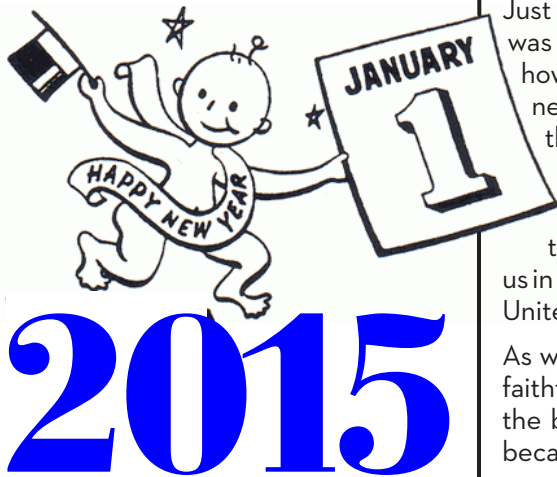


Connections

January 2015



From Pastor John

Blessings to the members and friends of the United Methodist Church of the Atonement!

As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 15:14, *I am fully convinced, my dear brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness. You know these things so well you can teach each other all about them.*

Yes, I feel that this congregation, YOU, are "super terrific!" And I mean that!

2014 is behind us and 2015 is on the horizon. Of course, not everything runs smoothly all the time, but all things can be worked out. I am proud to be your pastor! When I am at meetings, or in discussion with the Bishop or the D.S., I speak highly of the members and friends of Atonement UMC. And the reason I do is that I, along with Apostle Paul, "am fully convinced that you are full of goodness."

Just the other day I was talking to a newer member of Atonement Church and he was telling me how great a congregation we are. He is in ministry, and he told me how people here are easy to work with and that the volunteers show him kindness and respect. He went on to tell me that is not true in many of the churches that he has worked with in the past. And yes, I agree along with Paul that you are full of goodness.

As we begin this New Year let us focus on the goodness God has given us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Let's really focus on the goodness God has given us in our personal lives and in our churches, both Hope Community Church and the United Methodist Church of the Atonement.

As we walk in obedience and love, God will bless us for our faithfulness. We are faithful to the ministry that God has called us to. In looking ahead, I want to be the best Pastor, Preacher, and Minister that I can be. Why? The reason why is because I serve an awesome God and an awesome congregation of people.

In closing out 2014 and starting 2015, I want to thank Pastor Amy and all the paid staff and the wonderful, wonderful volunteers that make Atonement UMC a vital church.

As Paul said, *"I am fully convinced, my dear brothers and sisters, that you are full of goodness!"* Praise be to God!!!

PASTOR
John

United Methodist Church of the Atonement

3519 Philadelphia Pike
Claymont, DE 19703
www.atonementchurch.net

Hope Community Church

P.O. Box 567
Claymont, DE 19703
Meets at
Wilmington Montessori School
1400 Harvey Road
Wilmington, DE 19810
hopechurchclaymont.org

From the Assistant Pastor's Desk...

The seasons are what a symphony ought to be: four perfect movements in harmony with each other. ~Arthur Rubinstein.

Welcome to a New Year, 2015! Of course, it's winter! And it's also the church season of Epiphany, which continues our celebration of Christmas and God with us! Then, there's also a season of spiritual growth that we may be experiencing.

Perhaps you are like the Wise Men who are seeking to know God. You are growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. What a great season! You desire more of God and God is wooing you closer to God! Another season is the fruitful season in which things are going well with you and God! You feel connected in many ways to God. You find yourself more obedient to God's ways and there's evidence of it. You are producing good fruit for the kingdom of God here on earth. The third season is uh-oh! Something unexpected has happened: a crisis, chaos, loss, or big change to your life. You know God is still faithful and true but.... what should a person do? God is calling us to keep taking steps through the situation and to come to a newer level of knowing God more. Let's trust God in this "challenging" season! Because the fourth season is where you can really grow to know God more than ever! God breaks in and God comes through for you! That's HOPE! Knowing that God is going to come through for you and that nothing is impossible with God. God sends helpers and we figure out what works best for us. It's Epiphany Time!

So, no matter what season or stage you may be in this January, 2015, know this: God is with you in all seasons, all stages, and God will never, ever leave you nor abandon you! Let's go into the year of our Lord, 2015, knowing that God's going to come through for us. Our lives will be four perfect, spiritual seasons, all in harmony with God- an incredible symphony of love and trust!

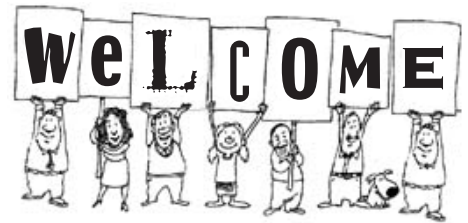
God bless us, everyone, always and forever!

Pastor Amy

A Very Special Thank You To Atonement and HOPE Churches

Thank you for the outpouring of love that we received this Christmas and throughout the year of 2014! Pastor John and I love serving our two great churches! At HOPE, I especially enjoyed all the stories of the congregation sharing how they helped someone in need this Christmas season as a gift to me. And for those who blessed Pastor John and me with cards, gifts, and Christmas love and joy- we are so grateful. It has been a spiritually prosperous, financially healthy, and blessed year at both Atonement and HOPE Church! God has found favor on us and we remain committed to a year of excellence in 2015!

Sincerely, **Pastor Amy**



New Members

Joan Kovach

1912 Marsh Road, L15
Wilmington, DE 19810
302.475.2354

John McAleer

200 Washington Street, Apt. 613
Wilmington, DE 19801
302.256.7348

Earl Pullman

3620 Garnet Mine Road
Garnet Valley, PA 19060
610.459.1329

Erica Wiley-Morris

743 Plumtree Lane
Claymont, DE 19703
302.377.9900

Harry Williams

302.792.5840

Connections Deadlines

February's deadline is January 25th

Please send all information to be included in the newsletter to:

Nancy Alejandro
nancy@caphoto.com

If you leave anything for the newsletter in my church mailbox, please put your name on it so I know who to contact if I have a question. Thanks, Nancy



Dear Friends at Atonement,
Happy New Year and happy new you!! I thank God for all the blessings He has given me and I am so grateful to be given the opportunity to worship Him through music and song at Atonement church. We are blessed as a church community to have such talented and dedicated people who are willing to share their gifts with others. This is no small task considering the conflicts created by the responsibilities of today's daily living! Jobs and families should always come first, but don't forget to take care of yourself, too.

I've heard it said and completely agree that "Less is better", but not when it comes to a choir!! In the New Year, I hope that you will consider coming out to join one of our musical groups to share your dedication to God and the blessings He has given you. Spending time with like-minded people can do a "world of good" in this "world of bad".

Thank you and God Bless! **Maria Bezilla**

2015 COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

SPRC c/o 2017

Janet Geiger
Ken Northwood
Diana Welham

Finance c/o 2017

Jonathan Jani, Treasurer
Joe Nattress, Chairperson

Trustees Nominees c/o 2017 (voting January 18, 2015)

Bob Clark
Adam Golden
Rena Schmidt

DONATE FOOD HERE



Our food closet can also use personal hygiene items. Toilet paper, tooth paste, tooth brushes, shampoo, combs and brushes, razors and shaving cream, individual bars of soap, lotion, individual tissue packets, sanitary napkins.

Please place all donations in the food carts outside of the Welcome Center.

Thank you!



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Modesta Bailey* 302-798-7357
605 New York Ave
Claymont, DE 19703

Joe Burns
The Kutz Home, 704 River Road
Wilmington, DE 19809

Betty Lou Chiffons 302-798-9093
3631 Naamans Dr
Claymont, DE 19703

Betty Crowther 610-361-0360
108 Bluebird Crossing, Maris Grove
Glen Mills, PA 19342

Tommy Gerris 302-475-5438
(Robert & Anna Rose's son)
1828 Marsh Road
Wilmington, DE 19810

Jack Houck* 302-798-1548
1912 Marsh Road, Forwood Manor Apt. 112
Wilmington, DE 19810

Edna Huffington 302-475-4656
414 Newlyn Pointe, Maris Grove
Glen Mills, PA 19342

Charlotte Lawson* 302.502.3092
753 Montclair Dr. Apt. 9
Claymont, DE 19703

Florence McDowell 302-479-9460
2723 Shipley Road, Shipley Manor Apt. 307
Wilmington, DE 19810

Voni McMinn 302-659-1349
121 Holly Ridge Road
Smyrna, DE 19977

Edith Pennington 302-798-4667
1912 Marsh Road, Forwood Manor Apt. 144
Wilmington, DE 19810

Julie Shenk* 484-840-8448
524 Meadowlark Terrace, Maris Grove
Glen Mills, PA 19342

Don Sproat ** 302-798-7029
6 S. Cliff Drive
Wilmington, DE 19809

Barbara Thomas
1175 McKee Road, Room 233-B
Dover, DE 19904

Audrey Urian* 302-479-0384
3329 Morningside Road
Wilmington, DE 19810

Doris Wallace 302-478-3964
2723 Shipley Road, Shipley Manor Apt. 203
Wilmington, DE 19810

Roberta Wolfe 302-658-7607
113 Atlantic Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19804

* Semi Home Bound

** Temporarily Home Bound



HOPE

COMMUNITY CHURCH

A Missional Church of Atonement

Worship

Our Message Series for the month of December was Living HOPE! The Bible Memory this month comes from the book of Romans.

"I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." Romans 15:13 NLT.



In the Spirit of the Christmas Season, Pastor Amy challenged the congregation this month to display Jesus' love with a random act of kindness! At Worship on December 21st, the congregation was given the opportunity to share how they were a blessing to someone less fortunate with a one-minute testimony. Pastor Amy also set aside time to congratulate Frank Lee on graduating from Temple University with the top GPA in the entire College of Mechanical Engineering!

Fellowship

The Praise Teams at HOPE and Atonement joined together for an Appreciation Luncheon on December 14th. Thank you Praise Team leaders Samantha Rodgers and Len Speed for your commitment!

HOPE celebrated Christmas early this year with "Brunch with Jesus!" Following Worship on December 21st, we enjoyed a great lunch together and time of fellowship. All new guests were given a HOPE mug to thank them for coming!

The Young Adults Ministry is sponsoring a New Year's Party for the teenagers at Connections Youth Center on January 1st!

Discipleship

Come January, HOPE is participating in the Alpha Course 2015 at Atonement! This 10-week course will be held Wednesday evenings in Atonement's Welcome Center, beginning January 7th. Dinner provided at 6pm and class from 6:45pm-8 sharp. Sign up in the Welcome Center!

Outreach

HOPE continues to reach out to our community with invites to Worship! So far, we've reached 12,425 homes with our door-hanger invitations! With the help of our dedicated Outreach team leader, Bill Grant, we are distributing an average of 621 door-hangers per month and 21 per DAY!

HOPE also participated in the Claymont Christmas Parade on December 6th!

Missions

HOPE provided a hot, turkey lunch to the teens at Urban Promise Academy on December 9th. We will be going again in January with Chinese food!

We are looking for sponsors for 3 children from around the world with the Compassion Child Ministry. Sponsors provide a child in poverty with food, shelter, education, and spiritual direction! So far, we have a sponsor for one child.

In January, HOPE will be partnering with Atonement in collecting change for clean water.

We are ready and excited for God has in store for us in 2015!

"It is out of deep worship that we do God's work." A.W. Tozer



Holy Spirit Saturday

with Wayne Hendrikson,
Ukrainian Missionary and Spiritual Director.
January 17th, 31st and February 21st
10:00 in Atonement's choir room.



Alpha Bible Study is coming in 2015....

Alpha will be held Wednesdays, January 6th through April 1st.

Dinner will be from 5:45 til 6:45, Alpha program from 6:45 til 8pm sharp.

One Saturday will be dedicated to HOLY SPIRIT Saturday, date to be determined (in March).

Contact the Church Office (302-798-8472) or Pastor Amy to be part of another great team of Alpha, 2015.

To learn more, visit Alpha.org.

24 million people have joined Alpha in 169 countries. Let's keep it going in Claymont as we continue to Connect the Claymont Community and Beyond to Jesus Christ.

If you have been part of the last two Alpha Classes, it's your turn to give back to this outstanding ministry in service. The Alpha model is based on being served and then serving others that they too may benefit from this world-wide, Christian teaching.

Greeters, Servers, Food-Preparation, Set up and clean up, Table Leaders, AV Helper, and Leaders will work together to benefit the class of 2015.



Happy Birthday



January

- 4** Ralph Adams (T)
- 9** Diane Lynch (B)
- 12** Dakota Russo (B)
- 14** Cindy Reinhardt (B)
- 25** Bill Grant (T,H)
Danee' Kennedy (T)
- 27** John Hornburger (T,B)
- 29** Woody Way (B)
- 30** Jaeden Norfleet (H)

If you would like your Birthday listed please send an e-mail to nancy@caphoto.com, and I will add you to the list.

*T = Traditional Worship
B = The Branch
H = Hope Community*

What are our kids doing?

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

- Ian Alejandro – All Eastern Orchestra, Cab Calloway High School
- Kyle McCusker – Freshman letter in football for Del Castle Vo-Tech High School
- Jeffrey Peters – National Honor Society, Mt. Pleasant High School and Recognition for the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at the Pinning Ceremony
- Faith Yanovitch – All State Chorus, Mt. Pleasant High School
- Daniel Yoder – National Honor Society, Brandywine High School
- Nathan Yoder – Junior High All State Chorus, P.S. Dupont Middle School



3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 P.M.

LIVE MUSIC * NO COVER * FOOD

January 17

The Sarkissian Family Singers

Donation Menu

Pasta Sauce • Canned Baked Beans • Sliced Cheese • Baked Goods • Hot Dogs
Hot Dog Buns • Frozen Personal Pizza • Frozen Burger Patties • Canned Soda • Burger Buns Bottled
Water • Big Bags of Chips/Pretzels • Frozen Meatballs • Frozen Breaded Chicken
Cash Donation

Donations taken before the third Saturday of the month.

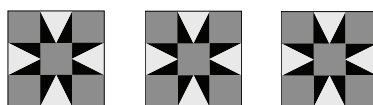
Pennies for Pure Water

Thank you for your
continuous support
to provide a
pure-water
drinking well



to a country where
uncontaminated, clean water is
desperately needed.

Water jugs for your coins can
be found in the Welcome Center
area and by the glass doors in the
Sanctuary. (Any coin or bill will
gladly be accepted)



PieceMakers

will meet on Tuesday afternoons from
1 – 3.

All are welcome.

No quilting experience necessary.

For more information call

Joan Northwood at 798-7027.

Join Scouting



Troop 51

All boys in 5th
grade and up
For information
contact
Scott Wilson
239-9190

Classified

Mount Pleasant Band Boosters
collect aluminum every third
Saturday of the month from
9:00 a.m. to Noon.

For Sale

30 foot Coachman Chaparral
RV. Used 2006 like new.
Wants \$13000.

Chevy Silverado 2500 HD
with low mileage with 5th wheel
trailer ready.

Call Sandy Way 302-478-8027

Attention Members of Atonement Church.

Free Computer Repair

Virus Removal

Optimization

Data Recovery

O.S. Reloads

Parts not included

Ron (neighbor of Linda and
Randy Keim)

762-6137

READ THRU THE BIBLE IN ONE YEAR!

JANUARY READINGS:

JAN. 1:

- ☐ -Genesis 1:1–2:25
- ☐ -Matthew 1:1–2:12
- ☐ -Psalms 1:1-6
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:1-6

JAN. 2:

- ☐ -Genesis 3:1–4:26
- ☐ -Matthew 2:13–3:6
- ☐ -Psalms 2:1-12
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:7-9

JAN. 3:

- ☐ -Genesis 5:1–7:24
- ☐ -Matthew 3:7–4:11
- ☐ -Psalms 3:1-8
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:10-19

JAN. 4:

- ☐ -Genesis 8:1–10:32
- ☐ -Matthew 4:12-25
- ☐ -Psalms 4:1-8
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:20-23

JAN. 5:

- ☐ -Genesis 11:1–13:4
- ☐ -Matthew 5:1-26
- ☐ -Psalms 5:1-12
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:24-28

JAN. 6:

- ☐ -Genesis 13:5–15:21
- ☐ -Matthew 5:27-48
- ☐ -Psalms 6:1-10
- ☐ -Proverbs 1:29-33

JAN. 7:

- ☐ -Genesis 16:1–18:15
- ☐ -Matthew 6:1-24
- ☐ -Psalms 7:1-17
- ☐ -Proverbs 2:1-5

JAN. 8:

- ☐ -Genesis 18:16–19:38
- ☐ -Matthew 6:25–7:14
- ☐ -Psalms 8:1-9
- ☐ -Proverbs 2:6-15

JAN. 9:

- ☐ -Genesis 20:1–22:24
- ☐ -Matthew 7:15-29
- ☐ -Psalms 9:1-12
- ☐ -Proverbs 2:16-22

JAN. 10:

- ☐ -Genesis 23:1–24:51
- ☐ -Matthew 8:1-17
- ☐ -Psalms 9:13-20
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:1-6

JAN. 11:

- ☐ -Genesis 24:52–26:16
- ☐ -Matthew 8:18-34
- ☐ -Psalms 10:1-15
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:7-8

JAN. 12:

- ☐ -Genesis 26:17–27:46
- ☐ -Matthew 9:1-17
- ☐ -Psalms 10:16-18
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:9-10

JAN. 13:

- ☐ -Genesis 28:1–29:35
- ☐ -Matthew 9:18-38
- ☐ -Psalms 11:1-7
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:11-12

JAN. 14:

- ☐ -Genesis 30:1–31:16
- ☐ -Matthew 10:1-23
- ☐ -Psalms 12:1-8
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:13-15

JAN. 15:

- ☐ -Genesis 31:17–32:12
- ☐ -Matthew 10:24–11:6
- ☐ -Psalms 13:1-6
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:16-18

JAN. 16:

- ☐ -Genesis 32:13–34:31
- ☐ -Matthew 11:7-30
- ☐ -Psalms 14:1-7
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:19-20

JAN. 17:

- ☐ -Genesis 35:1–36:43
- ☐ -Matthew 12:1-21
- ☐ -Psalms 15:1-5
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:21-26

JAN. 18:

- ☐ -Genesis 37:1–38:30
- ☐ -Matthew 12:22-45
- ☐ -Psalms 16:1-11
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:27-32

JAN. 19:

- ☐ -Genesis 39:1–41:16
- ☐ -Matthew 12:46–13:23
- ☐ -Psalms 17:1-15
- ☐ -Proverbs 3:33-35

JAN. 20:

- ☐ -Genesis 41:17–42:17
- ☐ -Matthew 13:24-46
- ☐ -Psalms 18:1-15
- ☐ -Proverbs 4:1-6

JAN. 21:

- ☐ -Genesis 42:18–43:34
- ☐ -Matthew 13:47–14:12
- ☐ -Psalms 18:16-36
- ☐ -Proverbs 4:7-10

JAN. 22:

- ☐ -Genesis 44:1–45:28
- ☐ -Matthew 14:13-36
- ☐ -Psalms 18:37-50
- ☐ -Proverbs 4:11-13

JAN. 23:

- ☐ -Genesis 46:1–47:31
- ☐ -Matthew 15:1-28
- ☐ -Psalms 19:1-14
- ☐ -Proverbs 4:14-19

JAN. 24:

- ☐ -Genesis 48:1–49:33
- ☐ -Matthew 15:29–16:12
- ☐ -Psalms 20:1-9
- ☐ -Proverbs 4:20-27

JAN. 25:

- ☐ -Genesis 50:1-Exodus 2:10
- ☐ -Matthew 16:13–17:9
- ☐ -Psalms 21:1-13
- ☐ -Proverbs 5:1-6

JAN. 26:

- ☐ -Exodus 2:11–3:22
- ☐ -Matthew 17:10-27
- ☐ -Psalms 22:1-18
- ☐ -Proverbs 5:7-14

JAN. 27:

- ☐ -Exodus 4:1–5:21
- ☐ -Matthew 18:1-20
- ☐ -Psalms 22:19-31
- ☐ -Proverbs 5:15-21

JAN. 28:

- ☐ -Exodus 5:22–7:25
- ☐ -Matthew 18:21–19:12
- ☐ -Psalms 23:1-6
- ☐ -Proverbs 5:22-23

JAN. 29:

- ☐ -Exodus 8:1–9:35
- ☐ -Matthew 19:13-30
- ☐ -Psalms 24:1-10
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:1-5

JAN. 30:

- ☐ -Exodus 10:1–12:13
- ☐ -Matthew 20:1-28
- ☐ -Psalms 25:1-15
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:6-11

JAN. 31:

- ☐ -Exodus 12:14–13:16
- ☐ -Matthew 20:29–21:22
- ☐ -Psalms 25:16-22
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:12-15

FEB. 1:

- ☐ -Exodus 13:17–15:18
- ☐ -Matthew 21:23-46
- ☐ -Psalms 26:1-12
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:16-19

FEB. 2:

- ☐ -Exodus 15:19–17:7
- ☐ -Matthew 22:1-33
- ☐ -Psalms 27:1-6
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:20-26

FEB. 3:

- ☐ -Exodus 17:8–19:15
- ☐ -Matthew 22:34–23:12
- ☐ -Psalms 27:7-14
- ☐ -Proverbs 6:27-35

FEB. 4:

- ☐ -Exodus 19:16–21:21
- ☐ -Matthew 23:13-39
- ☐ -Psalms 28:1-9
- ☐ -Proverbs 7:1-5

FEB. 5:

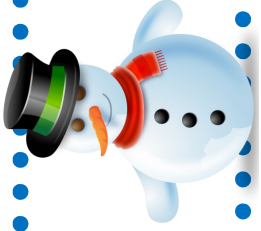
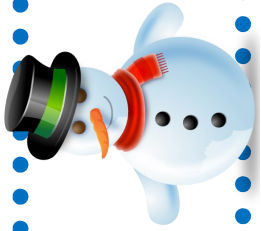
- ☐ -Exodus 21:22–23:13
- ☐ -Matthew 24:1-28
- ☐ -Psalms 29:1-11
- ☐ -Proverbs 7:6-23

FEB. 6:

- ☐ -Exodus 23:14–25:40
- ☐ -Matthew 24:29-51
- ☐ -Psalms 30:1-12
- ☐ -Proverbs 7:24-27

FEB. 7:

- ☐ -Exodus 26:1–27:21
- ☐ -Matthew 25:1-30
- ☐ -Psalms 31:1-8
- ☐ -Proverbs 8:1-11



JANUARY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
SUNDAY SCHEDULE: 9:00 Traditional Worship 10:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:00 Refreshments 10:15 Sunday School for all ages 11:00 The Branch Worship				1 3:00 Young Adult Party at Youth Center	2 7:00 SURGE	3
4 5 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 AA Mtg.		6 1:00 Piecemakers 6:30 Worship Ldrs 7:00 AA Mtg.	7 12:30 Bible Study 5:45 ALPHA	8 11:00 AARP 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	9 SURGE Youth Rally	10 SURGE Youth Rally 10:00 Health Class
11 SURGE Youth Rally	12 7:00 Finance Mtg. 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 AA Mtg.	13 12:00 UP Luncheon 1:00 Piecemakers 6:30 Worship Ldrs 7:00 AA Mtg. 7:00 Leadership Mtg	14 12:30 Bible Study 5:45 ALPHA	15 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	16 7:00 SURGE	17 10:00 Health Class 10:00 Holy Spirit Sat. 7:00 Heavenly Perks Cafe
18 9:00 Trustees Election	19 Martin L King Day 7:00 Rebecca Circle 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 AA Mtg.	20 1:00 Piecemakers 6:30 Worship Ldrs 7:00 AA Mtg. 7:00 Trustees Mtg	21 12:30 Bible Study 5:45 ALPHA	22 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	23 7:00 SURGE	24 10:00 Health Class
25 26 7:00 Lit N Latte 7:00 Praise Band 7:30 AA Mtg.		27 Pastor J's Birthday 1:00 Piecemakers 6:30 Worship Ldrs 7:00 AA Mtg.	28 12:30 Bible Study 5:45 ALPHA	29 7:30 Sanctuary Choir	30 7:00 SURGE	31 10:00 Health Class 10:00 Holy Spirit Sat.