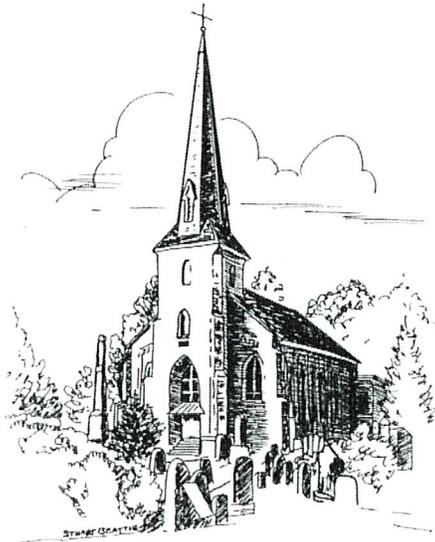


THE SPIRE

FROM: GREEN HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3112 Kennett Pike
P. O. Box 3892
Wilmington, DE 19807-0892

Website at www.greenhillpres.org

E-mail Address: info@greenhillpres.org



TO:

March, 2026

Green Hill Presbyterian Church Office Phone: (302) 652-5065

Pastoral Care: Rev. Dr. David Lovelace
revdel@comcast.net
(302) 652-5065 (Church)
(302) 368-5743 (Cell)

SPIRE Editor: Evelyn Williams
elwilliams2229@prodigy.net
(302) 622-8032

WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Wednesday Women's Bible Study – 5:00 PM

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

March 1 – 2nd Sunday in Lent, St. David's Day

March 1 – Rev. David Lovelace Preaching; Communion

Thursday, March 5, 7:00 PM-Saturday, March 7, 12:00 PM – NC Presbytery Bay Retreat and Meeting,
Dewey Beach, DE

March 8 – 3rd Sunday in Lent; Daylight Saving Time Begins;

March 8 – Pastor Bob Carey and Team, Seaford, DE; Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge Leading Worship

Tuesday, March 10 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 8:00 AM

March 15 – 4th Sunday in Lent; Rev. David Lovelace Preaching

Saturday, March 21 – 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Church Clean Up Day

March 22 – 5th Sunday in Lent; Rev. David Lovelace Preaching

Tuesday, March 24 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 8:00 AM

March 29 – Palm Sunday; Service of Wholeness & Healing during Worship

From the Session – February 8, 2026

1. We may have identified someone to maintain the Church Facebook page.
2. The Inclement weather procedures have been updated. Please look for an e-mail in the event of weather-related challenges.
3. The web page is in the process of being updated. More recent photographs would be appreciated.
4. Possibly switching from Zoom to YouTube for Sunday remote Services in the near future.

Chandler Brown
Clerk of Session

Removal of Christmas Decorations from Cemetery

The Trustees wish to remind all those who have placed Christmas decorations and memorials on graves within the Green Hill Cemetery that the **last day to remove those decorations is Sunday, March 1**. Trustees will clean the Cemetery of remaining Christmas decorations during March, weather permitting.

Special Offerings at Christmas Time

On Sundays, December 21 and 28, 2025, generous Green Hill members contributed **\$215.00** to the **Christmas Joy** Special Offering. Money collected for Christmas Joy from Green Hill and other PC (USA) churches is split evenly between the *Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions* for assistance to church workers and families and the *Presbyterian-affiliated racial ethnic schools and colleges* to enable students to develop their gifts and find their calling.

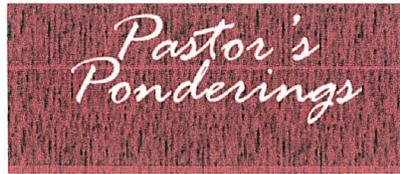
On **Christmas Eve** we collected **\$360.00 for the Food Bank of Delaware** from the 43 attendees at this special evening worship service.

Trustees Representative to the Personnel Committee

John Stevens is the Trustees representative to the **Personnel** Committee for 2026.

Care-Ware Collection Results

The Mission & Prayer Committee is pleased to report that the **Care-Ware collection of underwear for Sunday Breakfast Mission** resulted in donations of **62 individual pieces** of underwear, T-shirts, bras, and pairs of socks. Underwear and socks are the two most requested clothing items at homeless shelters. We are confident these items will help our needy and homeless neighbors this winter and spring.



“Spring Training”

It’s hard to believe that – as we wait for our still-substantial snowdrifts to melt, and even await the possibilities of new ones – baseball teams are re-forming in Florida, in anticipation of “opening day”.

Indeed, the very term – “spring training” – seems to have oxymoronic qualities: How can it be *spring* training, when spring is still almost a month away? And, how can we train for spring while still under *winter* conditions?

The life of the church – it seems – is very much like spring training. We are - in a sense – *spring people* living in a *winter world*; we live in both the *now* – of Christ living in and through us, and the *not yet* – of the coming of the fullness of the kingdom of God.

And, the major task that lies before us – like that of the baseball players in Florida – is to reform the team for maximum effectiveness on the playing field.

In Florida, the task of team reformation is overseen by the respective coaches and managers, hired by the team owners for that purpose.

For us – at Green Hill – a vision for reforming the team is – necessarily – on our future agenda. But, the success of the actual reformation process will be dependent upon the involvement of each and every one of us. Indeed, Christ has called each one of us for that very purpose:

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,

Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

And teaching them to obey all things that I have commanded you.

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:18-20

Remember, the Church of Jesus Christ is the only institution that exists for the benefit of those who are not yet members.

Make a friend; be a friend; *bring a friend with you* to church. That’s what our spring training is all about!

Pastor Dave Lovelace

The Ransom of Life (Psalm 49)

Psalm 49 is a wisdom psalm. The literary structure of the psalm has three parts. There is an introduction in which the psalmist invites the widest possible audience (vv. 1-2) ***“Hear this, all you peoples; give ear, all inhabitants of the world, both low and high, rich and poor together.”*** and identifies the character of the speech he is about to deliver (vv. 3-4); ***“My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. I will incline my ear to a proverb; I will solve my riddle to the music of the harp.”***

The speech itself is divided into two sections each ending in the refrain ***“Mortals cannot abide in their pomp; they are like the animals that perish.”*** The opening summons claims that the speech concerns every human being. The psalm offers wisdom and understanding, guidance for living life to its fullest. We live in a world obsessed with wealth—earning it, saving it, investing it, protecting it. Success is often measured by possessions and status, and this psalm speaks directly into that mindset. It is a wisdom psalm, meaning it teaches us how to think rightly about life. It addresses everyone—rich and poor alike—and asks one penetrating question: ***“Where do we place our trust?”***

Psalm 49 pulls back the curtain on wealth, mortality, and redemption. It reminds us that while riches may impress people, they do not impress God — and wealth cannot redeem a soul. The psalmist declares (vv. 7-9) ***“Truly, no ransom avails for one’s life; there is no price one can give to God for it. For the ransom of life is costly and can never suffice, that one should live on forever and never see the Pit.”***

This is the heart of the message. No matter how wealthy someone becomes, they cannot purchase eternal life. They cannot buy forgiveness. They cannot bribe death. The wealth of the world cannot pay the price of a human soul.

In the ancient world, ransom meant paying a price to set someone free. But the psalmist makes it clear: the price of redemption is beyond human currency. This prepares us for the gospel. What money cannot buy, God provides. The ransom is not silver or gold—it is the precious sacrifice God Himself provides.

Psalm 49 confronts us with reality: You can gain the whole world and still lose your soul. You can accumulate wealth and still face death unprepared. But there is good news: God redeems. God rescues. God gives eternal life—not for sale, but by grace.

So, Psalm 49 leaves us with this: May we be people who trust in the Redeemer who lives forever.

***I’d rather have Jesus than silver or gold. I’d rather be His than have riches untold.
I’d rather have Jesus than houses or lands. I’d rather be led by His nail-pierced hand.
Than to be the king of a vast domain or be held in sin’s dread sway;
I’d rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.***

Lyrics by Rhea Miller (1922) - ©2014 Lorenz Publishing Corporation

*Ref: Psalms: Interpretation by James L. Mays published by John Knox Press
Biblical Ref. New Revised Standard Version (NSRV)*

Bruce Fine
Music Director

In Memoriam – Jean C. Larrimore

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of our friend and Green Hill Church member, Jean Larrimore, on Monday, February 9, 2026. Jean had been living in Lititz, Pennsylvania since late 2018 to be near her son and his family. Jean was 96 years old.

Jean has been a lifelong member of Green Hill, from 1944 to 1968 and 1991 to 2026. She transferred her church membership when she and her husband, C. Allen, were living in the mid-West for his work. They were faithful attendees who occupied the last pew in the sanctuary for Sunday worship services for many years. Allen passed away in 2008 and his memorial site is in our Green Hill Cemetery. Jean and Allen were married for 55 years.

For many years, Jean delivered Meals on Wheels with Ellen Hinrichs. Ellen writes that she enjoyed working very much with her friend, Jean, and that they shared many laughs during their route deliveries. Jean was always very caring and tended to stay too long chatting with each client. They usually went out to lunch after their monthly Meals on Wheels outings.

Jean was a faithful attendee at the annual Women's Christmas parties until she moved to Lititz. She always seemed to have fun, though she complained about how she did in our word games. She has been missed at Women's Christmas parties, even as she has been living away from Wilmington.

The Green Hill Church family sends its condolences to Jean's entire family, including great niece, Green Hill member, Jen Galvin and her family. Jean is also survived by her daughter, Robin, a Wilmington resident, and son, Scot and his family, of Ephrata, Pennsylvania. Jean was laid to rest at the Green Hill Cemetery in a private, family graveside service on Wednesday, February 18, officiated by Rev. Dr. David Lovelace.

Jean was a sweet, feisty lady and we shall miss her. We take comfort in knowing that she is now in Glory with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Evelyn Williams

Good Friday Evening Service



The Worship Committee plans to offer a Good Friday evening service this year, on April 3, 7:00 PM. This service will be traditional and solemn. It will include Communion and the Tenebrae service with readings and extinguishing of candles. The sanctuary will end up in darkness symbolizing the time that Jesus died and was shut in the tomb. We are invited to reflect on what Jesus did for us on that Good Friday. If you have been to our Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service, you will recognize this service. Please plan to attend!

Women's Bible Study News

Women's Bible Study is working its way through the New Testament Book of Galatians. In many ways, it is a very challenging book. We are benefiting from the insights Pastor Dave Lovelace is sharing in his notes for each chapter. We are currently studying Galatians Chapter 3. We have a week off on Ash Wednesday, February 18, since we have a 7:00 PM worship service.



All of our sessions are hybrid. All meetings are held in the church Board Room on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM and all meetings are broadcast via Zoom. New members are always welcome **in-person or via Zoom**.

March 2026 Hymn-of-the-Month
“I’d Rather Have Jesus”

The lyrics to "I'd Rather Have Jesus" were written in 1922 by Rhea F. Miller (1894-1966). Rhea Miller was the only daughter of Martin and Bertha Ross, from Brooktondale, NY, which is 8 miles out of Ithaca, NY. Her father had been a drunk and wanted nothing to do with religion. His wife, Bertha, was faithful to God in spite of her husband's drunkenness. Her faithfulness and the prayers eventually led to his salvation and deliverance from alcohol. As a result, he entered the ministry and became pastor of the Baptist Church in Brooktondale. The Miller family attended the Baptist church, whose members included a young man named Howard Vassar Miller who was saved when he was just 16 years old. It wasn't long before he and Rhea caught each other's eye, and after he graduated from Colgate University, he and Rhea were married.

One day in 1922, at 28 years of age, while walking the fields of their Brooktondale home, Rhea began to reflect on her father's testimony of how he had been delivered from alcohol, and how he had said he would rather have Jesus than all the gold and silver in the world, and all the houses and land that money could buy.

The tune was written in 1939 by George Beverly Shea (1909-2013). George was born in Winchester, Ontario, Canada. His father was a Methodist Church minister and his mother was a music leader in his church. She liked to share poetry and placed a copy of Rhea Miller's poem, which was clipped from a magazine, on the piano in the Shea home. The lyrics, "*I'd Rather Have Jesus*", inspired George to not only compose the music, but to alter his life's goals. He sat at the piano and began singing them with a tune that seemed to fit the words. Shea's mother heard him singing and requested him to sing it at church.

He was presented a popular music career with NBC, but years later chose to work with evangelist Billy Graham and sang this hymn around the world. George Beverly Shea sang with the Billy Graham crusade for more than three decades. This hymn is about dedication and commitment to Jesus.

I'd Rather Have Jesus (verses 2 & 3)

*I'd rather have Jesus than men's applause; I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause.
I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame; I'd rather be true to His holy name.*

*He's fairer than lilies of rarest bloom; He's sweeter honey from out of the comb.
He's all that my hungering spirit needs; I'd rather have Jesus and let Him lead.*

*Than to be the king of a vast domain or held in sin's dread sway.
I'd rather have Jesus than anything this world affords today.*

*Lyrics: by Rhea Miller (1922); ©2014 Lorenz Publishing Corporation
[Hymns for the family of God #650]
Ref: 101 More Hymn Stories by Kenneth Osbeck*

Bruce Fine

Trustees Trumpet Spring Clean-Up Day March 21



On Saturday, March 21, Trustees will host the spring church Clean-Up Day. Please plan to come out from 9:00 AM until noon, or any part of that time, to help with both inside and outside jobs. If you know of a specific job that needs to be done, please contact Evelyn Williams so that she can add it to our master list. As we have in the past, we will also make that list available if you have time and are unable to join us on the March 21 Clean-Up Day. We look forward to seeing you for this wonderful opportunity to provide a good spring cleaning to Green Hill Church and grounds. We know it needs some love and attention!

Help Give Them Hope! Hope Totes Campaign



During the Lenten season, from Sunday, February 22 to March 29, the Deacons are collecting items for use in **Hope Totes**, bags containing **personal care items** for the homeless and needy in our area. It's a great way to visibly show we care, and a huge blessing for them to receive. Sunday Breakfast Mission will provide some of the Hope Totes to Friendship House which will distribute them to the **homeless people living in the tent city in Christina Park** on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026.

To contribute, simply deposit any of the following new, unopened items in the basket at the back of the sanctuary:

Toothbrush & Toothpaste*
Soap*
Shaving Cream*
Disposable Razor
Shampoo & Conditioner*
Deodorant*

Lip Balm*
Socks (pairs – men's or women's)
Brush & Comb
Tissues*
Shoelaces (pairs)
Hand or Body Lotion*

**Travel Sizes are Best!*

No hand sanitizer or mouthwash, please, as these products may contain alcohol. No food items, please. Jen Galvin is the Deacon in charge of this project.

Delaware Blue Coats Basketball Game – March 27

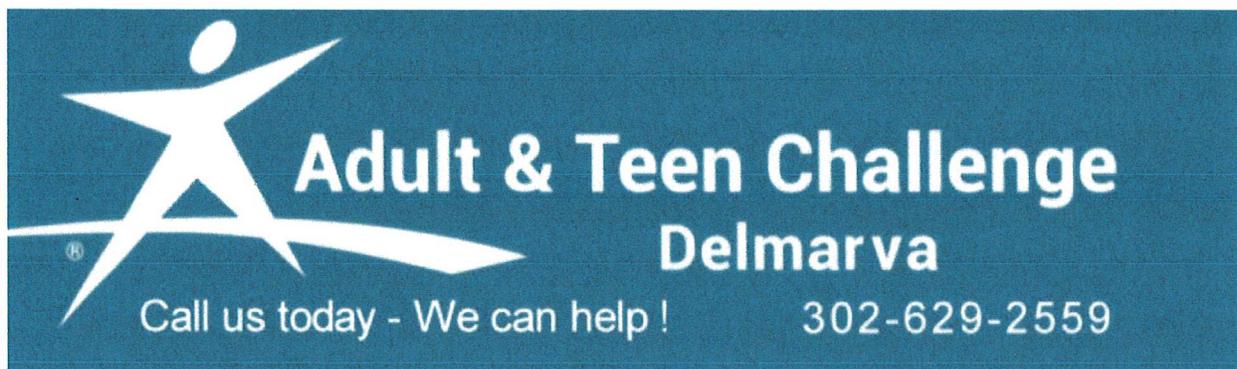
The Green Hill Fellowship Committee is offering the opportunity to see our **Delaware Blue Coats** G-League Basketball team play the Capital City Go-Go on **Friday, March 27, 2026, 7:00 PM**. Our seats are second row, Section 10, away from the announcing speakers. The game will be played at the Chase Fieldhouse, 401 Garasches Lane, Wilmington, on the Christina Riverfront. Doors open at 6:00 PM.



The price for a ticket is \$17 per person and you may add a \$5 food voucher, making the total purchase \$22.00 each.

Please sign up on the sheet on the back table in the sanctuary. This should be a very fun outing. Please join us! Questions? See Chandler Brown.

Pastor Bob Carey and the Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge Team at Green Hill on Sunday, March 8



Pastor Bob Carey and his team from the Delmarva Adult & Teen Challenge will be joining us for the worship service on **March 8, 2026**. Pastor Carey will deliver the sermon and residents will give testimonies and participate in the musical portion of the worship service. The residents may be from either the Men's Program or the Home of Hope Women's Program. We are looking forward to hearing from one of the Delaware-wide missions that Green Hill supports financially. New Castle County referrals to this program are handled by The Well on Rt. 41 in Hockessin, Delaware. Please plan to attend!

Special Refreshments and Craft Sale on Palm Sunday



Please plan to join us downstairs in Fellowship Hall after the worship service on Palm Sunday, March 29, for Special Refreshments and our first Craft Sale of the New Year! We invite you to browse our new craft selections and new all-occasion cards. Please join us!

Signs of Serving

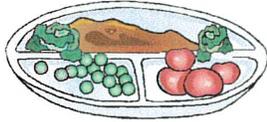
from the Green Hill Deacons



EDR & Meals on Wheels

Thank you to **Ellen Grubbs, Gail Heath, Evelyn Williams, and Kathy Dugan** who prepared the meal for EDR on Thursday, February 19.

We appreciate the work of our **Meals on Wheels** delivery volunteers for February.



Thanks go to **Evelyn Williams, Maya Hirs and family, Jen Galvin, Gail Heath, Kathy Dugan and Dan Dugan.**

EDR and Meals on Wheels teams are always looking for volunteers to substitute for existing members. If you are interested in being a sub, please contact Ellen Grubbs for EDR and Jen Galvin for Meals on Wheels.



Deacons Spring Projects

Our annual **Spring Clothing Drive for Sunday Breakfast Mission** will begin in May. This year you may bring household soft goods to the drive as well. Gail Heath heads this project.

Our **collection of food** for the Sunday Breakfast Mission and EDR is **ongoing**. Drop off your items in the marked basket located at the back of the sanctuary.

We are blessed by our congregation's willingness to contribute in all of our community projects. Our ministry focus is sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ to our congregation and community.

Let's Help Give Them Hope



Hope Totes: During Lent, we will be collecting personal care products and toiletries for Sunday Breakfast Mission. Sunday Breakfast Mission plans to give some of the items to Friendship House to distribute to the residents of the homeless tent city in Christina Park. Our campaign will begin on Sunday, February 22 and end on Palm Sunday, March 29.

Jen Galvin is the Deacon in charge of this project.



Contact a Deacon

Laurie Collender	(302) 449-0656
Sandy Fine	(302) 540-9359
Jen Galvin	(302) 494-8259
Ellen Grubbs	(302) 429-8698
Gail Heath	(302) 528-2034
Denise Snyder	(302) 683-9113

March Prayer Emphasis

Assurance of God's Protection

⁹ Because you have made the Lord your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
¹⁰ no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

Psalm 91:9-10 NRSV

Men's Bi-Weekly Bible Study



if it is for you!

If you are a male Green Hill member or friend, you are welcome to participate in the bi-weekly **Men's Bible Study**. The men will meet on Tuesdays, **March 10 and March 24, 8:00 AM, at Janssen's Café**. If you are interested in Men's Bible Study, please contact Rick Baun for more information. The meetings contain time for fellowship (including breakfast!), prayer, and Bible study of the Old Testament book of **Exodus**. Please plan to check out the group and see

Order Easter Lilies Now!

It is time once again to place your order for **Easter lilies**. We will display the massed lilies in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5. You may take your lily home following the worship service or donate it to a shut-in.

The price for a lily is \$25.00, the same as last year. Our display in the front of the sanctuary looks so joyous on Easter Sunday with the massed lilies you contribute.

You may use the order form below or one from the back table in the sanctuary. **Deadline to place an order is Sunday, March 22**. Order forms with checks or cash may be placed in the basket in the sanctuary for **Kathy Dugan**. Please make checks payable to Green Hill Presbyterian Church with LILY in the memo line. If you wish to mail the order form, please send it to Kathy Dugan, Green Hill Presbyterian Church, P. O. Box 3892, Wilmington, DE 19807.



Easter Lilies Order Form

To: Kathy Dugan

Name _____ Phone _____

Number of Easter Lilies _____

Amount Paid _____

\$25.00 per plant

March 2026 Schedule of Volunteers

Head Usher

March 1 - Evelyn Williams
March 8 - Evelyn Williams
March 15 - Kathy Dugan
March 22 - Kathy Dugan
March 29 - Kathy Dugan

Deacon of the Month Gail Heath

Worship Assistants

March 1 - Amy Baun
March 8 - Rick Baun
March 15 - JoAnna Ventresca
March 22 - Sandy Fine
March 29 - John Stevens

Greeters

March 1 - Gail Heath
March 8 - Amy Baun
March 15 - Ellen Grubbs
March 22 - Evelyn Williams
March 29 - Evelyn Williams

Refreshments Jen Galvin

Chancel Flowers

March 1 - Stevens Families
March 8 - Stevens Families
March 15 - Caroline Beard
March 22 - Jane & Charles Reed
March 29 - Herbert Maar

Communion Servers

March 1 - Rick Baun + Sandy Fine

Kids Sunday School Teacher + Child Care

Kids Activity Bags Available in the File Room

Meals On Wheels

March 9 - Sandy & Bruce Fine
March 10 - Maya Hirs and family
March 11 - Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
March 12 - Evelyn Williams
March 13 - Kathy & Dan Dugan

Emmanuel Dining Room – Cook Only

Thursday, March 19

Cooks – Ellen Grubbs
– Gail Heath

Kitchen Help – Dan Dugan
Celery – Ellen Grubbs

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3 Vayda Foulk
9 Jason Cincilla
11 Maya Hirs
14 Anna Doyle
18 John Hartman
24 Sandy Fine

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

25 Mimi & Rev. Dave Lovelace
(50 years in 2022)

March 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 2nd Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship, Communion 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Fellowship Mtg.	2 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM AI-Anon Mtg.	3 11:00 AM Handbells Rehearsal	4 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	5 7:00 PM NC Presbytery Bay Retreat and Meeting, Dewey Beach, DE	6 All Day—NC Presbytery Retreat, Dewey Beach, DE 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	7 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Bay Retreat Dewey Beach, DE
8 3rd Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Pastor Bob Carey & Delmarva Teen Challenge Leading Worship 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Deacons Mtg.	9 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM AI-Anon Mtg.	10 10:20 AM MOW 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 11:00 AM Handbells Rehearsal	11 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	12 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries	13 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	14
15 4th Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Congregational Bells 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Session Mtg. SPIRE DEADLINE	16 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM AI-Anon Mtg.	17 11:00 AM Handbells Rehearsal	18 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	19 8:15 AM EDR Prep	20 6:30 PM AA Mtg. Dinner Groups	21 9:00 AM-12:00 PM Church Clean Up Day
22 5th Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation	23 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM AI-Anon Mtg.	24 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 11:00 AM Handbells Rehearsal	25 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	26 6:30 PM Craft Mtg.	27 6:30 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Delaware Blue Coats Basketball	28
29 Palm Sunday 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Service of Wholeness & Healing 11:30 AM Special Refreshments, Craft Sale	30 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM AI-Anon Mtg.	31 11:00 AM Handbells Rehearsal				