

## Thank You Notes



Thanks to all our church people who provide our music. It's a blessing.

Micki Conley

Thank you for all your support for Donna (Conley) during her time at The Gardens and in her declining health. Please use this memorial as you see fit.

Thank you,  
Patti Carlson

Thank you for letting us use the church. It helped make our prom night even better. It was a perfect area to get ready in and a beautiful place to take pictures at.

Thank you again,  
Riley Lubeck

Dear Meribeth and St. Paul's Church Family,

Thank you for the care package and letters. I have greatly appreciated both during this semester. I also appreciated the daily Lenten devotions booklet. I truly appreciate all of the love and support that you all have shown me throughout my college career as well as my faith. Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,  
Lexi Phillips

Thank you for your support saving Hy-Vee receipts. We have received our \$1,000 check for 2021. Please continue to save and turn in receipts for 2022 from the store, gas station, or pharmacy.

Jeff Blum

Thanks to the UMW for a fun Spring Fling. The food was wonderful, and the entertainment was great. I was thrilled to be one of four door prize winners who received a beautiful geranium. Thanks to Ava for drawing my name.

Julie Tolzin



Thank you to everyone who gave a children's message this school year. We will take a break for the summer and resume children's messages in the fall.



Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and candy and/or assembled bags to promote Vacation Bible School at the rodeo parade.

Thank you to Glenda Parrish and Sheree Hausmann for spreading mulch on the north side of the church.



Thank you to Dick & Betty Point, Al & Barb Henn, Bill & Judy Jentz, Dave & Linda Appleby, Larry & Shelley Lenz, Chuck & Julie Tolzin, Marla Conley & Scott Osborn, and Chuck and Sally Knoblen for delivering Meals on Wheels during the month of May. A special "thank you" goes to Meribeth Adams for organizing volunteers for this important ministry.

Thank you to Dave Appleby, Bruce and Leah Dage, Linda Burkhart, Jen Gaydo, Jason, Jack, & Tyler Cook, and Mike and Ava Agnew for helping on the Spring Clean-Up and Service Day on May 7th.

St Paul's Congregation,

Thank you for the care packages and cards you've sent over the past few months to us college students! I really appreciate you thinking of me, especially during stressful times like finals. I'm very grateful to have such a caring church family that I know I can count on.

Thank you again!  
Kayden Waldner



Thank you for all the live music and to everyone who contributes. I really enjoy it and always look forward to it. It is very much appreciated.

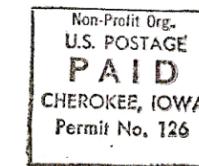
Anonymous

A big "thank you" goes to everyone who took the time to bring your kids to Sunday School and/or encourage your youth to attend confirmation and Teen Time this year. It is a blessing and a privilege to partner with you to help shape the next generation of followers of Christ.



**ST. PAUL'S**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
*God's Love in Action*  
531 W. Main Street  
Cherokee, IA 51012

☀️ June 2022 ☀️



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Graduation Sunday



On May 22nd, high school and college graduates from our congregation were honored during our worship service. High school graduates were also invited to a breakfast at Family Table with Pastor Mike and Craig and Monica Schmidt, Teen Time leaders. Madi Stief, a 2022 Washington High School graduate, gave the children's message (below left) and updated the congregation of the graduates' future plans (below right). High school graduates in attendance included Madi Stief, Dax Pierce, Ty Westphal, and Samuel Jordan (left). College graduate in attendance was Lexi Phillips (not pictured). Congratulations to all 2022 graduates! (Photo credit: Amy Stief)



# THE DOME

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## June 2022

### A Moment with Mike

If you have been reading news headlines in the last month or so, you have probably seen The United Methodist Church mentioned in them. Many of the headlines make it sound like a decision has been made on the issue of human sexuality in our church and that we are therefore splitting. I would like to take a moment to explain to you what is currently going on in our denomination and how we got to this point, since some of these headlines can be quite misleading.



The issue of LGBTQ inclusion in our denomination (whether or not pastors should be able to officiate same-sex weddings and whether or not LGBTQ pastors should be ordained) has been debated since the 1970's. Every four years, there is a global gathering of United Methodist delegates, called the General Conference, where these and other policies of our denomination are decided. It was decided that at the 2020 General Conference, plans would be submitted for a church separation of sorts, with different ideas about how it could work. Due to COVID, that meeting had to be postponed to 2021, and then again to 2022. Recently, it was decided that it would be postponed once again to 2024, due to the difficulty of getting visas in time for delegates from around the world.

Shortly after this third postponement of General Conference was announced, a more conservative movement in the church, called the Wesleyan Covenant Association, decided to go ahead and launch a new denomination, called the Global Methodist Church, which officially began on May 1, 2022. There are some churches who are considering disaffiliating from the United Methodist Church and joining the Global Methodist Church.

**I want to stress that The United Methodist Church has not yet come to a decision on the issue of LGBTQ inclusion. Our denomination is waiting until we can meet globally in 2024 to sort that out.** My prediction and what I am hearing is that most churches will choose to remain United Methodist, as we are a big family with both progressive and conservative people under our umbrella. Those joining the Global Methodist Church are primarily those on the more conservative end who are tired of waiting for the process to play out, while those remaining United Methodist include both conservatives and progressives who are waiting for the process to play out.

In the meantime, how does this affect St. Paul's? **As United Methodists, nothing changes at this time, as our denomination is still waiting to meet globally in 2024.** May we continue to pray for our denomination as we navigate this difficult time, may we seek the Holy Spirit to guide us in the decisions that will be made down the road, and may we pray for all those affected by the decisions that will eventually be made. For now, we continue to do what God has called us to do—make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

God Bless,  
Pastor Mike Agnew



### St. Paul's UMC

**Worship Time as of 6/5:**  
9:30 a.m.

**Address:**

531 W. Main Street  
Cherokee, IA 51012

**Office Telephone:**  
(712) 225-3955

**Pastor Mike's Cell:**  
(563) 506-7412

**Website:**

www.cherokeemethodist.com

Find us on Facebook  
or your podcast app.

**Pastor Mike's Email:**  
michael.agnew@iaumc.net

**Jennifer's Email:**  
cherokeespumc@gmail.com

**Jennifer's Office Hours:**  
Tuesday - Friday  
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

### St. Paul's Staff

**Pastor:**  
Mike Agnew

**Financial Secretary:**  
Sarah Cook

**Administrative Assistant:**  
Jennifer Agnew

**Custodian:**  
Kim Wych

**Organists:**  
Betty Point  
Meribeth Adams  
Sherry Held

**Chancel Choir Director:**  
Becky Lickiss

**Bell Choir Director:**  
Dusty Wright

**Nursery Attendants:**  
Nicole Hoskinson  
Whitney Robinson  
Mandy Christensen  
Miranda Cook  
Bailey Gaydo  
Jen Gaydo

## Worship Notes

### Worship Service Time Change



Beginning Sunday, June 5th, we will switch to our summer worship service time of 9:30 a.m. Please mark your calendars.

### Greeters

- 6/5 Roni Timmerman (west)  
Steve Goodburn (west)  
John & Kay O'Connor (north)
- 6/12 Dick & Betty Point (west)  
Jeff & Patti Blum (north)
- 6/19 Curt & Kristal Phillips (west)  
Loren & Darlene Woltman (north)
- 6/26 Needed (west)  
Dr. Wes & Sue Parker (north)

### Liturgists

- 6/5 Roni Timmerman
- 6/12 Ava Agnew
- 6/19 Barb Kratz
- 6/26 Linda Appleby



### Children's Time

We pause Children's Time during the summer.

### Ushers

June The Knob Team

### Altar Flowers

- 6/5 Stan & Brenda DeRoo
- 6/12 Steve Goodburn
- 6/19 Marla Conley
- 6/26 Bonni Conley



### Nursery Attendants

- 6/5 Whitney Robinson
- 6/12 Miranda Cook
- 6/19 Jen Gaydo
- 6/26 Needed



### Volunteers Needed for Summer Fellowship Time



We are looking for volunteers to provide snacks for summer fellowship time, beginning June 5th. Each Sunday, we would like two couples or four people to assist. If you would like to sign up, please contact Betty Point at 225-3211, or sign up in the notebook in the narthex.

### Seeking Summer Special Music

The Music Committee is seeking volunteers to provide special music in worship during the summer months. This can include vocalists or instrumentalists. Adults, youth, and children are all welcome and encouraged to participate. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Sherry Held or the church office.



### June Sermons and Guest Speakers

Throughout the summer, our sermon series is Reading Other People's Mail: Exploring Paul's Letters. Paul is considered to be one of the most influential people in the Christian faith, second only to Jesus. His letters, the earliest surviving Christian documents we have, make up the majority of the New Testament and have greatly influenced Christian thought for centuries, for better or for worse. Join us this summer as we look at the letters attributed to him to see what he was trying to communicate to their original recipients in their ancient world and what he may be trying to communicate to us.

- 6/5 Linda Appleby preaches while Pastor Mike attends Annual Conference virtually.
- 6/12 "1 Corinthians – Cultivating Unity"  
1 Corinthians 1:10-13; 13:1-13
- 6/19 Linda Burkhart preaches while Pastor Mike is on vacation.
- 6/26 Paul Whitmer from Women at the Well will speak about their ministry. (Pastor Mike will be here.)

Pastor Mike's sermons are broadcast on KCHE 92.1 on Sundays at 8:45 a.m. and are also available via your favorite podcast app. Our full worship services are available live at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays via YouTube and via a link from our website, which can be found at cherokeemethodist.com. Once YouTube has published the service (usually Sunday evening or Monday), we also share the recorded version on our Facebook page. Please stop by the church office if you would like in-person assistance accessing the services.



### Attendance

Date	Worship	Adult Class
5/1	116	8
5/8 (Mother's Day)	131	8
5/15 (Baptism)	118	10
5/22 (Graduation)	120	6



Happy  
Father's Day!



## June UMW Buzz



**UMW Executive Board**  
Off for the summer

**Grace Circle**  
Wednesday, June 8, at 6:30 p.m.  
Schuldt Dining Hall  
Hostess: Jerri Hunt

**Joy Circle**  
Off for the summer

**Charity Circle**  
Wednesday, June 15, at 1:30 p.m.  
Schuldt Dining Hall

**Ladies' Night Out**

Thank you to the UMW ladies who planned the May 5th Ladies' Night Out and to everyone who helped with preparations and clean-up. The program included several readings about mothers and a presentation of various aprons. We also sang two songs, and Ava Agnew provided a clarinet solo.



Betty Point, Sherry Held, and Jeanne Blackstone



Sally Knoblen



Roni Timmerman



We had 61 in attendance.

## Church Family News

### Baptism Blessings



Leo Troy Hummel, son of Jakob and Emily Hummel, was baptized on Sunday, May 15th. Leo's proud grandparents are Rich and Andrea Cook and Troy and Julie Hummel. His sponsors were Katherine Ward (Emily's sister), Megan Seliger (Jakob's sister), and Kaely Hummel (Jakob's sister). Congratulations!

### Update on Jeanne Jones

Jeanne Jones has recently gone on hospice. If you would like to send her a card or drop by for a visit, her address is Care Initiatives, Room 109, 1011 N. Roosevelt, Cherokee, IA 51012.

### With Sympathy and Prayers

**Donna A. Conley**, 90, of Cherokee passed away on January 10th at the Gardens Assisted Living. A memorial graveside service was held on May 10th at the Cedar Cemetery just south of Larrabee. Pastor Doug Federhart officiated.

**Nancy Ann Leonard**, 69, passed away on January 22, 2022. A graveside service was held at Oak Hill Cemetery on May 14th.

## Learn Something New

### Aldersgate Day

May 24th was Aldersgate Day, which is the day John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, experienced assurance of his salvation. For more information, including a three minute video, please visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/how-aldersgate-changed-john-wesley>.

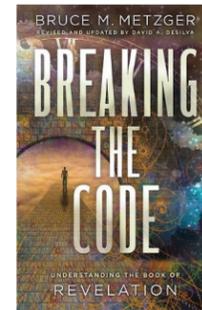
### Pentecost Sunday on June 5th

Pentecost Sunday is when "we remember the day the disciples received the Holy Spirit in a special way. The story in Acts 2 describes a powerful wind and tongues of fire as the Holy Spirit was poured out on people from all over the world who came to Jerusalem to celebrate a Jewish feast. At the first Pentecost, over 3,000 people were baptized, creating the first church. This is why Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Christian church." To read the rest of this article about Pentecost, please visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/ask-the-umc-what-is-pentecost>.



## Christian Education

### Small Group Study on the Book of Revelation



We have had several requests for a small group study on the book of Revelation. This book is one of the most perplexing books of the Bible to read and understand. What is the author trying to communicate with his rich symbolism? Is he giving us a detailed roadmap for the future or something else? Join us for this six-week study, meeting on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m., beginning July 17th, in Feller Lounge. The cost of the book is \$13. **Please sign up by July 3rd, so we have enough time to order the study books.**

### Membership Class Date Change

Are you interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's UMC? Join us for our membership class on Tuesday, June 7th, at 6:30 p.m. in Feller Lounge. **Please note the date change.** We will go over our church's history, learn what makes us distinct as United Methodists, and learn what our membership vows mean. Whether you are a new visitor or have been attending for years, you are welcome at this class. Attending the class does not obligate you to join, but it may help make the decision clearer. If you wish to join but aren't available on June 7th, please contact Pastor Mike for an alternative.

### Vacation Bible School Registration Now Open



Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 10-14 from 5-8 p.m., with a supper for children and their families at 5 p.m. All children who have completed PK-6th grade are invited to attend, and we are now accepting registrations. You may register online at <https://www.cherokeemethodist.com/vbs>, or paper registration forms are available in the narthex and the church office. Preregistration is encouraged for planning purposes but is not required. Feel free to invite your friends, neighbors, or grandchildren. There are invitations in the narthex for your convenience.

### Group Leaders Needed for Vacation Bible School

We are looking for three people to serve as group leaders at Vacation Bible School. This job consists of chaperoning a group of kids from one activity to the next. If you are willing to help in this way, please sign up in the narthex.

### Vacation Bible School Meeting

Everyone who will be helping with Vacation Bible School is invited to attend a planning meeting on Thursday, June 9th, at 4:00 p.m. in Feller Lounge.

## Missions

### Native American Ministries Sunday Update

Native American Ministries Sunday was May 1st, and \$83 was raised in our special offering. For more information about this special offering, please visit <https://www.umc.org/en/content/native-american-ministries-sunday-ministry-article>.



### Peace with Justice Sunday Coming Soon



Peace with Justice Sunday is June 12th. "United Methodists relate to this special Sunday by seeking peaceful solutions, creating and supporting peace-related ministries in their conference, and learning about peaceful, just efforts around the world. Our Social Principles call us to love our enemies, seek justice, and serve as reconcilers of conflict. We insist that the first moral duty of all nations is to work together to resolve by peaceful means every dispute that arises between or among them. The United Methodist Church, with its historic commitment to peace and justice, can and should provide leadership to this social transformation. The General Board of Church and Society holds a non-governmental, consultative status with the United Nations. This status allows us to participate in UN meetings, consultations, and conferences. We recognize and renew our call for social transformation, for the quest to open the doors of opportunity for all, to distribute resources more equitably, and to provide better care for persons in need. Donations for this special Sunday support programs and ministries to educate, equip, and mobilize actions in support of identified Economic, Health, and Gender Justice Priorities. Each Annual Conference has a Peace with Justice Coordinator developing local social justice ministries. Fifty percent of the offering remains in your annual conference to support this ministry. We achieve peace with justice efforts by working with the World Council of Churches, interfaith and ecumenical bodies, and secular organizations for social-justice policies and programs that seek the wholeness of shalom for all of God's people. Your gift, joined with the gifts of others makes a significant impact in the lives of individuals and communities." Information from: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/peace-with-justice-sunday-ministry-article>.

## Holy Humor

"The pastor was invited over for dinner and asked to lead in prayer for the meal. After a brief prayer, little Fred said approvingly, "You don't pray so long when you're hungry, do you?"

From *World's Greatest Collection of Church Jokes*  
Compiled and Edited by Paul M. Miller  
Contributed to *The Dome* by Ava Agnew

## Announcements & Updates

### Day Trip to the Grotto in West Bend



We are planning a day trip to visit the Shrine of the Grotto of the Redemption in West Bend, Iowa, on Saturday, August 6th. Eleven people will fit in the church van, but others are welcome to caravan there. We plan to leave the church at 9:00 a.m. Stay tuned to upcoming bulletins and the July newsletter for additional details. For more information about the grotto, please visit <https://www.westbendgrotto.com/research/history/>.

### Trip to Lake Okoboji U.M. Camp



Lake Okoboji United Methodist Camp and Retreat Center has a FREE Neighbor Night and Summer Kickoff for all ages on Friday, June 10th, from 5-9 p.m. Their website explains, "Help kick off this summer of ministry at camp by joining us for our annual open house. Celebrate along with us as we begin our summer season with a grill out, wagon rides, camp tours, campfire with s'mores, and great fellowship. It's a terrific way to kick off another summer at the Lake Okoboji U.M. Camp!" If there is interest, we would like to take a group from St. Paul's. This is open to people of all ages and would especially be a great opportunity for upcoming campers to check out the camp. **If you'd like to ride there in the church van or caravan there, there is a sign-up in the narthex.** Remember, St. Paul's has committed to paying 75% of the summer camp fee for St. Paul's children and youth this year and hopes to do so again in 2023.

### Annual Conference

The 2022 Iowa Annual Conference Session, the yearly meeting of all clergy and churches of the Iowa Conference of the United Methodist Church, will be held in a hybrid format June 3rd-5th. The conference can be attended online, as Pastor Mike is doing, or in-person at the MidAmerican Energy RecPlex in West Des Moines. In addition to Pastor Mike, Linda Burkhart will be representing St. Paul's congregation. If you would like to sign up for updates about Annual Conference, please visit <https://www.iaumc.org/ac2022>.

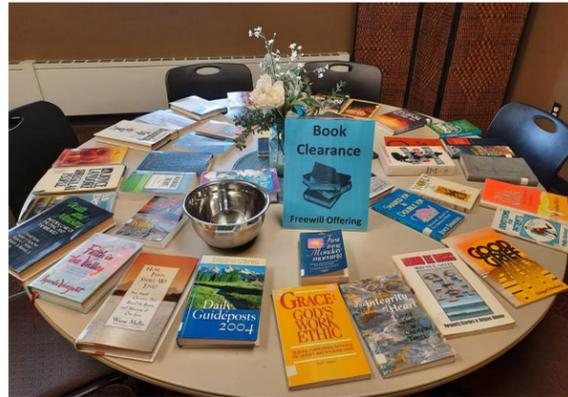
### Rodeo Parade



We have a group that will be representing St. Paul's in the rodeo parade on Saturday, June 4th, by handing out candy and Vacation Bible School flyers. If you'd like to watch for our group, the parade begins at 4:00 p.m.

### Book Clearance

The Library Committee has been sorting and organizing the church library. We have several tables of books available for a freewill offering in Schuldt Dining Hall.



### Pastor Mike & Jennifer on Vacation June 13-21

Pastor Mike and Jennifer (and Ava!) will be taking their long-awaited 2020 vacation on June 13-21, 2022. Meribeth Adams will be printing the bulletins and covering the office in their absence. Her office hours will be June 14th from 1-3 p.m. and June 16th and 17th from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. If you have a need outside of those times, please leave a message on the church answering machine, and Meribeth will get back to you. Pastor Travis Stevick of Grace U.M.C. in Marcus and Rev. Jon Riggert of Trinity Lutheran Church in Cherokee will be covering emergencies (hospitalizations or deaths). **If you have an emergency pastoral need, please contact Meribeth, and she can reach out to the pastor on your behalf.**



### Jennifer's Summer Office Hours



During the summer, Jennifer's office hours will remain 8:30 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-2:30 p.m. (Tues.-Fri.); however, there may be times when she will be briefly off the clock to drop off or pick up Ava from swimming lessons, the library, ISU Extension camps, etc. If she isn't in the office during normal office hours, Mike will either be here, or she will leave a note on the door indicating where she is and when she expects to return. If you are driving from a distance to see her, you may want to call first.

### Education Wing Fund Update

We are replacing windows and installing heat/air conditioning units in the education wing. The balance we needed to raise for this project was \$27,556. **As of May 24, \$22,254 has been raised, which is approximately 80% of our goal!** Your support of this project has been fantastic. Thank you!

## Announcements & Updates

### New Copy Machine

You may have noticed the improved print quality of our bulletins and newsletter. Our copier contract was up in May, so we now have a new copy machine. This machine is able to print in color, although we plan to continue to print primarily in black and white due to the increased cost of color copies. Thank you to Stan DeRoo for helping with the process of obtaining a new machine.



### Church T-shirts Available Soon



Nicole Hoskinson has been working on church t-shirts that the walkers in the rodeo parade will wear to promote St. Paul's. Stay tuned, as more information will soon be available for others in the congregation to order shirts as well.

### Landscaping Update

Glenda Parrish has been coordinating our landscaping this year and has added some flowers on the north side of the church. If you are available to water this summer, that would be most appreciated. Call the church office, or leave a message for Glenda Parrish at 225-2086. Let's hope this will not be a dry summer! If you would like to donate funds for mulch, plants, or other landscaping expenses, please mark the memo of your check for "landscape." Thank you!



### From the Finance Committee

As summer begins, we would like to update you on our financial picture. As a review, during the first of half of 2021, the average monthly giving was \$13,750, which increased to \$16,900 in the second half of the year. With this increase in mind, the Finance Committee anticipated that monthly increases would continue into 2022, so we used \$19,225 as a monthly average for the ambitious 2022 budget. First, we increased our annual apportionment payment from \$8,450 to \$21,700, which is 75% of our assigned amount. Second, we included a minor, long overdue, wage increase for church staff. Even with the downturn of the economy, 2022 giving has still averaged \$16,205 per month for the first four months of the year. However, expenses have outpaced giving by \$21,240.

#### Expense Accounts to Note:

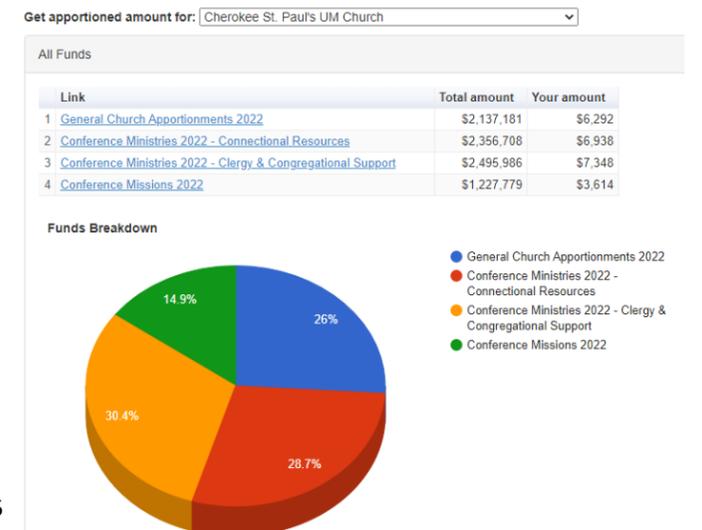
Account	Budgeted for 2022	Expense to 4-30-22
6072 Building Maintenance	\$1,200	\$1,482
6082 Gas (Heating)	\$12,000	\$8,782

Please note that most of the funds for the recent purchase of the church van came from approved dedicated accounts, so that purchase has had a minor impact on the deficit.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be in mid-July. Feel free to share any suggestions or concerns you have with committee members prior to the meeting. Please keep in mind that it is the General Fund that keeps the lights on and the church doors open. Thank you for your care and generosity.

### Apportionments Information

If you would like to know more about apportionments, please go to <https://www.iaumc.org/calculator/2022>, and select "Cherokee St. Paul's U.M. Church" in the drop down box.



### Other Upcoming Meetings

Mondays	8:00 p.m.	Alcoholics Anonymous (NE door and downstairs)
Fridays	6:30 a.m.	S. Dining Hall in use
Tues., 6/7	8 a.m.-2 p.m.	Foster Care Review Board (Feller & S. Dining Hall)
	9:30 a.m.	Visitation Team (library)
Wed., 6/8	10:00 a.m.	The Gardens Bible study
Sat., 6/11	8:30 a.m.	Men's Breakfast (S. Dining Hall)
Sun., 6/12	2:00 p.m.	Worship at The Gardens
Wed., 6/22	10:00 a.m.	The Gardens Bible study
Tues., 6/28	10:30 a.m.	Communion at Viola's
	11:15 a.m.	Communion at Accura