The Quester

Dec, 2015/ Jan, 2016

FAIRFIELD GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A Message from Pastor Cho:

My dearest beloved sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus,

The season of Advent has arrived again. Our faith journey continues here at Fairfield Grace. What do you see above? I see a beautiful people of God, ready to welcome another new beginning with gladness. Do you see what I see?



"Hey, Pastor Cho! Any new things happening at FGUMC?" Often, I receive this question when I am visiting parishioners, especially the FGUMC homebound. It helps me to take a moment to think and see what the spirit of living God is doing in our midst.

"The Story" Campaign comes to my mind, first. Eighty copies of "The Story" have been sold. Almost 30 of us have been attending the weekly group sessions on Sundays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. What a joy it is to see so many of us gathering and sharing and growing together in faith. Come and join one of the sessions, and you will taste the joy of learning and living and loving together.

We all have been talking about the need to reach out to our younger families and their children. Thankfully, our Worship Team met on the first Sunday of Advent and talked about several ways for us to be transformed to become a children-friendly worshipping community. We have decided to make an intentional endeavor to reach out and connect with younger families whose children attend our Nursery School. We talked about the possibility of offering a family-friendly worship service and fellowship during the weekend. We prayed for God's guidance to strengthen our ministry and mission to share the Good News with people, young and old. Yes, we are called to invite people to share Christ's love and make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. "Come and see!" is what we do like one of Jesus' disciples did who invited a friend of his. Believing that God loves all, I keep reaching out and welcoming them with joy and love and grace.

The 2016 Confirmation Journey has begun. The 2016 Confirmation Class will be introduced on Sunday, Dec. 20-- David, Cassie, Ellie and Addison. Keep them in your prayers, so that they may enjoy the journey and experience growth in faith. Plan to celebrate their confirmation on Sunday, June 1. During the 5-month-long journey, on top of the weekly Sunday afternoon class, they will attend regularly the Sunday worship, the Wednesday Taizé Prayer service and the youth mission activities. They will also visit other faith communities. I hope this confirmation journey will strengthen their faith and empower them to become more faithful and passionate disciples of Jesus Christ.

2016 is the year we at Fairfield Grace UMC celebrate our 60^{th} anniversary. Do you know that every 60^{th} year

2016 is the year we at Fairfield Grace UMC celebrate our 60" anniversary. Do you know that every 60" year the new life cycles begins, according to the lunar calendar? Can we take this year as an opportune time of our church history to examine our mission and ministry life and take a fresh and bold step for the mission and ministry of Christ? According to the Chinese lunar calendar, this is the year of the monkey, whose personalities are quick-witted, frank, optimistic, ambitious and adventurous. I hope we, fully equipped to serve by the grace of God, continue to enjoy carrying out the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ with a sense of playfulness, optimism, ambition and adventure. Is it not a blessing for us to be called for this awesome task? We are a blessed people of God ready to enjoy the mission and ministry for the transformation of the world. Sunday, June 19, 2016, has been set as our Anniversary Sunday. Mark it on your calendar. We continue worshipping, praying, studying "The Story," fellowshipping and reaching out as disciples of Jesus Christ. May we all be strengthened in body, mind and spirit.

Blessings,

Kun Sam, your partner in ministry and mission



Fairfield Grace Families In Our Prayers

Week of:

December 6: Patricia Altieri, Amoo family and Anderson family

December 13: Nancy Armour, Barbara Bacarella and Jean Bartholomew

December 20: Bartlett family, Bedson family and Beriguete family
December 27: Angel Bermudez, Bissell family and Blackburn family
January 3: Blackfield family, Block family and Bowcock family

January 10: Betty Brandt, Wayne Brown and Bob Butler

January 17: Marge Campbell, Florence Catone and Cho family January 24: Chun family, Ruth Citarella and Dottie Connelly January 31: Conroy family, Daeschner family and Daigle family

Ushers

Fellowship Hour

December Team #1 ~ Ed Stock

January Team #2 ~ Joe Sugrue

December: Susannas January: Faith Circle

Bob Watson

Nancy Hauser

Worship Leaders

Art Thomas

Jim/Myra Lubeck

Kim Peters

Charlie Morris

Shelia Muscott

Matt Rush

Ed stock

Joe Sugrue

Greg Tanno

December 27:

Dennis Robb

January 3:

December 6:

December 20:

Judy Meyer

Youth

January 10 January 17

Jill Bowcock

December: Susannas

January 24

Paul Meyer

January: Membership

Greeters

January 31

Bob Price

Scripture Readings for December, 2015 and January, 2016

| <u>Date</u> | Reading | Featured Chapter from The Story |
|-------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Dec 6 | Ruth 1-4 | 9 - The Faith of a Foreign Woman |
| Dec 13 | Zephaniah 3:14-20, Philippians 4:4-7 | |
| | Luke 3: 7-18 | |
| Dec 20 | Micah 5:2-5a, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45 | |
| Dec 24 | Isaiah 9:2-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-20 | |
| Dec 27 | 1 Samuel 1-4, 8-13, 15 | 10 -Standing Tall, Falling Hard |
| Jan 3 | 1 Samuel 16-18, 24, 31, 2 Samuel 6, 22, | 11-From Shepherd to King |
| | 1 Chronicles 17, Psalm 59 | |
| Jan 10 | 2 Samuel 11-12, 18-19, | 12-The Trials of a King |
| | 1 Chronicles 22, 29, Psalms 23, 32, 51 | |
| Jan 17 | 1 Kings 1-8, 10-11, 2 Chronicles 5-7, | 13-The King Who Had It All |
| | Proverbs 1-3, 6, 20-21 | |
| Jan 24 | 1 Kings 12-16 | 14 -A Kingdom Torn in Two |
| Jan 31 | 1 Kings 17-19, 2 Kings 2, 4, 6, | 15-God's Messengers |
| | Hosea 4-5, 8-9, 14, Amos 1, 3-5, 9 | |

December Birthdays

| 02 | Beverly Wenz | 17 | Warren Rozelle | 27 | Dat Vachurah |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------------|----|------------------|
| 05 | Dottie Connelly | 21 | Denise Tanno | 27 | Pat Vosburgh |
| 05 | Cassie Llewellyn | | Kathy Lopes | 29 | Cathy Anderson |
| | • | 24 | , · · | 29 | Seth Blumenstock |
| 06 | Michael McGrath | 26 | Fredene Daeschner | 29 | Brenna Conroy |
| 07 | Myra Lubeck | 26 | Mattias Gabriel Pennell | | • |
| 08 | Craig Leppla | 26 | Henry Bissell | 29 | Jim Lubeck |
| | 0 11 | | • | 29 | Dennis Robb |
| 10 | Shelley Llewellyn | 26 | Mary Michelson | 30 | Emma Gilbert |
| 12 | Helen French | 27 | Joe Sugrue | 30 | Lilling Gilbert |

January Birthdays

| 05 | Mary Bedson | 16 | Frank Targowski |
|----|------------------|----|---------------------|
| 06 | Arnie Larsen | 21 | Callie Conroy |
| 80 | Jeff Yi | 22 | Leah Larsen |
| 09 | Sung Keun Chun | 24 | Jim Blackburn |
| 09 | Zachary Nagy | 25 | Eunsik Park |
| 11 | Jean Stevens | 26 | Edward Stock |
| 12 | Franklyn MacLean | 26 | Lindsay Wood |
| 14 | Carson Rush | 27 | Corey Anderson |
| 18 | Beverly Plucker | 28 | Dan Aldrich |
| | | | |

December Anniversaries

January Anniversaries

| Dec 21 | Diana & Phil Stein | 58 yrs | Jan 4 | Alexandra & Felix Beriguete | 18 yrs |
|--------|--------------------------|--------|-------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Dec26 | Aldora & Frank Targowski | 52 yrs | | | |
| Dec 27 | Denise & Greg Tanno | 28 yrs | | | |



Still Have Holiday Shopping Left?



Christmas gifts are a great opportunity to help Fairfield Grace at NO EXTRA COST TO YOU!



- ♦ Still don't know what to get for your niece or nephew? How about a gift card to the GAP? You can buy a \$25 gift card to the GAP —you do not pay anything extra—and Fairfield Grace will receive 14% (\$3.50). It is that easy.
- How about something for your friend who loves to read? You can buy a gift card to Barnes and Noble for \$10—you do not pay anything extra—and Fairfield Grace will receive 8%.
- Do you need a new outfit to wear to a Holiday event? Buy a gift card to Macy's instead of paying with your credit card at the store and Fairfield Grace will receive 10%.
- ♦ Planning a big family meal for a gathering over Christmas and New Year's? You can buy gift cards to **Stop and Shop**, **Shop Rite—even Target**—and use them when you are shopping for Holiday dinners or decorations. Fairfield Grace will receive a percentage of the gift cards that you purchase.

Maybe you have heard about this program called SCRIPPS that Martha Wood has been promoting - but aren't sure how you can participate?

This Sunday, Martha Wood will be at church after the Service to explain the program, how easy it is, answer any questions you may have and get you started! Walmart

Here is how it works:

You fill out a form to request gift card(s), Martha will have these forms available for you after the Service on Sunday. You choose the retailer and the amount of the gift card. You give Martha a check with the form for the exact amount of gift cards you are buying, nothing extra. If you fill it out Sunday, you will have the gift cards in your hand by the next Sunday. That is all you need to do.

This list of retailers from which you can choose is 3 pages long! Martha will have copies of the list....there is a list on the hallway bulletin board....stop by the office and pick up a list, as well.

We are hoping that church members will use this opportunity to make their gifts really count this season. You can support your church financially and not have to spend anything extra. Please, give it a try!

See how easy it is and watch how it will make a difference to our church finances.



SUSANNA'S CIRCLE

LADIES:

The Susanna Circle met on Wednesday, November 18, for lunch and to help with the Holiday Fair for the 22nd. There were only a few of us but we had a good time and did some pricing for the Fair. We also discussed the Susanna's Christmas Party for December 16th and decided not to do grab bags (all that chocolate!!!) but rather a donation to the Church or a particular mission fund. We will also sign Christmas cards for shut-ins, either home or nursing home; and something else fun!

Our January meeting - weather permitting - will be a "Blahs" lunch after Church on January 17, 2016 at the Bear and Grill on Black Rock Turnpike.

It would be great to see many more ladies at our meetings; third Wednesdays at noon; to have lunch, great fellowship and join the decision making. Please put these dates on your calendars.

If you are hesitant about coming to the meetings, please contact
Georgina Holdsworth or Nancy Hauser at Church for more information.
Please also remember that these meetings are open to ALL ladies of the Church.



The New York Annual Conference through the grace of God embodies a community of hope, building up a healthy body of Christ, of heart-wa United Methodists in mission for the transformation of the world Mission statement of the New York Annual Conference Save These Dates!

2016 District Resource Days

Sunday, January 31 Westport UMC 49 Weston Road, Westport, CT 06880 2:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, February 6 Woodbury UMC 4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

All United Methodists in the Connecticut District are invited to our 2016 District Resource Days. Come and learn at workshops focusing on Worship besign, Technology in Worship, Godly Play, Older Adult Ministries, Disaster Preparation and HUB Churches, Staff Parish Relations, Trustees, Church Finance, Facebook, Immigration and Incarceration, Prayer, and "Telling Our Story: Celebrating 250 Years of Methodism." Among our leaders are Carol Downs, Jorge Varas, Linda Clapp, Jim Stinson, Joseph Ewoodzie, John Parille, Steven Lee, T.J. Mills, Jerry Eyster, Geoff Fowler, and our District Superintendent Ken Keiffer.

Mark these dates on your calendar now, and watch for more details in the January newsletter.





HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AT FAIRFIELD GRACE





Third Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Service

with Contemporary Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:00 am Service with Nativity Pageant

Thursday, December 24

Christmas Eve 5:00 pm Family Service 10:00 pm Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 27

Carols and Lessons

10:00 am Service along with *The Story*







Santa is coming to Fairfield Grace on December 12!

It's that time again; time to start "Making a list, and checking it twice!" Santa will be coming to Fairfield Grace on **December 12** for our Annual Breakfast with Santa from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The morning will feature our usual hearty breakfast including pancakes, eggs and sausage, craft activities and plenty of fellowship.

Eating Breakfast with Santa is a great way for the whole family to get in the Christmas spirit and enjoy this magical time! Throughout the morning, Santa will be sitting in his usual rocking chair ready to visit with the children and hear their special requests. Bring your cameras along to capture these memorable moments!

Admission is free! Fairfield-Grace will be collecting donations of new, unwrapped toys to brighten the holiday for needy children and monetary donations to help with the church's outreach programs.

We need your help to make Breakfast with Santa a success! We are seeking volunteers to assist with cooking and serving breakfast, facilitating craft activities, welcoming families, and clean up. Please contact Laura Sherwood to volunteer (203-292-7241, lirauscher@yahoo.com).

We hope you can join us on December 12!





Annual Christmas Pageant—"The Birth of Jesus" Sunday, Dec 20 at the 10am Worship Service

The Sunday School students have been rehearsing and preparing this Special presentation for the congregation. The schedule is as follows:

12/6 - Hand out Costumes and Rehearsal (During Sunday School)

12/13 - Dress Rehearsal (After church 11am-12pm)

12/20 - Pageant Day (Arrive at 9:30am dressed and ready to go)

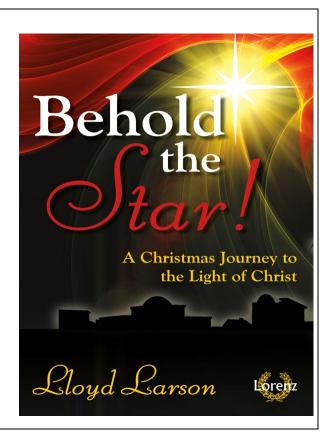
We are looking forward to sharing the story of "The Birth of Jesus" with our Congregation.

Fairfield Grace's **Christmas Cantata**

"Behold the Star!"

w/choir & orchestra

Sunday, Dec 13 10:00am



POINSETTIAS

It's time to order Poinsettias that will adorn our Christmas Eve Altar. Prices remain the same this year, \$9.50 for either red or white. Order envelopes are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary or at the church

office. Order deadline is December 15th.

Your poinsettia(s) may be taken home after the Christmas Eve services on

December 24.



A special Blue Christmas Taizé Service will be held on **Wednesday, December 23** at 12:30 pm and at 5:30 pm.

Come and Rest. Come and Listen. Come and Praise. Come and Give Thanks. Come to Taizé Service.



Hosted a luncheon for residents of Parish Court



FAIRFIELD GRACE IN ACTION

YOUTH GROUP ADVENTURE THIS NOVEMBER



Zip Lining at the
Adventure Park at
Discovery Museum



CONSECRATION SUNDAY November 22, 2015







THANKSGIVING, 2015





TRUNK OR TREAT
October 30

















Sleeves up. Hearts open. All in.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Fairfield Grace Church

Thursday, December 17 1:00—6:45

Please consider donating!



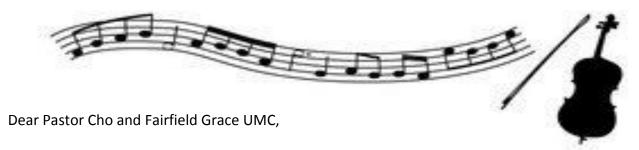
Holiday Gift Fair Thank you!

To Our Congregation and All Our Friends: A Heartfelt Thank You!! Our Holiday Gift Fair was a huge success for our Church and our community. All your support, work and overwhelming generosity was gratefully appreciated. It brought out the very best showing GoodWill to all our neighbors, businesses, and friends. I would like to personally Thank:

Shop-Rite, Stop and Shop in Shelton, Home Depot., Lupe's Pharmacy, Billy's Bakery, Fine Arts Beauty Salon, NAPA Car Store, SunnyDaes Ice Cream, Gamin's Garden Center, Joe's American Restaurant. As well as, United Methodist Men (United Muscle Men!), Susanna's Circle (Ladies Who Meet The Challenge!), Eloy (our wonderful maintenance man), Channel 8, Channel 12, WICC, Connecticut Post, everyone who donated to Silent Auction, all the great vendors, Grandmas and Grandpas (Our Singing Performers), Kristine Joukhadar (Our piano player), Georgina Holdsworth (confidant and friend), Peter Trifiatis (Floor planner), Jennifer Bissell (former Fair Coordinator), Holly Hart (Christmas Tree Decorator and friend), Dennis Robb and Brian Bissell (shakers and movers!), Youth Group (well done!), Marge Hood (chief cook and soup maker), Anne Regan (Church Secretary and all around good sport), Molly Hauser (my Special Niece).

Any one forgotten??? I'm sorry!!

God Bless You All - Nancy Hauser



Music for Youth Ensemble Clubs and parents want to thank Fairfield Grace UMC for enabling a gathering of 40 student musicians and families from Fairfield, Easton, and Bridgeport to share a night of music and friendship. The beautifully warm acoustics of your worship space allowed our young musicians to create an instant world of trust and recognition of the love we had for our children and each other.

Everyone stayed to share pizza at the Fellowship Hall and made new friends with parents of our children's musical partners. The diversity of our family cultures and back grounds accentuated the unity of our shared values and efforts. It was a modest but a treasured beginning. (\$60 collected in donations, 1/2s to Music for Youth and FGUMC) I will stop by with pictures and donations.

I will send a link the Fairfield Woodwind Quartet performance on 11/27. They have a range of classical chamber music and would love to work with Jeanne Millett and hopefully contribute to your Fifth Sunday service on January, 31.

Thank you so much for sharing your beautiful house of worship.

Best, Taegun Moon 718 702 9645 mtaegun@optonline.net

The Cleanest FGUMC Kitchen

A Kitchen Clean-up team will dispose of all unmarked and/or spoiled items in the refrigerators and freezer at the end of every month.

Contact Charlene Schindler if you have any questions regarding the procedure.

Deadline for the February Issue of the Quester is Wednesday, January 20.



Please contact Meghan Tang with any questions about this event 203-767-6535

Calendar for December/January

THE STORY

Chapter 9: The Faith of a Foreign Woman

Sermon on Chapter 9 will be on 12/6

Focus: Ruth

Related Bible Text: Ruth 1-4

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Dec 2 10:10 AM Thursday, Dec 3: 6:45 PM Sunday, Dec 6: 9:00 AM All groups meet in Hood Parlor

Chapter 10: Standing Tall, Falling Hard

Sermon on Chapter 10 will be on 12/27

Focus: Saul

Related Bible Text: 1 Samuel 1-4, 8-13, 15

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Dec 9: 10:10 AM Thursday, Dec 10: 6:45 PM

Sunday, Dec 13: 9:00 AM

The Discussion topic on Dec 13 will be related to the Christmas Season and what it means to *your story*.

Wednesday, Dec 16 and 23: cancelled Thursday, Dec 17 and 24: cancelled

Sunday, Dec 20 and 27: 9:00 AM—Chapter 10

Chapter 11: From Shepherd to King

Sermon on Chapter 11 will be on 1/3

Focus: David

Related Text: 1 Samuel 16-18, 24, 31, 2 Samuel 6, 22,

1 Chronicles 17, Psalm 59

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Dec 30: 10:10 AM Thursday, Dec 31: **cancelled** Sunday, Jan 3: 9:00 AM

Chapter 12: The Trials of a King

Sermon on Chapter 12 will be on 1/10

Focus: David

Related Bible Text: 2 Samuel 11-12, 18-19,1 Chronicles

22, 29

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Jan 6: 10:10 AM Thursday, Jan 7: 6:45 PM Sunday, Jan 10: 9:00 AM <u>Chapter 13:</u> The King Who Had it All Sermon on Chapter 13 will be on 1/17

Focus: Solomon

Related Bible Text: Psalms 23, 32, 51, 1 Kings 1-8, 10-11,

2 Chronicles 5-7, Proverbs 1-3, 6, 20-21

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Jan 13: 10:10 AM Thursday, Jan 14: 6:45 PM Sunday, Jan 17: 9:00 AM

Chapter 14: A Kingdom Torn in Two

Sermon on Chapter 14 will be on 1/24

<u>Focus</u>: Rehoboam/Jeroboam <u>Related Text:</u> 1 Kings 12-16

Discussion Sessions:

Wednesday, Jan 20: 10:10 AM Thursday, Jan 21: 6:45 PM Sunday, Jan 24: 9:00 AM

Chapter 15: God's Messengers

Sermon on Chapter 15 will be on 1/31

Focus: Prophets

Related Text: 1 Kings 17-19, 2 Kings 2, 4, 6, Hosea 4-5,

8-9, 14,Amos 1, 3-5, 9 **Discussion Sessions:**

Wednesday, Jan 27: 10:10 AM

Thursday, Jan 28: 6:45 PM

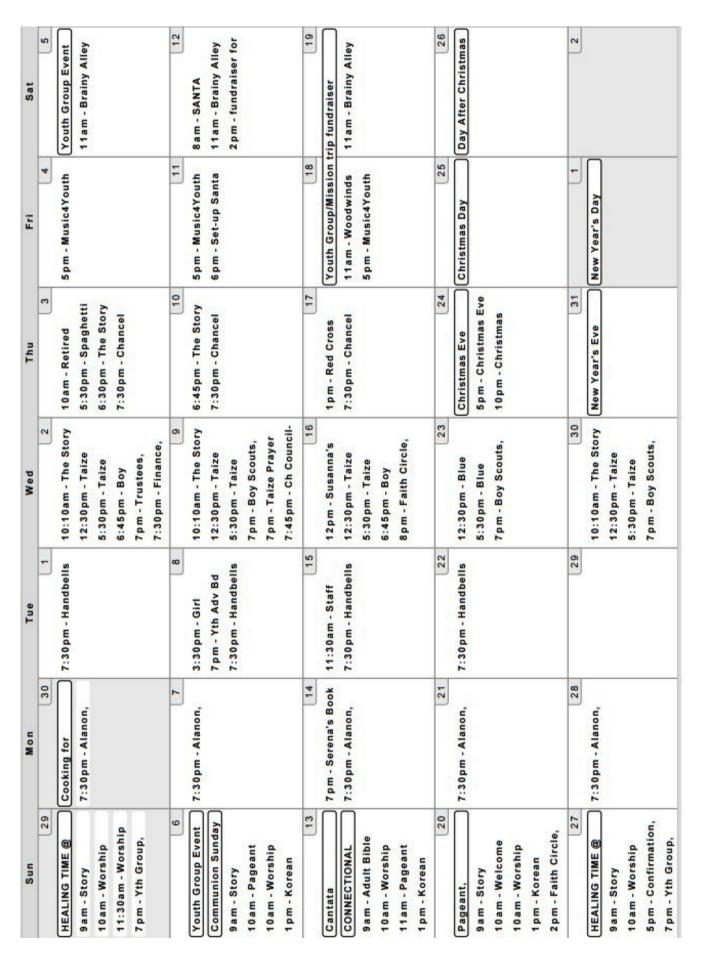
Sunday, Jan 31: 9:00 AM





(A) Fairfield grace











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|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | - | 2 |
| | | | | | New Year's Day | |
| 6 | 4 | 9 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 6 |
| Communion Sunday | 7:30pm - Alanon, | 7:30pm - Handbells | 10:10am - The Story | 9am - MNS, Hood | 5pm - Music4Youth | |
| 9am - Story | | | 12:30pm - Taize | 10am - Retired | | |
| 10am - Worship | | | 5:30pm - Taize | 6:45pm - The Story | | |
| 11:30am - Faith | | | 6:45pm - Boy | 7:30pm - Chancel | | |
| 1pm - Korean | | | 7pm - Trustees, | | | |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| CONNECTIONAL | 7 pm - MNS Board | 7 pm - Yth Adv Bd | 10:10am - The Story | 6:45pm - The Story | 5pm - Music4Youth | |
| Youth Service | 7 pm - Serena's Book | 7:30pm - Handbells | 12:30pm - Taize | 7:30pm - Chancel | | |
| 9am - Story | 7:30pm - Alanon, | | 5:30pm - Taize | | | |
| 10am - Worship | | | 7 pm - Boy Scouts, | | | |
| 11:30am - Youth | | | 7pm - Taize Prayer | | | |
| 1pm - Korean | | | 7:45pm - Ch Council- | | | |
| 11 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 9am - Story | Martin Luther King | 7:30pm - Handbells | 10:10am - The Story | 9:30am - Staff Mtg, | 5pm - Music4Youth | 10:30am - Brainy |
| 10am - Worship | 7:30pm - Alanon, | | 12pm - Susanna's | 6:45pm - The Story | | |
| 1pm - Korean | | | 12:30pm - Taize | 7:30pm - Chancel | | |
| 2pm - Faith Circle, | | | 5:30pm - Taize | | | |
| 5pm - Confirmation | | | 6:45pm - Boy | | | |
| 7pm - Yth Group, | | | 8pm - Faith Circle, | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 9am - Story | Cooking for | 7:30pm - Handbells | 10:10am - The Story | 6:45pm - The Story | 5pm - Music4Youth | 10:30am - Brainy |
| 10am - Worship | 7:30pm - Alanon, | | 12:30pm - Taize | 7:30pm - Chancel | | |
| 11am - Reconciling | | | 5:30pm - Taize | | | |
| 1pm - Korean | | | 7pm - Boy Scouts, | | | |
| 31 | - | 2 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 9 |
| HEALING TIME @ | 7:30pm - Alanon, | 3:30pm - Girl | 10:10am - The Story | 10am - Retired | | |
| 9am - Story | | 7:30pm - Handbells | 12:30pm - Taize | 6:45pm - The Story | | |
| 10am - Worship | | | 5:30pm - Taize | 7:30pm - Chancel | | |
| 1pm - Korean | | | 6:45pm - Boy | | | |
| 2pm - District | | | 7pm - Trustees, | | | |
| 2 pm - Faith Circle. | | | 7:30pm - Finance, | | | |