

# March 2012 North Star

## *{From the Pastor}*

“**L**adybug, ladybug, fly away home....” I remember as a kid seeing the black-speckled wings on the end of my finger and wondering where home might be for the little thing. The location of my own home was never in question. I lived in the same house, on the same street, in the same town right up until I went away to college, and my mother and older brother live there still. But over the years of our marriage, Beth and I have moved to several places. So the idea of “home” has become much more fluid for me in the last twenty-odd years.

I’ve had to broaden (and I hope deepen) my understanding of home. Robert Frost once wrote, “Home is the place where, when you *have* to go there, they *have* to take you in.” I think he was a bit ambivalent about the value of home in his life. And I can relate to that when it comes to the town where I grew up. Whenever I go to visit there I never feel much older than 12. But my need for home, for a place where I feel beckoned and compelled to go, continues to work on me.

But that “place” has become less a physical location and more a spiritual one. Recently I’ve come across a musing from the poet Rumi, a 13<sup>th</sup>-century Islamic mystic. He writes:

*How could the soul not take flight  
When from the glorious Presence  
A soft call flows sweet as honey,  
comes right up to her  
And whispers, “Rise up now, come away.”  
How could the fish not jump  
Immediately from dry land into water,  
When the sound of water from the ocean  
Of fresh waves springs to his ear?*

There is something irresistible about God’s call to us. We long to hear it and we cannot hold ourselves back when it sounds. As our own tradition puts it in Psalm 42:

*As a deer longs for flowing streams,  
so my soul longs for you,  
O God.*

God calls us home and God is our home. I don’t mean that I have a longing for an end to this life, but rather for a deeper immersion in this life through relationship with God. In part, that is what this journey through Lent is all about. But it is an ongoing journey. Beyond the celebration of Easter we are called to make our home in God. As Augustine said, “Our hearts are restless, O God, until they find their rest in you.” And as the passages from Rumi and the Psalms suggest, this is not only a Christian concern. We all long for home. Our spirits are drawn to the same source of life and long to be at one with our Creator.

With a call “sweet as honey” to satisfy our thirsty souls, Love calls us home. “Fly away, fly away” to find your rest in God.

Peace,  
*Pastor Bill*



# All-Church Retreat

## "Reflecting on Our Past, Looking to the Future"



**Friday, March 16–  
Saturday, March 17**

**Friday: 7-9 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
(lunch will be provided)**

Please call the church office at 632-1330 or e-mail Cynthia at [n.church@verizon.net](mailto:n.church@verizon.net) to make reservations for this extraordinary opportunity to work with Dr. McFayden. We want to be prepared with enough materials and food, so please RSVP by **March 2**. Childcare will be available. If you have questions, please call the church office.

- **Special speaker:** The Rev. Dr. Kenneth McFayden, professor and dean of ministry and leadership development at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in NYC
- He is the author of **Strategic Leadership for a Change: Facing Our Losses, Finding Our Future**. (Two copies are available in the church library. The book is a short, easy read.)
- We will explore what God has in mind for North Presbyterian Church.
- Dr. McFayden will also be preaching on Sunday, March 18, at the 10:45 a.m. service.

### Mission Statement

*Brought together by our shared faith in Jesus Christ; Called by God to live as faithful disciples;*

*Blessed by our diverse gifts and experiences; We commit ourselves to: Worship together, Teach and learn from one another; Nurture each other with care and love, and Reach out in ministry and mission to the world.*

  
**North Presbyterian  
Church**

300 North Forest Road  
Williamsville, NY 14221

Phone: 716-632-1330  
Fax: 716-632-1332  
E-mail: [n.church@verizon.net](mailto:n.church@verizon.net)

# DEADLINE/DETAILS FOR THE MISSION PROJECT AND SPRING RETREAT!

Junior and Senior Highers, the deadline to register for both the spring retreat and mission project is Sunday, March 18. Want to know more? You can find all the details in this issue of North Star!

## Summer Mission Project 2012

### *Helping Rural New York State*

#### **Objectives:**

- To partner with Ministry in the North Country (MINC), a ministry of the PCUSA, our own denomination.
- To teach our young people about construction and home improvement work.
- To raise attention for the rural poor and destitute of our own state.

**Cost:** \$50 deposit for registration. (Depending on participation in fundraisers, part of the deposit may be refunded.)

**Forms:** available on our youth webpage at [northchurchwilliamsville.org/youth/mission-project](http://northchurchwilliamsville.org/youth/mission-project) or in hard copies by request

**Registration deadline:** March 18. Please have your completed paperwork and \$50 deposit turned into the Youth Ministry Team by then.

**Time:** Departing early afternoon Sunday, June 24 - and arriving back mid afternoon Saturday, June 30.

**Place:** MINC is still working on the best location for us; more news will be coming in May. We will be staying within a 100-mile radius of Watertown, NY. We will definitely be situated in a small town or rural environment.

**Please Pack:** Packing list is also available in PDF form at the above link.

**Tasks:** Our work will involve construction/house rehabilitation and possibly some local outreach events such as Vacation Bible School.

#### **Commitment:**

- Upon registration all participants will be given 20 Chiavetta's fundraiser (Wednesday, May 2) tickets to sell. If all 20 are sold there will be a partial deposit return.
- All registrants will be asked to participate in a day of team-building exercises on a date still TBD, probably in May or early June.

# The Youth Groups of North and Clarence Presbyterian Invite You to Our **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Spring Retreat!**

**What:** A time to meet new friends, enjoy the spring weather, and most importantly: learn more about being a Christian, through devotions, activities, and music

**Where:** Camp Duffield at 11748 Worden Rd., Delevan, NY 14042

**Who's Invited:** All 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders. Please please please invite your friends!

**When:** A caravan will gather at North Church at 6pm on Friday, March 23. Please be on time! We will:

- first go shop for weekend supplies with Clarence's Youth Group
- eat dinner together at fast-food restaurant near the grocery store
- then depart for Duffield



The caravan will arrive back at North Church on Sunday, March 25, at 11:45 a.m. as church is ending.

**Cost:** \$35 a person or \$50 a family if you register before 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 18. Late registration fee is \$50 a person.

**Forms:** PDF link is available at [northchurchwilliamsville.org/spring-retreat/](http://northchurchwilliamsville.org/spring-retreat/) or hard copies available upon request. The packing checklist is also available there.

**In case of emergency:** Duffield's office is closed on weekends, but we will supply a list of select adult counselors' cell phone numbers to those who register.

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**Adult Counselors:** Please consider this opportunity to serve our young people through establishing a relationship that weekend. Contact Peter Martin, if interested.



Please send your completed forms and money (make check payable to North Presbyterian Church) to  
Peter Martin c/o North Church  
300 North Forest Rd.  
Williamsville, NY 14221

Or leave them in Peter's box in the church office.

Any questions or feedback? E-mail or call Peter at  
[pmartin@northchurchwilliamsville.org](mailto:pmartin@northchurchwilliamsville.org) or 632-1330, x. 103

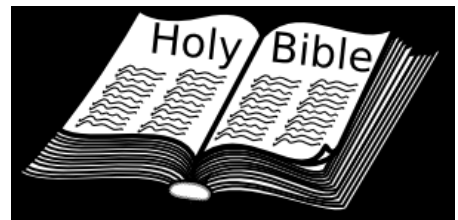
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## Teachers Needed!

Our Sunday school program has just a few more months left before breaking for summer, but we still need your help for our last two sessions. The Kids Ministry Team has full descriptions of all the teacher roles and the curriculum; please see below for a list of open spots.

### Session 5 (March 25, April 1, 15, 22 & 29)

- 1 Bible Story Teacher for the South Basement program (ages 4 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade).



### Session 6 (May 13 & 20 and June 3 & 10)

- 2 Small Group Teachers for the North Basement program

Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve our families. Contact Peter Martin or a member of the Kids Ministry Team if interested.



## A big thank you! and a save-the-date

The Chilifest fundraiser on February 12 was one of the most successful of its kind this church has had in a long time, and North Church's 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth fellowship wanted to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to the congregation for its support. This year's mission project to Northern New York will benefit greatly from your generous contributions.

Please save the date for the **Chiavetta's chicken BBQ Wednesday, May 2, from 4-7 p.m.** We will be cooking in a different place (over by the manse, closer to North Forest Road) and hope this will be our most successful fundraiser yet. Please come out and support our youth fellowship. Don't forget to tell your friends!

## We're Going Back to Bethel . . .



The mission opportunity of the month for March is a familiar one: on Saturday, March 17, we'll be helping serve a community dinner at Bethel Presbyterian in Lackawanna. This event is for junior *and* senior highers; drop-off is at the church by the back kitchen entrance at 3 p.m. and pick up at 6 p.m. As usual for this event, please remember to bring a hat as required by kitchen code.

## One Great Hour of Sharing

Sharing Brings Joy. To Others, to God and to Us.

Imagine the joy when your gift changes someone's life—both the joy someone feels as their burdens ease and the joy you will feel knowing that your gift is creating change! When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you are making a conscious decision to bring the joy and the love of Christ to some of the most vulnerable and desperate places and people around the world. You can be a channel through which God satisfies the hungry, comforts the distressed and brings hope to the poor and oppressed with your generous gift to One Great Hour of Sharing. The is accomplished by dividing the OGHs offering into thirds with one-third going to support disaster assistance; one-third going to support hunger programs, and one-third going to support self-development programs. In 2011, your generous gifts helped to deliver **3.2** tons of food; supplied **153** volunteer teams to aid in disaster assistance around the globe, and provided **62** self-development grants.

This is the 62nd year when churches around the world join together to "share their gifts." One must only listen to the media to hear how great the needs are. Please prayerfully decide how you will help others through One Great Hour of Sharing and do give generously!

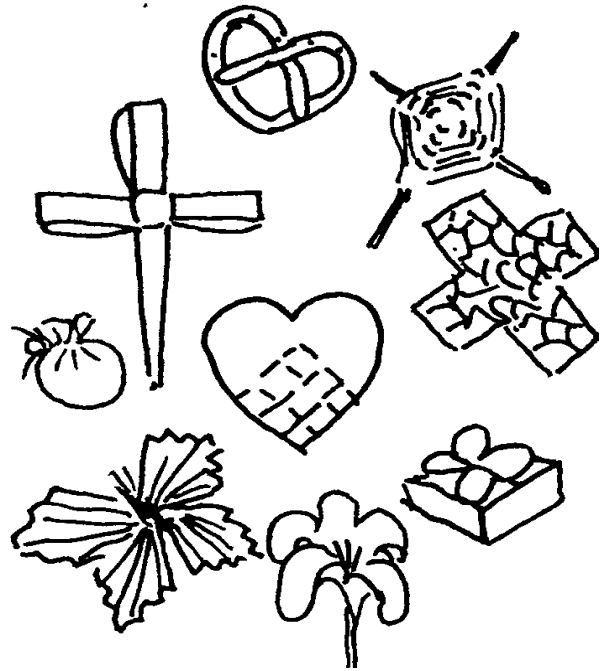
**The One Great Hour of Sharing will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 1.**

# Lent Easter Symbol Workshop

Monday, March 19, 2012

***Drop in between***  
**4:30 -7:00 pm**

North Presbyterian Church  
300 North Forest Rd.  
Williamsville, NY 14221



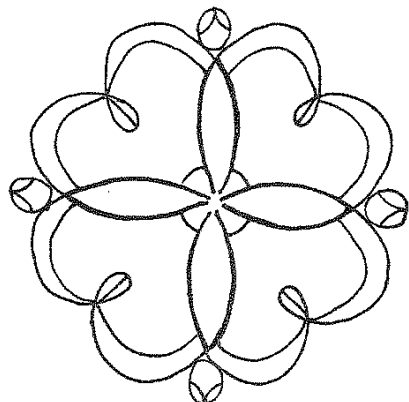
- Adults and children may choose from more than 20 projects to make from paper, wood, yarn, fabric and dough
- Each table will have clear directions and models
- Some projects will be very simple, others more challenging
- Enjoy some refreshments. Bring your camera if you wish to take pictures.
- A handout will have directions for making projects.
- Led by Mary Mohlke,  
Resource Center Director, Artist-in-Residence, North Presbyterian Church

**\$5 per person**

Sponsored by the Education Committee of WNY Resource Center  
Reservations or questions:  
Call the Resource Center 631-0979 or e-mail: [mmohlke@gmail.com](mailto:mmohlke@gmail.com)



# Pastoral Care in the Community of Faith



Through the study and practice of pastoral care, participants will have an opportunity to learn basic skills such as reframing, active listening, praying with another, home and hospital visitation. The biblical and theological mandates for the practice of pastoral care will be explored, while participants reflect on their own pastoral histories and enter into a period of journaling and prayer. Through the use of case studies and the creation and use of ritual, participants will "practice" showing the love of Christ in tangible ways. Resources will be provided for referrals and continued personal growth and self-care.

This course is appropriate for

- Deacons, Parish visitors, Caregivers
- People with a compassionate heart who want to help, but don't know where to start
- People needing pastoral care coursework for Certified Lay Ministry, Presbytery of WNY



## Instructor

Rev. Geri Lyon, D.D. Honorably Retired, has been a member of the Presbytery of WNY for 16 years. She was Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo, and the Director of Pastoral Care at AIDS Family Services, in Buffalo. She is a recognized Pastoral Care Specialist in the AAPC; has completed 800 hours of Clinical Pastoral Education and a 40-hour specialized training in Domestic Violence and Family Systems. Currently she serves on the Board of Directors of the National Federation of Just Communities and Jericho Road Ministries.

**Tuesdays, 6:00-9:00 PM**  
**April 17, 24, May 1, 8, 15, 22**

North Presbyterian Church  
300 N. Forest Road,  
Williamsville, NY 14221

**Fee: \$80**

## Recommended Texts:

Basic Types of Pastoral Care and Counseling: Resources of Healing and Growth, 3rd edition. Howard Clinebell

Book of Common Worship PCUSA or others that contain worship and devotional resources

And **One** of the following: When Children Grieve, John James, R. Friedman, L Matthew Special Visions: Poems by and for Pastoral Caregivers, Donald Capps; Hospice Stories: A Message of Hope, Ellen M. Mitchell; Decades of Life: A Guide to Human Development, Donald Capps

## Registration

Deadline: April 10

Email: mmohlke@gmail.com or call the Resource Center, 631-0979, 300 North Forest Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

Make checks out to Education Committee of WNY (Center for Christian Growth of WNY)

Sponsored by Academy of Lay Ministry and Personal Growth







**Got Jazz?** NYC pianist Deanna Witkowski, who brought such joyful music to our worship celebration on January 29, is in the final days of fundraising for her upcoming self-produced solo recording, which features her original arrangements of eight Chopin pieces. Until **March 9**, you can pre-order—and thereby help Deanna have the funds to release her project— at [deannajazz.com](http://deannajazz.com). Deanna will thank you with various rewards that are listed on her website, and thanks you in advance for your consideration!

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***Our sympathies and prayers*** are with the families of **Mary Lou George**, whose mother, **Etta Hayes**, passed away January 27, and with **Mary Ann Mache**, whose brother **Eugene Dex Goodwin, Jr.**, passed away January 14.

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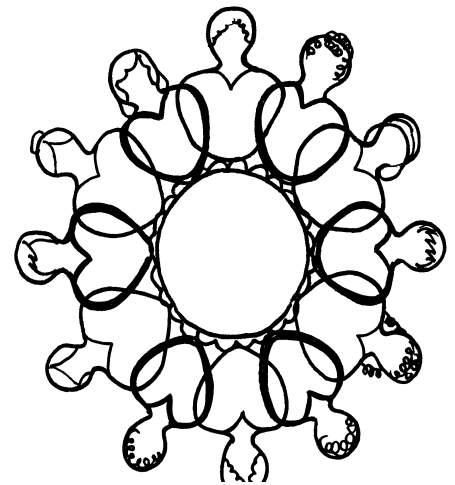
**Men's Group—Saturday, March 10: It's an anniversary party!**

To help celebrate the men's group's 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Rev. Dr. Tom Yorty will be discussing the meaning of community as an "endangered species in today's world." The title of his presentation is "Making Connections – the Live or Die Mission of the Church." His view is that without an emphasis upon "community," the church cannot survive. Men are asked to bring a jar of peanut butter, which will be delivered to the UPC Food Pantry. Sign-up dates will be on February 26 and March 4. Come and help celebrate our founding.

## **Our Stories of Good News**

### **Lenten Soup Suppers**

**March 7, 21, 28/6 p.m./Westminster Hall/\$5 per adult**  
**Enjoy homemade soup by Ed Eisenlord plus fresh fruit, bread, dessert and a special dish for children**



**6:45-7:30/chapel**

**Prayer and songs from Iona**

**Discover the movement of God in our lives**

**March 7/Karen Roesser; Jeff Weaver**

**March 21/Sylvia Bigler; Jeff Faunce**

**March 28/Lynda Roemer; Colin Drury**

## Reflection & Discussion for Adults

There are two new offerings. Both classes are Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:30, from now through April 1.

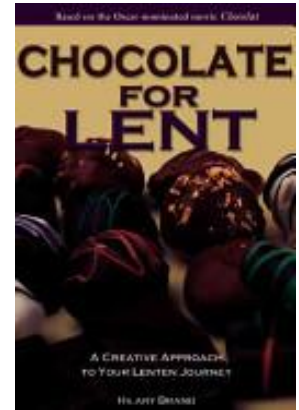


### “Saving Jesus”

This DVD-based series is a conversation around the relevance of Jesus for today and is an invitation to be on a journey. Christianity has 2000 years of tradition with a wide spectrum of believers, a large community across time. It is like a six-mile-wide trail, not a narrow path. Mary Mohlke is coordinating this series, which is held in the library.

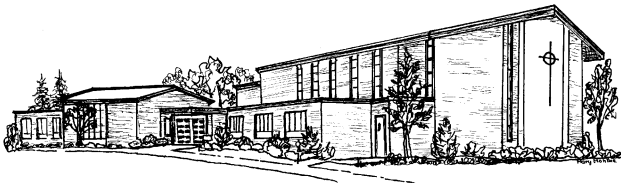
### Chocolate for Lent

*Chocolate for Lent* is a unique study, delving into the delicious depths of humanity. Written by Hilary Brand, it features segments of the Academy Award-nominated film *Chocolat*, conversations centered around our life in Christ and, of course, chocolate. Garidith Khayat is coordinating this study around tables in Westminster Hall.



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## What Happened at Session?



The Session of North Presbyterian Church met in its regular meeting on Monday, February 6, 2012, at which time the following actions were taken:

Approved the minutes of the regular meeting of Session on January 9, 2012, as well as the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation, January 29, 2012.

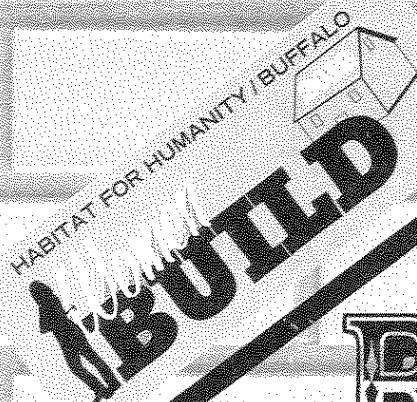
- Voted to approve Bill Townsend as one of the NPC delegates to the special meeting of Presbytery of Western New York (PWNy) on Saturday, February 18, 2012, at First Presbyterian Church, West Seneca.
- Congratulated Pastor Bill, who has been selected as a delegate from the PWNy to General Assembly meeting in Pittsburgh, PA, June 30 – July 7, 2012.
- Voted to approve the annual retainer of Kirisits and Associates for 2012 to provide accounting oversight and to function as a resource to the treasurer.
- Approved off-site activities as recommended by the Youth Ministry Team (YMT).

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at 9:00 p.m. (Submitted by Sylvia Bigler)

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**The next deadline for the  
North Star is March 15!**





# ROOF RAISER

Fundraiser for Habitat for Humanity - Women Build  
Statler City at 107 Delaware Avenue  
March 23, 2012 | 6-10pm

Wine Tasting, Hors d'oeuvres, Cash Bar,  
Basket, Silent and Live Auction

Featuring Emcee Domenic Cortese of Hammertime (WBEN 930am)

Tickets: \$30 per person until March 8th/\$35 at the door

PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE AND MAIL TO:  
995 KENSINGTON AVE, BUFFALO, NY 14215.

Name of company or individual: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to: Habitat for Humanity/Buffalo/Women Build for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I'd like to pay by credit card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

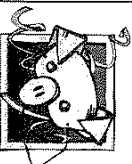
Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Sorry, I am unable to attend. Please accept my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If interested in a sponsorship, program ad, or donation to the auction, please contact Sharon Danna at 646-6536.

# North Presbyterian Church - March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>4 8:30am Worship/Chapel 9:30 Adult Ed.: <i>Saving Jesus</i> DVD series/Lib <i>Chocolate for Lent</i> study/WH Inquirer Class/RC Senior High Sunday School/S251 Child Care (Infants-Age 3)-S257 Children's &amp; Youth Choir 10:45Worship/Sane 11-2:30 pm Deacon Training/Lib 6-7:30 Confirmation/S251 6:30 Boy Scout Leaders/DR</p>	<p>5 7pm Session/Chapel 7:30 Young Adults/Martin Home</p>	<p>6 9:00 am Staff Meeting/DR 4:30pm Worship Comm./Choir Room</p>	<p>7 6-6:45pm Lenten Soup Supper/WH 6:45-7:30 Our Stories of Good News/Chapel 7-9 Congregational Transformation Team/WH</p>	<p>8 4 pm Resource Committee/RC 6-9 ACN/Chapel 6:30 Handbell/S151 7:45 Adult Choir/ Choir Room</p>	<p>9 7:30-10:00 pm ACE/WH</p>	<p>10 8am Men's Breakfast/WH 9 am-6 pm Girl Scouts 8-11pm WCF/Chapel</p>
<p>11 <b>Daylight Saving Time begins</b> 8:30am Worship/Chapel 9:30 Adult Ed.: <i>Saving Jesus</i> DVD series/Lib <i>Chocolate for Lent</i> study/WH Senior High Sunday School/S251 Child Care (Infants-Age 3)-S257 Children's &amp; Youth Choir Inquirer Class/RC 10:45 Worship/Sane; Sunday School (4 years - 8<sup>th</sup> grade) 11:45 Coffee Hour/WH; 12-2 pm Club 456/N. Basement 1-2:30 pm Deacon Training/Lib 6-7:30 pm Confirmation/S251</p>	<p>12 11:00 am Pastoral Care/Lib 1:00 pm Staff meeting/Lib 6:30 Property/RC Mission/DR 7:00 KMT/Lib 7:30pm Young Adults/Martin Home</p>	<p>13 9:30-Ruth/Mary Circle- Pres. Village, Bldg. 1 2:30pm Martha Circle/Lib 7 Membership/S251 Deacons/DR</p>	<p>14 9am EGA/WH 6pm Girl Scouts/S155 7:30 Sarah Circle</p>	<p>15 <i>North Star Deadline</i> 6-9 pm ACN/Chapel 6:30 Handbells/Sane 7:00 Women Build/WH 7:45pm Adult Choir/ Choir Room</p>	<p>16 7:30-10:00 pm ACE/Sane 7-9 pm All-church retreat w/Rev. McFayden/WH</p>	<p>17 9am-6 pm Girl Scouts 9 am-2 pm All-church retreat w/Rev. McFayden/WH</p>
<p>18 <b>Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mc Fayden (10:45)</b> No 8:30 Worship Service 9:30 Adult Ed.: <i>Saving Jesus</i> DVD series/Lib <i>Chocolate for Lent</i> study/WH Child Care (Infants-Age 3)-S257 Children's &amp; Youth Choir Inquirer Class/RC 10:45 Family Worship/Comm/Sane; 11:45 Coffee Hour/WH 1:00-2:30pm Elder Training/Library 6-7:30 Confirmation/S251</p>	<p>19 4:30-7:00 pm Lent Wship/RC 7:30pm Young Adults/Martin Home</p>	<p>20 9am Staff Meeting/DR 7:30 Personnel/Lib</p>	<p>21 10-11 Book Group/Lib 6-6:45pm Lenten Soup Supper/WH 6:45-7:30 Our Stories of Good News/Chapel</p>	<p>22 6:30pm Handbells/S151 6-9 ACN/Chapel 7:45pm Adult Choir/ Choir Room</p>	<p>23 7:30 ACE/WH Offsite Youth Retreat</p>	<p>24 Offsite Youth Retreat 9am-6 pm Girl Scouts 8-11pm WCF/Chapel</p>
<p>25 <b>Installation of Officers</b> 8:30am Worship/Chapel 9:30 Adult Ed.: <i>Saving Jesus</i> DVD series/Lib <i>Chocolate for Lent</i> study/WH Child Care (Infants-Age 3)-S257 Children's &amp; Youth Choir Inquirer Class/RC 10:45 Worship/Sane 11:45 Coffee Hour/WH 1:00-2:30pm Elder Training/Library 3:00 ACE/WH &amp; Sane 5pm Confirmation Class to go to Lafayette</p>	<p>26 4pm Dress a Girl/WH 7:30 Young Adults/Martin Home</p>	<p>27 8:30am Friends of Night People/Kit 4:30pm Friends of Night- People-Serve</p>	<p>28 2:30-3:30pm Book Group/Lib 6 Girl Scouts/S155 6-6:45pm Lenten Soup Supper/WH 6:45-7:30 Our Stories of Good News/Chapel</p>	<p>29 5:30 Interfaith Sader- Temple Beth Zion 6:30pm Handbells/S151 6-9 ACN/Chapel 7:45pm Adult Choir/ Choir Room</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 8-11pm WCF/Chapel</p>

See Sunday bulletins for future dates.