – Season 2 of *The Chosen* (led by Wiebke Kilbert every other Sunday after worship – 10/1, 10/15, etc.) ... **\*Men's Group** – Season 3 of *The Chosen* (facilitated by Matt Wehrle on Mondays - 10 AM to Noon in Conference Room) ... **\*Schafer Small Group** – “You Were Made For This Moment” – Esther-based study by Max Lucado (led by Maria Schafer at their home – 27 Royal Oak Dr. - every other Wed. at 6:30 PM – 10/11, 10/25, etc.) ... **\*Bracken Bible Study** – verse-by-verse study of biblical books currently at the home of Donna Bracken (2760 Edith St.) – check with Laretta Lockwood or Helen Crissman for time/place updates ... and coming soon **\*Wednesday Evening Small Group** – Season 2 of *The Chosen* (led by Pastor Brian – in Conference Rm. or Pastor's Study every Wed. evening starting 10/25 from 6:30 to 8 PM – all are invited)



## Youth Group

We started the Fall off with our Kickoff Night (9/24) with TWENTY (20) students – icebreakers, games, pizza and really good get-to-know you time. We’re going to 10.7 Marina in Verona on 10/8. We have 11 students and 4 adults signed up to go. On Oct. 15<sup>th</sup> we’re going to the “Fields of Faith” event held at Kiski High School by the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (great time of worship and student testimonies). On October 22<sup>nd</sup> we’ll have our Halloween Party (with a costume contest). To say we have a full month planned is an understatement, so please continue to pray for ALL aspects of this ministry (students – bonding and growing ... leaders – strength and wisdom ... parents – residual grace extending to them ... all so that Christ is known and glorified). All students 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up (any school district) are welcome. We normally meet at Faith Hall on Sundays from 6:00 to 7:45 PM BUT it’s a good idea to check with Pastor Brian, because this group is ON THE MOVE!



The apple dumpling sale ends October 1<sup>st</sup>!  
Be sure to get your orders in by then.  
We need your help to make the dumplings!!  
You can sign up in the Sanctuary.  
Don't forget to pick them up either October 7 or 8 at 3:00pm.  
Call Charlene McKay if you have any questions.  
724-335-9645



- 01 Vince Appleman
- 08 Jennifer McKay
- 15 Mira Whalen
- 22 Maria Schafer
- 29 Sophia Earhart

**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.:** Cliff McKay, Sr.
- Secretary:** Debra Artman
- Treasurer:** Jolene Kostelansky



**Note to ALL CHURCH TEAMS** - reminder that

the 2024 Budget Proposal for your Committee is DUE to the Church Budget Committee (via Session) by **Sunday, October 8th.** That is the *final Deadline* to be included at the Session meeting on 10/10.

**Your Session:**

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



**Offering counters:**

- 01: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart & Matt Wehrle
- 08: Helen Crissman & Marilyn Crumley
- 15: Deb Artman, Janet Karan & Jolene Kostelansky
- 22: Chuck & Judy West
- 29: Jolene Kostelansky, Sophia Earhart & Matt Wehrle

**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

**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 ACCEPTING 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"

**October 1:**

Exodus 17:1-7  
Psalm 78:1-4  
Ezek 18:1-4, 25-32  
Phil 2:1-13

**October 8:**

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20  
Psalm 19  
Isaiah 5:1-7  
Phil 3:4b-14

**October 15:**

Exodus 32:1-14  
Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23  
Isaiah 25:1-9  
Phil 4:1-9

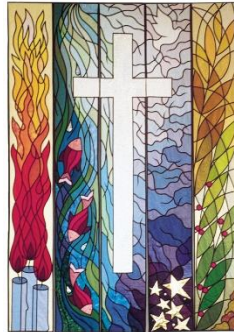
**October 22:**

Exodus 33:12-23  
Psalm 99  
Isaiah 45:1-7  
Thessa 1:1-10

**October 29:**

Deut 34:1-12  
Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17  
Lev 19:1-2, 15-18  
Thessa 2:1-8

**Children's Church is back weekly!  
Bring your kids/grandkids. They  
will have a good time while  
they learn all about what "Church"  
really is!**



**Memorial Banners** - the Worship Team would like to procure 4-5 more hanging banners for the sanctuary so a different pair could be rotated about every 6 weeks – mid January – mid November. As before, this is an opportunity for families/ members to purchase a banner (2' x 6') in memory of a loved one. The relevant information would be included on the backside of the banner, and in the printed announcements/postscripts for the respective period it is displayed. The average cost is options are available in the office (particularly Thanksgiving and Pentecost) If you are interested in yearly worship, please contact Rev. Kilbert to see the options. Thank you.



- 1 Evan Girard
- 3 Beth Hilbeck
- 4 Ryan Bargerstock
- 5 Nita Lundie
- Terry Soulcheck
- 10 Rachel Aungst
- Sandy Schafer
- 12 Joel McCullough
- Kwade Kirchartz
- 14 Denise Johnston
- Elaine Bargerstock
- 16 Doug Marshall
- 18 Jessica Mele
- 24 Doris Prinkey
- 30 Lillian Blandford

**If anyone has need of a wheelchair, the church was donated one you may have. Please call the office if you are interested.**

*We as a church are still supporting the Try Life Center by going to their Lower Burrell facility on the second Tuesday of the month and volunteering to organize and sort through the donations they have received. Those who have already participated in this program can confirm that this is an easy way to give back and support a group that supports those most vulnerable, mothers and young children. Ideally we like to send in a group of 4-6 people from Puckety. We need a few more volunteers for October, November and December. If you have volunteered before please consider signing up for a slot. If you are curious and have some questions please see Wiebke. You do not have to stand for the whole time you are there, we work as a group and can easily be the legs for the willing hearts that have unwilling legs and feet. This is also a great opportunity to show off your snazzy new Puckety shirt!*

# Presbytery of Redstone

Communicate the Word...

Carry on the Work...

Change the World...Together!!

## September Gathering Highlights

- In “On the Road with Redstone,” the Presbytery was graciously hosted by the Latrobe Presbyterian Church. With inspiring music and liturgy, we offered worship to our God and received the Word as proclaimed by Rev. Dr. Asa Lee, President of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.
- In recognition of Addiction Recovery month, we heard a personal testimony to the healing grace of Jesus Christ in on person’s ongoing journey of recovery. Redstone congregations responded and many boxes of supplies were received in a very successful “Hope in a Bag” project. For congregations still having collections, those can be received in the Presbytery Center.
- We elected those called to serve in leadership within the Presbytery and the larger church for next year. Susan Keaney, (RE, Newlonsburg) was nominated to serve as Vice Moderator of the Presbytery . Additionally, **Rev. Brian Kilbert**, Rev. Andrew Wirt, Ruling Elders Robin Jennings, and Jackie Eckenrod were called to serve as GA commissioners. A great number of people within our congregations have also answered the call to serve in leadership roles within the Presbytery on standing committees.
- Pine Springs Camp ministry shared their final progress report on the 2023 season of summer camp. Through resident and day camps, along with the “Mission Ex” experience, there were over 1000 campers this summer who had the opportunity to have their lives transformed by encountering Jesus Christ through this camping ministry.
- Executive Presbyter Rev. Noftzger welcomed Lynn Mance and Rich Zoltak to service as o commissioned pastors in Avonmore and New Hope/ Redstone Highlands, respectively. Having been recently ordained and installed, Rev. Sara Sadler and Rev. Becka Abbott were invested with Redstone stoles as symbols of their joining us in the shared ministry of the Presbytery.
- Both the Latrobe Presbyterian and Latrobe United Presbyterian shared some of their particular ministry and mission projects where the Lord has been at work in their midst. They included Presbyters were reminded of the opportunity to participate in the mission trip to St. Alban’s, WV in October.



**RightNow!** - Puckety Church has purchased a great resource to invest in all of you! We now have unlimited access to *RightNow Media*—the world’s largest streaming library of video Bible study resources (the “Netflix of video Bible studies”). We believe that RightNow Media is a tool that can help you live out your faith in every area of your life—at home, small groups & in your community (24/7 access). We’ve started to use this in our Children’s Ministry too, so make sure you tell your families! For *both* our members **and** friends of the congregation, *RightNow Media* has a free

app that’s available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime. To get started, simply use the QR code below, create your free account, and start browsing more than 20,000 inspiring videos. Please help us spread this news to *everyone*. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing to you and your family!

<https://app.rightnowmedia.org/join/pucketychurch>

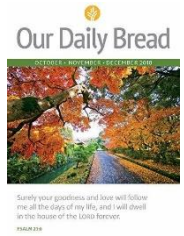
Or you can text the code **PUCKETYCHURCH** to the number 49775 and you will receive a text back, welcoming you to RightNow Media and providing you with the invite link to register.





**PLEASE HELP PROVIDE YOUTH GROUP SNACKS!!  
THERE IS A SIGN-UP SHEET IN THE HALLWAY.  
THANK YOU!**

The newest editions of the Our Daily Bread Devotionals are now available at all entrances to the Sanctuary as well as the glass display case in the hallway. Please take one for yourself and anyone you think may enjoy it!



**Your family is invited to join us  
for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Trunk or Treat!**

**Date: Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup>  
Time: 3:00 - 5:00 PM**

**Location: Puckety Presbyterian Church, 1009 Puckety Church Rd, Lower Burrell**

**Cost: Free!**

Bring your costumed children to trick or treat from car to car in our parking lot during daylight hours. There will be games for children to play for extra treats. Your family will also be able to vote for the best decorated car.

If you would like to sign up your car to give away treats please call the church office at 724-339-1323 or sign up on the bulletin board by Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup>.

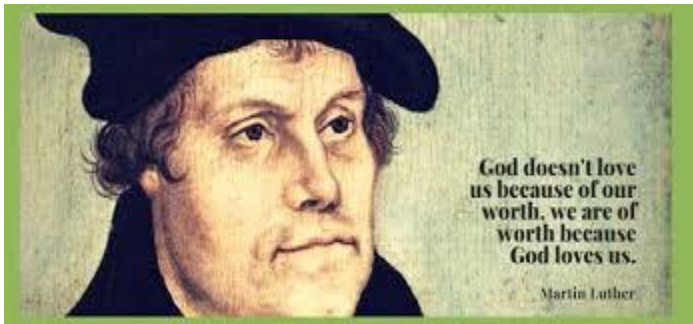




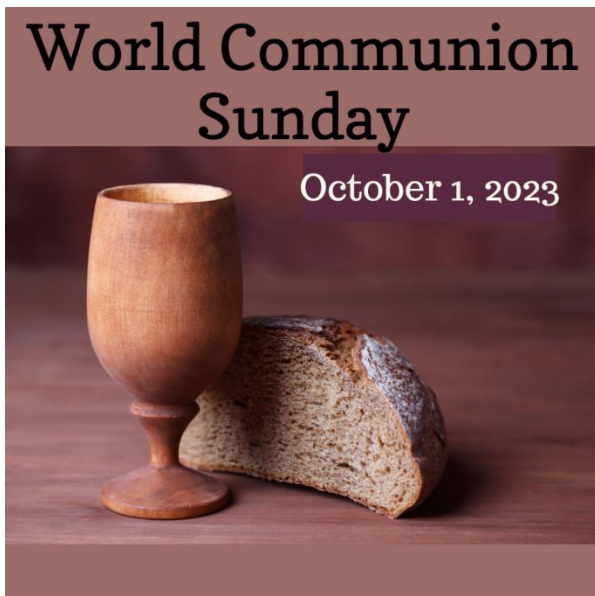
Running through November 19<sup>th</sup>, Puckety Church is once again participating in the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoe Box campaign.

The shoe boxes will be available at each exit for you to pick up beginning October 15<sup>th</sup>. In each box, there will be brochures with tips for "dos" and "don'ts" along with a shipping label and an envelope for your shipping cost. The Deacons have decided to pay half of the \$10 shipping fee so you will only need to include \$5/box! Once you have the box filled, please return it to the front pew of the Sanctuary. Help us bless children around the world with the good news of Jesus!






## Reformation Sunday



Presbyterians celebrate the tradition that grounds their faith on Reformation Sunday. It is always the last Sunday in October, marking the occasion in 1517 when Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany.



# OCTOBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> <b>10:00am Worship</b>  6:00pm Youth Group 11:30pm Women's Bible Study	<b>2</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 6:00pm Upkeep Team Meeting	<b>3</b> 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 6:30pm Outreach Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>4</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials Group 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	<b>5</b> 11:00am Apple Dumpling Prep 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>6</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 11:00am Apple Dumpling Prep	<b>7</b> 3:00pm Apple Dumpling Sale Pick Up 6:30pm Open Mic Night
<b>8</b> <b>10:00am Worship</b> 2:30pm Youth Group Kayaking 3:00pm Apple Dumpling Sale Pick Up	<b>9</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 4:30pm Discipleship Team Meeting 5:30pm MS Group Meeting 7:00pm Seneca Service Unit Leader Meeting	<b>10</b> 1:00pm Bracken Small Group 2:00pm Universal Church Directories Picture Taking 5:00pm Try-Life Outreach 6:00pm Session Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>11</b> Meals on Wheels 2:00pm Universal Church Directories Picture Taking 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials Group 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	<b>12</b> 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>13</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED 2:00pm Menk Scrapbooking Event	<b>14</b> 9:00am Menk Scrapbooking Event
<b>15</b> <b>10:00am Worship</b> 11:30am Women's Bible Study 5:15pm Youth Group Fields of Faith	<b>16</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting	<b>17</b> 5:30pm Girl Scout Troop 20130 7:00pm Sewing Guild 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>18</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Discipleship Essentials Group 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	<b>19</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts 26234 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>20</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b> 3:00pm Trunk or Treat 
<b>22</b> <b>10:00am Worship</b> 12:00pm Crafternoon 6:00pm Youth Group Halloween Party 	<b>23</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting	<b>24</b> 5:30pm Girl Scouts 46799 8:00pm N.A. meeting	<b>25</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	<b>26</b> 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>27</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> 7:00am Motosicky Baby Shower
<b>29</b> <b>10:00am Worship</b> 	<b>30</b> Meals on Wheels 10:00am Men's Group Meeting 10:30am Card Ministry	<b>31</b> 5:00pm Worship Team Meeting 8:00pm N.A. meeting 	<b>1</b> Meals on Wheels 6:30pm Pastor Brian Small Group Meeting 6:30pm Schafer Small Group	<b>2</b> 6:00pm Praise Band Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b> Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED	<b>4</b>

