

[Note: I wrote this and shared it on my personal Facebook page, but I wanted to share it here as well. For those of you who may be seeing this a second time, I hope the words reflected here are even more true than they were the first time you read it, and perhaps, were helped by it.]

In the Reformed tradition we do not call this an altar. Altars are where blood sacrifices are made. That has already happened upon Calvary's tree. The Bible says that Jesus suffered "once for all time" ([Heb 10:14](#)). So, this is no altar.

Instead, we call this a table. Tables are where meals are shared among friends and families. It was around a table in the Upper Room where Jesus shared what would become the Lord's Supper with His disciples. It is that same meal that we eat by way of obedience and faith ([1 Cor 11:24](#)). It is at this table where we are reminded that by Christ's once-for-all sacrifice, we have been reconciled to God. It is from this table, where we remember both the promises and the call of the Gospel. And it is together, with our congregation, that we come to receive the spiritual nourishment we need to grow in grace.



But just like our sanctuary – this table is empty, for now.

This empty table helps us to remember the very truth that we are called to believe every time bread and cup are set before us; that the sacrament of the Supper is a sign and seal of a greater reality. We eat and we drink, but we know that we are doing more than just eating and drinking. We are experiencing communion with the risen Lord Jesus Christ, who is seated upon heaven's throne. In that way, the table itself points past what we can see, that we might behold the mysteries that only faith can peer into – our eternal union and communion with Christ Himself. That union is something no virus can break. As Paul says, there is nothing that can or ever will separate us from the love of Christ ([Rom 8:37-39](#)).

The table points us forward in this hope and makes a pledge that one day we will be gathered together at the marriage supper of the lamb in the New Heavens and the New Earth ([Rev 16:6-9](#)). There we will eat and drink, as we do at this table, except we will be without sin, and there will be nothing to keep us from beholding Jesus Christ in all His glory.

So – in this season, we are fasting from this earthly table. But our deepest longing is not for this table. It is for what this table points us to – Christ Himself – and the consummation of His Kingdom. And one day, dear Church, we will feast in the house of Zion – there to weep no more.

"On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.

And He will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of His people He will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation." - [Isaiah 25:6-9](#)

Zach

ELDERS

Keith Wilson - Clerk
Steve Morrison
Jim Mueller
Kevin Oak
Mic Penry
Patrick Shovar

DEACONS

Beth Flickinger
Cindy Cullen
Scott Cullen
Janet Dunlap
Norman Dunlap
Beth Easterla
Don Easterla
Cora Schafman
Peggy Shovar

TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair
Larry Pithan - Secretary
Ken Benningfield
Jeff Fuhr
Phil Fuhr
Scott Nelson
Jeff Schmidt
Chris Stark
Jeff Thomas

Happy Anniversary!

4 - Wyatt & Karrie Fuhr
6 - Andy & Nichole Wistedt
7 - Marvin & Denise Rursch
8 - Donald & Clarice Docherty
10 - Jim & Carrie Reimers
12 - Larry & Pam Pithan
14 - Norman & Jan Dunlap
16 - Kyle & Tara Johnson
18 - Donnie & Brandee Neece
20 - Rich Stilwell & Michelle Franklin
20 - Marlin & Darcy Krueger
22 - Robert & Alice Crawford
24 - Jeff & Kathy Fuhr



A **BIG** thank you
for all the
beautiful cards.
They're all taped
to my hall door.

*thank
you*

Thank you!

Love,
Phyllis Strafford

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

1 - Joshua Gierlus	16 - Jim Schaubroeck
3 - Kira Nelson	18 - Robert Kadel
5 - Jeff Schmidt	20 - Keegan Koresko
6 - Ken Benningfield	21 - Wyatt Terrill
6 - Jason Rursch	24 - Michelle Doonan
6 - Jeff Thomas	24 - Zach Hopkins
7 - Marlin Krueger	24 - Cora Schafman
7 - Phyllis Titterington	29 - Tyson Freyermuth
10 - Scott Cullen	29 - Vicky Ruggles
14 - Daria Parchert	30 - Ken Kaiser

Happy
FATHER'S
Day!

THE RIGHTEOUS LEAD
BLAMELESS LIVES;
BLESSED ARE THEIR
CHILDREN AFTER THEM.

PROVERBS 20:7

GREETERS FOR JUNE

Sunday, June 7th - Darren & Tonya Hall
Sunday, June 14th - Todd and Lauren Stegmiller
Sunday, June 21st - Korey & Tara Miller
Sunday, June 28th - Kim and Barb Freyermuth

April 28, 2020 at 7pm

The Session meeting was held April 28th at 7:00pm. The meeting was a virtual video conferencing meeting with Zach Hopkins, Steve Morrison, Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, Kevin Oak, Patrick Shovar, and Keith Wilson in attendance.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened the meeting with prayer. The Elders studied and discussed the 6th chapter of *The Shepherd Leader* by Timothy Witmer. The Elders prayed for the committees and volunteers of the church.

There was a motion to approve the docket and the minutes of the last meeting. Motion was seconded and approved.

Zach reported on his activities for the month which included:

- **Visits/Calls:** Easter Contacts
- **Committee/Ministry Meetings:** Buffalo Prairie Session, Mission Committee, RLP Presbytery, RLP Ministry Committee

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Session reviewed the Good Friday and Easter Sunday services and they felt they were very good and well received.
- Zach informed the Session that the new member class has been postponed.
- Zach informed the Session that Lisa Bowman has offered to host the 'Resource table' containing the weekly worship guides, issues of 'TableTalk' and other brochures in a cabinet on her front porch. A communication to the congregation will be sent out.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Session Discussed Contingency Planning in several areas
 - Member Care – The Session reiterated the importance of staying connected at this time to determine the needs of the congregation.
 - Timeline update – Stay at home order has been extended to May 31st.
 - Financials – Nothing of note to discuss.
 - Sunday Worship – Zach noted that managing the technology has gotten better. He talked about how difficult it is for him to get up in front of the empty pews and conduct the service. The services have been very good and well attended.
 - Wednesday Prayer Meeting – These sessions have been well received.
 - Sunday School Classes – Brandee Neece continues to conduct a digital class with the Senior High class.
- Zach's housing allowance – Steve, Keith and Zach are scheduled to meet Thursday, April 30th at 1:30pm via Zoom to finalize details.
- Music Director – Zach reminded the Session to prayerfully consider our need for a choir director this fall.

The next Stated Session meeting will be: April 28th, 2020 at 7pm. The Session will study Chapter 7 of *The Shepherd Leader* by Timothy Witmer.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Motion Carried

Zach closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Wilson,
Clerk of Session

COVID-19 Planning
March 17, 2020 at 7pm

The Session COVID -19 planning meeting was held March 17th at 9:00am. The meeting was held via conference call with Zach Hopkins, Steve Morrison, Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, Kevin Oak, Patrick Shovar, and Keith Wilson in attendance.

Zach opened the meeting with prayer.

The Session discussed the current environment concerning the coronavirus situation and the President's recommendation that no gatherings of more than 10 people occur.

After much discussion and many concerns expressed, the Session decided to temporarily discontinue worship services in our church facility. The Session will continue to monitor the situation to determine the appropriate time for us to resume worship services in our church building. The Session agreed that Zach should proceed with conducting worship services using Facebook Live so that parishioners can tune in to worship remotely.

It was also decided that it is important for us to keep in touch with our congregation to determine if there are specific needs paying special attention to those that are unable access the virtual worship services.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:35am. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Wilson,
Clerk of Session

COVID-19 Planning
May 14, 2020 at 10:30am

The Session COVID-19 planning meeting was held May 14th at 10:30am. The meeting was a virtual meeting held via Zoom with Zach Hopkins, Steve Morrison, Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, Kevin Oak, Patrick Shovar, and Keith Wilson in attendance.

Zach opened the meeting with prayer.

The Session discussed the current environment concerning Covid-19 and State of Illinois guidelines regarding gatherings. It was felt that we will need to have a plan in place to ensure community safety when we are able to open up the church for worship. However, it does not appear that the state will allow gatherings of up to 50 people any time soon, and requirements for those gatherings have not been formulated. We decided that we will continue to monitor the State's pronouncements and evaluate safe practices for gatherings so that we are prepared to worship together in a safe manner when we are allowed.

It was also decided that it is important for us to keep in touch with our congregation to determine if there are specific needs and to communicate what we know about the potential for reopening the church. We all need to make a special effort of this.

Zach will include a message for the Sunday morning Facebook worship service.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:40am. Motion Carried.

Zach closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Wilson,
Clerk of Session

04/08/2020

Present: Mel Block, Jeff Fuhr, Phil Fuhr, Larry Pithan, Jeff Schmidt, Chris Stark, Jeff Thomas, Treasurer Cindy Oak, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:03pm.

Minutes from the March 11, 2020 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Reviewed the Treasurer's report for March. Motion made and seconded to approve the report as presented – motion carried.

Old Business:

- We believe the odor problem in the basement has been resolved. A defective toilet wax ring has been replaced.
- Boiler inspection was completed. Suggestion was made to replace the boiler relief valve. Next inspection in two years.
- Class for AED usage on hold.
- Flag pole cleat has been repaired.

New Business:

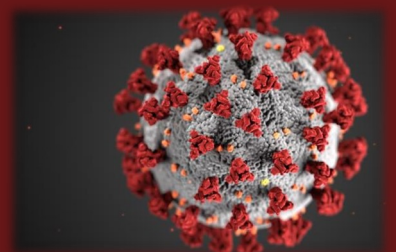
- Trustees are working on mounting system for the Janet Jack historical plaque. It is very heavy cast bronze. Plaque will be installed on the east wall of the new entry vestibule.
- A revised bid for residing the east wall of the sanctuary has been received from ADB Contractors. Total estimated cost is about \$14,000. Motion made, seconded and approved to proceed with the work. Estimated start time is late April or early May.
- Discussed renovation of front yard. Additional dirt is required on top of the new septic system. Trustees agreed to ask Wyatt Fuhr to provide the additional dirt and to do final grading. Anticipate that this work will be done in June or July.
- 10 light fixtures on the south side of the old basement have been re-wired and converted to LED tubes. Material and labor donated by trustee.
- Pews in sanctuary have been re-stained and sealed in areas where wood was worn. Material and labor donated by trustee.
- Pastor Zach and Kenzie have nearly completed their move out from the manse. Trustees will arrange for an appraisal and will review any repair work that might be needed before selling.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan

All events listed in the newsletter are suspended at this time due to the recommendations and restrictions put in place by our elected officials & healthcare professionals in response to COVID-19.
We are praying for many things now. Our ability to be able to meet together again soon is one of them!
We will keep you posted!



Please watch for updates through emails, on the website, and on our Facebook page. Pastor Zach is Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am worship and Wednesday evening at 7pm for prayer.

April 21, 2020

The Mission Committee met on April 21, 2020 at 6:30pm via video conference. Those attending were: Barb Freyermuth, Deb Wagamon, Todd Stegmiller, Lisa Nelson, James Reimers, Nancy Engstrom, and Zach Hopkins.

Zach opened the meeting in prayer

Old Business:

- **Church Status:** Discussion was held concerning the status of the church during this time of quarantine. Zach informed the committee that support was coming in, the congregation has been great at caring for one another's needs; sending out cards and continuing to pray for each other and our church as a whole. Most people in the congregation are staying safe, and the church is doing well staying current on the congregation's needs. We are indeed blessed that Edgington EPC is secure at this time.
- **Community Status:** Schools have sent out digital forms to local families inquiring about area needs during this pandemic. The Superintendent discussed meal provisions, etc. The school will continue to deliver 2 meals a day. The schools are reaching out to the churches for various needs and we will address those needs as they arrive.
- **Food Pantry:** Continues to receive donations both monetary and food sources. No major runs on the food pantry, they are holding steady. The Reynolds church is helping to feed about 8 families. The committee will check with Shirley and Dewey to see if there are any special needs at this time. Our food pantry is not generally a week to week, and is well resourced.
- **Missionaries:** We discussed whether we have had any special need requests from the missionaries we support. Steve Woodworth and Scott Burdsall are all doing fine; no special needs at this time. The Burdsall's are still in London. EPC and World outreach has left the decision to return to the US up to the missionaries based on their individual situations. All missionaries are well and doing God's work at this time. Commitments to their finances need to remain as funding will become a critical issue.

New Business:

Mission money available through March – \$13,107.22

- **2nd Quarter Commitments:** The committee approved the following:

2 nd Quarter Mission Commitments	Approved
World Outreach (Burdsall)	\$ 1,875.00
World Outreach ITEN (McCallum)	\$ 1,000.00
World Outreach ITEN (Woodworth)	\$ 2,125.00
World Outreach (Huber)	\$ 500.00
Youth Hope	\$ 1,500.00
Youth Hope - MAD Program	\$ 500.00
Pregnancy Resources	\$ 500.00
Church Planting (Lancaster's)	\$ 1,250.00
Total:	\$ 9,250.00

- **Buddy Bags:** There were 5 families identified as needing assistance; a total of 18 people. Though this topic is currently on hold, Lisa will reach out to the schools to see if these families are needing any special assistance at this time.



- **YouthHope:** YouthHope's Online Event was hoping to raise \$100,000 for 2020 support of their projects. Zach reached out to Mark Drake to see how much they were able to achieve from the event but Mark has not responded yet. This will be on the agenda for May to consider an additional payment to this mission based on Mark's response.
- **Pregnancy Resources:** Their fund raiser is still scheduled for June 2020. We will continue to monitor the needs of this mission and address them at our next meeting.
- **Winnie's Place:** Betsy has expressed a need for bus passes for the women at the facility. They also need disinfectant wipes, paper towels and gloves. If the congregation could donate to this need, Nancy will pick up the donations and deliver to Winnie's place. The facility is full, and with 24 rooms we estimate 50 individuals in house. A container will be placed on Lisa Bowman's front porch and marked for Winnie's place. Donations may be left there. The Metro is currently allowing passengers to ride free, so there is no need for bus passes at this time. We did notify Betsy, and will monitor the need going forward.
- **Other Mission Outreach:** Zach notified us the organization which manages the Youth mission trips has decided to cancel the entire 2020 schedule. Discussions are still being held concerning VBS and what it will look like this year. Our committee is prepared to assist where God leads us.
- **Minute for Mission:** There will be a pre-recorded message delivered to the congregation from the Mission Committee outlining how individuals can request assistance during this time of separation and reminding them we continue to pray for the safety and wellbeing of all our members, our church, our community, and our world.
- Zach closed the meeting in prayer

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 6:30pm.



We have placed a large plastic tub next to the resource cabinet on Lisa Bowman's front porch for donations to be deposited in for Winnie's Place.

Please see p. 10 for more details.



Despite COVID-19 ministry is still happening around the world, and prayer is definitely needed! Please engage where you are able to and lift up the prayer requests of the ministries our church supports!



CHECK OUT THE NEXT SEVERAL PAGES FOR THE MINISTRIES WE SUPPORT, AND FOR WAYS THAT YOU CAN GET PLUGGED IN PERSONALLY!



connect • serve • grow

TOGETHER, WE ARE STILL BRINGING HOPE!

Over the last six weeks we've made some tough calls! Closing both Youth Centers and Camp Summit, canceling all school programs, and not seeing our kids and teens has been heartbreaking! This week, we've made another tough decision to cancel the first half of summer camps in June.

But with change comes new opportunities!

Together, we had our first-ever virtual banquet, created virtual outreach, delivered food and basic supplies, sent **hundreds** of letters to kids, and spent six weeks encouraging and talking to our youth.

Three weeks ago, because of two generous gifts, we began an expansion of our dining room at Camp Summit. In July, we will fit ALL campers in the café **at the same time!** God is showing His plan for us to more than survive, but to thrive!

We hope to announce another great development (or two) in our next mailing. Yes, it is a challenging time mentally, emotionally, financially, plus all the new learning curves of virtual outreach. Each day, God provides for each challenge, and we are thankful for this time and these opportunities to share HOPE!

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support! We are praying for you and your family. God bless you!

~ Mark & Sarah Drake

To read the entire May 2020 YouthHope Report click [HERE](#)

Praise Reports:

- Father, we thank You for this time that we have grown closer to You, relied on You, and focused on Your unchanging HOPE!
- We thank You Lord for Your provision, guidance, wisdom, and safety during construction at Camp Summit! We praise Him for all the many hands who are/have worked on this project and praise Him for orchestrating it all!
- Thank You Lord for our virtual banquet and #GivingTuesdayNow. Father, Your goodness is without measure, and we praise You with everything we have!

Prayer Requests:

- Father, please wrap Your arms around our mailman, Wayne, and his family as they grieve the loss of his daughter from COVID-19. Lord, please surround them with your peace and comfort. Please use this time to pull them each closer to You as they mourn the matriarch of their family.
- Almighty Healer, we lift up Tim Flenker's sister to you! Clear her lungs and bring her blood pressure down. Lord please breathe Your breath of life on her as she is in the hospital. Please be with Tim and his family - give them comfort, peace, and reassurance that she is already HEALED by the blood of Christ's stripes!
- Heavenly Father, please be with Kelsey Campbell and her husband Alex, as they are expecting! Ease her discomfort and headaches and use these unusual times to bring them closer together!
- Lord, please watch over and bless all our students, especially the seniors who will be soon be leaving our programs. Please help us to be available to them in Your timing as they need. Thank You for trusting our staff to touch their lives. Please water, nurture and shine on the seeds planted at YouthHope. Father, protect their destinies and guide them to be who You have created them to be!
- Dear God, please be with the YouthHope staff, board and volunteers! We need your wisdom! Please order our steps, help us understand these times like sons of Issachar so we know what to do.
- Thank you so much for your prayers! We cannot do this ministry without you! God bless you!



Thank you for joining us for our first-ever "At-Home Banquet" and supporting our #GivingTuesdayNow!

Thank you for helping us raise \$70,000!

We are still short \$30,000 of our goal.

You can watch the At-Home Banquet video on our YouTube Channel: CFYouthHope, and make your gift online, over the phone or by mail!

For more information and a direct link to YouthHope's website donation page click [HERE](#) - use the donation drop down box to designate which part of the ministry you want your donation to be allocated to.

Questions? Want to help? Contact Hannah at (309) 762-4577 or email: hcarr@cfyouthhope.org

PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Praise God that a woman who came to her ultrasound appointment undecided left the Center choosing to carry and parent her child!
- Pray for continued health for the staff of Pregnancy Resources.
- Continue to pray for banquet preparations and a lack of technical difficulties!
- Pray for the increase in abortion-minded and abortion-vulnerable women that have been seen by Pregnancy Resources during this time.
- Praise God that we will be able to open our classroom doors again beginning in June (with proper social distancing guidelines in place)!
- Praise God that the Pregnancy Resources volunteers will be joining us in the Centers once again beginning in June!

~ Marissa J. Foss, Admin. Assistant



Our Celebration has gone VIRTUAL but we are excited to see you!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, June 18th, 2020 where we will celebrate 30 Years of Ministry in 30 Minutes! Virtual doors open at 6:45 with the program starting at 7 pm.

If you would like to participate there is still time to sign up. Click [HERE](#) to join with friends to Celebrate 2020.

Questions? Call Liz at (309)797-3636 or email Liz@qcpregnancy.org.

June 18th, 1990 is the exact date that our ministry opened its doors to offer hope to the greater Quad Cities! We look forward to a delayed, but special celebration with you! We know that God is sovereign in all things. Right now, the doors of Pregnancy Resources remain open and ministry continues. In this time of fear and uncertainty, we still have the opportunity to offer hope, help, and compassion in the name of Jesus Christ. An opportunity to make a one-time and/or a monthly financial gift will be extended.

Do you feel that God is calling you to make a difference in the life of a new Mom or Dad?
Be part of our team and offer hope and healing in the name of Christ.



NEW VOLUNTEER TRAINING SCHEDULE FOR 2020:

JUNE 9th - 11th, 5:30-9pm (4 spaces left)

JUNE 16th - 18th, 8:45am - 12:15pm (6 spaces left)

SEPTEMBER 29, 30, & OCTOBER 1

Want to register? Need more info? Please email or call Marissa at Marissa@qcpregnancy.org | 563-386-3737
Click on the Pregnancy Resources logo at the top left to be taken to their site and learn more.

We provide **FREE** maternity and baby clothes and items to women and their families who need them. **Families are given the opportunity to shop after taking a parenting class.** Each class they take gives them diaper support and if they take four classes, they can receive a NEW car seat for FREE. **All the items we give out are donated by people just like you.** If you'd like to donate new or gently used items, we would greatly appreciate your help.

Maternity & baby items we love getting:

Baby clothes Sizes: preemie – 3T (New or Gently used)
Modern Pregnancy Clothes, all sizes (New or Gently used)
Diapers (Sizes: Newborn – size 5)
Baby Wipes
Cozy Baby Blankets (purchased or homemade)

Receiving Blankets
NEW Baby Bottles and Nipples pacifiers
Baby Swings
Strollers
Pack 'n Plays

PLEASE NOTE: Because of safety issues, we cannot accept: used car seats, used cribs, used bottles, used bottle nipples, or used breast pumps. Questions about clothing room donations? Just call us at (563)386-3737 or (309)797-3636.



WINNIE'S PLACE

Women In Need - Nurtured Into Excellence

Speaking Through Sickness (Acts 9:1-19)

We never enjoy illness or afflictions, such as we are experiencing. After all, what good could possibly result from our ailments? God would never allow us to get sick for any reason – would He?

The answer, surprisingly, is yes. Suffering is one of the consequences of living in a fallen world, so we should not be surprised when it comes our way. However, God can use it to get our attention. If illness is what it takes for us to refocus on Him, that's exactly what He will allow to happen.

Think about the apostle Paul. When we hear his name, we recall the missionary who spread the gospel during the first century but this was not always the case. When we are first introduced to him, he is known as Saul, Christians' enemy (Acts 9:1-2). So how did God get Saul's attention?

The Acts account explains that the Lord appeared in a brilliant flash of light that only Saul could see. After revealing Himself, Jesus left Saul completely blind. This enemy of the church was now brought low, having to be led into town by hand and completely at the mercy of others.

What went through Saul's mind during these three days of blindness? No doubt he was focused on one thing – Christ. By removing his sight, God took away all distractions during this vital time.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caught our attention. Our world... our country... our community is in the midst of troubling times. COVID-19 has plunged our country and community into chaos. The COVID-19 virus is:

- Political
- Economical and Financial
- Governmental
- Athletic
- Sociological
- Medical

God's primary goal is our ultimate good, not our comfort or short-term happiness – He wants what is best for us in light of eternity. At times, this means He will lay us flat on our backs for a season. As we journey through this season of the COVID-19 pandemic, let us pray for healing as well as the ability to discern His message to us.

Blessings, Mel

Shelter Coordinators: Juanita Bea, Denis Grimes, Debbie Jackson, MariAnn McWhitley, Corretta Nunn, and Kimberly Reese

Shelter Phone #: 309-757-0757



1605 Harrison St., Davenport, IA
Click the logo to be linked to
Winnie's Wishes FB page.

Because Winnie's Wishes is closed we have lost some of our revenue for Winnie's Place. We are in need of donations now more than ever!

Needs: Disinfecting spray, Disinfecting Wipes, Dishwashing Gloves, Multi-Surface Cleaner

Foods: **ALL food pantry type items** - Canned foods, Canned Meats, Non-Perishable Food Items, Juice, etc.

The Mission Committee has placed a large plastic tub next to the resource cabinet on Lisa Bowman's front porch for donations to be placed in. You may drop off your items at any time.

[10400 78th Ave. W., Andalusia, IL 61232](#)



2020 Youth Mission Trip Cancelled

Due to COVID-19 Group Mission Trips has cancelled all of their planned workcamps.

We will look forward to 2021 and pray that those we were going to serve will be taken care of by others that God will send.



HUBER-VENTURES - Concerning Weariness

You have probably heard everything there is to hear about life and struggle and growth amidst this COVID-19 pandemic—truly “there is nothing new under the sun.” Regardless, I just wanted to share a little bit of how we're doing and how the Holy Spirit has been ministering to us through the truth of scripture:

"The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises. The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns. All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again. All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing. What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:5-9).

It's comforting that, by God's hand, nature continues with its seasons and we get to enjoy the beautiful rhythms of creation all around us, but as the weeks of sheltering in place go on, I'm starting to feel that "All things are full of weariness." We're weary of not being in community, of not going out to our favorite places, of not traveling, of not hugging friends, of not knowing how to be out in public, of not knowing what's safe and what's not... the list could go on and I'm sure you'd have several to add. Whether we feel God's goodness today or not, I think we're all feeling a little weary with the state of our society. What can we do with this weariness?

1. Consider Jesus' sacrifice for us. "Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted" (Hebrews 12:2-3). Whether you have kids or not, more anxiety or less anxiety, more work or less work, we can be intentional about sitting at the foot of the Cross to consider what Christ endured and what that means for our eternity. With joy, Jesus endured a terrible death for the sake of offering us salvation! A fresh revelation of the Cross will give us vivid hope and renewed joy in the face of uncertainty and darkness.
2. Wait on the Lord's strength. "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint" (Isaiah 40:28-31). As of now, only 13 countries in the entire world have NOT reported cases of COVID 19 (interesting fact: one of the countries is Jesse's birthplace - Lesotho, Africa). The entire world has gone into lockdown because of this virus! Everyone is doing a lot of waiting right now. We would be remiss if we didn't consider the growth available in our waiting. There is holiness and purpose in waiting on the Lord. Whether it's strength we need, or peace, hope, wisdom, faith...if we wait on the Lord, He will give generously...

To read the rest of the May report click [HERE](#).

Pray/Praise With Us

Here are some ways we'd love your prayers this month:

1. Praise God for YOU! We are so grateful for our partners in ministry and God's provision through you, not just financially but through your prayers, help with our kids, encouraging notes and reminders. Thank you.
2. Work/life balance! ESPECIALLY as Jesse comes back to work next week and we see how things work with a newborn...thanks for your prayers for the daily, mundane, figuring-it-out.
3. Please pray for each of the new things we're trying work-wise: for SMJ, the cohort, Encounter, and our internship.
4. Pray for our hearts to be continually stirred up and softened toward the unreached people groups the EPC is reaching around the world!
5. For opportunities to share the love of Jesus.

Please let us know how we can be praying for you.

Thank you so much for your support! We couldn't do this work without you.

Much love, Saul, Jesse, Zuri, Samwell, and Salem, and Zola



CHICAGO 7/20 CHURCH PLANTING (To read the full Chicago 7/20 Vision Update - May 2020 report, click [HERE](#))

In raw fashion, I've tried to wrestle honestly with my calling in light of this bizarre season. How are we to respond to crazy curveballs that seem to throw us off course in life's wild adventure ride? In these moments, how do we answer the question which explodes almost involuntarily from our insides: Who signed me up for this?

Throughout my pilgrimage on earth, I keep learning, even if only at an elementary level, as a Christian, my union with Jesus Christ and his church signs me up for all the crazy twists and turns along life's highway. Suffering, hardship, mysterious providences, and curveball interruptions are actually to be expected. They are a part of the story of the world and the story of my life and yours. They come with the territory so to speak when you (through faith, hope, and love) unite the story of your life with the story of God revealed in Christ and the story of God's mission in the world through his church.

I wish I had time and space to unpack what I mean by all this, but suffice it to say, Jesus is the ultimate example of a Savior who will never enlist you in an adventurous mission in which he wasn't first willing to journey. The author and finisher of our faith, in his humanity, embraced many bizarre and painful providences (By the way, he joyfully signed himself up for them). The chief tall order was his submission to crucifixion (I could have done without that one if I were him). But through his embrace of that painful calling, God went judo on the power of sin's curse in the world and brought life out of death. In God's economy, Christ's followers must embrace the reality that when they unite their lives to him, they sign up for this same adventure. They're called to walk in his footsteps... to follow the Christ-pattern in which death precedes resurrection life. We must be willing to die with Christ (in myriad ways) so that life might be born in this world and in the lives of others....

...What I've been trying, even if imperfectly, to work on while quarantined in our new city:

1. Praying - Active prayerful waiting. As a go-getter extrovert, this is one of the toughest spiritual disciplines for me. Good for me to have to wait on the Lord in silence (as the scripture puts it).
2. Preparing for the next chapter when the shelter in place order fully lifts and I'm able to get together with people. Dreaming about what this next chapter might look like and ministry strategies necessary to engage the opportunities....

There is **much** more to this update from top to bottom! To read the whole May report click [HERE](#).

Prayer Requests:

1. For Cathy and I to experience deeper communion with God during this challenging season.
2. For the Lord to deepen our love for one another as we continue the work of church planting and of opening Cathy's art gallery.
3. For our financial support to continue coming in.
4. For the Lord to help us keep cultivating the relationships we established prior to the virus outbreak.
5. For the Lord to heal our city. For God's to use his church, non-profits and government aid to help those more vulnerable to CoVid-19 in Chicago.
6. Pray for Chicago's city leaders. This is a HUGE city. I can't imagine the challenge they face in guiding the city through such tricky times. God grant them wisdom, love, humility, strength, and a longing for a flourishing society for all.
7. For God to use this harrowing season to awaken in Chicagoans a greater hunger for God and a greater sense of need for Christ.
8. For the Lord to surprise us with his behind-the-scenes ways of working during the pandemic. I know the Spirit can do beyond what we could ask or think. Even when we can't see much happening during quarantine times, God can mysteriously move in mighty ways to spread the power and love of Christ. Show up big, Lord Jesus!
9. For the Spirit to give me wisdom and creativity as I dream of how to move forward with this mission once our city starts opening back up.
10. For our daughter, Lucy, who's practicing nursing at a large downtown hospital in Nashville. For our son, Jeffrey Jr., who's an accountant in Memphis. He's been with us for a while working remotely from Chicago. He returns to Memphis this weekend. For our youngest, Bedon, who is moving to Nashville today. His dream is to pursue his career in music as an Indie Rock artist. Tough to start out during these times, but it's a joy to see how resolute he is in pursuing the dream God has put on his heart.

Sending much love your way from Chicago,

Jeffrey



Planning, Postponing... Repeat

It will be my goal throughout this letter to refrain from using the phrases "new normal", "social distancing", or "virtual meeting." It will be a challenge, but I sense we could all use a break from the deluge of Covid-19 vocabulary that fills our inboxes, media feeds, and screens each day. It hardly needs mentioning that all of these realities are effecting our lives and ministries, and ITEN is no exception. Like most of you, many plans are being held in our hands loosely as we wait patiently for updates on travel restrictions, border closings, and new global health guidelines to be revealed. *So...what I have been doing the past 6 weeks?*



Every year in late April, the ITEN leadership team meets for three days of focused meetings. Our purpose is to look back over the year and celebrate successes, evaluate our objectives, and brainstorm about the future. For obvious reasons, our retreat this year took place (like most of your meetings this Spring) over Zoom. Extending the retreat to 5 days, Bruce Anderson, Ed McCallum and I gathered online and enjoyed virtual (okay, I said it) fellowship over copious amounts of coffee, beautiful times of prayer, and great moments of turning our attention towards God for discernment about the future.

In the photo above you'll see a screen-shot from a portion of our retreat when we spent time talking with a leader from Madagascar and our World Outreach partner David Walker in Singapore. Technology can really be a gift sometimes (I have to keep reminding myself).

You will be hearing more in the months to come about some of our conclusions from this time together. While we all have many questions left to answer (especially for those who minister by way of international flights), we are certain that God is calling us and our national patterns to a time of adaptation, creativity, and renewed discernment about where he is calling us to follow.

To read the rest of the May Report click [HERE](#).

Prayer Requests

- Praise for a wonderfully productive ITEN retreat
- Our national partners, most of which will feel the effects of the pandemic in greater ways than we do here in the US.
- Join us in prayer for healing for the world so that our work, and the work of our national partners can continue unhindered.
- To be honest...our sanity. Being on lockdown at home was fun for a while, but we are called to "go" and I experience times of frustration and anxiety. Pray for peace and patience for me and my family.



Financial Update

Thank you to everyone who has reached out personally to ask us how our financial situation looks during this time. Through the ongoing generosity of our partners, we have remained fairly close to our budget. In April we experienced a slight deficit, and would be grateful for any church or individual who would like to join our team.

[CLICK HERE to become a partner](#), and support our calling to serve those with least access to the gospel. **Thank You!**



Project NOW

Community Action Agency

PROUDLY SERVING
SENIORS SINCE 1968



For many years now Edgington EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are open here for meals on Monday, Thursday, and Friday.

Meals are available for a suggested donation of \$3 to anyone 60+ years or with a disability. If you are new to the program, you need to call 309-788-6335 the day before to request your meal.

Those who attend regularly come early to play cards and enjoy each other's company for a little longer than just meal time.

If you would like more information or want to check out the menu for the month click the Project Now logo above for the link to their website or call 309-788-6335.



NOTE: All Meal Sites are cancelled until the restrictions concerning COVID-19 have been lifted and it is deemed safe to gather together again. **HOWEVER, meals are still being delivered to individual's homes!** Please contact Project Now if you or someone you know could benefit from this service! Their number is 309-788-6335 or you can email the director, Michelle Dyer, at mdyer@projectnow.org

Michelle also wants to encourage anyone that has not filled out their Census 2020 forms to do so, as it affects the funding our area receives, including Project Now's funding. If you have any questions or need help filling out your form Project Now will help you. Just call the number above and someone will walk you through it.

[HERE](#) is a flyer with the link to the [Census 2020 website](#) and phone numbers.

NEED A HAND OR ENCOURAGEMENT? ASK A DEACON!



The Deacons' charge is to care for the church body. You may already know that we provide delicious treats to celebrate new members, collect coats for those in need, and organize blood drives. But did you now that we are ready to serve in other ways, too?

Here are some of the ways a Deacon can help out:

- Visit shut-ins (including those who are temporarily unable to make it to worship) to provide cheer and recordings of the sermon (**during this time, they will make calls to visit over the phone**)
- Deliver meals to those who are injured, ill, or have experienced a loss
- Visit widows(ers) to comfort and provide company (**again, during this time, calls will be made**)
- Send cards to recognize milestone birthdays and anniversaries, and express condolences
- Organize transportation to doctor's appointments (please give advance notice)

Especially during this difficult time our Deacons are trying to be sure that our church family is well cared for.

Please, if you or someone you know could benefit in one of these areas, please let a Deacon know right away. We try to anticipate needs, but we are only human, and need help with knowing needs! The 2020 Deacon team includes

Scott & Cindy Cullen, Norman & Janet Dunlap, Don & Beth Easterla, Beth Flickinger, Cora Shafman, & Peggy Shovar.

Edgington Presbyterian Church

Treasurer's Report April 2020

	Balance	Receipts	Disbursement	Balance
General	\$ 82,394.89	\$ 17,094.64	\$ 9,812.33	\$ 89,677.20
Jahn	\$ 10,592.97	\$196.89	\$ -	\$ 10,789.86
Edgington	\$ 5,591.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,591.02
Boughton	\$ 25,771.81	\$ 2,000.48	\$ -	\$ 27,772.29
Lauby	\$ 18,817.16	\$ 320.24	\$ -	\$ 19,137.40

Ending Gen. checking balar	108,616.47
Uncleared Transactions	\$ 2,558.39
General checking Balance	\$ 106,058.08

Reconciled Bank Accounts	
Gen. checking	\$ 106,058.08

April 2020 GENERAL FUND EXPENSES

Zach Hopkins salary	4,308.32		
EPC (health)	25.23		
EPC (pension)	875.81		
Mileage	-		
Lisa Bowman	757.98		
Robin Preston	-		
Lori Dixon	94.38		
AT&T	173.43	General	\$ 89,677.20
MidAmerican Energy church	574.00	Edgington	\$ 5,591.02
MidAmerican Energy manse	163.00	Jahn	\$ 10,789.86
Edg. Water Dist.	365.00		
Millenium Waste	30.36	TOTAL	\$ 106,058.08
Ministry Designs (website)	30.00		
ABS (copier)	120.68		
Mediacom	178.12		
Call-Em-All (mass easter phone call to shut ins)	12.00		
Dept of Treasury	1,744.89		
IL Dept of Rev	359.13		
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$9,812.33

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund	\$17,177.21
Assistance Fund	\$5,153.46

Edgington Presbyterian Church

General Fund Profit & Loss

April 2020



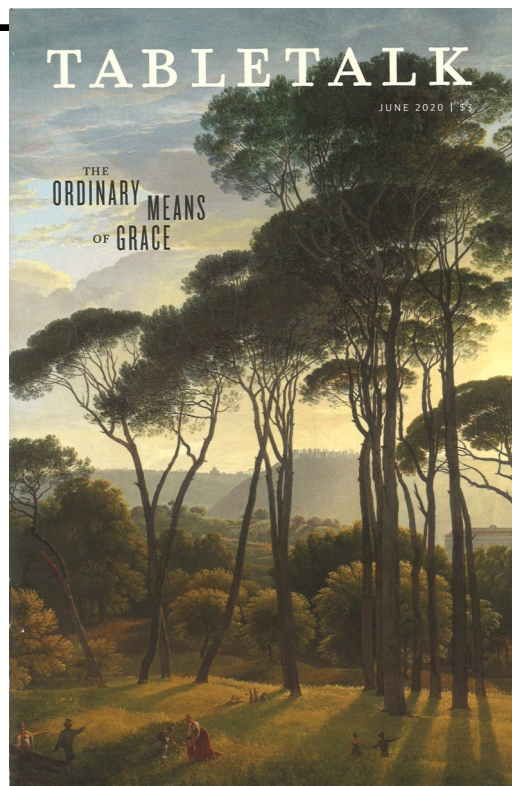
	Apr 20
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Per Capita Contributions	88.00
Interest Income - General Fnd	8.48
Other Income	718.22
Pledges	16,279.94
Total Income	17,094.64
Expense	
Operating Maintenance - General	30.36
Office Supplies	
Copier	120.68
Office Supplies - Other	42.00
Total Office Supplies	162.68
Payroll Expenses	
Choir Director	0.00
Organist Services	94.38
Pastor Salary	4,308.32
Payroll Taxes	2,104.02
Secretary Services	757.98
Total Payroll Expenses	7,264.70
Pension & Health Care	901.04
Utilities	
Gas & Electric - Church	574.00
Gas & Electric - Manse	163.00
Internet Service	178.12
Telephone	173.43
Water	365.00
Total Utilities	1,453.55
Total Expense	9,812.33
Net Ordinary Income	7,282.31
Net Income	7,282.31

Do you know of anyone that is missing out on receiving the Edgington EPC Newsletter each month? If so, please contact the church office at 309-795-1713 or edgingtonepc@gmail.com and let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements for it to be received by whatever means works best.

The newsletter is distributed via email and postal service. It is also posted to Facebook page each month and our website: edgingtonepc.org.

Thank you so much! ~ Lisa Bowman

**GET YOUR JUNE COPY OF
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL**



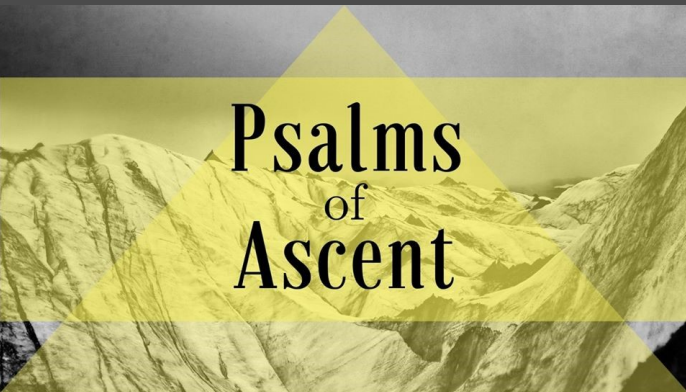
LOCATED IN THE RESOURCE CABINET ON LISA BOWMAN'S FRONT PORCH.
STOP BY ANYTIME TO PICK ONE UP!

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

Pastor Zach is interrupting the “Sermon on the Mount, Series on Matthew 5-7” during this time of worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, for a series on the Psalms of Ascent.

The Psalms of Ascent includes Psalms 120 - 134. Each of these psalms begins with the title, “A Song of Ascents”, as the Jews traveling to Jerusalem for one of the three annual festivals traditionally sang these songs on the uphill road into the city.

The theme of each Song offers much encouragement for those seeking to worship God today.



Please join us on Facebook Live each Sunday morning at 10:00am to worship “together” and be encouraged by God’s Word during this unprecedented time.

Sunday, June 7th - [Psalm 130](#)

Sunday, June 14th - [Psalm 131](#)

Sunday, June 21st - [Psalm 132](#)

Sunday, June 28th - [Psalm 133](#)

SCRIPTURE LINKS - Download the apps!



ESV.org is an online Bible reading tool created to help you read and engage with God's Word. While many features of the site are available without signing in, we invite you to [create a free account](#), which makes it easy to save personal notes, highlight favorite verses, and start interactive reading plans.

(Click on the images to go to their websites)



Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God’s Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith. We view the Bible as central to our study resources. We intentionally designed the website to include study tools that are linked directly to Bible passages. Dig deep into the Word using commentaries, encyclopedias, maps/images and much more. One of our most used tools is the Lexicon search, which gives users immediate access to the original Hebrew and Greek words.

Pastor Zach will be Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am for our Lord’s Day Worship Service and Wednesday evenings at 7pm for a special time of prayer.

If you are not already a member of our Facebook group, please click on the image for the link. “Like” our page and request to join. We are pretty quick to respond. Make sure you are “following” our page and turn your notifications setting on if you would like to receive a notification when Pastor Zach begins to stream. We will post a worship guide each Sunday morning at 8am that includes our Children’s Sunday School lessons and a curriculum video link.

On Wednesday evenings, please be sure to post your prayer requests in the comments, and Pastor will lift them up to the Lord as we pray together.



Find us on Facebook

2020 ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

ASK ANYTHING!

Sundays @ 9am

In 2020, the Adult Sunday School class will be going through the list of questions submitted to Pastor Zach in the fall. However, additional questions and discussion will be welcome!

We all have questions, and the best way to grow in our faith is to ask them! So please, join us and ask anything!

All adults are welcome and encouraged to join us for growth in their walk with Christ!

Looking forward to seeing you there!

We are looking forward to being able to truly gather together again and go deep into God's Word once it is deemed safe to do so for all of our church family !

The Children's Sunday School lessons are included in the Worship guides that we are sending out each Friday afternoon and posting on Facebook Sunday mornings at 8am.



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am

We use Great Commission Publications various curriculum based on each grade level.



Toddler	- Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus
Pre-K	- Beth Flickinger
1st-2nd	- Katie Pearson
3rd-5th	- Kathy Stegmiller
Junior High	- Tara Johnson & Deanna Parchert
Senior High	- Brandee Neece



All of Scripture is the unfolding story of salvation and Jesus is its focus. We show how Jesus, revealed throughout the Bible, came to seek and save the lost.

We look forward to the privilege of caring for and teaching your children about Jesus each Sunday!



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Thursday, June 4th at 1pm

All women of the church are welcome! We usually meet on the first Thursday of every month for Bible study (often led by Pastor Zach) and association business.



Throughout the year, the PW hosts various events, which includes refreshments for special services, luncheons for special meetings and funerals. We hold a rummage and bake sale as a fundraiser every year, and sometimes a soup luncheon as well. We help financially support many projects throughout the church, as well as mission work locally, nationally, and abroad.

Please join us!

We look forward to seeing you there!

QUILTING DAY

Thursday, June 18th, 9am - Noon

We usually meet on the third Thursday of each month from 9am - Noon.

Please come and join us as we create, piece, and sew quilts to present to next year's graduating seniors, as well as Winnie's Place.

Even if you don't know how to sew, but can operate a pair of scissors and/or an iron, we would love to have you! If we can increase our production, we will be able to bless even more people in the community.

Please consider joining us!



Larry and Pam Pithan will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 12th.

They were married at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lost Nation, IA.

On June 12, 1970 and since college they have resided in the Quad City area, living in the Rockridge area since 1978.

They have 2 boys, Jeff and Mark, with their wives, Jen and Darci. They have one granddaughter, Sophia.

They had hoped to have an open house on their anniversary, but it is postponed at this time.



LORI DIXON HAS RETIRED

We would like to extend our most heartfelt thanks and gratitude to Lori for her almost 18 years of service to our church as Choir Director.

You have led and sang and accompanied. You have created beautiful Christmas Cantatas, special music, and many other worshipful productions that lifted our hearts to God as we listened or joined in the singing.

You will be sorely missed, but the joy and beauty you have brought to us will remain in our hearts forever.

2020 GRADUATES

We would like to recognize and celebrate all our 2020 students that are moving on to their next adventure!

8th Grade moving into High School:

Logan Schelker

High School Graduates:

Kenzie Reimers

Will be attending BlackHawk College, with plans to transfer to Illinois State, majoring in communications studies.

YOU'RE ALL INVITED!

Saturday, June 20th - 4:00-7:00pm

We would love to celebrate Kenzie's graduation with all of you in person, however, we realize guidelines may not be eased up by the end of the month. The party is outdoors with room to distance.

Please assess your own risk before attending.

Thank you for being understanding as we try to plan a celebration during this unprecedented time.



If you have questions, please call Carrie at 309-781-4649.
15912-13th Street, Milan, IL 61264
4:00-7:00pm

JAHN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Jahn Family Scholarship was established to benefit Youth and Students of Edgington EPC as they pursue academic and spiritual growth through education.

If you are preparing to further your education and meet the requirements listed below, please go to the website, hover over the About Us tab, then on the drop down box hover over What We Believe, and click on the Church Facility Use, Requests...& Forms. Scroll down to the graduation cap and click on that. A PDF of the Jahn Scholarship Fund form should come up in a new window. You could also just on this link [HERE](#).

Once you have filled out the form submit it to the office by **NO LATER than AUGUST 24th**. Session will review your request at their August meeting the next evening.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Be an active member of Edgington EPC.
2. Requests must be submitted to the office by the August Session meeting for approval.
3. Update the Church about your educational and spiritual growth.

JUNE


2020



Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am

EEPC

Phone: 309-795-1713 / 309-795-1714
Email: edgingtonepc@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.edgingtonepc.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1 Meal Site	2	3	4 Meal Site PW Mtg. 1pm	5 Meal Site	6
7 Food Pantry Sunday	8 Meal Site	9 Session Mtg. 7pm	10 Trustees Mtg. 7pm	11 Meal Site	12 Meal Site	13
14 B/P Checks	15 Foot Clinic Meal Site	16 Mission Comm. Mtg. 6:30pm	17 Newsletter Items Due	18 Meal Site Quilting 9am	19 Meal Site	20
21 Father's Day 	22 Meal Site	23	24	25 Meal Site	26 Meal Site	27
28 B/P Checks Basement Reserved	29 Meal Site	30 Session Mtg. 7pm	ALL EVENTS ARE CURRENTLY ON HOLD DUE TO COVID-19, BUT SESSION IS MEETING EVERY 2 WEEKS TO RE-EVALUATE THE SITUATION. PLEASE WATCH FOR EMAIL, FACEBOOK, AND WEBSITE UPDATES.			