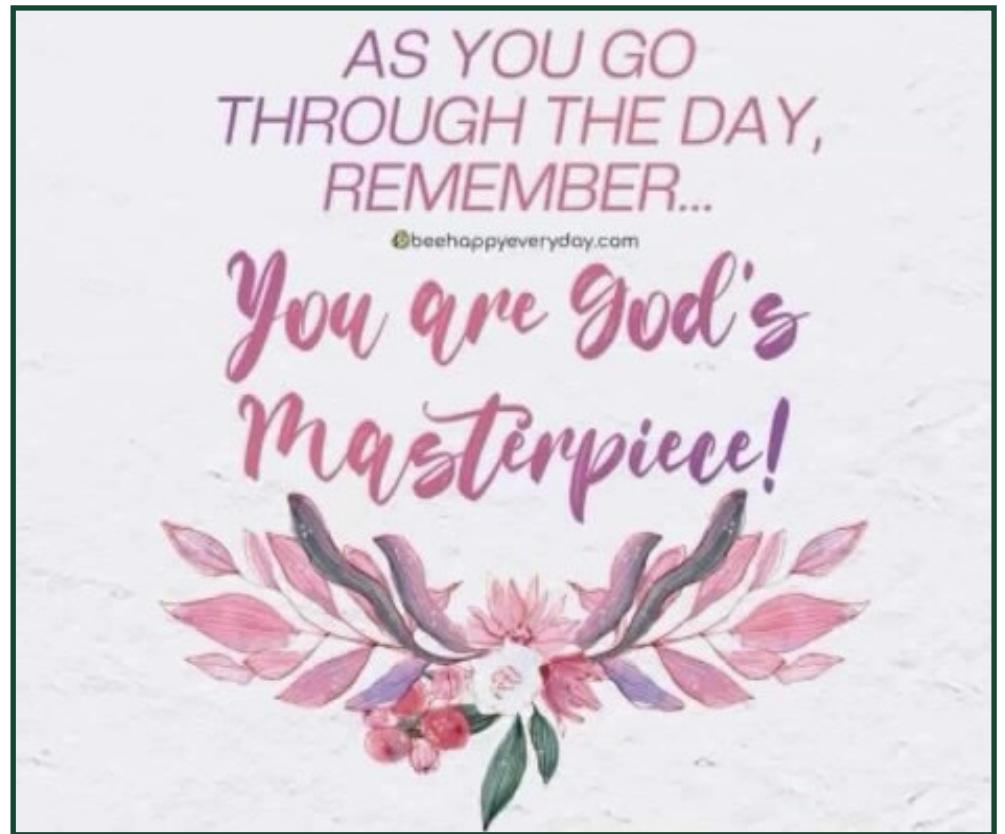


# Chiming In

NEWS AND EVENTS OF THE  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES

A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All  
[www.churchofthechimes.org](http://www.churchofthechimes.org)—[www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes)



# September 2023

[www.churchofthechimes.org](http://www.churchofthechimes.org) | [office@churchofthechimes.org](mailto:office@churchofthechimes.org) | 818-789-7124



Dr. Elizabeth Bingham, Senior Minister  
Rev. Curtis Peek, Associate Minister  
Jennifer Lee, Church Office Manager  
Jane G. Poole, Christian Education Director  
Allyne Baker, Preschool Director  
Joi Staves, Wedding & Events Coordinator  
Lindsay Hill, Facility Manager  
Javier De la Torre, Groundskeeper



Phone: 818-789-7124  
Email: [office@churchofthechimes.org](mailto:office@churchofthechimes.org)



CHURCH OF THE CHIMES  
*Sherman Oaks*

*All are Welcome*  
to Sunday Service  
10:30am

*faith*

14115 Magnolia Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA



SCAN ME



[www.Churchofthechimes.org](http://www.Churchofthechimes.org)  
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## **FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER**

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

### **Faithfully Yours**

It is September. Back in the day it meant that the day after Labor Day schools would open and children would arrive with squeaky new shoes and dark cotton dresses or crisply ironed shirts. The air would be filled with expectations. “Who will sit next to me in class? Will the teacher be nice and...”

As schools began the rest of the world woke up after the lull of summer. In churches, Sunday school classes would gather, and committees would start to meet. The pews would be fuller as people no longer went away on weekends or just were away from worship for a season.

Here in Los Angeles it meant that the County Fair would be opening right along with Church of the Chimes’ Golden West Fair. The Dodgers would be, or not be, hoping to make the post season. Football would take over Sunday afternoons and Monday nights. The opera and the symphony and the theaters would announce their “new seasons.”

A time of beginning for sure. These years though much has changed—schools start in August. The County fair has moved to May and our Fair is in October. There won’t be new television shows at least for a while because there hasn’t been any filming the last few months. September has been a time of new beginnings.

Paradoxically though, September is also a time of remembering, a time of looking back, from “How did you spend your summer?” to bittersweet memories of what used to be.

As this new season unfolds it is up to us to decide whether or not we are going to look forward with hope, or back with nostalgic longing. We are formed by our past, we are called to our future. We are called as people of God and followers of Christ—to accept what is different, to cherish what is dear and to never wander off the path the Jesus set before us. It is a path that takes us to the places where the faith that is ours, the love that we have, the bounty that we are given must be shared with those whose very lives depend upon hearing the Word and Truth, the Hope and the promise that we claim.

In that spirit...slight revision of a song the Four Brothers sang:

*Try to remember that life is so tender  
Let no one weep except the willow  
As we remember God’s love this September  
Let faith be an ember about to billow  
Let us remember God’s Son this September  
And follow, follow...*

*Love and blessings to all, Beth*

## **SEPTEMBER 2023 HAPPENINGS**

- ⇒ **RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSION GROUP: DAY & TIME TBD.** A Group Discussion where all views are welcomed as we learn from one another. Contact Diane Delaney, Shawn Burkley or Dr. Bingham for details.
- ⇒ **COUNCIL MEETING: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30pm in Dreier Hall.**
- ⇒ **WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION BOARD: Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am in Dreier Hall.** Anyone interested in participating on this Board may contact Natalie Karp, our Board Chair (nataliefkarp@mac.com).
- ⇒ **TRUSTEES MEETING: SEPTEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> 6:30pm in Hamilton House.**
- ⇒ **BOUQUET CIRCLE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup>:** All women are welcome to join this group who enlighten one another on a variety of topics of Interest. If you can join us this month, please RSVP Barbara Downs at btdowns@gmail.com or call her at 747-355-6077 ASAP as we need a head count for the Chinese Chicken Salad that Barbara is ordering. Hope to see you there!
- ⇒ **VESPERS: THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> at 6:30pm:** All women of the church are invited to gather for dinner and conversation at a local eating establishment typically on the 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:30pm. Please contact Natalie Karp (nataliefkarp@mac.com) if you would like to join in.
- ⇒ **NEW CRAFT CREATIONS: MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 10:00am in Dreier Hall.**
- ⇒ **BROWN BAG BIBLE: MEETS MOST TUESDAYS at 12noon in Dreier Hall:** This is 45 minutes of lively discussion of the scripture passage for the coming Sunday. We munch our lunch, get background and context for the lesson, and talk about what it means.
- ⇒ **WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY: MEETS WEDNESDAYS at 7pm via zoom:** All women of any faith are invited to our gathering of caring, sharing and loving women on Wednesday evenings at 7pm—sometimes in person and sometimes via zoom. We are currently studying a book named, “Twelve More Women of the Bible” by Sherry Harney. For more information please feel free to contact Jane Poole via her email address: jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net.
- ⇒ **SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY:** The Men’s Group is hosting a Bible Study on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month (September 10th and 24th) in Dreier Hall from 9:30 to 10:15am. Please feel free to join in at anytime for lively and interesting discussions.
- ⇒ **NORTH HOLLYWOOD INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY:** NHIFP continues to help the food insecure in our community during the hard times we are in. Contributions of granola bars and other snack items plus peanut butter and plastic grocery bags are needed. Contact NHIFP.org for other specific needs as well as for volunteer opportunities. Thanks for your support of our community food bank.

“One day you will look back and see that all along you were

## **DEACON NEWS**

Greg Abbott, Chair

We did not meet during August but there is still something to report. The Christmas in July toys were delivered Tuesday August 15. Thanks to all who contributed. We were pleased to host the receptions, even one held in the middle of a tropical storm. **See you next month, Greg**

## **GOLDEN WEST FAIR NEWS**

John Sullivan, Chair

Golden West Fair October 7, 2023

Our 73rd Golden West Fair is October 7, 2023 8:00 am-4:00 p.m.—starting with a pancake breakfast. Save the date and tell your friends! All of our usual activities will be there. GWF is always looking for help in terms talent, time (like baked goods, other food), donations of sellable items (jewelry, household items etc.), funds to help reduce some of the cost of the Fair etc. GWF also likes larger breakable bottles for our break it booth. All help is welcome and very much needed! Remember too that the big set up date is the week before, Saturday September 30, 2023. Reach out to John Sullivan at any-time. See you at the GWF!

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

Ally Baker, Director

Our preschool still has openings, so if you know anyone looking for an amazing preschool, please have them contact Ally Baker, our preschool Director, and/or for more information about the Preschool, Parent & Me Program or other school events, email [preschool@churchofthechimes.org](mailto:preschool@churchofthechimes.org) or reach her through the church office (818-789-7124). Thanks! **ALLY**

## **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS: September 3, 2023**

We welcome everyone to all of our worship services, our activities, our communications, our prayers. In our Congregational tradition all decisions for the church are made by the official membership of the church—it is the foundation of our organization. Members are also able to serve on church boards and become officers of the church.

So membership is not necessary for full participation in all of our events, all of our spiritual. However each of you has a gift to share with us. Each of you has a voice to speak to us. If you would like to join please contact Dr. Bingham this week and you will be received into membership during worship on September 3.

## **SERMON TOPICS FOR SEPTEMBER**

September 3	Code of Conduct (Romans 12-9-21) ~Communion Served
September 10:	Teach God's Children Well (Psalm 119 33-40)
September 17	Water Wall (Exodus 14: 19-31)
September 24:	Equal Pay for Unequal Work (Matthew 20: 1-8)

## **FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER**

Rev. Curtis Peek

### **RECOGNIZE JUST WHO YOU ARE!**

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.  
And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;  
if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.  
Romans 8:14-17

Too often we find Christians who have forgotten that we really are children of the Most High God. We have allowed lies to be imbedded in us that has created a performance-based relationship with the Grace Giver. Some dear saints of God are afraid to move out in boldness because they still believe that God can only love them if their performance is without fault.

This fear has immobilized many. This lie is displaced when we know we are loved not because of our performance, but out of the very nature of God. He can only love. He is love. He is unchangeable.

As a servant of God, it is totally natural to operate in the fearful but reverent view that if we mess up we somehow lose our salvation.

Jesus said in John 15 that He would no longer relate to His disciples as servants. He would now relate to them as friends. The shift here was not simply using a new word to describe the relationship, but rather how the word “friend” would radically change how the disciples would relate to Jesus.

In 2nd Corinthians 20:18 the Lord says, “And, I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.”

As a child of God we now operate in the spirit of Love and not servitude. In other words, we do the right thing because we love God. As a child of God we now have the autonomy to come boldly to the throne and ask God to FIX us.

When we were servants and we messed up, we were simply cut off and replaced. But as children we cannot be replaced as we are heirs to the kingdom and joint heirs with Jesus Christ. (See Romans 8:18).

I encourage you to recognize who you are and accept the RELATIONSHIP the Lord has called you to be with Him. Respect the Family Values by doing those things that honor our Heavenly Father. **Believe it! Curtis**

*Reprint from September 2021 Chiming In*

## **A THOUGHT TO PONDER**

The anticipation of a storm and challenging circumstances has us recalibrating our assets and securing them so that we can weather through the potential aftermath. What happens when we are too dependent on others to acknowledge the upcoming storm or that we did not heed the warning signs?



### RED CROSS URGENT NEED!

Sign up online: [www.churchofthechimes.org](http://www.churchofthechimes.org)  
COTC's next Blood Drive at will be on October 3rd.

♥♥♥♥♥  
Blood donation is essential to ensuring community health.

### BAND OF PRAYER

A church that prays together, stays together especially during challenging times when everything seems to go upside down. What is certain is that God is with us, Bringing things back into focus. He hears our prayers.

Please send Band of Prayer requests to Sylvia McCormick; [miss\\_daisy1226@yahoo.com](mailto:miss_daisy1226@yahoo.com) or feel free to call or email the Church Office; [office@churchofthechimes.org](mailto:office@churchofthechimes.org) | 818-789-7124

Raye Zaragoza, the daughter of church member Shirley Zaragoza, who sang her song 'American Dream' as an opening of COTC's first Martin Luther King, Jr. event, will be showcasing her newly released third album 'Hold That Spirit' on Thursday, September 14th at 7:00 pm at The Hotel Cafe, Hollywood. Advance tickets can be pre purchased online at [Hotelcafe.Com](http://Hotelcafe.Com)



Hi!

I CAN'T WAIT TO CONNECT WITH YOU ONLINE!

I'm Hayley, the COTC Social Media Manager Thank you...for following COTC on Facebook & Instagram...for continuing to LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE on all of the COTC posts...for leaving relevant & encouraging comments — an emoji may be just the thing that someone needs — AND for remembering that the more posts we do—the more we can share our message! Together we can reach so many to make them aware of us...IF YOU OR YOUR GROUP NEEDS HELP WITH SOCIAL MEDIA PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE (818)-789-7124. I'M HERE FOR YOU! ANYTIME!

COTC is a diverse and loving community accepting of all people.

### MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE

Hayley Cabral, Founder

Magnolia Marketplace is an outdoor shopping event seeking to promote local small business owners, entrepreneurs & vendors in our community!

Our mission is to create space for local artisans, farmers & small business owners to THRIVE in today's challenging economy! Join us on the 1st Sunday of every month to celebrate the continuation of our outdoor neighborhood market! See you there!

***When we come together as a community, we are stronger!***

**MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE**  
at Congregational Church of the Chimes

ECO- FRIENDLY SHOPPING  
FRESH PRODUCE  
ARTISAN CRAFTS  
FOOD & MORE

Diverse High End Vendors  
Empowering Local Artisans & Entrepreneurs

**SUNDAY ~ SEPTEMBER 3RD**  
914115 MAGNOLIA BLVD @11:30AM-4PM



Coming Soon

Explore Our World of Family Fun At the 73rd Annual

# GOLDEN WEST FAIR

OCTOBER 7TH 9AM-4PM

## Play Games Win Prizes Food & FUN

Step right up to the enchanting Golden West Fair hosted at the charming Church of the Chimes! A delightful haven of family-friendly festivities, this event promises a day filled with joy, laughter, and an array of exciting activities!

For More Info  
[www.Churchofthechimes.Org](http://www.Churchofthechimes.Org)

Our Location   
14115 Magnolia Blvd, Sherman Oaks

CHURCH OF THE CHIMES  
Sherman Oaks

All are Welcome  
to Sunday Service

10:30am

faith

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## **JANE'S CORNER**

Jane G. Poole, CE Director

Romans 12 tells us we are a church body, with fabulous talents and abilities of which God has given us through His grace. How blessed we are! This was so evident when the CE Board met to talk about what's coming up for the children and adults here at COTC through Christian Education Ministries. We are a diverse and fabulous group of caring and imaginative people supporting our Sunday Gathering and BE Bold groups, Woman's Bible study and other grand things. In a nutshell:

- We meet every Sunday with a great group of kids who support and encourage each other while sharing thoughts and learning about what God and Jesus mean to us in today's world.
- The BE Bold youth group continues to grow with a fantastic group of teens. They are honest, support each other and we have sincere discussions about life while having dinner and playing games.
- The Woman's Bible study group meets weekly via zoom encouraging each other and sharing heartfelt thoughts of how God works within us.
- Coming up - the CE Board will host Rally Day in mid-September to celebrate our CE Leaders and our youth, and present Bibles and gifts for those who have graduated from one level of school to another.
- We will be hosting a Chimes Café & Bingo FUNraiser in late October. It will be a pot luck dinner followed by bingo. The funds raised from bingo will support our youth programs.
- The kids will be participating in the GWF, Blessing Bags and Operation Gratitude, NHIFP along with other opportunities.

*Blessings and hugs, Jane (Please take time to be quiet with God!)*

## **TRUSTEE NEWS**

Diane Delaney, Chair

We continue to meet monthly and make progress on several of the campus maintenance items. We also have some major issues that need to be fixed such as the Bower Hall roof leaks over the stage and kitchen areas; we are getting bids for this work. Also the old, red wood doors to our beautiful Chapel need to be replaced and will cost about \$3,000. If anyone would like to make a donation to help offset the cost of the chapel doors, please contact me. We continue to struggle financially each month as income has dropped due to the writer's strike and the lack of filming. Thank you,

## **RACIAL EQUITY GROUP NEWS**

Submitted by Diane Delaney

Our Racial Equity Group has not met for a few months. There is so much going on at our church which is wonderful, it keeps us all very busy. We were meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month after church but now we have the magnificent Magnolia Marketplace, which we all want to attend! We are considering going back to virtual Zoom meetings which worked quite well for this group during COVID. We also want to expand our discussions beyond racial equity to diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, so will be talking about this and possibly a new name for this group. All are welcome to join and if you have any ideas you want to share, please contact Dr. Bingham, Shawn Burkley or Diane Delaney.

## **GETTING TO KNOW...**

Submitted by Michele Marot

Jule (pronounced Yula) Worrell

Born in Düsseldorf, Germany, Jule attended high school at Gymnasium Norf in Neuss, but became an exchange student in her junior year when she was sixteen. She stayed with her aunt and cousins in Orange County for that year and then returned to finish high school and University in Germany.

Jule made many friends in the U.S. and came back for summer vacations on a regular basis; then did an unpaid internship in Ojai. After getting her Master's degree, Jule had a tough time finding work in Germany. She did some informational interviews with companies in Los Angeles, and during one of her summer stays a small staffing agency offered to sponsor her work visa for three years. So she moved here when she was 28, and after the first year she met her husband Mark. Jule currently works as a Client Services Manager for a payroll provider.

Jule first came to COTC around 2014 after her friend, Kasey Himmel, posted pictures of Operation Christmas Child. She loved the idea of a group packing and sending shoeboxes stuffed with toys for needy children at Christmas. So Jule and her family attended church with Kasey and they kept coming back. In fact, both her sons, Sean and Finn, were baptized at COTC in 2016, and recently Sean was confirmed and became a member!

Another church activity Jule really likes is packing the Blessing Bags to help the unhoused. As it says in 1Peter 4:10-11, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." Jule has the gift of kindness and a heart for others!

Besides working full time and raising a family, Jule keeps busy at our church teaching children on Sunday mornings and she is part of the Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study Group as well. You'll also find Jule running the bake sale at the Golden West Fair (coming up October 7th), and she does a terrific job; the bake sale generally sells out early! We appreciate her dedication and generous spirit.

When she gets to heaven, Jule would like to see all the loved ones she has lost, including her pets. In her own words, "It's going to look very peaceful (with) green rolling hills and little cottages. I can imagine God saying "There you are."





# September 2023



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					<u>1</u> 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>2</u> 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>3</u> <b>MAGNOLIA MARKETPLACE</b> <u>11:30am on Hazeltine Lawn</u>  10:30am COTC Worship Svc <b>Communion Served</b> 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 11:45am CWS Mtg 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier	<u>4</u> <b>LABOR DAY</b> <u>Office and Preschool Closed</u>  10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>5</u> <b>COUNCIL MEETING</b> <u>6:30pm ~ Dreier Hall</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creation ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>6</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ Bower	<u>7</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower	<u>8</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>9</u> <b>WA BOARD MEETING</b> <u>10:00am in Dreier Hall</u>  9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>10</u>  9:30 Bible Study ~ Dreier 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier	<u>11</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>12</u> <b>TRUSTEES MEETING</b> <u>Hamilton House ~ 6:30pm</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creation ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>13</u> <b>BOUQUET CIRCLE</b> <u>11:30am -1:30pm ~Dreier</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ Bower	<u>14</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower	<u>15</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>16</u>  9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>17</u>  10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier	<u>18</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel	<u>19</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creation ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>20</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts ~ Bower	<u>21</u> <b>VESPERS ~ 6:30pm*</b> <i>*Subject to change...</i>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts	<u>22</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 6:30pm Be Bold Gathering ~ HH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>23</u>  9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S
<u>24</u> <b>CHRISTIAN ED MEETING</b>  9:30 Bible Study ~ Dreier 10:45am Sunday Gathering Grp 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 11:45 CE Mtg 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier	<u>25</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~Chapel	<u>26</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:0am Craft Creation ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH	<u>27</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts ~ Bower	<u>28</u>  9:00am Preschool 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts	<u>29</u>  9:00am Preschool 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 6:30pm Be Bold Gathering ~ HH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group	<u>30</u>  9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S