January 31, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Christ Jesus who sends us into the world to share his Light with others!

We are certain you noticed that you did not receive this worship packet the last two weeks. Some of our in-house staff tested positive for Covid19 and we had to put a portion of what we do each week on hold. Included in this packet are worship bulletins from January 23 and 30. We thank you for your patience and understanding in these difficult times.

As we look toward February, we will celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Communion in worship this Sunday. During worship, Blessing Pantry volunteers will give us an update. Following worship that same day, the Worship Team will meet in the Assembly Room at 11:15. All are welcome to join the conversation.

Several people have asked for the return of Bible Study. Pastor Becky will begin a six-week study beginning on Thursday, February 10 from 6:30-7:30 p.m. We will meet both by Zoom and in person in the designated Zoom Room (the corner room near the Nursery). The Zoom link to Bible Study is:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85966539897?pwd=bGhkSHpaUDRva1 MxWnhDaDZYVWJaQT09

Meeting ID: 859 6653 9897 **Passcode: 704709** 

Pastor Becky will also put this link on the St. Paul Facebook page.

Looking ahead, singer and songwriter Carrie Newcomer will give a concert at St. Paul Church on Saturday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. Cost of tickets is \$25 and can be purchased at the door or via EventBrite.com. Ms. Newcomer requires that all concert-goers arrive with proof of vaccination and wear masks for the entire performance.

We end with a reminder about Covid19 transmissions especially with the Omicron variant taking hold in our area. Incidences of positive cases are going up in our congregation and community. If you have been in contact with someone who either tests positive for Covid19 or have been in contact with someone who soon after you've been with them tests positive, PLEASE, you need to quarantine yourself from St. Paul Church, its building, and its staff.

We thank you for your faithfulness. We thank you for your generosity. We thank you for your love for God and neighbor.

Blessings,

Roland Dicke

Record Decker Mysa Hannkutt Belyab

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Council President Council VP

Senior Pastor

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism on January 15, 2022 were Aiden Christopher Gibbs, and Jamen Kurt Gibbs. They are the sons of Jason and Shelby (Ehemann) Gibbs, grandsons of Julie and Kurt Ehemann and great grandsons of Linda Rump. Welcome and Congratulations.

**Please remember** the following families in your prayers:

Myra Hanenkratt

Mary Kathleen "Kaye" Moore (Rev. Christina Ryan Perkins mom). Kaye passed away Monday, January 3, 2022. Service is pending.

Andrea Rebecca (Rengers) Huber. Andrea passed away Wednesday, January 5, 2022. Service to celebrate her life was held Wednesday, January 12, 2022.

Evelvn Mae Reinhart (Becky Quellhorst mom). Evelyn passed away Saturday, January 8, 2022. Service to celebrate her life was held Thursday, January 13, 2022.

Richard "Dick" Lee Hudson in your prayers. Dick passed away January 11, 2022. Service to celebrate his life was held Monday, January 17, 2022.

Zachary "Zac" D. Hemmelgarn. Zac passed away Tuesday, January 18, 2022. Service to celebrate his life was held Saturday, January 22, 2022.

Jennifer Kay (White) Clint. Jennifer passed away Friday, January 21, 2022. Service to celebrate her life was held Wednesday, January 26, 2022.

William "Bill" Edward Tostrick. Bill passed away Saturday, January 22, 2022. Service to celebrate his life was held Thursday, January 27, 2022.

Updated Financial Information for 2021 and 2022 are not available due to staff illness.





Bread of Life

#### February 06 2022

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



**Pray:** Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

God of sustenance, you sent your son, Jesus, to be living bread for the world. Give us your living bread, that we may consume, and then share your everlasting life with others, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

48"I am the bread of life." (John 6:48)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus proclaimed that he is "the bread of life." Although people had trouble understanding the words coming from the boy they once knew, Jesus' invitation is clear. He is the bread of life and we are invited to partake.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

Besides food, what do you need to live? What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "I am the bread of life"?

For the littles: What do you think it was like sharing a meal with Jesus?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill you with sustenance. Amen.



**Do:** By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Research a food manufacturer or farm near you. Take a field trip to the location and learn what you can about how food is grown, cultivated, and processed for consumption. Consider how knowing where your food comes from shapes your food choices.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, John 6:35-59, Bread of Life Monday, Psalm 34:1-10 Tuesday, John 6:60-71, Words of Eternal Life Wednesday, John 7:1-9, The Unbelief of Jesus' Brothers Thursday, John 7:10-24, Festival of Booths Friday, John 7:25-31, Is This the Christ? Saturday, John 7:32-36, Officers Are Sent to Arrest Jesus



#### St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869

Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207)

Email stpaulnb@nktelco.net or stpaulnb@gmail.com

Visit our website at <a href="https://stpaulnb.org">https://stpaulnb.org</a>

Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ - New

Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky Erb Strang-Senior Pastor Roland Dicke-Council President

## Welcome to St. Paul UCC, we are glad you are here!!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, Welcome, one and all, to this time of worship. We are blessed to have you with us today.

# February 6, 2022 Fifth Sunday After Epiphany

## **Worship Leaders**

Ministers The Congregation
Rev. Becky Erb Strang Senior Pastor
Kay Webb Liturgist
Connie O'Neill Organist
Tracy Oldiges Sr. Deacon
Jim Strang Bell Choir/Music Director

## **PRELUDE**

LIGHTING OF CANDLES: You are invited to light a candle or candles at home in preparation for worship.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

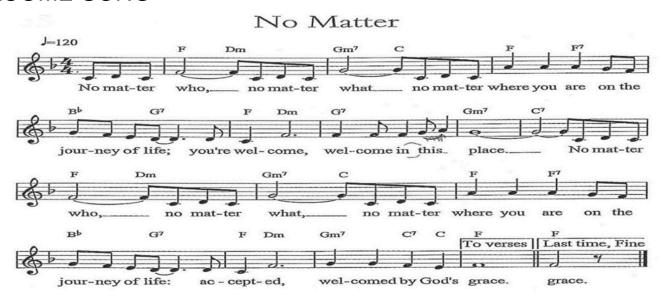
MOMENT FOR MISSION: BACK BAY MISSION Amy Scheer Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi is celebrating their 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary this year. It all started by providing Sunday School education,

clothing, shoes and medicine to the children of the Back Bay fisher folk. St. Paul has been involved with Back Bay Mission for many years. I became involved personally after Hurricane Katrina hit Biloxi in 2005. I went down with other people from this area to help rebuild homes after the hurricane. It was a very rewarding experience.

Besides helping to rebuild homes, they also operate the Micah Day Center. At the center the homeless can come in take showers, do laundry, get clothes and get help writing resumes on the computer. They have a program to help find housing for the homeless, with special housing for homeless veterans. Back Bay also has a food pantry where clients can come in and get the food they need.

Even though the United Church of Christ started the mission a hundred years ago, there are no longer any UCC churches in that area. Therefore, they need our support to help them maintain all of their programs for the poor and homeless in the Back Bay area. You can help by making a donation to this monthly mission. Thank you for your help.

#### WELCOME SONG



#### CALL TO WORSHIP

(from The Worship Sourcebook; Faith Alive Christian Resources; 2013) Leader: Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.

People: The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.

Leader: We desire to live in God's house and to seek God in his holy temple.

People: We have come with shouts of joy, to sing and to make music to the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God in Spirit and in truth.

People: Teach us your ways and make straight our paths in this time of worship and always.

HYMN OF PRAISE O Love, How Deep, How Broad verses 1, 2, 5, 6

O Love, How Deep, How Broad 244



## TIME OF CONFESSION, PARDON, AND ASSURANCE

Leader: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader. Let us pray. Gentle Jesus, you said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."

People: Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.

Leader: Loving Jesus, you said, "You may ask for anything in my name."

People: Forgive us when we think we need to solve our own problems.

Leader: Light-filled Jesus, you said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

People: We confess that our lives are often consumed by worry and anxiety.

Leader: Forgiving Jesus, you said, "If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit."

People: Forgive us our barren lives.

Leader: Christ Jesus, you said, "You must testify, for you have been with me."

People: We confess, Holy Jesus, that we have too often stayed silent.

Leader: Risen Christ, you said, "Love each other as I have loved you."

People: In this, and in so many other ways, we confess our failures and shortcomings.

Leader: Here are words you may trust, words that merit full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save the lost and heal the hurting. To all who confess their sins and resolve to lead a new life, he says, "Your sins are forgiven." He also says, "Follow me." Let us live in the new life Christ Jesus offers us!

People: We are filled with gratitude and praise!

**GLORIA PATRI** 

#### 734

## Glory Be to the Father



#### TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US

Today we are focusing on bread. So I ask you, "What can bread do to our bodies?" Jesus once said, "I am the bread of life." What do you think Jesus meant when he said this? What are some ways Jesus nourishes us? For here is the good news: Jesus' words and actions nourish our souls. They give us strength to be followers, to say and do good things in Jesus' name. Today, I challenge you to offer Jesus' nourishment, Jesus' love, to someone you barely know. Reach out in prayer. Make that phone call. Deliver bread to a neighbor.

#### PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Sharing the Sacrament of Holy Communion

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Monica Bushman, Kerri Loney, Carol Mohrman, Julia Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jan Dammeyer, Scott Kuenning, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

# PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Leader: Let us pray. Confident in your abundant grace, we pray for the church, for our community, for the world, and for all those in need.

**SILENCE** 

Leader: Bread of life, you offer sustenance that satisfies body, mind, and spirit. Help us to receive your living bread with humility and grace. Lord, in your mercy,

## People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: You infuse life into all creation with bread, water, and air. Show us how to provide nourishment to your created things so that our hands mend, not destroy, all that you have made. Lord in your mercy,

# People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Adorn your leaders with mercy, truth, justice, and willingness to follow your lead, O God, so that all whom they lead may be fed and filled by their wisdom. Lord in your mercy,

# People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Nourishing God, feed hurting and broken souls and bodies with your healing bread. Offer your tender Spirit to those who are hurting, those who are sick or injured, those who need your healing touch. Lord in your mercy,

# People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Let us never forget all who are suffering from hunger, poverty, homelessness, isolation, neglect, abuse, exile or torment. Show us how we may bring aid to all who suffer. Lord, in your mercy,

# People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: With all your saints, we gratefully receive the abundant blessings you have poured upon us. Lord in your mercy,

# People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Grateful for your everlasting faithfulness, we lift up our hearts and prayers to you, merciful God, in the name of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray together...Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## **BELL CHOIR ANTHEM**

(NRSV)

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; <sup>38</sup> for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day."

<sup>41</sup> Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup> They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. <sup>45</sup> It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. <sup>46</sup> Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup> Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup> Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; <sup>55</sup> for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup> Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup> Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will

live forever." <sup>59</sup> He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

**RESPONSE** 

When I Behold the Son

# When I Behold the Son

Word and Music by J. L. Salt(er)



## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

#### **OFFERING INVITATION:**

Leader: Give to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him.

People: We will sacrifice a thank offering to God and call upon the name of the Lord.

Leader: Let each of us use whatever gift we have received, faithfully sharing God's grace in many forms.

People: Freely we have received; freely we will give.

#### **DOXOLOGY**

# Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34



## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Receive these gifts, Holy God, which we offer with gratitude and generosity. Nourish others with these gifts, as we ourselves are nourished by your blessings. Amen.

# SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION INVITATION

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from east and west, from north and south, and sit at the table in the Kingdom of God. When our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, and blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him. This is Christ Jesus' table. Jesus invites those who trust him to share the feast that he has prepared.

COMMUNION PRAYER (unison)

With joy we praise you, gracious God, for you created heaven and earth, made us in your image, and kept covenant with us—even when we fell into sin. We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, our Lord, who by his life, death, and resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we join our voices with all the saints and angels and the whole creation to proclaim the glory of your name. Amen

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night of his arrest, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

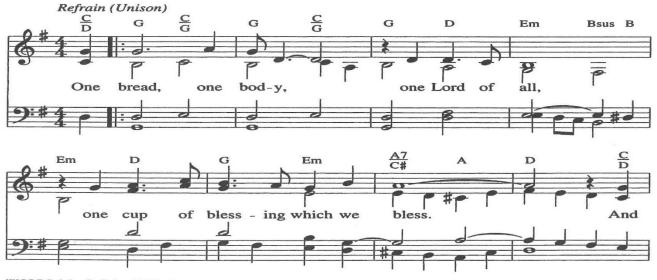
Every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the saving death of the risen Christ. Come. For all things are now ready.

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Lord God, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, and these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory and serve you joyfully. Amen.





WORDS: John B. Foley (1939-) MUSIC: John B. Foley (1939-); arr. Gary Alan Smith (1947-), alt. Words and Music © 1978 John B. Foley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

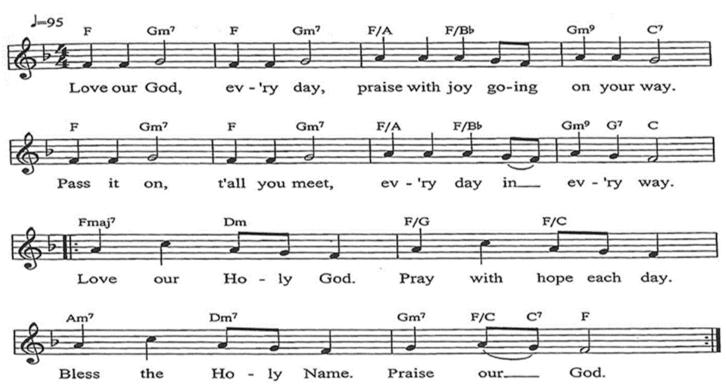


BENEDICTION: May the love of God surround you, the wisdom of Christ guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit encourage you as you joyfully proclaim: Our world belongs to God!

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Pass the Love

Pass the Love



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

**POSTLUDE** 

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Altar Flowers are in memory of Loved Ones by the Oldiges Family.

Thank You! To the friends and members of St. Paul-I have had a wonderful journey with you, in life we often take the road of least road blocks and challenges. We want life to be smooth sailing. St. Paul offered me a road with challenges. Thru the years there were many challenges, some with rewards. There were no shiny trophies or golden coins or anything you could see. However, I got this warm fuzzy feeling that only you, yourself, could feel. On a cold, wintery January evening while leading a Hymn Sing, I had one of those warm fuzzy feelings. It led me to accept this wonderful journey of Lay Minister of Visitation. To all of you who have

sent me cards with warm wishes, words of inspiration and encouragement, I say Thank You for the warm fuzzy feelings.

Your Friend Anna L Hoelscher

**Attendance-**Daily Devotions-136, January 23-Sunday Worship Online-371, In Person-46, Sunday School-13, Teachers-5, Splash-6, Jr/Sr High-9, Confirmation-6, Leaders-11.

**Sundays in February-Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Sunday School** will be in person at 9:00am.

**Daily Devotions-**Please join us, Monday-Thursday at 11:30am, online via Facebook Live. These will air on our Facebook page: St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

**Elmwood Worship**-Tuesday, February 8 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

**Women's Service Group** will be meeting on Thursday, February 10, at 1:00 in the assembly room. Rev. Becky Erb Strang will be leading the group in a Bible Study on Where is God when tragedy strikes? Anyone interested in learning and entering in discussion, please come. Contact Joyce Gilberg for more information.

Six Week Bible Study: Zoom and In-Person-Beginning Thursday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m., Pastor Becky will lead a weekly Bible Study via both Zoom and in-person in the Zoom Room (corner classroom next to the nursery). We will study, discuss and pray over scriptures—including the verses for the upcoming Sunday worship. This study is open to people of all ages. The Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85966539897?pwd=bGhkSHpaUDRva1MxWnhDaDZYVWJaQT09 Meeting ID: 859 6653 9897 Passcode: 704709 Any questions? Contact Pastor Becky

**Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins** are available for download on our website **stpaulnb.org**. Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.



When: February 21, 2022

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: TBD

Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages
Prepared and Served by: New Bremen HS Student Council
Please note-March meal has been canceled.

## An Evening with Carrie Newcomer and Pianist Gary Walters.

March 5, 2022 7:00 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ. Carrie Newcomer is a songwriter, recording artist, performer and educator. She has been described as a "prairie mystic" by the Boston Globe and as one who "asks all the right questions" by Rolling Stone Magazine. Carrie has 19 nationally released albums, including her most recent Until Now. Over the past two years, we have incorporated several of Carrie's songs in worship—including Room at the Table for a sung communion litury. We invite you to join us for an evening of music and fellowship. Entrance to the venue requires proof of Covid 19 vaccination and wearing of a mask for the entirety of the concert. Tickets are \$25.00 can be or purchased at the door in advance by https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-carrie-newcomer-andpianist-gary-walters-tickets-252131200207

**2022 Altar Flower Chart** has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. Dates available-February 20, April 3, 24, May 8, 22, June 26, August 14, 28, October 30, November 20. You may also call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. Price is \$30.00.

Blessing Pantry-is accessible during these hours - Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm. The Pantry will be closed Mondays and Fridays. All Donations Welcome - Blessing Pantry Needs- Diapers (size 1, 2, 4, 5, 6), Pull Ups (size 3-6), Baby Wipes, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Deodorant, Shaving Cream Feminine Hygiene Products, Dish Soap, Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets, Toilet Paper and

Paper Towels. **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

January/February Upper Rooms-are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

**Mailbox-**There is a mailbox outside of the East Educational Building door for any correspondence you may have for the church and would like to drop off. Please lift the flap and drop through the slot on the top. Thank you!

Calendar-Week of February	6	2022
---------------------------	---	------

Sunday	9:00am	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am Worsh	ip in person & via Facebook Live
		w/Holy Communion
	11:30am	Worship Team
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-New Bremen
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
•	2:00pm	Elmwood Worship
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	7:00pm	Church Council
Wednesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
-	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash (4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> grade)
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth
	7:00pm-8:30pm	Confirmation
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
,	1:00pm	Women's Service Group
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed