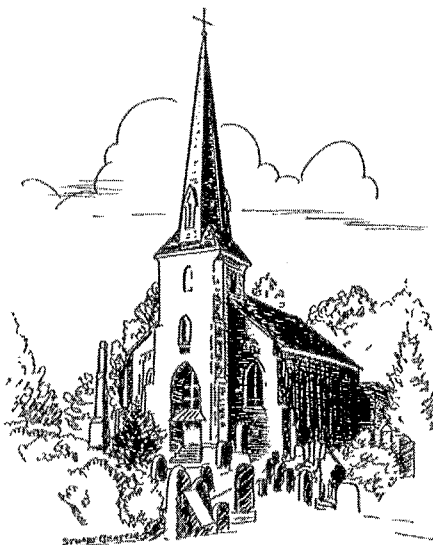


THE SPIRE

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:

July/August, 2026

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

Pastoral Care:

Rev. Dr. David Lovelace

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(302) 652-5065 (Church)

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SPIRE Editor:

Evelyn Williams

elwilliams2229@prodigy.net

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WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

*

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

Saturday, July 4 – *Independence Day*

July 5 – Rev. Lovelace on Vacation; Rick Baun Leading Worship

July 12 – Rev. Dr. Lovelace Preaching; Communion

Tuesday, July 14 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café; 8:00 AM

July 19 – Rev. Dr. Lovelace Preaching; Favorite Hymns

Tuesday, July 28 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café; 8:00 AM

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

August 2 – Rev. Dr. Lovelace Preaching; Communion

Tuesday, August 11 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café; 8:00 AM

August 16 – Rev. Dr. Lovelace Preaching; Favorite Hymns

Tuesday, August 25 – Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café; 8:00 AM

August 30 – Rev. Dr. Lovelace Preaching; Service of Wholeness & Healing during Worship

From the Session – June 14, 2026

1. We have received the updated COMC (Commission on Ministers & Congregations) list from New Castle Presbytery and Carol Hogue remains our liaison.
2. Next scheduled Session meeting is Sunday, August 16, after worship.

Chandler Brown
Clerk of Session

Tuesday Meals on Wheels Delivery Route Available

Green Hill's monthly **Tuesday Meals on Wheels delivery day** will become available this fall. After a 24-year period of delivering Meals on Wheels on Tuesdays, Maya Hirs is relocating to Florida!

The delivery takes less than two hours, including time to pick up the food at St. Anthony's kitchen and return the empty transport cases. If you are interested or want more information about this very important monthly mission work, please contact Evelyn Williams. This is the St. Anthony's White route.



Favorite Hymns during Worship in July and August

We will sing Favorite Hymns during the worship service on July 19 and August 16. Please come prepared to call out the hymns you want to sing on those two Sundays. Your hymn choice may come from any of the three hymnals in the pews.

Successful Private Craft Sales

During June we sold three beautiful **hand knitted baby blankets** to doting new grandparents and great-grandparents! The blankets were made by craft group member, Agnes Brown, age 105. These sales have added **\$30** to our Craft Sale account. Agnes has also completed a commissioned scarf for which the recipient has paid **\$10**. If you would like to have a private showing of any of our handmade crafts this summer, please see a member of the Craft Group.

New Summer Front Door Wreaths

Next time you enter the church through the red front doors, be sure to check out our **new summer wreaths**. They were made by Craft Group members Chandler Brown and Gail Heath. New wreaths were authorized by the Worship Committee this spring because the front door decorations we have been using since 2021 were tired and needed a change. Thank you, Chandler and Gail!

Summer “Seasoning”

Given the proliferation of summer cookouts, we turn our attention to the “seasoning” that gives Christianity its distinctive flavor.

Religious scholar Huston Smith describes how the first Christians spread the gospel message through their happiness; beyond any particular words they shared:

The compassion the disciples had encountered in Jesus was powerful – victorious over everything. This conviction had transformed a dozen or so disconsolate followers of a slain and discredited leader into one of the most dynamic forces in human history, and the tongues of fire that descended upon them at Pentecost set the Mediterranean world aflame. People who were not speakers waxed eloquent. They exploded across the Greco-Roman world, preaching what has come to be called “the gospel”; in the original Greek the phrase is “the Good News”. They spread their message with such fervor that in Jesus’ very generation it took root in every major city of the region...

The people who heard Jesus’ disciples proclaiming the Good News were as impressed by what they saw as by what they heard. They saw lives that had been transformed – men and women who were ordinary in every way except for the fact that they seemed to have found the secret of living. They evinced a tranquility, simplicity, and cheerfulness that their hearers had nowhere else encountered. Here were people who seemed to be making a success of the enterprise everyone would like to succeed at – life itself.

Smith highlights two remarkable qualities witnessed in the first Christians:

One of the earliest observations by an outsider about Christians that we have is, “See how these Christians love one another.” Integral to this mutual regard was a total absence of social barriers; it was a discipleship of equals. Here were men and women who not only said that everyone was equal in the sight of God but who lived as though they meant it. The conventional barriers of race, gender, and status meant nothing to them, for in Christ there was neither Jew nor Gentile, male nor female, slave nor free. As a consequence, in spite of differences in function or social position, their fellowship was marked by a sense of genuine equality.

Their second distinctive quality was happiness. When Jesus was in danger, his disciples were alarmed; but otherwise, it was impossible to be sad in Jesus’ company. And when he told his disciples that he wanted his joy to be in them, “that your joy may be complete,” to a remarkable degree that objective was realized.

Outsiders found this baffling. These scattered Christians were not numerous. They were not wealthy or powerful, and they were in constant danger of being killed. Yet they had laid hold of an inner peace that found expression in a joy that was uncontainable. Perhaps “radiant” would be a better word. “Radiance” is hardly the word used to characterized the average religious life, but no other word fits as well the life the of these early Christians.

May we all convey the “divine flavor” that emanates from following Christ!

Dave Lovelace

Walk in the Light of His Word (Psalm 119 – intro)

Psalm 119:105 ***“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”***

Psalm 119 is a devotional on the word of God. It celebrates the gift of God’s Word as the guide for one’s life. This psalm is the greatest tour-de-force in the Psalter. It is not only the longest psalm, but it is the longest chapter in the Bible, even longer than some books. It has a total of 176 verses, organized into 22 strophes of eight lines each. It exhibits a unique application of the acrostic style in that each verse in a section begins with the same Hebrew letter: (i.e. each verse in the first strophe begins with the first letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and each verse of the second strophe begins with the second letter of the Hebrew alphabet, and so on with the third strophe, etc. and etc.

It should be noted as well that the first three verses of the psalm act as an introduction and the last three verses act as a conclusion to the entire psalm. The former sets the tone of instruction in Godly wisdom and the latter succinctly restates and summarizes the main themes.

Verses 1-3

“Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord. Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart; who also do no wrong but walk in His ways!”

Verses 174-176

“I long for your salvation, O Lord, and your law is my delight. Let me live and that I may praise you, and may your laws sustain me. I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant, for I do not forget your commandments.”

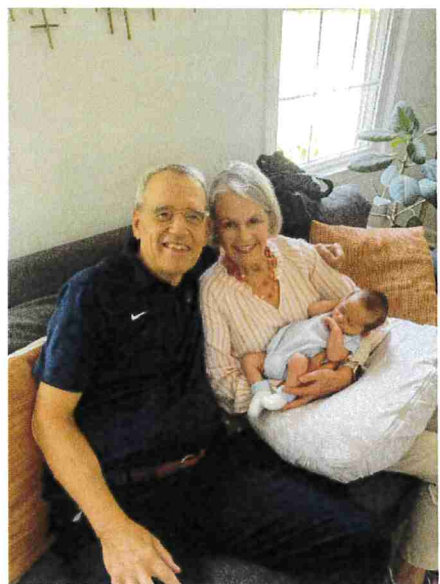
The verse quoted at the top (verse 105) is incorporated in a popular contemporary hymn written by Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith. The choir has sung it several times during worship services, particularly as a scripture response.

This introduction to the psalm will hopefully encourage you to read the entire psalm. The theme of this psalm is that God’s Word provides wisdom and guidance that leads to spiritual growth and comfort. The psalmist repeatedly expresses a desire to know, remember and follow God’s ways.

Ref: Psalms: Interpretation by James L. Mays published by John Knox Press
Biblical Ref: English Standard Version (ESV)

Bruce Fine
Music Director

New Brokaw Grandson!



Allison and Rob Brokaw are thrilled to announce the birth of their first grandchild. **Stryker Selover Brokaw** was born, at 8 lbs. 3 oz, on June 3 in Charlotte, North Carolina, to the Brokaw's elder son Bert and his wife Victoria. Stryker is named after his maternal grandfather Russell Stryker Selover (now deceased). All three of Stryker's names are of Dutch heritage including the name Brokaw. Rob and Allison met Stryker for the first time on Father's Day in Charlotte. Bert, Victoria, and their little son are doing well.

By Allison Brokaw

The Green Hill congregation congratulates the Brokaw family on the birth of their new addition!

Reminder about Chalice and Plate

The Lord's Supper is the sign and seal of eating and drinking in communion with the crucified and risen Lord. --The Directory for Worship (PCUSA)



You may notice that we are placing a communion plate and chalice on the Communion Table on Sundays when we are not celebrating communion. We do so as a reminder of God's presence in our lives and the saving work of Jesus Christ.

At Green Hill Church we celebrate the Lord's Supper on a monthly basis, but the plate and chalice remind us that this meal is a central part of our worship.

Communion on July 12

Please note that our regular monthly July Communion will be held on **July 12** rather than July 5 due to Pastor Dave Lovelace's summer travel schedule. The August Communion will be celebrated on August 2, as scheduled.



Baseball at Frawley Stadium Returns August 21!

Fellowship Committee is planning our annual church Blue Rocks baseball game outing on **Friday, August 21, 2026, 6:35 PM**. It is a **Friday fireworks game** against the Frederick (MD) Keys, a High-A affiliate of the Orioles. The Keys have clinched a playoff berth by winning the South Atlantic League First Half Division Title in June. Enjoy the game and stay for the fireworks! *Please sign up on the sheet available in the sanctuary. Tickets are \$13.00 each.* Food is available at the ballpark, though vouchers will not be included in our ticket price this year. This is a fun, family-friendly, activity and you need not be a baseball fan to have a good time! The Blue Rocks are a High-A affiliate of the Washington Nationals.



A Door of Hope – Baby Bottle Benefit Results



We collected **\$370.00** to support the good work of local crisis Pregnancy Center, **A Door of Hope**, during their spring **Baby Bottle Benefit** campaign. They provide consultation, information about pregnancy, ultrasounds, and baby supplies for women and their families in a Christian setting. Thank you to all participants in this fund drive; sponsored by our Mission & Prayer Committee.

Men's Bi-Weekly Bible Study

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, **8:00 AM, July 14 and 28, and August 11 and 25, 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 if it is for you!

Women's Bible Study News

The women are taking a much-needed break from rigorous Bible Study during July and August. During the summer, some women have indicated that they are reading *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi, a feel-good story with Christian overtones, originally self-published and now a bestseller. Allison Brokaw recommended this book to us. Others in the group are tackling a new DVD course called *C. S. Lewis on Christianity*.

We will return to study on Wednesday, September 9, 5:00 PM, in the church Board Room and via Zoom. The Old Testament book of Proverbs will likely begin our fall study season. Please join us!

July 2026 Hymn-of-the-Month
O Word of God Incarnate

This hymn text by William W. How (1823 – 1897), an Anglican minister, was first published in *Psalms and Hymns* in 1867. How was born in Shrewsbury, England and educated at Wadham College, Oxford. He was ordained and held successive positions as curate of St. George and of Holy Cross at Shrewsbury, rector of Whittington, rural dean of Oswestry, canon of St. Asaph, and chaplain of the English Church at Rome. He became bishop suffrage in London and bishop of Wakefield (1888).

How wrote all his hymns while at the parish of Whittington (1858 – 1871). In addition to his hymn writing, he authored several books for the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge. He was affectionately known as the poor man's bishop for his tireless efforts in alleviating the dire social conditions in that poverty-stricken area. Unlike the typical bishop who lived in splendor and rode in a private coach, he always used public transportation and lived and worked with his people. And with his friend, Sir Arthur Sullivan of operetta fame, he was joint editor of the popular Anglican hymnal of his day.

The tune, Munich, is adapted from the German hymnal of 1693, and is named after the German city. The tune was used by Felix Mendelssohn for a chorale in his oratorio *Elijah*, which was first heard in England in 1846. It was later adopted for these words in the hymnal published in 1867.

In the first verse the text clearly establishes the Bible as the revealed Word of God. In verse 2, the text develops the thought that the Church is the agency by which the Bible has been and still is transmitted to the world. It includes a reference of the relationship between scripture and daily living – lighthouse, chart and compass. Verse 3 concludes with a prayer that the Church may ever be the faithful custodian and administrator of this treasure in guiding men to their eternal destiny.

*O Word of God incarnate, O wisdom from on high
O truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance that from the hallowed page
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.*

*The church from You, dear Savior, received this gift divine.
And still that light is lifted on all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that all life's voyage through,
Amid the rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ to You.*

*O make Your Church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold.
To bear before the nations Your true light, as of old;
O teach Your wandering pilgrims by this our path to trace,
Till, clouds and storms thus ended, we see You face to face.*

*Lyrics: by William W. How (1867)
[Presbyterian Hymnal (1990) #327]
Ref: 101 Hymn Stories by Kenneth Osbeck*

Bruce Fine

Signs of Serving

From the Green Hill Deacons



Back-to-School Rally



Sunday Breakfast Mission (SBM) will be providing backpacks filled

with school supplies to needy children (kindergarten thru Grade 8) in our area. We are collecting the new items listed below from now until **Sunday, July 26, 2026**.

Lists are also available on the back table in the sanctuary. Please place items in the labeled basket at the back of the sanctuary.



- Backpacks-children and youth
- Pocket folders
- Scissors, blunt and sharp
- Notebook paper (College or Wide Ruled)
- Wide-ruled spiral notebooks
- College-ruled spiral notebooks
- 3-ring binders
- Erasers, rulers
- Pens and pencils
- 24 Pack Crayons
- Pencil Cases
- Sharpeners
- Glue sticks & Washable glue
- Washable markers or colored pencils
- Tissue packs

SBM will hold their annual Back-to-School Rally on Saturday, August 8, 2026. In years past, thousands of neighbors have joined in a festive celebration and meaningful Gospel message. Hundreds of people – adults and children – have made the decision to accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior at the Rally.

Men of the Church Recognized on Father's Day

The Deacons honored the men of Green Hill with small, lightweight wooden "comfort" crosses to keep in a pocket. They have a thumb-sized smooth spot for rubbing to relieve stress or use during prayer. Each bag also contained candies! Thank you to all fathers and "fathers in the church" for the important work that they do. Deacon Sandy Fine was in charge of this project.

EDR & Meals on Wheels

Thank you to all who participated in the preparation of the meal for **EDR** on Friday, June 19. The workers were: **Allison Brokaw, Dan Dugan, and Kathy Dugan.**

We appreciate the work of our **Meals on Wheels** delivery volunteers in early June and at the end of the month. They are: **Allison Brokaw, Evelyn Williams, Maya Hirs, Jen Galvin, Gail Heath, Kathy Dugan, John Hartman, and Sandy & Bruce Fine.**

The schedules for EDR and MOW are posted in the entry to the church office. If you are interested in participating in either of these projects, please contact Ellen Grubbs at 429-8698 for EDR and Jen Galvin at 494-8259 for Meals on Wheels.

Spring Clothing Drive Successful!



Sunday Breakfast Mission's *Urban Vintage* Thrift operation was very

pleased to accept our successful spring clothing drive donations, made since late April, of **45 bags of clothing and shoes!** The *Urban Vintage* shop is located at 500 W. Second St., Wilmington, Delaware 19801. Thanks to all who contributed!

Mission & Prayer Page

Results of Paddle for Promise 2026



The StreetLeader program at UrbanPromise Wilmington (UPW) is a God-centered leadership development program that trains teens in servant leadership and offers academic development, college preparation, community, and outdoor experiential opportunities. UPW is one of the largest year-round employers of teens in Delaware.

UrbanPromise Wilmington's Paddle for Promise 2026 took place on Saturday, June 6. There were 70 Paddlers on the water including four StreetLeaders and two different 10-person canoe teams. More than 20 additional staff, family, and friends came to encourage and support the paddlers. Twenty churches and businesses were represented. In all, the paddlers raised \$108,000 for StreetLeaders who will be working this summer.



You may still make a donation to the 2026 Paddle for Promise campaign, using the web address: <https://donate.urbanpromise.org/give/790988#!/donation/checkout> Be sure to mention Green Hill in the Church Affiliation line.

UrbanPromise Wilmington is one of Green Hill's local supported missions.

July and August Prayer Emphases

July: Psalm 128:1-2 NIV

A song of ascents.

- ¹ Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
who walk in obedience to him.
² You will eat the fruit of your labor;
blessings and prosperity will be yours.

August: Psalm 135: 3-4 NIV

Praise the Lord!

- ³ Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good;
sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant.
⁴ For the Lord has chosen Jacob to be his own,
Israel to be his treasured possession.

Ongoing thanks to **Rick Baun**
for supplying the monthly
Prayer Emphasis Bible verses
for The SPIRE.

July 2026 Schedule of Volunteers

Head Usher Rick Baun
July 5 Evelyn Williams

Deacon of the Month Denise Snyder

Worship Assistants

July 5 Sandy Fine
July 12 Allison Brokaw
July 19 Amy Baun
July 2 John Stevens

Greeters

July 5 Evelyn Williams
July 12 Sandy Fine
July 19 Gail Heath
July 26 Denise Snyder

Refreshments Sandy Fine

Chancel Flowers

July 5 Gail Heath and John Hartman
July 12 Parry Wentz
July 19 John & Miriam Stevens
July 26 The Stevens Families

Communion Servers July 12
Allison Brokaw and Rick Baun

Kids Summer Sunday School & Child Care
Kids Activity Bags Available in the File Room

Meals On Wheels

June 29 Sandy & Bruce Fine
June 30 Evelyn Williams
July 1 Jennifer Galvin and Gail Heath
July 2 Evelyn Williams
July 3 *No Delivery; Independence Day*

July 27 Evelyn Williams
July 28 Evelyn Williams
July 29 Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
July 30 Kathy Dugan and Evelyn Williams
July 31 Kathy Dugan and John Hartman

Emmanuel Dining Room – Cook Only

Saturday, July 18
Cooks – Allison Brokaw
Evelyn Williams

Kitchen Help – Ellen Grubbs
Celery – Evelyn Williams

JULY BIRTHDAYS

10 Vera Cincilla
11 Chick Reed
13 Kathy Dugan
14 Laurie Collender
20 JoAnn Olanyk
Ava Hirs

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

1 Ellen & Tom Stevens
12 Laurie & Mark Collender
Elizabeth & Bill Lamb

August 2026 Schedule of Volunteers

Head Usher Evelyn Williams

Deacon of the Month Gail Heath

Worship Assistants

August 2 Rick Baun
August 9 Stephen Grubbs
August 16 Rob Brokaw
August 23 Denise Snyder
August 30 Sandy Fine

Greeters

August 2 Ellen Grubbs
August 9 Amy Baun
August 16 Allison Brokaw
August 23 Sandy Fine
August 30 Gail Heath

Refreshments Sandy Fine

Chancel Flowers

August 2 Jane & Chick Reed
August 9 Priscilla Gill, Bill Pearson,
and Janet Dadds
August 16 Evelyn Williams
August 23 Allison & Rob Brokaw
August 30 Sandy & Bruce Fine

Communion Servers August 2

Rick Baun and Sandy Fine

Kids Summer Sunday School & Child Care

Kids Activity Bags Available in the File Room

Meals On Wheels

August 24 Sandy & Bruce Fine
August 25 Evelyn Williams
August 26 Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
August 27 Evelyn Williams
August 28 Kathy & Dan Dugan

Emmanuel Dining Room – Cook Only

Wednesday, August 19

Cooks – Allison Brokaw
– Ellen Grubbs

Kitchen Help – Dan Dugan
Celery – Allison Brokaw

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

5 Elinore Saddler
8 Harrison Maxwell
10 Bill Maxwell
14 John Stevens
16 Clayton Maxwell
Arabella Hirs
Robert Galvin
18 Herbert Maar
19 Erin Monaghan
20 Parry Wentz
26 Talley Brown

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

10 Maya & Don Hirs
14 Ginine & Bill Maxwell
22 Ellen & Stephen Grubbs

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
			1 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 7:00 PM AA Mtg	2 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	3 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	4 Independence Day
5 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Lovelace on Vacation; Rick Baun Leading Worship 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	6 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	7	8 7:00 PM AA Mtg	9	10 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	11
12 10:30 AM Worship; Communion 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	13 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	14 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café	15 7:00 PM AA Mtg	16	17 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	18 8:15 AM EDR Prep
19 10:30 AM Worship; Fav. Hymns 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	20 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	21	22 7:00 PM AA Mtg	23	24 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	25
26 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation 12:00 PM Christian Ed Mtg.	27 10:40 AM MOW Del. 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	28 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	29 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 7:00 PM AA Mtg	30 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	31 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	

August 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
						1
2 10:30 AM Worship; Communion 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	3 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	4	5 7:00 PM AA Mtg	6	7 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	8
9 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation 12:00 PM Worship Mtg.	10 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	11 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café	12 7:00 PM AA Mtg	13	14 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	15
16 10:30 AM Worship; Favorite Hymns 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation 12:00 PM Session Mtg. SPIRE DEADLINE	17 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	18	19 8:15 AM EDR Prep 7:00 PM AA Mtg	20	21 6:30 PM AA Mtg. 6:35 PM Blue Rocks Outing	22
23 10:30 AM Worship 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	24 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	25 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	26 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	27 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries	28 10:40 AM MOW Deliveries 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	29
30 10:30 AM Worship; Service of Wholeness & Healing 11:30 AM Lemonade & Conversation	31 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.					