

APRIL 2023

Hamburg Presbyterian Church

# The TOWEL AND BASIN

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Mission: To be a spiritually passionate congregation that lives out Christ's teachings; through love-filled relationship building, we prayerfully seek to share our lives and resources with the community and the world





## Engaging in the Anti-Racism Journey

The Anti-racism Task Group believes it is called by Jesus to recognize, acknowledge and root out racism, be it interpersonal, structural or systemic, in our communities, churches, state and country. We admit our own complicity in racism and commit to this work as an essential expression of our faith. Our focus is to work with the people of the Presbytery to challenge and support each other in this Anti-racism work. Our intent is to do this through encouraging education, discussion, partnership and action.

### [Anti-Racism Resource Page](#)

## THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY

**THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY HAS ITS ROOTS IN THE MIDDLE AGES (500 TO 1450 CE). IT DEVELOPED OUT OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH DOCTRINE USED TO SUPPORT THE CRUSADES TO THE HOLY LAND FROM 1026 TO 1271. TO JUSTIFY THE CRUSADES, THE POPE ESTABLISHED THE IDEA THAT IT WAS HIS RESPONSIBILITY TO CREATE A UNIVERSAL CHRISTIAN WORLD, CONTROLLED BY THE CHURCH. THAT MEANT THAT ATTACKING THE NON-CHRISTIANS, OR PAGANS, WAS JUSTIFIED. WHILE MANY HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE CRUSADES, FEW PROBABLY THINK ABOUT THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE EUROPEAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE “DISCOVERY” OF NORTH AMERICA AND THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY THAT GUIDED IT. AND WHY TALK ABOUT THIS IN THIS COLUMN ANYWAY? BECAUSE, THE RACISM THAT IS STILL CAUSING SO MUCH PAIN TODAY, HAS DEEP ROOTS IN EUROPE’S HISTORY.**

**IN THE 1400’S, AS SPAIN AND PORTUGAL BEGAN THEIR DISCOVERY AND CONQUEST OF THE WORLD BEYOND EUROPE, THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH ADOPTED SEVERAL NEW DOCTRINES. THESE DOCTRINES CLAIMED TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF “PAGANS” (ANYONE NOT CHRISTIAN) BUT ONLY IF THEY DID NOT STRAY TOO FAR FROM EUROPEAN NORMS FOR BEHAVIOR. THIS MEANT THAT SPAIN AND PORTUGAL HAD THE RIGHT TO LEGALLY SEIZE LANDS AND RIGHTS OF NON-CHRISTIANS WHO DIDN’T BEHAVE AS EUROPEANS DID.**

**THEN, IN 1452, IN A DOCUMENT TITLED DUM DIVERSAS, POPE NICHOLAS V GAVE PERMISSION TO KING ALFONSO V OF PORTUGAL “TO CAPTURE, VANQUISH, AND SUBDUE, ALL SARACENS, PAGANS, AND OTHER ENEMIES OF CHRIST,” TO “REDUCE THEIR PERSONS TO PERPETUAL SLAVERY” AND TAKE AWAY ALL THEIR POSSESSIONS AND PROPERTY. WHEN COLUMBUS “CLAIMED” THE LANDS HE ENCOUNTERED IN HIS JOURNEY, ISABELLA AND FERDINAND ASKED THE POPE TO AFFIRM THAT THEY NOW OWNED THESE LANDS. IN TIME, THE ENGLISH PROTESTANT CHURCH EMPLOYED THE SAME DOCTRINE TO JUSTIFY ITS CLAIM OVER THE LANDS THEY WANTED TO TAKE.**

**THIS IS THE CONTEXT, AND THESE ARE THE ATTITUDES, THAT INFORMED THOSE WHO “DISCOVERED” AMERICA. BECAUSE NO EUROPEANS HAD SEEN THESE LANDS BEFORE, WHICHEVER EUROPEAN NATION LANDED ON ANOTHER LAND, FELT JUSTIFIED IN TAKING POSSESSION OF IT. AS FOR THE RESIDENTS, BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT CHRISTIAN, THEY NEED NOT BE TREATED AS FULL HUMAN BEINGS. THIS IS THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY.**

**TODAY, SOME WOULD SAY THAT THIS WAS JUST HOW PEOPLE THOUGHT AT THAT TIME. WHAT IS PAST IS PAST. BUT WHAT WAS, IN SOME WAYS STILL IS. NEXT WEEK, WE WILL EXPLORE HOW THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY, THIS IDEA THAT ANYTHING A EUROPEAN DISCOVERED BECAME THEIRS, CONTINUES TO HOLD POWER IN OUR NATION TODAY.**

**AND SOME OF US MAY NEED TO EXPLORE HOW IT MAY STILL HOLD SWAY IN US AS WELL.**



# The Lord's Love Letter to You...

## **My Child,**

**"You may not know me, but I know everything about you**

**I know when you sit down and when you rise up**

**I am familiar with all your ways** ~ Psalm 139:1-3

**Even the very hairs on your head are numbered** ~ Matthew 10:29-31

**For you were made in my image** ~ Genesis 1:27

**In me you live and move and have your being**

**For you are my offspring** ~ Acts 17:28

**I knew you even before you were conceived** ~ Jeremiah 1:4-5

**I chose you when I planned creation** ~ Ephesians 1:11-12

**You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book** ~ Psalm 139:15-16

**I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live** ~ Acts 17:26

**You are fearfully and wonderfully made**

**I knit you together in your mother's womb** ~ Psalm 139:14, 13

**And brought you forth on the day you were born** ~ Psalm 71:6

**I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me** ~ John 8:41-44

**I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love** ~ 1 John 4:16

**And it is my desire to lavish my love on you**

**Simply because you are my child and I am your father** ~ 1 John 3:1

**I offer you more than your earthly father ever could** ~ Matthew 7:11

**For I am the perfect father** ~ Matthew 5:48

**Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand** ~ James 1:17

**For I am your provider and I meet all your needs** ~ Matthew 6:31-33

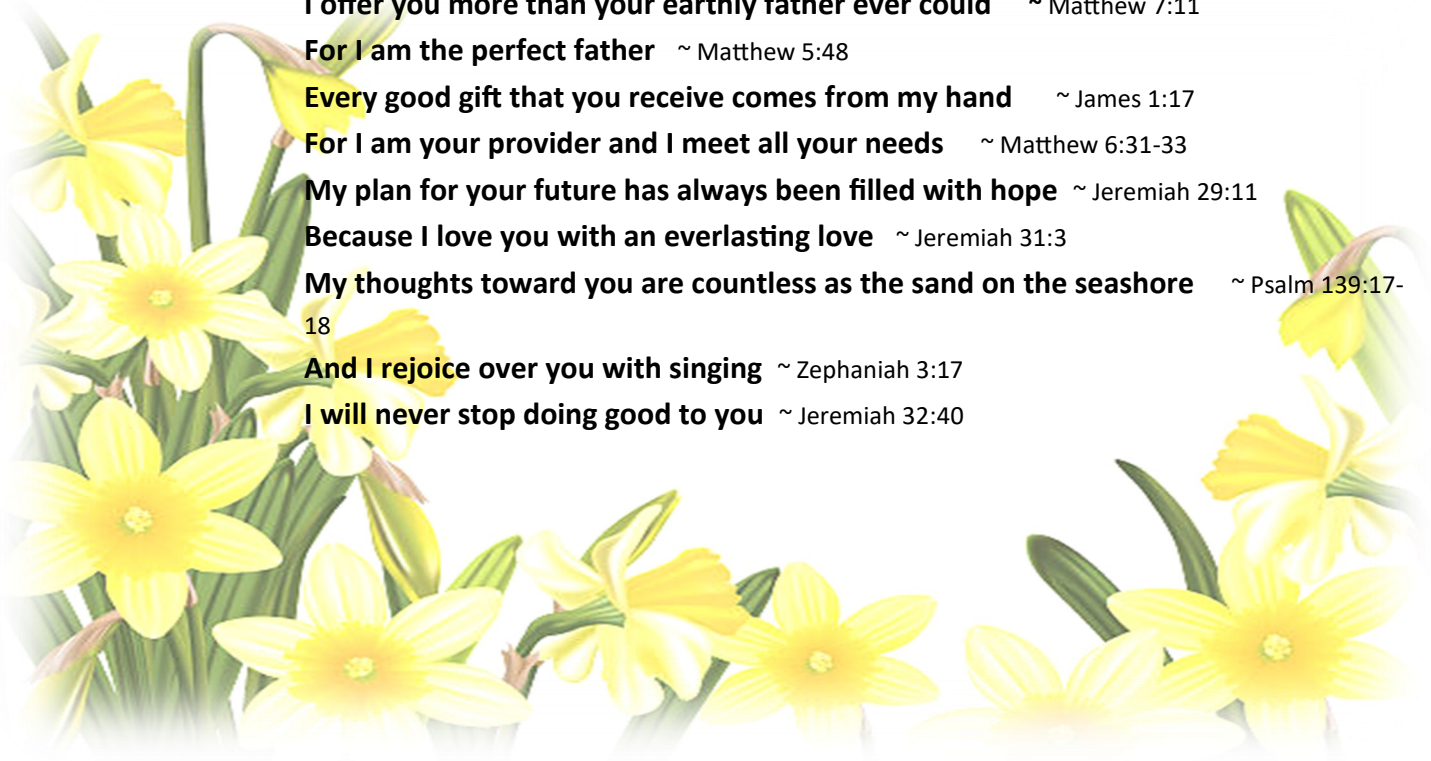
**My plan for your future has always been filled with hope** ~ Jeremiah 29:11

**Because I love you with an everlasting love** ~ Jeremiah 31:3

**My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore** ~ Psalm 139:17-18

**And I rejoice over you with singing** ~ Zephaniah 3:17

**I will never stop doing good to you** ~ Jeremiah 32:40





# The Lord's Love Letter to You...

**For you are my treasured possession** ~ Exodus 19:5

**I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul** ~ Jeremiah 32:41

**And I want to show you great and marvelous things** ~ Jeremiah 33:3

**If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me** ~ Deuteronomy 4:29

**Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart** ~ Psalm 37:4

**For it is I who gave you those desires** ~ Philippians 2:13

**I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine** ~ Ephesians 3:20

**For I am your greatest encourager** ~ 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

**I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles** ~ 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

**When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you** ~ Psalm 34:18

**As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart** ~ Isaiah 40:11

**One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes**

**And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth** ~ Revelation 21:3-4

**I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus** ~ John 17:23

**For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed** ~ John 17:26

**He is the exact representation of my being** ~ Hebrews 1:3

**He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you** ~ Romans 8:31

**And to tell you that I am not counting your sins**

**Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled** ~ 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

**His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you** ~ 1 John 4:10

**I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love** ~ Romans 8:31-32

**If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me** ~ 1 John 2:23

**And nothing will ever separate you from my love again** ~ Romans 8:38-39

**Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen** ~ Luke 15:7

**I have always been Father, and will always be Father** ~ Ephesians 3:14-15

**My question is ~ Will you be my child?** ~ John 1:12-13

**I am waiting for you** ~ Luke 15: 11-32

*Love,*

*Your Father, Son, and Holy Spirit;*

*the Almighty God*

# PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

## CIRCLE MEETINGS:

**HANNAH CIRCLE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12TH @ 10:00AM**

AMY LOW ROOM  
MARCI TONEY - LEADER

**ELIZABETH CIRCLE THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH @ 9:30AM**

JANIE FELTZ'S HOME  
JANIE SMITH - LEADER

**RUTH CIRCLE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19TH @ 12:30PM**

AMY LOW ROOM  
GINNIE SPRAGUE – LEADER

## **PW COORDINATING TEAM**

WILL MEET TUESDAY, APRIL 4TH @ 12:30PM IN THE AMY LOW ROOM

## **MISSION QUILTERS**

WEDNESDAY APRIL 1ST @ 9:30AM IN FELLOWSHIP HALL



**PRESBYTERIAN  
WOMEN**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

### Ushers

**Apr. 9** – Leyonmark Family

**Apr. 16** – Rich Family

**Apr. 23** – Leyonmark

**Apr. 30** – Tothero Family

### Liturgists

**Apr. 9** – Joanne Yoviene

**Apr. 16** – Don Robinson

**Apr. 23** – Hal Lewis

**Apr. 30** – Wendy Zimmerman

## EASTER FLOWERS!

EASTER FLOWERS CAN BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE EASTER SERVICES APRIL 9TH! OTHERWISE THE FLOWER



WILL BE DELIVERED TO OUR HPC FRIENDS AT HOME THAT ARE UNABLE TO JOIN US FOR IN-PERSON SERVICES



## PALM SUNDAY SERVICES

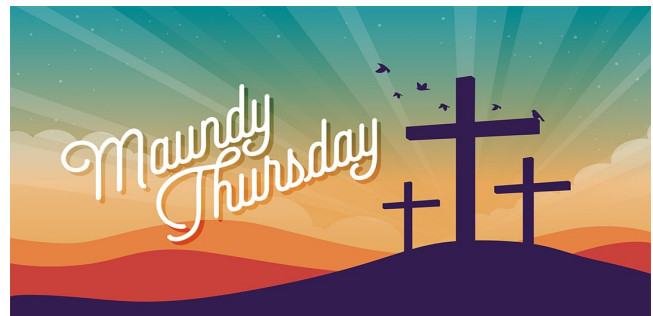
APRIL 2ND, 2023

10AM IN THE SANCTUARY

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

APRIL 6TH, 2023

7PM IN THE CHAPEL



## EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 9TH, 2023

10AM IN THE SANCTUARY

# April

April 1 Sadie Rupp, Emma Sipos

April 3 Burt Marsh

April 4 Jake Metzger & Lauren  
Tone

April 6 Rich McAlpine, Anne  
Nelson & Nolan Whipple

April 8 Kris McGuire, Craig  
Schmittendorf

April 9 Hal Lewis & Keara Rupp

April 11 Olivia Knauss, Lola

Faye Reynolds

April 12 Shawn Ferro

April 14 Adam DeLang

April 18 Claire Mills

April 19 Blair Webster

April 20 Gary Lauchert

April 21 Cheryl Koelme

April 22 Frankie Grandits,

Claire Smith, Doug Lehmann

April 23 Gabby Petrilla,

Donna Tuttle

April 24 Danner Leyonmark

April 26 Jessica Grabar

April 30 Chris Gawlak &

Dudley Hollenbeck



## Sandwich Sunday 4/16

Please bring individually wrapped sandwiches to church Sunday morning and put them in the coolers in the coat room. Or, bring them to the Hollenbeck's front porch at 480 Pleasant Ave anytime Saturday or Sunday morning until

**Non-perishable food items are needed for the Blessing Box located on Main St. lawn.** Box cereal, instant oatmeal, box milk, canned milk, dried milk packets, canned soup, chili, Chef Boyardee, SpaghettiOs, chicken noodle soup, Top Ramen, baked beans, peanut butter and jelly, dried fruit, mixed nuts, granola bars, spaghetti sauce and pasta noodles, mac & cheese, canned tuna, canned chicken, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, plain crackers, hot cocoa packets, instant coffee & tea bags. Please note, no expired/close to expiration date items can be accepted. Thank you!

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

*Rich McAlpine,  
George Ackerman,  
Bill McCoy,  
Jonah DeLang,  
Donna Burns,  
Richard Monckton,  
Bob Catalino,*

\*Contact Church Office with prayer needs.

## April Coffee Hour!

Meet in the lounge after service for a time of fellowship!

**2** Church Life and Worship & Music snacks

**9** Building & Grounds

**16**

Ses-

tion

**23**

Mis-

sion

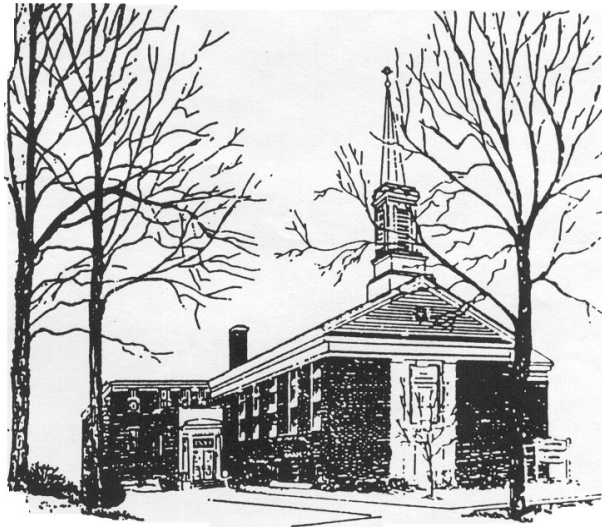


MY FLESH AND MY HEART MAY FAIL,  
BUT GOD IS THE STRENGTH OF MY  
HEART AND MY PORTION FOREVER.

PSALM 73:26







# HAMBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

177 Main St.  
Hamburg, NY 14075

**Pastor** - Rev. Rachel Brown  
**Christian Education Director** -  
**Minister of Music**- Alexander Hamilton  
**Pastoral Care Assistant** - Wendy Zimmerman  
**Treasurer** - Blair Webster  
**Financial Secretary** - Katie Gertner  
**Church Office** - Kendra Quinn-Moultrie  
**Sexton** - Dave Monaco  
**Office Phone** - (716) 649-1970

E-mail - [hamburgpres@gmail.com](mailto:hamburgpres@gmail.com)

Web Page - [www.hamburgchurch.org](http://www.hamburgchurch.org)

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/hamburgpresbychurch/>

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtZVuwF9DN62b-WK-iXq5Ug>



## Sunday Worship & Christian Ed Schedule

10:00am Worship Service  
in the Sanctuary and on Facebook  
10:15am Children's Church  
(after Children's Sermon)

### Worship Online with us!

Visit [www.hamburgchurch.org](http://www.hamburgchurch.org) and click on the Media tab to the drop down Bulletin tab. Select the bulletin of the week and access [Facebook Live](#)

## Newsletter

### Deadline

The deadline for the

**May Issue** is

**April 20th, 2023**



## HPC OFFICE

### Staff Listing

#### *Pastor*

Rev. Rachel Brown: 444-7333

#### *Minister of Music*

Alex Hamilton

#### *Financial Secretary*

Katie Gertner: 400-4892

#### *Church Office*

Kendra Quinn-Moultrie: 649-1970

#### *Sexton*

Dave Monaco: 931-5213



## HPC OFFICE HOURS

(716-649-1970)

**Monday** 9am - 2pm

**Tuesday** 9am - 2pm

**Wednesday** 9am - 2pm

**Thursday** 9am-2pm

**Friday Closed**

In case of an emergency,  
Rev. Rachel Brown may be  
reached on her cell at 444-7333.

NEED PRAYER?

Please let Pastor Rachel know of your prayer needs by contacting her directly at (716) 444-7333.

All prayer requests are confidential and may be made through church email or by phone as well.

## MINUTES OF SESSION March 13th 2023

The Rev. Rachel Brown, Moderator, called the Session meeting to order at 7:00pm. Motion to approve agenda was approved.

Elders in attendance were: Jim Sampson, Rachel Brown, Chris Burns, Sandy Smith, Wayne Hines, Jeff Leyonmark, Kris McGuire, Jerry Stitt, Blair Webster, Holly Bahruth, Tish Harrigan

Also in attendance was Pastor Rachel

Excused was Tom Tabone,

Deacon in attendance was Cheryl Koemel.

The devotion was provided by Sandy Smith.

The meeting minutes from February 13, 2023 were approved.

### PASTOR'S REPORT:

Pastor Rachel will be in San Diego from 3/15/23-3/22/23 to officiate a funeral. She also presided at Gail Wheaton's funeral on 3/4/23. Reverend Kate Carlisle will be the pulpit supply on 3/19/23 with guests from East Aurora Presbyterian Church. We have moved our Holy Communion to that day, (noted below).

**CLERK'S REPORT:** Nothing to report

### DEACON'S REPORT:

Cheryl update the efforts of the Deacons. Monthly card writing, purchasing 40 Easter flowers for the Sanctuary, Updating the Deacon Handbook, and delivering Holy Communion to the homebound.

### COMM. TO PRESBYTERY:

Next meeting in May. Jim Sampson will be present.

### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Blair Webster sent the financials to Session prior to the meeting. The Financial Management Team has added percentage of budget to the document. There was a deposit in late February that did not post until after the document was generated. Giving in March will reflect the added income.

### MINISTRY TEAMS REQUIRING ACTION:

**Personnel** – The following motion was tabled until the April meeting.

**MOTION:** The Personnel Team moves that the HPC Employee Handbook be modified to clarify vacation time for parttime employee and to provide for sick leave. Those modifications are attached and highlighted in "red."

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

### NEW BUSINESS

Review of the Motion by Personnel to amend the Vacation/Sick Time policy for Employees.

### OPEN DISCUSSION

General open discussion was held. Topics included

- Since the Mission Team needs a Session representative, they can bring a Motion directly to Session for consideration.
- Kris McGuire-Session agreed to host the Annual Meet-

ing at Chestnut Ridge on 7/9/23. Weidner's BBQ will provide the meal. Kris also inquired about starting up the Progressive Dinner. Session agreed it would be valuable.

- Cheryl Koemel-HPC received food donations from Feed Hamburg. We are grateful for their efforts.
- Sandy Smith-CE is ready for the CE Director search. Rachel recommended Ian Caulder. CE will work with Personnel.
- Wayne Hines-Easter Palms are ordered. W&M are ready for Easter.

There will be a Moment for Ministry Team on March 26, 2023 from the Nomination Team.

The devotion for the Session Meeting in April will be provided by Wayne Hines.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated on March 19, 2023 at the 10:00am Worship service. (See Pastor's Report above.)

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated on April 2, 2023 at the 10:00am Worship service.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated on April 6, 2023 at the Maundy Thursday Service.

The **Sacrament of Holy Communion** will be celebrated on April , 2023 at the Easter Sunday Service.

Next meeting date Tuesday April 11, 2023 at 7:00pm.

A motion to adjourn was approved.

Pastor Rachel closed the meeting at 8:15 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted:



Clerk of Session

# April 2023



Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat



						<b>1</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
						<b>2</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Communion
<b>9</b> <b>10:00am</b> Easter Service	<b>10</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Session (L) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon	<b>11</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning & Staff <b>5:30pm</b> Bell Choir  <b>6:30pm</b> Chancel Choir  <b>7:00pm</b> Session (L)	<b>12</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Mission (L) <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>13</b> <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH) <b>6:30pm</b> Deacons	<b>14</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>15</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>16</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service & Sandwich Sunday	<b>17</b> <b>7:00pm</b> Worship and Music (Z) <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	<b>18</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning <b>5:30pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>19</b> <b>12:30pm</b> Ruth Circle (ALR) <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>20</b> <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH)	<b>21</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>22</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>23</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	<b>24</b> <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)	<b>25</b> <b>11:00am</b> Worship Planning <b>5:30pm</b> Bell Choir <b>6:30pm</b> Chancel Choir	<b>26</b> <b>7:30pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>27</b> <b>7pm</b> YogaFaith (FH)	<b>28</b> <b>10:00pm</b> AA (FH)	<b>29</b> <b>9:00am</b> United Church of God (FH)
<b>30</b> <b>10:00am</b> Worship Service	<b>31</b> <b>7:30pm</b> AlAnon (FH)					