



*A Spiritual Oasis Committed to Christ,
to Peace, and to Service*

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church

Connections

Newsletter

VBS Camp June 11-15

Submitted by Anna Mullen



The Mega Sports VBS camp will be the week of **June 11-15** from **6pm to 8pm**. We welcome all children entering Pre-K through 5th grade to join us. Monday through Thursday, children will learn sports, hear Bible stories, and learn about God’s love with friends. Friday, everyone is invited to celebrate what the children have learned and enjoy demonstrations and refreshments. So, mark your calendars and register on the church website today!

We can serve our church and community children free of charge due to our gracious volunteers and generous donations. Last year just under 60 church and community children attended VBS, and we couldn't have served them without your dedicated help.

PLEASE DONATE! We are now collecting

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Who are the Web/Communications Team? What Do They Do?

At a recent Church Council meeting the council decided that it was a good idea to publicize the purpose and work of some of our ministry teams. Nobody knows much about the Web/Communications team at CPFUMC, so here’s the straight story.

The Web/Communications team was originally created in 2016 to update our existing website. Since then the charter of this team was expanded to include Communications. This team supports both our Witness and Outreach ministries. Members of the Web/Communications Team are Jill Lundstrom, Neil Howard, Kevin Middleton, Carolyn Smith, Bonnie How, Peter Castles, Sue and Dave Sidney, Ed Bailey and Colleen Litaker. We meet sporadically, once or twice a year at best.

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A Child's Haven Happenings

May was an exciting month at A Child's Haven! The kids had a special petting zoo visit from Fannie's Farm Friends where they were able to pet and hold adorable baby animals. We also had our annual Chick-Fil-A day in May. The kids were able to order a yummy lunch and have it delivered to their

classrooms. It was a big hit! Our Pre-K and Kinder Bridge classes had their graduation on May 24th in the sanctuary. They received their preschool diploma and had a fun celebration afterwards with the Kona Ice snow cone truck. We are very proud of all of our graduates and know they are going to do well in elementary school.

Our thanks to Pastor Peter and Pastor Bonnie for leading chapel with our kiddos this year. They were always eager to listen to the bible story and learn about God's love. I think their favorite part was singing all the songs they taught them during the year.

I wanted to extend a special thank you to the congregation for the generous communion rail offering during the first services in May. With your help, we will be able to provide two scholarships to families who are in need of financial assistance. Thank you for your continued support of A Child's Haven. We are looking forward to the summer and will be returning on August 20th to start the 2018-2019 school year.

Blessings,

Lesley Foyt

ICE CREAM SOCIAL Coming Soon



Are you perfecting your homemade ice cream recipe? It is time to put the finishing touches on your recipe. The **Ice Cream Social** will be here soon, **Thursday, July 26** at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

If you would like to be part of the planning team, please contact Carolyn Smith.
carolynsmith2215@gmail.com

JESUS ROCK STAR CORNER

Submitted by Carolyn Smith

Mother's Day was approaching and the Jesus Rock Stars had many things to prepare. The older children continued their studies on relationship while the younger children continue with bible stories.

Each year the children like to make gifts for all the amazing women in our church. This year they made inspirational note holder/magnets. They also made book markers for their mothers and grandmothers.



During Children's Moment we heard the answer to some very special questions. The children also handed out their gifts to all the women of our church.

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The younger class studied the baptizing of Lydia.

Now with the coming of Pentecost, Ms. Sue asked the Jesus Rock Stars to help with the decorating of the cross in the Narthex. We were glad to take on the task and the children quickly began to work. We talked about the event of Pentecost and what happened.



We made doves.



We made flames.



We hope you all enjoyed our display!

Upcoming events for all elementary age children:
June 11 – 15 6pm – 8pm
Mega Sports VBS – registration at cpfumc.org
October 13 6pm –
EMPOWER – where children demonstrate their talents



DON'T MISS OUT!

WE HAVE MANY THINGS TO DO AT CPFUMC

(See our calendar for times)

LOOKING AHEAD:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| June 11 – 15 | Mega Sports VBS – open to elementary age children |
| June 16 – 24 | Youth – Appalachia Service Project Mission - Kentucky |
| June 25 – 29 | Youth – UM Army Mission – Gonzales |
| July 26 | Ice Cream Social – open to all |
| September 29 | Congregation Work Day |
| Early October | Pumpkins arrive |
| October 13 | EMPOWER – open to all elementary age children |
| October 25 | Chili Cook Off – open to all |



WEEKLY REGULARS:

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Sunday evening | Youth |
| Monday | Centering Prayer |
| Tuesday | Morning Prayer Service |
| Tuesday | Bible Study |
| Wednesday | Easy Line Dancing |
| Wednesday | Buckles and Bows Square Dancing |
| Thursday | Tai Chi exercise class |
| Friday | Men's coffee at Randall's |
| Friday | Ladies coffee in sanctuary |

MONTHLY REGULARS:

- Every 2nd Saturday:
 United Methodist Women
 Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.
- Every 4th Saturday:
 Open Doors—CPFUMC members and attendees volunteer to help at University UMC in Austin serving brunch to the homeless and those in need. Contact Pastor Bonnie for more information.

Rachel's Mustard Seeds

by Debra Longoria

May 3, 2018

After school at Child's Haven I let Rachel play at the play ground for fun. At home I prepared her bath and she tossed her clothes in the hamper. Once she was dressed she started to clean her room and then started to cry. I asked her, "Why are you crying and upset?" She was looking all around her room for something but I didn't know what it was. I asked her, "What are you looking for?" She replied, "My pink shirt I wore today."

I explained, "You put it in the hamper." So, I helped her dig her pink shirt with the rainbow on the pocket out of the hamper. She said, "Here they are, I found them in my pocket!" I asked her, "What did you find?"

I was curious and looked at her. She said, "I found my mustard seeds that Pastor Bonnie gave to me in chapel." I wasn't sure what she wanted to do with them. So I asked, "Where will you put the seeds?" She smiled and asked, "Do we have dirt because I want to plant the seeds to grow up?"

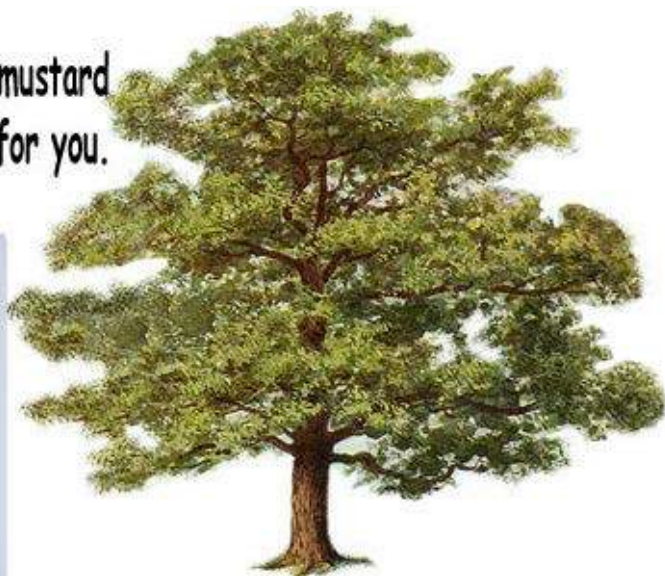
I told her we have soil to plant the baby seeds so they can grow. She was excited about the opportunity to plant them and care for them all on her own. She explained that Pastor Bonnie read a story about seeds and a farmer planting seeds. Rachel smiled and said, "I'm so happy I had my rainbow shirt on for school today so I could put my seeds safe in the pocket."

I explained to her that God protects us, like you protected your seeds, when you put them in your rainbow pocket to care for them. You even went back to find them when they were lost. We're safe inside God's rainbow pocket. She laughed and smiled as she held her tiny seeds in her hand.

Today's message... Tiny seeds in God's rainbow pocket ready for action to grow with water and sun! This was a cute analogy for me as I learn more insight watching my children grow up and experience learning about life and faith in new ways. To think that all the time she was running around on the playground she didn't loose her tiny seeds inside her rainbow pocket.

She loves her seeds and her Bible lesson. Thank you Pastor Bonnie for being there to help all the children grow their faith in God by using seeds as an example on how to grow with God and wait on Him.

If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, nothing will be impossible for you.



WEB/COMM TEAM cont. from p. 1

What do they do?

Website – Statistics show that 80% of church visitors first visit the website before they visit the church. Our original function was to plan and create a completely refreshed website for CPFUMC. This was done in 2016. It involved a lot of research into the technologies available and the way that a church website is organized. Dave Sidney helped us get started with GoDaddy for hosting our website. Our home page is designed for visitors. We also took some time to create a team to maintain the website and keep its content fresh and interesting. Neil and Kevin created and now maintain most of the pages, Ed handles updating the Find Out What's Happening page and Sue and Carolyn keep the church calendar up-to-date. We do an annual review of the website with the 19 web content contributors to make sure that the content is still relevant. Our website has grown to 47 pages and it gets an average of over 2800 pageviews per month with an average session duration of 3:25. 89.9% of our visitors are from the USA. We had 1 visitor from Zimbabwe!

Facebook – In 2017 we decided that the old church Facebook page needed a refresh as well. This is where Colleen and Carolyn's daughter, Alexandra, came in. Colleen is currently maintaining our new Facebook page as this form of social media has become more important.

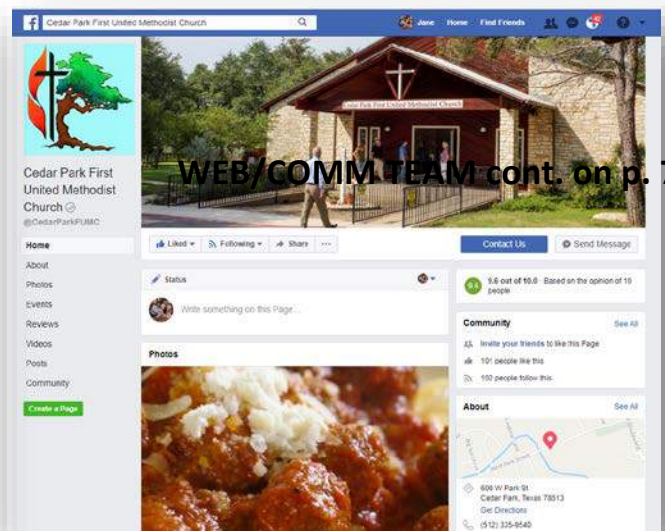
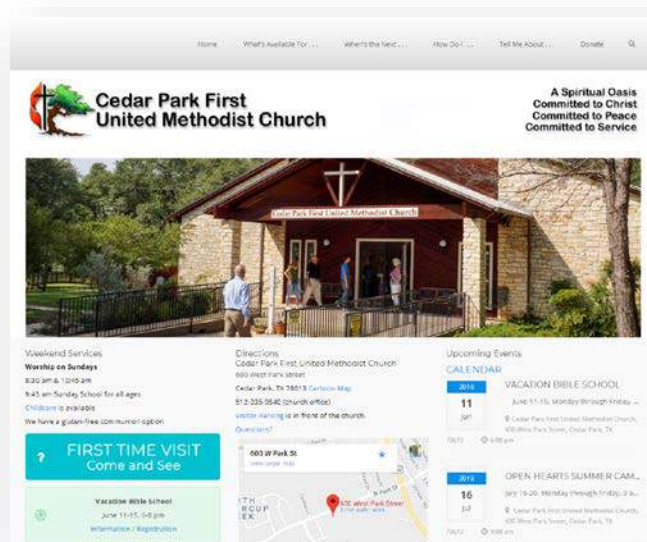
Twitter – When we built the website in 2016, Twitter was a rage, so we decided to get a church Twitter account. Bonnie does most of our tweeting.

YouTube – We created a CPFUMC YouTube channel in 2016. It was originally used as a place to post videos of the Christmas dramas done by our elementary Sunday School classes. Since then it has grown to accommodate videos of VBS, the MOS construction and most recently our stellar recycling project education video, *Think Before You Toss*.

You can follow us on any of these social media sites. They are cross-linked to each other in varying degrees. Links to all of our social media sites are found in the footer section of each page on our website.

Besides creating, maintaining and managing our online presence, the Communication/Web team is responsible for our regular church publications which come in both electronic and hardcopy formats.

Happenings – Sue Sidney expertly manages and sends out our weekly email *Happenings*. Ed



WEB/COMM TEAM cont. from p. 7

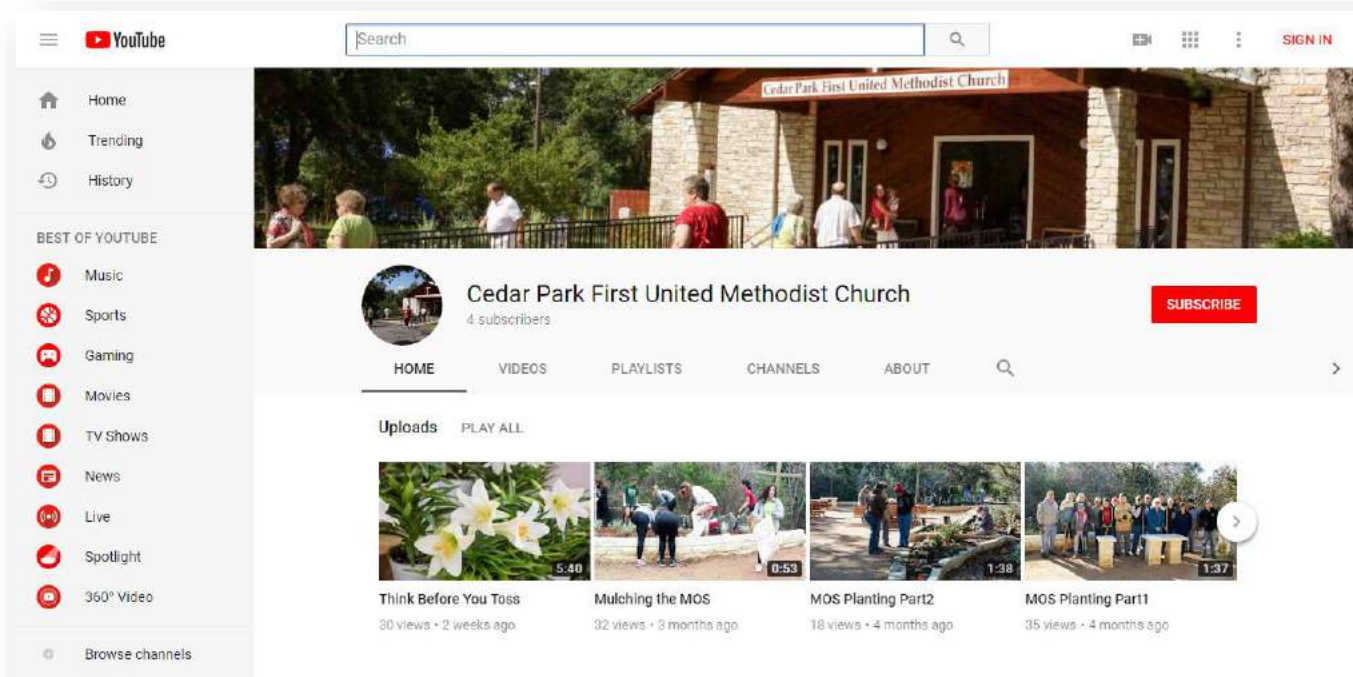
posts these weekly missives to the Find Out What's Happening page on our website where the last 4 weeks are maintained.

Connections – Jill Lundstrom does a great job editing our monthly newsletter, *Connections*. Jill takes input from anyone who submits an article. She adds the calendar of events and produces both electronic and hardcopy versions of Connections with hardcopy production help from Carolyn.

Worship Bulletins and Worship Slides – Worship bulletins are prepared each week by Peter, copied by Kevin and folded by the “Church Ladies” who convene each Friday morning for coffee. Kevin does all of the worship slides and the Weekly Events slides which roll onscreen each Sunday. This is a huge job and Kevin has become very proficient at generating PowerPoint slideshows.

Want to Get Involved?

The Communications/Web team is always interested in engaging additional people in helping with this vital Outreach and Witness ministry. If you are interested in helping out in some way, or if you have an idea to make any of these efforts better, please contact Neil Howard, nhowardtx@gmail.com.



VBS cont. from p. 1

donations of items and money to provide sports equipment, food, and beverages to help make VBS a success. Food donations (marked “VBS”) are due to the church kitchen June 3rd. We will use money donations to purchase the remaining food/drink items that week. Donated sports equipment and coolers (marked with your name) are due June 10th to the church lobby and will be returned June 15th/17th after VBS. Thank you so much for your help and generosity, and if you have any questions at all, please reach out to our VBS co-directors: Anna Mullen (anna.c.mullen@gmail.com, 512-297-6334) and Amanda Theriot (amanda.theriot@icloud.com, 512-934-8504)



CPFUMC WOMEN “MISSION U PROJECT” FOR 2018 RIO CONFERENCE

Submitted by Irene Carrillo

Hygiene Kits

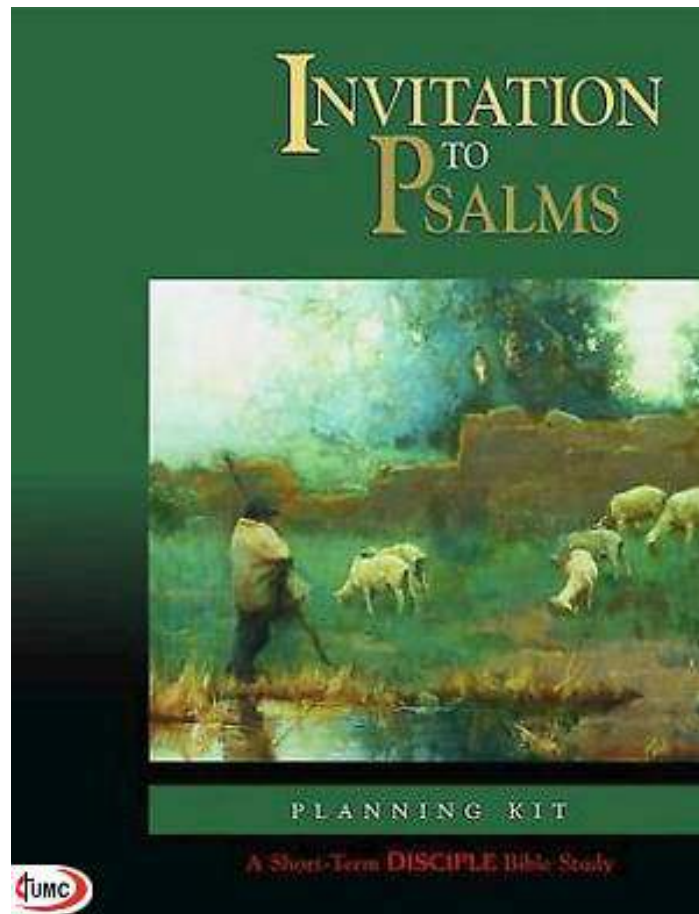
We will be collecting the following items to assemble kits that provide the basic necessities needed by individuals who have been forced to leave their homes by natural disasters or conflicts. The hygiene kits are also used in as a learning tool in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition and cooking classes. Each kit has a value of \$12.

Items requested:

- 1 hand towel:** 15 x 25 inches to 17 by 27 inches (NOT kitchen, nor microfiber)
- 1 washcloth**
- 1 comb:** Longer than 6 inches (no picks, nor pocket combs)
- 1 metal nail file or clippers** (No emery boards)
- 1 bath-size soap:** 3 oz or larger, don't unwrap (no Ivory, nor Jergens)
- 1 toothbrush:** Adult size, don't unwrap
- 6 band-aids:** 3/4inch to 1inch size
- 1 plastic bag:** Sealable gallon-size only
- \$1 for buying toothpaste:** in an envelope

A poster and box will be placed in the entrance lobby to the church for collection of these items during June. Thanks you for your donations!

SHORT-TERM DISCIPLE BIBLE STUDY ON PSALMS TO BE OFFERED



This summer Pastor Peter will be leading a 10-session Disciple Bible Study on the Book of Psalms, beginning June 14. This study will allow participants to make a deeper connection to the world of the Psalms. These well-known Scriptures can help you give voice to all aspects of our human experience – joy, faith, uncertainty, and sorrow.

The Bible will serve as the primary text in this study, but a Participant Guide will also be utilized. Preparation on the part of participants is expected before class: several Psalms will be read each week, as well as a segment of the Participant Guide. The Participant Guide is also used for note-taking and responding to reflection questions that follow each lesson.

After preparation during the week, participants will gather each Thursday from 10:30am until noon for small group discussion. Each week we will also view two video segments, which will present individual Psalm texts in a variety of ways, including dramatic reading, music, dance, and images, as well as offer insights into specific Psalms by biblical scholars in an informal, roundtable conversation format.

Participants for this Invitation to Psalms do not have to have an in-depth knowledge of the Bible to enjoy and benefit from participating.

If you are interested in attending this study, a sign-up sheet is available on the back table in the Sanctuary. The cost of the study is \$16, which will pay for the Participation Guide. The class begins June 14 and runs through August 16. Please consider taking part in this exciting journey through the Psalms.

Open heARTS Summer Camp

Open heARTS Summer Camp is becoming a tradition at Cedar Park First United Methodist Church. We invite all children ages 4-12. Come join us for a fun filled day of art projects, music and music history, movement and games! Bring a sack lunch and wear tennis shoes. Open heARTS Summer Camp has a per-participant charges shown below. Advanced registration is encouraged. Registration is usually opened about a month before the actual event starts. The next Open heARTS Summer Camp is scheduled for July 16-20, 2018 from 9:00 am until 12:00 noon. Registration is open now. Click on the button below to register online.

Fee Schedule

\$175 – per child (payable by July 1, 2018)

Fees must be paid at the time of registration, no later than July 1, 2018. Bring or mail your check made out to “Cedar Park First UMC” or “CPFUMC” and designated in the memo field for “Open heARTS Summer Camp” to the church office at 600 West Park Street, Cedar Park, TX 78613.



See full calendar online at
<https://cpfumc.org/find-an-event/>

CPFUMC June 2018

Cedar Park First United Methodist Church, CARE Calendar, Child's Haven Events, Choir, CP1UMC Youth, Jun 2018 (Central Time)
 Other Groups, Pumpkin Patch, SCOUTS, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8:30am - Worship	Memorial Day	9:30am - Morning	12pm - Talley Piano	9:30am - Tai Chi	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
9:45am - Sunday	2pm - ESL - GED @	10am - Bible Study	1pm - Easy Line	1pm - Talley Piano		
10:45am - Worship	3pm - Talley Piano	1:15pm - Talley	6:30pm - Buckles			
	7:30pm - Centering	3:30pm - Brownie				
		7pm - Cub Scout				
		7:30pm - AA Men's				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am - Worship	2pm - ESL - GED @	9:30am - Morning	Rio Tx Annual	Rio Tx Annual	Rio Tx Annual	Rio Tx Annual
9:45am - Sunday	3pm - Talley Piano	10am - Bible Study	1pm - Easy Line	9:30am - Tai Chi	6:30pm - Alcoholics	9am - UMW Meets
10:45am - Worship	6:30pm - TRUSTEES	7:30pm - AA Men's	6:30pm - Buckles			
3pm - Talley Piano	7:30pm - Centering					
6pm - Youth @						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am - Worship	VBS 6-8p	VBS 6-8p	VBS 6-8p	VBS 6-8p	NEWSLETTER Input	ASP Mission
9:45am - Sunday	2pm - ESL - GED @	9:30am - Morning	1pm - Easy Line	9:30am - Tai Chi	VBS 6-8p	
10:45am - Worship	6:30pm - FINANCE	10am - Bible Study	6:30pm - Buckles &	10:30am - Disciple	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
6pm - Youth @	7:30pm - Centering	7:30pm - AA Men's				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
ASP Mission	ASP Mission	ASP Mission	ASP Mission	ASP Mission	ASP Mission	ASP Mission
8:30am - Worship	2pm - ESL - GED @	9:30am - Morning	9:30am - Mbrship	9:30am - Tai Chi	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
9:45am - Sunday	6:30pm - COUNCIL	10am - Bible Study	1pm - Easy Line	10:30am - Disciple		
10:45am - Worship	7:30pm - Centering	7:30pm - AA Men's	6:30pm - Buckles			
3:30pm - Worship @						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
ASP Mission	UMArmy Mission	UMArmy Mission	UMArmy Mission	UMArmy Mission	UMArmy Mission	
8:30am - Worship	2pm - ESL - GED @	9:30am - Morning	1pm - Easy Line	9:30am - Tai Chi	6:30pm - Alcoholics	
9:45am - Sunday	7:30pm - Centering	10am - Bible Study	6:30pm - Buckles	10:30am - Disciple		
10:45am - Worship		7:30pm - AA Men's				