

The Messenger

June 2009



St Matthew's Episcopal Church 19580 Pilgrims Place Parker, CO 80138

Dear Friends,

Every church receives calls from people who are in trouble financially. Sometimes it is medical bills, sometimes job loss, or an unexpected expense that has eaten away at savings that are for those hard times. All churches try to help in some way. Part of what we do at St. Matthew's is work with the Parker Task Force. Part of what we do is the work of the Thrift Shop.

Another way that we help is through the Rector's Discretionary Fund. The Episcopal Church requires that funds be put into the Discretionary Fund every month from the offering. We use the first Sunday of the month open plate offering; the offering of cash that is not designated to go toward anyone's giving record in particular. Sometimes people also write checks for the Discretionary Fund.

The money is then used for the purposes of helping those who are in need. It is not used for budget items in the parish, unless that has to do with helping a person or family in some way. I write checks from the Discretionary Fund directly to help pay rent, or to buy food when the Parker Task Force can't help in a situation, to pay utility bills and medical bills, to buy prescriptions, and to help young people continue to learn and grow through various agencies or organizations. These are the primary ways we help, but there are always special things that don't come up very often.

There are a couple of important things to know about the Discretionary Fund. One is that it is completely confidential. There are times when the Outreach committee might ask me to help an organization, and if I can do that then they know I've done so, but when I help individuals – which is most of the help that I give – then only me and the person being helped know about the specifics.

The other is that the Discretionary Fund is not something that I can use for "whatever I want". The Episcopal Church has guidelines for the funds that make it clear that the funds are to

be used to help those who are in need, those who are unable to provide for all of their needs. Our "needs" are different than the needs of those in Haiti mostly in terms of the cost. We all need food, shelter, clothing, education and such. It's the same in Haiti. It just costs more here!

Many people who are helped never thought they would be in a situation where they would need help from the church in this way, and the sensitivity and privacy are an important part of what the church can do to help people get out of difficult situations. I could not reach out and help those in the community without your generosity. Thank you for all that you give so that St. Matthew's may give to those among us who are in need.

Fr. Michael+

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Get Ready for Vacation Bible School 2009!

Save the dates of July 22-25 for this year's VBS Program, Discovery Canyon.

The program will be held in the evenings (5:15-8:15 pm) Wed-Fri and Saturday morning (9:15 am - 12:30 pm). Join us as we explore God's Word through stories, crafts, music, games and more, all set in our Discovery Canyon environment. Pre-registration forms for children can be found in the Parish Hall, the church office, bulletins, by contacting Laurie Landry at (720) 842-4517, or on the website: www.matthewinparker.com.

Volunteers needed!

Be a part of this year's VBS and help us put on a great, fun-filled program for our kids. Whether you want to participate just one or two days, help with behind the scenes, or jump in to help with games, music, crafts and stories, all help is welcome and appreciated. We will also be looking for people to help with food prep and decorations if you would like to contribute but can't be there in person for the program. Look for the volunteer forms in the Sunday bulletin, or contact Laurie Landry at (720) 842-4517.

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Episcopal Church Women

St. Matthew's 30th Anniversary Cookbook

The ECW wants to publish your favorite recipes! We are collecting recipes from folks in our Church to be published in a beautiful spiral bound cookbook. Each recipe will include the name of the contributor. Simply print or email the recipe or pick up a form in the parish hall after service. (Box available on coupon table.) Completed forms need to be returned prior to **June 7th, the sooner the better!!** The cookbooks will be made available for presale at \$12.00 or after publication in August for \$15.00. We know we have very talented cooks here at St. Matthew's; this cookbook will surely be treasured.

We will have one drawing during April, May and June from submitted recipes for a FREE book. So go ahead and submit, submit and submit some more!! This is a terrific fundraiser and an even better gift brimming with love.

Any questions please call: Sarah Siekierski, Lucy Lord, Wendy Kelly or Stephanie Schneider.

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As many of you know, the economy is tight and we are carefully watching our finances as a church. To ensure sufficient funds are available, we are asking that payment for flowers be received by the Sunday preceding the one you are sponsoring. If payment is not received, we may need to cancel the flower order for that Sunday.

To continue to have the beauty of flowers during our services, please sign up for flower donations on the flower memorial list on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. To request a remembrance, please write your name on the chart. Add appropriate language such as: In Loving Memory of....., In Thanksgiving for, or in Celebration of, please print clearly or email Christine at: office@matthewinparker.com.

The minimum donation for Sunday flowers is \$40 payable on or before date requested and may be shared with another family. Please mark check in memo area: Flowers for

Thank you to everyone who has provided beautiful fresh flowers for our church altar. This is wonderful opportunity to honor a loved one's memory, celebrate an anniversary or birthday, or just simply to share your joy with the rest of the church.

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Fellowship News:

If you are interested in serving on the Fellowship Committee please contact Tina Newlin at 303-840-8367, or ok4unme@qwest.net.

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St. Matthew's Community Supper:

Please join us for a Community Supper Pot Luck in our parish hall on **Sunday, June 14 at 4:00 pm**. If you would like to contribute a dish to the potluck, people with last names starting with A-M please bring a salad or veggie side dish, last names N-Z please bring a dessert.

As always, this supper is free and open to the public as we share our gifts of food and friendship with our neighbors in Parker.

The dinner starts at 4 p.m. in our parish hall at St. Matthew's. Please bring your dishes hot and ready to serve. Can't decide until the last minute and don't have time to prepare anything? Please come anyway and don't worry about making a dish. There is always plenty and we would not want to miss your company. For questions or to arrange transportation to the potluck, please call Laurie Landry at (720) 842-4517. See you there!

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HEARTS AND HANDS COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Hearts and Hands Community Outreach Ministry is a group of your parish friends and neighbors who are working on a variety of projects to help those in need in Parker, Douglas County, Denver, Colorado and the world. The Outreach Ministry includes workers who help with Sunday Community Suppers, Habitat for Humanity, the Annual Bonfils Blood Drive, Loaves and Fishes, CROP Walk, Thanksgiving and Christmas Outreach, and many other activities. A committee to oversee the outreach activities meets on the second Monday of most months to identify new places where we can help, review the work we have been doing, recommend outreach expenditures to the vestry, and discover ways that we can make our parish aware of the scope of outreach activities that are taking place.

How can you help with the Hearts and Hands Community Outreach? You can –

- Join the committee in its coordinating work
- Participate in one of the existing outreach activities
- Volunteer to lead an outreach activity for our parish
- Contribute new ideas for outreach to the committee

If you have questions or would like to help with Hearts and Hands Community Outreach, please email Celia Kaye Sloan, Hearts and Hands Community Outreach coordinator, at: office@matthewinparker.com or call the St. Matthew's parish office at (303) 841-0121. To learn more about some of St. Matthew's current outreach activities, you can also visit the St. Matthew's website at www.matthewinparker.com and click on "Outreach."

Do You Believe in Miracles?

By Susie Chapin

Many of us remember that question from a famous ice hockey game in 1980. The situation is not that different today, almost 30 years later. We feel our chance to win the competition isn't the best, not many believe we can do it, and yet, ... we want to believe in miracles. The "miracles" I am referring to are the miracles of finding cures for all cancers in our lifetime. Many "points" have been scored against the deadly opponents, but unfortunately, those other "teams" continue to be powerful adversaries in the battles of our family members and friends. Please consider supporting St. Matthew's Miracle Makers Relay for Life team by sponsoring a team member for the 2009 Relay for Life event scheduled August 15th and 16th as well as the different team fundraising events scheduled throughout the summer months. Money raised in support of the relay event goes toward the American Cancer Society's mission of eliminating cancer as a major health concern, as well as funding cancer research, education, advocacy and service. So support your parish team-St. Matthew's Miracle Makers, and someday we can proudly answer, "Yes...WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES! That battle is won!"

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Relay of Life Mini Batons

All Sunday School age children are invited to pick up Relay for Life mini Batons from the basket located in the Narthex beginning Sunday, May 31st. Fill the batons with donated coins, then drop off the coins with any of St. Matthew's Relay for Life Miracle Makers team members by Sunday, August 2nd. All donated coins will go to support the American Cancer Society's mission to eliminate cancer as a major health concern. For additional information please contact St. Matthew's Miracle Makers co-captains Patti Anderson at candlePatti@msn.com or Susie Chapin at dwsjchapin@msn.com. Thanks kids, for your support!

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St. Matthew's Miracle Makers Need your help!

Thanks to everyone who has dug deep into their closets, checked those shelves and emptied the family junk drawer to find those old cell phones to donate to St. Matthew's Relay for Life team. If you still haven't had a chance to donate your old phone you may still do so, by dropping it off in the appropriate basket in the parish hall on Sunday morning. St. Matthew's Miracle Makers will turn the phones in to be recycled and earn money towards their 2009 team goal. For additional information please contact Team co-captains Patti Anderson at 303-710-5888 (candlepatti@msn.com) or Susie Chapin at 303-841-1789 dwsjchapin@msn.com.

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Introducing our 2009 St. Matthew's Miracle Makers Relay for Life "Relayers"!

Over the last several months, we've been hard at work organizing and registering team members for the August 15th-16th American Cancer Society Event, and now we would like to introduce the "relayers" of the parish to you. They are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Gina Clement | The Hynes Family |
| Leslie Vinson | Bill Vigars |
| Lucy Lord | Kandy Halstead |
| Bev Weathers | Whit Greene |
| Christine Greene | Linda Parker |
| Emily Kiebel | Co-captain Susie Chapin |
| Co-captain Patti Anderson | |

Support your favorite "relayer" over the next 2½ months by donating a check (made out to the American Cancer Society-"Relay Team" in notations) or by visiting the event site at www.relayforlife.org/parkerco, linking to the St. Matthew's page and donating by credit card. All money raised by the team will go to support

cancer research, education, advocacy and support for patients. Don't forget, there will be additional ways to support the Miracle Makers this summer through scheduled events. Contact any team member for additional information and thanks so much for your continuing support of the parish team!

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Cornerstone Residences at St. Francis Center to Open This Fall

The mission of the St. Francis Center is housing as well as shelter, and for the past 5 years, the Center has been fulfilling this mission through a housing program for 50 people. This program has been off site, and it has provided case management as well as housing for disabled, senior or formerly homeless people. Through a partnership with the Rocky Mountain Housing Development Corporation, a faith based organization; the St. Francis Center has undertaken an ambitious project to build a 12.5 million dollar building at the corner of Curtis and Park Ave. West. This building, which is next to the St. Francis Center, will be called the Cornerstone Residences at St. Francis Center and is scheduled to open this fall. It is a 5-story building with 50 self-contained apartments. Persons are qualified by St. Francis Center to live in the building based on disability, senior status, or previous homelessness. Residents must provide some of the cost of living in the building, and case management is provided to assist residents with their transition and with clinical oversight. Residents are allowed to stay in the building as long as they need to.

In addition to providing apartments, the ground floor of the building will be used for the St. Francis Center health clinic and the employment office, both of which are now housed in the St. Francis Center. The St. Francis Center, which raised \$2.8 million in support of this project, welcomes help in obtaining furnishings for the new apartments. Churches can "adopt" an apartment and collect furnishings, appliances, linens and other necessary items. We are looking for a St. Matthew's parishioner to act as point person for this project. This would involve

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obtaining the list of necessary items from St. Francis and working with parishioners to obtain as many of the items as possible. St. Francis will work with other churches and donors to obtain items we are unable to supply. Collection will begin in late summer or early fall, depending on the actual date of completion of the building. If you feel you are able to do this, please contact Celia Kaye Sloan at celia.kaye@ucdenver.edu or 303-593-2887.

Volunteers Needed for Lawn Mowing

First of all, many thanks to those of you who volunteered for snow removal duty during the winter months. Your efforts to keep our campus clear of snow and ice were very much appreciated.

Now that we are approaching the summer season, it's time to prepare for the lawn mowing. A tradition at St. Matthew's has been to have this weekly task performed by members of the congregation. Like snow removal, it's a great way to make a contribution to the maintenance of the church in a behind-the-scenes way.

All of the required equipment is available in the shed, so there is no need to bring your own. The week prior to your mowing duty, you'll receive a reminder e-mail that includes information about the operation of the equipment and specific instructions as to what needs to be done.

A sign-up sheet is posted in the Building and Grounds section of the large bulletin board in the Parish Hall. To reserve a weekend and ensure that you will be able to participate in this unique experience at St. Matthew's, act quickly and sign up now! Questions??? Contact Steve Smith (303-841-4491, e-mail steve11244@comcast.net), or Whit Greene (720-851-0997, e-mail greenelw@msn.com).

Grocery Cards

When shopping for groceries, gas, or home & garden items please consider purchasing Grocery or Tagawa Garden cards. They are a perfect way to contribute to our church without having to spend extra money, gas and time. Here is how it works: You pay for the card, shop, use the card and the store gives St. Matthew's a percentage of what you spend. We have King Soopers, Safeway and Tagawa cards available. Tagawa Gardens gives St. Matthew's 20% of purchases. You can also use King Soopers cards at their gas stations. Cards may be purchased after each service in the Parish Hall. If you would like more information, or would like to help with this ministry, please contact Whitney Tomlin at 303-8419328 or at Whitney.Tomlin@dcsdk12.org.

Help Needed to Sell Grocery Cards!

Would you like to be a part of a simple, yet important ministry at St. Matthew's, but can't find the time in your busy schedule? Please consider volunteering to sell grocery cards following the 8:00 and 10:30 services. You may sign up for one, or both time slots and it only takes about 30-40 minutes. If you would like more information, or would like to help with this ministry, please contact Whitney Tomlin at 303-841-9328, or email her at: Whitney.Tomlin@dcsdk12.org. *Thank you!*

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Prayer Requests

At the beginning of each month we update our prayer request list. Please contact the office at 303-841-0121 or office@matthewinparker.com if you would like us to continue praying for someone you requested we put on our prayer list. You are encouraged to contact us throughout the month to add or take people off the list, but at the end of each month, unless we've heard from you, they will be taken off the list.

God gave us the precious gift of prayer, and it is the best thing we can do for one another.

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Prayers and Squares

Prayers & Squares will not meet during the summer months, however we will still honor requests for quilts. Applications for a quilt are available on the bulletin board in the parish hall. Please give your request to Hazel McColley or Patty Fanning.

"Of all duties, prayer certainly is the sweetest and most easy." -Laurence Sterne

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OPEN GATE THRIFT SHOP

Your donations are always needed. All items must be clean, wearable and in good working condition. *And, Please, do not leave donations outside.*

Quite often we give our customers extra if we see the need, and we often do. We also recycle to St. Francis Center and the Abused Mothers and Children organization.

There is a new SALE every month, which many of our regular customers eagerly await!

Many thanks for your donations and purchases. Come in and visit sometime and observe what we're all about.

Did you know?

Our youngest volunteer is 65 and the oldest almost 81? We sure could use some younger, stronger people to help us out. Do you have 2 1/2 to 5 hours in a day to give? If so, please call Hazel at 303-840-8540.

Your Servant in Christ,

Hazel McColley
Manager - Open Gate Thrift Shop

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Open Gate Thrift Store hours:

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Friday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

* Donations accepted during these hours only*
Please do not leave items outside

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Mark your calendars for Sunday, June 14 for a Youth Group Family BBQ at Castlewood Canyon from 12:30 to 4pm. We will be cooking hot dogs and hamburger and providing soda. It would be wonderful if each family coming could provide a dish to pass. We will have some planned activities for all to enjoy. This is a chance to celebrate the end of the youth group year and the start of the new.

The incoming 6th graders and family are encouraged to join us on June 14 at the BBQ to meet everyone.

Upcoming events for the summer for the youth group and parish families include 12 tickets for the Sky Sox baseball game on July 18. The game starts at 7:05pm and will cost \$12.00 for lower level box seats on the first base side behind the home dugout. In August, the youth will be rented out to help the walkers taking part in Relay for Life on Saturday, August 15 to Sunday, August 16. Please think about renting a walker and support this worthwhile event. Cancer has touched so many members of this parish the last few years.

Please contact Jody Shoemaker at shoec@aol.com or Rob Myers at robmyers@comcast.net for information or to sign up for any of the youth summer events.

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Weekly Services, Eucharist and Bible Study:

Sunday Services: 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.
 Sunday School: 9:15 A.M.
 Children's Chapel: 10:30 A.M.
 Wednesday Eucharist: 9:00 A.M.
 Wednesday Bible Study: 9:45 A.M.

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Children's Chapel

St. Matthew's provides Children's Chapel for ages 3-3rd Grade during the 10:30 service. Children join the beginning procession from their seats in the pew when they see a child bearing a cross come down the aisle. They continue on over to the education building where they will have an age appropriate lesson based on that day's Gospel. They come back to church at the Peace to join their families for the Eucharist. Parents of children new to Children's Chapel are welcome to attend until their child is comfortable coming on his/her own. Parish families: If you notice that there are more than 12 children processing please offer your assistance to the leader and volunteer to help that day. You do not have to be a parent of a child in the procession!!

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Bibles/Volunteers Needed for Special Ministry

Mike Williams, a chaplain at the Douglas County Detention Center recently sent a request for donations of Bibles. They give Bibles to any inmate who requests one, as well as use them for a Christ-centered recovery program. Churches, or individuals donate all of the religious materials they receive and presently there are more Bibles leaving the shelves than are coming in. The following are the most commonly used:

"The Life Recovery Bible"(New Living Translation)

"Free on the Inside" (New International Reader's Version, or NKJV)

"New King James Version"

All books must be soft (paper) cover

Religious volunteers are also needed and will receive special training as well as undergo a screening process before serving in any capacity. According to pastor Mike, "A volunteer can be the very blessing a man, or woman in prison is waiting for and to help them understand God's plan in their circumstance."

If you feel called to help with this special ministry, please contact pastor Mike Williams at 303-814-7196, or CHAPLAIN@dcsheiff.net.

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Rector: The Rev. Michael Wm. Richardson

FrMichael@matthewinparker.com

Rector Emeritus: The Rev. Vernon Myers

Organist: Betty Sue Hugo

Choir Director: Emily Kiebel

Parish Secretary: Christine Greene

office@matthewinparker.com

Office Hours: Tuesday-Friday 9am-3pm.

Phone: 303-841-0121

Fax: 303-841-3478

Senior Warden: Kandy Halstead

Junior Warden: Whit Greene

Clerk of the Vestry: Laurie Landry

Treasurer: Bev Van Zandt

Vestry Members: Laurie Gough, Laurie Landry, Jennifer Tinsley, Jerry Grabowski, Clay Hubbs, Brandon Stewart, Jo Evans, Kim DeJong, and Chris Hardy.

Bookkeeper: Wendy Rutkowski

Thrift Shop Manager: Hazel McColley

E-mail: office@matthewinparker.com

Website: www.matthewinparker.com

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St. Matthew's Mission Statement

We, the people of St. Matthew's, come together in a welcoming environment to:

† Practice Servanthood

† Act as a Beacon for our community

† Foster our spiritual journey in Christ

in order that we remain united in God.

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| | |
|-----------------|----|
| Dawn Koltiska | 01 |
| Russell Newlin | 01 |
| Gianna Rudolph | 01 |
| Ritch Wagner | 01 |
| Ethan Hriso | 03 |
| Ben Humphrey | 03 |
| Wes Roberts | 04 |
| Ron Martin | 05 |
| Andy Moncier | 06 |
| Joey Moncier | 06 |
| Sofia Rae | 07 |
| Emma Mortimer | 08 |
| Dorothy Beideck | 10 |
| Susie Chapin | 11 |
| Kyle Tamura | 13 |
| Erin Grabowski | 15 |
| John Gile | 16 |
| Brody Tomlin | 16 |
| Charles Wimmer | 17 |
| Jack Kirk | 19 |
| Dr. Rick May | 19 |
| Megan Fonda | 20 |
| Linda Squires | 21 |
| Brian Anderson | 22 |
| Robby Williams | 22 |
| Sue Kirk | 24 |
| Chris Hardy | 25 |
| Rob Williams | 26 |
| Tom Evans | 28 |
| Jamie Gile | 28 |
| Patsy Stewart | 30 |
| Ethan Tamura | 30 |

Anniversaries This Month

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Heather and Ismael Avelino | 02 |
| Don and Doris Elliott | 09 |
| Ken and Sharon Mudge | 13 |
| Andy and Becky Hundley | 15 |
| Mary Jane and Dick Nace | 15 |
| Fr. Michael and Jo Ellen Richardson | 15 |
| Kevin and Linda Parker | 16 |
| Dot and Terry Yaryan | 17 |
| Christine and Whit Greene | 18 |
| Craig and Lisa Marshall | 20 |
| Joan and Ron Maclachlan | 21 |
| Steve and Suzann Smith | 24 |
| Christine and John Humphrey | 26 |
| Brad and Whitney Tomlin | 29 |
| Ray and Diane Trueblood | 30 |
| Laurie and Rick Ward | 30 |

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Please let us know if we have missing, or incorrect information about you or your family.

Cursillo Events

There are two Cursillo events coming up: A Grande Ultreya in Dillon June 20, 2009 and a Cursillo weekend is scheduled for September. (10th - 13th?) If you would like to be on the team, or sponsor a team member, applications are available on the web site (www.cocursillo.org), or contact: Joy Williams 303-481-8473, or joyw1965@comcast.net if would like to know what Cursillo is all about.

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| <i>Sunday</i> | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> | <i>Saturday</i> |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 9-11am EfM | 2 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop | 3 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study | 4 11am-3pm DAR 6:30pm CAP 7:15 Choir | 5 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop | 6 9am Women's AA Meeting 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 11am Wedding |
| 7 8am & 10:30 Eucharist Last day of Sunday School | 8 9-11am EfM 7-9pm DeMolay | 9 9-11am Explorers 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 5:30pm Finance Committee | 10 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study | 11 6:30pm CAP | 12 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 10-1 Sunlight Transitions | 13 9am Women's AA Meeting 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop |
| 14 8am & 10:30 Eucharist 4pm Community Supper | 15 9-11am EfM | 16 9-11am Explorers 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 7:00pm Vestry Meeting | 17 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study | 18 6:30pm CAP | 19 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 6:30-8:30pm Newcomer's Ice Cream Social | 20 9am Women's AA Meeting 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop |
| 21 8am & 10:30 Eucharist | 22 9-11am EfM 7-9pm DeMolay | 23 9-11am Explorers 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop | 24 9am Eucharist Bible Study 9:45 a.m. | 25 6:30pm CAP | 26 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop 10-1 Sunlight Transitions | 27 9am Women's AA Meeting 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop |
| 28 8am & 10:30 Eucharist | 29 9-11am EfM | 30 9-11am Explorers 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop | | | | |

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