



PASTORAL SABBATICAL – APRIL 28TH – JUNE 2ND

The Session has approved a six-week teaching sabbatical for Pastor Zach. Following Easter Sunday service and running into early June, Zach will not be doing any preaching or teaching. Both he and his family will still be in the community and worshipping with us during this time.

A pastoral sabbatical is a time of rest and renewal that allows a pastor to step away from regular duties to focus on spiritual refreshment, study, and long-term planning. This time benefits Pastor Zach by providing space for prayerful reflection and personal growth, which strengthens his ongoing ministry. The congregation also benefits, not only from a reenergized pastor but through the opportunity for Ruling Elders and other leaders to step into teaching and shepherding roles, deepening their gifts and strengthening the shared leadership of the church. This season of shared responsibility helps cultivate a broader culture of discipleship and leadership development within the congregation.

We are excited to share that since September 2024, Pastor Zach has been leading a Preaching Lab designed to raise up a deeper bench of those willing and able to preach the Word of God. During the time of the pastoral sabbatical we will enjoy the benefit of hearing from many of our own members. The preaching schedule during this time will be:

4/27 – Darren Hall

5/4 – Rev. Dr. Jim Wilhoit - *The Lord's Supper observed*

5/11 – Jason Parchert

5/18 – Nathan Flickinger

5/25 - TBD

6/1 – TBD - *The Lord's Supper not observed*

The Elders will be leading the Adult Sunday School class during this time and it will feature discussion over the previous Sunday's sermon in some cases, and additional opportunities for continued learning and discussion on other weeks.



ELDERS

Kim Freyermuth
Jim Mueller
Kevin Oak
Mic Penry
Todd Stegmiller
Steve Wagamon

DEACONS

Angie Freyermuth - Chair
Dorothy Rursch - Secretary
Kay Amy
Mitch Anderson
Connie Huntley
Tom Huntley
Melody VanOteghem
Deb Wagamon

TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair
Larry Pithan - Secretary
Ken Benningfield
Aaron Ehm
Jeff Fuhr
Phil Fuhr
Colby Mueller
Cindy Oak
Bill Sloan
JR Thomas

MAY BIRTHDAYS

3 - Amy Ryser	19 - Teresa Weber
4 - Amy Nitzel	22 - Olivia Freyermuth
7 - Beth Easterla	22 - Phil Fuhr
7 - Peggy Weiss	23 - Pam Ehm
9 - Mic Penry	23 - Kayla Weckerly
10 - Cade Reimers	24 - Lee-Ann Druckmiller
13 - Teresa Balmer	27 - William Parchert
13 - Colton Landi	30 - Kyle Johnson
14 - Wyatt Fuhr	30 - Nikki Madison
18 - Nick Madison	31 - Darcy Krueger
19 - Jason Ruggles	31 - Debbie Tomlin
19 - Bob Stegmiller	

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

6 - Dewey & Shirley Flemming
9 - Brad & Andrea Schafman
12 - Michael & Joyce O'Hare
17 - Matthew & Jennifer Youck
18 - Bill & Kris Olin
18 - Matthew & Elisabeth Tomlin
21 - Mark & Diane Freyermuth
22 - Bill & Pam Ehm
24 - Jason & Kelly Ruggles
25 - Jake & Sydney Maxwell
25 - Michael & Sharon Orr
27 - Jason & Beth Flickinger
30 - Jim & Teresa Balmer
30 - Korey & Tara Miller
30 - Bob & Kathy Stegmiller

ADDRESS CHANGES



Karyl Parrish
2409 1st Street Court
Moline, IL 61265

Evelyn Hessman
Friendship Manor
1209 21st Ave. Rm B107
Rock Island, IL 61201

Bill & Kris Olin
17507 76th St. W
Reynolds, IL 61279



GREETERS FOR MAY

Sunday, May 4th - Nancy Engstrom & Nikki Madison
Sunday, May 11th - Rick & Melody VanOteghem
Sunday, May 18th - Jason & Beth Flickinger
Sunday, May 25th - Rick & Melody VanOteghem



welcome



TO OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBERS!

(From left) Nick and Jaylyn Madison with their daughter, Brynzley Madison
Nikki Madison

We are so thankful to God for our newest members and look forward to seeing how God grows them and uses them for His glory here at Edgington EPC and in our community!

Please be sure to introduce yourselves to them if you haven't already!

April 2, 2025, at 7pm

Location: Church Conference Room

Present: TE Zach Hopkins and RE's Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, Todd Stegmiller, Kim Freyermuth, Steve Wagamon and Kevin Oak. Observers: None. A quorum is present.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened with prayer and a scripture reading from Ecclesiastes 12:13. The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation. The Session reviewed and discussed Chapter 5 of *The Whole Christ*, by Sinclair Ferguson.

Approval/Amendment of Docket: It was M/S/C to approve the docket.

Approval of Minutes: It was M/S/C to approve the minutes of the February 25th, 2025, Session Meeting.

Correspondence: We received thank you notes from Kira and Laina Nelson for scholarship money previously distributed.

Zach's Report:

- **Office:** Regina Thomas, Rick VanOteghem. Matt Youck, Todd Stegmiller, Jason Flickinger, Molly Cook, Dillon Weckerly
- **Hospital:** Debbie Wilson
- **Other:** Deacons, RLP CC (X2) Midwest Presbytery Meeting (EPC), EPC PJC, EPC GA Speakers, EPC Graders, Pastor Appreciation Breakfast, RLP Pastor Cohort, A/V Consultation Meeting, Podcast Recording, Preaching Lab, Adult Membership Class.

Old Business:

- Newly elected Elders and Deacons were ordained/installed on March 2nd, 2025.
 - Elders: RE Kevin Oak, RE Kim Freyermuth, RE Steve Wagamon.
 - Deacons: Kay Amy, Mitch Anderson, Angela Freyermuth, Tom & Connie Huntley, Melody VanOteghem, Deb Wagamon
- Spring Membership Matters class was reviewed. New Members are anticipated to be received April 13th, 2025.
- 2025 Easter Schedule: April 18th, 2025 - Good Friday worship with communion at 6pm. April 20th, 2025 - Easter Breakfast at 8:30am, no Sunday School, and worship at 10am.

New Business:

- Sabbatical Planning
 - We reviewed preaching lab volunteers for Sunday School content:
 - April 27th - Rick VanOteghem, May 4th - Jim Wilhoit, May 11th - Darren Hall, May 18th - Jason Parchert, May 25th - Nathan Flickinger, June 1st - TBD
 - Next month's proposed preaching schedule:
 - April 27th - Darren Hall, May 4th - Jim Wilhoit, May 11th - Jason Parchert, May 18th - Nathan Flickinger, May 25th - TBD, June 1st - TBD
 - Jim Wilhoit will be assisting with communion on May 4th.

- The content for May 25th and June 1st preaching will be determined after the final preaching lab. This will be reviewed/approved at the April 29th session meeting.
- An elder will be available following service at the front of the church to pray or meet with the congregation members as needed during the sabbatical period.
- The men's ministry vision was reviewed and discussed. It will be implemented in a 3-phase process with more details to follow. We anticipate this to begin in middle to late June.
- It was M/S/C that Jim Mueller and Kim Freyermuth would represent EPC at the 44 RLP Meeting, April 25-26.
- It was M/S/C to propose the ice cream social on August 10th, 2025.
- The Lord's Supper will be administered on April 6th, 2025.
- The next shepherding meeting of the Session will be April 29th, 2025. This will not be a moderated/official stated meeting.

It was M/S/C to adjourn the meeting at 9:45pm. TE Hopkins closed the meeting with prayer.

RE Todd Stegmiller, Clerk of Session



2025 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Once again our VBS registration went quickly and we currently have 33 kids on a waitlist. We will be deciding within the next week how many of those we can safely accept to attend camp this summer. Please say a little prayer for those making the decision, as it is not one we take lightly. Our counselor list is also full with an overflowing waitlist. Consequently, registration for both campers and HS counselors is closed.

Once we have definite numbers, we will start to divide the campers into individual groups. Once that is completed, we will begin to assign counselors to each group.

The counselor training dates are Sunday, June 29th, from 4 - 5:30pm or Thursday, July 10th, from 6 - 7:30pm. The VBS Counselor Trainers will be reaching out to those who need to attend.

Next on the agenda is to figure out a supply list. Once we have it compiled, we will share it for anyone who is interested in donating.

Our next meeting dates are will be Sunday, May 4th and Sunday, June 1st at 12:15pm.

Thank you for your continued prayers as we plan for an exciting, fun-filled week for the children of our community!

4-16-25

Present: Mel Block, Aaron Ehm, Jeff Fuhr, Cindy Oak, Larry Pithan, Bill Sloan, JR Thomas, Treasurer Barb Freyermuth.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:00pm.

Minutes for March meeting reviewed.

Treasurer's report for March reviewed and approved.

Old Business:

- New A/V system installation is operational and working well. Trustees completed platform for A/V equipment.
- Carpeting at front of sanctuary has been completed. Piano and organ were moved. Two additional pews were installed along the north wall.
- Trustees completed outdoor spring cleanup. This included trimming of bushes, raking of leaves and debris, application of weed preventative and mowing of grass.
- Ductwork at rear of sanctuary has been enclosed in drywall and painted.
- New lighting installed for the stained glass windows at the front of the sanctuary.
- New Wi-Fi thermostat installed for sanctuary heating/cooling furnace.
- Road repair work completed at Dunlap cemetery.

New Business:

- Discussed installation of drywall to cover the existing wood paneling in the hallways of the SS building. Will obtain proposal from drywall contractor.
- Need to install additional lighting for the stairs to the balcony.
- Will install outside light at the south entrance door.
- Exterior of the storage garage needs to be painted. Will approach Youth Group for their help.
- Will install new carburetor for the lawn mower.
- Discussed possibility to install two additional toilets on the second floor of the SS building. Plumbing is already roughed-in for these.
- Will obtain proposal to replace the concrete stoop and sidewalk at the south entrance door.
- Discussed installing new deck and steps at the old southeast sanctuary entrance door. This is only an emergency exit, but existing concrete steps are in poor shape.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 7:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan

Thank you to the person who found my silver feather earring on April 6th and put it in the church office.

Shirley Flemming



April 6, 2025

Present: Kay Amy, Mitch Anderson, Angela Freyermuth, Connie Huntley, Dorothy Rursch, Melody VanOteghem and Session Rep. Mic Penry

Pastor Zach opened with prayer.

Gospel Training for Deacons: Pastor Zach went over the discussion questions with us in *Lesson 2 - Biblical Qualifications for Deacons*

Next month's meeting will be on *Lesson 3: Deacons and Elders*

Old Business:

- **Cards:** Connie provided a card update, sent cards to welcome the New Members, monthly birthdays, thinking of you cards, and sympathy cards to those whose loved ones passed.
- **Directory:** Angie continues taking pictures for the directory
- **Shut-in/Eyes on You list:** The Shut-in/Eyes on You have been assigned and it was suggested we meet with the Elder that we are paired up with and discuss a strategy of engagement and caring for our church members.
- The reception for the new members on Palm Sunday was very well attended

New Business:

- **May Baskets-** shut-ins, and eyes on you May Baskets. A motion was made to use the Easter Lilies after the last Sunday of April, as some don't get taken home.
- **College Student thinking of you** -It was decided that care packages would go out in the fall.
- Additional discussion on the children aged (6th- 8th grade) - seems to be a gap of support.

Next meeting scheduled for Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 11:30am, after church service.

Angie closed meeting with a prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Dorothy B. Rursch

The family of Kenneth Kaiser would like to thank everyone for all the kind words, cards, and visits during the last few months of his life. Also, thanks to everyone who attended his funeral services or just thought of us that day. It was great to visit with everyone and hear the stories.



Thanks to Zach for doing such a nice job on the service.

Also, thanks to all who prepared and managed the delicious dessert reception and a big thanks to Someone for providing the beautiful Spring day.

The church family was very important to Ken and he relished all the friendships he made there. We relish your kindness to him.

Congratulations
GRADUATES!



FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION



On April 5th, we had a successful distribution to 33 families consisting of 72 Adults, 6 Teens and 21 children. When we packed on April 4th, there were 19 people who helped and 3 of these were from other churches. On Saturday when we distributed, we had 10 adults helping plus 7 Rockridge high school students and 1 other young adult. What a blessing they were as they did the heavy lifting and some helped to clean the food pantry!

We would like to express our appreciation to all those who donated food, money, or time to help us with this mission outreach. Community support is so important to us as we couldn't do this without you.

Donations of nonperishables are always welcome. Some of the things we always need are pasta, chunky soups, canned fruit, canned meats, canned pasta, soup, paper products, pasta sauce, ingredients for chili, Jell-O, pudding, cake mixes, pancake mixes, saltine and graham crackers, and juice.

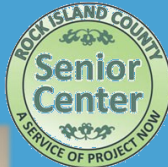
As always, if you know of someone in need of food, you can contact the church office and Lisa will let us know so we can pack food for them. We don't just help folks at distribution time. We are on call whenever there is a need.

Wishing God's blessings to all.

Food Pantry Staff - Jim & Teresa Balmer, Don & Beth Easterla, Dewey & Shirley Flemming, Marlin & Darcy Krueger, Mic & Sue Penry, & Jim Schaubroeck



**PROUDLY SERVING
SENIORS SINCE 1968**



Project NOW
Community Action Agency



For many years now Edginton EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are now open here for meals **EVERY WEEKDAY!**

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.



LIVES ARE BEING TRANSFORMED

YouthHope is on the front lines, fighting for eternity daily for low-income and at-risk kids and teens. Our methods of ministry, Community Outreach, Youth Centers, and Camp Summit, work in synergy to encourage, equip, and empower kids and teens to find HOPE for their futures and build for successful lives serving Jesus.



Camp Summit transforms kids' lives! This is the result of taking kids out of their normal everyday environment, with no phones or screens, and gives them time and space in nature to learn about Jesus. This investment of time, resources, and energy poured into them for five days straight is life changing!

If you come to our Youth Centers or walk down the halls of middle schools, you will hear kids and teens talking excited about going to Camp Summit this summer! Our second graders ask our new Camp Director, Devin Jones, every week, "When do I get to go to camp?" They are so excited for the first time at camp Summit!

Camp Summit is a vehicle of salvation. We are looking forward to what God has in store for the eight weeks of summer camp. Filling up Camp Summit directly results in filling up Heaven!

Come be a part of the transformation of camp Summit! You can participate in so many ways... Give to sponsor a child at camp, participate in Camp Work Day to prepare for the summer on April 26th, or volunteer as a camp cook this summer. If you have any college students in your family, help spread the word that we are hiring camp counselors!

Above all else, please partner with us in prayer. We are in spiritual battle as part of Summer Camp. It is a transformational experience for kids and we need your prayers for a powerful summer!

Thank you for being a part of encouraging, equipping, and empowering at-risk kids and teens year-round at YouthHope!

In Appreciation,
Esther Joy King, Executive Director



Camp Summit provides a unique, fun, and supportive summer camp experience for low-income youth. Kids and teens get to experience fishing, zipline, canoeing, swimming, archery, Bible study, worship, creative arts stations, and team building activities.

YouthHope students receive scholarships to cover one week of Overnight Summer Camp, three nutritious and delicious meals per day, a Camp Summit shirt, and all activity supplies, and passionate and caring staff and volunteers.

At Camp Summit, kids develop independence, build social skills, engage in physical activity, and discover new possibilities, interests, and perspective. They get a week away from stress, learn about God's love for them, and find HOPE for their future!

For more info and to donate, click [HERE](#).



Pregnancy Resources is celebrating **35 years of life-saving ministry!** As we witness God's faithfulness and look towards the future, friends like you make that possible. You are part of a **Legacy of Life** and a lot can happen in 35 years!

35 Years ~ 1990 to February 2025

With your help and God's blessing, the following has been possible:

105,269 Total Center Visits

all locations

33,278 Total Individuals Served

23,307 Pregnancy Tests Given

9,623 Ultrasound Appointments Provided

3,682 Men Served

13,933 Material Services Appointments Provided

**Along with 1,962 new car seats, thousands of cans of formula, and hundreds of thousands of diapers*

67,000+ students learned about

Abstinence and Biblical Sexual Integrity

More than 6,287 Babies have been born after their moms received care and assistance through Pregnancy Resources!

Those are big numbers, Praise God! Many lives have been changed, and many women and men spared the pain and hardship of abortion.

This past Quarter:

Pregnancy Tests: **201**

Ultrasounds: **189**

Classes: **345**

Packages of Diapers given: **660**

Jessica* (*name changed for privacy*) was undecided about how to move forward in her pregnancy. Her relationship status was complicated. She and her friend arrived at Pregnancy Resources for Jessica's ultrasound. As the nurse showed Jessica her baby, both Jessica and her friend began to cry. Abortion was still in her mind as the way forward. When the nurse asked if they were ok, Jessica's friend replied, "This is so heavy." The nurse was kind and truthful with Jessica and her friend. Jessica is wrestling with what her next step will be...

Conversations like this happen every day at our centers! We covet your prayers for our staff and volunteers as they minister in these situations, and for the clients who think abortion is their only option. Pray for barriers to be broken down, and for them to see and choose LIFE!

Contact emilee@qcpregnancy.org to sign up for our weekly Prayer Warrior Network emails!

Want more ways to be involved? **Consider doing a diaper and clothing drive!** Summer is (almost) here! And cute babies grow quickly!

Pressing needs for Bella's Boutique right now:

- Diapers: Newborn - size 5
- Summer clothes: 12 months to 3T (boy and girl)



We love our volunteers!!!

If you are interested in more information or would like to register, please either click on the image to the right or email maia@qcpregnancy.org

Training Dates

July 15 - 17 - (Morning only)

October 21 - 23

Morning Session

8:30am - 12:00pm

Evening Session

5:30pm - 9pm

Dinner provided

THE HUBER FAMILY - Would you please pray for us?

There have been several moments in the past couple of weeks where we have been completely overwhelmed. It feels like work is ramping up into a very busy season, even as Saul prepares to be gone for 10 days on his pilgrimage. So, we'd love to invite you to pray with/for us as we try to do what we can and trust God to accomplish His purposes.



The cohort:

- We are nearing the end of MC6. Several of the students will be traveling to Jordan for the last two weeks of May. **Please pray for their trip to be fruitful**, both in their hearts and in the support they lend to those working long-term in Jordan.
- We are beginning to look for members of MC7, which will start in August. **Please pray for God to bring the right people to join**, and if you know any young adults who are curious about missions, we'd love to talk to them!
- Praise God, we were able to attend the EPC Next Gen Workers Summit in St. Louis last month. It was such an encouraging time to spend with youth and college-age workers. Jesse was part of a panel discussing burnout in ministry. **Please pray that God works through what she shared** to encourage those who do a lot of pouring out in ministry. **Please pray that the relationships built there would be strengthened and result in more young adults being equipped to serve God in their role in the Great Commission.**

Coaching:

- We have been working with 12(!) people who are coming (virtually) through our World Outreach Candidate Assessment process in May and June. Right now this means we are on a lot of zoom calls and writing up our reports for the assessment team. **Please pray that the candidates would feel well-prepared for the assessment. And on our end, please pray that we would be efficient with the work-time that we have to submit thorough, clear reports.**
- This group is incredibly diverse, with couples, families, single men and women. Some are already on the field, but joining World Outreach. Some we have been walking with for 18+ months to get to this point. Some will be joining our International Theological Education Network (ITEN) Team, others will support our workers through member care, or they plan to go long-term to places like Tajikistan, Vietnam, Japan, Thailand and France. **Please pray that this group would feel God's presence with them as they take the next steps of obedience to go.**

Travels:

- On April 25th, we will travel altogether to Wisconsin to attend the Rivers and Lakes Presbytery meeting and to speak at a supporting church, Highview EPC. **Please pray for safe travels and clear communication as we share about World Outreach and the cohorts, and for encouragement of the body of Christ to partner well and to persevere in going "to the ends of the Earth."**
- On April 27th, Jesse will drop Saul off at Chicago O'Hare to fly to Scotland for his pilgrimage. It feels like he is facing a little bit of resistance to this trip. **Please pray for peace, as he gathers what he needs and for health, that he will be able to get there without injuring himself first :)**
- As he journeys on this pilgrimage, **please pray that he would be able to clear his heart and mind of all the things, and experience a deeper connection with Christ.**
- **Please pray that Saul and his four fellow pilgrims would bond quickly and be able to encourage each other in this physical and spiritual journey.**
- **Please pray for Jesse as she remains home with the kids**, that she would have the stamina/energy and be able to make smart decisions and hold good boundaries concerning work during that time.

The kids:

- As you can imagine, it is hard to carry all of the work things AND feel like we are giving our kids what they need. **Please pray for quality connection with them during this season, and for GOD to supply their needs when we fall short.**
- When we are stressed/anxious, it spills over onto our kids. **Please pray that we would trust God to carry all the things and be able to rest/experience peace even now.**

Thank you so much for lifting us up! We surrender all of this to God, trusting that He will establish our steps.

B & E – B..... & BEYOND

15 April 2025

Dear friends, thank you for your partnership!

Moses said to God, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here... Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?” (Ex. 33:15-16)

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report and pictures. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with B & E to be added to their email list.

Sharing the gospel during a war

While in U..... (Jan/Feb), I had an uplifting and very fruitful meeting with the Vice Rector of The National University of O Academy, D S (in photo above). We made plans for five forms of collaboration in months ahead. Over the years, my evangelical faith has been evident and expressed to D and others at the university. D is increasingly receptive and appreciative, often now speaking like an evangelical. I am not sure exactly where he is in his relationship with the Lord. He (and the university!) generally respect and embrace traditional Christian culture and values.

But I can say that while our projects felt inspired, there was a special personal element, too. D shared with me how he had a dream recently about a lifelong friend he had not seen or heard from for some time. A few days after his dream, D learned his friend had been killed in battle—the very night D had his dream! D was touched by this and said to me, ‘You know there is Someone out there watching over us. You just know it!’

And recently, he wrote to me out of the blue to say, ‘Your prayers are powerful, they are working.’ I am convinced D sees something distinct in me, J, and everyone at the Christian Open Academy. Of course, it is only because the Lord’s presence has gone with us. I look forward to deeper spiritual conversations with D!

Please pray for D’s relationship with the Lord to blossom. Soon, I will spend a whole week on campus with him. (O Academy is the oldest university in U....., founded in 1576 during the Reformation. It is in the top five in U..... It has become a strong partner in our reformation movement work.)

Jan/Feb U..... trip

My recent trip to U..... was great. After flying into W....., I was driven by our ministry partners for about 5 hours to the M..... border. They dropped me off, and I crossed the border on foot in record time—11 minutes! A seminary administrator from R Theological Seminary (RTSA) and Academy was waiting on the other side and drove me 4 hours to R....., U..... I preached Sunday morning and spent the afternoon with the pastor.

That week, I taught my course on ‘Christian Service and Leadership in Society’ from 8am-6pm each day at the seminary for their master’s students. My course is a combination of systematic theology, church history, and practical theology. The pastors left the training with written plans for projects they would implement in their cities. I am thankful my teaching is often shared with others who are online. For example, I recently learned one of my seminary lectures was viewed by 763 people.

It has been fascinating to see a fresh new level of reception of teaching about Christian service in society by this rather traditional Pentecostal denomination (sometimes rather rigid, insulated, fixed in an older Soviet era mentality). It is a blessing to have their trust and good will. I feel that together we are a part of pioneering a new era for the church, something that has been generated by wartime demands and opportunities for the church to serve. I see providence and faithful Christians at work. Praise God!

After teaching in U....., I traveled by train for seven hours across the border to C....., P..... That evening, in L....., P....., I gave a lecture to a group of U..... and B..... believers associated with the U..... Christian Open Academy on the topic of the history of universities and the classical Christian methodology for learning. They are such eager learners and put teaching into action. During this trip, I also spent a good number of hours meeting and planning with J and mentoring A K., an emerging B..... Christian leader.

U..... project work

I mention my trips, of course, but there is always a lot happening from my desk in my office here in Virginia. This past month, I have been following up on projects activated through my trip to U..... in Jan/Feb.

- 1) I will be teaching a weeklong course for the National University of O Academy in-person in U..... 26-30 May on 'A History of European Universities and the Classical Christian Methodology of Learning'. This is a great opportunity go deeper in relationship and evangelical witness with faculty and students and point the way forward to the Lord personally (through apologetics and evangelism) and collectively for a Christian U..... culture. If they do not choose a traditional Christian U..... vision for their nation in years ahead, they will likely embrace the post-Christian Western European influence and turn away from the Lord.
- 2) I am co-coordinating with Prof. D S (O Academy) a roundtable event of law and government professors. This will be a hybrid of online and in-person participation. Some Christian law and government professors on our IFR team will be joining me as we converse with law professors from their university. O Academy will invite a wide audience of professors, students, and others from throughout U..... Topics will include law, constitution, and nation building from traditional Christian principles as we look at the East/West context of U..... and its future.
- 3) I am working with S W (former head of CBN Eastern Europe) and Dr. J D (attorney, law professor) for an online meeting to follow up with 1,500 law students who signed up with us while we were speaking in their law schools over the years. The content will be like the roundtable at O Academy.
- 4) I have been mentoring and working for several months with a Christian pastor/businessman, A V., who lives in K....., U....., not far from the front lines. We are getting close to starting a business incubator organization and training program to help Christians start businesses, represent Christ in that sphere, uplift the churches and Christian families, and serve and reform U..... society. S W of IFR and Dr. J M (Founder and Director of RU Center for Entrepreneurship) are significantly assisting us.

Mentoring

In addition to A K. and A V., mentioned above, E and I increasingly serve as mentors. Recently we had some special moments in an online Zoom meeting with Zm and A, a B..... pastor and wife who fled B..... and live in W....., P..... now. We've been friends over the years and this time sought to encourage their marriage.

Also, I have had the privilege to encourage P G., a U..... pastor. I recently arranged a meeting for him with a US seminary professor who will help with his PhD work.

Chronic stress and interruptions for U.....

War takes a toll on U..... Here are just a few examples of what I've seen while spending time in U..... during the war:

- ♦ Air raid sirens every day
- ♦ A seminary dean's heart racing in the middle of the night
- ♦ Russians bomb threats on city-center targets
- ♦ Classes disrupted at universities and schools by sirens and threats
- ♦ Classes meeting in underground bomb shelters
- ♦ Plenty of wounded soldiers seen in the streets
- ♦ Businesses closed and streets and buildings unmaintained
- ♦ People dying every day (including children)
- ♦ Stories of friends seeing and hearing drones, missiles, and explosions nearby
- ♦ Exhaustion, psychological struggles, and PTSD
- ♦ And... in this atmosphere... there is surge of spiritual hunger; an improved ability and reputation of the U..... evangelical churches; and new believers and new churches!

B.....

Our dear brother, Z D, received an award for the best book written in prison years ago. His last sentence was about 3 years and soon to end. But sadly, on September 18, 2024, the P..... District Court in M.... heard another unjust criminal case against him. He was falsely charged under Part 1 of Article 411 of the Criminal Code (malicious disobedience to the demands of the administration of the correctional institution) and Article 342 (organization and preparation of actions that grossly violate public order). The court's verdict: 1 year and 3 months in a maximum-security prison.

Other IFR and ITEN work

V.....

In May, I will be teaching for a week in V..... to prepare the H.... pastor/teachers who graduated from our 3-year program to teach my 'Christian Community Development' course to other pastors. It is so exciting to see us at this stage—teaching those we taught how to become effective teachers of other church leaders.

I will join E and N in H...., and they will teach a new people group with whom we have started this same 3-year program. It is wonderful to see yet more people reached. Both courses require lots of preparation writing the courses, collecting the materials, and logistics, etc. We also need to discern succession plans for this work to continue in future years.

P.....

I stopped in DC on my way back from U..... to spend several hours with Dr. M K from P..... He had arrived to participate in the International Religious Persecution conference. Our crossing at DC was providential, allowing us that time together. I arranged meetings for him with a professor and pastor.

M.....

Our brothers and sisters in M..... suffer civil war, a military regime, persecution, and recently an earthquake. Our longtime ministry partner, Dr. T T, replied to me that one of their churches (in B...) was damaged by the earthquake. It is 'the only church in a big Buddhist village, so we need to reconstruct a new building.'

S..... L....

I was encouraged when EPC World Outreach recently published a story that mentioned the fruit of our teaching, especially the relevance of my 'Christian Community Development' course I taught there about 1.5 years ago. The report says:

S..... L..... Pastor T said that the ITEN program focuses on equipping pastors for the holistic development of the people they will be ministering to—both the spiritual and physical needs. He says, "Most of the churches are engaged in little developmental projects like rice farming, groundnut farming, Bennie [local version of sesame] farming, local chicken poultry and many more. The inspiration to do all this comes from the PTP community development module." ... The work of ITEN in S..... L.... is tangibly changing lives. The EPCSL, which began with 6 churches, now has 26 churches in the process of being planted by PTP trainees.

R.....

I have only made one trip to R....., but I was part of our ITEN effort to have a small part in starting a seminary there, now led by I and J. Though our part is done for now, it is important to pause and celebrate the progress they recently reported. Holy Trinity Reformed Seminary taught 3 more courses, had some new graduates, had 1,000 visitors to the Reformed Heritage Foundation events, and have 6 new members at Holy Trinity Church. How encouraging!

Family

I am so proud of E's fruitful local ministry at the Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater (CPC). E was featured last month in a beautiful story when a mother we'll call Shanice (for privacy) chose to give birth to her twins and turned Godward. She said E treated her like a friend and asked her about her beliefs. Talking and praying with E changed her mind. She said E kept in touch with her, sending encouraging messages and Scriptures. Finally, after

delivering the twins and receiving care packages from CPC, she summarized her whole experience by saying, 'I know you all impact lives every day, but I thank God for leading me to CPC because he saved my twins and, ultimately, saved me! I chose LIFE x2! I'm so grateful.'

The wedding of our son D to J on 5 April in R..... brought us great joy! I had the privilege of conducting the wedding service, E had that special dance, and we were surrounded by so many friends and family members (including our seven awesome grandkids!). We thank the Lord that D and J are a Christ-centered couple.

Please pray for...

- 27 April Speaking at Westminster EPC, WV
- 15-22 May V..... teaching trip—training pastors
- 23 May-3 June U..... teaching trip—university course
- 16 June-12 July Publication work
- 17-28 July C..... trip—ITEN retreat and EPC World Outreach all-ministry gathering
- Partners: Those mentioned above and all their related ministries: J., D., A. K., the seminary dean, A. V., the father who lost his family, Z. and A. F., P., Z. and N. D., V..... pastors, M, T, T, I, J, and the rest

Thank you for supporting us!

B & E

MCCALLUM SPRING MUSE 2025

A focusing prayer

O Lord, let me not henceforth desire health or life except to spend them for you, with you and in you. You alone know what is good for me; do therefore what seems best to you. Give to me or take from me; conform my will to yours; and grant that with humble and perfect submission and in holy confidence I may receive the orders of your eternal providence and may equally adore all that comes to me from you. - *Blaise Pascal, 1623-1662*



Short view of our news:

- God's in control regardless of circumstances.
- Ed's blood sugar levels have GREATLY improved. No longer using insulin, just pills and restructured diet.
- Had a meaningful visit Ed's brother (86yo and mentally and spiritually strong) and family in CA.
- M..... partners are safe after a strong earthquake but limited food, water, & electricity. A significant church to the north sustained damage. ITEN is figuring out how to send funds. Limited news from Christians in rural settings where lots of damage occurred making assistance difficult. Lord, have mercy!
- Samaritan's Purse on the ground in M..... providing disaster relief.
- Lots of travel ahead: Loveland CO May 1-3, V..... teaching May 5-23. Michigan, Indiana, and Ontario June 6-23 for General Assembly and visiting churches and family.

Overseas Travel to V.....:

May 5-11. We're trying a new entrance strategy. Will arrive in country a few days early to begin adjusting to the 14 hour time difference. This also gives us time to connect with our partners/connections, check on setup needs, and fulfill our tourist visas.

Teaching in V..... May 12-23 **Pray for effective environment learning.**

"D" people: Receive their teaching report from 1st class (Understanding, Applying and Communicating the Bible) **Pray as they endeavor to train 410 people God laid on their hearts.** Team teaching course #2 on Spiritual Formation.

"H" Teaching Cohort Review week: Ed: New Testament Survey. B A, ITEN team member: Christian Community Development. Nan: color commentary.

US Travels We hope to see you!

- May 2-3 Loveland CO, Presbytery of the West meeting.

Church visits:

- Warsaw EPC, Warsaw Indiana June 8th Sunday a.m. 2:00 head to Lake Michigan
- Oakhill EPC, Grand Rapids, Michigan June 9, evening report
- Trinity EPC, Plymouth, MI June 22 service, open house 4:00-6:00 hosted by Mission Committee. Mingle time with presentation 4:45 to 5:20ish

Meetings: General Assembly at Ward Church, Northville MI (between Detroit and Ann Arbor)

- June 16 World Outreach meeting
- June 17-19 General Assembly We'd love to visit with you when you are free.

We are blessed by your partnership in training leaders in the Majority world. 90% of conversions are happening there, but 85% of church leaders there have no formal training in Bible, theology, and pastoral leadership. Your prayers and financial donations have helped raise the level of training for some of the 85%. Thank you!

Looking forward to crossing paths,

Blessings,

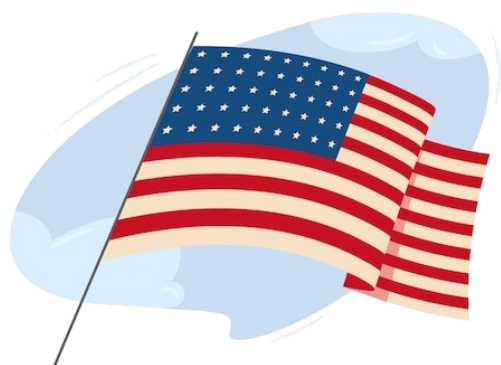
Ed & Nan McCallum

PRINT VERSION OF DIRECTORY

We are very much wanting to print a hard copy of the digital directory to put into the hands of those who would like one, but we want to see **ALL** of your lovely faces! As of this printing we are still missing **MANY** of you!



Angie Freyermuth has graciously volunteered to take the pictures of everyone missing from the directory and submit them to the church office. If you are one of the people who have not yet submitted a picture to the church office, please try to catch up with Angie after one of the worship services very soon. Thank you!



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR
OUR HEROES

Thank you to our church family for their thoughts and prayers and cards at the time of my knee surgery last month. I'm very slowly getting better.



Also, thank you for your many concerns and prayers for our granddaughter Jojo over the last 6 months. She is a happy 3 1/2 year old and we are truly amazed and blessed that she is doing so well.

We are also so very blessed to have all of you in our lives.

Thank you again.

Debbie and Keith Wilson



EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH 2025



	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursement	Ending Balance
General Fund	\$ 96,800.23	\$ 17,533.61	\$ 10,682.05	\$ 103,651.79
Education Fund	\$ 16,097.20	\$ 127.15	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 15,224.35
Building Fund	\$ 160,337.71	\$ 855.33	\$ 2,647.15	\$ 158,545.89
<i>Building Checking</i>	\$ 55,542.39	\$ 855.33	\$ 2,647.15	\$ 53,750.57
<i>Building Money Market</i>	\$ 104,795.32	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 104,795.32
Youth Group	\$ 11,412.48	\$ 2,640.00	\$ 184.70	\$ 13,867.78
Totals:	\$ 284,647.62	\$ 21,156.09	\$ 14,513.90	\$ 291,289.81

March 2025 MONTHLY REVIEW - General Fund

Receipts - March 2025

Pledges	17,280.70
Interest Income - General Fund	12.91
Per Member Asking	240.00

\$ 17,533.61

Expenditures - March 2025

Administrative

\$ 1,947.08

ABS (copier rental)	68.02	18.2%
AT&T - Phone for elevator	244.46	
Cemetery Upkeep	(20.00)	
Computers: Hdw, Sftw and Apps	330.37	
Jeanne Hayes (Custodian)	524.98	
Johnson Controls		
Lisa Bowman (Office Manager)	804.58	
Kone (elevator)		
MidAmerican Energy	464.00	
Millenium Waste	70.58	
Office Supplies	22.86	
Repairs & Maintenance - general	(815.95)	
Reytel - Internet	120.56	
Shipping/Postage	2.59	
Taxes / FICA / Penalty	130.03	

Discipleship (Internal)

\$ 8,734.97

Children's Director	786.50	81.8%
Continuing Education	73.28	
Deacon Expense		
EPC General Assembly		
EPC (health)		
Events		
Fidelity (pension)	1,109.25	
Flowers	(780.00)	
Housing Allowance	4,000.00	
Meals	82.58	
Mileage	43.40	
Pastor Salary	2,782.08	
Presbytery Expense	(185.89)	
Pulpit Supply	683.80	
Resource Materials	139.97	
Sunday School		
Worship Supplies		

Mission (external)

\$ -

Mission - International	-	0.0%
Mission - US		
Mission - Local		

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 10,682.05

100.0%

NET OPERATING INCOME

\$ 6,851.56

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund of \$15,918.42 and Assistance Fund of \$4,483.46.



TREASURER'S REPORT (Cont. from p. 17)

March 2025 - Building Fund Detail

Beginning Balance	\$ 160,337.71
Receipts	
Investment Income	850.67
Checking Interest	4.66
Money Market Interest	-
	855.33
Expenditures	
Edgington Hardware	2.99
Flooring America	1,845.40
Sale of Old AV Equipment	(450.00)
JR Thomas (AV project)	623.77
Repayment to General Fund	624.99
	2,647.15
Ending Balance	\$ 158,545.89



FOOT CLINIC

Next Clinic: Monday, May 19th,
beginning at 9am

If you would like to receive a pedicure
done by a medical professional, please
call the church office at 309-795-1713 to
schedule an appointment.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY WELCOMES ALL EEPc WOMEN JUNE 4TH AT 1 PM



The Women's Ministry will hold their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, June 4th, at 1pm in the lounge area of the church basement. ALL women are welcome and encouraged to attend. We would love to have more of you join us!

Kathy Stegmiller will be our hostess.

We hope to see you there!

QUILTING

Thursday, May 15th, 9am

These lovely ladies joined us for our last quilting day and we were so happy to have them! We would love for you to join us too!



See p 21 for all the details!

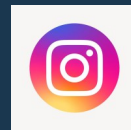
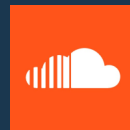
OUR SOCIAL ACCOUNTS



FOLLOW US ON ALL OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS!

Just scan the QR codes to go directly to each one of our accounts on the various platforms or search for us on the ones you use. Text & icons below are linked.

[Facebook link](#)
[Soundcloud link](#)
[Instagram link](#)
[YouTube link](#)



sermon DISCUSSIONS

During Pastor Zach's sabbatical, the Adult Sunday School class will be led by elders and some of the men who attended the Preaching Lab. They will be leading the class through a discussion of the of the previous Sunday's sermon, so be sure to take good notes and maybe refresh yourself on the sermon by listening or watching it again via one of the above platforms.

We look forward to a lot of great conversations and discussions with you as we fellowship together and strengthen our ties with one another and the Lord!

We meet every Lord's Day morning at 9am in the church basement. Please join us!



CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am



Toddler	- Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus
Pre-K	- Beth Flickinger
1st-2nd	- Katie Pearson & Sue Miller
3rd-5th	- Kathy Stegmiller
Junior High	- Tara Johnson
Senior High	- Nathan & Lyndsey Flickinger



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!

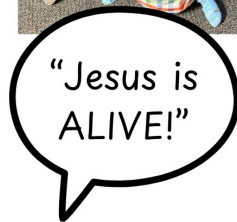
Children's Education

Toddler Room

Teachers: Hillary Terrill and Kortney Gierlus

This class provides a hands-on learning experience for our Toddlers!

There is plenty of room for more kiddos to join us on Sundays at 9:00am!



In the Toddler room we have been learning about Jesus' miracles. One of the kid's favorite lessons was the calming of the storm. We have also been working on our Catechism questions, which they are getting really good at questions 1-7. We have spent time focusing on sharing with our friends to shine Jesus' love. Currently we are learning about Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension into Heaven.



We will be recognizing our 8th grade, High School, College & University graduates during our worship service on Sunday, May 11th. Please be sure to attend and encourage them as they move into what God has for them next.



We had a great group of kids Easter sharing their voices with us in song!



Each month we will highlight various Sunday School class happenings & would like to include pictures of the children, but **need parents to sign waiver forms before that can happen.** If you are a parent, please be sure to ask to sign a waiver when you drop off your kids to class next week.

thank
you!



Mark your Calendar!



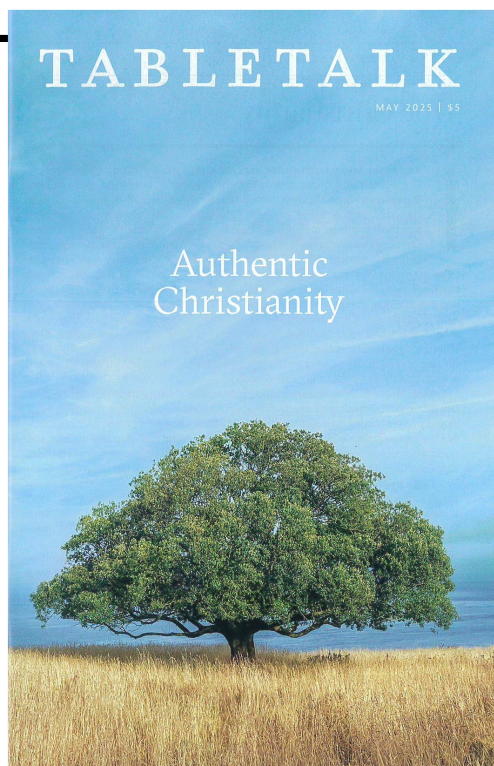
**Sunday, June 1, 2025
11:30-12:30**

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Come join us to see what your child has been learning in Sunday School and meet our wonderful Sunday School teachers!



GET YOUR MAY COPY OF
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

EVERY SUNDAY (UNLESS NOTED)

5:30-7:30PM (UNLESS NOTED)

EEPC YOUTH GROUP

5.4 - THE WHEEL GAMESHOW

5.11 - MOTHER'S DAY (NO YG)

5.18 - GAME NIGHT

5.25 - MEMORIALWEEKEND (NO YG)

FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS
CADE REIMERS FOR MORE INFO
309.373.2488



If you would like to submit something for the newsletter, **please** be sure to have it in by the deadline.

Don't Miss the
DEADLINE!

ALL submissions for the June 2025 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER than Wednesday, May 21st the newsletter.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

~ Lisa Bowman, Office Manager

Do you know anyone that is not 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 our Facebook page and website: edgingtonepc.org.

Thank you so much for your help!

QUILTING

Thursday, May 15th, 9am

Please join us on the third **THURSDAY** of nearly every month from 9am - noon as we create, piece, and sew quilts to present to next year's graduating seniors, as well as donate to various ministries.

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.

Hope to see you there!

2025 GRADUATES

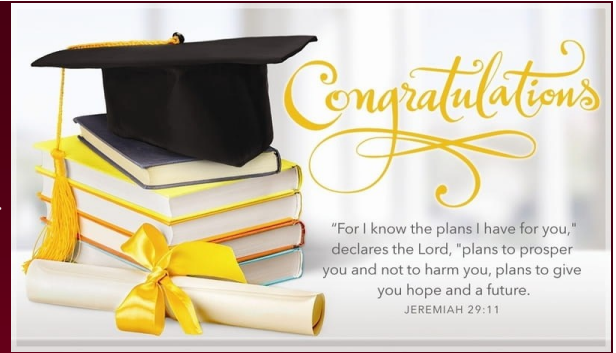
We would like to recognize and celebrate all our 2025 students that are moving on to their next adventure!

Please keep them in prayer as they try to discern God's path for their lives.

8th Grade moving into High School:

Olivia Freyermuth
Kinley Fuhr

Max Fuhr
Raegan Miller



High School Graduates:

Jacob Freyermuth Will be attending St. Ambrose University. He plans to double major in Finance and Accounting and will also be participating in track.

Zachary Smith Will be attending University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is planning to major in Kinesiology.

College/University Graduates:

Rachel Johnson Graduating from Western Governors University with a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction. She will be continuing to teach in the Rockridge School District.

Kira Nelson Graduating from Augustana College with Majors: biology & neuroscience on the pre med track and a minor in chemistry.

We will be recognizing these graduates during our worship service on Sunday, May 11th. We pray you will join us and encourage them on their journey!





2025 Youth Mission Trip

June 21st - 28th



2 Corinthians 9:8

WHO: High School Students / Ages 14+

WHAT: You and your group will provide home repairs at no cost for elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged people who need your help. Project crews typically serve the same resident for the entire trip, creating an environment where meaningful relationships develop. Projects typically include painting houses, repairing porches, and general home repairs.

WHY: Because you want to have a meaningful summer experience of service and Christian growth while making new friends from all over the country.



6/21 - 6/28 Worksite projects in Ashby, Minnesota – Staying at Ashby Public School, Ashby, MN

WHERE & WHEN?



- **I think I want to go! What do I need to do?**
 - Get this trip on your calendar! Make sure you don't have any schedule conflicts. Spots are limited so we need to be sure that those students who sign up can go.
- **How much is this going to cost?**
 - A deposit of \$100 will secure your spot. Turn this into the office ASAP.
 - A second payment of \$150 is due before the trip.
 - The total of \$250 covers ****everything****
 - Except whatever random snacks or weird things you might want to buy – that's on you!
 - Please don't let finances be a factor, there are support opportunities available to help you cover your costs. Just ask!
- **What's next?**
 - Register online – talk to Cade Reimers or Nathan Flickinger
 - When we have our spots filled, there will be more info including: lodging details, tool lists, estimated schedule, and more!

MAY 2025



EEPC

Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am

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

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27 B/P Checks Youth Group, 5:30pm	28 Meal Site	29 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	30 Meal Site	1 <i>National Day of Prayer</i> Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	2 Meal Site	3
4 Food Pantry Sunday Christian Ed. Mtg., 11:30am VBS Mtg., 12:15pm Youth Group, 5:30pm	5 Meal Site	6 Meal Site	7 Meal Site	8 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	9 Meal Site	10
11 <i>Mother's Day</i> B/P Checks  Graduate Recognition Youth Group, 5:30pm	12 Meal Site	13 Meal Site	14 Meal Site	15 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	16 Meal Site	17
18 Deacons' Mtg., 11:30am Youth Group, 5:30pm	19 Foot Clinic Meal Site	20 Meal Site Mission Comm. Mtg., 6:30pm	21 Meal Site Trustees' Mtg., 7pm 	22 Meal Site Quilting, 9am Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	23 Meal Site	24
25 B/P Checks Youth Group, 5:30pm	26 <i>Memorial Day</i> NO Meal Site 	27 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	28 Meal Site	29 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	30 Meal Site	31