

Grace News

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church
415 10th St, PO Box 156
DeWitt, IA 52742

PH: 563-659-9153
Fax: 563-659-9154
www.gracedewitt.org



Church Office Hours

M-Th - 8am to 3 pm
F - 8am to Noon

May 2025

Dear Redeemed and Loved Saints of Grace,

“Pausing”

Pause. It means to interrupt.

It is time to pause our discussions about prayer, and for me to reflect on this past month. There was a lot of good. We worked through Holy Week. Starting with the joy of Palm Sunday. Youth pancake breakfast. The Sunday School kids singing. Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

These were good things. Times that we got to be together and share with one another the hope that we have in our Savior Jesus Christ.

But it's time to do what's next. The disciples after Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father, are left to ask what is next? The answer is simple. Do what Jesus commissioned them to do. Make disciples of all nations.

Jesus commissions the church. Our commission is to tell the world what He has done. What's next? We keep telling everyone we know over and over what God has done for you. That through His gracious love, He has rescued and redeemed you through his forgiveness and love for you.

In the Service of Jesus,
Pastor Eric Obermann

Mark Your Calendar

May 1st - VBS Registration begins

May 4th - “Mites” Sunday

May 9th - Preschool Event - “Muffins with Mom”
Hurts Donut Fundraiser Pickup—2 to 6 pm

May 11th—Last Day of Sunday School

May 14th - Graduates Dinner



May 18th - Graduate Recognition at 8:00 am Worship
Fellowship Sunday

May 22nd—Raise the Flags

May 23rd—Office Closed

May 28th—Welton Chapel Worship @ Grace Camp

SERVING THIS MONTH:

The Elders:

Sunday 8:00 AM Paul Kirby
10:30 AM Jon Betz
Wednesday 7:00 PM Lucas Rickertsen &
Aaron Meyers

The Organist: Diana Baetke

The Acolytes

May 4th
8:00 AM Cameron Miller
10:30 AM Larry Oronzio

May 11th
8:00 AM Austin Nolin
10:30 AM Isaiah Sunday

May 18th
8:00 AM Zack Yutesler
10:30 AM Zane Burzlaff

May 25th
8:00 AM Brody Lawrence
10:30 AM Kennick Meyer



Please join us on Thursday, May 22nd at 8:00 am to raise the flags at church. We will take the flags down on Tuesday, May 26th at 8:00 am.

If it is raining or has been raining, please call the church office to confirm this will still be taking place.



Baptized on March 29, 2025—Hayze Lee Diercks, son of John & Mariah Diercks, was baptized on March 29th. His baptismal sponsors are Lucas Schulz and Janna Goodall.

Baptized on April 6, 2025—Harlan Michael Jans, son of Dylan & Shannon Jans, was baptized on April 6th. His baptismal sponsors are Mollie Johnston and Mike Jans.

Grace Lutheran Church 2025 Endowment Grants:

Belize Mission Trip (Eli Engelkes)	\$ 750.00
Medical Supplies for Belize	\$ 750.00
Card Table Purchase	\$ 214.00
National Youth Gathering	\$ 2,586.00



Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 28, 2025

Wednesday Worship

7:00 p.m. @ Grace Camp Welton Chapel

Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. @ Grace Church
Traditional Service

10:00 a.m. @ Grace Camp Outdoor Chapel
Praise Service

Please, remember when the weather is questionable you can find out if services have been moved from Camp to Church by visiting our website, gracedewitt.org, or looking for the yellow signs placed outside of the church and at the road entrance to camp.

IMPORTANT - Deadline for submitting articles for the June is May 15th.



Fellowship Sunday

May 18th

9:15 am to 10:30 am

Plan to join us on Sunday, May 18th as the Board of Education hosts Fellowship Sunday. We will have time to fellowship with one another, while enjoying coffee and snacks.

We will be collecting MITES on Sunday, May 4th. If you would like to help support the LCMS you can place your donation inside the box located in the Narthex or leave a marked donation in the offering plate. Thank you for your support of LWML and the missions of the LCMS.

Pastor Eric Obermann
563-321-0032
pastoreric@gracedewitt.org

Kerry Good
kgood@gracedewitt.org

Mark Sperry, DCE
563-321-0674
mosperry@gracedewitt.org

Mark's Office Hours
M-Th - 7:00 am to 1:00 pm

Grace Lutheran Preschool
PH: 563-659-9193

Preschool Teacher/Director
Christine Greve
preschool@gracedewitt.org

Grace Lutheran Camp
2675 242nd St, P.O. Box 156
DeWitt, IA 52742-0156

Camp Reservations
camprentals@gracedewitt.org
319-230-7718



May 15th - Victory Center Service Event

Once again, thank you to everyone who contributed to the meal, helped serve and prayed for our April service event at the Victory Center in Clinton. Our next service event meal will be on May 15th. We are planning to serve up to 40 people and allow for seconds. If you haven't volunteered to help with some part of one of these meals, please prayerfully consider being involved in some way. Men are encouraged to join us in this mission, especially with serving the meal.

Main Dish

Breakfast Casserole 5 Volunteers

Crock pot or 9X13 pan

Fruit Salads 3 Volunteers

Prepare a side fruit salad

Drinks 2 Volunteers

- 1 gallon of white milk
- 2 gallons of chocolate

Desserts 3 Volunteers

Prepare a dessert that serves

Deliver & Serve 5 Volunteers

Needed to help deliver and serve the meal.
We meet at Grace at 4 pm. Meal is served at 5pm.

All food needs to be prepared and brought to the church by 4:00 PM on Thursday, May 15th.

A sign up sheet is located on the Welcome Center. Please contact Kristy Engelkes (563-210-2462) or the church office if you have any questions



We are in our last month of school! Our class is going to enjoy learning about

Grace Lutheran Preschool

our colors, rainbows, and creepy, crawling bugs and life at a pond. Jesus time stories are about Zacchaeus, Mary and Martha, Jesus and the children and Jesus goes to Heaven. There will be no school on Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th and our last day of school is May 30th. We've had a great year!!



We can't believe it is the final month of school! We have had so much fun this year. To celebrate our school year, we will continue our ABC End of the Year Countdown, where there will be a special activity every day. We are also reviewing our letters, numbers, shapes, and colors. We are getting ready for Preschool Graduation which is scheduled for the end of May.

Thank you to all those who contributed to our fundraiser by purchasing donuts! We are excited to be hosting "Muffins with Mom" event for our preschoolers on May 9th!

Hurts Donut Fundraiser pickup time is:



**Friday, May 9th
2:00 to 6:00 pm
Grace Hall**

**FREE WILL
OFFERING**



Grace Lutheran Camp

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

at Grace Camp Pavilion

Mark Your Calendar

June 15th

July 20th

August 17th

**PROCEEDS WILL GO
TOWARD WELTON
CHAPEL REPAIRS**

Grace Camp, 2675 242nd St, De Witt, IA 52742

Grace Three-Year-Old Preschool

ENJOY

LEARN

PLAY

- ✓ Clean / Safe Environment
- ✓ Educational & Social Learning
- ✓ Caring & Certified Staff
- ✓ Licensed Preschool

Class Schedule:

MWF – 8:15 to 10:45 am
(\$160 per month)

TH – 8:15 to 10:45 am
(\$120 per month)

ENROLL NOW!
www.gracedewitt.org
563-659-9193

Registration fee \$40.

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4-Year-Old Preschool Registration

You can register your child in the 4-year-old preschool program on the school districts website ([Registration Information | Central DeWitt School District](#)).





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Helpers Needed For:

Cooking Day Camp - June 6th

Summer Night Out - June 7th

Fishing Camp - June 11th

Cooking Camp - June 12th

Arts & Crafts Camp - June 17th

Fishing Camp - June 18th

Vacation Bible School - June 22nd - 26th

Summer Camp - July 28th - 30th

There are many times throughout the summer to volunteer your time and assist at one or more of the activities at church. Please, take a moment to sign-up to volunteer on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Grace Camp Day Camps

Grace Camp will be hosting Camps on Tuesday's, Wednesday's & Thursday's the second and third week of June. These camps give us the awesome opportunity to not only spend time enjoying God's beautiful creation out at Grace Camp, but to also share the love of Jesus with the children who attend.

Please considering volunteering at one or more of our camps this Summer. To see where we need help, check the bulletin board in the foyer.

Please contact DCE, Mark Sperry with any questions.

SUMMER NIGHT OUT

Volunteers for Summer Night Out are needed!!! On June 7, our congregation will be hosting a Summer Night Out family event for the community at Grace Camp. Volunteers are needed to help with greeting, food, games and inflatables on the day of this event. Take a look at the bulletin board in the church foyer to see where and when you can help and sign up.

WE NEED YOU

Recruitment and planning continue for this year's VBS program is underway. The theme is: **"Wonder Junction"**. To make this program a success we need your help. Please check out the volunteer registration bulletin board in the atrium and consider signing up for one of the roles. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact DCE, Mark Sperry. The dates are Sunday, June 22nd – Thursday, June 26th.

There will be a Volunteer Rally on **Wednesday, June 11th @ 6:00 pm** at the G*Y*M Building at Grace Camp. Please, put this on your calendar and plan to be there if you are volunteering to help with VBS.

Summer Camp

Summer Camp will be here before you know it. Please, mark July 28th through July 30th on your calendar. As time gets closer we will be looking for volunteers to help in the kitchen and with registration. More information on where you can volunteer at Summer Camp will be coming soon. Watch your News & Notes and June Newsletter.



Vacation Bible School 2025

Grace Ev. Lutheran Church

Sunday, June 22nd - Thursday, June 26th

5:45 pm - 8:00 pm

@ Grace Camp (2675 242nd St., DeWitt, IA)

Children 3 years (must be potty trained) through those going into 5th grade are invited to attend.

A light meal will be served from 5:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Register on line beginning May 1st.
www.gracedewitt.org

Through the month of May, we will be collecting donations for Vacation Bible School 2025, Your donations will help us offset the cost of food, crafts, decorations and take home items. If you would like to contribute to this program your donation can be left in the "Little White Church. Thank you for your support to our VBS Program.

FREE

Grace Lutheran Church

SUMMER NIGHT OUT



**JUNE 7TH
5 TO 7 PM**

At Grace Camp

2675 24nd St, DeWitt, IA

Join us for a fun filled family night out. Games, bounce houses, face painting, food, shaved ice, and Sheriff train rides. Everything is free. Everyone is welcome!

For more info: (563) 659-9153 | Visit us: www.gracedewitt.org

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING - ENDURE

Tickets are purchased and our hotel has been assigned. Now we wait the last two months until we leave for New Orleans. Please keep the 5 Adults and 16 Youth attending this gathering in your prayers. Pray for safe travels, for hearts open to learning more about God's love for them, and for a willing spirit as we go out into the New Orleans community to serve and share God's love.

Grace Lutheran Summer Camp

The dates for this year's camp are Monday, July 28th through Wednesday, July 30th. This is open to students who will be in 2nd through 8th grades for the 2024-2025 school year. Please note that students entering 2nd & 3rd grade will NOT be staying overnight. They will be dropped off and picked up each day. Please contact the church office at 563-659-9153 with any questions. Registration will open on June 1st @ 7:00 pm.

27-30 JULY

REGISTRATION - JUNE 1ST



REGISTRATION \$15

GRACE LUTHERAN



ONE WAY

SUMMER CAMP 2025

SUMMER CAMP
2025
COUNSELORS

APPLY TO BE A CAMP COUNSELOR
9TH - COLLEGE

To apply as a counselor, please follow the following steps:

1. Obtain an application form from Mark Sperry. You can either pick it up at the church or one can be emailed to you.
2. Submit completed application to msperry@gracedewitt.org.
3. Once application is approved, you will be contacted and given a link to register. You must wait to receive the link to register.

CONTACT MARK SPERRY WITH QUESTIONS

EMAIL: [MSPERRY@GRACEDEWITT.ORG](mailto:msperry@gracedewitt.org)

CALL: 563-659-9153

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**Donations
are Greatly
Appreciated!**

Summer brings many opportunities for our congregation to help spread the love of Jesus through our Vacation Bible School, Day Camps, and

Summer Camp. A lot of children attend these events. Which means we need extra support for all those hungry children.

We are in need of cookies [NO peanuts or peanut butter] and red pre-sweetened Kool-Aid mix for our Day Camps & Grace Summer Camp. Please consider donating one or more of these items and drop them off in the kitchen in Grace Hall.

During Vacation Bible School we provide kid friendly meals for the children and their families. We will have donation sheets for items needed out in May. Watch your News & Notes for more information.

Grace Lutheran Church

SUMMER CAMP 2025

July 28th - July 30th
Open To: 2nd - 8th Graders
Space is Limited!

GRACE LUTHERAN



ONE WAY

SUMMER CAMP 2025

IN PROGRAM:

- BIBLE STUDY
- ARCHERY
- CANOEING
- CRAFTS
- FUN WITH FRIENDS
- GOOD FOOD AND SNACKS

2nd & 3rd grade do not stay overnight they will need to be dropped off and picked up each day.



**Early Bird
by June 30th
\$25**

Online Registration Opens
June 1st @ 7 pm

Register for Grade Going Into

Cost is \$40 after June 30th

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.GRACEDEWITT.ORG

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High School Graduates

Kamryn Albrecht

22022 277th Ave
LeClaire, IA 52753

Adalyn Appleby

2848 274th St
DeWitt, IA 52742

Hannah Grantz

3053 245th St
DeWitt, IA 52742

Lily Gruntorad

2404 245th St
DeWitt, IA 52742

Benson Hill

2645 242nd St
DeWitt, IA 52742

Emma Pillers

1729 Mackin Dr
DeWitt, IA 52742

Caitlin Proctor

2667 300th Ave
DeWitt, IA 52742

Remi Ruggeberg

2358 20th St
Grand Mound, IA 52751

Lauren Walker

2106 Scenic Ridge
DeWitt, IA 52742

Watch for the wooden box, located in the narthex, for you to place your cards in for the Graduates! The box will be out beginning May 1st through Wednesday, May 14th.

Please join us for a Graduation Celebration honoring Kamryn Albrecht on Saturday, May 31st from 4:00-7:00pm at the Albrecht residence (22050 277th Ave in Le Claire).

Senior Recognition - May 18, 2025

We will be recognizing our High School Senior Class of 2024 during the 8:00 a.m. worship service on May 18th.

The 2025 Altar Flower calendar is now available on the Welcome Center. Bouquets can be donated in honor of or in memory of persons or events. Each bouquet is \$30 and there are two bouquets available each week. Please sign up for your preferred dates and place your payment in the secretary's door. You may purchase one or both bouquets.

The following Altar Bouquet dates are available:

May 4th, 18th, 25th

June 1st, 8th, 22nd, 29th

July 6th, 27th

August 24th

September 21st, 28th

October 5th, 12th, 19th

November 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

December 14th, 28th.

We hope that we have flowers every week, but we know that there are Sundays when the arrangements have not been spoken for. It is these Sundays when you will not see arrangements on the altar. To assist the church in having arrangements every Sunday there is another way you can help. Donate money to our flower fund. We will then use the money in the flower fund, to cover the cost of flowers when they have not been spoken for.

***** Remember** we can only provide flowers when there is money in this fund. If you do not see flowers on a Sunday flowers were not spoken for and the Flower Fund does not have money in it.



- 1st Bev Johnson
- 3rd Carlee Good
- 4th Dennis Gisel
- Kay Goddard
- Jaren Nebel
- 6th Tyler Stowe
- Karen Theisen
- 8th Ezekiel DeHaven
- Shanna Tucker
- 10th Jim Williams
- Caitlin Proctor
- Warden Spain
- Jacqueline Jacobsen
- 11th Vicki Becker
- Tori Grantz
- Wesley Johnson
- 13th Angie Hill
- 14th Michael Good
- Carter Paarmann
- Emma Grace Hartman
- Brayden Lawrence
- 15th Aspen Williams
- 16th Annabelle Schneider
- 17th Drew Eden
- Ryleigh Spain
- 19th Susan Williams
- 21st Patty Anderson
- 22nd Keith Gustafson
- Adelynn Meyer
- 25th Randi Bahnsen
- 27th Ray Ackerman Jr.
- Paul Lieving
- 29th Beth Haring
- Kim Steffens
- Thomas Jepsen
- 30th Margie Alger
- 31st Paul Kirby

Happy Anniversary

- 3rd Ken & Marjorie Goddard
- 4th Scott & Renae Havener
- 9th Gary & Cathy Paarmann
- 11th Rick & Lori Olson
- James & Michele Gruntorad
- Ray & Sarah Ackerman Jr.
- Darin & Sara Suhr
- 15th Devin & Angela Wagner
- 16th Ken & Kyle Jackson
- Rich & Julie Matzen
- 19th Amanda & Cory Hoepner



Thank you to everyone for their thoughts, prayers, cards and memorials on the loss of our brother/uncle Jerry in Dec, and then also for the trip to Oregon for his memorial service in April. We really appreciate them all.

Love, Mary Garlough and Christine Greve

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the church for Easter by putting out flower arrangements and lilies, creating new arrangements, and picking up the lilies. Your time and talent was greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the Board of Trustees and all those who helped rip out the old landscaping and sidewalk. We thank you for the time you gave to your church to get this phase of the project completed.

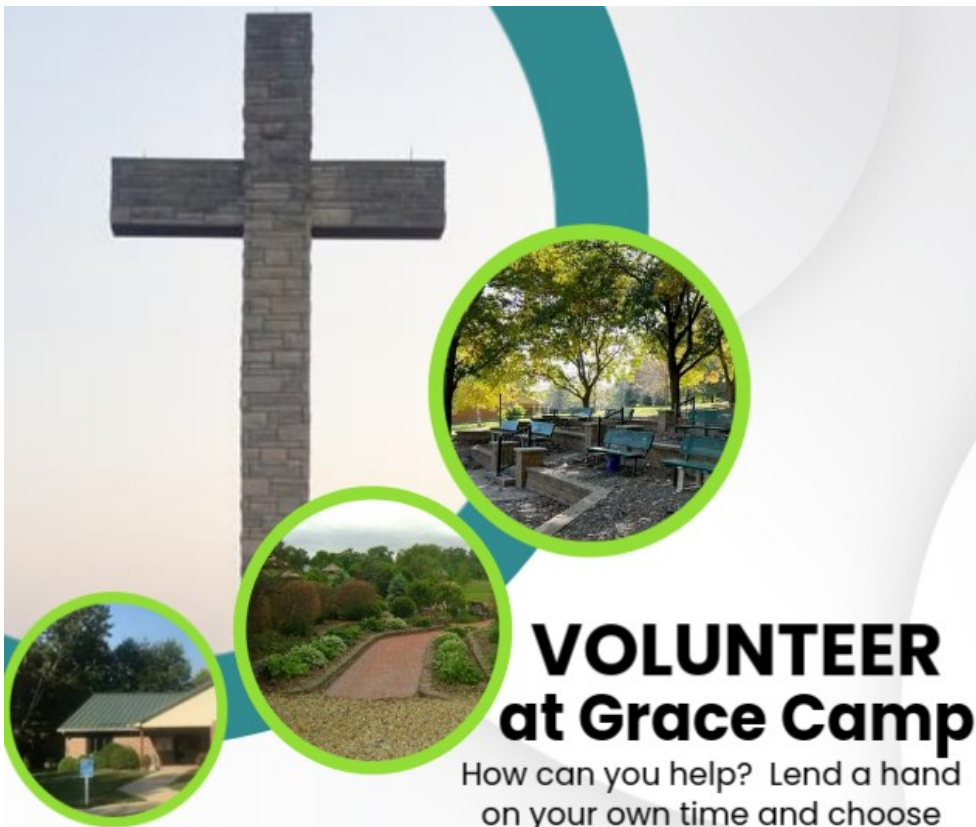
To everyone who came out to help at Grace Camp with picking up sticks, branches, and removing leaves we appreciate the time you gave to help beautify the camp.

Summer Lunch Box Program — We are gearing up for another summer of helping families feed their children during the summer break from school. A group has been meeting, making plans and doing fund raising to meet the costs of providing weekly bags of food to those in need. School is out for the summer on June 4th. Distribution of the bags of food will begin on June 9th. We will be packing bags on **June 4th** at the DeWitt United Methodist Church around 2:00 PM. We will pick up groceries at Aldi's in Clinton at 1:00 PM, and then going to the church around 1:30 PM to set up and then pack the bags. We will need help to pick up the food and bring it to the church and also help to pack the bags. If you are able to help to pick up the food with an SUV or pickup truck, please call Kitty Willimack at 563-357-1923.



We have had fun in Sunday School this year, but sadly we must say goodbye soon. Sunday, May 11th will be our last day of Sunday school. The teachers have enjoyed teaching your children about the word of God and look forward to everyone returning in August.





VOLUNTEER at Grace Camp

How can you help? Lend a hand
on your own time and choose
what jobs fit your skills.

We Need Help:

- Pull Weeds
- Picking up sticks
- Clean up leaves
- Empty Trash Cans
- Sweep

So Much To Do!

**No
Supervision
Needed**

You Choose
When

Referral Center Donations

The Referral center is in need of crackers, condiments, canned fruit, and toothpaste. All donations can be left in the shopping cart located in the foyer.

Donate your used glasses, including sunglasses and reading glasses,

to the Lions Club. A collection box is located in the foyer coat area. These glasses are picked up by a member of the Lions and then sent to a facility who will refurbish them for others who may not be able to afford glasses. (Please, remember they can not accept glass cases.)

Looking for cards? We now have graduation cards. There is also a variety of sympathy, thinking of you, get well, birthday cards, and much more available for purchase next to the Welcome Center. Please take a moment to see the wide assortment of cards and napkins displayed in the foyer.

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MILES OF DIMES - Grace Camp was purchased in 1988. The Miles of Dimes project was started in 1990 as an effort to help pay for the facilities which everyone enjoys. There is a "Miles of Dimes" collection jar located on the Welcome Center. Leave your "dimes" or any donation you may want to make and your donation will be used to benefit the camp facilities. Thank you for your continued support.

A Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Lord,

*Please watch over
and support all mothers
on earth and in heaven . . .*

*and help them to know how much
they are loved and appreciated
on Mother's Day and every day.*

RightQuotes4all.Com



Grace Ev. Lutheran Church—May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30am Traditional Worship 4:00pm Middle School (6th-8th) Youth Night	28 6:30pm Board of Christian Education	29	30 7:00pm Glory Bound Choir 7:00pm High School Bible Study 7:00pm Worship	1 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Stay Active Senior Exercise Group	2	3
4 "Mites" Sunday 8:00am Traditional Worship w/ Communion 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30am Traditional Worship w/	5 1:00pm 500 6:00pm Board of Discipleship 6:00pm Preschool Board Meeting 6:30pm Elders Mtg	6	7 6:00pm Glory Bound Choir & End of Year Celebration 7:00pm Worship	8 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Senior Exercise 1:30pm Service @ Maggie's House	9 7:00am Muffins with Mom (Preschool Families) 2:00pm Hurts Fundraiser - Donut Pickup	10
11 8:00am Traditional Worship 9:15am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:30am Praise Worship	12 6:00pm Council Mtg	13 7:00am Finance Board Meeting	14 6:00pm Graduates Dinner 7:00pm Glory Bound Choir 7:00pm Worship	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Senior Exercise 4:00pm Victory Center 6:30pm Men's Table Talk@ Hall of Fame	16	17
18 Fellowship Sunday 8:00am Traditional Worship w/ Communion 10:30am Traditional Worship w/	19 1:00pm 500 Club 7:00pm Youth Board Meeting	20 6:30pm Camp Board Meeting	21 9:00am Sewing Ladies 7:00pm Wednesday Worship	22 8:00am Raise the Flags 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Senior Exercise	23 Office Closed	24
25 8:00am Traditional Worship 10:30am Traditional Worship	26 Office Closed MEMORIAL DAY No Preschool	27 8:00am Lower the Flags	28 10:30am Fieldstone 7:00pm Welton Chapel Worship	29 9:00am Tops Meeting 9:30am Senior Exercise 6:30pm 4s Preschool Graduation	30 3s MWF Last Day of Preschool	31 Hall Rental