

# The Messenger

March 2009



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

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The sacrament of Reconciliation is often thought of during Lent, though it may be used at any time of the year. Some people have made it a spiritual practice to do "confession" (as it's known by many people) during Lent as a way to prepare for the coming of Easter.

The sacrament is a very old rite, or way of coming to God, that has been lost in the way that many of us have learned about how we approach God and our Christian faith. I'll try to explain a bit about what it is and how it works. You are welcome to call and ask for an appointment to receive the sacrament, during Lent or at any time that would be helpful to you.

Much of what happens in the sacramental rite is the same kind of thing that one might bring to a counselor, except that all of the things that belong in sacramental reconciliation are the things we have done and thought that have hurt ourselves and others and not necessarily what others might have done to hurt us.

We have given up sacramental confession for therapy, and in many instances have lost that piece of the sacrament that is so important – the recognition that we are truly forgiven; that God has "put away" our sin. That is one piece that is very different from any kind of counseling; no one tries to help us understand why something we've done is "OK" under the circumstances, rather we confess that it is not OK and we want to be absolved of it.

That is what happens in the sacrament of Reconciliation of a Penitent, or "confession". We are forgiven by God for all those things we truly want to give up and have God "put away". We have a service in the Prayer Book (naturally) that helps us accomplish all of this, though the real accomplishment for us is the giving up of sin by us as we come to God and ask for forgiveness. The real accomplishment is that God does away with sin.

The sacrament can be freeing and a way to get past something that has us "stuck" because we truly are asked to give up our sins and allow God to deal with them, knowing that there is not

always anything we can do about them except be sorry for them.

If this seems like something that you would find helpful, please give me a call at church or home and we can arrange a time to meet. I normally meet either in the church or in my office, but sacramental Reconciliation can take place anywhere God can find us and anywhere you can be comfortable talking about personal matters. The sacrament normally takes under 30 minutes, but some folks have things they want to talk about that take longer. You will know what is helpful for you.

In Christ's Love,

Fr. Michael+

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## **Episcopal Relief & Development Supports Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza**

Since the recent upsurge on December 27th, the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict has left more than 1900 people dead, and thousands injured.

Episcopal Relief & Development's partner, the Al Ahli Arab Hospital, reports devastating civilian casualties and a rising death toll in Gaza City. During this time of crisis, Episcopal Relief & Development remains in close contact with its partner the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. Episcopal Relief & Development has responded to an urgent appeal from the Diocese by sending initial emergency funds to the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza.

"We continue to monitor the needs of the Diocese of Jerusalem and are preparing to send additional emergency funds. Please pray for the people of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Al Ahli Arab Hospital as they risk their own lives to provide lifesaving emergency care to people injured in the ongoing conflict" said Rob Radtke, President of Episcopal Relief & Development.

For more about Episcopal Relief and Development's support of Ahli Arab Hospital, [click here.](#)

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### 2009 Weekly Lenten Program for Adults and Children

#### ***An Invitation!***

All adults are invited to attend the 2009 Wednesday night Soup Supper Lenten Program "Journey into Wholeness" beginning March 4<sup>th</sup>. This 5-week program focuses on our relationships with our communities, the church and ourselves. Wednesday night Eucharist begins at 5:45 p.m. followed by the Soup Supper and Program. Weekly volunteer facilitators are needed for the program with all materials provided. If interested in helping, please sign-up at the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. For additional information contact Susie Chapin at 303-841-1789 or at [dwsjchapin@msn.com](mailto:dwsjchapin@msn.com). Thank you.

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#### ***Lenten Program for Children***

Following the Wednesday night Soup Supper and while the adults are participating in their own program, Kimberly Hubbs will present a special Lenten program for the children of St. Matthew's. There will be a sign-up sheet in the parish hall. If you would like to help, or would like more information, please contact Kimberly at 303-840-7106, or email her at [kjhubbs@comcast.net](mailto:kjhubbs@comcast.net).

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#### ***Calling all Soup Chefs!***



Remember the St. Matthew's 20 Best-A Collection of Lenten Soup Chili and Stew Recipes? Now is the time to put that collection to use by bringing in soups to share with parishioners at the Wednesday Night Soup Supper Lenten Program. 5 Soups and bread/crackers are needed for each Wednesday night. The soups need to arrive no later than 5:30 p.m. in the parish kitchen. Sign up is available in the Parish Hall or contact Susie Chapin at 303-841-1789 or [dwsjchapin@msn.com](mailto:dwsjchapin@msn.com).

### Episcopal Church Women



Attention all you "Scrappers"! ECW will have another scrap booking event on **March 14** from **9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.** We are hoping to get some volunteers to help put together a scrapbook of the last 30 years of St. Matthew's. Bring your supplies, anything that you would like to scrap for your self and \$5 dollars for something delivered for lunch. If you are a newcomer to St. Matthew's, come anyway – you will meet people and have a great time! If you can't make it, we are also looking for donations of pictures you may have of events and/or cardstock, papers, stickers, etc. We will have a box in the hall for everything – all we ask for is that the pictures be put in an envelope with the event on the front, so we won't have to play guess the people and year game! Questions? Call Sarah Siekierski at 303-840-8834.

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**Ladies – If you are a female and attend a service at St. Matthew's or any other Episcopal church, you are a member of the ECW. To receive minutes from the meetings and other information, please e-mail Sarah Siekierski at [sarsie4@comcast.net](mailto:sarsie4@comcast.net) or let Christine know in the office (303-841-0121) and we will get you on the list.**

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In observance of Lent there will be no altar flowers, however be sure to watch the announcements for information on how to donate flowers for Easter.

Thank you for making our church beautiful!

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### **Sunday Fellowship News:**

The March Fellowship Breakfast is Sunday, March 1 at 9:15 a.m. and will be hosted by St. Matthew's Ushers and Newcomer's Committee.

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### **Did you know...**

- Every two seconds someone in the U.S. requires a transfusion of donated blood.
- Blood products are used in a variety of medical treatments including helping cancer patients feel better and saving lives of car accident victims.
- An organ transplant patient may need up to 100 units of donated blood.
- The need for blood is constant. Red blood cells are useable for only 42 days and platelets are useable for only 5 days.
- All blood types are needed. Often the most common blood types are the most frequently transfused.

Did you ever wonder what happens to the blood you donate annually at the St. Matthew's Bonfil's Lenten Blood Drive? Your donation helps accident victims, chemotherapy patients, transplant patients and sometimes it is sent to other regions of the country and world where needed. This year our annual drive is scheduled for **Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the parish hall. Sign up for the event will begin Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> following both services. For additional information or to make an appointment please contact Hearts and Hands Community Outreach Member, Susie Chapin at 303-841-1789 or [dwsjchapin@msn.com](mailto:dwsjchapin@msn.com). We hope all eligible St. Matthew's donors will roll up their sleeves to help others in need not only during this Lenten Season but throughout the year!

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### **St. Matthew's Community Supper:**

#### **Potluck - Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Please join us for Ham Dinner Pot Luck in our parish hall on Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 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 potato or veggie side dish, last names N-Z please bring a salad or 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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### **Parker Task Force Food Bank— Easter Basket Collection due March 22nd**

The Task Force ministry and Youth Group are joining hands to coordinate the Easter Basket collection. We will continue to gather all donations for Easter baskets until March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Any donations are appreciated—small toys, books, games, pencils, notepads, coloring books, candy, plastic eggs, chocolate bunnies, grass, and baskets. On March 22<sup>nd</sup>, the youth group will assemble all the donated items to create special age-appropriate baskets for the children. The Task Force says they run out every year so we would love to help them with this ministry to the children. Feel free to donate any baskets you might have laying around and don't need anymore. Thank you for your continued generosity! Please contact Jennifer Tinsley or Jody Shoemaker if you have any questions.

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### **Hearts and Hands Outreach**

#### **Winter's Not Over Yet!!!**

In addition to the regular St. Francis ingathering items St. Matthew's collects, this winter Hearts and Hands will be collecting Vaseline (petroleum jelly-an all around moisturizer) and shoe strings for the day shelter's clients. Shoe strings for tennis shoes, dress shoes (for possible job interviews) and work boots are desperately needed. Just drop off the items in the St. Francis ingathering baskets located in the parish hall and thanks for making a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves!

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### **Soles for Souls!**

Men! Have you ever been disappointed with a pair of tennis shoes that didn't live up to their advertising promise of fitting comfortably, making you faster on the track or just looking good on your feet? Well, we have just the solution to those "loser" tennis shoes that have been shoved in the back of your closet, collecting dust. Drop off those old soles in the St. Francis Ingathering baskets found in the parish hall. A Hearts and Hands representative will deliver the shoes to St. Francis Center to be distributed to their needy clients. For additional information please contact Hearts and Hands member Susie Chapin at 303-841-1789. Thanks for making a difference!



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### **The United Thank Offering**



*Expand the Circle of Thankful People!*

In-gathering boxes for the United Thank Offering (UTO) will be available in the narthex after Ash Wednesday. Each day as you give thanks for the large and small blessings in your life, you can put an offering (no matter how small) in the box. These small offerings will add up to big blessings for others. Each year, UTO provides almost 3 million dollars to Episcopal ministries in the Anglican community. For example, the pews we sit on for worship were provided through a grant from UTO. You can bless others in the same manner by dropping your change into these little boxes and returning them to the church on May 24. For more information about UTO, please click on the link below:

[http://www.episcopalchurch.org/88377\\_25242\\_Eng\\_HTM.htm](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/88377_25242_Eng_HTM.htm)

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## Who do You Know?

By Susie Chapin

A strange question isn't it? Well for me I can answer-numerous friends, six uncles, three cousins, one aunt, my daughter's godmother, a friend's child and the priest who baptized me. Of course, the complete question is "Who do You Know that has been a victim of Cancer?" We all have seen family and friends wage battles against the disease, some have won while others have lost. The sad statistic is one out of every three people will develop some form of cancer at some point in their lives. The good news is, through medical advancements cancer patients are living longer and having fulfilling lives. But they can't do it without our help! On August 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of this year St. Matthew's Miracle Makers Relay Team will join other Parker teams at the annual Relay for Life overnight event benefiting the American Cancer Society. This organization supports research, treatment, care and education for cancer patients and their families Over the next 5 months, through donations and fundraising events St. Matthew's Miracle Makers hopes to contribute to the American Cancer Society's efforts in finding a cure. As parishioners you'll have the opportunity to help by sponsoring a team member, donating your time and most importantly help through your prayers. So let me ask one more time, "Who do You Know?" and then ask yourself, "How Can I Help?"

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### Help Needed to Sell Grocery Cards!

Would you like to be a part of a simple, yet important ministry at St. Matthew's, but cant 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 meets every 3rd Monday at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.**

We welcome your visit to see us in action. Perhaps you would even like to join us. We are always happy to teach you what we do. We have presented 30 quilts in 2008 for your prayers and tying. Thank you notes from grateful recipients are posted on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall. Applications for a quilt are in the same area. 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

#### End of Year Report for 2008

We were blessed with a very profitable 2008 for St. Matthew's with a total of **\$20,102.62** in sales; \$3000.00 of which came from vouchers provided to clients from the Parker Task Force. We are also blessed with a fantastic and loyal staff of volunteers

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who put in 1704 hours of their precious time. Please thank Doris Elliott, Patty Fanning, Liz Jankura, Jan Kimes, (and Hazel McColley) the next time you see them! You can always catch them at the Thrift Shop on Tuesday, Friday, or Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

A huge donation of clothing and toys came from Channel 9 Cares through the Parker Task Force. Your donations are always needed. I must remind you that 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\*

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### **Volunteers Needed for Snow Removal**

Similar to lawn mowing in the summer, we ask for volunteers to do the snow removal in the winter. There is a sign-up sheet in the Buildings and Grounds section of the large bulletin board in the Parish Hall. When you sign up it's for a week, from Monday through the following Sunday (we do it that way so the same person is on duty for the entire weekend). All of the necessary equipment (snow blower, snow shovels, and melting crystals) is in the shed. The city plows the parking lot and driveway entrances, so all we have to clear is the walkways and building entrances. The week before you're on duty, you'll receive an e-mail reminder with all the necessary instructions. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Smith (303-841-4491, e-mail "steve11244@comcast.net", or Whit Greene, 720-851-0997, e-mail "greenelw@msn.com"). Thanks in advance for your help.

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### **Youth News**



**Quest 2K9**  
**April 17-19, 2009**  
**Frontier Ranch in**  
**Buena Vista, CO**

This spring diocesan youth event weekend is about discipleship and leadership development for young people. Our program focuses on the individual and corporate potential young people have to change the world for good in the name of Christ.

Quest is a youth weekend for teens, grades 6 – 12, and their church youth leaders. It is geared to those who wish to grow deeper in their faith journey with God. It includes plenty of worship, small group time, seminars, ministry experiences and plain old fun! Youth can also take their ministry to the next level by participating in one of Quest's ministry Treks.

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**Trek registration deadline March 5, 2009**  
Pre-Trek Day - Saturday, **March 21, 2009**  
**10 a.m.-2 p.m.**, Christ Church, Denver  
**Quest Registration deadline March 27, 2009**  
Quest 2K9 - **April 17-19, 2009**, Frontier Ranch, Buena Vista

For more information please click on the following link:  
[http://www.coloradodiocese.org/03\\_faithformati/quest\\_09/quest\\_09.html](http://www.coloradodiocese.org/03_faithformati/quest_09/quest_09.html)

Call Jody at 720-519-1266 or email at [shoec@aol.com](mailto:shoec@aol.com) for more information.

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## STITCHES

### St. Matthew's Knitting Group!

The St. Matthew's Knitters Group continues fall knitting projects as well as our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual "Kaps for Kendall" outreach project. We meet at the church on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday every month at 1:30 p.m. and knitters of all levels are welcome, or if you have always wanted to learn to knit, we will show you how! For more information please contact Gina Clement at [gcllement@burgsimpson.com](mailto:gcllement@burgsimpson.com) or call at 303-693-6133. Happy Knitting!

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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 3-3<sup>rd</sup> 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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**Rector:** The Rev. Michael Wm. Richardson

[FrMichael@matthewinparker.com](mailto:FrMichael@matthewinparker.com)

**Rector Emeritus:** The Rev. Vernon Myers

**Organist:** Betty Sue Hugo

**Choir Director:** Emily Kiebel

**Parish Secretary:** Christine Greene

[office@matthewinparker.com](mailto: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, 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](mailto:office@matthewinparker.com)

**Website:** [www.matthewinparker.com](http://www.matthewinparker.com)

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*Anniversaries  
the  
Month*

Chuck Latham	02
Yvette Matthews	03
Mary Jane Nace	03
Ron Scheinin	03
Jeff Stone	03
Fr. Michael Richardson	05
Kimberly Hubbs	06
Mark Tinsley	07
Clay Hubbs	08
Bobbi Scheinin	08
Emerson Rucker	09
Scott Brockmeier	10
Mike Shoemaker	10
Tom Hynes	11
Autumn Fenton	13
Karson Karge	13
Kennedy Karge	13
Christina Rae	14
Bev Weathers	15
Emily Ulmer	18
Jimmy Ulmer	18
Janine Martin	20
Tina Newlin	20
Tom Lonberger	22
Connor Zeray	22
Marv Brasch	24
Elizabeth Evans	24
Rob Koltiska	24
Aimee Marshall	26
Sarah Stone	26
Hazel McColley	27
Emma Caplin	29
Cole Haithcoat	30
Kat Tomlin	31

Jill and Bill Jacobs	04
Judy and Wes Roberts	17
Pam and Roger Reed	18
Barb and Don Byrne	26
Jim and Mary Nikkel	26

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**Baptisms**

Olivia Hope Carroll February 8

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*Please let us know if we have missing, or incorrect information about <sup>24</sup>you, or your family.*

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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>
<b>1</b> 8am & 10:30 Eucharist 8:45-10:30am 9am Fellowship Breakfast 4pm Youth Group	<b>2</b> 9-11am EfM	<b>3</b> 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  9-11am Explorers	<b>4</b> 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study	<b>5</b> 9-11am Parker MOM's, NE  6:30pm CAP  7:15pm Choir	<b>6</b> 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop	<b>7</b> 9am Women's AA Meeting 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop
<b>8</b> 8am & 10:30 Eucharist 8:45-10:30am  1:30 Stitches 4-6pm Youth Group	<b>9</b> 9-11am EfM  7-9pm DeMolay	<b>10</b> 9-11am Explorers  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  5:30pm Finance Committee	<b>11</b> 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study	<b>12</b>  6:30pm CAP  7:15pm Choir	<b>13</b> 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  10-1 Sunlight Transitions	<b>14</b> 9am Women's AA Meeting  10am-5pm ECW Scrap Booking  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop
<b>15</b> 8am & 10:30 Eucharist  4-6pm Youth Group	<b>16</b> 9-11am EfM  10am Prayer & Squares	<b>17</b> 9-11am Explorers  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  7:00pm Vestry Meeting	<b>18</b> 9am Eucharist 9:45 Bible Study	<b>19</b>  6:30pm CAP  7:15pm Choir	<b>20</b> 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop	<b>21</b> 9am Women's AA Meeting  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  DAR 1-4:00pm
<b>22</b> 8am & 10:30 Eucharist  1:30 Stitches 4-6pm Youth Group	<b>23</b> 9-11am EfM  7-9pm DeMolay	<b>24</b> 9-11am Explorers  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop	<b>25</b> 9am Eucharist Bible Study 9:45 a.m.	<b>26</b>  6:30pm CAP  7:15pm Choir	<b>27</b> 10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop  10-1 Sunlight Transitions	<b>28</b> 9am Women's AA Meeting  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop
<b>29</b> 8am & 10:30 Eucharist  4-6pm Youth Group	<b>30</b> 9-11am EfM	<b>31</b> 9-11am Explorers  10-3 Open Gate Thrift Shop				

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