



From Pastor Bill

The arrival of Summer means the encounter with the patriotic days of our country. Memorial Day, when we remember those who have died in our many wars, and the Fourth of July, when we celebrate the independence of our nation, come to us at the beginning and in the middle of the Summer. These are meaningful days that are worthy of our attention.

These two days, though, are not religious holidays. They are national ones, a truth that we who are Christians must pay attention to. The church and the nation are two separate realities. Sadly, some people forget that. These days quite a few people forget that. Those who are promoting Christian nationalism are really practicing heresy when they insist that the nation and Christian faith are linked. The early church would have been filled with horror by this bad theological move. The cross and the flag are not two sides of the same coin. The cross is what happens to those who cause problems for the nation.

Now all of this is not to suggest that patriotism is a bad thing. I don't think it is. But I believe we must be careful how we frame patriotism. Let's be honest. Patriotism is not the natural habitat for Christian faith. The flag is not our primary symbol. But where we come from, the geography we get to walk on, the people we get to do life with—these matter deeply for who we are.

It's worth our while celebrating who we are. It's a good thing to note our "spacious skies, our amber waves of grain." It's healthy to remember those who sacrificed their lives for a greater cause, even if war is nothing to applaud, but something to mourn. It's fun to rejoice with exuberance in the idea of freedom that has characterized much of our nation's history. It's important to remember that we are not human beings in general, but humans with all kinds of particularity.

But as we do so, we ought not to think that our particularity is somehow more important than that of others. It's a good thing to be an American, but it's also a good thing to be a Swede, an Egyptian, a Kenyan, or a Brazilian. We're all in this together. We are no better than anyone else. The church and the nation are not co-equals. The church contains people of every ethnicity, race, and nation. I find convincing those who say that perhaps church buildings should not have one particular national flag, but flags that represent all of the nations.



From Pastoral Assistant Paula

It's hard to believe we are entering the summer months and as many of you know it's my favorite season. I love the sun, the warm sand between my toes and long walks on the shores of Lake Michigan. This has been an incredibly busy year for the church. We have hosted many events, confirmed six of our confirmation students, traveled through the church seasons with neighboring churches and said goodbye to many friends and family members in our congregation as their journey has come to an end. We are incredibly blessed to be church during this critical time in our history.

However, to be church today means not giving up meeting during the summer months, keeping up our giving and serving so others in our community can eat and continuing our calling to live in solidarity with our neighbors in Gaza, the West Bank and Ukraine. And what exactly does that look like while we head into the summer season? Consider joining our book study on three consecutive Tuesdays in June, the 10th, 17th, and the 24th. This will be a hybrid class which means you can attend in person or via online. The class will begin at 10:00 am and convene for one hour. Online participants will need a zoom link. Please email me, Paula Dusseljee, for an invitation.

A second opportunity to learn more about the struggles and devastation of our Palestinian friends in the Holy Land will be to attend the showing of the Academy Award-winning documentary, *No Other Land*. We have secured a screening of the film through Wealthy Theater in Grand Rapids with two showings on Sunday, June 22 at 2:00 and 6:00 pm. Please note the flyer included in this edition of the Chimes with more details to follow on the First Lutheran website. This is a powerful film produced by a young Israeli man and his Palestinian friend in the West Bank filmed in real time. Please join us for this important film.

I hope this summer also brings you rest, enjoyment and a heavy dose of fresh air! And a trip to the beach!

Blessings, hope and peace,
Paula



From Shar Music 'Notes'

Music at Church

Greetings! As our usual church music peeps take a well-deserved break over the Summer, once again I am asking you to consider sharing your own musical gifts with us! I have a sign-up sheet posted on the music room door. On the date you plan to share, put your name, instrument/voice and title of the piece if you have one. If you would like me to help you choose some music, let me know. This opportunity is open to all.

Talent Show!

First Lutheran Church is well-known for its vast pool of diverse talent! Don't hide that talent under a basket. Consider 'flaunting your stuff,' on **Friday, October 17, 2025**. The Music Ministry will be hosting a talent show at 6:00 p.m. This year the show is entitled "Three Courses." The first 'course' of the evening will include savory finger food (no fingers please!) and some great openers on the stage. The second 'course' will feature some sustaining and tasty talent. The third 'course' will be comprised of sweet delights. "No dinner??!" you say? Don't worry! All essential food groups will be featured. There will be plenty for all.

Yes, it's early, but start working on your act now; the competition is as stiff as the peaks on a Baked Alaska! Sign-ups will be in the music room. No one is too young or too old! Team Ziemelis (the young version) stole the show last year!



Youth Events



Vacation Bible School

- July 14-17, 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- Kids going into K-5th grade
- Register on our website www.firstlutheranmuskegon.org
- 6-12th grade youth and adults interested in volunteering: contact Emma (emma@firstlutheranmuskegon.org)

High School Youth Outdoor Games and Ice Cream

- ★ July 13th
- ★ 1:00-3:00p.m.
- ★ Meet at the church and then we will be going to Norms for ice cream
- ★ All current and incoming high school youth are invited to spend an afternoon playing outdoor games and sharing ice cream.

Fellowship Ministry Events

Family Picnic

Join us on June 29 after worship at Block 58 (Sports Park). Fellowship Ministry will furnish hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and beverages. Please bring a dish to pass and your lawn chairs. If it rains that day, we will have the picnic at the church. Games are still in the discussion stage.

Summer Concert Series

August 6 Performing: Tommy Foster and Justin Avdek

Fellowship Ministry will be assisted by Worship & Music Ministry to serve watermelon, drinks and popcorn during the concert.

August 13 Performing: Steeple Hill Band

Fellowship Ministry will serve hot dogs, chips, drinks and Culver's ice cream.

August 20 Performing: Westside Soul Surfers

Fellowship Ministry will serve popcorn, drinks and Culver's ice cream.

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First Lutheran Golf Outing

July 19, 2025

At beautiful Benona Shores Golf Course

3410 Scenic Drive, Shelby, MI

Our Annual First Lutheran Golf Outing is a major fundraiser that will assist us in purchasing new carpet for the building.

Fees are \$65 per person. You can pre-pay in church office or on the day of the outing.

Sign up with this form which can be given to the church office, or sign up at either information station or on our website.

Register below to participate. If you do not have a complete team, we will put you with other golfers. The shotgun start is at 9:00 a.m. with a team at each hole. Lunch is served when play is finished.

REGISTER YOUR GOLFERS

Player#1 _____

Player #2 _____

Player #3 _____

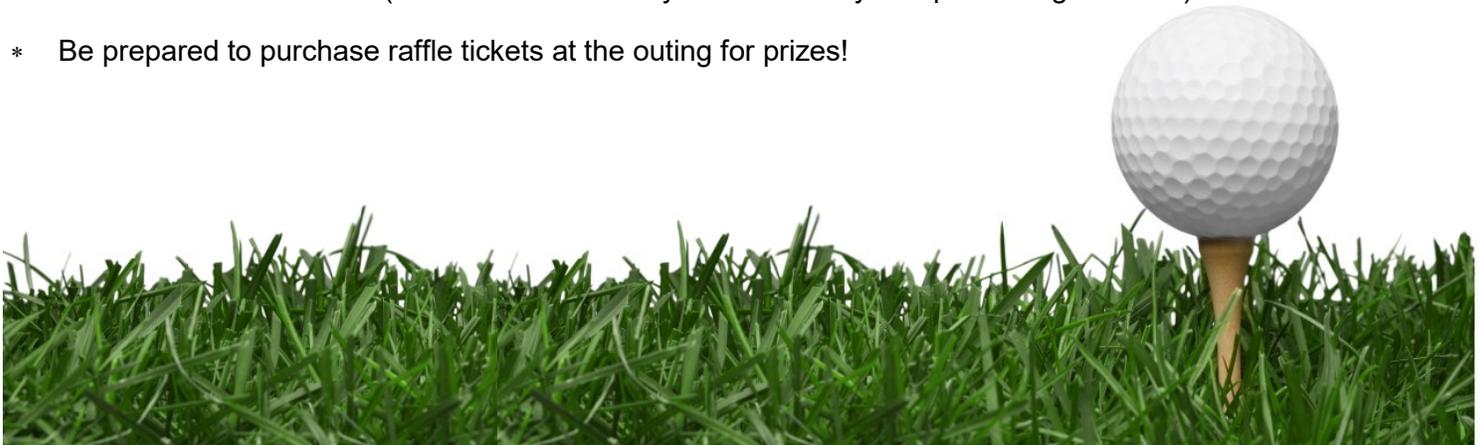
Player #4 _____

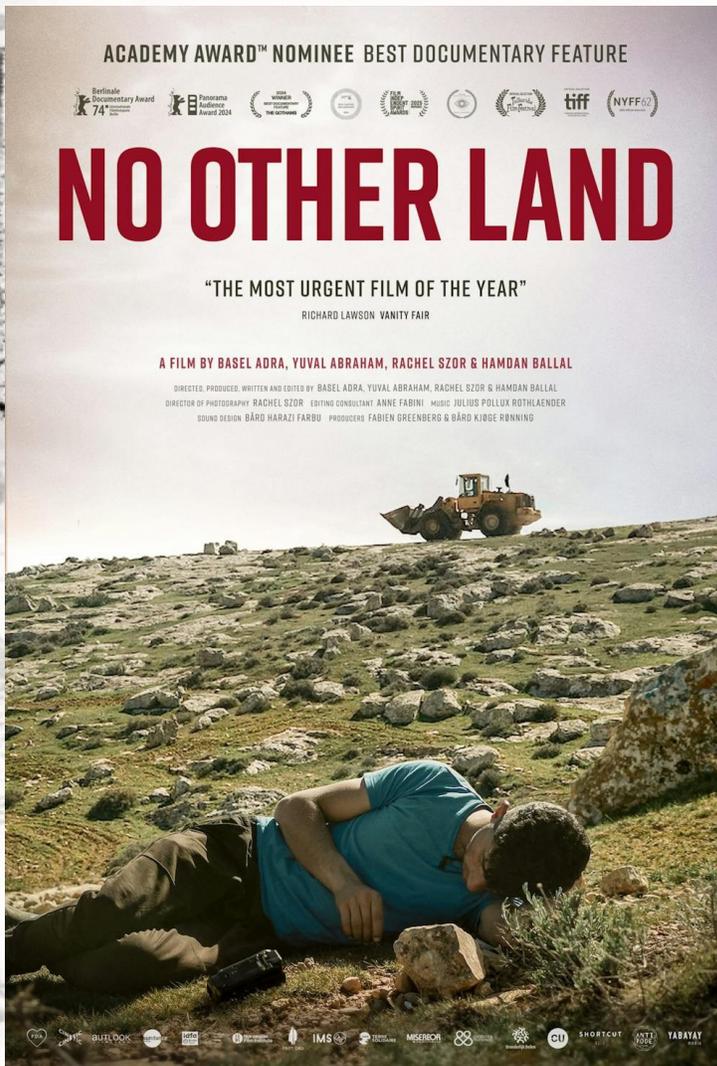
Additional Players:

Sponsorships—start at \$100. Your check can be made out to First Lutheran with the “Golf Outing Sponsorship” notation . You can also sign up on our website.

(Your name and how you would like your sponsor sign to read)

* Be prepared to purchase raffle tickets at the outing for prizes!





Please join us!

First Lutheran, in partnership with Wealthy Theater in Grand Rapids, Michigan, will be showing this impactful film on June 22, 2025.

Two showings will be available: 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

Ticket information will be available via our website: www.firstlutheranmuskegon.org

If you have any questions, please contact Paula Dusseljee at: paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

You are encouraged to come and bring a friend as we learn more about our neighbors in Palestine.



The Outreach Team has decided we will put the First Lutheran garage sale on hold for this year so we can evaluate how best to serve the community with a future garage sale or some other similar project.



Weekly Offerings

Week ending 4-6-2025:

General Fund: \$6,593.24
Building Rent: \$412.00
Building Enhancement: \$750.00
Dollar-a-Day (for new carpet): \$391.04

Week ending 4-13-2025:

General Fund: \$8,119.85
Building Rent: \$1,336.26
Building Enhancement: \$185.00
Dollar-a-Day (for new carpet): \$234.00
Noisy Offering (Boys & Girls Club): \$50.00

Week ending 4-20-2025:

General Fund: \$9,494.85
Building Rent: \$465.00
Building Enhancement: \$235.00
Noisy Offering (Boys & Girls Club): \$255.95

Week ending 4-27-2025:

General Fund: \$5,741.19
Building Rent: \$175.50
Building Enhancement: \$235.00
Noisy Offering (Boys & Girls Club): \$178.43



Official Acts



Marriage

05/03/2025
Aubrey Freeman and Andrew Morrow

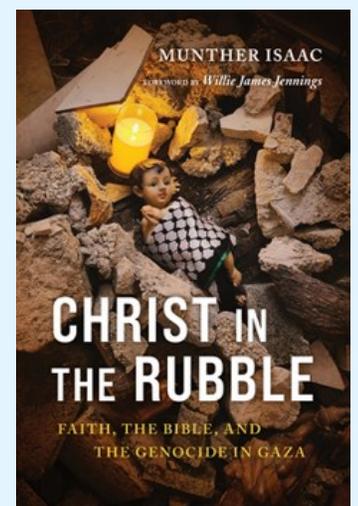
Confirmation

05/04/2025
*Megan Badley
August Frietsch
Jordan Pruitt
Bridget O'Connor
Connor Simerick
Lauren Slater*

Summer Book Study

Paula will be leading a book study using the book: *Christ in the Rubble* by Pastor Munther Isaac. The class will be held on three subsequent Tuesdays: June 10, 17, and 24 from 10 - 11:00 a.m. You can join us at First Lutheran or via zoom. Please email Paula if you need a zoom link: paula@firstlutheranmuskegon.org

***Paula has a limited number of books available for purchase at a discounted price: \$15 via a special offer. The book retails on Amazon for: \$23.74.



June Birthdays

1	Amy Badley	14	Robert Metiva	22	Annette Jack Mary Will
4	Dawn Shank Josh Will Erin Finn	15	Rodney Gallo Thomas Montgomery Mackenzie Wheeler	23	Isabelle Freeland
8	Anne Schalow Jeffrey Cooke	16	Thu Le	24	Debra Wosinski
9	Bill Peterson Sandra Fluharty	17	Kathleen Cobler	30	David Plekes Timothy Staudacher Bridget O'Connor
11	Terry Henry Mary Burnell	19	Joan Cottrell Stan Huey		
12	Roger Barber Dee Barber Jim Elliott Ed Redline	20	Jerry Sharlow Craig Studeman Lisa Ziemelis		



July Birthdays

1	Susan Besteman	13	Kenneth Staib Joel Dulyea	24	Jackie Stapel
2	Josie Thomas Alicia Alger	14	Pat Sharlow	25	Jim Borushko Amber Thomas
3	Rhonda Sweet Sean O'Connor	15	Pamela Sharlow	26	Dennis DeVries Jessica Dibble
6	Ryan Glavich Kevin Giles	16	Jennie Trulsen	27	Sandy DeVries
8	Sandy Young Erin Cihos Stan Burnell Diane Madej	17	Layla Giles	29	Merritt Archer Jami Harwood Liam Simons
10	Cade Paugh	18	Stanley Daszko	31	Cheryl Parmeter
11	Thomas Sutton	19	Joel Westerholm		
12	Sam Gallo John Rodriguez Jane Horton	20	Justin Meloche		
		22	Carl Luther Tyler Rop Tea Schlager		
		23	Jack Gilbert Ron Peel		

Sunday	Weekly Scripture Readings
6/1	Acts 16:16-34, Ps 97 Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, John 17:20-26
6/8	Gen 11:1-9, Ps 104:24-34, 35b Acts 2:1-21, John 14:8-17 [25-27]
6/15	Prov 8:1-4, 22-31, Ps 8 Rom 5:1-5, John 16:12-15
6/22	Isa 65:1-9, Ps 22:19-28, Gal 3:23-29, Luke 8:26-39
6/29	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21, Ps 16 Gal 5:1, 13-25, Luke 9:51-62
7/6	Isa 66:10-14, Ps 66:1-9 Gal 6:[1-6] 7-16
7/13	Deut 30:9-14, Ps 25:1-10 Col 1:1-14, Luke 10:25-37
7/20	Gen 18:1-10a, Ps 15 Col 1:15-29, Luke 10:38-42
7/27	Gen 18:20-32, Ps 138 Col 2:6-15 [16-19], Luke 11:1-13



Thanks to the May Chimes assemblers:

Dave and Theresa Buchan



We recently hosted a Vintage Tea Party to benefit Every Women's Place. Steph's Steps was there to show us a ballroom dance, and many participated in learning the steps. In attendance were the Lakeshore Victorian Ladies. Thank you, all ladies and one gent, for attending and dressing up in your finery, dress and/or hat. It was truly a beautiful event. Many personal care items were collected and will be brought to Every Woman's Place along with a check for \$250. Thank you to all that worked setting up, preparing the food and cleaning up for this event. It takes a village, and we have an awesome one.

Regards,
Diane Kroll & Deb Roest

Keepers

Gerald and Betty Crenno
1740 Village Dr Apt 318
Village at the Oaks
Muskegon, MI 49442-4288

Theresa Hansen
Robbinswood-Northcrest Campus
2650 Ruddiman Dr
North Muskegon, MI 49445

Keith Stapel
1228 Lawrence St
Muskegon, MI 49442

Dave Walborn
18552 W Spring Lake Rd
Spring Lake, MI 49456

Mary Warden
1740 Village Dr. Apt 222
Muskegon, MI 49442-4283

First Lutheran Church

June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>**Dollar-a-Day Weekend **</p> <p>10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>2</p> <p>12:00PM-Quilters' Group</p> <p>5:00PM-P.E.O. Group</p> <p>5:45PM-Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:15PM-Gently Restore Yoga</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>9:30AM-Music Together Class</p> <p>11:30AM-MARSP Meeting</p> <p>6:00PM-Lion's Club Meeting</p> <p>6:30PM-Choir</p> <p>9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>12:00PM-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>5</p> <p>12:00PM-Lectonary Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM-In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:00PM-Stewardship Mtg</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30AM-Music Together Classes</p> <p>2:00PM-Rental</p>
<p>8</p> <p>10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>9</p> <p>12:00PM-Quilter's Group</p> <p>3:00PM-Sons of Norway Board Mtg</p> <p>5:45PM-Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:15PM-Soul Flow Yoga</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>9:30AM-1st on 2nd Quilt Bee</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Book Discussion</p> <p>9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>12:00PM-Staff Meeting</p> <p>4:00PM-Lions Officer's Mtg</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts</p> <p>12:00PM-Lectonary Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM-Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:00PM-Council Meeting</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:00PM-Sons of Norway</p> <p>5:30PM-Bunco</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>** Father's Day **</p> <p>10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>12:00PM-Quilter's Group</p> <p>5:45PM-Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:15PM-Gently Restore Yoga</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Book Discussion</p> <p>11:30PM-Muskegon County Garden Club</p> <p>6:00PM-Lions Club</p> <p>9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>12:00PM-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts</p> <p>12:00PM-Lectonary Bible Study</p> <p>4:00PM-Outreach Ministry</p> <p>6:00PM-In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:00PM-Crafty Group</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30AM-Men's Breakfast</p> <p>8:30AM-Women's Breakfast</p>
<p>22</p> <p>10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship</p> <p>2:00PM-Showing of "No Other Land"</p> <p>6:00PM-Showing of "No Other Land"</p> <p>6:00PM-Taize' Worship Svc</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>12:00PM-Quilters' Group</p> <p>5:45PM-Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p> <p>7:15PM-Soul Flow Yoga</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Bulletin Deadline</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP)</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Book Discussion</p> <p>10:00AM-Music Together Class</p> <p>9:30PM-Compline</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:00AM-Pickleball</p> <p>12:00PM-Staff Meeting</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts</p> <p>12:00PM-Lectonary Bible Study</p> <p>6:00PM-In-Person Worship</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10:00AM-Music Together Classes</p> <p>11:00AM-Funeral for Dorie Cvengros</p>
<p>29</p> <p>10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship</p> <p>1:00PM-Fellowship Ministry Picnic</p> <p>3:00PM-Rental</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12:00PM-Quilters' Group</p> <p>5:45PM-Chair Yoga</p> <p>6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous</p> <p>7:00PM-AA Meeting</p> <p>7:00PM-Cardio Drumming</p>					

First Lutheran Church

July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 6:00PM-Lion's Club Meeting 9:30PM-Compline	9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting	12:00PM-Lectioary Bible Study 4:00PM-Burnished Brass Rehearsal 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	** Independence Day ** ** Office Closed ** 7:00PM-AA Meeting	5
**Dollar-a-Day Weekend ** 10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	3:00PM-Sons of Norway Board Mtg 5:00PM-P.E.O. Group 6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 9:30AM-1st on 2nd Quilt Bee 10:00AM-Music Together Class 9:30PM-Compline	9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting	10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts 12:00PM-Lectioary Bible Study 4:00PM-Burnished Brass Rehearsal 6:00PM-Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	5:00PM-Sons of Norway 5:30PM-Bunco 7:00PM-AA Meeting	12 9:00AM-Highway Clean-up 10:00AM-Music Together Classes 5:00PM-Ukranian Dinner
Stony Lake Camp						
10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	12:00PM-Quilter's Group 6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 10:00AM-Music Together Class 6:30PM-Choir 9:30PM-Compline	9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting	10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts 12:00PM-Lectioary Bible Study 4:00PM-Burnished Brass Rehearsal 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	6:00PM-Crafty Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting	19 8:30AM-Men's Breakfast 8:30AM-Women's Breakfast 9:00AM-Golf Outing 10:00AM-Music Together Classes
Vacation Bible School						
10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	11:30AM-Red Cross Blood Drive 6:00PM-Overeaters Anonymous 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 10:00AM-Music Together Class 9:30PM-Compline	9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Worship & Music Ministry Meeting	10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts 12:00PM-Lectioary Bible Study 4:00PM-Burnished Brass Rehearsal 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	7:00PM-AA Meeting	26 10:00AM-Music Together Classes
10:00AM-In-Person/On-Line Worship 6:00PM-Taize' Worship 7:00PM-AA Meeting	12:00PM-Quilters' Group 7:00PM-AA Meeting 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming	Bulletin Deadline 9:00AM-Pickleball 9:00AM-Seniors Helping Our Parish (SHOP) 10:00AM-Music Together Class 9:30PM-Compline	9:00AM-Pickleball 12:00PM-Staff Meeting	10:00AM-Summer Meal Handouts 12:00PM-Lectioary Bible Study 4:00PM-Burnished Brass Rehearsal 6:00PM-In-Person Worship 7:00PM-Cardio Drumming		