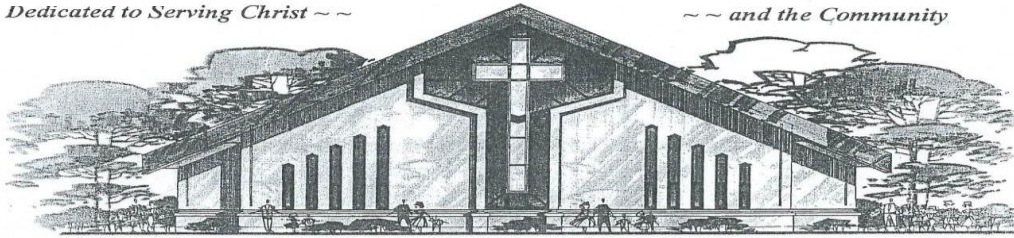


PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
4340 Six Mile Road
Racine, Wisconsin 53402

Dedicated to Serving Christ ~ ~

~ ~ and the Community



May 2026

NEWSLETTER

“Confirmation: Something to Remember and Celebrate”

In just a couple weeks, we have something exciting happening at Prince of Peace. I will be confirming ten confirmands on May 17th. It will be my biggest class of confirmands yet at Prince of Peace. It gives me great joy to be able to say that. But did you know that Confirmation as we now practice it in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, did not always exist in our Lutheran church?

In the early years of Lutheranism, as parishes and their priests broke away from the Catholic church to be Evangelicals (or as they came to be known Lutherans), there was no Rite of Confirmation in the church. How Confirmation worked in the early days of Lutheranism was this.

A parent, specifically the father, was to use the Small Catechism that Martin Luther wrote to teach his children at home. Interestingly, the Small Catechism was initially published as posters to be hung in churches to educate people in the church. However, by mid-May of 1529, Luther expanded it to include a Preface and a Table of Duties and had it printed as a small book with illustrations.¹

This book was to be used at home around the table or at night to be a simple way for fathers to teach their children the basics of the Christian faith. He wrote this book after he visited many parishes in 1528 and discovered a great ignorance among the laity and even priests in the basics of the Christian faith. He writes in his Preface to the Small Catechism, “Dear God, what misery I beheld! The ordinary person, especially in the villages, knows absolutely nothing about the Christian faith, and unfortunately many pastors are completely unskilled and incompetent teachers.”

Luther was aghast at the lack of basic Christian knowledge in the churches he visited, so it was what prompted him to write his Small Catechism. It then became the practice of “Lutheran” churches that the parents brought their children to the pastor in his office when they thought they were ready to receive Holy Communion. This practice even happened as early as 7 or 8 years old.

The pastor would then examine them by asking them questions on the Commandments or the Apostles' Creed or the six chief parts in Luther's Small Catechism. If the pastor determined that they had a sufficient understanding of the Christian faith and Holy Communion, he would allow them to be admitted to the Sacrament of the Altar or Holy Communion.

There was typically no special Rite of Confirmation performed in a church service, but the child would just have his first Communion with his family. It wasn't until 1533 that a Lutheran pastor named Martin Bucer introduced a Rite of Confirmation to be used during a church service where the children after being examined by the pastor could publicly surrender themselves to Christ and confess their faith in Him before the church. The pastor would then lay hands on the child or children and publicly welcome them to the Table of the Lord, officially admitting them to the Lord's Supper.²

This is where our current practice of Confirmation finds its origin. But regardless of how Confirmation was practiced, its purpose has never changed. It is for children to demonstrate their knowledge of the Christian faith, express their intention to be true to it and confess it throughout their life, and then to be welcomed, after this examination, to the Table of the Lord.

It is what these ten will be doing in a few weeks and it is what all of us in the Lutheran church have promised to do who have been confirmed into the Christian faith.

It is where we aren't just to make promises, but to follow through on them. As all of us at one point said yes to these questions. "Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?" Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death? Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

They are serious questions in our lives that we all confessed before our Lord that we would do. Therefore, I hope you will come and hear these ten make this confession before God and His church. I hope you will celebrate with them this millstone in their lives because it really is a day to celebrate and remember in each of our lives. It was the day we all publicly said I believe in our Triune God and the doctrine of His church.

It might just be a day many of us remember for the robes and cake and pictures, but I hope it is also a day we remember for the confession we made because as Jesus said and I will say to those youth, **"Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father in heaven."** Amen.

1. Harran, Marilyn J. *Martin Luther: Learning for Life*. p. 207
2. Slides from Pastor Mark Surburg

***Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Chris***

	<u>Worshipped</u>		<u>Communed</u>		<u>Offering</u>	
	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>2025</u>
April 5	365	209	252	165	21,281	8995
April 12	211	151	93	131	7678	5705
April 19	220	366	124	248	5544	8858
April 26	224	161	186	129	5268	4434
Averages	255	222	164	168	9943	7254

THANK YOU!!

Thank you to all of you at Prince of Peace for the outpouring of love, support, notes of encouragement etc. during the worst season of my life. I am truly blessed to have such a wonderful, caring church family!
Wishing God's Richest Blessings to all of you always!

Christy Price



WOMEN OF WORTH

If you haven't been to a WOW gathering, we would love to see you. Women of Worth (that's you!) gather at 10:00 am on the second Saturday of each month.

This is a time to set aside for you to take a break, be served a lovely breakfast, enjoy the fellowship of the women in our church family, and hear a devotion.

Our next meeting will be May 9th. If you would like more information please contact Erika Skuhra at 262-930-3771.



CHAIR YOGA



Chair Yoga has started up again. It is on Tuesday mornings at **10:00 am** and held in the fellowship hall.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

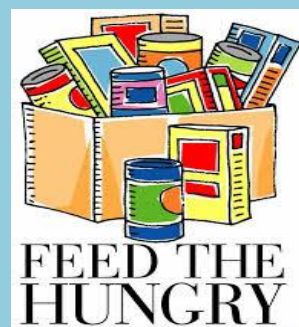
Help keep our church flower gardens and grounds looking beautiful ! We are seeking volunteers for light planting, weeding, and general outdoor upkeep. If interested, please email Beth Praeger at bethpraeger@gmail.com
Thank you!



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MAY:

For the month of April the food pantry is requesting the following items:

- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Jelly
- Pork & Beans
- Saltines
- 15 oz. cans of Pork & Beans



They could also use clean, lightly used plastic shopping bags and brown paper grocery bags. They are also looking for Cookbooks, greeting cards, Children's Bible Story Books, pens, and pencils. We would not be able to feed so many hungry people without the help of many volunteers and donors. Thank you all for your generosity and love for your neighbor!

Give hope this spring.

Give blood.



American
Red Cross

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church Blood Drive

4340 6 Mile Rd
Racine

Monday, May 11, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

For an appointment call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit
RedCrossBlood.org

**Come to give blood May 1-17 and get a \$20 eGift Card,
thanks to Amazon! See: rcblood.org/Amazon**



Scan to schedule
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© The American National Red Cross | 406001-01-001

1-888-1-Order-ID: 1937865 • Item ID: 0655553 • Qty: 1 of 1 • 483407 • 2026-APR-0813 • ABCB - 254659

TIME & TALENT SHEETS

We invite you to participate in the life and ministry of our church.

We ask that you prayerfully consider filling out the Time & Talent Survey.

Sheets are located on the tables by the marked boxes in the Narthex. If you would like more info please contact Laura Petersen.



2026 Voting Dates for Racine County

Spring Non-Partisan General

Fall Partisan Primary Election – August 11th

Fall Partisan General Election – November 3rd

Please pick up your “Vote in 2026” information Flyer from your mailbox or from the information table across from the coat wall.

AMAZING GRAYS SENIOR LUNCHEONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 THRU MAY 2026

Amazing Grays is held from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on the third Wednesday of the month from September thru May. Meals are free to all Seniors, though a freewill offering is accepted. Entertainment is also provided and varies each month.

Raymond Community Church, 8217 West 6 Mile Road, (Hwy G), will host on May 20th.

For more information please call 262-835-2157 or email: ugcrcc@gmail.com



PRINCE OF PEACE BOOK NOOK

Do you love to read, and have books that you would like to recycle? Please drop them off for others to enjoy!

All appropriate books are welcome. If you see a book you would like to read, we ask for \$1.00

donation. All proceeds will be used for church repairs.



Prince of Peace Youth Group

Scrip –Youth Group Fundraiser:

Gift Card (Scrip) Orders - due Sunday noon May 17th

Easter Basket gifts & more – Need gift cards for the holiday, presents or everyday shopping, groceries, pharmacy, gas, or restaurants?

Available cards include Kohls, Target, Walmart, Best Buy, Office Depot, Amazon, Home Depot, Menards, Pick N Save, Festival, Walgreens, Kwik Trip, BP, Speedway, Panera, Starbucks, & more. Place pre-paid orders in offering by **Sunday, May 17th by noon**



to get cards the following week. Many other stores, services, and electronic cards are available. All proceeds help the POP youth for National gathering. Order forms in narthex. Questions, contact Gina Janke, 262-880-6207 or gmaiorana@aol.com

MONTH (UPCOMING HOLIDAY)	Order by Sunday noon:	Cards Available by:
MAY (DADS AND GRADS)	5/17	5/22
JUNE (DADS AND GRADS-TAKE 2)	6/14	6/19

“Scrip order due – Sunday, May 17th



All cards listed on www.raiseright.com

Electronic cards & reloads available via mobile app, see QR code or <https://www.raiseright.com/enroll?enrollCode=3A4C8ABB18119>



We've teamed up with **Honey Helps** for a fundraiser that's as delicious as it is impactful! Every purchase—whether it's golden domestic honey, fiery hot honey, rich grass-fed tallow, or nourishing natural lip balm directly supports our mission to help **every youth attend this unforgettable experience.**

Here Are The Details:



- The funds raised will go towards our **2028 LCMS Youth Gathering!**
- Our goal is to raise \$500.00.
- The fundraiser runs from **April 26th to May 17th.**

So How Does This Work?

- Each product is sold for \$20 – we keep \$10 net profit!
- We also keep 100% of all proceeds from additional donations as well!
- Our “ASK” is for each participant to sell 10 products.

Scan the QR Code below and Let's GO!!!



First Friday Fun Night

On the 1st Friday night of every month there will be a FUN NIGHT at church. The next one will be on **Friday, May 1st**. The hours are **6-7:30 pm** and it is for students in grades 6-12. There will be Fun, Fellowship, Games, & more. Bring a friend! For more information contact Karli at karli.luchterhand.pop@gmail.com.



MYSTERY DINNER THEATER - ACTORS NEEDED!

Students in 6th - 12th grade (and any adults who would like to join the fun!) are invited to participate in this year's Mystery Dinner Theater. This interactive event will be a great time of fellowship, laughter, and creativity - while supporting a great cause! The performance will be on **Sunday, May 3rd** and practices will start on **Sunday, March 8th** (meeting about twice a month). This event is a fundraiser to help students earn money for the next National Youth Gathering. If you are interested in acting or would like more details, please talk to Karli Luchterhand. Come be part of the mystery and help support youth!



Help Us Deck the Halls for Mystery Dinner Theater!

We're getting ready for a festive and fun evening at our Mystery Dinner Theater: Murder at the North Pole on May 9, and we need your help to bring Christmas to life... in May!

Decorations Needed:

We're looking to borrow Christmas decorations, including: Trees, Lights, and General Christmas décor

Drop-off: By Wednesday, May 6 - Pick-up: Sunday, May 10

Cookie Donations:

We're also in need of delicious Christmas cookies for dessert!

Drop-off: By Friday, May 8

Thank you for helping create a memorable and festive experience for everyone. Your contributions make all the difference!

Murder at the North Pole

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, May 9, 2026

6:00 PM

Adult Ticket - \$25

Kid Ticket - \$15

**What happened to Jack Frost?
Help solve the mystery!**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – PLEASE CONTACT KARLI LUCHTERHAND AT 262-649-8584 FOR MORE INFO.

Become Involved!

There are many other ways you can become involved with our Rainforest Falls VBS.



PRAY!!

Please pray for all of our planning efforts, and many hours of preparation behind the scenes. Pray for the volunteers and staff that will be leading these precious children to a deeper walk with Jesus. Most importantly, pray for the kids that will enter our campus **July 13-17**.

VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer!

There are many areas of VBS that we will need your help! We will also need many hands prior to VBS week to help decorate/set up.

3) We want your household recycled items!!

We are collecting toilet paper tubes, paper towel tubes, egg cartons, plastic milk jugs, water bottles, soda bottles, 2 liter bottles, boxes of ALL sizes, and brown packing paper.





reasons to
VOLUNTEER at

Reach children with Jesus' love
Answer God's call to serve
Nvest in the next generation
Enrich young hearts
Nurture young hearts
Form lasting relationships
Offer your gifts to God
Reach the unchurched
Encourage spiritual growth
Nurture laughter and joy
Transform lives (including your own!)



VBS



Thank you
for serving!

Bible Study Opportunities



Sunday Morning Bible Class:

Offered both in-person and online through Zoom at 10:30 a.m. The link is sent in email. Topic: "Our Amazing Savior: Studying the Miracles of Jesus."

Tuesday Morning Bible Class:

Meets at church at 11:00 a.m. Studying the Gospel of John.

Friday Men's Bible Study:

9:30 a.m. every Friday at Prince of Peace. We are studying the book of Romans.

Saturday Men's Breakfast Bible Study:

Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 am.

The Topic: "A trek with the Disciples: Lessons learned from Jesus". Next Study is May 16th.

WOW (Women of Worth) Women's Fellowship/Study Group

Every 2nd Saturday of the Month there will be a gathering for women called "Women of Worth." It consists of study/devotion, fellowship, food, and prayer. The gathering will be on the May 9th at 10:00 am.

Preschool & Childcare



May News from Child Care

AS WE WIND UP OUR SCHOOL YEAR,

we want to thank you for entrusting your children to our care and for your continued support. We are incredibly blessed to have such supportive parents and families. All the help provided did not go unnoticed or unappreciated.



We pray that God will continue to use each one of us – parents and teachers – to help our children develop to their highest potential spiritually, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically.

SUMMER CHILD CARE - Our Child Care program will be continuing its year-round program through the summer. Summer Child Care will begin on Tuesday, May 26th. Children from ages 2-1/2 thru 9 years old may attend child care during the hours of 7:00 am - 6:00 pm at a cost of \$5.50 per hour. If you anticipate needing child care this summer, please let us know soon as we fill up quickly.

summer



Take careful note of the special days, and days closed, on the Center Calendar. Also, note that holiday breaks may be slightly different than Racine Unified's although we try to follow their schedule fairly closely.

There are several spots open in 4K and childcare for the 2024-2025 school year. If interested, contact Carla Abel by phone at 262-639-1277 or email at poppssc.racine@gmail.com



Lutherans For Life

May 3 – Fifth Sunday of Easter - The truth of God's Word is not always welcomed by "stiff-necked people" who "resist the Holy Spirit," and even become enraged at hearing the truth. Stephen faithfully proclaimed that Word even though it led to his martyrdom (Acts 7:51, 59-60). Many angry voices today demand unfettered access to abortion or physician-assisted suicide. But we must continue to sound the trumpet of truth, for only the power of God's Word can open the eyes of the blind and execute justice for the oppressed (Psalm 146:7-8). It is the narrow road of faith in Jesus Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that gives us access to our Father in heaven (John 14:6). Baptized into Christ, we are living stones, being built up into a spiritual house, that we may proclaim the Good News of the One who calls us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:5, 9).

May 10 – Sixth Sunday of Easter - Like Athens at the time of the Apostle Paul's preaching (Acts 17:16), this world is full of idols. Today's idols may take on a different shape, but they are just as deadly. These idols craftily disguise themselves with practical-sounding words and phrases, such as "reproductive health care" and "death with dignity." The One True God, the Lord of Life, offers a better way. Jesus says, "Because I live, you will also live" (John 14:19). Though in this life we may be tested and tried like silver, and what may appear to be a crushing burden is laid on our backs, the Lord God has promised to bring us into a place of abundance (Psalm 66:10-12). We have been given the Helper, the Spirit of Truth, who dwells in us (John 14:16-17), that we may serve God in our various vocations as Gospel-motivated voices for Life, always being ready to make a defense for the hope that is in us (1 Peter 3:15).

May 14 (The Ascension of Our Lord) - In the Ascension of Christ, we behold the fulfillment of Psalm 47:5, "God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet." Knowing that the Lord Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God (Ephesians 1:20), where He rules all things for the good of His Church, gives us great comfort and assurance as we continue to advocate for those whose voices are being silenced by abortion. There will be a day of reckoning, when the Lord Jesus returns with the clouds in the same way as He once ascended into heaven (Acts 1:11). We thank God for the hope to which He has called us and pray for His Spirit of wisdom and enlightenment (Ephesians 1:17-18), that we may continue to speak the truth in love and call people to repentance, that they might receive the forgiveness of sins through Jesus Christ our Lord (Luke 24:46-47).

May 17 – Seventh Sunday of Easter - "Sing to God, sing praises to His name; lift up a song to Him who rides through the deserts!" (Psalm 68:4). What a wonderful picture of Christ, God-in-the-flesh, who entered the desert wilderness of this world to bring light into the darkness and life to the dead! In a world that fosters a culture of death, Jesus came to give us eternal life. In Him, grace and peace rain down in abundance (Psalm 68:9). What hope this brings to those who are suffering, facing an unexpected pregnancy, or have lost their mooring in life! Christ brings forgiveness and restoration. Although we endure fiery trials (1 Peter 4:12), and the devil prowls like a roaring lion, seeking to devour (1 Peter 5:8-9), yet by the power of God's Word, we resist him, firm in the faith. We are blessed as we follow Jesus, who suffered once for all on the cross, accomplishing the work that the Father gave Him to do (John 17:4). Risen, ascended, and glorified, Jesus restores, confirms, strengthens, and establishes us in the true faith (1 Peter 5:10).

May 24 – The Day of Pentecost – The Holy Spirit, like streams of living water (John 37:38), flows forth from Christ, just as the blood and water flowed forth from His side when He was pierced on the cross. The Spirit brings life. The Spirit gives birth to the New Testament Church, which proclaims the message of abundant and eternal life in Christ crucified and risen (Acts 2:1-4). The Spirit makes us to know God's ways and teaches us His paths. He leads the humble in what is right (Psalm 25:4-5, 9). He enables us to share the Good News of Life with those who are troubled or afraid, that they may know that they do not face life's crises alone. As the Spirit rested on Eldad and Medad (Numbers 11:26) and rested on the heads of the apostles on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4), so the Holy Spirit emboldens us to be Gospel-motivated voices for Life in an otherwise dark and frightening world.

May 31 – The Holy Trinity: First Sunday after Pentecost – "O Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!" (Psalm 8:1). The Triune God who made heaven and earth and all things, and who breathed into Adam the breath of life (Genesis 1), is the same God into whose name we are baptized—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19-20). This Jesus, who was crucified by men, but whom God raised from the dead (Acts 2:23-24), brings hope and courage to those who have lost their way in life. Through the forgiveness of sins in Christ, the past can no longer haunt us, and we are free to live in the light of God's Word. Whether the woman facing an unexpected pregnancy, or the person who has received a terminal medical diagnosis, or the one who feels as though their life no longer has purpose or value, Jesus—the Lord of Life—will not forsake us. The promise of Christ stands: "I am with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20).

May 31 (The Visitation) – Today we journey with Mary to the hill country of Judah to visit her relative Elizabeth. Both women were blessed by God with miraculous pregnancies. Even in the womb a child can be filled with God's Spirit and recognize the Savior's presence! (Luke 1:39-45). The pregnancies in our midst may not be as miraculous, but every new human life is a cause of rejoicing. And every child in the womb is in fact a blessing from God.

May Birthdays

- 3 Madelyn Schroettner
- 4 Hayden Abel
- 4 Vicki Schultz
- 5 Harrison Joseph
- 5 Samantha Nelson
- 7 Logan Austin
- 7 Sam Fraser
- 7 Katie Leiber
- 7 Jayde Peterson
- 8 Linnae Charpentier
- 9 Abel Baganz
- 9 Lacey Hawkinson
- 10 Maelle Brissey
- 10 Jackson Reeves
- 11 Dale Buechler
- 12 Jason Laird
- 13 Monica Bykowski
- 15 Jennifer Austin
- 15 Julie Bickel
- 15 Connie Jacob
- 16 Jordynn Hernandez
- 17 Nicholas Bissegger
- 17 Jennifer Browne
- 17 Madison Guzewicz
- 19 Allyson Davis
- 19 Hailee Larkin
- 19 Hailee Ollman
- 19 Walter Winterle
- 20 Julia Arntson
- 20 Zachariah Paget
- 20 Molly Shaffer
- 21 Laura Petersen
- 22 Laura Abrahamson
- 22 Robyn VandeBerg
- 23 Michael Fox
- 23 Jack Herron
- 24 Jaelle Charpentier
- 25 Shelly Bent
- 26 Elizabeth Praeger
- 28 Doreen Conard
- 28 Weston Lampshire-Wolf
- 29 Paul Bartelt
- 31 Deborah Davidson



May Wedding Anniversaries

- 7 Chris & Teri Nitka
- 7 Eric & Lori Rom
- 11 Al & Tracie Ratz
- 11 Steve & Tricia Roehrig
- 15 Ralph & Margaret Anderson
- 15 Gary & Barb Miller
- 24 Nicholas & Nichole Brissey
- 24 Martin & Katherine Martinez
- 26 Ryan & Alyssa Schaefer
- 27 Jeff & Lara Lambrecht

****If we have missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office.**

May 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 4:30-8:00 Rummage Sale 6-7:30 First Friday Fun Night	2 7:30-11:00 am Rummage Sale 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion
3 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study 3:00 pm Mystery Dinner Practice	4	5 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00/6:30 pm Youth Choir Adult Choir	6 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group	7 6:00/6:30 pm All Board Meetings	8 9:30 am Men's Bible Study 6:00 pm Mystery Dinner Dress Rehearsal	9 10:00 am WOW Meeting 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion 6:30 pm Mystery Dinner Performance
10 9:00 am Worship/Communion Sunday School Teacher Recognition & Appreciation after Service 10:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study	11 1-6:00 pm Blood Drive	12 11:00 am Bible Study 6:00/6:30 pm Youth Choir Adult Choir	13 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group	14 6:30 pm Council Meeting	15 9:30 am Men's Bible Study	16 8:00 am Men's Breakfast Bible Study 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion 5:00 pm Junior Confirmation Questioning
17 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study Confirmation during Service	18 Pastor Chris out for the Week ←-----→	19 6:00/6:30 pm Youth Choir Adult Choir	20 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group	21	22	23 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion (Pastor Luchterhand this weekend)
24 9:00 am Worship/Communion 10:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study	25 Memorial Day (closed)	26 11:00 am Bible Study	27 6:00-7:30 pm Youth Group	28 6:30 pm NYG Meeting	29	30 4:00 pm Worship/ Communion
31						

**SCRIP DUE BY
MAY 17th**