



WRIGHTSVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 2022

WRIGHTSVILLE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE SEAGULL

Doug Lain

Pastor

Julia Crone

Pastor

David Haley

Pastor

Julia Walker Jewell

Director of Music Ministries

Carey Avant

4:12 Praise Band Director

Courtney Rickert

Dir. Of Children's Music

Donna Pinckney

*Director of
Spiritual Formation*

Mikki Perry

Dir. of Congregational Care

Susan Fieldstein

Communications

Madison Pleasant

*Marketing/Communications
Assistant*

Carla Whitlow

Director of Operations

Jamie Borum

Asst. Financial Administrator

Christina Norvell

*Director of Children & Youth
Ministries*

Pam Hutsell

*Asst. Director of Children &
Youth Ministries*

Joseph Hughes

*Asst. Choir Director &
Accompanist*

Kelly Jewell

Morning Worship Musician

Ryan Mansbery

Sound Technician

Kathleen Crowley

Nursery Coordinator

Mac Wallace

Building Superintendent

Dry Bones

If you read through Ezekiel 37 you'll read a famous story about Ezekiel prophesying to a valley of dry bones. When he did the bones came back together, as well as flesh and skin, and then finally the breath of God brought the bones back to life. It is a dramatic story with wonderful imagery. I feel like that's what is happening to the church right now. The bones and the flesh and the skin are reassembling and the breath of God is breathing new life into our church.

We took a hit as the Covid-19 pandemic stopped us from doing church activities in the same ways that we had always done them in the past. We felt a little lost and confused as we tried to figure out how to best grow and share our faith in such strange times. But then, new things sprouted up, and many of the old things started growing all over again. Did you know that we had 28 baptisms in 2021, even though the building was closed for five months and we didn't have worship in the sanctuary until Pentecost? God carried us through in the midst of weird and troubled times.

Of course, the pandemic isn't over, and we may even have to go back to masking again as the numbers of coronavirus cases ebb and flow. Who knows? Certainly not I. But, I do know that God will continue to sustain us, and I have all the confidence in the world that God will never abandon nor forsake us.

I'm really looking forward to 2022. I can't wait to see what God has in store. I mean, if God can inspire us to raise \$92,000 to build two tiny homes for people who are chronically homeless at a time when we weren't even meeting together on site at the church... And, if God can inspire dozens of new members to join the church when our most popular mode of worship is online... And, if God can increase our small group attendance when we are primarily meeting on zoom... And, if God can increase our children's participation even though the kids and volunteers had to wear masks all year... And, if God can help us make up our financial deficit, and have LINC (Leading Into New Communities) honor our work with people who are transitioning back into society from prison, and bless 100 people at Christmas through the Angel Tree ministry, and have the most financially successful Yard Sale for Rotifunk Hospital ever, and the most successful Methodist Men's golf tournament, plus a hundred other things that would take too long to mention, all during a year when we endured a pandemic and three staff member changes, including two of our pastors, then what in the world might God do in 2022?!?!?!?

I... CAN'T... WAIT!

The fun and exciting thing is that I don't even know what God has planned for us this next year. I just know I want to get on board because the things that God will have us do will be amazing. I look forward to joining with you in this New Year as we continue to grow deep roots and produce bountiful fruit for the kingdom of God.

May the Peace of Christ be with you,

Pastor Doug

Phone 910-256-4471

wrightsvilleumc.org

Office Hours

Mon-Thurs 8-4/Fri 8-12

Sierra Leone Mission Team

December 1-10, a mission team from Wrightsville UMC visited the Rotifunk Hospital in Sierra Leone, West Africa. The team included Barbara Gowdy, Kenne Mountford, and Pastor David Haley from our church. Other team members were Marianne Billeter from Wilmington and Steve Smith from Rocklin, California. During the 9 ½ days of the trip the team travelled nearly 16,000 miles by air, sea, and on land. Our church has had a partnership with the Rotifunk Hospital since 2013 and regularly raises funds through Mission of Hope: Rotifunk to support the hospital. The team was able to meet many of the hospital workers, visit different areas of the hospital, observe a surgery, and help staff a mobile outreach clinic. And we got to see firsthand the impact the hospital is having on the communities around it.

We also met the local tribal chief to thank him for his support of the hospital. We met a little boy who had been run over by a motorcycle the week before. When he was brought to the hospital, his intestines were hanging out of his body. The hospital surgeons did an emergency surgery to save his life and put him back together. Now he is recovering very well and should go on to live a normal life. If the hospital had not been there, he would not have survived the 3 ½ hour drive back to the capital city Freetown.

Everyday in many ways the Rotifunk hospital continues to share the love of God through the work in the hospital itself, as well as through the various outreach projects they do in the communities. The team is grateful for the opportunity to see the communities and how the hospital is responding. On December 10, the team arrived safely back in Wilmington with tired bodies, but full hearts!

Mission of Hope: Rotifunk Mission Team



It's back and we can't wait!
If you're a member of the 30's & 40's club,
we invite you to...

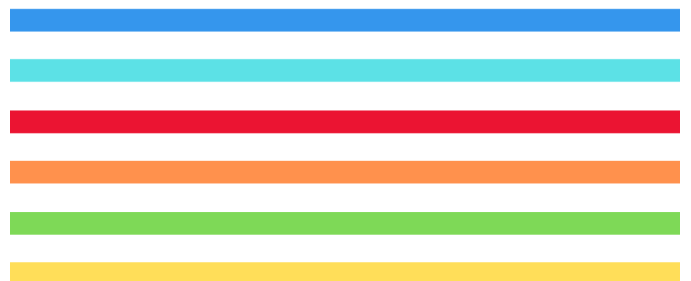
STIRRED, NOT SHAKEN

Young Adult Social

Thursday, February 3, at 6:30 pm
The Venue at
Wilmington Brewing Company
800 S. Kerr Avenue

Book your sitter now if needed!

RSVP to Kristin Selby: 910-612-2075
kristin_selby@yahoo.com



More than Sunday mornings...

The past few years have been hard on us all! Between the pandemic, political polarization, and the continuing demands of everyday life, we are seeing a global rise in mental health issues. The staff of Wrightsville UMC wants to be part of bringing these issues into the light and find healing.

In 2022, we will host monthly special events to discuss issues of mental health featuring guest speakers. Our hope is to create a space for us all to learn from trained experts in our community and to reflect on these issues from a faith perspective. We have lots of possible topics, but we want your input! Please add your voice by taking the survey below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2VGJGMT>

Thank You From The Circle of Hope



The 2021 Cookie Walk was a great success! We raised almost \$6,000 that will be distributed through the United Methodist Women to local missions, the pastor's discretionary fund, and our youth program. The Circle of Hope is grateful to everyone who participated in this incredible project. We could not have succeeded without each of you baking cookies or treats, working the event, or purchasing the goodies.

COVID19 has impacted our daily lives in so many ways. We took a leap of faith the 2021 Cookie Walk would offset some of the uncertainties we feel day to day. On Saturday, December 11th, masks on or masks off, everyone experienced a moment of pure joy watching the Fellowship Hall fill up with friends and families, baker boxes in hand. There was laughter, smiles, hugs and cookie crumbs everywhere. The spirit of friendship and love was abundant!

We'll be back in 2022! We look forward to the challenge of making the next Cookie Walk another success.

Happy New Year!

Let's ring in the New Year with a resolution to keep in touch with our fellow church family. Please take time to call, text, or send notes of cheer to those who are not able to get back to church!

From Cora Laurens, the school counselor at Snipes Academy:

"I just wanted to share with you that one of the parents picked up their gifts this morning. She said it has been such a difficult year, and she is doing it all alone. She mentioned looking at their tree this year and knowing there wouldn't be presents, and she was so, so grateful for the gifts. She had tears in her eyes and gave me a big hug.

Please let everyone at Wrightsville UMC know how grateful our families are for these gifts. We are very appreciative."



Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. --MATTHEW 25:40

The Wrightsville United Methodist Church Outreach Committee supports and nurtures individuals and organizations who are in need in our community, nation and world. We also seek to provide members of our congregation opportunities to define their own ministry in service of Christ.



Save the Date

A night to celebrate 8 years
of health and success.

Join us for dinner & an evening of
gratitude for our friends & supporters.

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Wrightsville United Methodist Church
Wrightsville Beach, NC

2022 Wrightsville Plunge! January 1, 2022



It's time for the 7th annual
Communities In Schools of
Cape Fear's Wrightsville Plunge!

This year you can
participate in either the socially
distanced plunge on the beach, or
with the virtual plunge at the
location of your choosing.
Either way, you can kick off your
New Year by Crystal Pier /
Oceanic – between Public
Access #'s 36 & 37 at 11 am.

Adult registration \$35;
Youth (under 12) \$20

Register here:

[https://
www.wrightsvilleplunge.com/](https://www.wrightsvilleplunge.com/)

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard



Foods most needed:

Canned meat, healthy soups, whole grain cereal, canned vegetables, canned legume beans (black, navy, pork-n-beans, kidney), side starches (mac-n-cheese, rice-a-roni, hamburger helper), rice, peanut butter, and juice (individual and family size).



From the Finance Office

IRS Regulations require that 2021 year-end giving be in the church office or post marked by the USPS no later than December 31, 2021. The church office will be closed December 27, 28, and 31 for Christmas and New Year’s holidays.

You may also do on-line giving. Please go to our website at wrightsvilleumc.org and click on the “Give Now” button. Year-end Charitable Tax Contribution reports will be email or postal mailed by January 31.

If you have any questions or corrections, please call Carla Whitlow at 910-782-9657.

**Wrightsville United Methodist Church
2022 Church Budget**

Conference Apportionment	161,926
Personnel & Benefits	918,812
Administrative Expenses	67,171
Utilities	44,500
Maintenance Expenses	140,100
Insurance	86,855
Outreach	30,000
Racial Unity	2,000
Worship	5,000
Sunday Night Service	0
Youth	39,500
Spiritual Formation	23,500
Music	26,500
Finance	25,500
Stephen Ministries	2,000
Fellowship	<u>3,500</u>

\$1,576,864

**2022 Church Budget approved by the
Administrative Council
November 15, 2021**

Wrightsville UMC Administrative Council Leadership Team 2022

Chairperson	Jim Busby
Vice Chairperson	David Ray
Secretary	Mikki Perry
Lay Members to Annual Conference	Barbara Gowdy
	Donna Pinckney
Staff Parish Relations Ministry Chair	Kristin Selby
Finance Ministry Chair	Richard Morrison
Trustees Chair	Steve Wells
Nurture Ministry Team Chair	Sue Van Note
Outreach Ministry Team Chair	Donna Hudson
Spiritual Formation Ministry Team Chair	Sherri Ingle
Worship Ministry Team Chair	Julia Jewell
Financial Secretary	Carla Whitlow
UMM President	Hayes Perry
UMW President	Judie Eakins
UMYF President	TBD by 4:12
Lay Leader	Michelle Clark-Bradley

Members At Large:

<u>Class of 2022</u>	<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>
Bill Merriman	Eric Hickman	Lori Kilbourne
Scarlet Campbell	Ryan Bisplinghoff	Emily Lackey
Mary Konrady	Jack Fuller	Dale Smith

New year....new study!
Is this the year you try out a new Bible study?
Read on in this newsletter for lots of opportunities!



Save the Date!
New Member Class

Join us 9:30-noon on Saturday, January 8,
for an opportunity to learn more about our
community at Wrightsville UMC.

Childcare is provided...
And so is the coffee!



Register today on the deep roots bulletin board or
by contacting donna@wrightsvilleumc.org.
Class available both on-site and online.

Monday Night Lights Women's Study

Join Sherri Ingle on Mondays at 5:30 beginning on January 3
for this terrific study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians.

Available on-site and online

Registration now underway: Donna@wrightsvilleumc.org



“Join **Beth Moore** and walk the shores of Thessalonica with this verse-by-verse Bible study of 1 and 2 Thessalonians. During this nine week study, you'll learn how to let go of past mistakes and discover your circumstances are not coincidental - God's timing is impeccable! Whether you're facing family crises, medical diagnoses, relationship troubles, doubts, or fears, you'll come away encouraged that even though it may not feel that way, you are exactly where Christ wants you to be!”

Monday Night Blessings

A Celebration of Favorite Women's Bible Studies

In this 10-session Bible Study, we will explore God's Word each session, as we view & discuss a video session taken from a variety of favorite Women's Bible Studies. The video leaders are Angela Thomas, Beth Moore, Mary Kassian, Jennifer Rothschild, Tianne Moon, Lisa Whelchel, Anne Lotz Graham & Priscilla Shirer.

Join Ann Jenkins January 10 - March 14
6-7:30 pm in the Chapel

Each night, we will view & discuss a video session taken from 10 well known Bible Studies. There will be NO STUDY BOOK. Instead, we will read suggested Scripture at home. This loving group of women is comprised of different ages. We pray for each other & we have together in restaurants or homes. Don't let conflicts with dates stop you from joining us. You are truly blessed each time you come!

Young Adult Bible Study

Pastor Julia is leading a Young Adult Bible Study on the book of John.

If you are interested in joining in, please contact Julia Crone at pastorjulia@wrightsvilleumc.org.



Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study

continues on Thursday mornings at 6:45.
Join them for coffee and their study of the
Book of James!

Available on-site and online.
Questions?

Gene Ingle at
gingle@intracoastalrealty.com

Ladies Bible Study

Led by Linda Chapman, Ladies Bible Study
continues on Thursday mornings at 9 for
Bible Study, Prayer and Fellowship.

Questions? donna@wrightsvilleumc.org

New Thursday Morning Women's Study!

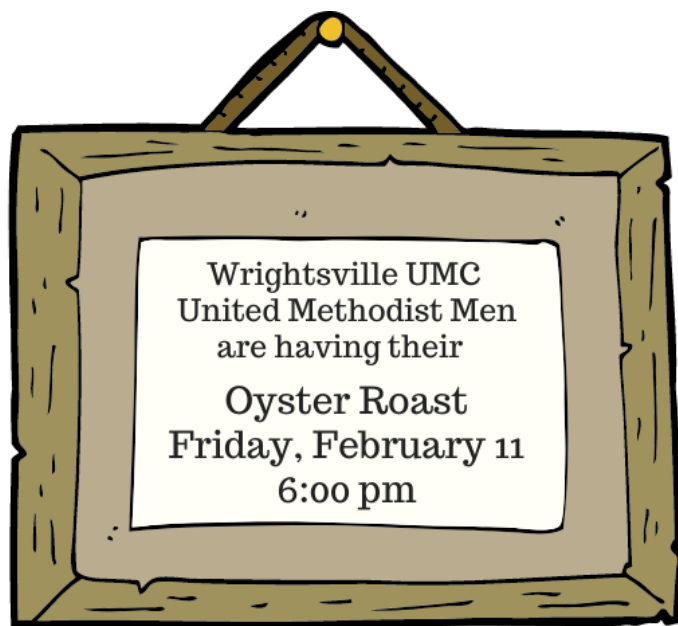
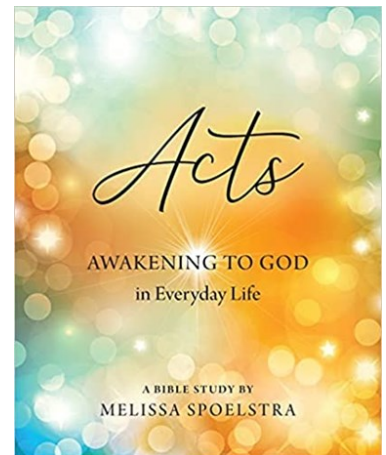
Please join Donna Hickman for a brand new Women's Study on Thursday mornings at 10:00 beginning on January 6. Available on-site and online.

"Whether it's because of distractions, busyness, or a case of the blahs, we can experience a drift toward indifference in our spiritual lives. We have a need for an ongoing spiritual awakening if we want to become more aware of God's presence and activity in our everyday lives..."

This study offers a fresh encounter with God to prepare you to:

- Face daily battles
- Be able to discern the messages of our culture
- Be ready to share God's love with others always"

Registration is underway now: donna@wrightsvilleumc.org



Tickets are \$30 each and will be available to purchase in the Narthex on the following Sundays: January 16, 23, 30, and February 6 or in the church office during the week.

It's going to be a great night! Come support the UMM!



Thank you to all who volunteered throughout Advent!

Whether you wrote for the devotional, lit the Advent Wreath, prepared the Church for the season, helped prepare Holy Communion, or a myriad of other jobs, we SO appreciate you!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the offering on Christmas Eve.



The ministries that will benefit from the offering are:

Methodist Home for Children and Mission of Hope: Rotifunk Hospital.






JOY

JESUS • OTHERS • YOURSELF

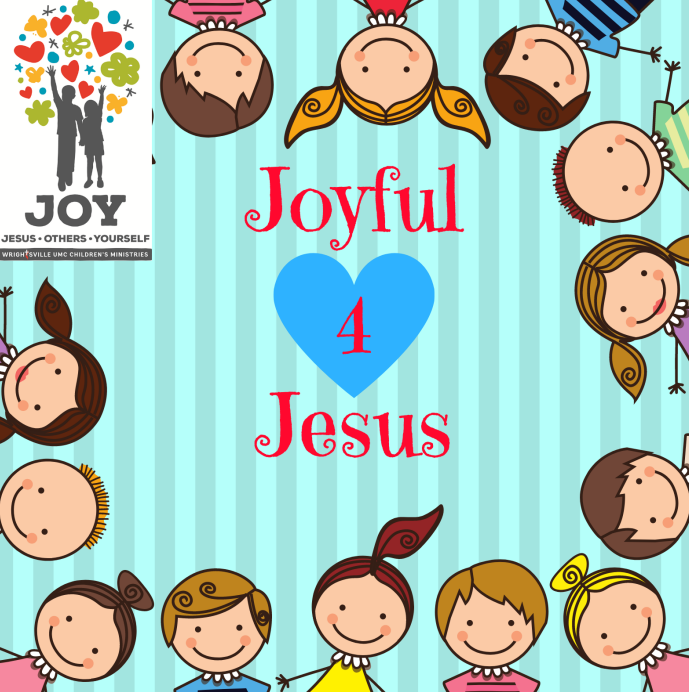
WRIGHTSVILLE UMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Sunday School
10:30-11:30 am
Wiggle Worship
8:15-9:15 am

JOY
JESUS • OTHERS • YOURSELF
WRIGHTSVILLE UMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES



Joyful
4
Jesus

Sunday afternoons from 4-5 pm
 January 9: 4 year olds/Kindergarten
 January 23: 1st & 2nd Graders
 January 30: 3rd & 4th Graders



FAITHFUL 5TH
YOUTH GROUP



JOY
JESUS • OTHERS • YOURSELF
WRIGHTSVILLE UMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

SUNDAY,
JANUARY 30TH
4:30-6 PM



**4:12 Youth Group
Sundays!**

ALL YOUTH
ARE
INVITED

January 9: 5:30- 7 pm
January 23: 5:30-7 pm
January 30: 5:30-7 pm




Sunday School

High School:
9:30-10:30 am

Middle School:
10:30-11:30 am

Confirmation Class

January 12:
5:30-7 pm

January 26:
5:30-7 pm

January 2022 Birthdays

happy birthday to you...



1. Kitsie Auman, Lisa Weeks, Carol Brown
2. Keith Carter, Chelsey Files
3. Tyler Bagley, Waylan Dobbins
4. Phyllis Kosicki, Jim Hardee, Janet Allen, Tim Neatherly, Kingsley Soles
5. John Garvey, Kris Ludtke, Tonya Blalock, Paul Knott, Marley Harrison, Jackson Isear, Millie Marks, Peg Braddy
6. Tom Rowland, Jerald Cole, Linda Wilson, Ella Kullberg
- 7.
8. Stephanie Landon, Reece Jones, Ludo Zirilli, Amy Leister, Conor Kerr, Jim Ross
9. Kinsley Nagle
10. Sidney Nykanen, Gwen O'Quinn, Chris Painter, Paul Clarkson, John Pollard, Chloe Norvell
11. Kay Warren, Jason Tam, Erik Schutte, Campbell Neatherly, Landon Mazer
12. Bob Millar, Tammie Key, Katie Dattilo, Tommy Huettl
13. Pat Woodard, John Midgett, Conner Tarbert, Ralf Henry
14. Justin Batson, John David Allen, Stone Turner, Grace Smith
15. Bernie Nykanen, Holly Ray, Anabelle Little, Patrick Renton, Justin Leas
16. Bobbie Edwards, Alex Paquin, Lisa Brewster, JaNell Dowless, Jenny Crittenden, Campbell Collins
17. Ted Hughes, Pat Britton, Jean Sandlin, Ed Wagenseller, Jim Freeman, Allison Tam, Kennedy Farrell, Hadley Hodges, Joshua Salem
18. Vince Hernandez, Shawn Hicks, Savannah Speight, Mason Buckner
19. Santa Joya
20. Sandy Spiers, Glenn Walker, Taylor Fagan, Evans Lackey
21. Judy Noll, Doug Buchheit, Tonya Boulware, Jackson Davenport
22. Linda Coleman, Gary Chadwick, Allen Riggan, Regan Scherer, Hudson Smith, Meighan Rowlee
23. Dawn Williams, Jonathan Harris, Jackson Norvell, Jack Scherer, Brent Brouse
24. Carol Lander, Terri Littlejohn, Spencer Jarnagin, Pam Hutsell, Presley Dills
25. Frank Efirid, Dallas Elliott, Wagner Shay, Fred McWhorter, Niel Brooks, Ryan Bradley, Ainsley Senter
26. Lois Steele, Gene Ingle, Sherri Ingle, Kevin Hampson, Bob Stone, Tara Sullivan, Steve Campbell
27. Frances Mitchell, Steve Wells, Tyler Newman, Jen Fagan
28. Grady Richardson, Luke Menius, Gary Cram
29. Cameron Pearson, Braelyn Roberson, Zannah Roberson
30. Anne Pleasants, Gina Good, Zach Hutchinson, Lillian Smith, McKenna Eckles, Maddie Daniels
31. Doug Hewett, Ann Lyon, Melanie Shelton, Dave Wilson, Britt Baker, Tom Harris, Jennifer Emerson

If you have news to share with your church family, please email Susan (susan@wrightsvilleumc.org) by January 15 so it may be included in the February issue of The Seagull.

PRAYER LIST JANUARY 2022

“Pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.”
James 5:16

Doris Edwards	Carter Poelling
Pam Stone	Peggy Smith
Billy Edwards	Jim Farrior
Annette Allen	John Solano
Patsy Emmart	Katie Simmons Walker
Jet Taylor	Jim Hardee
Polly Rust	Carol Coble
Sydney Healey	Jeff & Tammy Goldstein
Kathy Reed	Scott Watkins
Judi Davis	Fran Russ
Geraldine & Sterling Hunt	Amy Waller Evans
Sophia Grace Blanchard	Marie Hardy
Dottie Lefoy	Carl Rogers

As we have done at the beginning of each new year,
all names listed on the permanent prayer list have been taken off
as we try to keep the list more up to date and relevant.

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list,
please call the church office at 910-256-4471.
Their name will remain on the prayer list for four weeks.
Thank you.

A requested prayer of thanks from many who have benefited from your prayers.

Condolences to the families of:


Nancy Welborn (Grey Welborn's mother), Jo Newman, Grace Bernhard, JoAnn Hodges (Millie Keener's mother), Sylvia Davis

We encourage you to lift up the names of people in our church, your family,
or friends you know personally so that the church might pray for them.

If you would like to add a person's name to the prayer list
please contact Mikki Perry at 910-256-4471.



January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Worship in the Sanctuary every Sunday at 8:15 am & 10:30 am Adult Sunday School</p>	<p>Children and Youth Sunday School: 10:30-11:30 am. Wiggle Worship: 8:15 am Worship Service Nursery provided during both worship services.</p>	<p>High School Sunday School meets from 9:30-10:30 am Adult Sunday School meets from 9:30-10:30 am</p>				<p>1 11 am Polar Plunge 8 pm NA</p>
<p>2</p>	<p>3 5:30 pm Monday Night Lights Women's Study</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 6:45 am Men's Bible Study 9 am Ladies Bible Study 10 am Women's Bible Study 8 pm AA</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 9:30 am New Member Class 8 pm NA</p>
<p>9 4 pm Joyful 4 Jesus: 4 yr. olds & Kindergarten 5:30 pm 4:12 Youth</p>	<p>10 5:30 pm Monday Night Lights Women's Study 6:30 pm Monday Night Blessings Women's Study</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 5:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>13 6:45 am Men's Bible Study 9 am Ladies Bible Study 10 am Women's Bible Study 8 pm AA</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 8 pm NA</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17 5:30 pm Monday Night Lights Women's Study 6:30 pm Monday Night Blessings Women's Study</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 6:45 am Men's Bible Study 9 am Ladies Bible Study 10 am Women's Bible Study 8 pm AA</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 8 pm NA</p>
<p>23 4 pm Joyful 4 Jesus 1st & 2nd Graders 5:30 pm 4:12 Youth</p>	<p>24 5:30 pm Monday Night Lights Women's Study 6:30 pm Monday Night Blessings Women's Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 5:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>27 6:45 am Men's Bible Study 9 am Ladies Bible Study 10 am Women's Bible Study 8 pm AA</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 8 pm NA</p>
<p>30 4 pm Joyful 4 Jesus 3rd & 4th Graders 4:30 pm Faithful 5th 5:30 pm 4:12 Youth</p>	<p>31 5:30 pm Monday Night Lights Women's Study 6:30 pm Monday Night Blessings Women's Study</p>					

Return Service Requested

Deep Roots... Bountiful Fruit

(it happens here.)

Please check out the following information...

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