

# Connections

June 2024

## From the Pastor's Study

Dear Members and Friends of All Saints:

Guelph Today reported this week that the Rotary Club of Guelph has told the city that they will be unable to do the fireworks display on Canada Day at Riverside Park this year "due to operational capacity issues and adjustments to fundraising efforts..." The article goes on to say that before COVID, the Rotary Club had up to 140 members. It is now down to 80. It is no surprise that the huge effort that goes into making the Canada Day festivities such a huge success each year is just too overwhelming for this small group of volunteers to take on.

While I enjoy fireworks on Canada Day as much as anyone, my concern is not that the fireworks display will not happen. Who knows, maybe the city will find some way to pull it off. No, I see this rather as a symptom of a larger problem in our society - radical individualism. Maybe it's the draw of our television, computer, or smartphone screens, or maybe people have lost a sense of community. But there seems to be a growing sense that the institutions that once filled gaps that governments and businesses were unable or unwilling to fill are no longer able to carry that weight.

We've all experienced this in

## Monthly Newsletter of All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church

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210 Silvercreek Parkway North, Guelph, ON N1H 7P8  
Phone: 519.821.7710 (24 hour voicemail)  
Email: [allsaints@allsaintsguelph.ca](mailto:allsaints@allsaintsguelph.ca) ~ Web: [allsaintsguelph.ca](http://allsaintsguelph.ca)  
Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday ~ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm



## From the Pastor's Study Continued...

Churchland. Fewer people. Fewer resources. But we're not alone, as the experience of the Rotary Club shows us.

Another example is the design of our neighbourhoods. In older neighbourhoods, you can see that the front of each home is set close to the street with a large veranda designed to encourage connection to passersby. Now the dominant features of our homes are large front lawns, long driveways, huge garage doors with front doors set back designed for function (entering the house) but not for welcome. Again, this is not the cause of our radical individualism, but a symptom. As one stand-up comedian has noted, when the front doorbell rings, we don't get excited about the thought of a guest dropping by, rather we dive behind the couch and stay quiet in the hopes they just go away!

At its heart, Christianity eschews individualism and embraces radical community - radical hospitality, radical diversity, radical welcome.

As Rainn Wilson, author of the book "Soul Boom: Why We Need A Spiritual Revolution" has noted, the world had never experienced a movement like the first three hundred years of Christianity where men and women, slave and free, Jew and Gentile, rich and poor, came together for worship, mutual support, and fellowship based on their shared belief in the sovereignty of Jesus Christ and the

values gleaned through Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

In her little book "Reclaiming the L Word: Renewing the Church from It's Lutheran Core" published over twenty years ago now, Kelly Fryer tells how her congregation of Cross of Glory premised their renewal on five principles: 1. Jesus Is Lord, 2. Everyone Is Welcome, 3. Love Changes People, 4. Everybody Has Something to Offer, and 5. The World Needs What We Have. Having agreed on these principles, they further agreed that all of their decisions moving forward would have to be based on one or more of these principles, and no decision could contradict any one of them. We might word some of this differently today, but uncompromising (radical) commitment to principles like these goes a long way to pushing against the radical individualism of our society - a principle that, as far as I can tell, folks are feeling pretty much done with, anyway. They long for community and connection. They just don't see viable, healthy alternatives.

Perhaps we at All Saints, and our life of discipleship together, can show them one.

See you Sunday!

Peace,  
Pastor Brian

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**Rev. Brian Wilker, Pastor**

Rev. Christine Clatworthy, Deacon

Rev. Canon Lucy Reid and Rev. Canon David Howells, Honorary Assistants

Brian Janzen, Council Chair

Peter West, Music Director

Michele Altermann, Administrative Assistant

Christine Morrison, Editor, [cjmorrison263@gmail.com](mailto:cjmorrison263@gmail.com)

# Treasurer's Report by Suzanne Worthen as at April 30, 2024

	April 30, 2024	Year to Date
Offerings .....	\$16,319.97	\$67,647.47
Other Income .....	\$2,600.00	\$7,903.25
Transfers -Housing Fund .....	\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00
-Dowry Fund .....	\$625.00	\$2,500.00
Total Income .....	\$20,544.97	\$82,050.72
Total Expenses .....	<u>\$20,107.52</u>	<u>\$84,101.75</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) .....	<u>\$437.45</u>	<u>(\$2,051.03)</u>

## Environmental Stewardship Update

Thanks to your generous support, we are nearing our goal of raising \$30,000 for the next phase of our project to steward the environment by greening the land around All Saints.

Generous donors have given \$25,075.25 to date, and we need only \$4,025 more to start creating new gardens in the back and along the fence.

Let's keep the momentum going! Please consider giving generously. If we surpass our goal for this phase, we can get started on two phases at the same time. (Renting equipment like excavators and skid-steers just once for

both phases will reduce costs in the long run.)

You may place your cheque and donor card on the collection plate on Sunday.

To donate by Interac e-transfer, please use [allsaints@allsaintsguelph.ca](mailto:allsaints@allsaintsguelph.ca) and place "Greening" in the subject line. In addition, please complete a donor card or send an email with information from the donor card. (Your name; plant selections if any; whether you prefer your gift to be anonymous; whether you are making the gift in honour or in memory

of someone.)

Thank you for helping us honour God's creation by beautifying the land on which All Saints sits.

Peter West and Anne Stuart  
Co-chairs  
Environmental Stewardship  
Committee



# Pearl's Walk for Alzheimer's—it's for all of us!

As you already know Pearl Robinson is celebrating her birthday by participating in the Walk for Alzheimer's.

If you can help Pearl raise some money and celebrate an amazing 92 years, I know she would be so appreciative!!

Pearl has her plan: She will do "A walk each day the month of May" to raise funds.

Pearl, ALL of you, and I, want to see a world without Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. By either sponsoring someone who is

walking or by participating in the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's, you join thousands of Canadians who have the same vision.

You also help provide funding for vital services for people affected by any form of dementia and their care partners right here in the Waterloo Wellington area.

Here is the link to Pearl's Participant Page. If you like you can just click on it to see how she is doing - or make a donation.

[2024 Waterloo Wellington:](#)

[Guelph IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's: Pearl Robinson - IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's](#)

Pearl and I hope you never need the services of the Alzheimer Society, but if you do - please contact 519-836-7672.

Thanks for donating, or cheering us on, or keeping us in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted by Pearl Robinson and Robin Smart

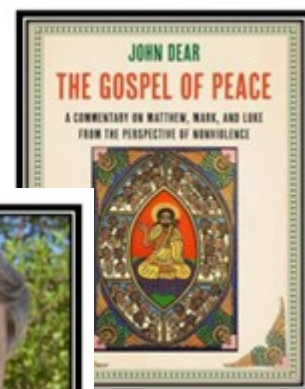


## A BIG THANK YOU!

A **BIG THANK YOU** to All Saints' Congregational Council, Pr. Brian, Rev. Lucy Reid, Brian Janzen, Christine Morrison, Michele Altermann, Rev. Alan Cook and **ALL** who participated in welcoming and hearing Fr. John Dear and enabling this event to be the **EXCELLENT EXPERIENCE** it was!

Fr. John really enjoyed being here and meeting everyone!

Thank you, one and all!  
Jon and Dianne Fogleman



## P.O.M. Project

Thank you to the group of sewers, pattern cutters and quality control experts at All Saints church for preparing Kits for the Peace of Mind Project (Kit = 8 day pads, 4 night pads, queen pads, soap, wet dry bags (pencil cases) contained in a pretty colourful patterned drawstring bag for storage).

The colourful kits shown here are on their way to Syria and Jordan for the refugee camps to bring joy and peace of mind to the girls trying to

manage difficult lives!

Bags and pads are also going to Islamabad Pakistan with Ishil a university student home for the summer.



EVERY  
DAY IS  
A  
SCHOOL  
DAY



## Broadway Bliss Revue

If you wish to hear a very good concert, go to YouTube and look for "Broadway Bliss Revue" at Trinity United Church Guelph, May 4/24.

The concert features the

Trinity choir and the Silvertones choir as well as 9 or 10 soloists. Members of All Saints are part of the concert - Debbie and Werner Eitzen, Penny Richards, Ann Sanders and Carolyn McLeod McCarthy.

It is 1 hour 45 minutes long and there is a fun segment about half way through.

Enjoy listening.

Submitted by Ann Sanders



Deadline for the Summer Edition of Connections—Sunday, June 16



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

## Garden Party

When: June 22, 2024

Where: 7 Vista Terrace, Guelph

Time: 2:00 – 5:00 PM

Please bring a non-perishable food donation for the Silvercreek Market run through our church. The items that are most needed are: Rice, Red Lentils, Canned Tomatoes, Pasta Sauce and Cooking Oil (1 L size). Other items regularly distributed are: Peanut Butter, Canned Meats, Cereal, Canned Fruits and vegetables.

Refreshments provided and a house blessing at approximately 3:30 PM.

R.S.V.P.: By June 1, 2024 to Jan's Phone: 519-716-3859 or email: [jannielsen@rogers.com](mailto:jannielsen@rogers.com)



*Dennis & Jan*

# Reflections by Nigel Bunce

## Let's Say Goodbye to Original Sin

The Book of *Genesis* begins with two creation myths. The word 'myth' implies rejection of the literal accuracy of the Bible. Like the creation myths of almost all peoples, these stories seek to explain humanity's origins.

The authors of *Genesis* wrote two such stories to explain different issues. *Genesis*

1 is the account of Earth's creation in six days ("this is how we came to be"). At its end, God declared that everything that he had made was "very good" [*Genesis* 1:31].

The account in *Genesis* 2 and 3 addresses sin and our ability (and will) to distinguish good from evil. God created a man whom he placed in a perfect garden (Eden or Paradise). It had everything for the man's (and later his wife's) needs and pleasure, with one exception. The fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was reserved for God: "If you eat it, you will die."

Thereupon, a crafty serpent tempts the two humans by

pointing out the desirability of the fruit of the forbidden tree. It will provide knowledge of good and evil, thereby giving human beings godlike qualities. Inevitably, the human beings follow the serpent's advice -- and get

found out. God punishes them.

They must now work hard for their food; they get banished from Eden; and they will eventually die.



Original Sin is the doctrine (Church teaching) that all humanity is born sinful and remains that way. The myth explains that the first people brought sin into the world by disobeying God (the original sin). That built sin into human nature, in the manner of a genetic defect or a sexually transmitted disease. Thus, all Adam's descendants, male and female, are born 'infected' by sin.

However, the role of the man is crucial. That's because the ancient world did not know about the female ovum, which was only discovered in the 19th century. In ancient belief, the woman prepared a seed bed every month, into which the man deposited his seed. Hence, the word seed

for semen; it was like growing lettuces.

However, the myth also tells how humanity came to distinguish good from evil. It's inconceivable to me that God would create these intelligent and curious beings, and not expect that they would use their curiosity to sample the fruit of the tree of good and evil. And why would that knowledge be considered a curse rather than a blessing?

Original Sin is not part of Jesus' own religion. In Judaism, reconciliation with God is always possible through repentance, which literally means 'turning your life around'. Judaism sees infants as born innocent because they cannot comprehend culpability.

The doctrine of Original Sin comes not from the Gospel Jesus, but from St. Paul, who struggled to understand the meaning and purpose of Christ's death. Paul was a biblical literalist. He understood Adam to have been literally everyone's ancestor, not as a mythological way for the writers of *Genesis* to explain how sin came into the world

## Let's Say Goodbye to Original Sin Continued...

and why death is an inevitable part of life. The ancient world's misunderstanding about human reproduction explains why Jesus could be considered the perfect man. Born of the Holy Spirit, he was free of the "Stain of Adam".

Original Sin is peculiar to Western Christianity. We find its most virulent form in Protestantism. It's an official doctrine of the Anglican Church of Canada (Article of Religion IX). At the Reformation, Martin Luther wrote these words from the Augsburg Confession, Article II: "... this inborn sickness and hereditary sin ... condemns to the eternal wrath of God all those who are not born again through Baptism and the Holy Spirit." Hard-line Protestant thinkers went further. John Calvin termed our inherently sinful nature as 'total depravity' that utterly separates us

from God. This makes it impossible for us to reconcile with God through our own efforts.

In the 5th century CE, St. Augustine elaborated Paul's theology of Original Sin in terms of concupiscence, meaning that humanity has an ardent, innate desire to sin. He commingled the desire to sin with sexual desire, making Original Sin essentially a sexually transmitted disease. Augustine also introduced the concept of inherited guilt - that we are all eternally damned from birth unless we become justified through faith in Jesus Christ. As noted already, this idea is not found in Judaism.

Augustine's most notable opponent was the Welsh monk Pelagius, whose writings on sin and forgiveness blend Jewish theology with Paul's. 'By granting us the wonderful gift of freedom, Pelagius wrote,

God gave us the capacity to do evil as well as good. Indeed, we would not be free unless God had given us this ability' [Letters of Pelagius, trans. Robert van der Weyer, Little Giddings Books, 1995, p. 6]. Augustine claimed that Pelagius taught that people do not need God's grace to reconcile with God, but Pelagius was clear on this point. 'God forgives all sins. His grace can discharge you from all the wrongs you have committed ... Yet in his mercy God will set aside all punishment' [ibid., p. 39]. But Augustine was a prominent bishop and Pelagius a lowly monk; so the Church sided with Augustine and declared Pelagius to be a heretic.

Original Sin, with its attendant unworthiness and guilt, is psychically and emotionally damaging. The Church has foisted it on ordinary people for 1600 years. It's time to let it go.

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## Fiercely Loved Pride Service

**Location:** Christ's Church Cathedral, 252 James Street North, Hamilton, ON, L8R 2L3  
**Date:** June 9, 2024 - 4:00pm



This year's Fiercely Loved will be a worship experience that celebrates Pride, and centres the enriching gifts and experiences of the 2S&LGBTQIA+ community in Niagara. The annual service will take place on Sunday, June 9 at 4 pm at Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton. At this year's Fiercely Loved, you can expect an uplifting Eucharist wrapped in lively music, joyful proclamation, and warm community. Children's activities are planned. Everyone is welcome!



# Birdwatching—and Listening

Our birdwatching walk in the University of Guelph Arboretum on May 11th was a great success - not only in terms of the birds we saw, but also as a beautiful springtime excursion and a good fundraiser for the University's ecumenical campus ministry.

Twelve of us met up, and were led by retired Zoology professor Sandy Middleton through the trillium-carpeted woods and trails of the Arboretum, looking and listening for birds. Some of us had the Merlin app on our smartphones, so we could identify various bird calls.



Arboretum, and we came across one member of staff with a large three-year-old turkey vulture on her arm. It seemed to like people, and spread its wings out to show off its impressive wingspan for us.

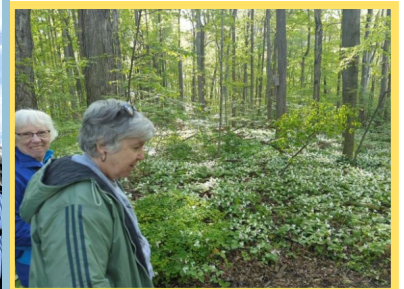
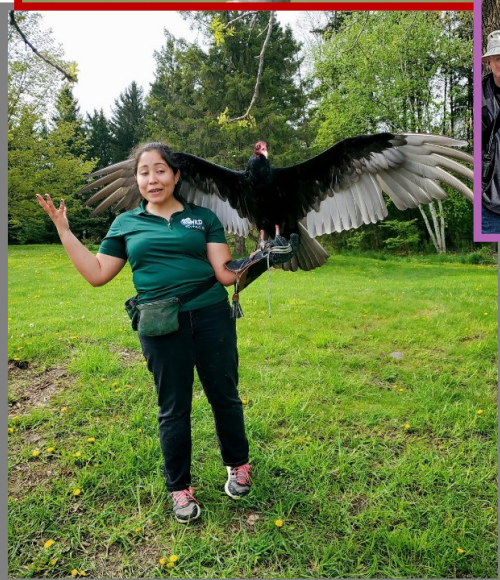
By the end of the morning we had seen and identified 15 species of birds, and heard but not

seen at least eight others. Sandy knows the calls by heart, and encouraged us to go slowly, stand still, and look carefully with our binoculars. At first it was hard to spot the birds we were hearing, but as the morning progressed we saw more and more, some very familiar and others exciting surprises.

Some of the special sightings in the trees were the rose breasted grosbeak and the Baltimore oriole. Heard but tantalizingly not seen were the house wren, the red-eyed vireo, the northern flicker and the great crested flycatcher. Another time, perhaps... I for one will be taking binoculars with me on my next hike.

It also happened to be a birding workshop day at the

Submitted by  
Rev. Canon Lucy Reid



# Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life

The Spiritual Life Committee of Harcourt Memorial United Church in Guelph is offering the **Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Daily Life** (Annotation 19) beginning in **June 2024**.

The Spiritual Exercises are often described as a life-changing experience. Experienced spiritual directors from Guelph and area will accompany participants on their spiritual journey.

Registration starts in **June 2024**. Introductory Disposition Days are held over the **summer**, and the Exercises proper begin in **September** for approximately **40 weeks**. Registration Forms are available by contacting Marion Auger.

For more information contact Marion Auger: 519-824-6329

[office@harcourtcommunity.ca](mailto:office@harcourtcommunity.ca)

OR [marion.auger@sympatico.ca](mailto:marion.auger@sympatico.ca)



## Market Update

The Market continues to be a thriving concern! We have welcomed some new volunteers which is always wonderful! Our wonderful volunteers help with so many things - collecting bread from COBS, setting up and taking down tables, distributing food, preparing refreshments, and greeting our Market guest with smiles!

We have also been welcoming many new guests as you can see when you look at the stats included in this report. Some of them are people returning after an absence, but many are new. In May alone we registered 31 new families.

# Market Update Continued...

Thank you to Deborah and John Szymanski for their generous \$1000.00 donation to purchase extra eggs for the rest of this year. This will help keep up with the rising numbers. Many of our guests will not take meat, especially if it is not halal, so eggs are a welcome protein source for their families. Eggs are distributed at the first Market each month.



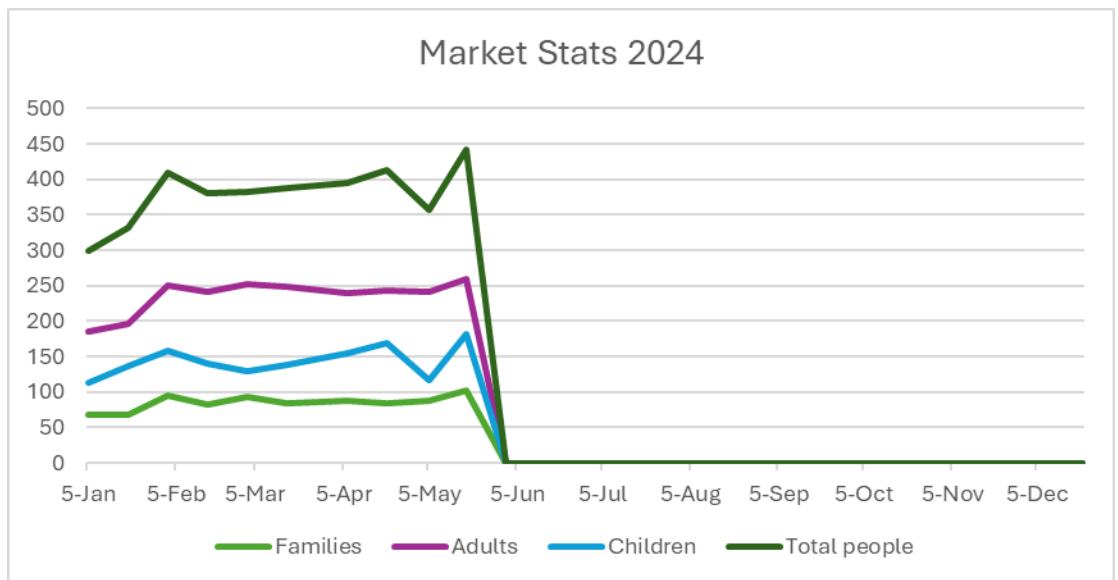
You may have noticed the changing non-perishable wish list - we are trying to focus on food items that are the most popular and nutritious. We are looking for: Rice, red lentils (both of these are repacked into smaller portions for distribution so feel free to buy in bulk), pasta and pasta sauce, canned fruit and vegetables, canned legumes, canned meat and fish. Peanut butter is still popular with many families, but we are no longer asking for breakfast cereal. Instead, we are asking for more school snacks - specifically fruit cups and granola bars. One of the hardest items to find in most food banks is cooking oil. You should see how grateful people are on the weeks we have cooking oil available. Unfortunately, this is not an item than can be repackaged, so please do not purchase cooking oil in quantities larger than 1L.



This May we celebrated our seventh year of operations! We began in May of 2017 and have been growing ever since with your generous and faithful support! Thank you for supporting this Outreach Ministry.

## Michele Altermann and the Market Team

	YTD	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Total Families	853	136	178	178	172	189
Average families		68	89	89	86	95
Adults	2359	382	492	501	483	501
Children	1437	249	298	268	324	298
Total People	3796	631	790	769	807	799





## Parish Care Continued...

is, the higher the risk of heart and blood vessel disease, nerve damage, hearing impairment, depression, Alzheimer's, as well as kidney, foot, and eye damage.

Type 1 diabetes is an autoimmune disease where the pancreas is not able to produce insulin because the immune system attacks the pancreas and destroys the cells that make insulin. As a result the body is left without insulin. Treatment then involves insulin injections or the use of an insulin pump. There are many different types of insulin from long-acting to short acting. Frequent blood sugar checks and carbohydrate counting. In severe cases, an Islet cell transplantation may be an option. Sometimes family members of people with type 1 diabetes are tested for the presence of diabetes immune system cells (autoantibodies) to see if they have an increased risk of developing type 1.

Type 2 diabetes occurs where, not enough insulin is produced or when the body is not able to use the insulin it makes (insulin resistance). Sugar in the blood is not able to enter the cells where it can be used for energy. It can sometimes be managed with blood sugar testing, healthy eating, regular exercise but can also require medications. Blood sugar monitoring can be done at home with a glucometer and at the lab for an A1C level which measures the average sugar level over 2-3 months. Blood sugars can be unpredictable, depending on food intake, physical activity, meds, illness, infection, alcohol, hormone levels (in women) and stress.

How do you know when to seek out professional advice? Symptoms include increased thirst, urinating more often, weight loss without trying, feeling tired or weak over a longer period of time, slow-healing sores or wounds, frequent infections. A fasting blood sugar test is helpful for an initial check up.

"Find your place in God's story - Life is better, connected."

Blessings  
Marilyn



**Celebrating Pentecost  
Sunday May 19, 2024**

**Photo Credit: Peter West**

# June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Below are the regularly scheduled room uses that repeat weekly all year long (unless otherwise noted). Please check here *first* when looking for available space.

<p>6:30-8:30 pm — Rose Head Hall, NA Never Alone</p>	<p>9:00 am – Rose Head Hall, Tai Chi</p> <p>6:00-8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, AA (Flying Blind), 8:00 – 9:00 pm – District Meeting</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 pm – Choir Rm, Gambler’s Anonymous</p>	<p>6:00-8:00 pm – Choir Room, TOPS</p> <p>4:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, Order of the Eastern Star 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month</p>	<p>9:00 am – 12:00 pm &amp; 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&amp;B, Children Reading Room</p> <p>10:00 – 11:00 am – Good Morning Al Anon, Choir Rm</p> <p>6:00-8:00 pm – Nave, Guelph Male Choir</p> <p>7:00-9:00 pm – Choir Room, Guelph Al-Anon Family Group</p> <p>7:30-9:30 pm – RRH, AA Helpina Hands</p>	<p>9:00 am – 1:00 pm – Rooms A&amp;B, Children Reading Room</p> <p>5:45- 8:00 pm – Rose Head Hall, TOPS</p> <p>7:00 – 8:00 pm – Choir Room, Tri-County Recovery</p>	<p>9:00 am – 12:00 pm &amp; 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Rooms A&amp;B, Children Reading Room</p> <p>9:00 am – Rose Head Hall, Tai Chi</p>	
RHH – Rose Head Hall						<p><b>1</b></p> <p>12:00 – 5:00 p.m. – RHH, Rental</p>
<p><b>2 Pentecost 2</b></p> <p>8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion</p>	<b>3</b>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>10:30 – 2:00 p.m. – RHH, Thelma Lawrence funeral lunch (Michele vacation day)</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p>2:00 – 4:00 p.m. – RHH, POM Project</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p>9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market</p>	<b>7</b>	<p><b>8</b></p> <p>10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. – RHH, Children’s Reading Room Book Event</p>
<p><b>9 Pentecost 3 &amp; Pride Sunday</b></p> <p>8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>11:30 am – Congregational meeting, Nave</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p>7:00 p.m. via Zoom, Worship &amp; Music meeting.</p>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<p><b>15</b></p> <p>9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Pride in the Park</p> <p>2:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Nave, Rental</p>
<p><b>16 Pentecost 4</b></p> <p>8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>Deadline for <i>Connections</i></p>	<b>17</b>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p>5:00 p.m. – RHH, Men’s Fellowship</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p>3:00 p.m. Executive via Zoom</p>	<p><b>20</b></p> <p>9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. – RHH, Silvercreek Community Market</p>	<b>21</b>	<p><b>22</b></p> <p>All day RHH, Rental</p>
<p><b>23 Pentecost 5</b></p> <p>8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion</p>	<b>24</b>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>7:00 p.m. – Parlour, Church Council</p> <p>7:00 p.m. – RHH, POM Project</p>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<p><b>29</b></p> <p>All day RHH, Rental</p>
<p><b>30 Pentecost 6</b></p> <p>8:30 am – Nave Holy Communion</p> <p>10:00 am – Nave Holy Communion</p>						