

April 2017



Dear Friends,

I happen to live in a neighborhood where all the lawns were originally sodded with Bermuda grass. A few people have transitioned to fescue, but only a few. What that means is at this time of year my neighbors and I are waiting for our lawns to come out of dormancy. Through the winter months we have been looking out our windows at lawns that are dreadfully brown. We are more than ready to once again see the vibrant green of life beginning to emerge. But it hasn't happened yet!

Even though my lawn is still brown, I decided to mow it this week. That may sound strange but there were a few reasons I decided to do so. First, we had gotten a call from the people who keep the weeds at bay saying they were coming to do a treatment. And, my neighbor has a couple of trees that seem to be having some trouble keeping their leaves this spring and the wind always seems to be blowing in my direction. As soon as a leaf springs to life on either of his two front yard trees, it dies and falls off the tree and the wind has done a good job of depositing those leaves in my yard. Since I didn't want whatever this treatment is to be wasted on the dead leaves that are covering my side yard, I decided my mower would easily pick up the leaves if I connected the grass catcher. I also thought having everything uniform for whatever they were going to do to the lawn might be a good thing as well. So, I attached the contraption that catches grass clippings to my trusty mower and went about the task of mowing my brown, seemingly dormant lawn.

My surprise came when I began mowing the part of my lawn where there were no leaves to fill up the grass catcher. It was still catching grass. I still needed to stop and empty it on occasion. Apparently even in its state of brown dormancy there was some growing going on through the winter. It wasn't a lot of growth. It was almost indiscernible. But after I finished mowing the lawn, I could definitely see a difference.

Somehow my grass cutting experience turned my thoughts to our spiritual lives. There are times, like the summer, when growth is taking place and it is really easy to see. During those times we drink in the nourishment that the Lord provides, we bask in the light of his presence and our faith flourishes. There are times when I enter into worship and it seems every word and every song touches something in my soul. There are times when I hear preachers and teachers open the Word and it is as if my eyes have been opened to new realities of the faith that draw me closer to the Lord. There are times when I engage in outreach events that encourage me in my attempts to follow Jesus and through those experiences my faith is lifted to new levels.

There are other times, however, that seem more like winter. My faith seems less vibrant. I read the Word and it seems to have little effect. I pray and I wonder if God is listening. I try to reach out in love to others and am met with apathy at best. What I have come to understand is that even in those times, God is doing a work in my life. There is some growing going on, it just may not be quite as discernable as it is during the other times but it is growth just the same and it is absolutely necessary.

Somehow I am encouraged to know that God uses every season of our lives to do his good work of transformation in us. We can count on his promise that he will "never leave nor forsake us," and that promise can help carry us along when God seems distant and our faith feels dormant.

Diane said just the other day, "I can't wait for the grass to get green again!" I feel the same way. I actually like the weekly ritual of taking care of my lawn through the spring, summer and fall. I also like the times when it feels like my faith is growing in a robust way. I love the sense of growing closer to Jesus during the summery days of my faith development. I just want to make sure I don't discount what I can learn and the growth that is taking place in those seemingly dormant times.

God doesn't waste anything and can use every season of life to make us into the people he created us to be.

Growing with you in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ray".

Adult Ed Page 2

Children's Ministry Page 5

Outreach Page 7

Calendar Page 10

Fellowship Page 3

Youth Ministry Page 4

Celebrations Page 9

Finance & Budget Page 9

JOIN AN ADULT EDUCATION CLASS!

On Sundays at 10:00 AM there are a variety of classes open to anyone who is interested.

Christian Perspectives on Poverty

Facilitator: Meredith Riedel

Location: Fellowship Hall A

Jesus tells the disciples, "The poor you will always have with you" (Matt. 26:11; Mark 14:7). Does this mean that poverty is inevitable and that we should respond with hopelessness? Whether poverty has long troubled your heart or this will be your first serious consideration of the topic, this study will help us see that the Bible has a lot to say about poverty. Far from excusing passivity, Christ calls us to action. Using materials developed by HOPE International, this interactive 8-week Bible study (not lecture class!) will discuss spiritual and material poverty, the identity and call of the church in response, and what "love in action" looks like in our historical moment.

HomeBuilders: Connected: My Life in the Church

Facilitators: Kristen Cole & Sherene Min

Location: Room 100

Church membership? The issue of church membership likely does not make it on most people's pressing issues list, but it should. Unfortunately, many Christians have developed a consumer view of what it means to be a church member. The consumer mentality focuses on the perks we gain from the church, which makes church membership sound more like club membership. In reality, being part of a body of Christ means so much more. Join us for this 6-week Lenten small group study that will correspond with the church wide study and the sermons through Lent.

Homebuilders is a class that is open to all, interactive and conversational, focused on fostering fellowship and discipleship in such areas as marriage and family relationships, parenting, financial stewardship, and other parts of our daily walk with God.

Fellowship: Jesus Christ

Facilitator: Jeannie Phelps

Location: Fellowship Hall B

Lee Strobel has written and taught persuasively about Christ in his books *A Case for Christ* and *A Case for Faith*. A skeptic originally, Strobel writes convincingly to help those who have doubts move to faith in Christ. In this three-session course, he teaches us the basics of what we need to know about Jesus Christ.

The Fellowship Class is a group that values conversation and offers hospitality as they gather to study God's word.



Just Older Youth—Thursday, April 13 at 11:30AM

Come out and have lunch with those of us who are... “Just Older Youth” or who enjoy having lunch with our older members and friends. We normally meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at the Golden Corral on Hwy 55 at 11:30AM. It’s a wonderful time of great food and fellowship topped off with a short devotion led by one of the Pastors.



Ministry Team Dinner

April 5 at 6:00PM

On the menu is baked potato bar, salad bar, hot dogs and dessert. The cost is \$5 per adult, and \$2 per child with a \$15 family cap. Sign up today on the sign-up board or on-line!



PATHWAYS GROUP: April Events!

‘Pathways: a Christian journey through life.’ Pathways is a place where anyone is welcome. Continue to look for specific information in the newsletter and bulletin.

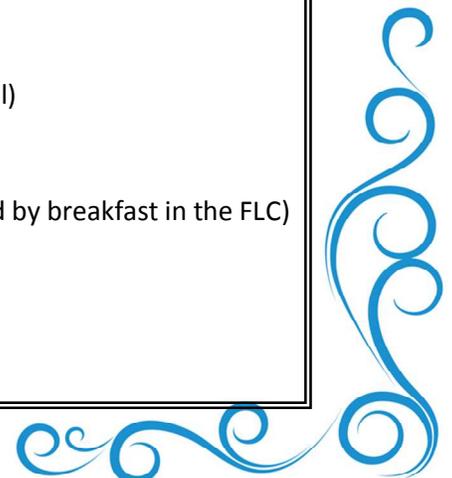


- 4/3 Volleyball at 6:30PM in the FLC
- 4/14 Friday night game night at 7:00PM - watch emails for location
- 4/17 Volleyball at 6:30PM in the FLC
- 4/23 Sunday brunch following late service (Location TBA)

If there are any questions or you would like to be added to the Pathways email, please contact Kelley Crabtree kelleycrabtree@nc.rr.com or call the church office at 919-544-2872.

Upcoming Events

April 2	Durham CropWalk	2:30PM (Duke University Chapel)
April 13	Maundy Thursday Service	7:00PM (Sanctuary)
April 16	Sunrise Service	6:45AM (Columbarium followed by breakfast in the FLC)
	Regular Worship Services	8:45 & 11:15AM (Sanctuary)
April 17	Office Closed	



Youth Ministry

April

- 4/2 CropWalk at Duke Chapel 1:30-4:00PM
Haiti Meeting 5:00-6:30PM (with dinner)
- 4/4 6:30PM Confirmation Class w/Session
- 4/5 6:00-8:00PM Ministry Team Dinner/Mtgs
- 4/9 3:45PM MLY Prayer
4:00PM MLY
6:30PM Varsity
- 4/16 Happy Easter—No Youth
- 4/19 6:30-7:30PM Varsity Bible Study
- 4/21-23 Jr/Sr. Retreat
- 4/23 3:45PM MLY Prayer
4:00PM MLY
6:30PM Varsity (8th graders/parents)
- 4/26 6:30-7:30PM Varsity Bible Study
- 4/30 3:00PM MLY Spaghetti Dinner



Courage to SOAR!

MLY (Middle School)

meets from 4:00-5:30PM on Sunday. Girls meet from 3:45-4:00PM for prayer time with Annie & Jessica and boys meet with Pastor Jeff for their prayer time.

Varsity (Sr. High)

meets from 6:30-8:00PM on Sunday as well as 6:30-7:30PM on Wednesdays for Bible Study (except 1st Wednesday of each month).

Contact Pastor Jeff for more info on youth activities. jeffspainhour@trianglepc.org.



Support TPC youth groups and purchase scrip gift cards. Use them as gifts or for your every day purchases from popular vendors such as Amazon, Wal-Mart, Target, LL Bean and more! Pick up an order form in the Welcome Center. Orders are taken on the first Sunday of most months and cards can be picked up the next Sunday.

Opportunities for the Season of Lent

Would you like to have a palm cross on Sunday, April 9?



We need volunteers to help make this happen. If you would like to help make crosses, please contact Nancy Holton or Teresa Meriwether in the office for instructions, palm strips and safety pins. We traditionally pass these out to the children's and youth classes, but are happy to share with all of our church family if we can make enough. Palm strips should be delivered the end of March. Small groups are encouraged to make crosses as they study and fellowship together!

Special events in Sunday Clubs

Kids won't want to miss the following special activities for Lent!

Sunday, April 2: We will review the items of the Seder Meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples at the Last Supper, and discuss the linkage between this meal and the Lord's Supper.

Sunday, April 9: The Sunday Clubs classes will move through 9 Easter stations as we look at the events of crucifixion and resurrection! Each station will help us focus and pray as we remember how much Jesus loved us when he died and rose again for each of us!

Maundy Thursday Service

7:00PM on Thursday, April 13

Join us for this meaningful Tenebrae service (service of darkness as we remember the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus). Childcare will be available for children 3 and younger. There will be a prayer focused programming for 4 years up through 5th grade. Please reserve your child's spot by contacting Nancy in the office or at nancyholton@trianglepc.org.

Easter Sunday Tradition

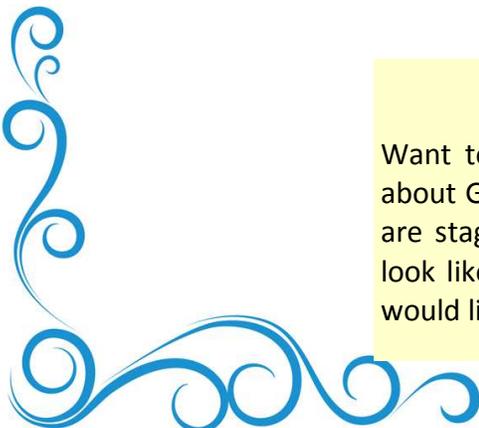
"Flowering the Cross"

Would you like to help us "flower the cross"? A long standing tradition at TPC has been the flower cross on Easter Sunday morning. Folks bring flowers to insert in the chicken wire covering the cross, resulting in a beautiful reminder that Jesus brought beautiful, and eternal life to each of us through his death on the cross. Many folks have family photos in front of the flower cross each year. If you would like to participate by bringing or helping insert the flowers on Easter morning, please contact Nancy in the office.



Resources for Parents

Want to borrow some good resources on talking with your kids about God's Design for Sex? Nancy has some excellent books that are staged to be age appropriate and illustrated tastefully (don't look like a biology textbook). Call her or stop by her office if you would like to borrow one.



Sunday, April 30 at 5:00PM

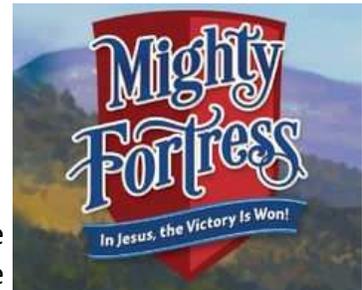


Join us for a unique Christian dinner theatre experience on Sunday, April 30. The Youth Club, assisted by the Kids' Club and Explorers, will present the Christian children's musical, *THE PRODIGAL CLOWN*. The setting is a circus, and the music and message are uplifting, fun and encouraging! A delicious spaghetti dinner will be served at 5:00PM, prepared and served by our Major League Youth (Middle School), leaders and parents. The musical presentation will follow dinner at approximately 6:00PM. We invite your generous donations, which will help send our MLY kids to the Great Escape summer camp in June. Look for sign-up forms on the bulletin boards in the upstairs and downstairs hallways to reserve your place at the table. Please invite your friends and neighbors to share the message of God's grace and love through song and Bible story.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2017

Monday, June 19 – Wednesday, June 21

6:00-8:00PM



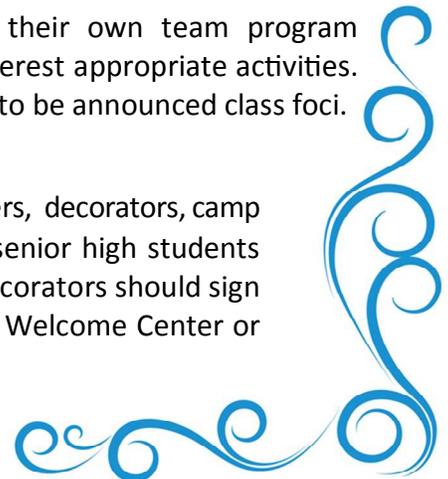
Each evening elementary kids and preschoolers will experience the Bible stories, applications, crafts, games and snacks of the Triangle Presbyterian Mighty Fortress. Together we will discover that Jesus is our champion in every battle of life! We will focus our lessons this summer on stories of God's deliverance in three different challenging situations. Bible stories include how God's might tumbles the walls of Jericho; God Delivers King Hezekiah's Kingdom and God's Word Reforms King Josiah! Our Key Verse is Proverbs 30:5, "Every word of God proves true; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him."

Registration
starts
April 15!

We will meet three evenings from 6:00-8:00 pm, Monday through Wednesday, allowing folks to have their weekends for family and travel, and focusing on building our community of faith!

Middle School students will have their own team program during the same time frame with interest appropriate activities. There will be an adult class, with yet to be announced class foci.

VBS Volunteers: Want to participate? We'll be looking for teachers, decorators, camp counselors/tour guides and more in the months ahead. Adults and senior high students interested in helping as tour guides, craft team members, or room decorators should sign the volunteer registration list on the sign up board upstairs or in the Welcome Center or email Nancy at nancyholton@trianglepc.org.



Join the TPC Durham CROP Walk Team! Sunday, April 2 - 2:30 pm - Duke Chapel

Register you and your family today to join the TPC team for the Durham CROP Walk on Sunday, April 2 at 2:30 pm starting at Duke Chapel. The TPC team goal is to raise \$5,000, which will be used to support hunger alleviation programs both locally and globally.

All ages are welcome! The full route is 4.8 miles, but there is also a 2.6-mile option as well as a 1.8-mile option. As the heart of this mission is not the distance you walk but how much money we raise to support individuals and families in desperate need of food, everyone can support this mission by either registering to walk/donate any distance or by making a donation in support of someone who is walking!



To register online to walk with the TPC Team:

- ◆ Go online to www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc
- ◆ **To register to walk with our team, please enter “Triangle Presbyterian Church” in the search box.**
- ◆ Once you find our team page, select “Join our Team.”
- ◆ Complete the information requested to register to walk.

To donate online to the TPC Team:

- ◆ Go online to www.crophungerwalk.org/durhamnc
- ◆ Select the “Donate” button on the right side of the page.
- ◆ Search “Donate to a Walker” or “Donate to a team.” You can then enter the walker’s name or enter “Triangle Presbyterian Church” as the team name in order to ensure your donation goes towards our team.
- ◆ Complete and submit the donation information.

To register or donate in person:

Stop by the CROP Walk table in the Welcome Center or contact Lesley Woodall at lesley@westandwoodall.com or Heather McLaughlin at hmclaughlinpt@gmail.com.

Food Bank—Pasta

May—Juice Boxes	June—Rice	July—Personal Hygiene
August—Cereal	September—Peanut Butter	October—Canned Fruit
November—Mac & Cheese	December Baby Formula/Cereal	

Food can be placed in the marked bins in the Welcome Center & Narthex. Monetary donations are collected the 1st Sunday of each month. Food Bank can provide 5 meals with each dollar donated.

Pop Top Cans & Microwavable Cups Preferred—No Glass Containers



Family Health Ministries' Annual Gala & Silent Auction

Support the birthing center at the Carmelle Voltaire Women's Health Center in Tom Gato, Haiti

Saturday, April 22, 2017
6:00 - 9:00 pm

Cocktail Attire
Charlotte & Dick Levin Jewish Community Center
1937 W. Cornwallis Road, Durham, NC 27705

Purchase your tickets at www.FamilyHM.org
or call 919.382.5500
Ticket prices before April 17th:
Adults \$80, Students \$40, Couples \$150
At the event: Adults \$90, Students \$50, Couples \$180

Oh, Baby!



Haiti Vacation Bible School

Trip Opportunity

A VBS trip sponsored by Family Health Ministries and led by Nancy and Jesse Holton and Missy Owen is being planned for July 15-23. TPC'ers Missy, Nancy, Jesse and Leslie and Ray Huml will join with several folks from area churches. You may learn more by checking out the FHM website at <http://www.familyhm.org/>. Click on Mission Travel to learn specifics. *Call or email Nancy in the office with questions about the specific itinerary, the places we go and the ministry of the people we work with in Haiti.*



Birthdays

- 1 Jane Cocke
Marcelle Gibble
Carolyn Jerkovich
Jennifer Krantz
- 2 Jennifer Kirschner
Rex Mercer
- 3 Alexander Idriss
Liesel Rehder
Jim Salerno
- 4 Dena Kornegay
- 5 Gage Hall
Marilyn Idriss
Scott Sundseth
Dottie Taylor
- 6 Noah Upchurch
- 7 Jennifer Wright
- 9 Mike Schultz
- 10 Gail McMillan
- 12 Alex Wilder
- 15 Horace Grant
Lesley McAdams
- 16 Eleanor Winfrey

- 17 Elise Hetland
- 20 Renee Wesson
- 21 Warren Saunders
- 22 Rob Martz
- 23 Jenny Eigenrauch
Katherine Ksor
Scott Langdon
Jackie MacDougall
Ledda Rosenberger
Caleb Woodall
- 24 Jen Walker
- 25 Anton Jerkovich
Ella Woodall
- 26 Roger Ailman
Aaron Williamson
- 28 Adam Cocke
David Scott
Morgan Shadoan
Bert Woodall
- 29 Logan Bennett
- 30 Perry Hinkle

Anniversaries

- 3 Stan & Retha Newbold
Roy & Marilyn Whitmore
- 10 Derek & Emily Purr
- 12 Walt & Jennifer Brittle
- 13 Ray & Leslie Huml
- 15 John & Sherene Min
- 18 Grant & Hannah Harvey
Michael & Karis Jackson
- 19 Ben & Susan Barker
- 22 Tommy & Jane Cocke
Chuck & Nancy-Anne Potts
- 23 Richard & Ledda Rosenberger
- 28 Will & Emily McAndrew



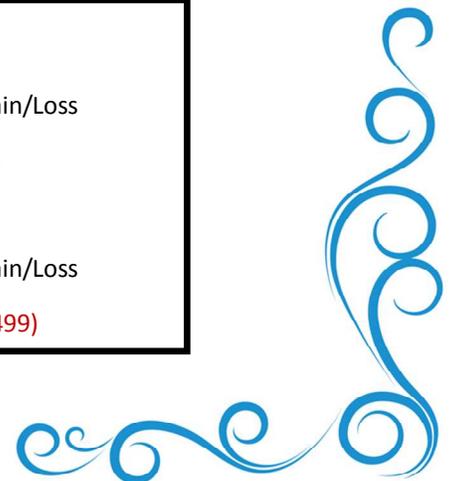
Finance

February Budget Report

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$95,015	\$97,297	\$86,449	\$84,874	\$1,575

Year to Date

Pledges	Budget	Contributions	Expenses	Net Gain/Loss
\$190,030	\$194,595	\$154,850	\$171,349	-\$16,499



April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 12:45 PM Pathways Brunch 2:00 PM Confirmation Class 3:45 PM MLY GIRLS 4:00 PM MLY 6:30 PM Varsity 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Financial Peace 7:00 PM Bridge Club 7:00 PM Session 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM DC/DC4K 	<p>31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM MLY Lock-In 		<p>1</p>
<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communion 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 3:00 PM Caregiver Support 5:00 PM Haiti Meeting 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Financial Peace 6:30 PM Session w/Confirmation 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:00 PM Ministry Team Night 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM DC/DC4K 	<p>7</p>		<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 4:00 PM MLY 6:30 PM Varsity 	<p>11</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Session 	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>13</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 11:30 AM JOY Group 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Pathways Game Night 		<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pennies for Hunger 6:45 AM Sunrise Service 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 	<p>18</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 PM Deacons 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study 	<p>19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newsletter Deadline 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM DC/DC4K 6:30 PM Prayer Shawl 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jr/Sr Retreat 		<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jr/Sr Retreat 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 12:45 PM Pathways Brunch 4:00 PM MLY 6:30 PM Varsity 	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Drama Rehearsal 7:00 PM Session 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study 	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4:30 PM Wednesday Clubs 6:30 PM ADHD Parent Support 6:30 PM Varsity Bible Study 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Fellowship 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Spring Work Day 1:00 PM Clubs Rehearsal 		<p>29</p>
<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:45 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday Clubs/Adult Ed 11:15 AM Worship 5:00 PM Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM Wednesday Clubs Musical 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 PM Bible Study 8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 	<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:30 AM Men's Bible Study 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th Grade Retreat 		<p>6</p>