

THE ADVENTURE - 2022



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To **gather** as God's people and nurture one another
- + To **know** the Word of God
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen, Pastor
45 Worthington Mill Road
P. O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954
215-355-2529
web: www.adventrichboro.org
e-mail: office@adventrichboro.org



Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church continues to worship indoors and online. Thank God that COVID infections rates continue to be down. Mask wearing at Advent is optional for the fully vaccinated and recommended for the unvaccinated and immunocompromised. Based on Center for Disease Control, local governmental and church authorities' recommendations, Advent continues to have these precautions:

- Respect for those who chose to mask or not mask
- Social distancing
- Sanitizing hands and objects handled
- Staying home if you have any symptoms of illness or have been in close contact with anyone with COVID.
- The availability of online worship and the use of zoom for meetings.

Our leadership will continue to gauge the situation week by week and will keep the congregation informed of any adjustment to our precautions.

MAY WORSHIP SERVICES

MAY 1 -THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study



FRIDAY, MAY 6 JAZZ CONCERT 7:30 P.M.

MAY 8 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MOTHERS' DAY - BABY MANNA COLLECTION

- 8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
- 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Kristi & Megan Ward
- 10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

SATURDAY, MAY 14

- 7:30 a.m. Men's Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Special Service Project
- 10:00 a.m. Stitch Club

MAY 15 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
10:45 a.m. Church Council Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 17 - PRIMARY

ELECTIONS - Please vote for the candidate of your choice. Advent is a polling place,

MAY 22 - FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

8:00 a.m. Traditional Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:30 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
10:30 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
10:45 a.m. Adult Bible Study

MAY 29 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER **MEMORIAL DAY COMMEMORATION**

Summer Schedule begins

8:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study
9:00 a.m. Contemporary Holy Communion
10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time: Open
10:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Sunday services may also be attended by **Zoom** and will be live streamed on **Facebook**. A recording of the services will be uploaded to **YouTube** and linked to our website immediately after the service concludes.

YouTube: Click on the church website link after **12:00 p.m.** Sunday morning: <https://www.adventrichboro.org/>

Facebook: Go to the church Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/adventrichboropa/>

Zoom:

Smart device/Computer instructions- Click on this link for Traditional Worship at 8:00 a.m.
Click on this link for Contemporary Worship at 9:30 a.m.

The full zoom invitations are pasted below:

Phone instructions: Call 1-646-558-8656

While using Zoom, please mute yourself when you are not speaking.

Scheduled Zoom Meetings:

8:00 a.m. Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Traditional Holy Communion

Meeting ID: 891 9503 9877 Passcode: 443533

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89195039877?pwd=dnVRTlRGamJQVXNZbENlVDJTT0pnUT09>

9:30 a.m. Topic: Advent Lutheran Church Contemporary Holy Communion

Meeting ID: 854 0562 9972 Passcode: 506714

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85405629972?pwd=aGErSFNlbVAvNmZsQkIzWVpTTktlQT09>

Pastor Matt's Message for May, 2022

What is the Holy Spirit? Let's start with the word "spirit". Spirit can be defined as an essential animating energy. A person's spirit or soul is an immaterial energy that embodies their essential being or characteristics. To have high spirits is to be full of energy or vigor. One can do things with a type of spirit such as cooperation, happiness, discontent, etc. A person's spirit can convey their essential presence. It is possible to sense someone in the room with you without hearing them or seeing them such as while reading a book or being busy with something. Team spirit reflects the bond and energy of the team. The energy of a winning team and a losing team can be very different. A good pep talk can change the energy of a team. A team with strong team spirit can overcome a team of superstars with weak team spirit. Players sense the spirit of a team and will change teams to go to one with a better spirit or will even forgo opportunities for higher pay to stay somewhere with strong team spirit. Another example of spirit can be the relationship between two people such as marriage. I was told once that marriage should be treated like a third person in the relationship, where, just as you do things to care for your spouse, you need to also do things to care for the marriage. The marriage itself takes on an essential nature that can be sensed like the presence of an individual or the spirit of a team.

In scripture the Holy Spirit is often associated with the animating power of wind, fire and water. The Holy Spirit is essential God energy. The primary characteristic of that God energy is love. Thomas Aquinas defines the Holy Spirit as the spirit of love between God the Father and God the Son. This Spirit of love is so strong it embodies the essence of God and becomes its own person. We experience God the Father as the Creator, God the Son as the Redeemer and the God the Holy Spirit as the Sustainer actively sustaining us through the ways we are created and redeemed. Every time we experience God's love, we are experiencing the Holy Spirit.

So, do you sense the Holy Spirit active in your life? This is not a question of whether the Holy Spirit is active in your life or not. The Holy Spirit is active in your life at all times and at every moment, whether you sense it or not. This was promised to you in your baptism. So, do you sense the Holy Spirit? It can be difficult for us as human beings to sense the Holy Spirit at every single moment of our lives. We get distracted. Our sins get in the way. But there are ways to get better at sensing the Holy Spirit. There are patterns to how God loves us. Sometimes, in order to see a pattern, we need someone to point the pattern out to us. The pattern of God's love can be seen in reading the Bible. Christian community, which embodies the Holy Spirit, can point the patterns of God's love out to us through worship, prayer, bible study, service and fellowship.

Taking time to identify "God's sightings" of God's activity in our lives and giving God thanks in prayer can dramatically strengthen our sense of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives. We can sense God's love any time we witness any and every expression of love between people. We can sense God's love in everything God has created. Stopping and taking time to savor nature can reveal a strong sense of the Holy Spirit.

As our sense of the Holy Spirit's activity is deepened, our sense of being loved by God is deepened and our sense of participating in God loving in the lives those around us is heightened. As our sense of the Holy Spirit active in our lives in the past and the present is honed, we gain a sense of how the Holy Spirit will be active in our lives into the future. We start to recognize how God wants us to participate in the pattern of God's love all around us. We begin to recognize how our gifts and abilities fit into that pattern. The Holy Spirit starts to show us new gifts and abilities. As the pattern of God's love is revealed in greater parts of our lives we get a sense of the Holy Spirit leading us or calling us to love those around us in different ways. All this makes us feel inspired, excited, reassured, empowered, nourished and sustained. It is like being in a wonderful relationship or on a really awesome team, only better, because it is the essence of God's love of which we are a part.

God's Peace be with you,

Pastor Matt

Bible Lesson for Kids

Jesus Washed Away Our Sin



God sent Jesus to teach us about God's love and forgiveness. Jesus was born into a loving family and he always did what was right. He did not commit any sins while he was here on earth. Can we be like Jesus? We know we should not sin, but there are times when we do make mistakes or commit a sin. How do we make things better?

As Christians, we learn that God will forgive us. This is something we did not earn. It is ours through God's grace! He sent Jesus to live among us. Jesus suffered death on the cross and was risen from the dead. We need to know he endured this for us.

We would like to "clean up" our sins and start each day feeling free of those sins. We don't have a cleaning liquid in a spray bottle or a package of wipes to whisk away our sins. We must ask for forgiveness. We begin by saying "I'm sorry" to those whom we have offended. We continue to express those thoughts by praying to God.

We know that God will hear us when we pray. When we were baptized, we were marked with the cross as children of God. Our heavenly father promises to forgive us from our sins when we ask him in prayer. Yes, through Jesus we are forgiven, and each day is a new day with a new beginning.

Jesus was baptized before he started his ministry on earth. His cousin John, known as John the Baptist, baptized him in the river, though Jesus had no sins to be washed away! He wanted others to follow his example. Jesus often turned to God in prayer as he went forward to teach and to heal. We want to do the same: Pray to God to thank him for washing away our sins and ask him to keep us from sin in the future.

What can we do to help others who sin? We can share God's love with them and teach them about Jesus' sacrifice for us - teaching them as Jesus asked us to do! We can also respond to others who sin by offering them our forgiveness. We can read about Jesus' baptism in Luke 3: 15-16, 21-22:

Everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon, and they were eager to know whether John might be the Messiah. John answered their questions by saying, "I baptize you with water; but someone is coming soon who is greater than I am – so much greater that I'm not even worthy to be his slave and untie the straps of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit . . ."

One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy."

See coloring page12



Palm Sunday Children's Sermon



Easter Sunday Children's Sermon



Explanation of Baptism

PALM SUNDAY APRIL 10, 2022

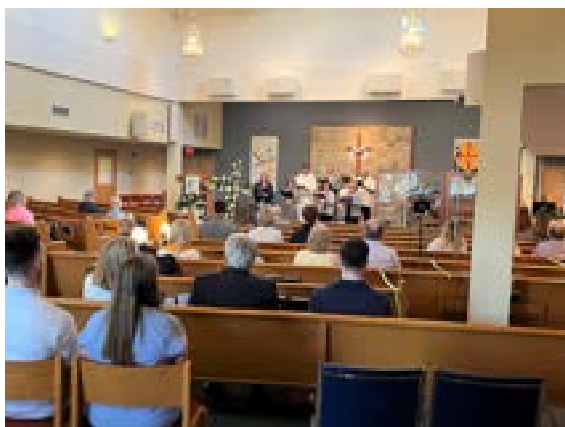


Distribution of Palms in narthex



Parade of the Palms

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2022



Easter Sunday with the Choir.



Preaching of God's Word

LENTEN SOUP & SERVICE NIGHTS THANK YOU



Advent thanks all those who participated in the Lenten Soup and Service nights; those who provided soup, bread, and beverages, those who set/cleaned up, and those who tuned in for the service. The services were well attended whether in person or on zoom, Facebook, etc. Thank you to Rick & Renata DeJames, Jeanne & Tony Gryszka, Joyce & Ray Heiss, George Henry, Christel & Janice Hoffmann, Pastor Matt, Gail Oines, and Linda Weaver for providing the food and Pastor Matt for providing the food for thoughts!



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - BOOK TO BE PURCHASED

“By Heart: Conversation with Martin Luther’s Small Catechism”

Wednesday Night Bible Study will resume 7:00 pm on June 8th by Zoom (address below).

We will be setting a pattern that during the summer months the Wednesday Night Bible Study will focus on a theological topic, church doctrine or history that engages or references the Bible. Through the rest of the year, the Wednesday night group will study the Bible directly. We will pick up studying Jesus’ parable in August. Our curriculum for this summer will be “By Heart: Conversation with Martin Luther’s Small Catechism”

“Studying the Small Catechism together will give us a common language with which to talk about faith, engage scripture, and make sense of our lives in the 21st century” -Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton.

Study booklets for the curriculum are \$16 and are available at the Augsburg Fortress website. Please fill in the sign up sheet in the narthex or contact the church office by May 18, if you would like us to order you one.

Here is the Zoom invitation:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89632518358?pwd=Smg5dm1Ba0VZamZjNG1YMk02MlVvdz09>



SPRING JAZZ CONCERT MAY 6, 7:30 P.M.

Please join our music director Mike Dettra and his group “Dettra Mental” for a jazz concert on Friday, May 6 at 7:30pm here at Advent. Light refreshments will be provided. The event is free, however there will be a free will offering.



MOTHER’S DAY/BABY MANNA

On Sunday, May 9, Mother’s Day will be observed. Traditionally we have requested contributions to Baby Manna. The donations provide formula and nutritional supplements for infants in need in the Philadelphia area. Please make your check out to Advent Lutheran Church with a note for Baby Manna. You can drop your donation off at the church or send it to Advent Lutheran Church P.O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954.



SPECIAL SERVICE PROJECT - SATURDAY, MAY 14, 10:00 A.M.

Children need our help! A special service project day to make "Comfort Bags for Kids" for the Lutheran Settlement House in Philadelphia will be held at Advent on Saturday May 14 10:00 am.

Lutheran Settlement House takes care of children that are dealing with emergency placement due to domestic violence or sudden homelessness. The children often come to them with little to nothing of their own. LSH provides a "comfort bag" to each child, these bags are drawstring backpacks and are filled with things like coloring books and crayons, journals, stuffed animals, and small games to help the child cope with some of the big emotions they may be experiencing.

These drawstring backpacks are relatively easy to make so let's get together and cut, pin, iron, and sew some bags for LSH and the children. No sewing experience is necessary, there will be lots of cutting and pinning and threading the straps to be done. If you have a sewing machine, please bring it, but if not just bring a happy smile and willingness to help. If you are unable to come out but still want to help; a donation of fabric, thread or cording is greatly appreciated. Each bag takes about 1 yard of fabric and 4 yards of cording.

Sign up sheets will be in the narthex. Any questions or donations can be directed to Jennifer McQuiggan 267-825-3890



PING PONG - MAY 10 AND 24 AT 6:30 P.M.

All are welcome to join us for an evening of Ping Pong at the church on Tuesdays, May 10 and 24 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Ray Heiss or Pastor Matt for additional information.



MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP SATURDAY, MAY 14

Men's Breakfast May 14th

After one of our favorite breakfasts we plan to review how we each enjoyed Mother's Day festivities. Coffee is ready by 7:30.

Dave



STITCH CLUB SATURDAYS 10:00 A.M.

Stitch club meets on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. Stitch club is open to all who would like to join. If you like to knit, crochet, or do needlepoint, this is for you! Stitch club items are **available throughout the year**. If you need any of the items made by the Stitch Club, i.e., blankets, hats, baby items, please contact Hanna McCollum 215-962-9032 or Jeff Jobs 215-355-4149.



RECENT/UPCOMING GRADUATES

We will recognize graduates of high school, college or trade school at a worship service in June. (The date will be listed in the June Newsletter) Please send or email the information requested (form on page 11) no later than May 20 to be included in the June Newsletter.



ADVENT LAWN CUTTERS NEEDED

Advent is in need of adults who are able to volunteer their time a couple of times this season to cut the church grass. Training will be provided. If you're available or have any questions, please call Tony Gryszka at 267-408-3255 or Lynn Roccograndi at 215-285-0610. Thank you.



FILL A TRAY AT MEALTIME

Look for aluminum trays on the tables in our narthex . . . Take some home to await any meal that has one serving left – or perhaps you've made extra food on purpose! Fill the 3 sections, add the foil cover, plus the label and bag that come with the tray. Voila! A meal for a shut-in or a person in need!

Advent has a dedicated freezer for meals and we drop them off at Caring for Friends when our freezer fills up. We continue this effort throughout the year. The impact of your food or monetary donation can be viewed on caringforfriends.org.



WE'RE KEEPING TABS

Recycling can tabs for charity is a great idea! If you **bring them in**, we'll drop them off. Look for marked containers in the narthex, located on the shelf above the coat rack. No cans, please – just tabs! Thank you.



ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATION

There are numerous dates available for 2022 to dedicate flowers to beautify the altar each Sunday. Please sign up on the sheet on the table in the narthex with your name and dedication. Two bouquets are available each week. The cost is \$25 per bouquet. In addition to making the altar more beautiful, you take the flowers home after the late service to enjoy during the week. If you have any questions call Cindy Frey 267-205-0713.

MISSION SUPPORT FOR 2022

The sign-up sheets Mission Support dedications for 2022 are in the narthex. The cost to dedicate one bouquet is \$25.00. One week of Mission support is \$25.00. There are many openings available on the Mission Support chart for 2022.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please keep Pastor Lyzette Rios Sanchez and our mission congregation Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in your prayers. Your mission support gifts help them to minister in an impoverished area of Philadelphia



THE ARMED FORCES

Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

Lt. Col. Andrew M Frey, Jr is serving as Senior Weather Officer, NORAD/NORTHCOM stationed at Peterson AFB, Colorado Springs,

US Air Force Major Fred Gouse is a pilot and instructor stationed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

US Army Colonel (Ret.) Jeff Williams is serving in Dubai, UAE as a military advisor.

US Army Ranger Liam McKendry, grandson of Pastor Jo stationed in Fort Benning, GA

If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office. Thank you.

SERVING IN WORSHIP - MAY SCHEDULE

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 8:00 AM

5/01 Open
5/08 Dave Shearer
5/15 Nancy Hill
5/22 Dave Shearer
5/29 Summer Schedule-no 8 am service

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS – 9:30 A.M.

5/01 John Flynn
5/08 Karen Matlack
5/15 Gail Oines
5/22 Jennifer McQuiggan

SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS - 9:00 A.M.

5/29 Jeanne Gryszka

ALTAR GUILD

8:00 A.M. Hanna McCollum
9:30 A.M. Karen Matlack, Gail Oines,
Nancy Sclight, Rhona Slawter

OUR TECH CREW

Mike Dettra, Karen Matlack, Tony Gryszka, Gary Zimmerman, Joel Denis

FLOWER DISTRIBUTION

Linda Brownlee, Audrey Savchuck, Nancy Sclight, Rhona Slawter



ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER MAY BIRTHDAYS



2	Renate DeJames	11	Daniel McGee	Seraphina McMahon
3	Ariadne Stiles	14	Emerson Stocchi	22 Nikolaus Buttil
4	Benedict Sanderlin		Fran Zanis	27 William Dettra
5	Amanda Earle	15	George Spahn	28 Helen Shearer
6	Joan Lenox	17	Tony Gryszka	
8	Alyssa (Matlack) Fell		Michele Oines Sanderlin	
10	Linda Weaver	21	Ron Brown	

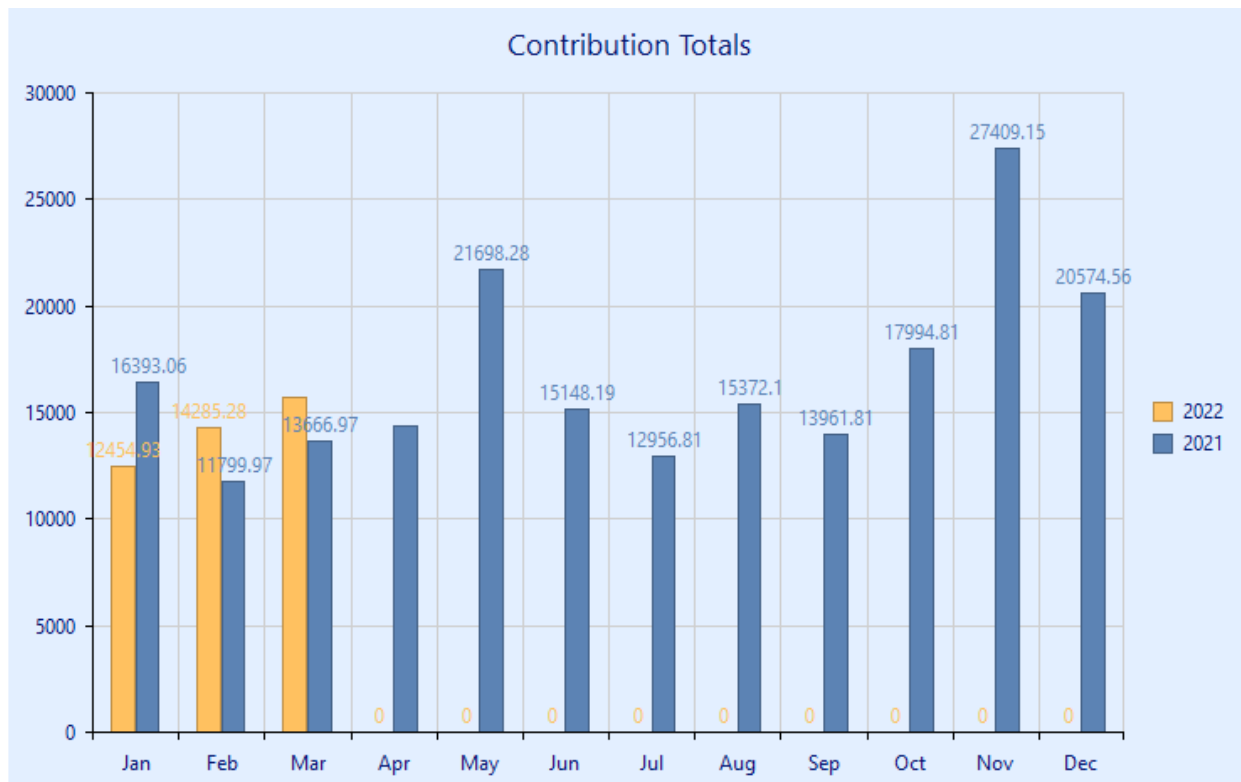
Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list.
Thank you.

FINANCIAL UPDATE -1st QUARTER 2022

Advent had a difficult financial first quarter of 2022. Our combined operating and mortgage expenses for January through March exceeded revenue by \$24,930. We were down by \$16,276 at this time last year. Traditionally, January and February are challenging financial months. Price increases for supplies and services are up across the board this year. On a positive note, we have responded to those in need by our benevolence offerings in the amount of \$4,966 so far this year, primarily Ukraine support, as well as Lutheran World Relief and support for the Warminster Food Bank. Thank you!

Advent continues to make upgrades within the building and our mortgage payments will decrease once the sale of the tract of land by Anselm Rd. closes. Your continued financial support of Advent is much appreciated. If you have any questions feel free to call me, Nancy Hill – Treasurer 215-470-8729.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Income for March 2022

Benevolence (LWR, Mission Support, etc.)	\$3,099.00
General Fund	\$9,791.39
Mortgage Fund	\$2,813.50

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of the church this year. We greatly appreciate it. There are numerous ways to continue your offerings.

- Drop off your offering at the church office. The office is usually open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 10 AM and 1 PM. Call to confirm hours.
- Mail a check to the church. The mailing address is "Advent Lutheran Church, PO Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954"
- Contribute online at www.adventrichboro.org. At the top of the page, click the "Give Now" link to see frequently asked questions. At the bottom of the page click the "Give Now" link for our Giving platform. You may also choose to set up recurring donations or a one-time donation.

Again, thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions concerning your offering please call Cindy Frey, Financial Secretary 267-205-0713



HIGH SCHOOL, TRADE SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES

Parents: If your child is graduating or has recently graduated from High School, Trade School or College, please fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate or mail to church office.

Name of graduate: _____

High School/Trade School/College (name): _____

Degree & Major (pursuing or received): _____

Plans for future: _____

Must be completed and returned to Advent Lutheran Church by May 20th. May be emailed/called in 215-355-2529 or dropped off at office or mailed to church.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 3rd Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	2	3	4	5	6 7:30 PM SPRING JAZZ CONCERT 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	7 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Church Council Retreat 10:00 AM Stitch Club
8 4TH Sunday of Easter Mother's Day/Baby Manna Collection 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Kristi & Megan Ward 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	9 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	10 6:30 PM Ping Pong	11	12	13 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	14 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast 10:00 AM In service project 10:00 AM Stitch Club
15 5th Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Church Council Meeting	16 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	17 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM General Primary Elections	18	19	20 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	21 10:00 AM Stitch Club
22 6th Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Traditional Holy Communion 9:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:30 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	23 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	24 6:30 PM Ping Pong	25	26	27 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	28 10:00 AM Stitch Club
29 Beginning of Summer Schedule 7th Sunday of Easter 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:00 AM Contemporary Holy Communion 10:30 AM Fellowship Time: Open 10:45 AM Adult Bible Study	30 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	31				

