

Chiming In

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



March 2021

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



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



Happy St. Patrick's Day

FROM OUR SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Bingham

FAITHFULLY YOURS

It was one year ago on March 3rd when the moving van showed up at my house on Diablo Drive in Claremont. Now the street name itself has given many pause, since Diablo means “Devil” in Spanish. Nobody is quite convinced when I assure them that all the streets are named after colleges. It just is—well—peculiar and a little dark.

But there was nothing dark about my family’s time in that house on that street. It was filled with joy and sorrow, accomplishments and disappointments, lots of dogs and even a cat. I couldn’t imagine how hard it would be to leave. As several of our Chimes people now know packing up memories is a bitter-sweet task.

Yet I left that home without too many tears. There was a new community, a new neighborhood, a new adventure awaiting me. And though the lockdown started just a few weeks later I still am amazed at how refreshing and renewing the move has proven to be. The house I rent suits me very well. I have great neighbors. I am 40 miles closer to the church I love.

All this is to say that this is the season of new hope. This is the season of renewal. This is the season when God makes it indisputable that light will shine in every darkness, that in even in our sorrow we will find moments of joy. For as we walk the shadowed path that Jesus walked on the way to the cross, we know there is hope ahead. We know there was an empty tomb.

So even as we anxiously wait for the power of the pandemic to pass, we know God is with us all the way, all the time. How amazing that vaccines were produced so quickly. How inspiring that so many people worked so hard to keep us safe. And how important it is to remember and honor the lives that were lost by living in faithfulness and love each and every day.

Let us live in the light of the Lord! Love and blessings to all, *Beth*

~~~~~  
*Hope is hearing the melody of the future,*

*Faith is dancing to it today.* -Ruben Alvarez

**COMMUNITY & WORLD SERVICES NEWS**

Diane Delaney, Chair

**A MISSION MOMENT: What’s new with Unsilenced Voices**

Amid the devastation of COVID-19, Unsilenced Voices is diligently working to expand and bring a Domestic Violence Awareness tour to the USA to provide resources and education to survivors. International philanthropist and speaker, Michelle Jewsbury couldn’t cite domestic violence statistics by heart- until it happened to her. Jewsbury endured four years of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse.

Now, instead of staying silent, she is speaking up to help others escape the cycle. In 2017, she founded Unsilenced Voices. This 501(c)3 nonprofit helps victims in countries around the globe break free of domestic abuse and sexual gender-based violence. This year, Jewsbury is bringing the organization to the United States.

“Domestic violence has been going on since the beginning of time,” she says. “One in four women and as many as one in seven men in the U.S. have been abused. One in four women internationally have been raped. Children who witness domestic violence are fifteen times more likely to become victims of child abuse.” She adds, “Domestic violence doesn’t exist in a vacuum. People are more susceptible to violent situations if they grew up in families where violence was accepted and boundaries weren’t acknowledged.”

A large part of Unsilenced Voices’ mission is collaborating with existing organizations to educate the community. “As a society, we need to stand up and speak up together. We want women to know how to get out. They don’t have to stay where they are. In addition to escaping to shelters, they need to know how to file restraining orders, how to create a resume and fill out job applications,” says Jewsbury. Operating in Ghana, Sierra Leone, Rwanda and soon in Los Angeles, the organization works with partners to implement shelters, sensitization programs, vocational training, medical and counseling to victims of abuse. Unsilenced Voices is looking for help from individuals who want to make an impact and create sustainable change worldwide, including our own backyard. By offering your time, intellect, and financial capability, Unsilenced Voices can continue their efforts and stretch their impact. Please contact Unsilenced Voices at [support@unsilencedvoices.org](mailto:support@unsilencedvoices.org) for information on how you can become part of the solution. You can donate to Unsilenced Voices at [www.unsilencedvoices.org](http://www.unsilencedvoices.org).

## **JANE'S CORNER**

Jane G. Poole, CE Director

In a moment of reflection about passing the infamous milestone of a year of lockdown, I thought about what this time has been like, and, meant to me. Although I miss the close contact of family and friends, I've unearthed a new sense of vulnerability and although it's my nature to be the glass half full kind of gal, I would be lying if I didn't say there have been days when my glass was half empty. Those rare times passed quickly and I used tools that I've learned to get through those tough times.

Yes, it's been a year of uncertainty, challenging home schooling and restricted lifestyles, but I do find a silver lining to it all. I for one, have a deeper sense of God's presence in my life and I do hope this is the same for you. Taking time to read daily devotionals, listening to the 10 @ 10's, and reading scripture brought, and, brings peace of mind and heart!

And speaking of peace of mind, paying attention to our mental health and wellbeing is extremely important for us to be aware of. When you find yourself with anxiety, finding ways to treat it, and even reaching out for help is key, and totally okay to do. One tool I use is trusted online sites for help. I follow the "biglifejournal" Instagram account for guidance. Recently, a post focused on taking a PAUSE and doing things to recalculate yourself. This exercise has six main things to do when pausing. Listed here is a quick summary — RELAX — read a book, listen to music, even splash water on your face. GET OUTSIDE - garden, take a 10 minute walk or sit on the porch, just get some sunlight or moonlight, which ever you prefer. BE MINDFUL – do color breathing, practice gratitude, meditate. CONNECT – Look at family photos, call a friend, if you can, hug someone, if not, hug yourself! CREATE – write in a journal, do a puzzle, color in a coloring book, bake and even clean your house. You can go to biglifejournal.com for more information. Findmywellbeing is another site with great advice for mental health. One thing the site shared was this – "Just because I carry it well, it doesn't mean it isn't heavy". The goal is to pay attention to YOU. If you feel heavy, work on fixing that feeling, and reach out if you need guidance and help!

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

## **PRESCHOOL NEWS**

Ally Baker, Director

\*\*\*NEWS FLASH\*\*\*

**OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR THE NEXT SESSION CONTINUES...**

For more information about the Preschool, Parent & Me Program or school events, please feel free to contact Ally at the Church Office. Call 818.789.7125 or email [preschool@churchofthechimes.org](mailto:preschool@churchofthechimes.org) Ally

## **FROM OUR ASSOCIATE MINISTER**

Rev. Curtis Peek

### **SAFE IN HIS ARMS!**

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save;  
neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear. Isaiah 59:1

Allstate insurance company advertises "YOU'RE IN GOOD HANDS WITH ALLSTATE." They would have you believe you can trust they will come through when you need them.

I submit for your consideration that you understand even better than Allstate YOU'RE IN EVEN BETTER HANDS when you are in God's hands. God's promises are true and his power is unlimited. He says to you today, "When (not if) the enemy comes in, LIKE A FLOOD God will lift up a standard against the enemy."

God does not promise that we will be freed from opposition or problems. But He does promise to be with us in every situation, to watch over us, deliver us, provide a way of escape, and give us the wisdom to know what to do and the ability and strength to do it.

Trust in Him. Have faith that He will bring you victory in every situation and work everything together for good. You are in Good Hands when you are safe in His Arms. *Believe it! Curtis*

## **JOIN US STREAMING LIVE ON FACEBOOK**



**Sunday Worship Service\*** — 10:30am Every Sunday Morning

Sermon Topics for March:

March 7: Law and Order (Psalm 19)

March 14: Saved from Self Destruction (Psalm 107:1-3; 17-22)

March 21: Curtis is preaching

March 28: King of Soul (Mark 11: 1-11)

**10 at 10\*** — 10 minute devotional at 10am every weekday

Lively and relevant chats with Beth (MW\*F) & Curtis (TTH)

\*Wednesdays offer a mini-Bible study in preparation for Sunday's Sermon.

\*VIDEOS of past Sermons and Devotionals are on Facebook and YouTube

***Life is an endless series of tiny miracles...God is so good!***

## **MARCH 2021 HAPPENINGS**

⇒ **ZOOM COUNCIL MEETING: MARCH 2 at 6:30pm**

⇒ **ZOOM Virtual Coffee Hour: Sunday, March 7TH at 11:45am**

After worship, get up from your sofa and grab some coffee and join us for our virtual coffee hour. It is totally casual and just fun to talk to each other and catch up. The Zoom link will be in the e blast on Friday, March 5—it will say 11:30 because it only designates half hour intervals but the doors will open at 11:45am. We'll have 45 minutes for chatting, sharing and maybe even a little laughing out loud!

⇒ **BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING: MARCH 16TH at 7:00pm**

⇒ **ZOOM VESPERS HAPPY HOUR: Thursday March 18TH @ 6:30pm**

All women of the church are invited to gather together to catch up with each other on Thursday March 18th @ 6:30pm. The link to this ZOOM HAPPY HOUR will be provided in Beth's daily mails that week. Hope to see you then.

⇒ **ZOOM DISCUSSION: Racial Equity and the Church: MARCH 21ST at 1:00pm**

At our February discussion group we had an incredible conversation about racial equity and the church and how welcoming our church strives to be—and is. We would love to have you join us—all perspectives and thoughts are honored and appreciated. We spend an hour together beginning at 1pm in thoughtful discussion. ZOOM link will be sent out the Friday before.

⇒ **ZOOM PRESENTATION: Stations of the Cross: PSALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28TH**

Back by Popular Demand! On Palm Sunday, the children and youth of the church will present Stations of the Cross to the congregation after our worship service via zoom! The link will be sent out in the church email blast on Friday, March 26th. We are so looking forward to this presentation in that we could not do it last year given the lockdown!

⇒ **ZOOM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Wednesdays at 7:00pm**

All women are invited to the virtual gathering of this caring, sharing, loving group of women on Wednesday evenings @ 7:00pm PST via ZOOM. We are currently studying "Everybody Always" by Bob Goff. This book is about loving everyone the way Jesus did—without fear, insecurity, or restriction—beginning with loving people right where you are, through serving and helping people God has placed in your world. If you would like to join us, Email Jane Poole at jane.churchchimes@sbcglobal.net

## **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?”*

**AND I SAID** *“Here I am; send me!”* ISAIAH 6:8

## **DEACON NEWS**

Nancy Nelsen, Chair

The Deacons want to remind you that if you are in financial need at this time, please contact Pastor Beth or Pastor Curtis. The Angel Fund is available to help out those in temporary financial need situations. The process is kept completely confidential.

We hope that many of you are able to get the vaccine and that in a few months we can begin to gather again as a congregation with the appropriate safety precautions being taken. We continue to pray for all our congregation and hope that you are keeping connected to our church family through the many online opportunities. May God bless you and keep you safe and well.

Nancy

## **A Moment in Time ~ Time Capsule 2020**

The Time Capsule collection box is still on the Hamilton House patio just outside the office door. We'll keep the box there a bit longer before we seal all the baggies in a thermal holder to bury when we can all be in person again at church. Please put your baggie with your writings and even a little something else, such as a news paper clipping, an artificial flower if you're a gardener, etc. Thank you for your participation.

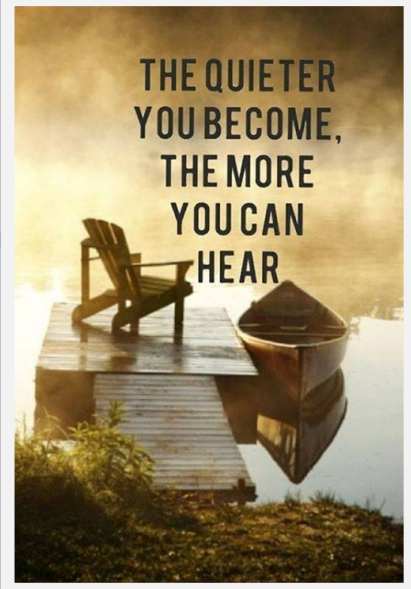
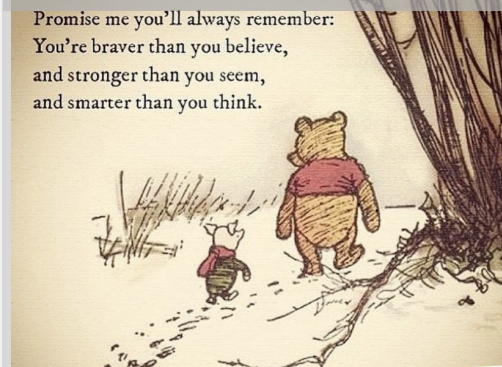


Here is our Mary Fussell looking fabulous on her 96th birthday!



If you boil a funny bone it becomes a laughing stock. That's humerus.

A little girl was holding two apples; her mother asked for one. The girl quickly bit one apple, and then, the other. Her mother held back her disappointment. Then the girl handed one to her saying: "Here, this is the sweeter one."  
Moral: Never judge.



**STAY SAFE AND STAY HEALTHY**  
**Wear a mask...Save a life**

**Easter 2021 HAPPENINGS**

**HOLY WEEK AT CHURCH OF THE CHIMES**

Easter is early this year! Holy Week begins on Sunday, March 28th. Except for our outdoor sunrise service, we will be streaming our worship.

**Palm Sunday—March 28th:** We will worship at 10:30 with palm branches as we join Jesus as He arrives in Jerusalem. With the crowds who gathered to see Him we will cry "Hosanna, Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

**Maundy Thursday—April 1st:** Dr. Bingham and Rev. Peek invite all to gather together virtually at 7pm, with the service available on-line after that. They will celebrate communion and invite you to break bread and drink from the cup with them. They will also share the words of betrayal and arrest of the Lord.

**Good Friday—April 2nd:** The 10@10 will be an extended devotion as we hear the last words Christ spoke from the cross, with periods of quiet meditation.

**EASTER SUNDAY—SUNRISE SERVICE—April 4th:** For the first time since the pandemic we will meet outdoors, in the garden, at 7am to watch the sun rise as the Son has risen from death. We will hear music; there will be short meditations by Rev. Peek and Dr. Bingham, and we will be the first to celebrate the resurrection! We will be masked and socially distant, and there will be no singing or unison speaking. WE WILL REJOICE!

**EASTER SUNDAY—April 4th: STREAMING LIVE SANCTUARY WORSHIP:** We will joyfully worship at 10:30 as we sing "Alleluia, Christ is Risen!" with worship led by Dr. Bingham and Rev. Peek along with Jane Poole, Greg Whipple and Alan Steinberger. We will gather remotely but closely, and as the sanctuary will have flowers and banners that express our joy that CHRIST HAS RISEN!



**Flowering Lily Plants** honoring our loved ones will grace the Gibson Garden during the Sunrise Service and will be displayed on the Chancel in the Sanctuary during the Easter Morning Service. A list of the loved ones so honored will be in the Order of Worship.

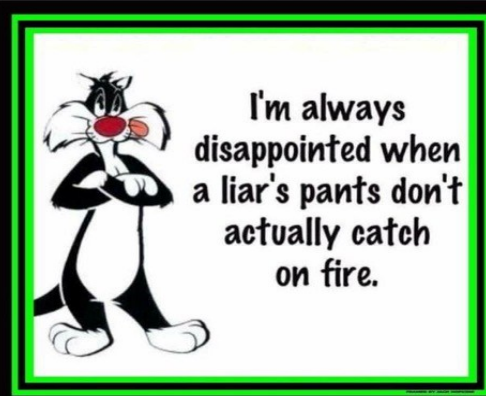
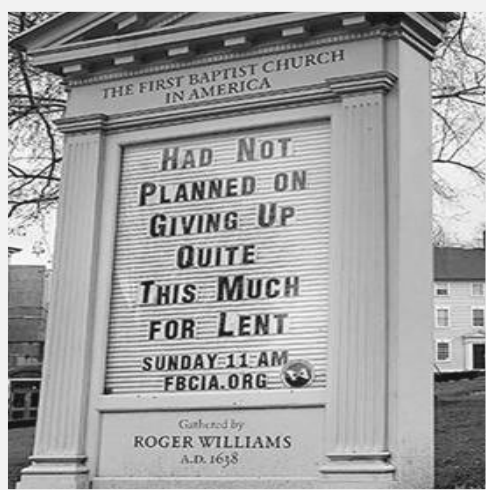
~~~~~

Lilies may be ordered for \$12 each through the church office and may be picked up any day the following week.

GET AMUSED...



'She complained about the porridge. She complained about the chairs. She complained about the beds. Let's see if we can make it four for four.'



So many people these days are too judgemental. I can tell just by looking at them.



Lambs to the left of me. Mutton to the right. Here I am. Stuck in the middle with ewe. 🐑🐑🐑



Rabbits jump and they live for 8 years.



Dogs run and they live for 15 years.



Turtles do nothing and they live for 150 years.



Lesson learned.



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; past copies of Chiming In can be viewed here and/or call the office to 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 10 at 10 with Beth & Curtis).

Visit various productions on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrLI2TLj2XfbBtgAOY0rjIA>
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.



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 via ZOOM on February 16th. With the budget complete, we are able to move on to other topics. Under Building and Grounds, work is underway to try to save the 150 year old oak tree in front of the Christian Ed Building. The arborist's advice was to aerate the ground under the tree to allow the roots to "breathe"; and suggested that the area be fenced to help with its recovery process.

The saga of the sign continues. Curtis Leseman continues to work on this. In his contact with North Hollywood Christian, he learned that it took them about five years get the permit for their sign, and they are zoned C2. They finally permitted as a religious monument. Our property is zoned R1, and it turns out that all the church structures were built with conditional use permits. For now, we will keep pursuing this.

As I mentioned, we have been meeting by ZOOM. At the end of meeting, I polled everyone as to their vaccine status. With one board member absent, and one who has had COVID, all but one of the remaining will have completed the vaccination process in time for our next meeting. Because of this, I will be asking the Council to allow us to meet in person moving forward. **Greg**

OUR STEWARDSHIP DRIVE: Reach in to Reach out!



The Board of Trustees worked hard to create the budget for 2021, which was presented, voted on and unanimously passed on Sunday, February 6th during the Congregational ZOOM Meeting.

We thank each one of you for your support of our Stewardship Drive: "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 is a blessing indeed!

Estimate of Giving cards that were initially sent out in November 2021 are still available in the office for those who haven't yet had a chance to respond. We understand that these continue to be uncertain times for all of us, but having an idea of what you estimate you can give helps immensely as we journey down the path of serving the needs of our church community. Thank you for your generosity!

A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated annually on March 17, the anniversary date of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint of Ireland and its national apostle. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people.

In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been on March 17, 461), mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture: Perhaps the most well-known legend of St. Patrick is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

The first St. Patrick's Day parade took place not in Ireland but in America. Records show that a St. Patrick's Day parade was held on March 17, 1601 in a Spanish colony in what is now St. Augustine, Florida. A year earlier, the parade, and St. Patrick's Day celebration were organized by the Spanish Colony's Irish vicar Ricardo Artur.

A century later, homesick Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched in New York City on March 17, 1772 to honor the Irish patron saint. Enthusiasm for the St. Patrick's Day parades in New York City, Boston and other American cities only grew from there. Today more than 100 St. Patrick's Day parades are held across the United States: New York City and Boston are home to the largest celebrations, & people of all backgrounds celebrate St. Patrick's Day, especially throughout the United States, Canada and Australia. Although North America is home to the largest productions, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated around the world in locations far from Ireland, including Japan, Singapore and Russia.

In the United States, people often wear green on St. Patrick's Day, and there's a tradition for those who don't: Expect to be pinched...



Next one at COTC will be on
Tuesday, April 20th
Sign up on-line at
www.churchofthechimes.org





MARCH 2021



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	<u>1</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>2</u> RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 11am to 5pm in Bower Hall COUNCIL MEETING 6:30pm via ZOOM 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>3</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>4</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>5</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>6</u>
<u>7</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook	<u>8</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook7	<u>9</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>10</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>11</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>12</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>13</u>
<u>14</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook	<u>15</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>16</u> TRUSTEE MEETING 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Trustee Meeting	<u>17</u> ST. PATRICK'S DAY 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<u>18</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>19</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>20</u>
<u>21</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook 1:00pm ZOOM DISCUSSION <u>The Church and Racial Justice</u>	<u>22</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>23</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>24</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM	<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>
<u>28</u> 10:30am Worship Service Streaming Live via Facebook 11:30am ZOOM PRESENTATION <u>Stations of the Cross</u>	<u>29</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>30</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook	<u>31</u> 9:00am Preschool 10:00am Ten Minute Devotional via Facebook 7:00pm Women's Bible Study via ZOOM			