

Volume 74 Issue 3

Chiming In

NEWS AND EVENTS OF THE
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THE CHIMES
A Diverse and Loving Christian Community Accepting of All
www.churchofthechimes.org—www.Facebook.com/ChurchofChimes



July 2023

www.churchofthechimes.org | office@churchofthechimes.org | 818-789-7124



14115 Magnolia Blvd. Sherman Oaks, CA



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
Lindsay Hill, Facility Manager
Javier De la Torre, Groundskeeper



Phone: 818-789-7124
Email: office@churchofthechimes.org



FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

FAITHFULLY YOURS

“Summer time, and the living is easy...” Yes, indeed sometimes the living is easy in the summer. We relax. We step back. We almost cocoon away from the heat. We need to take the time to quiet, to slow our busy schedules, to refresh ourselves for all that might lie ahead.

But around us and outside us, the world keeps spinning. People are still hungry, there are still too many who don't have a home, there are wounds that need healing, and souls that need soothing.

So let us not wander away from that world which still needs us, needs our hope, needs our help, needs a faith which commands us to love God, and to love one another. Our church needs us, our time, our prayers, our presence and our gifts.

Stay close! Stay near! If you are away, catch our Sunday services on line and our 10 at 10's Monday Wednesday and Friday. If you are at home, worship with us.

For God is close, and God is near—for God sizzles in the summer, and God warms us in the winter, God follows us in the fall, and supports us in the spring.....God is close, and God is near...all the time!

Love and blessings to all, Beth

SERMON TOPICS FOR JULY

July 2: “Free to be” (Galatians 5:1, 13-14)

~ Communion Sunday

July 9: “Wounded and Weary” (Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30)

July 16: “Pathway to heaven?” (Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23)

July 23: “Dream a Big Dream” (Genesis 28:10-19a)

July 30: “Separation Anxiety” (Romans 8:26-39)

*All things are possible through the openness of our mind
the gentleness of our spirit,
and the act of understanding and embracing.” ~ Lily Yeh*

JULY 2023 HAPPENINGS

- ⇒ **RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSION GROUP: SUNDAY, JULY 2ND at 11:45am:** This is 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, JULY 11TH, 6:30pm in Dreier Hall.**
- ⇒ **BOUQUET CIRCLE: NEXT MEETING WILL BE IN SEPTEMBER:** All women are welcome to join this group who enlighten one another on a variety of topics of interest typically on the second Wednesday of every month (except for July and August). This month we are having an end of the year potluck in the Hamilton House; if you can join us please RSVP to Barbara Downs at btdowns@gmail.com or call the church office. Hope to see you there!
- ⇒ **TRUSTEES MEETING: JULY 18TH, 6:30pm in Hamilton House.**
- ⇒ **VESPERS: THURSDAY, JULY 20TH 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 MOST 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 (July 9th and 23rd) 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 diapers for babies and adults are needed. Contact NHIFP.org for other specific needs as well as for volunteer opportunities. Thanks for your support of our community food bank.

***“Whatever things you ask in prayer, believing,
you will receive” -Matthew 21:22***

GETTING TO KNOW...

Sylvia McCormick

Born and raised in Portland, ME, Sylvia is a New England girl. Attending Sunday School in her youth, she still has a precious Bible she received after completing confirmation class. After going away to college, Sylvia didn't attend church or have any religious affiliation, and this continued after she was married and had children.

Sylvia worked briefly as a secretary in St. Vincent's Hospital in Worcester, MA (x-ray Dept.), and then 30 years in the Glendale School District as a lunch lady. After retiring, she felt a real need to go to church: Sylvia actually went "into the phone book and looked for Congregational churches." Her friend mentioned that she had once attended a wonderful church in Sherman Oaks called Church of the Chimes. "So on the first Sunday after 30+ years of being a working girl I found my way here. I immediately felt welcomed and decided this was the church for me." That was just over ten years ago, and she still feels the same.

Though Sylvia had not been to church in a long time, she never stopped believing. She is very active in the church and has served on deacons, trustees, and helped in the lectern. An avid knitter, she helps supply some of the "prayer cloths" available for free in the narthex and church office. She also attends Beth's Brown Bag Bible Study on Tuesdays. Sylvia is in charge of our church's "Band of Prayer," a phone ministry used to keep people in prayer (feel free to ask her details about this important ministry).

Sylvia has been blessed with three children, plus in-law children, thirteen grandchildren, and seven great grandkids. Sylvia often sits in church, looks at the beautiful stained glass windows, and thinks about how blessed we all are to have God watching over us.

Here are some important thoughts from Sylvia:

Look back and thank God.
Look forward and trust God.
Look around and serve God.
Look within and find God.
Without faith we are as stained glass windows in the dark.
And it's His light that shines through and makes us beautiful.

Michele Marot



FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev. Curtis Peek

VISION RENEWED

And Hannah prayed, and said, "My heart rejoiceth in the Lord, mine horn is exalted in the Lord: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies because I rejoice in thy salvation. There is none holy as the Lord; for there is none beside thee; neither is there any rock like our God." - 1 Samuel 2:1-2

A certain gentleman explains "After a painful minor surgery on my left eye, my doctor recommended a vision test. With confidence, I covered my right eye and read each line on the chart with ease. Covering my left eye, I gasped, "How could I not realize I'd been so blind?"

While this man adjusted to his new glasses and renewed vision, we are reminded how daily trials often cause us to be spiritually nearsighted. Focusing only on what we could see up-close—the pain and ever-changing circumstances—we sometimes become blind to the faithfulness of our eternal and unchanging God. With such a limited perspective, hope can become an unattainable blur.

First Samuel 1 tells the story of a woman who failed to recognize God's trustworthiness while focusing on her current anguish, uncertainty and loss. For years, Hannah had endured childlessness and endless torment from Peninnah, another wife of her husband, Elkanah. Hannah's husband adored her, but she was not able to find contentment. One day, Hannah cried out and prayed with bitter honesty. When Eli, the priest, questioned her, she explained her situation. He assured her that God would "grant her request" (1 Samuel 1:17). Though Hannah's situation didn't change immediately, she walked away with confident hope (v. 18).

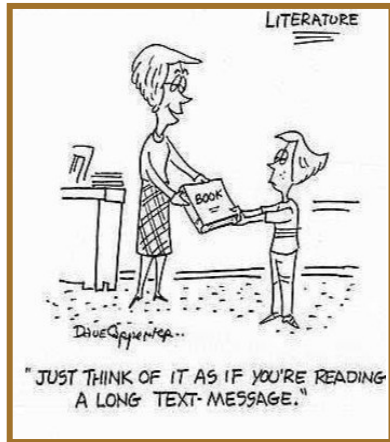
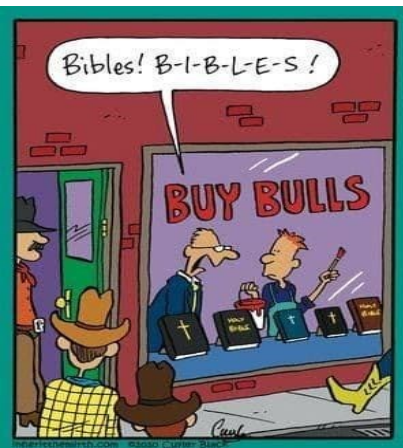
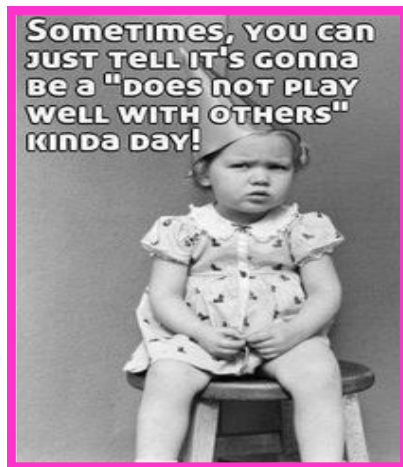
Her prayer in 1 Samuel 2:1-2 reveals a shift in Hannah's focus. Even before her circumstances improved, Hannah's renewed vision changed her perspective and her attitude. She rejoiced in the ongoing presence of God—her rock and everlasting hope.

Today I want to encourage you to "look again"; God has not forgotten you. Your situation is not beyond repair. It only appears that way, when we can only see the problems we are facing. I challenge you to begin to tell your problems to your God. Change your focus to the things that are positive in your life. The enemy thought he was going to knock you out of the game. BUT GOD has a different plan, and you are still here!

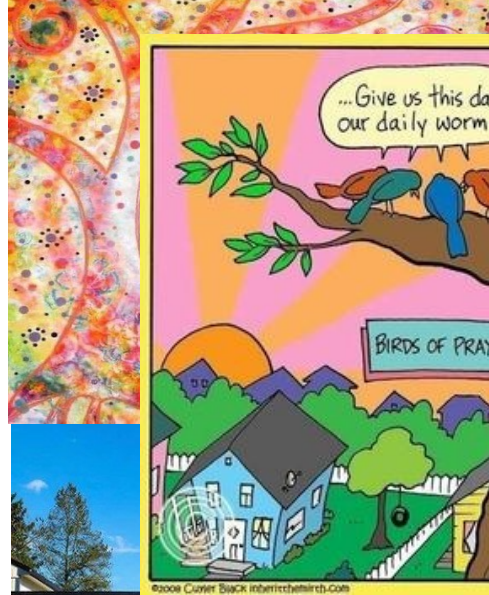
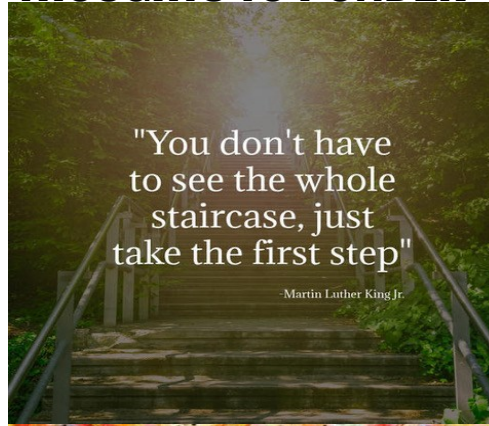
God promises that He will see you through this. And you will live to see it happen. Command yourself to LIVE, LIVE, LIVE, LIVE, LIVE! **Believe it! Curtis**

Reprint from July 2021 Chiming In

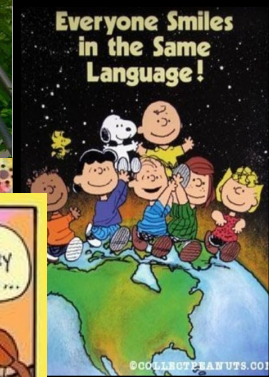
SMILE...GET AMUSED



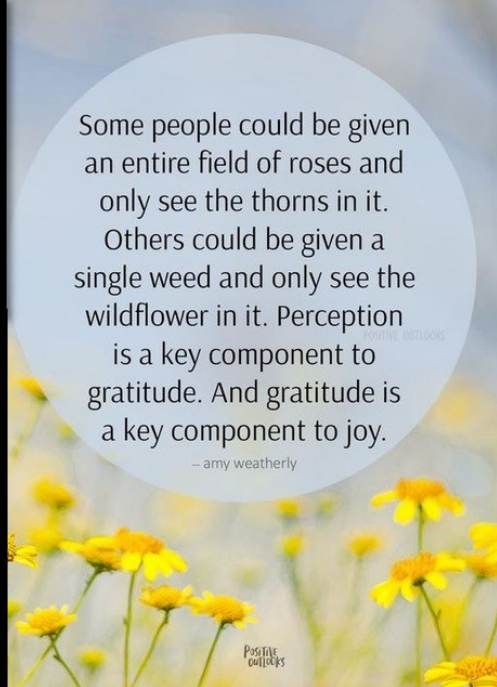
THOUGHTS TO PONDER



A smile can open a heart faster than a key can open a door. Smiles are free, so don't save them.. Brighten the world with your **smile.**



Life isn't about being right. It's about being understanding, compassionate, and kind towards one another, regardless of our differences.



@PeacefulMindPeacefulLife
Leadership is not about being the best. Leadership is about making everyone else better.
 -UNKNOWN





Saturday
August 19th

4:00pm - 8:00pm

CWS will once again
be hosting a evening
full of fun

There will be Food,
Games, Music, Dancing,
Silent Auction & more...

Tickets on sale soon!!!

\$20 for Adults & \$10 for children 10 & under

RECIPE of the Month

Evelyn Staves' POTATO SALAD (Walt's Favorite)

Ingredients:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 2 pounds potatoes, peeled and diced (5+/- cups) | 1/2 cup mayonnaise |
| 14 crips dill pickles, chopped | 5 Tablespoons dill pickle juice |
| 5 hard-boiled egg, chopped | 1 teaspoon salt |
| 1 cup celery, finely diced | 1/4 teaspoon white pepper |
| 1/2 cup onion or scallions, finely chopped | |

Directions:

Place potatoes in a large pot and add enough water to cover potatoes. Bring to a boil over high heat. Cook 13-15 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Drain. In a large bowl, combine mayonnaise, pickle juice, salt and pepper. Add potatoes, pickles, hard-boiled eggs, celery, and onions. Toss to coat thoroughly. Chill and then Serve.



Hero Hotline VBS is Right Around the Corner!

Hero Hotline VBS will be an awesome time and we hope you register your child as soon as possible. Friends welcome and spread the word to anyone you know! We need the following supplies for decorations: large boxes including wardrobe/fridge boxes, brown paper either new or the kind that is put in shipping boxes (this will be turned into caves!), solid silver, blue, green, red and yellow wrapping paper, a LOT of packing tape, yellow, red, blue, and green solid color plastic tablecloths, pool noodles, and spray foam. If you have any of these items, we would greatly appreciate the donations asap. I will pick them up or they can be brought to the church. As always, I thank the congregation for your unending support!

Hugs and Blessings,





RED CROSS URGENT NEED!

Sign up online: www.churchofthechimes.org
The next Blood Drive at COTC will be on July 5th.

♥♥♥♥♥
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.

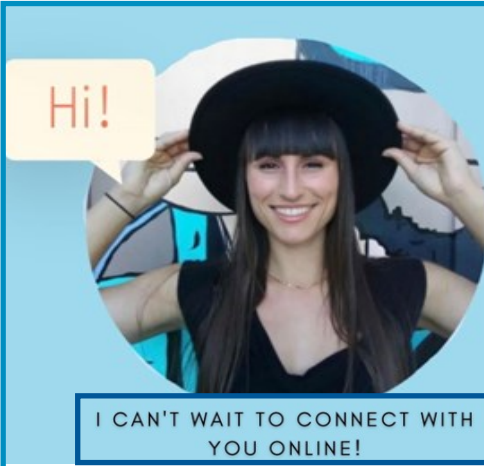
Please send Band of Prayer requests to Sylvia McCormick; miss_daisy1226@yahoo.com or feel free to call or email the Church Office; office@churchofthechimes.org | 818-789-7124

LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

If you know someone who would enjoy a receiving a call or maybe a card with a short note, please send their name, address & phone number to the church office:

office@churchofthechimes.org
818-789-7124

One of our pastors or deacons will reach out...



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!



RACIAL EQUITY DISCUSSION GROUP

Check it out - Literally!



A few of us in The Racial Equity group have been collecting and donating books to form a lending library of sorts. You'll find it nestled in the corner of Hamilton House's living room waiting to be perused: A small, unobtrusive bookcase loosely organized with general interest books on the top shelf and racial equity themed books on the lower shelves.

My favorite is the very bottom shelf containing books for children that demonstrate different religions, cultures, and lifestyles tolerance. What better way to share our wonderful world of differences with a child than with a succinct, beautifully illustrated picture book?

Please browse and borrow books at your leisure. We're on the honor system here (there's really no check out system), so just bring the books back when you're finished and "check out" some more. And unlike the public library, there are no late fees! Enjoy your summer reading!

The Racial Equity group meets the first Sunday of every month at noon in Dreier Hall. All are welcome! Please contact Shawn Burkley, Diane Delaney, or Beth Bingham for details.

Ally Baker, Director

PRESCHOOL NEWS



The 2023 A-Team graduated and will be off to kindergarten this fall, and a celebration for the Dads kicked off the Summer Camp Session which began on June 14th & ends on July 24th.

For more information about the Preschool, Parent & Me Program or other school events, please email preschool@churchofthechimes.org or call the church office (818-789-7124). Thanks! ALLY

OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE FALL SESSION CONTINUES...

DEACON NEWS

Greg Abbott, Chair

The Deacons met on June 18th following the worship services with nine of eleven members attending.

For now, we will continue to be primary in the lectern. We now have several Deacons who would like to serve. Also we will begin to have Rev. Curtis do some of the duties as his recovery continues.

You will notice throughout the month of July that there will be a Christmas Tree in the Narthex. This restarts the tradition of Christmas in July wherein we collect new unwrapped toys throughout the month to be distributed to an entity to be determined at a later date. So please bring a new unwrapped toy for a preteen boy or girl and place it under the tree. Thank you.

In addition we want to extend our gratitude for the generosity of so many toward the Deacon’s Angel Account which is currently well funded to serve our community. Ginger Wright will purchase gift cards to be available to those in need.

In another post Pandemic restart, Deacons will begin to visit shut-ins both with Beth and on our own. See you next month, **Greg**

NACCC NEWS

Greg Abbott, Delegate

The 2023 NACCC Annual Meeting in Brookfield, Wisconsin has wrapped up. It was an awesome convention with Beth, Sylvia and me attending. The theme of “*The Daring Endeavor of Being Church*” was engaging. There were some great speakers and a contemporary band that led us in both current and traditional hymns, including a new piece called “*You’ve Already Won*” by Shane and Shane. Check it out on YouTube. I loved it.

The idea of “current mixed with traditional” ran throughout the conference. Emphasis was placed on being open to new ideas without abandoning what is important.

On the last day we welcomed CFTS graduate, Jacob Richard to the ministry. Jacob was the recipient of our Women’s Association’s scholarship for which he expressed great appreciation. We got to meet both he and his wife, and I will say I was impressed.

On Monday evening we took a trip to the Harley Davidson Museum where I got to see motorcycles from nineteen teens—the era when my maternal grandpa rode motorcycles.

These conventions are awesome and I encourage all to attend. Next year we will meet in Spokane Washington. Submitted by Greg Abbott

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEWS

Disciples Needed

If you feel led to serve your church in one of the following areas of need please contact Dr. Bingham or the Church office...Thank you!

Community & World Service Board needs 2 Disciples

Board of Deacons needs 2 Disciples

Christian Education Board needs 5 Disciples

Board of Trustees needs 5 Disciples

Board of Ushers needs a Chairperson

Plus a Historian is needed...

~~~~~

**WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION NEWS**

Natalie Karp, Chair

All women of the church are invited to attend any and all of the gatherings held by the Women’s Association.

**BOUQUET CIRCLE** typically meets for lunch on the 2nd Wednesday of each month however they take the summer months off and thus **will not be meeting again until September.** For more information please feel free to contact Barbara Downs at barbaradowns1913@gmail.com or call the church office.

**VESPERS CIRCLE** gathers at a local restaurant on the 3rd Thursday evening of each month thus they **will next meet for dinner on Thursday, July 20th.** Anyone who wants to join in the fun of this evening gathering is invited. Please contact Natalie Karp at 818-590-2640 for location and reservations.

**WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION BOARD** typically meets on the 2nd Saturday of each month at 10am in Dreier Hall. Anyone interested in participating on the Board may contact Natalie Karp, our Board Chair.

**TRUSTEE NEWS**

Diane Delaney, Chair

**KEEPING UP WITH THE DIMES: *Blessed to Give***

We give out of thanks and appreciation for this church, and for all the blessings God has bestowed upon each of us.

Please don’t forget to keep up with your giving! Our budget is doable, but we need the consistency of your generosity to keep the cash flow going. Thank you!

~~~~~

“The sun is a daily reminder that we too can rise again from the darkness, that we too can shine our own light.” S. Ajna



July 2023



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<p>2 10:30am COTC Worship Svc Communion Served 10:45am Super Kids 11:30am Magnolia Marketplace 11:45am Racial Equity Mtg 11:45am CWS Mtg 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier</p>	<p>3 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel</p>	<p>4 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH</p>	<p>5 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ Bower</p>	<p>6 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts <i>*Subject to change...</i></p>	<p>7 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group</p>	<p>1 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S</p>
<p>9 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Super Kids 11:45am CWS Mtg 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier</p>	<p>10 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel</p>	<p>11 COUNCIL MEETING 6:30pm ~ Dreier Hall</p> <p>9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH</p>	<p>12 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ Bower</p>	<p>13 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts <i>*Subject to change...</i></p>	<p>14 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group</p>	
<p>16 9:30 Bible Study ~ Dreier 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Super Kids 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier</p>	<p>17 9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel</p>	<p>18 TRUSTEES MEETING Hamilton House ~ 6:30pm</p> <p>9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH</p>	<p>19 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts~ Bower</p>	<p>20 VESPERS ~ 6:30pm* <i>*Subject to change...</i></p> <p>9:00am Preschool Camp 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>21 9:00am Preschool Camp 9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 6:00pm Be Bold Gathering ~ HH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group</p>	<p>22 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S</p>
<p>23 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 10:45am Super Kids 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier</p>	<p>24 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel</p>	<p>25 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>10:00am 10 at 10 12Noon Brown Bag Bible 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH</p>	<p>26 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 7:00pm Women's Bible Study 7:00pm Boy Scouts ~ Bower</p>	<p>27 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE Bower 7:00pm Cub Scouts</p>	<p>28 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</p> <p>9:45am Zumba ~ Dreier 10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm tRPC Recovery Group</p>	<p>29 9:00am LM&S 9:55am LM&S</p>
<p>30 CHRISTIAN ED MEETING</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study ~ Dreier 10:45am Super Kids 10:30am COTC Worship Svc 11:45 CE Mtg 1:30pm tRPC Worship Svc 7:30pm Al Anon ~ Dreier</p>	<p>31</p> <p>10:00am 10 at 10 3:00pm Gymnastics ~ CE BH 7:00pm Sea Scouts 7:00pm AA Meeting ~ Bower 7:30pm Al-Anon ~ Chapel</p>					