

# ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## MESSENGER

February 2024



Greetings, St. Paul UMC family!

I pray that everyone and yours are doing well.

We are in February. February is known as 'Love Month' due to Valentine's Day and 'Black History Month.' In addition to that, we have 'Ash Wednesday' -the first day of Lent- this year (2/14). As we are having a spiritual journey together, let's think about Lent. Lent is a season of the Christian year where Christians focus on simple living, prayer, and fasting in order to grow closer to God. It's the 40 days before Easter. Lent excludes Sundays because every Sunday is like a little Easter. It's about one-tenth of a year (like a tithing of time). Lent begins with Ash Wednesday and is a 40-day spiritual journey from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday.

For me, Lent is a "season of spiritual cultivating." Just as a farmer begins the year's work by plowing his fields in the spring, I've been working through Lent to plow the fields of my heart with the plow of God's Word. As farming takes time, I've been cultivating myself before God for years, and now I'm constantly changing and growing before God. Forty days is not short; sometimes, I feel exhausted, but I try to remind myself that this is God's way of cultivating my life. But it's not that I can earn God's favor through my own efforts, but that it is my humble little struggle to seek God's deep grace.

In the Lenten season, we will be reading the Gospels each day, and you can take a break from chocolate or certain foods or behaviors you have been working on for yourself. Stop doing something is not the only thing you can do in Lent. You can also do more. We have worked on 'Discipleship' on Sundays. Why don't we apply it to the Lenten Season this year? Attend all the Lenten Services in person or online, pray 5 times a day, read the Gospels according to the schedule, serve two persons per week, save changes to give, share God's words, love, and work with one person weekly, and invite others to St. Paul UMC. All of this is about participating in God's work as God's people because God works in the world through you and me, through people. God's work happens in the world when we set priorities, move our bodies, spend time with others, and lay down ourselves for others. I pray for you this Lenten season that God fills your life with grace and overflows to others.

I mentioned the 'season of spiritual cultivating' earlier. We cultivate our garden with a hope for the future: an abundance. We plow up the ground that doesn't have anything yet. We do this work because of the future. From this perspective of preparation, I will take a 'renewal leave' this year. UMC clergy are encouraged to care for themselves as they have 3 months of 'renewal leave (sabbatical)' every 7 years of full-time ministry. I have served as a full-time UMC clergy member for 9 years. So, I'm eligible to do it, and DS approved me to do it this year. I decided to do it this year because, over the last three years, I have gone through challenges and changes with St. Paul UMC. And it is time to renew and refresh myself for the future ministry. I split these 3 three months into two: the whole month of April (30 days) and from 6/28 to 8/22 (60 days). I'll come back and preach on 8/25. We have clergy and lay people to preach during that time. We will have an on-call pastor who will provide pastoral care when you need it. The St. Paul UMC leaders will continue to do ministry and serve God and God's people with you all. Lastly, please keep me in your prayers so I can come back as refreshed and renewed. I cannot do it without your support because we are a team. We will continue to move on with God's help and guidance.

## FEBRUARY

We still have time to set up our minds on how to spend this year's Lenten season. Please pray about it with a willing heart, the love God has shown you, and gratitude. God will speak and lead you in God's way. Once you get an idea, be strong and courageous and do it!

And as the St. Paul UMC family, let's keep up the good work for the Kingdom of God as we try to be sensitive to read God's wind now and down the road.

In Christ,

Rev. Myungha Baek



Children and Youth Leader Report  
Sherry Mervine

Old business:

Stellar Christmas program went well in December. We had 6 children participating with approximately 25 attendees.

Teen Sunday School did not have any students in the month of December and no youth group events were held in December due to lack of interest.

New business:

An organizational meeting for Pioneer Club was held January 7th @ 4PM. Sandy Artz, Rick Miller, Pastor Baek and I consist of the organizational team. The first meeting will be February 4 @ 4pm. Assistance is needed for registration and marketing. Potential leaders need to be identified. A Spring 2024 calendar for Pioneer Club has been developed.

January family event: January 27 from 6-8:30 PM Couch Potato Drive-In Movie "Jesus Revolution"

Will be held in the Zone. Snacks will be Popcorn and drinks. Participants are invited to bring appetizers and finger foods.

Vacation Bible School will be held June 17-21, 2024. The theme is "Hero Hotline"

## February

### January Church Council Reports

#### Finance

**Karen Hill, Chair**

January Update:

2023 Finance Summary by month is available upon request.

The Finance Committee will be offering a Financial Training small group study to start in Q1-2024. Everett Baker and Jackie Mulvey will be leading the study.

**2024 Budget = \$348,825**

As a non-profit, the budget assumes unrestricted income and expenses are equal for a net income of \$0.

#### St. Paul UMC Finances as of 31 December 2023

	Actual (YTD)	Budget (YTD)	Annual Budget	Annual %
Contributions	\$317,699.56	\$399,519.35	\$399,519.35	79.5%
Expenses	\$374,734.63	\$399,519.35	\$399,519.35	93.8%

The St. Paul UMC congregations has graciously made an additional \$23,811 in benevolent (restricted giving) to benefit the ministries, missions and those in need in 2023.

Current Month (December)	Actual	Budget	Variance (better /	Annual %
Contributions	\$ 34,585.83	\$ 33,869.79	\$716.04	2.1%
Expenses	\$ 29,294.51	\$ 32,084.85	\$2,790.34	8.7%

## February

### FINANCE

Karen Hill, Chair

#### Finance Policy

#### Unrestricted Funds

Income and contributions used to maintain the church facilities, pay mortgage, utilities, office related expenses, salary and expenses for administrative / janitorial / pastoral staff, educational materials, conference apportionments and other costs to support the routine business of St Paul United Methodist Church.

#### Restricted Funds

Contributions made which designate a specific purpose. Restricted Fund balances are managed separate from the Unrestricted (or General Operating) Funds.

Restricted Funds at St Paul United Methodist Church include:

Altar Flowers	Angel Tree	Building Fund (incl Parsonage Proceeds)
Compassion Children	Heartfelt (Operation Backpack)	Kitchen Ministry
Library Fund	Media Team	Missions
Passion Plan	Safe Nights	Operation Christmas Child (shoebox)
SMILE	UMYF	Vacation Bible School
Worship	Pastor Discretionary Fund	

Restricted Funds will be used for activities before being applied to the General / Unrestricted Funds.

#### Process to add / remove Restricted Fund at St Paul United Methodist Church:

The addition or removal of a Restricted Fund will be made by the Church Council. Recommendations will be presented by the Finance Committee Chair at the monthly Church Council meeting, and it will be voted on by the Church Council to either add a new Restricted Fund or remove an existing Restricted Fund.

New Restricted Funds will be created only after review and approval is made by the Finance Committee.

This will include a description of the requested fund and primary sponsor for fund activities.

Removal of an existing Restricted Fund – a recommendation will be made by the Finance Committee which will include a reason the fund will be removed and a recommendation of how any remaining fund dollars will be managed. The remaining balances for a fund being eliminated may be moved into another Restricted Fund.

Restricted Fund dollars will always be managed separately from the Unrestricted / General Operating Funds of the church.

## February

### **Evangelism**

**Missy Lauber, Chair**

Goal: To continue to reach out to our community and congregation to spread the word of God.

Save the Date: St. Paul UMC Annual Easter Egg Hunt! March 30th 10AM until the eggs are gone!

I would like to do Easter Service invites or Holy Week invites like we did Christmas Eve, but we need a way that is as inexpensive as possible. Suggestions welcome.

### **Sunday School**

**Susan Baker**

Positive points: The enjoyment of the students/ participants.

Class reports: Heart felt thanks to Joan Sampson for the extended time you lead the adult class. We welcome Everett Baker as an interim facilitator for the Adult class. Current there are 2-3 participants. We have a teacher for the HS class. Please encourage a young person you know to come check out the class. Thank you Barb Mack for stepping up as lead Elementary teacher. I am supporting her in the class. If someone has a burning desire to help please let me know. We have an average of 2 students. We'd welcome more.

Please continue to pray for this ministry as God guides you. Prayers of thanksgiving to God our Father for the Sunday School Ministry at St. Paul UMC, fir those praying for us, participating in a class and teaching. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

### **Lay Leader**

**Donna House**

**God is good, all the time. All the time, God is good.**

Advent at St. Paul UMC is very special in my heart. The sanctuary was filled with beautiful poinsettias and perfectly decorated trees. There were many musical selections that were performed by our choir, praise band, cantata group and individuals. Christmas Eve was wonderful with 5 services for our congregation and the community to attend. We had our first family service in several years and invited Vacation Bible School children to attend and be a part of our "Stellar Christmas". Words cannot express how special singing "Silent Night" is with candlelight right before the stroke of midnight. We also had our first fifth Sunday of the month combined service on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 am featuring "Lessons and Carols" which was followed by an amazing brunch for at 11:00 am. A special kudos to Staci Kackley, Colleen Lane, Donna Sams and all who contributed for this special time of fellowship. The birth of Jesus brings HOPE to all, and we were able to spread the good news at SPUMC with many.

## February

### Lay Leader Report Continued

In August, we had our congregational meeting "Wind in Our Sails". Out of that meeting, we made three commitments to our members to:

Hold Combined Worship Services at 10:00 am on months with 5 Sundays

Provide more fellowship times for our congregation

Offer more family activities for all

We are sticking to those promises and exciting things are happening at St. Paul UMC that are all well attended by our congregation. And NOW is the time for our church to GROW! I challenge you in this new year to invite and bring at least two new families to a service, an event/dinner or a fellowship time between services. We can't wait for the community to find us... we need to bring the community to our St. Paul family. Invite a neighbor, friend, family or past members that may not have recently attended. We have an average of 70 worshippers each Sunday. If we each bring just 2 new folks to church, our attendance would be 210! Let's fill the seats and pews at St. Paul UMC!

Upcoming events:

January 27<sup>th</sup> – "Couch Potato Movie Night", "Jesus Revolution" 6:00 – 8:30 pm

February 13<sup>th</sup> – Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 23<sup>rd</sup> - Rise Against Hunger

March 31<sup>st</sup> - Easter Sunday (service schedule TBD)

I recently watched the "Jesus Revolution" which is based on a true story. The movie is set in Southern California and tells the story of the beginning of one of the greatest spiritual awakenings in American history, touching hundreds of thousands, if not millions of young people across the country in the late 1960s and early 1970s. They are referred to as God's forever family! Make plans to join us in viewing this inspiring story! **If we each invite 2 people to St. Paul, we can begin our own JESUS REVOLUTION!**

### Trustees

Jim House, Chair

[djhouse@comcast.net](mailto:djhouse@comcast.net)

443-624-0034

The St. Paul UMC Trustees meet on the first Thursday of each month for their business meeting. Items discussed include church projects, church maintenance and finances. Work sessions are scheduled as needed to maintain the facilities and complete projects.

Current projects include:

Replacing UV water system bulbs

Repairing the gas stove in the Activity Center kitchen

Scheduling inspection of the fire suppressant system for the kitchen

Contracting for relocation of televisions in the sanctuary

Repairing and painting the sanctuary

Acquiring proposals for the refurbishment of fellowship hall to include: new flooring, new ceiling, new outside entrance, new insulation and painting

The trustees maintain a detailed list of projects across our campus and are working to complete them. Please inform a trustee if you see any area that needs repair and/or if you have an idea for improvement. We want St. Paul UMC to be an inviting, safe space for all to worship and fellowship.

# February

## SPPRC

**Donna House, Chair**

The SPPRC has identified six meeting dates for 2024 to complete important tasks including: orientation of committee members, updating the current St. Paul UMC Safe Sanctuary Policy, pastor’s compensation package and pastor’s end of the year evaluation. Additional dates will be added if needed and the first meeting of this year’s committee will be held on January 25th. Liaisons will be identified for all staff positions: Pastor, Administrative Secretary, Children and Youth Leader and Church Custodian. SPPRC is looking forward to a fantastic 2024.

## Worship Committee

**Barb Miller, Chair**

The Worship Committee will hold its first meeting of 2024 on Thursday, January 18. Regular meetings are scheduled to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of odd months at 6:30pm in the Library.

We will review past worship services and look ahead to the next 3 months using the United Methodist Worship Planning Calendar. Agenda items will include sermon themes for January, Lent/Ash Wednesday/Scout Sunday in February, and Holy Week in March. There will be continued discussion on ways to revitalize the 11am service.

### Service Attendance:

December 3	9am	41	11am	15			
10	9am	43	11am	17			
17	Cantata: 60						
21	Longest Night: 11						
Christmas Eve	9am	52	11am	18	4pm	28	7pm 47 11pm 31
31	Combined Service: 50 +8 online						

# LENT

Pray + Fast + Give

**Office Contacts & Information**

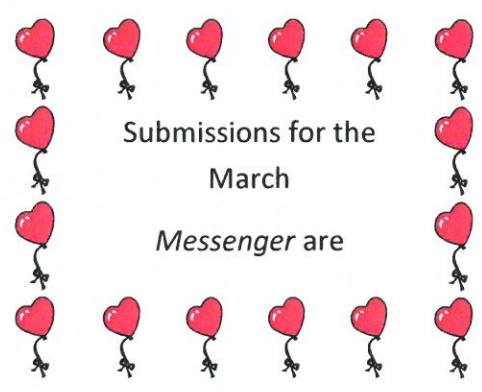
**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Myungha Baek  
Church Email: PastorBaek@stpaulumc-lusby.org

**Children & Youth Leader:** Sherry Mervine  
Church Email: cyleader@stpaulumc-lusby.org

**Admin. Assistant:** Kathy Matthews  
Church E-Mail: kmatthews@stpaulumc-lusby.org

**OFFICE PHONE: 410.326.4475**

**OFFICE EMAIL: stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com**



## SPUMC Card Ministry



Our committee has met twice and has begun doing some baby step planning to share God's love and meet the needs of our congregation here at SPUMC. We thank the congregation for the donations of cards already given but would be happy to continue to take more. Donations can be given to the office or catch Carol after the 9:00 service and during Fellowship Time.

We have sent out a few thinking of you/praying for you cards as well as 3 welcome cards to people who have recently visited with us. We are planning to do several projects for February including copying free pdf super hero Valentine cards for our friends at the Charlotte Hall Veteran's Home and distributing large Valentine cards to the St. Leonard and 2 Solomons Fire and Rescue squads. Stay tuned for the cards to be available at an upcoming Fellowship Time so that you can sign them! We have other ideas floating around but no new updates on them at the time. If you have any ideas or concerns, please see Carol. We want to hear what you would like to see happen with this ministry.

Should you be inclined, our ministry is looking for card stock, 5 1/4" X 7 1/4" greeting card size envelopes, 4 1/4" X 5 1/2" invitation size envelopes, and postage stamps. (Note that postage rates are scheduled to go up January 21<sup>st</sup> to \$.68.) Thank you for your consideration, support, and especially your prayers.



### Lenten Schedule:

- \*Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 2/13 5 pm-6:30 pm Activity Center
- \*Ash Wednesday Service 2/14 7 pm Sanctuary
- \*Rise Against Hunger 3/23 1:30 pm-3:00 pm Activity Center
- \*Maundy Thursday Service 3/28 7 pm Sanctuary
- \*Good Friday Service 3/29 7 pm Olivet UMC
- \*Easter Egg Hunt 3/30 10 am Activity Center





**WES MOORE**  
GOVERNOR

**ARUNA MILLER**  
LT. GOVERNOR

**ANTHONY C. WOODS**  
SECRETARY

**JOHN J. LOMBARDI**  
DIRECTOR,  
CHARLOTTE HALL VETERANS HOME

**RODNEY L. JONES**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
CHARLOTTE HALL VETERANS HOME

December 12, 2023

St. Paul U.M. Church  
c/o Carol Howard  
11000 HG Trueman Road  
Lusby, MD 20657

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs, the Maryland Veterans Home Commission, and the Charlotte Hall Veterans Home residents, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of Two Hundred Thirty-Eight Holiday Cards for our residents. Many of our residents do not have family to help support their needs, so they truly appreciate having these special items available, especially during the holiday season.

We sincerely appreciate your support and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,

Rodney L. Jones,  
Deputy Director, Charlotte Hall Veterans Home

Charlotte Hall Veterans Home · 29449 Charlotte Hall Road · Charlotte Hall, Maryland 20622  
301-884-8171 · Fax: 301-884-8036

Website: [www.charhall.org](http://www.charhall.org)

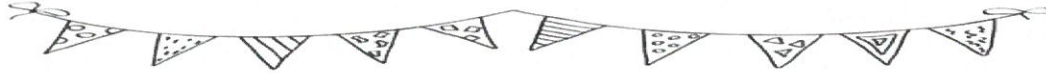
Facebook: @CharlotteHallVeteransHome



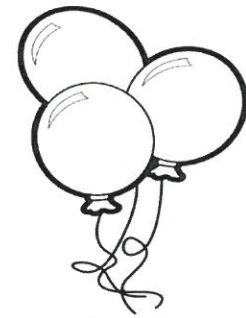
TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

“Serving Those Who Served”

## BIRTHDAYS!



Leslie Graham	2/1	Phil Garber	2/16	Dylan Scruggs	2/26
Patty King	2/2	Dakota Malone	2/16	Tony Digeorge	2/27
Mary Fouse	2/3	Logan Powell	2/16	Thomas Younger	2/27
Stefan Miller	2/3	Ashley Kackley	2/17	Stephanie Pulsinelli	2/28
Jennifer Pols	2/3	Ethan Benton	2/19	Katiann Trigger	2/29
Kyle Burbano	2/6	Gweniveve Reemtsen	2/19		
Kyle Kackley	2/6	Dawn Benton	2/20		
Lynn Powell	2/6	Charlotte Biggans	2/20		
Sandy Thiess	2/6	Bryan Garner	2/20		
Kolton Bobkoskie	2/7	Madelyn Mason	2/21		
Mckenzie Mundy	2/7	Alan Brooks	2/22		
Robin Read	2/9	Shannon Malone	2/23		
Lewis Schmidt	2/11	Luke Pols	2/23		
Anna Laughlin	2/12	Brian Lauver	2/24		
Nicholas King	2/15	Carter Nagers	2/26		



### GIFT CARDS

Every Sunday, food cards for Giant and Weis are available to purchase in the CLC. This assists in our operating budget.



### LOST AND FOUND

SPUMC has a "Lost and Found" basket stationed in the lobby of the Christian Life Center.

*Contact Kathy at the church office if you have any questions.*

**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
 11000 H G Trueman Road, Lusby, MD 20657  
 410-326 – 4475  
<https://stpaulumc-lusby.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulLusby>  
[stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com)





# Tulips for Easter at St. Paul UMC

**Tulips will be in the Sanctuary**

**March 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Please pick up your tulips after service on March 31st.**

**6-inch pot, variety of colors,  
TULIPS for \$10 each**

Circle honor or memory:

**In honor / memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor / memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor / memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In honor / memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ORDERS DUE by February 25, 2024.**

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Checks made payable to St. Paul UMC.**



Pancake Day Word Search

E	R	A	X	P	G	L	S	H	F	M	R	D	H	Q	A	A	Q	N	E	N	T	L
L	A	M	Y	S	A	I	R	G	O	H	D	T	B	E	C	A	E	O	L	H	E	L
O	C	E	G	M	N	Z	R	A	N	F	K	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	L	L
I	Z	E	N	T	R	S	I	O	E	V	E	O	O	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	L	L
L	C	D	J	E	S	U	S	H	R	A	S	N	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	L
Y	E	M	Q	V	I	L	I	R	O	S	E	F	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	L
N	C	E	H	P	R	A	S	N	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	O	E	N	E	O
K	E	H	P	R	A	S	N	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	L
N	C	E	H	P	R	A	S	N	E	V	E	O	O	E	N	E	O	O	E	N	E	O

LENT

SHROVE

TUESDAY

CHRISTIAN

E665

JESUS

MILK

FLOUR

OIL

# FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28						
<p>Worship (9 am &amp; 11 am)</p> <p>10am - SS classes</p> <p>10:05am - Children's Sunday</p> <p>10:10am - Fellowship</p> <p>3:30pm - CCALL/AC @ Activity</p> <p>4pm - Pioneer Club</p>	<p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study/Library</p>	<p>8am - DWS Fire Safety Service</p> <p>9am - HeartFelt /FH @ Fellowship</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>6:15pm - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>6:30pm - Tues, Bible</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop/FH</p>	<p>5:30pm - Bayside Blues</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band/Music</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p> <p>7:30pm - Bayside Blues-</p>	<p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>5:30pm - Council /Library @</p> <p>6pm - SOMD Rolling Thunder/AC</p> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms.</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p> <p>6:15pm - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>8pm - AA/FH @ FH</p>	<p>9am - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p>
4	<p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study/Library</p>	<p>8am - DWS Fire Safety Service</p> <p>9am - HeartFelt /FH @ Fellowship</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>6:15pm - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>6:30pm - Tues, Bible</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop/FH</p>	<p>5:30pm - Bayside Blues</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band/Music</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p> <p>7:30pm - Bayside Blues-</p>	<p>4:30pm - OLSS Basketball/AC @</p> <p>5:30pm - Council /Library @</p> <p>6pm - SOMD Rolling Thunder/AC</p> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms.</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p> <p>6:15pm - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>8pm - AA/FH @ FH</p>	<p>8am - Scouts Merit Badge</p> <p>8pm - Scouts (Overnight) Camping/AC @ Activity Center</p>
11	<p>6:45pm - Bible Study/Library</p> <p>7:30pm - Scout Leaders</p>	<p>9am - HeartFelt /FH @ Fellowship</p> <p>10:30am - Faith Circle (Monthly)</p> <p>5pm - Shrove Tuesday Pancake</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop/FH</p>	<p>6:15pm - Praise Band/Music</p> <p>7pm - Ash Wednesday Service @</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms.</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p> <p>8pm - AA/FH @ FH</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p> <p>8pm - Scouts Merit Badge</p>
18	<p>President's Day / Office &amp;</p> <p>9am - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study/Library</p>	<p>9am - HeartFelt /FH @ Fellowship</p> <p>6pm - Calvert Tide/Activity Center</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop/FH</p>	<p>Newsletter Article Due</p> <p>5:30pm - Bayside Blues</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band/Music</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p> <p>7:30pm - Bayside Blues-</p>	<p>6pm - SOMD Rolling Thunder/AC</p> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms.</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p> <p>9pm - Scouts Lock In /AC</p> <p>8pm - AA/FH @ FH</p>	<p>9am - Scouts Lock In Ends/AC</p>
25	<p>5pm - CCALL / AC @ Activity</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study/Library</p>	<p>9am - HeartFelt /FH @ Fellowship</p> <p>6pm - Calvert Tide/Activity Center</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop/FH</p>	<p>5:30pm - Bayside Blues</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band/Music</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p> <p>7:30pm - Bayside Blues-</p>	<p>6pm - SOMD Rolling Thunder/AC</p> <p>7pm - Cub Scouts/Rms.</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p>	<p>Office Closes at Noon</p>