

## News Update for July 14, 2022

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### This Week at Trinity

**Wednesday** (July 13<sup>th</sup>)

- **Upper Room** via Zoom 10:00 am
- **Troop 6** Mary Dawson Hall 7:00 pm

**Friday** (July 14<sup>th</sup>)

- **Office Closed**

**Sunday** (July 15<sup>th</sup>)

- **Indoor, In-Person Church and Video Worship** on Facebook Page at 10:10a (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>)
- **Sixth Pentecost Sunday**

**Monday** (July 16<sup>th</sup>)

- **NA Just4Today2** 7:00 pm
- **Book club** 7:00 pm
- **Theology on Tap** via Zoom 7:00 pm

**Tuesday** (July 17<sup>th</sup>)

- **Cub Scouts Pack Meeting** 7:00 pm
- **NA Book Study** 7:00

**Wednesday** (July 18<sup>th</sup>)

- **Upper Room** via Zoom 10:00 am
- **Troop 6** Mary Dawson Hall 7:00 pm

## Worship on 7/17

Theme for the week: "HospitALITY"

Sermon title: " FEW THINGS ARE NEEDED... INDEED ONLY ONE.""

LESSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN GOSPEL: (Luke 10:38-42)

*Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."*

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## UWF News

Happy Summer All! Hope you had a wonderful 4th of July, celebrating the



United Women in Faith

independence of our country. Enjoy the summer sun now that it is finally here.

UWF has given a \$300 donation for church camp scholarships. Camp is such a fun experience for our youth, and we'd like to see as many young people get the opportunity to go as possible.

Don't forget to make your monthly UWF donation to Joni Pace. Even though we don't meet during the summer months, the work of the UWF continues.

SAVE THE DATE! August 11 will be our ice cream social. More details coming. Let's have a big group to welcome the start of the 2022-2023 year. Also when at the church this summer check out some books from our reading program. The books are in the UWF library (UMW) in the parlor. There are some excellent reads both fiction and nonfiction. See you at Mission U!!!

Lyndell Bradshaw

## Global Ministries/UMCOR

To provide humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people in the wake of the Russian invasion of their country.



Gifts to support the people of Ukraine can be made in the following ways:

Check to Trinity UMC with "UMCOR # 982450-Ukraine" written on the memo line. We will get it to them.

Online: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/982450>

## John Wesley Quote

*It is desired that all things be considered as in the immediate presence of God. The we may meet with an single eye, and as little children, who have everything to learn; that every point which is proposed may be examined to the foundation; that every person may speak freely whatever is in his heart; and that every question that arises may be thoroughly debated and settled...*

*Minutes of Conversations, 1744*

## Sermon from 7/3

### "Doing and Being"

(Based on Luke 10:25-37 &  
Amos 7:7-17)

I am here serving in the role of a pastor, which might suggest that I like getting up week after week to speak in front of crowds...



She is an accountant so if you really want to get to know her, maybe you should bring up turbo tax next time you see her at a party. That'll open the floodgates: she just loves talking about that stuff on her time off.

He is an ex-con who did a 10-year bid in upstate New York. It follows, naturally, that he's an untrustworthy crook who'll steal the shoes off your feet when you're not looking.

We're talking, today, about the things we do, the things we've done, and the ways in which they work to define who we are both in our own minds and the minds of other people.

The actions we take.

The labels we make.

The ways that they inform the lives we are endeavoring to create.

It's all a complicated game of interconnected moving pieces - this complex process of building, maintaining, and reframing relationships - that, like any gamble sees us winning at times and losing at others. And through it all, all too often, the outcome is determined not by concrete truths, but by perceptions - how we're judged and viewed.

She is a single mother.

They are lazy drunks.

We live in a time that in which it is common place to lead with labels despite the fact that the stories they tell, like any old fable can be limited, limiting, and misleading.

He went to Harvard, so you can bet your bottom dollar that he's super smart.



They are Supreme Court justices so, not only are they upstanding, trustworthy, and wise - they are also unerring, unbiased, caring, thoughtful, forward thinking... We could go on, but let's just say - for time's sake, that they're, each and everyone, undeniably the best people for the job.

Create a box, pop a person in it and this complicated world we're all trying to navigate becomes a much simpler place in

which to exist. That is, we now have one less thing to think about.



Now, don't get me wrong - this process of categorizing and ultimately prioritizing isn't necessarily a bad thing. In fact, it is the process that has helped humans survive and thrive against all odds: a good part of the reason you and I are alive today. This commonplace practice of seeing and sizing up is the skillset that helped our ancestors survive when, say, predators in the wild were an everyday threat. The quick assessment of situational threats actually saved lives.

That big cat slinking through the trees is dangerous.

That person with unfamiliar dress and markings could be a scout for a marauding tribe - we'd better sound the alarm.

But time moves on and the things we once needed to fear are no longer real threats. Tribes become confederations.

Confederations become nations. Cities are built, the wilderness recedes, and some of those smaller scale fears that dominated our everyday thought process become non-factors. But the truth is, it takes time for our threat responses to catch up and level out.

An illustration:

Let's say you're walking along a trail somewhere and see something out of the corner of your eye. Your brain screams snake! But a second, closer look reveals you were startled for no reason at all: it's just a discarded rope or twisted stick.

The same can be said for the way we see people. Our surface level assessments can trigger exaggerated responses or even mesmerize and lure us into complacency leaving us unaware of the real threats that loom. It goes both ways.



He is a priest, and that guy a few minutes behind him is a Levite. Two holy men. Of course they'll stop and help if they see someone in need, right? Well, no... sometimes expectations are set and left unmet. Meanwhile, that person or people, sect or faction that we've traditionally antagonized and they us - folks that we have no reason to believe will come to our aid in times of need - sometimes do. Our

appraisal of situations based on appearance and cultural biases are sometimes proven wrong, leaving us off balance and surprised.



So, here's an interesting, interpretive tidbit:

This story, attributed to Jesus and recounted by Luke in today's gospel is often referred to as "The Parable of the Good Samaritan," but have you noticed that the label or designation of "good" is nowhere in the script? Yes, we can look at the actions of characters and say that the Samaritan's response to the situation was "good," and possibly establishes him as a "good" person, but that's not how the original storytellers describe him. Rather, they let his actions speak and it's later, as the story is told and retold, that someone decides to slap on that label of "good," likely as an act of simplification (that is, "let's summarize this whole bit in the title..."), but if we start to really unpack that action, the label we've adopted or accepted without deep interrogation actually lands us in sticky territory. Why? Because what's left unsaid is that in using this descriptor, "The Good Samaritan" as it's intended, we the readers and repeaters are unwittingly implicated as taking sides in ancient culture war between two nations that marks an entire population - the people

of Samaria and its diaspora - as something other than or less than "good." This unofficial title suggests that this particular guy is an exception to the rule whereas the point Jesus and Luke are trying to get across is that "goodness" knows no borders, is inherent to no particular people. Rather, it is our individual adherence to God's law that determines our eternal worth: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself. It is in our commitment to bringing our whole selves, in a spirit of love, to our devotion to God and our interactions with others. We are asked, likewise, to see those that we relate to in their wholeness; in their fullness. And this isn't an easy task, this willingness to step back and allow others the agency of self-determination and time and space to show us who they are in mind, heart, soul, strength. There is nothing easier than falling back on the fixed, compressed labels that free up our processing power so that we can get on with the tasks already set before us, allowing us to "pass on the other side" with minimal disruption to our daily routines. But, again, there's a flip side to that coin isn't there? Examples of when the shortcut leads to collapse:

Just ask Amaziah, who, in our reading from Hebrew scripture, takes it upon himself to essentially rob Amos of his own agency, his own right to self determination - choosing instead to define Amos by a role he has been chosen to fill. "O seer," he says, "go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there, but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." In other words, get out of here you bothersome prophet, you. You're

making life around here difficult for the rest of us. But his plan backfires doesn't it? Amos not only refuses to be reduced to a label. He outright rejects it, firing back, "I am no prophet nor a prophet's son, but I am a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.' Now therefore hear the word of the Lord..." And what follows is all bad for Amaziah and his family: your wife will be unfaithful, your children will die by the sword, and you will perish in an unfamiliar land. "This is who I am," says Amos, "this is what I've been chosen to do, and here are the consequences for confusing and conflating the two..."

So how might we avoid similar pitfalls? Well, let's start this whole thing over again, from the top:

I am here performing the role and function of a pastor, but if you ask me, I'd much rather ditch that label and to be regarded as your fellow traveler who, when the need presents itself, stops to help friend along The Way. And instead of standing in front of you, telling you how it is as one person show, you might be surprised to know that I'd be much more comfortable adopting the ancient practice of sitting together in a large circle that fosters dialogue: a circle where multiple voices are heard. That is the truth of my desire, but this practice of standing in front of you and preaching - is what tradition has called me to do for the moment.

And if we were to take that same approach in considering how the unflattering, loosening, or letting go of labels facilitates an opening for much more complex identities to emerge, maybe we'd find that,

say, the Harvard grad from our earlier example isn't so studious at all - but just happened to be born into a family that had the means to "buy" their way in with a sizable donation, and so our respect or reverence for his or her intellect and the attendant degree might be a bit dimmed or sullied. And if we then take that same token and flip it again, maybe we find that those "good for nothing lazy drunks" were the ones who actually had the work ethic and IQ to make it into and excel at an Ivy League school but had the misfortune of being saddled with impenetrable barriers social and economic barriers: pushed down, pushed over, and pushed past their entire lives until they just didn't have the fight left in them to keep going.

And as for that ex-con? Maybe, just maybe, he or she did that 10-year bid for protecting their kids... Maybe they took drastic actions when they felt there was with no other way out.

Life is messy and complicated.

People are complex, our stories convoluted.

So, whether we're talking outsiders from ancient Samaria or the insiders on today's Supreme Court, is it not prudent for us to recognize that the labels we tend to rely on, accurate or no, can only ever tell a sliver of the story? That's what I believe these tales, told by Jesus, Luke, and the chronicler of



Amos are getting at, suggestions each that we adopt a practice of looking a little bit closer at our fellow travelers, while letting go of assumptions, asking a few more questions, and finding new ways to relate. "Do this," says the Gospel of Luke, "and you will live."

Amen.

Blessings,

Pastor Alphaeus

## Scholarship Update



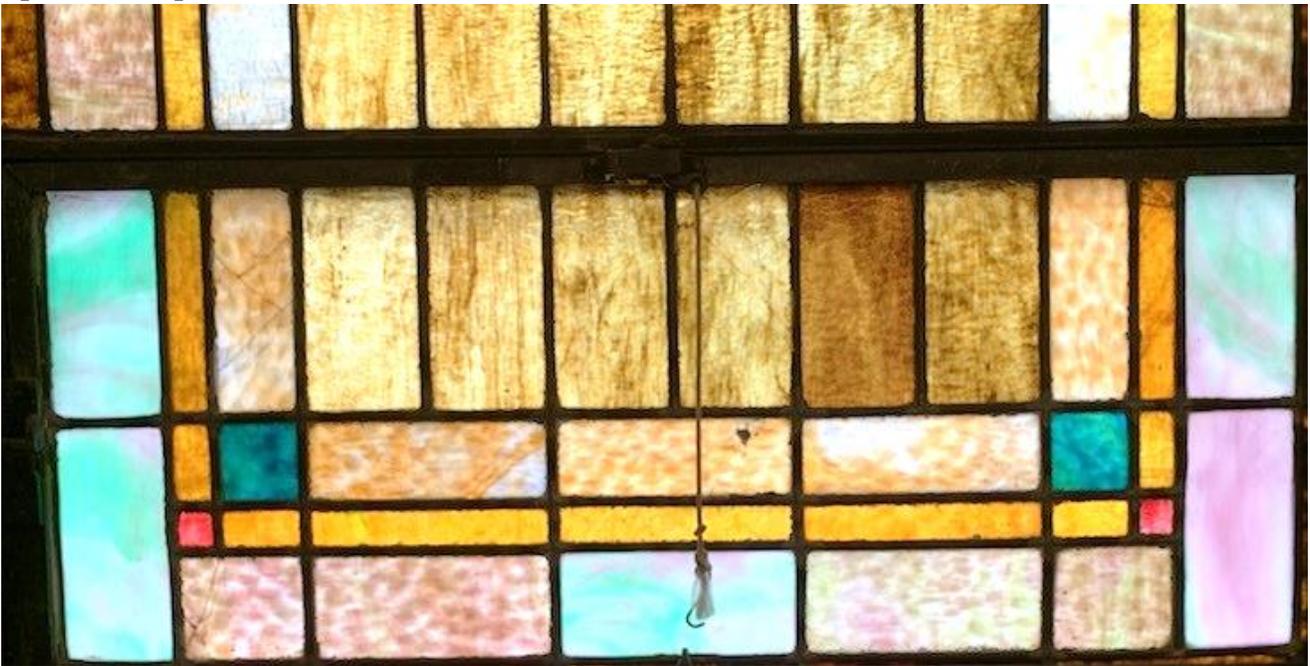
Dear Trinity,  
Thank you for the generous scholarship. I will use it wisely and it will help me greatly. I have always had fun and felt welcome whenever I visited the church. I hope that the institution continues to be a location for happy memories.  
-Lily B.

## Restoration of Stained Glass Vent Windows

The Trustees need your help to raise another \$4,400 for the restoration of two more vent windows in the north aisle of Trinity's sanctuary. The constant opening and shutting of these windows for over 100 years has taken a toll. Several of the panes are cracked, the windows are sagging in their frames and poorly matched replacement panes were installed in the

cost of the project. The project includes \$13,000 for window restoration, \$14,000 for three crates of custom-made glass, \$1,000 for shipping and \$3,000 for a contingency. The custom-made glass is needed because we are unable to purchase additional replacement glass that matches the beautiful colors and textures of the original glass installed our windows.

Trinity has recently received donations of \$9,000 from church members for this project. Another \$7,579 from the stained



past. Silicone caulk was used to mount the windows during the last major repairs performed in 1978 and has caused further deterioration. Additionally, the protective glazing on the windows has become cloudy and needs to be replaced.

The stained glass windows at Trinity are a priceless legacy and we want to be good stewards in caring for them. The Trustees have received a \$10,000 grant from the Idaho Heritage Trusts to help with the restoration. This is about one-third of the

glass repair fund and other church funds is committed to the window restoration. As a result, we still need about \$4,400 more to begin the restoring the vent windows. Please consider making your contribution to the Stained Glass Repair fund to help us continue the restoration and conservation of Trinity's beautiful stained glass windows.

## Crockpot Meals Needed



Compassionate Care Need!  
We need crock pot or casserole meals for the homeless people that stop by the Day Shelter.

We will provide the cooking container and the ingredients, as necessary. Please help with all the love in your heart. Contact Don in the office. **Next available dates are: July 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>.** Also, donations of canned food (with pull-tops) would be greatly appreciated. Examples of greatest needs are:

- Pasta (E.g.: Chef Boyardee)
- Corn, Green Beans, & Mixed Vegetables
- Meats, soups, spaghetti sauce

**Thanks** to Ann Shively, Jill Ecklesdafer & Mary, Tricia, Nancy Copp, Cindy Woolf, Heather Rutledge, Dixie Oswald, Kay Kiefner, Kathy Harder, Bev Kemp, Jo Ann & Gary Rose, and Marcia & Tommy Lew and Hersh Mynarcik for their preparation of food, generous donation of time, and compassion in helping with feeding the hungry.

## Anniversaries

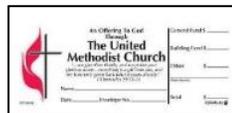
Chance & Heidi Empey July 19<sup>th</sup>

## Birthdays

	<u>July</u>
David Cole	15 <sup>th</sup>
Merilee Haga	15 <sup>th</sup>
Pam Hawker	15 <sup>th</sup>
Terri Empey	16 <sup>th</sup>
Michelle Brown	17 <sup>th</sup>
Vance Empey	17 <sup>th</sup>
Mya Hagan	18 <sup>th</sup>
Susan Nelson	18 <sup>th</sup>
Marybeth Eikelberger	20 <sup>th</sup>
Jade McMurtrey	21 <sup>st</sup>
Ben Davenport	25 <sup>th</sup>
Chance Empey	27 <sup>th</sup>

## Financial Statements

Our church's financial status for January 2022 to June 30<sup>th</sup>



Income = \$ 69,108.68  
Expenses = \$ 93,633.46  
Difference = (\$ 24,524.78)

Thank you for your continued generosity. More than ever, the world needs what our church offers!

## Sawtooth Methodist Camp Letter from Coordinator

This best thing that is currently happening for Children and Youth at Trinity is for kids to attend church camp. This year we are sending and supporting 10 youth to participate in the 3 camps that are available in July. The cost for each camper is almost \$500. However, it is money well spent for the rewards that are reaped from this experience. What an incredible opportunity for everyone!!! We are asking for continued donations to the "Trinity Camp Scholarship Fund" so we can assist all youth that attend. It can be a life changing experience for the youth and their families.



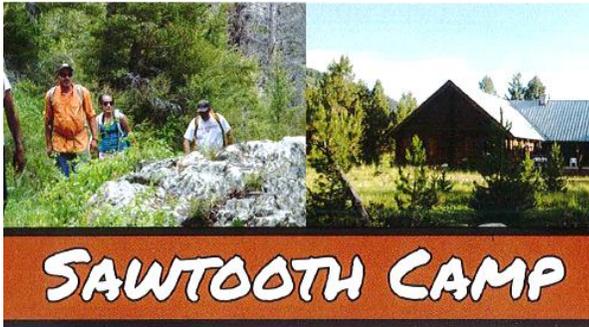
Jim and I spent 3 days at the camp in June while the leaders and youth were planning the summer program. It was so exciting for us to meet the leaders and counselors at Sawtooth as they prepared for the upcoming camps. Many of them are leaders now because there were once campers at Sawtooth when they were kids. It was even more interesting to meet several counselors that were once youth at Trinity. . They are



dedicating to providing an outstanding experience for the youth.

The Elementary age children's camp is this week, July 10-16. The campers, who are there now, are Adellyna Castillo as a (CIT) Counselor in Training and campers, Sofia Griffith and Eliana Castillo. The Jr, Hi, camp is next week, July 17-23 and the Sr. Hi, camp is July 24-30. We will have more youth attending those camps too. Please support our youth with funds for the Camp Scholarship Program! THANKS! All checks or other money go to Trinity UMC designated for camp scholarships.

Betty Anderson  
Coordinator for children & youth at TUMC



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
CAMPING PROGRAM

Sawtooth Camp is remotely located in an alpine valley 35 miles north of Fairfield, Idaho, on the North Fork of the Boise River. This picturesque camp is a blend of mountains, meadows and a winding river that offers a wide range of wilderness experiences.

*COME* to the wonder of God's mountain creations. Hike up to a mountain lake and watch a falcon soar on the wind currents.

*CARE* to learn about relationships with others, yourself and God. Sing at campfire and help a new friend make the perfect s'more.

*SEEK* to explore nature, faith, and your vision. Watch for moose and deer, or listen to the chatter of squirrels & chipmunks.

*SHARE* fun and fellowship with your past, present and future friends. Laugh with new friends as you share fresh baked bread.

Mountain bikes are available at the camp to use on the trails that run through the 120 acres of camp and the surrounding

National Forest. Zip lines are part of a challenge course used to develop community.

The river winding through the camp offers refreshing water activities.



*Camper's Log Entries:*

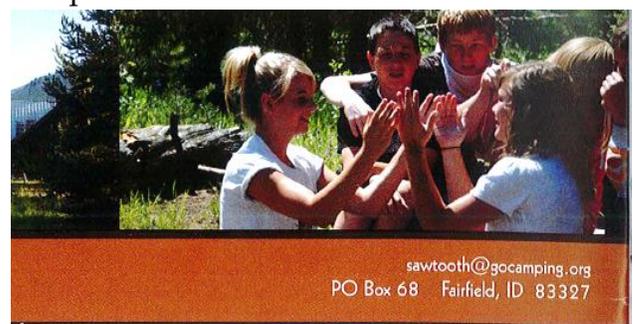
"There was an activity where you were blindfolded. The rules were, you could not let go of the rope. To get to the end, you had to find the cup, but to find the cup you had to ask for help."

"I learned that a lot of people have different views. Sometimes flawed, but we can exist together."

"I made a new best friend and we just connected. Now she is my best friend in the whole world!"

"I learned you can make friends anywhere, even in the woods."

"I liked hiking, the ride in the truck and campfire."



"Thank you, for the scholarship and the opportunity to go to camp."

Register on-line at [gocamping.org](http://gocamping.org) or call 503-802-9210 for more information

**Elementary**

Completed Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>  
7/10/2022 - 7/16/2022

**Junior High Camp**

Completed Grades 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>  
7/17/2022 - 7/23/2022

**Senior High Camp**

Completed Grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>  
7/24/2022 - 7/30/2022

Eastern Idaho Campers contact Betty Anderson call or text at 208-521-3039 or email [bettyellenba@gmail.com](mailto:bettyellenba@gmail.com)  
You can also leave a message with the Trinity church office at 208-522-7921.  
Please let Betty know if you are going to camp so she can coordinate transportation.  
Scholarships are available from the conference and from Trinity United Methodist Church in Idaho Falls.

**Campership Fund**

Would you be willing to help someone get to church camp this summer?

Camp costs **\$488** per person this year. Yes, that IS a lot,

but it's a great deal for an experience that can change a person's life!!



**Staying Connected**

Each Sunday Worship videos will be posted on Trinity's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TUMCIF/>). If you go to Trinity's web page ([www.TUMCIF.org](http://www.TUMCIF.org)) you can find a link to the Facebook page. Be sure to "like" and "follow" Trinity's Facebook page if you want our content to show up in your personal Facebook feed. Please call Ruth at 208-419-7870 if you have difficulties finding the videos.

Check Trinity's YouTube channel for videos of weekly worship at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZz1YGrdRCH6HIND2LpVCgg>

**Trinity Leadership**

Below are the names and contacts for the leadership positions for the next year. Please let the appropriate leader know how you are willing to serve.

- Bev Kemp - Chair of Staff/Parish Relations  
(208)569-6149  
[bevmkemp@gmail.com](mailto:bevmkemp@gmail.com)
- Don Rohde - Chair of Trustees  
(860)810-3227  
[donrohde@aol.com](mailto:donrohde@aol.com)
- Robin Stewart - Chair of Administrative Council  
(208)521-6358  
[robin.s.stewart@gmail.com](mailto:robin.s.stewart@gmail.com)
- Scott Taylor, Chair of Finance  
(208)201-5593

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<h1>July/August</h1>			<b>13</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 Finance Meeting via Zoom 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> UWF Mission U 9:30  Office Closed	<b>16</b> UWF Mission U 9:30
			<b>17</b> 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>18</b> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	<b>19</b> 6:30 Admin Council Meeting via Zoom 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>20</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)
<b>24</b> 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>25</b> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	<b>26</b> 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>27</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Office Closed	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 10:10 In-person worship with Live stream on Facebook	<b>1</b> 7:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom) 7:00 NA Just4Today	<b>2</b> 7:00 NA Book Study 7:00 Cub Scouts Pack & Den	<b>3</b> 10:00 Upper Room by Zoom  6:30 pm Gather at the Table (Zoom) 7:00 Troop 6 (MDH)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Office Closed	<b>6</b>