

Joyfully on His Journey

Greetings dear family of Good Shepherd, and any brothers and sisters in Christ reading this. Over the past month I've come to notice quite a bit how often God has blessed us with sunny days.

It's no surprise to you and I that winter is still here.

Although there can be joy that comes when there is new beautiful white snow, the days can grow cold and long.

We now have started the season of Lent, and Lent goes on for quite some time, 40 days in fact. It is not as long as winter, but it can have the same affects. A season of repentance marked by Ash Wednesday, more melancholy music, reflection on our sins, and we know that it leads up to Good Friday where it can be one of the most emotionally intense days in the worship life of a Christian.

But as I mentioned I've noticed in the middle and thick of winter, God has given us plenty of days filled with sunshine. I bring this up because although Lent is not associated with sunshine, what I do associate Lent with is a time of honesty. And when I see the sun burst through the grey overcast clouds, it strikes honesty back in to my own experience. The winter days are not going to last forever. Lent is a helpful time of the year to have in our Christian lives because it reminds us that there will be an end to our suffering and if we are willing to be honest to God about our failure and our suffering, he will remind us that it will end. One of the most common Bible verses associated with Lent is Joel 2:12-13 which says, "Even now,' declares the LORD, 'return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.' Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and he relents from sending calamity." If we only had days of praise and thanksgiving and Alleluias, we might forget that while we wait for Jesus to return God calls us back to him out of the darkness and grey clouds of our sin, by being honest and sending the light of Jesus to our lives. I hope and pray that for us at Good Shepherd we use this season of Lent not to get more down on ourselves, but instead to see it as God being honest with us about who he is. He is steadfast, even when it doesn't seem like winter or our sin and suffering is ever going to end.

God bless you this Lenten season

-Joyfully His, Pastor Jahnke



Ramblings of the Chairman

This past week while doing our devotions, Linda and I both commented on the passage for "Portals of Prayer" on Monday, February 27, 2023.

The passage is in It reads "You may say to yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your forefathers, as it is today."

This passage was written for the children of Israel, but is certainly appropriate for us today. It is really easy to think that what we have is because of what we have done. I worked for my pay check, so I deserve the things I have. This morning I went outside to remove the snow from our driveway, so we could get to Wednesday morning bible class. Not giving it much thought, I started my snowblower, cleared the driveway and then took the snow shovel and cleaned up what I missed with the blower. It's not a big, time-consuming project. I've done it many times over the years. I've never stopped to think that my ability to do this task is a gift from the Lord, plus the fact that I have the winter coat and gloves, snow blower, and the shovel to use.

What this passage confirms is that there is absolutely nothing we have that is not a gift from the Lord. Our home, our spouse, our children, our grandchildren, our car, our clothes, the heat in our home, the food in the refrigerator and pantry, the towels, the furniture and everything we have, including our lives. The thought is actually overwhelming. Nothing we have or are or will be is ours alone, they're all gifts from the Lord.

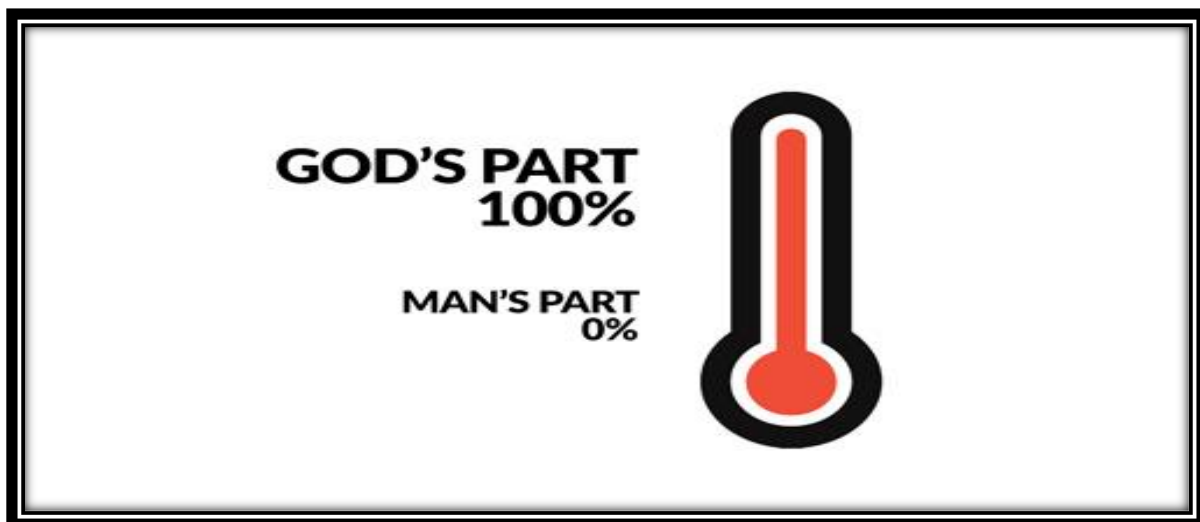
Those of you old enough, will remember the McDonalds Jingle "You deserve a break today".

I stopped to consider the significance of that statement. How many times every day do we hear the statement "you deserve" something. Of all of the gifts the Lord gives us every minute of every day, which do we really deserve. What we deserve is to suffer the consequences of our sin and our sinful nature.

Thankfully, the Lord has also taken care of that problem with the gift of his suffering and death on the cross, and then gives us the ultimate gift, eternal life as a result of his resurrection.

Let us remember what we deserve, and thank the Lord for all his gifts, every minute of every day.

Henry Huhnerkoch, Chairman



Altar Guild and LWML

We have entered the second division of the Church Year, which is the Time of Easter. The first section of this time is the season of Lent. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which was February 22 this year; the exact date depends on the date of Easter, which will be April 9th. The name "Ash Wednesday" comes from a practice that originated in the Middle Ages of ashes being sprinkled over the heads of those who came to church and went to confession.

The ashes used today come from palms that were blessed on Palm Sunday the year before. This rite and the traditional readings for the day call for an attitude of humility and repentance.

Lent consists of forty days of abstinence and fasting, not including the Sundays in between, which are not Sundays of Lent but Sundays in Lent.

The fourth Sunday is called Laetare, meaning "rejoice." This Sunday was brought about to relieve some of the rigors of observing the Lenten fast, it can be considered the anticipation of the joy of Easter. This season continues until the eve of Palm Sunday.

Please Thank Evelyn/Elaine Beulke and Rod and Jan Seward for their faithful care of the Altar in January and February. Our March caregivers will be Arnie/Marian Brelje and Kathy Niewind.

We will NOT have flowers during the time of Lent. As time gets closer, we will take flower orders for the Easter Victory Garden.

Amory Anderson



"The LWML Prayer Service this year is **MY SOUL REJOICES** written by Rev. Dr. Mitchel Schuessler.



All ladies of our congregation are invited to join us **Monday, March 20, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.** for a time of prayer, singing and fellowship around God's Word.

You don't need to be an LWML member to come.

We have also invited ladies of the other LWML societies in our Alexandria Zone. We hope and pray that you will consider joining us and maybe even bringing a friend along as well.

God's blessings,
Barb Schuneman

Fun in the Sun with our Snow Birds



We are definitely enjoying our warm winter! Looks like Alexandria is getting more



snow this week.

We went to a Minnesota Twins game for Gene's birthday on Feb 25th (and thanks for the birthday card!). That was fun, the Twins beat the Tampa Bay Rays. We've had some company, and went to see Fiddler on the Roof at the Barbara B Mann theatre here in Fort Myers. Pictures from both

events are attached.

Fort Myers continues to rebuild since the hurricane. Most beaches are still closed, but a few have reopened. We continue to support local small businesses as they reopen...but it's going to take a long, long time for things to feel normal again.

We are associate members at Zion LCMS here in Fort Myers. Zion was the host for Lutheran Early Response Teams, who sent wonderful groups of people from all over the U.S. to assist with hurricane clean up until December. New groups came each week, and Zion provided places to sleep, showers, laundry facility and meals to those workers. Gene and I helped with the evening meal prep, service and clean up. It was a wonderful, loving experience!

Here's a link to an article (from back in October) about it: <https://reporter.lcms.org/2022/support-hurricane-relief-by-purchasing-needed-items/>

We send prayers for our Good Shepherd family to stay warm and safe, and look forward to seeing everyone again in the spring!

Blessings,
Christy and Gene

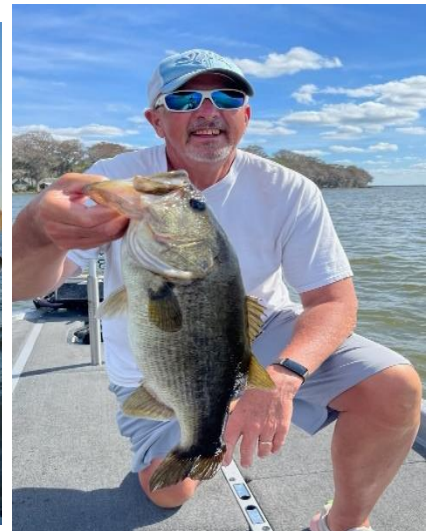
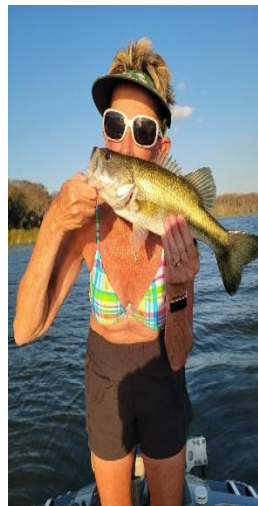


Hello from Rasmussen's in Florida:

Fishing has been up and down, weather isn't cooperating on the big Harris Chain.



Nephew and family from



Had some family come visit the last two weeks Nephew from South Dakota with fiance' and daughter. Plus our Niece from Hope Nebraska

Fun in the Sun with our Snow Birds

Hi from Tucson, AZ. Look what happened here on March 2nd!!!
Lloyd and Dianne Schwanke



VBS and Sunday School

VBS Solved the Case!

Last year VBS hosted 71 kids, 41 of them from outside the Good Shepherd church family. What a great outreach! The average daily attendance was 62.

A huge thank you to the VBS team that supported the program. We had 45+ volunteers working to make the event run smoothly.

- The Kitchen Team served 135 meals most nights (average per day)
- The Craft Team helped the kids create a project to bring home each night
- The Lesson Team followed clues to solve a mystery each day
- The Music Team taught the kids catchy songs and moves
- The Recreation Team helped the kids wear off some energy and tried to stay cool on the really hot days

The VBS expenses totaled \$2,300.00. We thank our congregation for the donations and the Thrivent gift cards that made it possible to feed the kids each night, let them create fun crafts and for each kid to go home with a t-shirt!



As they say, "it takes a village to raise a child", so we thank you for supporting this important community ministry.

The kids and their families were eager to make their own contribution. This year's mission project was "Project 24" which gives vulnerable children in Kenya the opportunity to complete primary school education while living on-site, a home away from home. Each facility provides a Christ-centered, loving, caring, and safe environment. Every pupil has daily opportunities for Scripture engagement, catechesis, and worship. Together we raised \$1091.58 which allowed children to attend school. Way to go!

After Easter we will begin planning for the 2023 VBS event, which will take place 7/31-8/3.

If you are interested in supporting this fun outreach, please contact Brenda at brenda.wysoski@verizon.com or 320-460-0946

Sunday School Highlights! Hope you enjoyed our songs on Sunday We have started our Lent Bingo- here is one if you want to do some of these also. We will be singing again on Palm Sunday!

 40 Days of Lent 2023 Walking with Jesus BINGO 							
Thank someone who has shown you kindness	Write down 3 things you are thankful for	Smile at someone you think needs a smile	Try to not play with your favorite toy or game today	Give an outfit to charity today	Share a hug with a family member	compliment someone	Do a chore that you would not usually do
Read a bible passage from the New Testament	write down 3 things you love about your mom	name 4 things God has given you	at church pray for a person on the prayer list	read a Bible passage with Mom or Dad	be happy when you do all your chores today	smile and tell someone to have a nice day	try to not use your phone or watch tv or movies today
make a cross and decorate for someone in your family	tell someone you love them	make a cross out of stick you find outside	tell someone something you like about them	pray before your meals all day	give up something you love to do just for today	read or watch a bible story	make a gift for a friend or family member
make an easter card for a friend	play a game with your family	thank your teacher or parent for their help today	help some with a task today	read a bible story with your family	do one of your brother/sisters chores today	make a colorsheet or craft for someone at church	write down or say a special prayer for someone
write down 3 things your dad does for you	help mom/dad make a meal today	make a craft or picture and give it to someone	tell mom and dad why you love them	make a list of what you are thankful for	pray to God and ask him to forgive you for your sins	Pray to God how thankful you are for things	do a family thing today
<p align="center">When you complete a day's task put a Bingo dobber or marker heart for the day: Different prizes for completing 10,20,30 or all 40 days. Bring your completed sheet to Sunday School the Sunday after Easter to receive your surprise.</p>							

DART BALL~FELLOWSHIP

We had a fabulous turn out for the Dart Ball tournament on Feb 26th. Thanks to all who helped with the concessions! You did a fabulous job and thanks to the Good Shepherd dartball team for helping provide bars. Jr/Sr Youth! *pictures provide by Marian Brelje



Fellowship .

Happy March Everyone- hoping we have an early spring this year

Thank you all who completed our questionnaire in January! The group determined the top five results from the questionnaire:

- 1 Potlucks or Church Picnic
- 2 Polka/Music Event
- 3 Fall dinner/Farmers Market
- 4 Trunk and Treat
- 5 Movie Day/Night and Cookoff.

Our fellowship group will organize the Polka Event and Trunk and Treat this year! We are asking other family members to help kick off, organize/plan the other 3 events. We know that we have many talented brothers and sisters in our Good Shepherd family and would be very successful getting these events up and going. Share your gifts and talents in making some fun times and memories with our family and others.

If you have questions see one of us:

Marian and Arnie Brelje
Norm and LaVonne Schimmelphennig
Nancy Schmidt
Les and Donna Kruse

Deb Hull
Amory Anderson
Kay Nibbe
Loren and Tracy Boysen

FABULOUS FOOD & FUNNY BONES



BEEF BARLEY VEGGIE~ Jo Berninghaus aka mom

3lb stew meat, browned 1 med onion chopped/browned
 3 stalks celery, chopped 3 carrots, chopped
 1 pkg mixed veggies 1 (15oz) tomatoes, diced
 😊 or what you like 😊 3 med potatoes cubed

Mix together in large stock pot, cover with water season with salt and pepper a cook till veggies are done.

CHEESE CHOWDER Bret Duncan

4 potatoes	¼ tsp pepper
1c celery	½ c margarine
1c carrots	½ c flour
1/2c onions	1qt milk
3c water	1lb cheddar cheese
2 tsp salt	2-4c ham cubed

Cook vegetables in water until tender. Add salt and pepper. In separate pan, melt margarine. Add flour. Blend. Add milk. Bring to a boil for 1 minute. Stir in cheese and ham; add cooked vegetables. Heat. Better if made a day ahead and reheated.

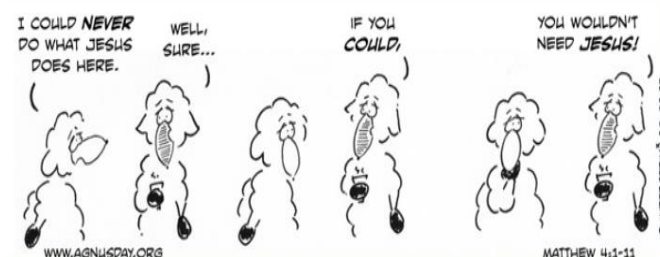
PEPPERONI PIZZA CHILI Shirley Unruh

1lb ground beef	1 ½ c water
1 (16oz) can kidney beans rinsed/drained	1 (3oz) pkg. sliced pepperoni
1 (15oz) can pizza sauce	1/2c green pepper chopped
1 (14oz) Italian stewed tomatoes	1 tsp pizza or Italian seasoning
1 (8oz) can tomato sauce	1tsp salt

Mozzarella cheese, shredded *optional
 In large saucepan, cook beef over medium heat until browned; drain. Stir in the beans, pizza sauce, tomatoes, tomato sauce, water, pepperoni, green peppers, pizza seasoning, and salt. Bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer uncovered for 30 minutes, or until chili reaches desired thickness. Garnish with cheese, if desired. Serves 8

Genesis 3:1-21

The Devil after Adam and Eve fall into sin:



"BLOOPERS" none are true FYI Evening Massage at 6pm

There will be a pot luck supper with prayer and medication to follow.

Pastor Jon was released from the hospital on Tuesday, but is still under the doctor's care for physical therapy.

Evelyn Buelke reports that her shoulder trouble seems to be better after admitted to the hospital. On the 2nd day the shoulder was better and on the 3rd day it disappeared completely.

Evelyn is doing very well by the way and she thought this was cute....

There is joy in heaven over one singer who repents.

We will re-enact the Last Supper and journey to the Garden of Gethsemane on Monday, March 29 @ 7pm. We will strip the altar and sanctuary of all color and symbol. Together we will leave the church bare and in silence.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU...

1ST:

Kelsy Hasz Przybilla

2nd

Shirley Johnson

3rd

Laura C
hinabarger

4th

Carol Barenz

8th

Christy Meir

10th

Janet Seward

11th

Carol Rasmussen
Reid Johnson

12th

Audrey Robotcek
Geri Luedeke

15th

Kate Theien

18th

Landon Miska
Audry Rogers

21st

Erin Johnson
Gloria Rumohr

22nd

Mike Niewind

26th

Christopher
Christianson
Deb Hull

27th

Desiree Colton
Jason Thimmesh

28th

Nick Tabbert

29th

Amand Thurk
Kari Norheim

30th

Greta Kremer
Marc Nelson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

MARCH 11TH
Pete and Kari Kremer



TREASURE INFO

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Fund Balance

January-23

	Funds	Expense
Current Month's Offerings	\$ 33,002.52	
Year To Date Total Offerings	\$ 33,002.52	
Thrivent Choice Dollars - Misc Income- YTD	\$ 40.00	
LCEF Account Transfer - YTD	\$ 5,000.00	
Current Month's General Expense		\$ 38,933.79
Year To Date Total Expense		\$ 38,933.79
Current Month Net Less Expense	\$ (891.27)	
Year To Date Net Less Expense	\$ (891.27)	
Checkbook Balance	\$ 3,526.16	
Cash Reserves		
Previous Month's Balance	\$ 26,281.73	
Current Month's Expenses	\$ 5,000.00	
Interest Earnings	\$ 17.20	
Current Month's Balance	\$ 21,298.93	
DESIGNATED FUNDS		
Building Furnishings & Maintenance Fund		
Previous Month's Balance	\$ 38,980.50	
Transferred From General Fund	\$ 500.00	
Current Month's Expenses	\$ 14,702.00	
Current Month's Balance	\$ 24,778.50	
Memorial Fund		
Previous Month's Balance	\$ 10,301.70	
Current Month's Balance	\$ 10,301.70	
Dedicated Funds		
Current Month's Balance (Sr Youth)	\$ 6,665.92	
Sunday School	\$ 1,638.52	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,533.06	
Current Month's Balance	\$ 9,837.50	
Thrivent Choice Fund		
Previous Month's Balance	\$ -	
Current Month's Receivings/Debits	\$ -	
Current Month's Balance	\$ -	
Total Balance to Designated Funds	\$ 44,917.70	
LCEF Steward Account	\$ 21,298.93	

MINISTRY TEAM LEADER DIRECTORY

OFFICE 320.762.5152

EMAIL: goodshepherdalexsec@gmail.com

Altar Guild

Amory Anderson 218.640.0692 amorya5051@live.com
Marian Brelje 320.510.1081 ambrelje@hotmail.com

Worship Team and Music

Sue Nelson 320.766.5221 sknelson4@charter.net

Cradle Roll:

Vacant -Office updating at this time

Elders

Greg Armbruster 952.288.3953 garmbruster1017@gmail.com
Loren Boysen 320.760.0199 lcb@runestone.net
Brandon Luedeke 320.304.4237 brandonluedeke@gmail.com
Paul Luedeke 320.760.6937 pgbcqqc@gmail.com
Keith Ramsay 320.886.5574 kcramsay@embarqmail.com

Executive Council

Henry Huhnerkoch (Chair) 320.763.4784 henryhuhnerkoch@hotmail.com

Fellowship Committee

Arnie & Marian Brelje 320.510.1081 ambrelje@hotmail.com
Norm Schimmelpfennig 320.763.3524 lavonnes58@gmail.com
LaVonne Schimmelpfennig 320.763.3524 lavonnes58@gmail.com
Deb Hull 320.766.9753 bernihull@gmail.com
Greg Armbruster 952.288.3953 garmbruster1017@gmail.com
Denise Armbruster 952.686.3575 denigre613@gmail.com
Amory Anderson 218.640.0692 amorya5051@live.com
Nancy Schmidt 320.760.4868 lakereducate@yahoo.com
Les Kruse 320.333.8405 leslie.donna.Kruse@gmail.com
Donna Kruse 320.333.6710 leslie.donna.Kruse@gmail.com

LIC (Lutheran Island Camp)

Keith Ramsay 320.886.5574 kcramsay@embarqmail.com

Love INC

Joyce Hausmann 320.304.4501 idaoaks22@gmail.com

Love Patches

Marian Brelje 320.859.5085 ambrelje@hotmail.com

LWML

Barb Schuneman 320.808.5568 merlebarb@rea-alp.com

Memorial/Designated Funds

Donna Kruse 320.333.6710 leslie.donna.Kruse@gmail.com
Les Kruse 320.333.8405 leslie.donna.Kruse@gmail.com

Men's Dartball

Norm Schimmelpfennig 320.763.3524 lavonnes58@gmail.com

Offering Counters

Joyce Hausmann 320.304.4501 idaoaks22@gmail.com

MINISTRY TEAM LEADER DIRECTORY

OFFICE 320.762.5152

EMAIL: goodshepherdalexsec@gmail.com

Passion Drama

VACANT

Prayer Chain

Barb Schuneman

320.808.5568

merlebarb@rea-alp.com

Public Relations

Office taking care of at this time

Sunday School

Deb Hull

320.766.9753

bernihull@gmail.com

Kari Kremer

320.766.5551

kremerkari6@gmail.com

Denise Norheim

320.808.4157

Denisenorheim@gmail.com

Wanda Swenson

320.491.4681

wswenson@heartlandorthopedics.com

Trustees

Dave Nelson

320.766.9106

dnels4@charter.net

Pete Kremer-

320.808.6821

kremerkari6@gmail.com

Jan Hausmann

320.304.3386

idaoaks22@gmail.com

Henry Huhnerkoch

320.763.4784

henryhuhnerkoch@hotmail.com

Paul Gesell

320.763.4203

ngesell@alexandria.k.12.mn.us

Lynn Murray

320.762.8784

lynnjmurray@hotmail.com

Gary Lips

612.597.9044

lipsgary@gmail.com

VBS Coordinator (s)

Denise Norheim

320.808.4157

Denisenorheim@gmail.com

Brenda Wysoski

320.304.9100

Brenda.Wysoski@verizon.com

Worship/Projection/Sound Media

Brandon Luedeke

320.304.4237

brandonluedeke@gmail.com

Jason Norheim

320.808.4156

ndakjas@gmail.com

Val Christopherson

320.815.8585

vchristo58@gmail.com

Howard Breitkruetz

320.808.8975

HSBREITKREUTZ@gmail.com

Stephanie Bertek

320.491.8825

stephaniebertek@yahoo.com

Youth Ministry

KFC-(3rd-5th graders)

VACANT

Jr. LYF (6th-8th graders)

VACANT

Sr. LYF (9th-12th graders)

Amanda Thurk

320-491-0854

scarlettroses16621@gmail.com

Zion School

VACANT

Interested in being the piece that fills our Mission Leader puzzle?

Stop in and visit with me or one of the other leaders about what the

VACANT areas need for support!

GOOD SHEPHERD HAPPENINGS
 Want to add your group event?
 Email them to goodshepherdalexsec.com

2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	01	02	03	04
9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15am Sunday School Adult Bible Class	6:30pm February LWML	4:30pm Worship Team	10:00am Bible Study 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lent Soup Supper 7:00pm Lent Worship	9:00a-12:00p Love Patches		
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15am Sunday School Adult Bible Class	4:30pm Fellowship 6:30pm Executive Council	10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm-3:00pm PED PHALL 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lent Soup Supper 7:00pm Lent Worship	9:00a-12:00p Love Patches			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:15am Adult Bible Class- Sunday School	5:00pm Fellowship 6:30pm Lent Soup Supper	10:00am Bible Study 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lent Soup Supper 7:00pm Lent Worship	9:00a-12:00p Love Patches			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 am Worship 10:15am Adult Bible Class- Sunday School	6:30pm LWML Prayer Service 9:00 Winkiel@ Tinky Carlos 4:30pm Worship Team 7:00pm Elder's	10:00am Bible Study 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lent Soup Supper 7:00pm Lent Worship	9:00a-12:00p Love Patches			
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
9:00 am Worship 10:15am Adult Bible Class- Sunday School	4:30pm Worship Team	10:00am Bible Study 5:30-6:30pm Confirmation 6:00pm Lent Soup Supper 7:00pm Lent Worship	Mauudy Thursday Worship April 4, 2023 @ 7pm Good Friday Worship April 5, 2023 @ 7pm Easter April 9, 2023: Sunrise Worship @ 7am: Easter Breakfast @ 8 am Easter Worship @ 9am			