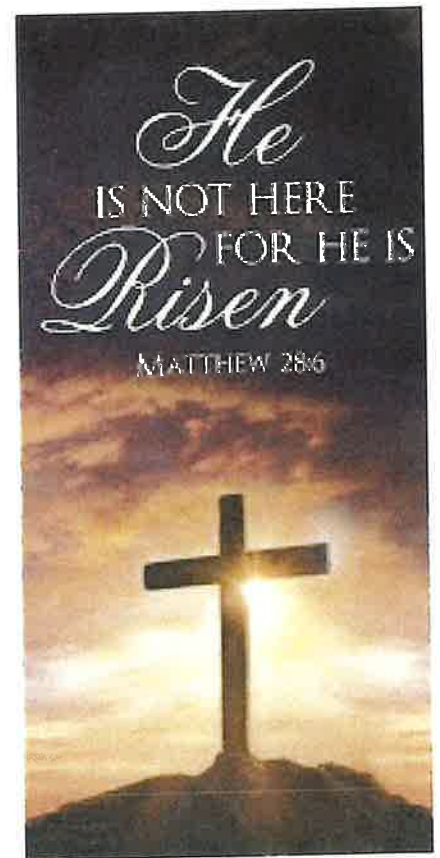


Connections

Word of Grace from the Pastor....

Spring is here! It's a new season for a new beginning! Every Sunday more of our church family is returning to worship God in Spirit and in truth! Spring is a great time for spiritual growth! All of creation proclaims the glory of God! "The heavens declare the glory of God!" (Ps. 19:1). "Ever since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities...have been clearly seen." (Romans 1:20). "The heavens rejoice, the earth is glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it. Let the fields be jubilant...let all the trees of the forest sing for joy." (Ps.96:11-12). Resurrection Sunday is coming: joy fills the air, hope is in our hearts, and we have vision for our future as we look back upon the faithfulness of God for 155 years! God has uniquely positioned and equipped Atonement Church to reach the Claymont community and beyond this Spring season. Let us draw strength and courage from the Lord, our God. May we continue to help lives to be changed for eternity as we love God and people, offering Jesus to those who are interested. Join your voice with mine on Resurrection Sunday morning, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow...". I know Jesus holds the future and life is worth the living because He lives." It is my prayer we can take this celebration of Easter to the streets, the homes, the lives of hurting people all around us. Please continue revealing God's grace to this community of Claymont. Oh, how I wish every day could be Easter!



Blessings on your Easter, Amy



- 3 Lillian Horne
- 5 Crystal Eckenroad
Pastor Jeff Peters
- 6 Joan Northwood
Anna Anderson
- 14 Anna Mangini
- 22 Darla Laramore
- 23 Sophia Ryan
- 24 Earl Pullman
- 27 Phyllis Ruth
- 29 Gail Basson



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

A card or phone call to our
Homebound friends would
Certainly brighten their day!

Helen Albright 302-764-0684
16 N. Rodney Drive
Wilmington, DE 19809

Adrian Dejong 302-793-1068
2402 Garfield Ave
Wilmington, DE 19809

Jean Eck 302-764-2309
c/o Debbie and Bob Clark
2 Bell Hill Road
Wilmington, DE 19809

Marty Hargan 302-798-5781
Captains Deck
7807 Governor Printz Blvd.
Claymont, DE 19703

Gerri Kaut 302-654-5587
244 Sandra Road
Wilmington, DE 19803

Frank and Doris Kerr 302-798-7601
8 Fairfield Road
Claymont, DE 19703

Darla Laramore 302-439-4814
319 Chapel Ave, Apt A
Claymont, DE 19703

Florence McDowell
2215 Shipley Road, Room 24
Wilmington, DE 19803

Jim and Marge McQuage
4 Delores Court
Wilmington, DE 19809

Jack Scott 610-485-6574
1410 Cherry Street
Boothwyn, PA 19061

Anna Shewbrook
Kutz Home
704 River Road
Wilmington, DE 19809

APRIL

Message Series

"WORKS OF MERCY, PART 2"

APRIL 3

"Bread of Life"

John 6: 32-35

APRIL 10

PALM SUNDAY

"EASTER CANTATA" Traditional

"Cry Out" The Branch

Luke 19: 28-40

APRIL 17

EASTER SUNDAY

Luke 24: 1-12

APRIL 24

HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY

Palm Sunday

April 10

Let us remember not only Jesus' Jerusalem-entry in the past, but also His entry into the future!

9am Cantata "Wondrous Love:

11am "The Branch" Contemporary Worship

Maundy Thursday

April 14, 7pm

Join us for a service of worship which will include Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar.

Good Friday

April 15, 12:00pm

Service will be led by Pastor Amy & Mark Peters.

Easter

April 17

Celebrate the resurrection of Christ!

9:00 Traditional Worship

11:00 "The Branch" Contemporary Worship



Easter Flowers

Orders

Order Deadline—Sunday, April 3

It is a tradition at Atonement Church to have a flower display around the altar area for Easter Sunday. If you wish to place an Easter Flower order in memory of or in honor of someone, please fill out and return this form to the office or place in offering plate by Sunday, April 3.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Pink Tulips— 6" pot

No. wanted at \$7.50 each _____

Yellow Daffodils— 6" pot

No. wanted at \$7.50 each _____

White Lily—6" pot .

No. wanted at \$9.00 each _____

Blue Hydrangea— 5' pot

No. wanted at \$14.50 each _____

**Make Check payable to:
Atonement Methodist Church
(Write Easter Flowers in
Lower left-hand corner)**

Place my Easter Flower(s) in the

_____ **Sanctuary** _____ **Fellowship Hall**



Dear Friends at Atonement,

I am so fortunate to have the privilege of leading the Traditional Service in music and song week after week at Atonement UMC! I am also blessed to have a dedicated, talented group of singers in the Sanctuary Choir to help lead our worship! With that said, I am so excited to tell you about the Easter cantata we have been preparing to present on Palm Sunday, April 10th, at the 9am Traditional service. "Wondrous Love", composed by Lloyd Larson, recounts the earthly life and ministry of Jesus, which ultimately led Him down a path of sacrifice and death on the cross. Spanning the musical and emotional spectrum from the agony of Christ's crucifixion to the exhilaration of His resurrection, this blending of original and familiar melodies along with poignant, scripture-based narration provides a compelling rendition of the events leading to the cross. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend this special event. God bless!

Maria Bezilla



DISABILITIES MINISTRIES

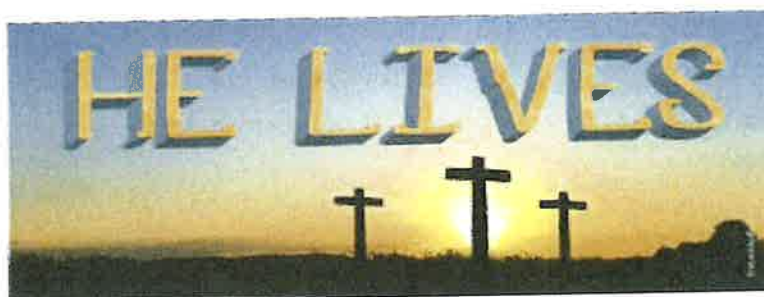
First came the updated bathrooms, the handicap entrance to our church, easy to use door handles, and providing walkers, wheelchairs, and the like to our friends with disabilities at Atonement Church (thanks to Claymont Lion's Club)! Then came a brand new stairchair last year, just in time for our 155th Anniversary! Once again, Atonement Church is working on a support group for those with disabilities (a/k/a "Special Abilities). Meetings will be on the Last Sunday of the month, April 24 at 12:15pm. For further information, contact Liz Tryens: 302-246-0383.



A BRAND NEW WEBSITE FOR ATONEMENT CHURCH is here! Visit AtonementChurch.net and see the easy to use format, drop down menu, photo page, and lots of information about the life and ministries of Atonement Church. PLUS!!! CHECK OUT ATONEMENT'S NEW LOGO. The Holy Trinity is symbolized in its three parts, intersecting as one in the middle. It a classic! Yes! The LORD our God continues to do amazing things for us!

MORE EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS AT ATONEMENT!!!

Young Adult Ministry (Ages 18-30's) is now meeting for its third time in April. Thanks to Ruth and Mike and Corrine for helping to plan meals and for Cliff providing the spiritual nourishment for our young adults. The Millennials are very much interested in living life with Jesus. Please, please keep them in your prayers for God to help them through some very difficult and challenging times we live in! They are getting to know one another and sharing life, just what the Life Groups are meant to do!



High School Seniors and College Students Scholarships are Available

If you are a high school senior who will be going to college, or if you are already enrolled at a school of higher learning, this is your opportunity to apply for the Memorial Scholarship provided by Atonement Church.

Applications and directions are available in the Welcome Center. There are two different applications depending on whether you are a high school or college/higher education student. you. The committee **MUST** receive the completed application and supporting materials no later than Sunday, **April 24, 2022**. Applications are to be placed into a sealed envelope, marked Scholarship and given to the church office.

The Scholarship Committee would like to bring to the attention of prospective applicants some of the criteria listed for the scholarship:

1. Applicant must be member of the church
2. Recipient must be enrolled in a post high school program.

Our Lord has written the promise of the resurrection, not in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time.

Martin Luther



PECOMETH CAMPERSHIPS:

Summer is right around the corner.

Yes, Camp Pecometh will be open this summer for Summer Camp. Why not sign your child or grandchild up for summer camp. The 2022 Summer Camp Program registration is open. A week of camp is filled with faith, fun and fellowship in a Christian community where they make new friends, grow spiritually and gain confidence. Atonement is offering basic camperships of \$599.00 to the youth of our church; however, campers are responsible for the \$50 registration fee. If the registration fee is a hardship for families, contact the church office to have it waived. You can find more information at pecometh.org.

BRANDYWINE SCHOOL DISTRICT HAPPENINGS

4/7	at 7:00 p.m.	Talley Middle School Musical "Beauty and the Beast"
4/7	at 7:00 p.m.	P.S. DuPont Middle School Musical "School House Rock"
4/8	at 7:00 p.m.	Talley Middle School Musical "Beauty and the Beast"
4/8	at 7:00 p.m.	P.S. DuPont Middle School Musical "School House Rock"
4/9	at 7:00 p.m.	Talley Middle School Musical "Beauty and the Beast"
4/12	at 7:00 p.m.	Brandywine High School Instrumental Concert
4/13	at 7:00 p.m.	Brandywine High School Choir Concert
5/2	at 7:00 p.m.	Mt. Pleasant High School Instrumental Concert
5/3	at 7:00 p.m.	Mt. Pleasant High School Instrumental Concert

TRIBUTE TO A GREAT MAN OF GOD



Atonement Church lost a great friend, John Hobbs, on March 11th. It was always a joy to have him at Atonement. He was a great servant of God. What a man of God he was! He Blessed us in many ways. John was so filled with the love of Jesus and so genuine in sharing his love for Him. It brought great joy and peace to experience John's sharing of how to live and love like Jesus Christ. John made such an incredible impact on so many lives. He poured out truth, hope, healing and freedom in Jesus. He made each individual that he met feel as though they were so incredibly special and he cared for them, whatever, they were going through. John will stay in our hearts forever. This is not "goodbye", but that "We will see you again."



Atonement's youth ministries continue to run strongly. Our membership has remained consistent, and I believe we have seen a continued growth in the engagement that the youth have demonstrated in both their fellowship and with the lesson material. In the past couple months, we have most notably developed together a covenant agreement between one another, one that includes not simply an agreement of our conduct and expectations, but especially how we have agreed to treat one another, best express our Christian fellowship and love for one another. I believe this has been a very good experience for the youth, in that it has called us to be more mindful of our interactions, relationships, and Christian witnessing among each other, and with the world around us, and has seen definite growth, particularly in the accountability I have seen the youth holding one another to, primarily without my prompting. Additionally, the youth have become more conscious of their efforts, both direct and indirect, to evangelize to their friends and classmates, both through their discussions, and their general Christian lifestyles. Naturally, we all need to grow more and more in these areas to best represent Christ in our lives, and to see Christ become our identity through the Holy Spirit, but I am very pleased with what I'm seeing happen in the lives of the youth. While we have not had too many special events, we did have a very successful and engaging lock-in last month, which the youth are already clamoring to replicate, which hopefully will take place before the summer begins in earnest. Naturally, if at any point you are aware of a youth, either in our church or in your life that is in need or desires an environment of Christian fellowship and discipleship, please get in touch with me or send them our way, as we would always love to bring more youth into a deeper relationship with God. If any adults within our congregation would like to be involved with our youth ministries in any way, please also get in contact with me either in person or by phone, and we can discuss how you might be able to contribute. It's critical that we always ensure that the youth of the Church are not simply pushed to the side or compartmentalized, but to make them apart of our Body of Christ, Christian family, and Church environment, which we can only accomplish if we make them feel involved, and to interact with them in meaningful ways. If anyone involved in our other ministries believes there's an opportunity to involve the youth in any way, please let me know. I hope to see our youth continue to grow in their relationships with God, and to carry the Word of God into the lives of others.

SAVE THESE IMPORTANT DATES

WEDNESDAY APRIL 13 FROM 7-8PM:

Welcome Center for Informational Meeting concerning the new Methodist denomination coming on May 1st, the Global Methodist Church (GMC). Updates on The General Conference and *Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation*. Learn more at [GMC.org](https://gmc.org) or [Confessingumc.org](https://confessingumc.org).

SATURDAY, APRIL 23rd from 9:00am – 10:30am

STAY OR GO: TALK FOR METHODISTS EXPLORING THEIR FUTURE- sponsored by the Delaware District of the UMC. Zoom meeting at Atonement Church. Refreshments at 8:30. Also can join from home.

Webinar ID 992 8996 4560

Please click this URL to join. [https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/99289964560?](https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/99289964560?tk=t5jwSgsEkIdi6DCqHWVsy0PW8D1L-D61OuIZsHfzWu0.DQMAAAAXHiSgEBY2cm5SRINqclNtT253dmtVLTfUMy13A)

[tk=t5jwSgsEkIdi6DCqHWVsy0PW8D1L-D61OuIZsHfzWu0.DQMAAAAXHiSgEBY2cm5SRINqclNtT253dmtVLTfUMy13A](https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/99289964560?tk=t5jwSgsEkIdi6DCqHWVsy0PW8D1L-D61OuIZsHfzWu0.DQMAAAAXHiSgEBY2cm5SRINqclNtT253dmtVLTfUMy13A)
[AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&uuid=WN_onJr6Fj3QQuYDXH8-2iiMQ](https://bwcumc.zoom.us/j/99289964560?tk=t5jwSgsEkIdi6DCqHWVsy0PW8D1L-D61OuIZsHfzWu0.DQMAAAAXHiSgEBY2cm5SRINqclNtT253dmtVLTfUMy13A)

Saturday May 7th **“More Than Conquerors”**

at Christ the Cornerstone UMC in Bear, DE. Simulcast of Wesleyan Covenant Association's 6th Annual Conference 9:00 am – 3:30 pm. \$15.00 admission. Learn more of schedule, registration, etc. at [WCA.org](https://wca.org) or [Wesleycovenant.org](https://wesleycovenant.org) or [Good-](https://goodnews.org)

Peninsula-Delaware Annual Conference

June 16-18, 2022 via Zoom. If interested in attending ZOOM

United Methodist Church of
the Atonement

3519 Philadelphia Pike

Claymont, DE 19703

www.atonementchurch.net

302-798-8472

Lead Pastor Amy Peters

302-218-5896

Youth Pastor Jeff Peters

302-932-1878

Newsletter Deadline is April 21th

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

Lynn Peters
umcatonement@comcast.net

If you leave anything for the news-
letter in the Church Office, please
put your name on it so I know who
to contact if I have a question.

Thank you, Lynn Peters



Samaritan's Purse is bringing hope and help to Ukraine with field hospitals and clinics, doctors, nurses, chaplains, food, clothing, medicines, baby supplies, supplies and equipment, and so much more! Samaritan's Purse has a network of over 3,200 churches who distribute Operation Christmas Child boxes (reaching 12 million children over the last 25 years. Just last year, more than 56,000 children made life-changing decisions for Christ! The most important thing we can do is pray for Ukraine. Pray for God to comfort every man, woman, and child hurt in this unjust conflict. Pray for the safety of our brothers and sisters in-Christ and for pastors, that the Lord will use them as a witness for the Prince of Peace, Jesus in the midst of crisis. Pray for their protection and for a resolution to the fighting.

Donations to Samaritan's Purse, Ukraine Response at samaritanspurse.org or/and to United Methodist Committee on Relief- <https://umcmmissions.org/advanceproject/982450>



Knollwood Sports Camp 2022

Summer is quickly coming upon us! Who will help with our annual Vacation Bible School, also known as Sports Camp? The children are already asking if we can have Sports Camp. We would need snack people, leaders, amateur coaches, small group leaders for the Bible study portion, and setup/takedown help. It will take a team effort! Contact Pastor Amy who will be happy to help! 302-218-5896.



Full house at Ellie Kwick's Discussion Group



SURGE Prayer time in the Prayer Room with Bonnie Romano



Four Children were baptized on 3/6



Cliff Werline preaching at the Branch Worship Service



Knollwood After School group



Knollwood Bible Study

FOOD CLOSET MINISTRY

Our Food Closet serves many people in our church and community. On average, we are handing out 20 bags/month. We want to continue serving our community and beyond but need your help.

We are currently in need of:

cans of fruit and vegetables,
soup,
crackers
apple sauce,
pasta sauce,
jelly and peanut butter
rice and instant potatoes



Please note that we can not give out food past the expiration date. Please check the expiration date before donating to our food closet. Thank you!



Change for Clean Water

Thank you for your continuous support to provide a pure-water drinking well to a country where uncontaminated, clean water is desperately needed. We have collected \$4,120.40 to date

Water jugs for your coins can be found the Welcome Center



Anyone that has a flag that can no longer be flown or anyone that has a flag that needs to be disposed of can contact Steve Calzone (302) 898-9816 who will properly dispose of the flag.

Global Methodist Church Sets Official Launch Date *March 3, 2022*



GLOBAL
METHODIST CHURCH

With humility, hope and joy, a 17 member body of theologically conservative Methodist clergy and laity, known as the Transitional Leadership Council, is pleased to announce the Global Methodist Church will officially launch on May 1, 2022.

Supported by fervent prayers, faithful discernment, and a sure hope for the future, the Global Methodist Church is a Holy Spirit inspired movement committed to making disciples of Jesus Christ who worship passionately, love extravagantly, and witness boldly to the ends of the earth.

Thousands of Methodist clergy and laity from around the world have worked together for over three years to lay the groundwork for a new, theologically conservative Methodist denomination steeped in the great ecumenical and evangelical confessions of the Christian faith. They envision a church fired by a warm hearted, Wesleyan expression of that faith that is dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed.

“The Global Methodist Church will warmly welcome people eager to join others in fulfilling its mission,” said the Rev. Keith Boyette, Chairman of the Transitional Leadership Council and President of the Wesleyan Covenant Association. “We have heard the truth of Jesus Christ, experienced the forgiveness of his grace and love, and so bear witness to his transforming power. We long to take our place alongside brothers and sisters in the church universal who seek to live out their faith everyday so that others might come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.”

After having worked for years to renew and reform The United Methodist Church, in late 2019, theological conservatives faithfully joined leading UM Church bishops, and leaders of centrist and progressive advocacy groups to hammer out an amicable and orderly plan to divide the UM denomination.

That plan, known as the *Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace through Separation*, rapidly gained the support of people across the UM connection, and it appeared headed for approval at the denomination’s May 2020 General Conference. Unfortunately, after two previous postponements, UM Church officials have announced that they are postponing the conference for a third time. Their inability to find ways to help international delegates gain access to Covid-19 vaccinations and secure U.S. entry visas led to the cancellation. Consequently, the *Protocol* cannot be adopted this year, so faithful and patient United Methodists will not be afforded the opportunity to part ways with the UM Church according to the *Protocol’s* terms. Under its provisions, every theologically conservative local church and annual conference would be allowed to join the Global Methodist Church with clear title to all of their property and assets in perpetuity.

“Many United Methodists have grown impatient with a denomination clearly struggling to function effectively at the general church level,” said Boyette. “Theologically conservative local churches and annual conferences want to be free of divisive and destructive debates, and to have the freedom to move forward together. We are confident many existing congregations will join the new Global Methodist Church in waves over the next few years, and new church plants will sprout up as faithful members exit the UM Church and coalesce into new congregations.”

It is anticipated that some theologically conservative local churches will find annual conferences willing to negotiate fair and just exit provisions, while others will unfortunately face obstacles placed in their paths. The Transitional Leadership Council decided it was time to launch the Global Methodist Church, so those who can leave early will have a place to land, to begin building and growing, and making room for others to join later.

Boyette said, “For theologically conservative local churches deciding to remain in the UM Church for a time, we are confident Africa Initiative, Good News, the Confessing Movement, UMAction, and the Wesleyan Covenant Association will continue to vociferously advocate for the ultimate passage of the *Protocol*. Every theologically conservative local congregation and annual conference should have the right to join the Global Methodist Church with all of their property and assets intact.”

Over the past two years the Transitional Leadership Council has met on almost a weekly basis to create a Global Methodist Church *in formation*. Informed by the work of the Wesleyan Covenant Association’s Global Council, Legislative Assembly, and dozens of task force teams that prepared white papers covering a host of issues, the members prepared a *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline*. The book will govern the church during a transitional period prior to a convening General Conference to be held in the next 12 to 18 months. The *Transitional Book of Doctrines and Discipline* and much of the Transitional Leadership Council’s work can be found on the <https://globalmethodist.org> and in *Crossroads*, the weekly e-newsletter it publishes. Persons and churches interested in aligning with the Global Methodist Church may express their interest through the new church’s website.

“As we embark on this great venture, we know we will stumble and fall at times,” said Boyette. “But with the great prophet Isaiah, we also firmly believe we will, in God’s good time, ‘run and not be weary,’ and ‘walk [in the way of the Lord] and not faint!’”

For additional information about the Global Methodist Church, visit GlobalMethodist.org.

Other websites to visit for more information...

GoodNewsmag.org

WesleyanCovenant.org

Confessingumc.org



APRIL 2022



Sun	M	Tu	Wed	Th	F	Sat
SUNDAY SCHEDULE 9:00 Traditional Worship 9:00 Nursery/Lil Kidmo 11:00 The Branch Worship 11:00 Nursery/Lil Kidmo/Kidmo						
3 6:30 Prayer Group By phone 7:00 Lenten Study with Arlene Skotnicki 7:00 AA Meeting	4 7:00 AA Mtg	5 7:00 Worship Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg.	6 12:00 Lenten Study 4:00 Lenten Study 6:30 Lenten Study 7:00 Lenten Study 7:00 Lenten Study at Mark Peters home	7 6:00 Knollwood Teen Bible Study 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	8 7:00 SURGE Youth Group	9 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Meeting
10 Palm Sunday 9:00 Easter Cantata 6:30 Prayer Group By phone 7:00 Lenten Study with Arlene Skotnicki 7:00 AA Meeting	11 7:00 Finance Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	12 7:00 Leadership Team Mtg 7:00 AA Mtg	13 7:00 Informational Meeting on the New Denomination Global Methodist Church	14. MAUNDY Thursday 7:00 Worship Service	15 Good Friday 12:00 Worship Service 7:00 SURGE Youth Group	16 9:00 Evangelism Prayer Meeting 2:00 Praise Band Rehearsal 8:30 AA Mtg
17 EASTER SUNDAY	18 7:00 AA Mtg.	19 7:00 Trustee Meeting 7:00 AA Mtg	20	21 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	22	23 9:00 am "Stay or Go?" Zoom Meeting 8:30 pm AA Mtg
24 HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY 7:00 AA Meeting	25 7:00 AA Mtg.	26 7:00 AA Mtg	27	28 6:00 Knollwood Teens Bible Study 7:00 Choir Rehearsal	29 7:00 SURGE Youth Group	