

Chiming In

NEWS AND EVENTS OF
THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
www.churchofthechimes.org—www.Facebook.com/ChurchofChimes



January 2021

www.churchofthechimes.org office@churchofthechimes.org 424-789-7124

Jeay wen KdpeH



Congregational Church of the Chimes
14115 Magnolia Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA 91423



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

DREAM BIG
LIVE SIMPLY
GIVE LOVE
LAUGH LOTS
BE GRATEFUL

FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

FAITHFULLY YOURS

The following are thoughts I included on the New Year's video that our media guru Hayley Kent illustrated and which appears on our Web site...

I know the year past has been tough. We started out last year with the theme of our year “Leap into the future with 2020 vision.” Well, I think our vision has been cleared and we are going to tiptoe into the new year. But I am hopeful. I am excited. It's funny as I listen to the words of the year from dictionaries—words like “hunker down,” “lockdown” “pandemic”...all sorts of things that describe the cocoon we've had to live in.

I think there are better words describing the past year that will launch us into the future: We have learned *resilience* as we have made our way through illness, sadness and tough times. We have learned *compassion* as we have seen people reaching out in ways we hadn't ever expected. And real brute *courage*, the courage of the front line workers by taking care of the people who are so ill—knowing they may become ill themselves. And firefighters fighting the wildfires and endangering their lives. And people feeling so strongly about what they believe that they are taking to the street and shouting—hoping for change which will make the world a safer, more equitable place.

I think these words--*resilience, compassion and courage*—describe what we can look forward to in 2021 because we have learned a lot and we will take our learning into the future. But I think the greatest word for the last year and the word that will define who we are this coming year, is *faithfulness*.

We have learned how to be faithful through the most difficult of times.

We have learned how to hold on to one another when we haven't been able to see each other—communicating by phone calls, live screening, through worship and sharing prayers.

We have deepened our faith and we have had a better understanding of how present God is in our world and in each of our lives.

So all I can say is “Happy New Year”, and it will be a wonderful, faith filled year for us.

May 2021 be a year we are glad to remember!!!!

Love and blessings to all, Beth

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

During our Sunday Gathering Session on 12/27, we had a group of very spirited children and youth in our zoom room. We talked about how God is present with us even if we don't feel Him in our hearts. They talked about how even when we are tired and pre-occupied we should try and remember that God is always with us. Great thoughts to live by from a group of 6 -11 year olds! After this discussion, the children were asked what their vision is for what they would like to do in 2021. Below are their honest and unedited answers.

Mark S. “I would like to study for school to be smart for the future and to hopefully be back in the classroom.”

Blake G. “I want play my new Play Station 5 and eat the cheddar cheese that is served at the church.”

Elie S. “I want to get better grades in school and get the vaccine. And also spend more time with my family and new baby cousin with extended family. And, for the homeless to be well and for every person to not get COVID.”

Finn W. “I want to see family in Germany and play soccer again.”

Ricky P.K. “I want everything to go back to 2019 and early 2020 and to see our Dad and go on vacation to Hawaii.”

Brandon P.K. “I want to go to Legoland and see my Dad not through a window. Also, for our grandfather to get better.”

And to end this story, here is a side note from our youngest attendee—

Brandon P.K. “I thought it was raining on Christmas day and that it was happy tears for the birthday of Jesus!”

What an abundance of blessings and joy children provide!

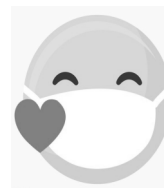
PRESCHOOL NEWS

Ally Baker, Director

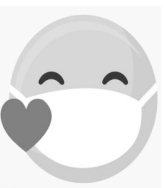
The Preschoolers were so excited to be back on Monday, January 4th... and the parents were ever so happy and grateful for the wonderful teachers in whose loving care they can entrust their precious little beings.

May we continue to have a healthy & safe school year!

A very Happy New Year to everyone! **Ally**



Wear a mask...Save a life



Putting Gratitude into Attitude

I recently read an LA Times article about a man who is now employed and has an apartment after being homeless for many, many years. He said what has helped him change is putting gratitude into his attitude. This is a powerful statement.

Flashback to the first day of Advent. I made a pledge during my Children's Message to fill a gratitude envelope daily until Christmas. Admittedly, I did not fill the envelope up by 12/25. The reason being, after a little while of writing the gratitude notes, I found that when I prayed, I was regularly adding prayers of gratitude even in the most stressful of times. Being grateful for life, for family, for friends, and for a multitude of other things in life is something we *all* feel, but maybe we don't admit as much as we could.

So my new year's wish and prayer for all of us is to feel gratitude in our attitude more days than not.

Blessings, love and hugs, *Jane (Remember to spend quiet time with God)*

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE **Jan Long, Hanging of the Greens Chair**

Thanks to everyone with compliments on the Sanctuary and campus' Christmas decorations... I volunteered last year to organize the Hanging of the Greens in order to assist Joi. Although I believe I have taken some of the stress off Joi, I truly believe she loves decorating. Along with Joi and me, Robert Dunn, George Delaney, Brian Fisk, Rev. Peek, Kerstin Schulze, Lindsay Hill and Javier De la Torre all worked hard to make our Church look a little bit festive...and I believe we had a little fun (with social distancing) doing it. My thanks goes out to each one of you! With the year we have had, it seemed more important than ever for us to celebrate our Lord's birth by seeing the beautiful nativity lit up in the Narthex, the wreaths, the lovely dove tree and poinsettias in the Chancel. I pray that this coming year we will be able to meet for Hanging of the Greens and Light Up the Night again.

A EXTRA SPECIAL NOTE OF GRATITUDE goes out to the Firefighters from Station 88 who stopped by the campus one cold evening to put a star at the top of our Redwood Tree that stands 90 feet tall in the Hazeltine lawn. Watch for more about this in next month's Chiming In...*Jan*

YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR

God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true.
He is a shield for all who look to him for protection. For who is God except the LORD? Who but our God is a solid rock?
You have given me your shield of victory. Your right hand supports me; your help has made me great. Psalm 18:30-31,35
The Lord told Paul (Saul at the time) that "it is useless to fight against my (God's) Will." You will never change God's mind concerning you. He loves you. Numbers 23:19

God desires a right relationship with you and nothing will ever change that. He sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to allow us each a position of righteousness once again. There is nothing we can do other than put our faith and trust in the Lord to receive justice and be made right with God again. Nothing.

God is intent on perfecting that which concerns us. (Read Psalm 138:8) He is making every detail turn out for good (Read Romans 8:28) according to His Perfect Plan that contains a future and hope. (Read Jeremiah 29:11)

Every single promise that God has made to you has potential and the power to become a reality in your life. The outcome is not based on one's ability to remain righteous standing on their own two feet, but rather one's ability to put all their faith in the Lord and trust Him completely waiting for His outcome rather than settling for less than God's Best.

He has given you a shield of protection that is marked with victory. You are going to win if you do not give up on the Lord. Faith and confident hope produce victory after victory from glory to glory in the life of a believer. This is God's Perfect Plan for your life. He has written every detail with a positive outcome no matter how things look today.

If you believe it, you will receive it. But all too often we are like the Israelites wandering in the wilderness who continually forgot all that the Lord did for them when He brought them safely out of Egypt.

Some cried to go back into bondage fearing they would die on the journey. I must admit that there are some days I try to remember what life was like before everything changed. To live carefree in the moment rather than with

Continues on the next page...

YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR...cont.

this burden on our heart. Some days I yearn to go back, but the Spirit of God reminds me to press on. God is with us. He is going to bless us with overwhelming victory if we will just cling to our faith—refusing to settle for anything less than God’s Absolute Best.

The Lord is on this life journey with you! He will fight against your enemies! He will give you victory! (Read Deuteronomy 20:1-4) The Lord is fighting for us! (Read Exodus 14:13-14) It is His battle for our heart, and know this:

YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR... Believe it! Curtis

~~~~~  
**JOIN US STREAMING LIVE ON FACEBOOK**

Sunday Worship Service — 10:30am Every Sunday Morning

Sermon Topics for January

- |             |                                     |                             |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| January 3:  | Matthew 2: 1-12                     | “Re-gifting”                |
| January 10: | Mark 1: 4-11                        | Water Jordan                |
| January 17; | Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. |                             |
| January 24: | Mark 1: 14-20                       | “Drop Everything”           |
| January 31: | Psalms 111:                         | “Great is Thy faithfulness” |

10 at 10 — 10 minute devotional at 10am every weekday  
Lively and Relevant Conversations with Beth & Curtis

VIDEOS of past Sermons and Devotionals are on Facebook and YouTube



**KEEP MOVING FORWARD**

*If you can't fly*  
**THEN RUN**

*if you can't run*  
**THEN WALK**

*if you can't walk*  
**THEN CRAWL**

*but whatever you do*  
**YOU HAVE TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD.**

*- Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Martin Luther King, Jr., original name Michael King, Jr., (born **January 15, 1929**, Atlanta, Georgia, U.S.—died **April 4, 1968**, Memphis, Tennessee), Baptist minister and social activist who led the civil rights movement in the United States from the mid-1950s until his death by assassination in 1968.

**COMMUNITY & WORLD SERVICES NEWS** Diane Delaney, Chair

In December, the CWS Board made financial donations to the following organizations that help so many locally and around the world: **Panamerican Institute** for Christmas food baskets for students/families, **LA Children's Bureau** Target gift cards for 11 children, **Urban Harvester** to connect excess food with those who are hungry in LA, **Heifer International** to help end hunger and poverty globally and **Unsilenced Voices** to help victims of domestic abuse and sexual gender based violence worldwide. We feel blessed to be able to help so many at this very difficult time. Diane

**DEACON NEWS** Nancy Nelsen, Chair

Thank you to all who gave so generously to the Children’s Bureau Christmas Families project this year! Through your donations, COTC was able to send \$1825 to the Children’s Bureau. This provided 73 e-cards for families to purchase items needed for their children. Every year these families are so grateful for whatever they receive. While we missed the opportunity to do the shopping and select special gifts for the families we were given, these children did not miss out on Christmas due to the virus. We pray they will be blessed by our contributions. We pray also that all of you will be blessed by your giving and that 2021 will be filled with abundant blessings for all! Nancy

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS** Robert Jones, Chair

THE ANNUAL MEETING WILL BE HELD WHEN WE CAN ALL GET TOGETHER AGAIN

Until then, we thank those currently serving on Boards and Committees for continuing to do so. All members are invited to consider offering your time and talents to an area of interest to you. When doing so, you will be helping Church of the Chimes on our continuing path of being recognized as a vibrant and deeply caring church. If you would like more information on the various opportunities available, please call the church office, and we’ll connect you with the right person. Thanks, Robert

**THEN I HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD SAYING**  
*“Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”*

WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION NEWS

Natalie Karp, Chair

The Chimes Women's Association will once again offer two \$1000 scholarships to women at LA Valley College in 2021. We're grateful to be able to help in a year when the need may be greater than ever. We have had a couple of virtual Vespers get-togethers, and we will continue to do so until we can be together in person. If you would like to join us, please contact me at [nataliefkarp@mac.com](mailto:nataliefkarp@mac.com) to be added to the email list. All the women in our church fellowship and beyond are welcome! Natalie

ROCELIA MOTLEY SCHOLARSHIP RECEIPIENTS

The three 2021 Rocelia Motley Scholarship recipients are: Amory Jewett, Jacob Richards and Thomas Rockwell.

Rocelia and Brunson Motley came to the church in the early 50’s offering their significant experience in the audio visual arena for the massive needs of our thriving church with over 700 adult members and their 700 children. When her husband passed, Rocelia continued serving the church in the Food Pantry as well as in activities of the CWS Board. Upon her passing, she established an endowment, through which the return on investment was designated for aspiring seminarians; she entrusted the Women’s Association to manage this fund. We are truly grateful to God for their presence in the life of this church.

**GREAT RECIPES TO ENJOY**

Flo Tugwell

Flo’s Triple Sec Pot Roast (Serves 8)

|                     |                      |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| 3 ½ pound pot roast | ¼ teaspoon oregano   |
| 1 can tomato sauce  | Salt and Pepper      |
| ½ cup Triple Sec    | Pinch of sweet basil |
| ½ cup chopped onion | 1 cup water          |

Roll roast in flour, salt & pepper and brown in 3 tablespoons butter or bacon drippings. Pour other ingredients over roast and simmer 3 to 4 hours. Add water if needed. Add potatoes and carrots last hour...or perhaps exchange the potatoes for...

Flo’s Rice Like Wild

Combine 1 ¼ cup regular rice with the following:

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 can mushrooms     | 1 teaspoon marjoram      |
| 1 can beef consommé | 1 teaspoon chopped onion |
| 1 cup water         | 1 cube butter            |

Bake in covered dish at 350 degrees for 1 hour. Enjoy!

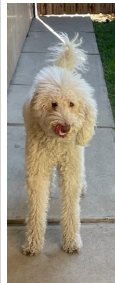
JANUARY 2021 HAPPENINGS

- ⇒ ZOOM COFFEE HOUR: JANUARY 10!  
After worship on Sunday, January 10, 2021, we are inviting you to join some of your Church of the Chimes family on ZOOM for a virtual coffee hour. There is no agenda, just lots of conversation and sharing what we’ve been up to, what we’re thinking about. It is all great fun. The ZOOM link will be in the e-blast on Friday January 8th. Let’s keep in touch with each other.
- ⇒ ZOOM COUNCIL MEETING: JANUARY 12 at 6:30pm
- ⇒ ZOOM DISCUSSION: THE CHURCH AND RACIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY  
On Sunday, January 17, 2021, we will be honoring Dr. Martin Luther King’s words of faith and justice during our worship service, and we will follow up that afternoon with the third of our discussions on racial justice and equity. The conversations have been wonderfully open and frank as we share our own experiences and backgrounds. The books Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria by Beverly Daniel Tatum and Where Do We Go From Here by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., are a part of our discussion; we encourage anyone to share thoughts that have been helpful in their own understanding.  
The gathering begins at 1 p.m., and we spend about an hour together. The ZOOM link will be in the e-blast on Friday, the 15th, or you may always call the church office to find out how to get connected. Please join us. You are welcome to tune in and share, or just listen. We would love to have you!
- ⇒ ZOOM WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY WITH JANE  
All women are invited to the virtual gathering of this caring, sharing, loving group of women on **Wednesday evenings @ 7:00pm** via ZOOM. Jane sends out the ZOOM link every week via email. A new series “Everybody Always” by Bob Goff begins first week of January that focuses on love in a world full of set-backs and different people. Please join us when you can.
- ⇒ ZOOM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING: JANUARY 19 at 6:30pm

~~~~~

Hope is hearing the melody of the future,
Faith is dancing to it today. -Ruben Alvarez

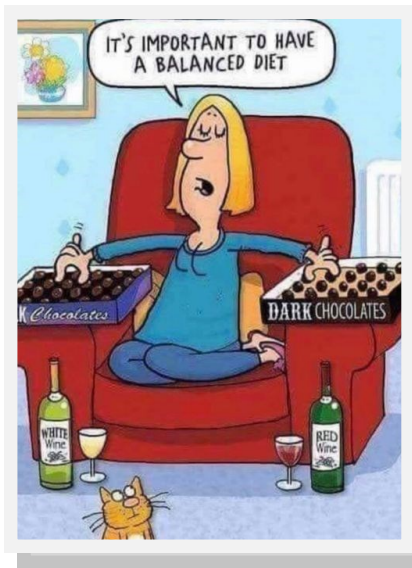
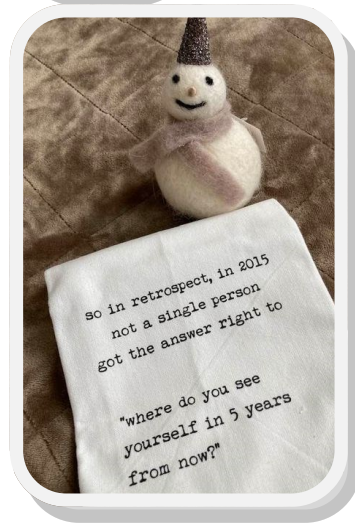
GET AMUSED...



Apparently we can't visit our relatives homes but estate agents can buy and sell houses. So i've put my house on the market and mum and dad are coming for a viewing at 3.30 😂😂



The reason I'm old and wise is because God protected me when I was young and stupid.



CHURCH OF THE CHIMES IS LIVE ON-LINE



Visit our website:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes>

Find an abundance of information regarding all the various activities on campus; listen to audios of past sermons, plus you can view past copies of Chiming In and/or request future editions be emailed to you...

Visit, Like, Share, Follow our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ChurchofChimes/>

View up-to-date information on programs and live stream events such as Sunday Services and Daily Devotionals (10 at 10 with Beth & Curtis).

Visit various productions on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrLl2TLj2XfbBtgAOY0rjjA>

Weekly Worship Services and Daily Devotions are now available on YouTube. We'll keep you posted as we add other things.

Get this app on your smart devices and then arrange conference call events to meet with Church Boards, Committees, Bible Studies* and/or other groups up to 100 participants. *e.g., Wednesday night Women's Bible Study with Jane. <https://zoom.us/meetings>

If you need help connecting to and/or otherwise utilizing any of these on-line tools, please call the church office and we'll find someone to get you started.



**SOME DRINK DEEPLY FROM THE WELLS OF KNOWLEDGE.
OTHERS JUST RINSE AND SPIT.**

Let's Keep In Touch

When we can't embrace we can send our love through the mail.

If you know someone who would like to receive a card or note from the Women's Association, please call or send an email with their name, address & phone number to the church office

office@churchofthechimes.org
818-789-7124

-or-

Joi Staves
joistaves@gmail.com
818-648-1638

Band of Prayer

A church that prays together, stays together especially during these challenging and uncertain times when we are separated by the need for social distancing not knowing what happens next...

What is certain is that God is with us, filling in the spaces between us and He hears our prayers.

Band of Prayer requests may be sent via email to Sylvia McCormick; miss_daisy1226@yahoo.com or feel free to call or email the Church Office; office@churchofthechimes.org
818-789-7124

TRUSTEE NEWS

Greg Abbott, Chair

The Trustees met by Zoom on December 8. John VanVeen gave us a profit and loss statement for the year through November 30. We are ending up in better shape than we had originally projected. We have had more income from the film industry than we thought and the reopening of the pre school has helped as well. This is not to say that we are anywhere close to breaking even, just that our losses are not as bad as we thought they would be.

We also spent time on the 2021 budget. The basic assumption of this budget is that we will not return to "normal" until at least the middle of the year. To that end, there are a number of proposed cuts, the first of which is a small pay cut to all compensated staff. There are a number of other cuts to board budgets, facility maintenance, etc. We are very close to approval and are waiting for final figures for 2020, as well as a better turn out for our next board meeting on January 19th. Once it is approved, the budget will be voted on by the congregation in a manner to be determined by Council.

Be of good cheer. With God's help, we are going to get through this. **Greg**



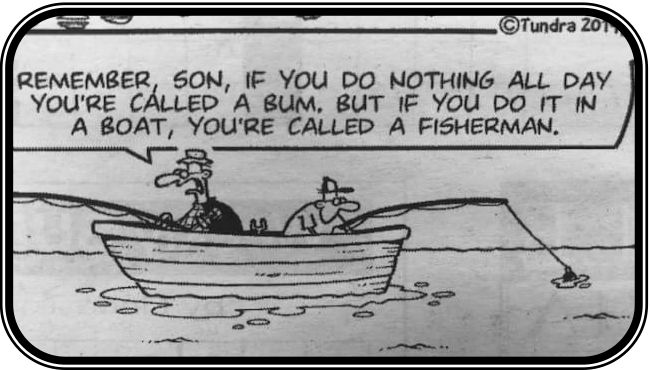
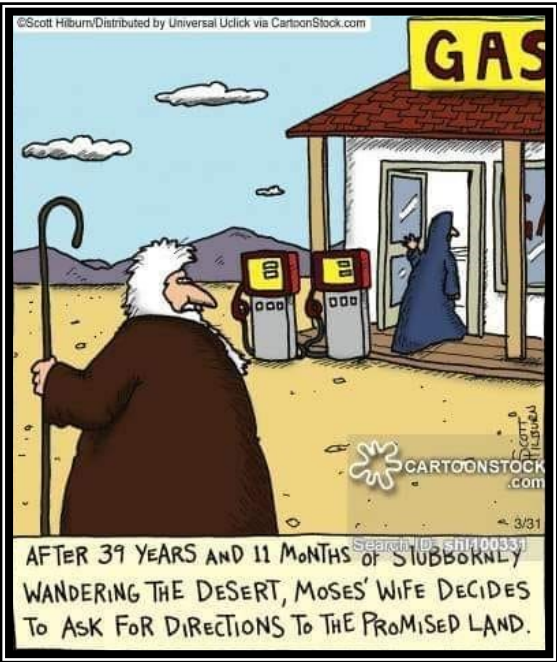
It is the budget time of the year! The Board of Trustees has been working hard to create our budget for 2021, understanding how many unknowns there are in the immediate future. There will be a chance for members to study the proposed budget and vote on its approval in early February..

Part of the planning is the estimate of giving that each of you can provide. We sent out the Estimate of Giving cards in November, and will be sending out cards again to those who haven't had a chance to respond. We understand that these are uncertain times for all of us, but having an idea of what you estimate you can give will help immensely. We are asking you to "Reach in to Reach out"—reaching into your pockets so we can continue to reach out with our worship, our educational programs, and our gifts to missions and organizations.

Thank you for your generosity!

OUR STEWARDSHIP DRIVE: Reach in to Reach out!

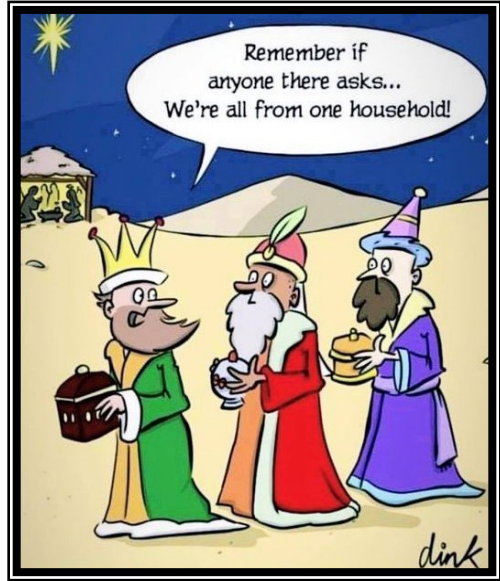
MORE AMUSEMENT...



A truck carrying a load of Vicks VapoRub overturned on the highway.

The Officer told everyone to relax and take a deep breath.

Amazingly, there was no congestion for 8 hours! 😄



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

January 5th & February 2nd

Sign up on-line at COTC's web link



January 2021



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					<u>1</u> <u>Happy New Year!</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>3</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook	<u>4</u> <u>PRESCHOOL RESUME</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>5</u> <u>RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE</u> 11am to 5pm in Bower Hall 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>6</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>7</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>8</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>9</u>
<u>10</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook <u>AFTER CHURCH ZOOM RECEPTION</u>	<u>11</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook7	<u>12</u> <u>COUNCIL MEETING</u> 6:30pm via ZOOM 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>13</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>14</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>15</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>16</u>
<u>17</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook <u>1:00pm THE CHURCH AND RACIAL JUSTICE ZOOM DISCUSSION</u>	<u>18</u> <u>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR</u> School and Office Closed 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>19</u> <u>TRUSTEE MEETING</u> 6:30pm via ZOOM 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>20</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>21</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>22</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>23</u>
<u>24</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook	<u>25</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>26</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>27</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>28</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>29</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>30</u>
<u>31</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook						