

# Christogram

## Thoughts from the Pastor

August 2004  
Volume 2, Issue 7

*Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?"*

*Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know Him and have seen Him."*

*Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."*

*Jesus answered: "Don't you know Me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? The words I say to you are not just my own. Rather, it is the Father living in Me, who is doing His work. Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. . . ."*

John 14:5-11a

Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

**vision:** a supernatural appearance that conveys a revelation: a manifestation to the senses of something immaterial

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

God's grace, mercy and peace to all of you in name of the only Savior of mankind, the Lord Jesus Christ.

As we saw a couple of weeks ago, St. Paul, in the fourth chapter of his letter to the Christians in Ephesus describes the unity that is in the body of Christ and how the individual Christian is to live as part of the unified body of Christ. In verses 4 and 5 he lays out the vision, if you will, that unifies the body and inspires its service. St. Paul writes: *There is one body and one Spirit – just as you were called to one hope when you were called – one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

In response to this, I have been asked what my vision is for this congregation. I have prayed about this for many months and my answer is two-fold.

First and foremost, the vision for this congregation must begin in the only place it can begin for any part of the body of Christ, with God's vision for His people. It is what St. Paul referred to in Ephesians 4 and it is what Jesus Himself talks about in John 14 as He comforts His disciples in light of His impending crucifixion. He says: *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."* When Philip asks Jesus to show them the Father, Jesus' says: *"Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father."* Jesus is the supernatural appearance of God in the very natural package of flesh and bone. He is the manifestation to the senses of the immaterial reality that salvation is given by the grace of God the Father alone as He sees fit. Jesus is Messiah, the ONLY Messiah. He is the "one Lord" written of by St. Paul in Ephesians and He is the only source of life and message for Paul to the world. Therefore, Jesus is the vision for this congregation and for all Christians throughout time.

In light of that, my vision for Concordia Lutheran Church is that this part of the body of Christ truly come to accept and understand that there is no other way to heaven, there is no other path to God, there is no other faith that saves, than Jesus Christ. Then, that this part of the body of Christ begin to reach out to this community with that eternal life-giving message, understanding that all Christians have been called by God to be disciples by making disciples. Finally, that all of the ministries and work of Concordia Lutheran Church may be unified under this vision and directed by this truth. That is the reason for the summer sermon series on Ephesians and for the forthcoming events that will directly focus on outreach discipleship.

Therefore, pray! Pray that the Lord of the Church blesses us to this end and that He grants to us His Holy Spirit to guide and direct our ways and efforts. Pray that we, as redeemed children of God, my find the same joy in telling others about Jesus that I saw in the young people of Ongoing Ambassadors for Christ who visited and canvassed our community on our behalf. Pray! God bless you all.

In Christ's Service  
Pastor Scott

# Words from Ellie Bach

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

John 14:6

August '04

Hello friends,

What a great, solid verse God has given us in Scripture. I was thinking about this verse the other day and how important it is in our society today. We live in a world where everything is relative. Things are only sometimes true or right. Other times, they just don't apply. Or, maybe "something is true for you...but that doesn't make it true for me." "And you know, as long as they serve their god with all their heart, they will get to heaven just like us." "Why don't you just pick a faith that suits you the best; you'll be fine. Everyone serves the same god; he just has different names." "You can't force your God on me; it's all the same anyway." "How dare you claim to have the only way to heaven." I tell you what folks, in a world where people think everything is gray and relative, and that there are choices for everything, I am so thankful that we have the solid truth to stand on.



I know it is much more comfortable to say that everyone is okay where they are at. And as long as they go to some kind of church every once in awhile, they are fine. But Scripture is very clear about one thing: There is only ONE God. In Ephesians 4 it says, "...One LORD, One faith, One baptism; One God and Father of all." This verse and the one above do not leave us much room to wiggle on how salvation is attained. Jesus is the only way to heaven. That doesn't make us close minded; it makes us absolutely certain of our eternity. It is not the Pastor or the synod that comes up with a statement like that. It is Scripture. Many religions in the world say that their god is the same as the Christian God. This is simply not true. Where other gods call for killing and hating of other religions, ours calls for love, forgiveness, and evangelism. When other gods ask for a certain amount of goodness or rule following, ours gave us forgiveness for our shortcomings. When other gods demand payment for their sins, our God gave us Jesus.

I am so thankful that I can stand where I am and say that Jesus is my Savior, and proclaim without a doubt that my eternity is secure because of His sacrifice for me. In a world that demands freedom for all, let us not forget the freedom that has been won for us. We are given both the freedom and the responsibility to tell others the way to heaven—the ONE WAY. Do not be afraid to speak this truth. Because that is what it is—Truth; God's truth.

With a truth like this in our possession, how is it that we can get so distracted? What is it about society that makes being politically correct more appealing than living in the truth that comes directly from God? And why is it that we are often focused on the things we feel are wrong or not the way they should be, instead of on the love and salvation Jesus gives us through His sacrifice?

Our church has been struggling for several months now with issues that would take up more room than I'm given in this Christogram. My plea is that we could all take a step back and regain our focus. If every person in this church would take a step outside and look in, I think they would see that we have lost sight of the cross. Some are focused on the changes that have taken place in the last two years that they don't like. Some are focused on how negative things seem to be. And some are focused on the one solution they think will make all our problems go away. Has anyone noticed what's missing here? In all the concerns that have been brought up, addressed, and worked on, none of them involve Jesus. In Matthew 18:20 "Where two or more are gathered in My Name, there I am among them." What has happened to the cross? While Satan is distracting us with the shortcomings and downfalls around us, Jesus is still working here among us. People are joining the church. We have visitors almost every Sunday. Fellow believers are being baptized. Over 70 children heard the word of God during VBS this past month. God is at work in this church. We just sometimes forget to look for Him.

We have been given the greatest gift ever—Jesus Christ. He promises never to leave us. He promises to give us exactly what we need when we need it. And He promises to love us despite ourselves. Do we think He has forgotten our little church here? Trust in the God we serve. Live in the truth of His love and salvation. And don't be afraid to claim that truth, both in our church lives and in our lives outside of these four walls. Don't forget that God sees us. And He will mold us, shape us, and moves us at the right time. God is here friends. We need to take a stand and decide—each one for themselves—that we will not be destroyed by Satan. We have to work together, in unity, faith, truth and love. Our idea of the right solution may not be the right solution. But there is Someone who knows what the right solution is, and He will not leave us to fall apart.

I pray this month that the Truth of Jesus burns inside of you like a blazing fire. May it be so strong that we must speak of it or we will not survive, just like the prophet Jeremiah. Use this gift of truth; don't be afraid. And know that God is right beside you. May it always be in your heart and on your mind. Peace to all of you.

## Tenets, Tidbits, and Trails..... The Elder's report

Greetings in the name of Jesus our Salvation,

"If you hold to my teaching you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free...Everyone who sins is a slave to sin...but if the son sets you free you will be free indeed." John 8:31-36 (Excerpts)

"God gives us the freedom to be fully human – more than fully human, we have the opportunity and, by the Spirit's power, the ability to live like the children of God. What does that look like?... Our culture is infatuated with freedom...and we see the dehumanizing results all around us. We see the bondage and the damage. Often Christians try to leash freedom, but our true calling is to be the beacon of real human freedom. Ours is the glorious freedom of the children of God...won for us on the cross – a gift beyond measure." Jim Tonkowich

What is freedom? This seems to be a good time to ask that question both because in July we celebrated Independence Day, and because we have National Elections in three months. To some freedom means they can do whatever they want by right, whether with their bodies or socially. "It's a free country; I can say what I want!"

According to Jesus though, they are not free but instead are slaves, to sin. And what are we slaves to? Work, the clock, a bed, gossip, sex....? It is an endless list, and everyone in our humanness is a slave to one or more things, and the really tragic thing is that by nature we want to be slaves to them for whatever gratification we receive.

Yet even though we have been enslaved, through Christ we have been set free! It was no easy thing for Christ to set us free and it is often no easy thing to be free, that siren call from satan tries to pull us back. Never the less, Jesus has already won the victory, we know the TRUTH! We are FREE indeed!

We know we are free, but does anyone else? In society, going with the flow, means draining down into the dungeons. So we must fight against the flow. Stand out, be counted, if only as a power of one, because God is surely there.

Freedom as the saying goes isn't free. The Son of God died for our eternal freedom. To gain and maintain freedom for this great country many sons and daughters have also died. With these freedoms come responsibilities. We are required to live as followers of the Christ every day. We should also vote as followers of the Christ for those imperfect people who never the less are the best available examples of Christ for public office.

May God bless this country, town and congregation.  
May He also bless Pastor Herbert.

Brian Weerts

# VBS Highlights



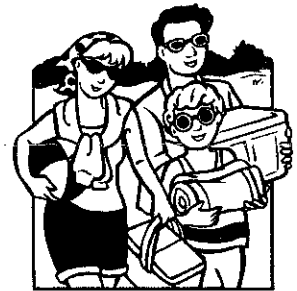
# A Huge Thank You

We couldn't begin to thank all of you enough for your help with VBS. You all deserve a pat on the back! For those who weren't able to be involved with VBS we had over 70 children come to Concordia to hear the Good News that Jesus loves them and died for them and is now preparing a place for them with Him in heaven. It was an awesome week filled with God's presence and Spirit. Without all who faithfully help here at the church, most of the programs would not exist. Sometimes it might feel like a thankless job, but your sacrifice before the Lord is known to Him and evident of all. Your dedication makes Concordia Lutheran a ministry to others in the community and conveys the love of Christ. Thank you!

*[If you know of someone who should be mentioned in our "Thanks" section, please contact the church office. This is a great way to honor God's servants, help others notice the good works of their brothers and sisters in Christ so they'll seek them out to thank them, and to give God glory by honoring His people.]*

## **CHURCH PICNIC**

Mark your calendars. August 29<sup>th</sup> will be our Outdoor Worship and Church picnic @ Elk Park, just west of the library on Lincoln. Worship will be at 10AM with the picnic following. Hamburgers & hotdogs will be provided. If you want to bring your own meat, we will throw it on the grill. Bring a blanket or chairs and a salad or dessert. See you all there.



## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

Mount Olive Lutheran Church, Aurora, Colorado is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a series of weekend worship services. These services will take place on Saturday evening at 5pm and Sunday morning at 8 and 10:45 am.

August 7-8: Commemorating the first decade (1964-1974) Rev. Virgil Schuelein

September 11-12: Commemorating the second decade (1974-1984) Rev. James Brockmann

October 2-3: Commemorating the third decade (1984-1994) Rev. Frank Winter

November 6-7: Commemorating the fourth decade (1994-2004)

Rev. Dr. Paul L. Maier

Seminar on Christianity & Archeology Saturday, Nov. 6 1-3:30 PM

We welcome you to join us in thanking and praising the Lord for "40 Years of Grace" by attending any of the above events. For future information see [www.mtoliveluth.org](http://www.mtoliveluth.org) or call 303.755.9123

# Bible Puzzle

Can you find the names of 16 books from the Bible in the paragraph below without the aid of your Bible?

I once made the remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu; kept people looking so hard for facts... and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books were not capitalized. But the truth finally struck home to numbers of our readers. To others it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of them and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax, now for there really are sixteen names of books of the Bible in this paragraph.

## Received via email in the church office: Just for Giggles

Ya, shure, ya betcha. Dis is da latest air service to sprout up in Minnesnowta . . . also serving Visconsin, Nort Dakota, and Moontana . . . any maybe Calivornia. Try it, yooll like it!!

### LUTHERAN AIRLINES, INC.

If your are traveling soon, consider Lutheran Air, the no-frills airline. You're all in the same boat on Lutheran Air, where flying is an uplifting experience. There is no First Class on any Lutheran Air flight. Meals are potluck. Rows 1-6, bring rolls, 7-15 bring a salad, 16-21 a main dish, and 22-30 a dessert. Basses and tenors please sit in the rear of the aircraft. Everyone is responsible for his or her own baggage. All fares are a freewill offering and the plane will not land until the budget is met. Pay attention to your flight attendant, who will acquaint you with the safety system aboard this Lutheran Air 599. Okay then, listen up: I'm only gonna say this once. In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, I am frankly going to be real surprised and so will Captain Olson because we fly right around 2000 feet, so loss of cabin pressure would probably indicate the Second Coming or something of that nature, and I wouldn't bother with those little masks on the rubber tubes. You're gonna have bigger things to worry about than that. Just stuff those back up in their little holes. Probably the masks fell out because of turbulence which, to be hones with you, we're going to have quite a bit of at 2000 feet . . . sort of like driving across a plowed field, but after a while you get used to it. In the event of a water landing, I'd say forget it. Start saying the Lord's Prayer and just hope you get to the part about forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us, which some people say trespass against us, which isn't right, but what can you do? the use of cell phones on the plane is strictly forbidden, not because they may interfere with the plane's navigational system, which is seat of the pants all the way . . . no, it's because cell phones are a pain in the wazoo and if God meant you to use a cell phone, He would have put your mouth on the side of your head. We're going to start lunch right about noon and it 's buffet style with the coffee pot up front. Then we'll have the hymn sing . . . hymnals in the seat pocket in front of you. Don't take yours with you when you go or I am going to be real upset and I am not kidding!

Right now I'll say Grace: "God is Great and God is good and we thank Him for the food; Father, Son and Holy Ghost, may we land in Duluth or at least pretty close. Amen."

# Conversations of Grace October 29-30, 2004 Denver

"...Let your conversations be always full of grace..." Colossians 4:2-6

## Featured Speakers

REV. DR. PAUL FYNN

*President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ghana*

Pastor Fynn will preach with power at the closing Reformation Service. His international renown was recently demonstrated at the recent LCMS Convention. Hearing of his selection for this conference, Rev. Robert Roegner, Director of LCMS World Missions said, "I couldn't agree more with your selection of Paul Fynn . . . you will be blessed

REV. DR. PAUL MUELLER

*Director, Oswald Hoffmann School of Christian Outreach, St. Paul, MN*

Dr. Mueller will present the keynote Saturday morning . He will be sharing recent research on the topic, "The Unchurched: Who in the World Do They Think They Are?", to will help us understand the unchurched so that we can be more effective in reaching out to them with the Gospel

REV. LARRY MERINO

*Pastor, New Life Lutheran Church, Ft. Wayne, IN*

Pastor Merino spent most of his life as a gypsy. Contrary to popular understanding "gypsies" are an ethnic group and not simply a lifestyle. Larry and his family engaged in a culture of fortune telling and other ventures, a seemingly completely LOST CAUSE, until a Lutheran girl shared her faith. Now as an LCMS pastor, he reminds us that with the Holy Spirit's power, there is no such thing as a lost cause.

Today Merino serves as pastor of New Life Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne where the goal is to be a church for "all nations." The city is a site for refugee placement, and the church has become home to Gypsies, Burmese, Hispanics and others. The church seeks to bring unreached peoples to Christ, to develop them as leaders and equip them to plant churches. Leadership training has helped members carry on the ministry as Merino traveled to other parts of the country and Eastern Europe to consult in Gypsy ministry.

(Adapted from "One People, Many Faces." NA Missions-LCMS.)

### **WORKSHOPS**

**SW - Assimilating Visitors and New Members** *Workshop Sessions 2,3*

*Sandy Wendelin, Director of Assimilation and Small Groups*

*Bethlehem Lutheran Church Lakewood, CO*

**CR - Backyard Missions: Sharing Christ** *Workshop Sessions 3,4*

**In Daily Life**

*Cathy Rossilli*

*Immanuel Lutheran Church Rifle, CO*

**HP - Discovering the Holy Spirit's Story** *Workshop Sessions 3 and 4*

**in Your Life**

*Rev. Howard Patton*

*President Emeritus, Kansas District-LCMS Angel Fire, NM*

**EK -How to Turn Around Your Church** *Workshop Sessions 2,3*

*Rev. Ed Krueger*

*Assistant to the President - Mission, CA-NV-HA District-LCMS Livermore, CA*



# AUGUST

Hello Youth,

I hope this finds you doing well and still enjoying your summer. It's coming down to the final days, but there is still time for plenty of fun. Here's what's up for the month of August:

- The trip to the Youth Gathering in Orlando was fantabulous!! In three years we'll plan to go again, so if you're still in Sr. high...get ready for more fun!
- August 15<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm we will be having our "THANK YOU" DINNER for the congregation for all the fundraising help they did to get us to Florida. Make sure that those of you who went on the Orlando trip will be here this day. We will serve the people again, similar to the last dinner, and also get a chance to talk to them about all that happened on our trip. Be thinking of what you want to say, what pictures you want to show, and how you want to bring part of the gathering to them at this dinner. Joanne will be in touch with you about the details.



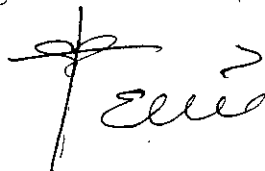
- August 22<sup>nd</sup> we are having another CAPTURE THE FLAG DAY in the park. Meet at "stinky Park" at 4:30 and we'll play a round or two. Then we'll eat, have a devo, and hopefully play a round in the dark with our glow-stick flags. This is a Jr./Sr. high combined event, so bring friends!



- And don't forget that we are still meeting on Sunday mornings. We will finish up our study on Angels this month and then hopefully start a new video series on truth in September. Come check us out...I miss your faces!

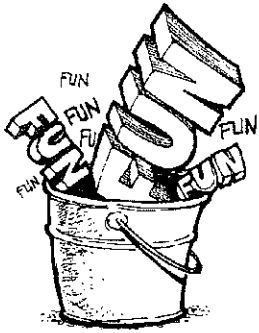
## SUNDAY MORNINGS

I know that there always seems to be a million things going on between school, summer activities, family stuff, and church stuff; but just know that you are always welcome here—for one time or twenty. There is always a place for you here. I'm so excited for the new year ahead. I know you'll do great where ever you are. Good luck to both those headed to college and to those sticking around here. God bless you in everything you do!

A handwritten signature, likely the name of the author, written in a cursive style.



# Fellowship Committee



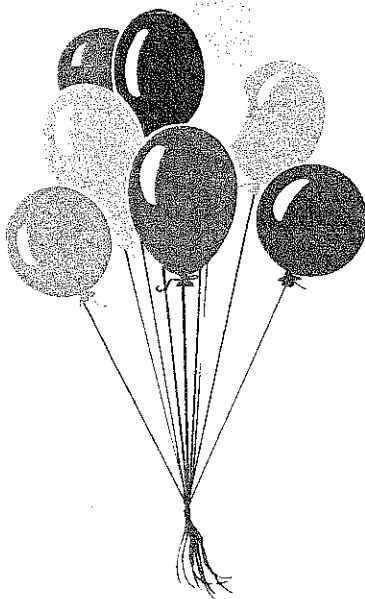
Join us on the first Wednesday of each month through the summer. We will be enjoying the time prior to "Prayer & Praise" to dine and play some fun games. Looking forward to seeing many of you there. Our next get together is August 4th. Bring a salad or dessert to share.

In His Service,  
Paul & Vicki Draper

## "PRAYER & PRAISE"



Join us on August 4th for a time to lift your hearts and voices in praise to God. Our theme this month is "FORGIVENESS". Come sing and pray with us on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 pm. This is an awesome opportunity to come together and support, encourage and lift one another up.



### August Birthdays

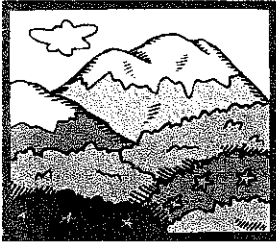
Scott Herbert - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Logan Banning - 7<sup>th</sup>  
David Kelley - 9<sup>th</sup>  
Marvin Lindsey - 12<sup>th</sup>  
Matt Warner - 12<sup>th</sup>  
Clint Hanson - 14<sup>th</sup>  
Kelly Hanson - 16<sup>th</sup>  
Graham Hogrefe - 17<sup>th</sup>  
Stephanie Kammerer - 19<sup>th</sup>  
Tucker Smalley - 20<sup>th</sup>  
Alex Palaniuk - 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Keenan Starbuck - 25<sup>th</sup>  
William McConnell - 26<sup>th</sup>  
Greg Gregory - 27<sup>th</sup>  
Carlyn Staudt - 27<sup>th</sup>  
David Cropper - 30<sup>th</sup>

### Baptisms

Ava Scarborough 17th



**Men's  
Breakfast**  
Saturday,  
August 14<sup>th</sup> 7-  
8:15am in the  
fellowship hall.  
**Bring a friend!**



## Heavenly Hikers!

The (Concordia) **Heavenly Hikers** are climbing another "14er" !!!  
We plan to hike Mt. Belford (south of Leadville).  
We will leave the church parking lot on August 15th at approximately 1 PM.  
We will hike early Monday August 16th and return by Monday evening.  
?s call Kris Tratiak 879-1510



I appreciate all of the prayers and kind cards and calls during my chemo treatments. In June the oncologist told me that the chemo had worked, and that I am in remission. I believe the prayers had a major part in my healing as well. I will be getting some "maintenance" treatments with the drug that goes after the lymphoma every three months for "a while". I have been so grateful through this whole experience of my family of faith.

Proverbs n3:5-6 kept going through my head when I had doubts. Also the phrase "let the peace of all understanding dwell in your mind and heart" helped me too. I appreciate all of the wonderful blessings I have, and I just wanted to thank you all!

With God's love, Pam Parker

### ***About Our Organization...***

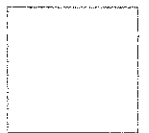
***The Christogram*** is a monthly newsletter of Concordia Lutheran Church, Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Deadline for newsletter items is the third Sunday of each month. We welcome contributions of news items, art work, and other appropriate articles. You can email us your contribution at [concordia@steamboatlutheran.org](mailto:concordia@steamboatlutheran.org)  
Editors: Pastor Scott Herbert and Rebecca Duryea

**The Weekly Bulletin** is printed on Thursday mornings. News items for the bulletin should be submitted by 9:00 am on Thursdays. Church Office: 970-879-0175 Fax: 970-871-0190

**Saturday Worship:** 5:30 PM

**Summer Sunday Worship:** 9:00 **Education Hour:** 10:15 AM

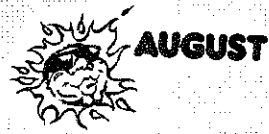
CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH  
755 CONCORDIA LANE  
STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO 80487



**Jesus Lives For:**









# August 2004



August 2004						
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September 2004						
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 1 9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour	2 OFFICE CLOSED 6:00pm Elders 7:00pm Women's AA	3 4:30pm Worship Committee	4 5:45pm Fellowship 7:00pm Prayer & Praise 	5 6:00pm Choir 	6 4:30pm Concert of Prayer	7 5:30pm Worship Service
8 9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour	9 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	10 7:00pm Church Council	11	12 6:00pm Handbell Choir 	13 10:30am Pastors Prayer Meeting	14 7:00am Men's Breakfast 10:00am Journey Practice 5:30pm Worship Service 
15 9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour 1:00pm Heavenly Hikers Leave 5:00pm "Thank You Dinner"	16 OFFICE CLOSED 5:00pm Heavenly Hikers Return 7:00pm Women's AA	17 6:00pm Board of Youth	18 August 16th - August 27th -- Pastor Scott -- Vacation		19 6:00pm Handbell Choir	20 5:30pm Worship Service
22 9:00am Sunday Worship 10:15am Education Hour 1:00pm DWCC 4:30pm Jr & Sr Youth Capture the Flag 	23 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	24 6:00pm Board of Education	25 August 16th - August 27th -- Pastor Scott -- Vacation		26	27 5:30pm Worship Service
29 FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY 10:00am Outdoor Worship 11:30am Church Picnic at Elk Park 	30 OFFICE CLOSED 7:00pm Women's AA	31				

