

Open Hearts....

Open Minds....

Open Doors...



GREEN MOUNTAIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 12755 West Cedar Drive Lakewood, CO 80228

Guiding members and friends to a fuller knowledge of GMUMC through

information, support, confirmation, praise, and celebration.

Phone: (303) 989-3727 Fax: (303) 987-9220

Pastor: Reverend Mark Thurman

WINDOW ON THE HILL

FEBRUARY 2025

STAFF OF GMUMC

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Youth Director Alex Neve alex@gmumc.com

Music Coordinator/Organist Melissa Sussman mucikmama@yahoo.com

Chancel Choir Director Charles Turley charles@gmumc.com

Bell Choirs Director Janet Starkey janetstarkey27@comcast.net

Custodian James O'Toole

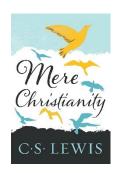
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MARK'S MUSINGS

<u>Mere Christianity</u> is one of the finest Christian apologetical works in recorded history. Right up there with St. Augustine's <u>Confessions</u>, which is pretty heady company if you ask me. Rest assured British author C. S. (Clive Staples) Lewis lives up to the claim. Adapted from a series of BBC radio talks made between 1941 and 1944, <u>Mere</u> Christianity presents Lewis' defense of Christian theology and exploration of Christian ethics delivered in his always insightful, often humorous style of writing. After all, we are talking about the same fellow who wrote books like <u>The Chronicles of Narnia</u> and The <u>Screwtape Letters</u>. (Incidentally, Monty Python's John Cleese does a terrific job narrating the latter on CD. Chances are your public library has a copy.)

If I were to pick one book that best captures the overall gist of the Christian Faith- a book that would explain proper Christian belief and application to someone with no prior experience or knowledge of Jesus in the gospels- I would unhesitatingly choose <u>Mere Christianity</u>. Indeed, when asked which C.S. Lewis book has most influenced them spiritually, the most common answer people gave was *Mere Christianity*.



Translated to about 35 languages, used by Russia's Eastern Orthodox Christians to rebuild after the fall of the Soviet Union, and cited by a number of public figures (i.e., Chuck Colson) as the influence to their conversion to Christianity, it makes a perfect fit for this year's Lenten Book Study/Discussion with the Pastor. We will gather every Tuesday morning at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room, beginning March 11, with the final session wrapping up on April 15th, the Tuesday of Holy Week. Six sessions, about 35-40 pages weekly, followed by lively, inquisitive group discussion. Books are available for a *mere* \$12.00, the very number of Jesus' apostles! Join us, and bring a friend, too.

Pastor Mark



Announcements





NOTE REGARDING GMUMC NURSERY

Currently childcare in the Nursery is <u>not</u> available during GMUMC church services for children under the age of 3 years old. Children ages 3 and older are welcome to join Sunday School class after our Children's time during church service. Infants and Toddlers are welcome to stay in the sanctuary throughout the worship service.



Please join us at our Green Mountain United Methodist UWFAITH monthly breakfast meetings held the **first Wednesday** of each month at **9:00 a.m.**

Wednesday, February 5, 2025
9:00 a.m.
Le Peep Union Blvd – Lakewood
141 Union Blvd, #101
(just a bit South for the Wells Fargo Bank Bldg.)
Lakewood, CO 80228



UWFAITH's motto - We believe love in action can change the world For more information Brenda Bronson at 303.941.7634 or brendabronsonfpe@gmail.com



PASTOR MARK'S BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday mornings 10:00 a.m. GMUMC - Fireside Room

Bring an open Bible, an open tablet (paper or electronic), and an open mind.

Green Mountain United Methodist Church Staff Parish Relations Committee Chairperson: Gerry Griebel

SPRC Liaisons

Kim Myers (Office Manager)	Mary Bloomstran
Cheryl Dial (Finance Secretary)	Deanna Hanna
Melissa Sussman (Music Coordinator/Organist)	Tena Harris
Charles Turley (Director, Chancel Choir)	Gerry Griebel
Janet Starkey (Director, Bell Choirs)	Tena Harris
Kim Myers (Director, Children's Dept)	Dixie Bowker
Alex Neve (Director, Youth Group)	Mary Bloomstran
James O'Toole (Janitor)	Gerry Griebel

THE GATHERING PLACE



Endowments and Memorials will host the Gathering Place for February.

Please thank Peggy Morrison, Lorene Branson, Ken Bullard, Charles Vestal, Dolores Bammerlin and Nancy Carray for all their time and expertise in the work they do.

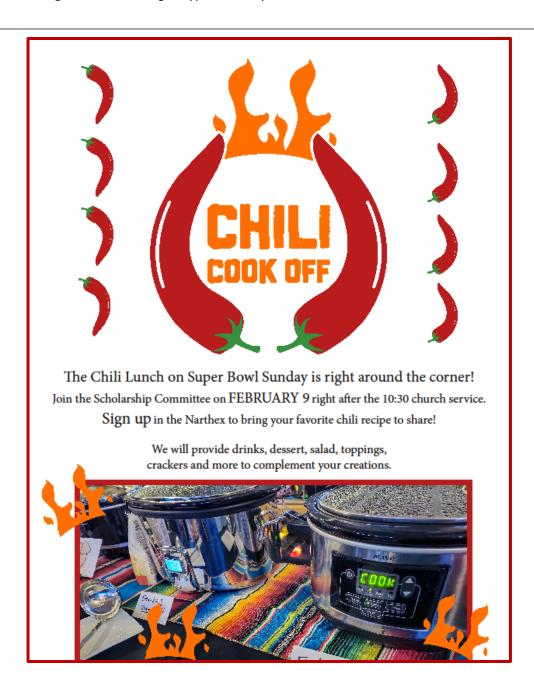
Please contact Marilyn Griebel at (970) 729-0712 if you are interested in helping with **The Gathering Place**. Thank you.



SUPER BOWL CHILI TIME

Well folks, it's Super Bowl Sunday Chili eatin' time downstairs right after church on **February 9th**. **SO**, get out your recipes and get with it. This year we won't be having door prizes. This is one of the greatest times each year for everyone to get together and enjoy meeting old friends and making new ones.

Please bring your chili to the downstairs kitchen before church so we can keep the food warm. Be sure to mark your dish/pot with your name. **PLEASE** note if your chili is mild, medium, fire engine hot, or vegetarian. We will arrange them according to type. Thank you.





BOBBI'S BLESSING BOX

Bobbi's Blessing Box was inspired by my sister. She envisioned a place where people could pick up food items to get them through a rough patch. She had read about them online, where they are like the little libraries you see in neighborhoods.

Just a few days before she died, several of us discussed what an amazing outreach this could be for our church. Then when we found her sketches of a free-standing food pantry with the words, "Feed the Body Feed the Soul," we knew we had to make it happen.

Thanks to Mike & Christie Lyons and Greg & Peter Montano (along with many people behind the scenes), we have this beautiful box that helps our neighbors.

When the box was first installed, there was about a two-week turnover rate. The turn-over rate is less than a day now. The word is out that it is here to help, AND the need is great. Please bring food and put it in the box whenever you can, possibly a little each time you shop. If you wanted to have a food drive at your place of work, we could certainly use the extra food.

Thank you for helping honor Bobbi's vision of helping our neighbors.

Donna Bunger

Here is a list of items that seem to be favorites:

Macaroni and Cheese

Peanut Butter

Soups – condensed and regular Dry Pasta

Spaghetti Sauce

Meats in a Can – Sloppy Joes, Manwich, Spaghetti & Meatballs, Ravioli

Rice

Beans – dry, canned, refried

Canned Vegetables – favorites: Green Beans, Corn, Tomatoes, Potatoes

Packets of Meals – Au Gratin Potatoes, Stroganoff, Hamburger

Helper. Skillet Meals

Ramen/Cup o Noodles Canned/Packets

Meats-Tuna, Chicken Crackers (any

Cereal

Oats

Milk-Dry or in a Carton (refrigerate after opening)

Flour

Coffee

Tea

Salt, Pepper, Seasoning Packets

Salad Dressing

BBQ Sauce

Snacks – single serving crackers, fruit snacks, popcorn, pudding, Jell-O gelatin and candy



SHARED JOURNEY

3rd Wednesday of the Month 12:30 p.m.

Please join us on the 3rd Wednesday of each month for Shared Journey, our support group for caregivers whose loved ones experience dementia. All are welcome.

Please contact Sonya Noyes (303) 985-9522 for more information.



The Care Team has been meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month after church service. We have 18 members on our team who are reaching out with meals, cards, rides, home visits, phone calls, and prayer shawls. We use the weekly bulletin prayer requests as well as any new concerns mentioned during church service as our guide. We know there is support provided by those who aren't serving on our Care Team, and we thank these 'angels' for their service as well.

The Care Team is doing our best to keep up with the needs of those who require support during time of difficulty. **Roxanne Penn and Sharon Berry** serve as co-Chairs of the **Care Team**. All of us work together to provide care for the community and for our Church family.

Thank you for your continued service.

Sharon Berry – (303) 985-0906 (H) Roxanne Penn – (303) 988-0695 (H) The next meeting of the **CARE TEAM** will be in the **Fireside Room** on **February 23, 2025**, after the church service. We hope to see you there as we continue in our efforts to support and care where it is needed.

Sharon Berry & Roxanne Penn, Co-Chairs

PRAYER SHAWLS

Outreach Prayer Shawl Ministry now has four members making Prayer Shawls. We have given about 65 Prayer Shawls to date. If you know of someone in cancer treatment or experiencing grief, or any other situation, please contact Mary Bloomstran and we will provide a prayer shawl.



We welcome anyone that would like to join in making Prayer Shawls. There is a pattern that is used, and the yarn will be provided to you. This has been a wonderful ministry for our church and has brought comfort to many people.

Mary Bloomstran mbloomstran@edgeenvironmental.com (303) 263-2906





The Action Center is always in need of volunteers, and you can sign up for just 3 hours at a time. Visit their website to find out about opportunities to volunteer in the clothing bank and food distribution.

https://theactioncenter.org/get-involved/

Trustees Report For 2024

The Trustees were busy in 2024 accomplishing a variety of improvements to the church facility. Not all were paid for by the Trustees budget as noted, and some were joint projects with SPR or Tiny Hearts Daycare. All helped keep our building and equipment up-to-date and in good condition. If you have questions, please ask one of the Trustees!

- Security Surveillance System installed Cameras throughout the building can be viewed remotely. Images are saved. Paid for by Endowment Fund.
- Handrails installed in altar area.
- Solar panels installed 100% consumption offset of GMUMC electricity saving approx. \$8,850 per year. Paid for by Endowment Fund
- Refurbished Swamp Cooler The original was installed in 1979.
- New Kitchen Freezer Paid for by Kitchen & Memorial Funds
- New Carpet for Youth Room
- New Benches in the Columbarium Paid for by Columbarium Fund
- New handrail for Columbarium Steps Paid for by donation
- Office Phone System Rewiring
- New Comcast Office Telephone System installed
- New Router/Firewall for Church Internet
- Revamped software/hardware for church offices. Paid for by Office Budget
- Key Card System replaced paid for by Memorials
- Quilters Group moved to Rm 403 (Old Hilltoppers room)
- Church Nursery moved to Rm 404. Hilltoppers moved to Rm 204
- New flooring in Rm. 202 (Old Church Nursery) and Rm. 306 (former Asst. Pastor's office).
 Paid for by Tiny Hearts Daycare. These rooms will be rented by Tiny Hearts.
- H P Copier purchased to replace obsolete Risograph machine and rented copier. Office budget purchase SPR.
- Room 201 Book reorganization. Books from Steve Walden's classes are being moved into Rm 201. Room 201 is also Bobbi's Box "hidden" food location.
- New Wooden Fence installed around playground. \$20,000 project paid for by Tiny Hearts.
- Sinks installed in 4 daycare rooms. \$30,000 project paid for by Tiny Hearts.
- Retaining Walls in Playground replaced. Original timbers were rotting.
- Boiler Pressure Relief Valves replaced, other plumbing repairs done by custodian.
- GMUMC "Little Library" bookshelf now in narthex area.
- Coming in January Commercial tree trimming. Partially paid for by donation.

2024 GMUMC Trustees: Doug Wylie, Karen Schmoker, Calvin Mukarakate, Tom Cummins, Katy Grieble

Preliminary Financial Results for Year-ended 2024				
12/31/20				
Income:				
Giving	\$273,098.05			
Building use/rent	\$61,806.50			
Other	\$7,935.61			
Total	\$342,840.16			
Expenses:				
Salaries/taxes/benefits	\$254,491.80			
Building & grounds	\$128,924.27			
Wider missions	\$24,999.96			
Other	\$26,116.65			
Total	\$434,532.68			
Net loss	-\$91,692.52			

Finance Co-Chairs are glad to answer any questions – **Marcia Johnston-Walden or Chuck Thorman**

Southern California Fire Disaster Help

On January 26th, February 2nd, and February 9th the Finance committee will collect donations to help the California-Pacific (Cal-Pac) Disaster Response efforts. We will send all money collected directly to the Cal-Pac conference. (Rev Jean Schwien, Mountain Sky Conference Disaster coordinator, suggests that donating directly to the Cal-Pac conference will more quickly meet immediate needs.)

In addition, all money collected from the noisy offering on January 26th will be included in the Cal-Pac donation.

For more information, check out this article from Rev. Schwien: https://www.mtnskyumc.org/newsdetail/an-update-regarding-californias-wildfires-18853430

or this article from the UM News website by Heather Hahn: https://www.umnews.org/en/news/united-methodists-see-loss-offer-relief-as-wildfires-rage.

If anyone would like to donate directly to the Cal-Pac conference or UMCOR, links are provided in Rev. Schwien's article.

Please make checks payable to GMUMC and include Cal-Pac Fire Relief in the memo line.

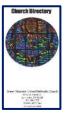


Our GMUMC Chapel

Many of us rarely get to the upper south end of the West Building where our Youth and Children's classrooms are located to visit our chapel. The south end of the West Building was built in 1965, and the first service was held there on Christmas. The building was consecrated by Bishop R. Marvin Stuart on April 17, 1966. This first unit of our church building cost approximately \$90,000. This upper level of our first building served as our sanctuary until the East Building was erected in 1979.

A beautiful stained glass window was behind the altar and remains there today. The top circle symbolizes God and Eternity – without beginning or ending. The cross denotes Christ over all. The second circle symbolizes creation. It is not closed denoting this is an ongoing process. The dove in this circle is a symbol of Peace. The sunburst is a symbol of Hope. The triangle represents the Trinity – Father, Son, Holy Ghost. The Phoenix bird, rising from the ashes, is a symbol of new life and resurrection. The mountain peaks remind us of the Sermon on the Mount and of our church on Green Mountain.

Recently there was a wedding held in the chapel. There has also been an organdonated for the area. Consider using the chapel for small ceremonies or meditation or come to study the stained glass window and its symbolism.



GMUMC Online Directory

Here are instructions on how to access the church online directory with pictures of members, their phone numbers, and emails. The church office will need to have put your information into the directory in order for you to open and use directory.

Go to the App Store. Search for "Instant Church Directory." It is a yellow icon with a white church. Install.

Create Login by giving your email in the directory and creating a password. If your email is not in the directory,

you will need to send the church office a message to add it to the directory.

Instant Church Directory will then send you an email asking you to confirm you are in directory by again asking for your email and password in that email.

The Directory will then pop up on your screen and you can begin searching for telephone numbers, etc.

When you close the directory, you will find the **Instant Church Directory icon** on your screen. To access the directory, just put in your email and password.

LifeSpark Cancer Resources

LifeSpark Cancer Resources is a Colorado non-profit organization that uses Reiki and Healing Touch wellness therapies to bring peace and healing to individuals with cancer. Sessions are offered at partner locations including hospitals, spas, and churches, as well as remote locations. For many years Green Mtn. UMC has hosted LifeSpark massage sessions in a room opposite the church nursery in the lower west building.

How LifeSpark Sessions Work:

- *LifeSpark* wellness therapies promote peace and healing on all levels.
- Adults 18 and over with cancer are eligible: any type or stage of cancer.
- Receive 8 weeks of healing sessions, scheduled at a time convenient for you.
- You'll be matched with an experienced healing touch or Reiki provider.
- Caregivers are eligible (family members who take care of a cancer patient)
- *LifeSpark* is a free program.
- *LifeSpark* sessions last about an hour.
- LifeSpark sessions do not replace medical care but rather support you during and after cancer treatment.

Contact LifeSpark at 303-425-5670 to schedule sessions.

LIFESPARKNOW.ORG



News from the Cedar Hill Community Garden - by Jean Arnold

The garden is part of Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) community gardens. Please feel free to visit at any time.

The Vision: Feeding our community. "I hope that time spent in the garden can grow not only sustainable food but a community from diverse people and foster a sense of place that brings peace." Lori Osborn

Our Community Garden is in hibernation for the winter

Needs for the Garden:

- Garden tools Consider donating your old tools. Any extra tools will be donated to DUG for other Community Gardens.
- Donations for scholarship plots Thank you for your past generosity. Two of the plots in the garden are scholarship plots. Thank you for your 2023/2024 donations making these plots possible for gardeners. The cost to support a scholarship plot is \$50 / plot. The Cedar Hill garden also boasts some of the lowest plot fees in the DUG network thanks to your support, this allows our community members to garden and grow food for their families.
- The Spring 2024 Brick Fund Raiser was a success. We'll be taking orders again during Spring 2025.

Garden plots. If you would like a garden plot for the 2025 growing season, please contact co-garden leader **Ali Young** (alicyoung17@gmail.com) to be added to the list. If you'd like to learn bee-keeping, contact Ali as well. The garden will have 3-4 plots available in 2026.



Please note that the **Window On the Hill** has a **new editor** effective
March 2025. **Angela Stone** has
graciously volunteered to take over
editorial duties. Thank you, Angela.



Articles for the MARCH 2025 Window
On the Hill are due
Sunday, February 16, 2025
Please email items to:
wotheditor@gmail.com
gmumc@gmumc.com

THANK YOU

CHILDREN'S NEWS



In January we learned about Jesus' life before his ministry. We had a blast dressing up as shepherds and animals to participate in Epiphany Sunday. Thank you, Marcia Johnston-Walden, for coordinating our celebration of The Magi's arrival.



In February, we will be continuing to learn about Jesus by studying the book of Luke.



We will make Valentines for children staying at Children's Hospital. We will be collecting new coloring and activity books for children and adults, as well as small trinkets – pencils, small toys, stuffed animals and stickers. If you would like to donate something, please bring it to church by Feb 9^{th.}



March: We will celebrate Mardi Gras and learning about Lent.

April: We will be hosting the Gathering Place and celebrating Easter.

Kim Myers, Director, Children's Department



GMUMC - Feb 2025 / Grades 6 - 12

Sun, Feb. 2nd Cliques in Competition Program 10:15 - 11:30 AM

Have you ever felt excluded from a group? Have you ever been hurt by someone else's ego trip? Do you wish you had better self-esteem? If so, this program is for you! We will discuss cliques, talk about ego trips, and play a game to give each other some positive affirmations!

Sun, Feb. 9th Chili Potluck 10:15 AM - 12:30 PM

Join us for some chili, church, and conversation. The proceeds go to support the Youth Scholarship Fund to help YOU with college when you graduate! Then enjoy the Super Bowl!

Sun, Feb. 16th Game Day 10:15 - 11:30 AM

Presidents' Day Weekend! Who is up for connection and laughter? Let's bust out some games and have a blast!! As always, friends are welcome to join the FUN!!!

Sun, Feb. 23rd Attraction Program 10:15 - 11:30 AM

What do you think is hot? What do you think is not? Let's explore the topic of attraction and what (and whom) we find attractive. Do you have a type? Can attraction be created over time? Is it more about what is inside or outside or both? Come check it out!

UPCOMING DATES:

March 2nd - Love Program

March 9th - When Life Gets Hard Program

March 16th - (Jeffco Spring Break)

Youth Room Activities including

Pool, Air Hockey, Foosball, & More

March 23rd - Let's Get Organized (Jeffco Spring Break) March 30th - Game Day! April 6th - Courage Program April 13th - Unselfishness Program

If you have any questions please contact Alex at: 303-882-0006 or email alex@gmumc.com















Robb Stenman	02/01
Wava Fleck	02/02
Marty Keating	02/05
Katy Grieble	02/06
Neomi Hilton	02/06
Andrew Stone	02/06
Ron Bernard	02/07
Shirley Allison	02/09
Stacey Cummins	02/09
Doug Wylie	02/09
Gary Bowker	02/10
John Olson	02/10
Randy Johnson	02/15
Lyn Berry-Helmlinger	02/20
Roxanne Penn	02/20
Dixie Bowker	02/21
Charles Vestal	02/21
Betty Butler	02/24
Karlynn Cory	02/25
Harold Harmon	02/26
Evan Morrison	02/26
Jennifer Thomas	02/26



Ron & Jane Bernard	02/15	
Mike & Shirley Coen	02/28	

Our Care Corner

Keeping Our Promises

By Upholding the Church with...

Our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and our service.





For those who have experienced loss:

The family of:

Marge Rudolph Ron Penn, brother of Frank Penn Ima Jean McKenna

Rose Camporini, sister of Anna Myers & Kim Myers' aunt

Those experiencing health concerns or other difficulties in their lives:

Church Members:

Georgia Lewis Phyllis Wittrup Melyn Dare Lettie Covert Tom Walker Vivan Gines-Tanner Ron Dare Richard Stoddart Jane Bernard Karen Harmon Jaden Werkhoven

Family of Church Members:

Lyn Berry-Helmlinger, Sharon & Boyd Berry's daughter Stan Camporini, Anna Myer's brother-in-law Richard Bard, brother-in-law of Harvey Meyer Taylor Merrill, Charles & Madelene Vestal's grandson Amanda Glasco, Cheri Werkhoven's daughter Vonnie James, Neomi Hilton's niece Lisa Grenier, Harold Harmon's daughter Jason Thompson, Rilene & Jim Thompson's nephew Ava Ginde, granddaughter of Frank & Roxanne Penn Bryson, grandson of Robin Ramsouer

Friends of Church Members:

Libby Mason, friend of Stacey Horne Brad Horne, Alex Horne's brother Michael McCracken, friend of Karlynn Cory Ron Hinkle, friend of the Vestals Dana Brower, friend of Donna Bunger Serenity, friend of Karlynn Cory Pam Williams, friend of Stacey Horne California fire victims & First Responders



ATTENDANCE

DATE	In Attendance		
12/22	84		
12/24	104		
12/29	89		
01/05	105		
01/12	77		
01/19	48		

Please Note: Names will remain on the Prayer List for four weeks unless you notify the church office to remove them sooner or remain longer. Those experiencing loss will remain two weeks after the Memorial/Funeral service.

Prayers for those serving in the military, their families and all first responders and their families.



FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Youth Bell Practice	7:00 p.m. Church Committee Meetings 7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	9:00 a.m. UMFAITH Breakfast Meeting -LePeep- Union Blvd	9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:15 a.m12:30 p.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service Annual Super Bowl Chili Cook-off After Church Youth Bell Practice	7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study		9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Youth Bell Practice Articles due for March newsletter	PRESIDENTS' DAY HOLIDAY OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study	12:30 p.m. Shared Journey	9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir		
23	24	25	26	27	28	
10:15 a.m. Youth Group 10:30 a.m. Church Service After Church Youth Bell Practice	7:30 p.m. AA	10:00 a.m. Bible Study		9:30 a.m. Quilts for Kids 5:30 p.m. Bellissimo Bells 6:30 p.m. Carillon Bells 7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir		