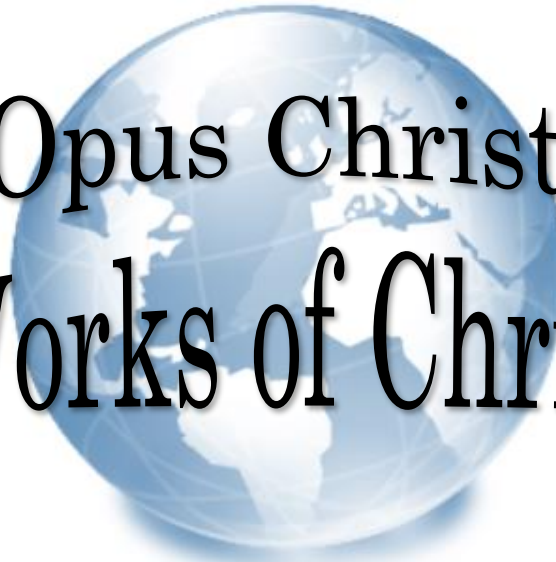


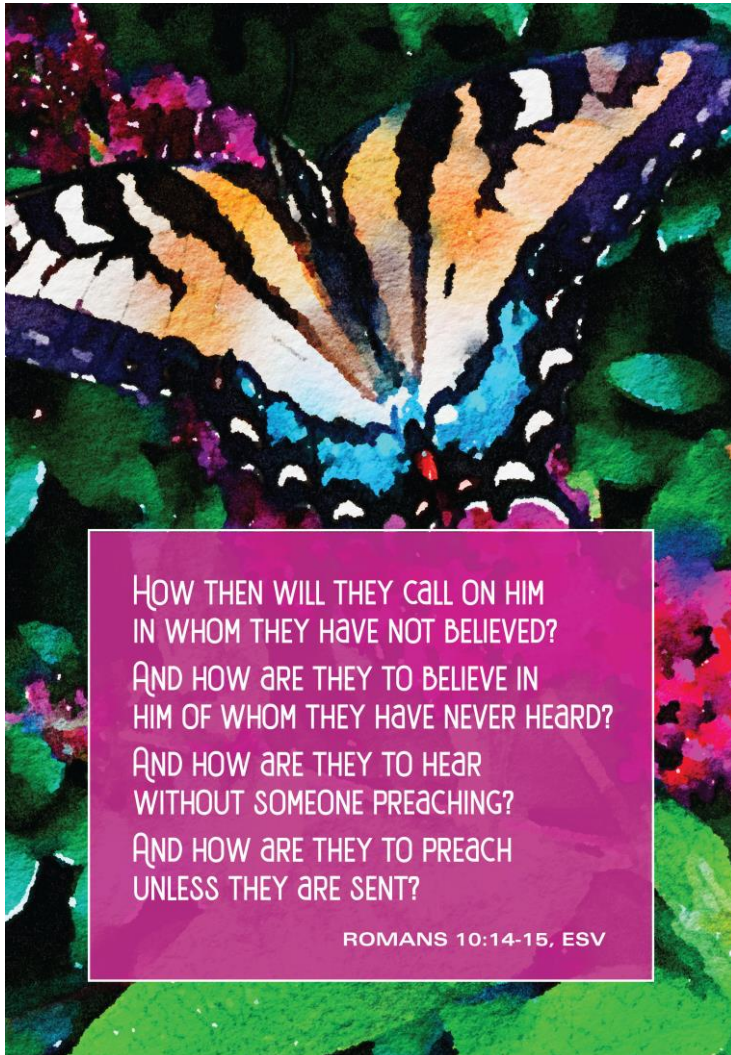
# Opus Christi Works of Christ



**St. James United Methodist Church**  
 646 Daniel Webster Highway  
 Merrimack, NH 03054  
 Rev. Annie Baker-Streevy, Pastor  
 Robin House, Office Administrator

**Contact Us:**  
 Office phone: (603)424-7459  
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[Stjames-umchurch.org](http://Stjames-umchurch.org)  
 Facebook: St. James UMC  
 Prayer Request email: [sjprayerchain@gmail.com](mailto:sjprayerchain@gmail.com)

## Building Christian Community Within and Beyond the Church



HOW THEN WILL THEY CALL ON HIM  
 IN WHOM THEY HAVE NOT BELIEVED?  
 AND HOW ARE THEY TO BELIEVE IN  
 HIM OF WHOM THEY HAVE NEVER HEARD?  
 AND HOW ARE THEY TO HEAR  
 WITHOUT SOMEONE PREACHING?  
 AND HOW ARE THEY TO PREACH  
 UNLESS THEY ARE SENT?

ROMANS 10:14-15, ESV



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## Pastor's Message

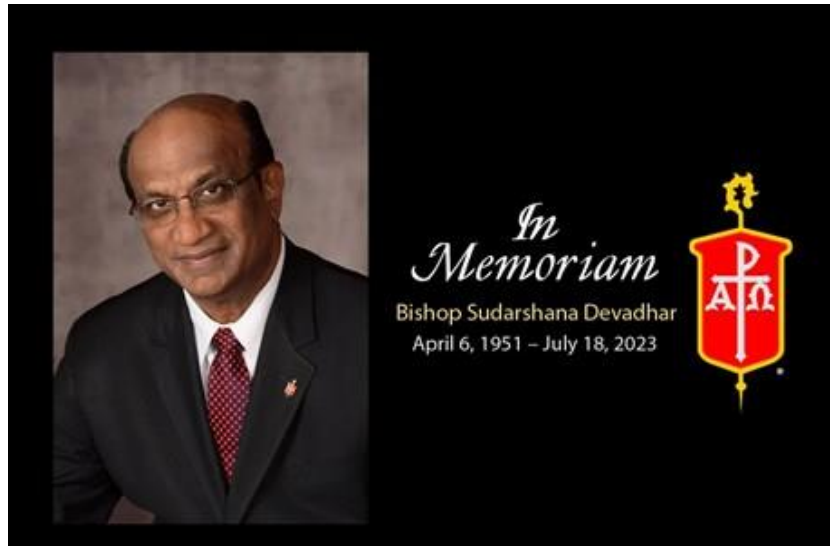


*And on the seventh day God finished God's work that God had done, and God rested on the seventh day from all God's work that God had done. So God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all God's work that God had done in creation. -Genesis 2:2-3*

This month we will begin a sermon series called "Vacations You Need to Take." We start on Sunday July 30th with a message about the importance of rest. At the beginning of July my family took a two-week vacation, traveling to upstate New York, through Pennsylvania and Ohio, and then spending some time in Michigan before making our way back. We dipped our toes in three out of five Great Lakes (Ontario, Erie, and Michigan), spent hours collecting all kinds of rocks, found 46/50 state license plates, ate cherries from Michigan cherry country, climbed the Sleeping Bear Dunes, roasted marshmallows, and most importantly spent intentional time with each other and with extended family. While perhaps not the most rest-filled vacation, the time spent away from our regular routines, sharing laughter and hugs, and being in God's creation replenished our souls.

We *need* to take vacation, time away, rest, and sabbath. God built it into the very structure of our creation and rested Godself (more on this next week). Each week in this series we will explore a "Vacation We Need to Take: Vacation from Guilt, Vacation from Doubt, and Vacation from Worry. We will wrap up our series on Sunday August 27th at 9:30am by taking some time away from our normal worship location, instead worshipping in God's creation at Watson Park in Merrimack. We invite you to bring camp chairs, blankets, and something yummy to share as we worship, relax, play, and be in community. A wise person once said, "we are human BEings not human DOings." As you soak up these last weeks of summer, I hope you are able to take some time to just be.

Pastor Annie



Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, age 72, died unexpectedly in Cincinnati, OH, on July 18, 2023, after nearly 20 years of faithful leadership as a bishop in The United Methodist Church. He retired on January 1, 2023.

Born on April 6, 1951, in Mulki, India, to Egbert Plato and Rosebel (Jivothama) Fernandez, Suda held a B.Com. degree from Vijaya College, University of Mysore, Mulki, India; a B.D., degree from United Theological College, Bangalore, India; an M.Th. degree from Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University; and a M.Phil. and a Ph.D. from Drew University. His doctoral dissertation was entitled: *Stanley J. Samartha's Contribution to the Interfaith Dialogue*.

Suda was born into a clergy family and became a follower of God at a young age. His pastoral journey began as a Deacon at the Church of South India, in Mercara, Coorg, India. After coming to the United States, he served as pastor of the Moira, Brushton, and North Bangor United Methodist churches, and Canton United Methodist Church in the Upper New York Conference.

Bishop Violet Fisher appointed Suda to the Cabinet of the then Central New York Conference, where he served as District Superintendent of the Ontario District from 1996-2004 and was named Dean of the Cabinet in 2000.

He was elected to the episcopacy in 2004. He served The Greater New Jersey Conference from 2004-2012, and The New England Conference from 2012-2022. Suda made history as the denomination's first Indian-American bishop.

Embodying the connectional nature of The United Methodist Church, Suda served as chair of numerous denominational committees including the Leadership Team on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, Asian American Language Ministries, Northeastern Jurisdiction Board of Ordained Ministry, and the Moravian Dialogue. He also served on the Board of Trustees at Drew Theological School and Boston University School of Theology.

Suda had many passions, the first of which was his beloved family. He is survived by his constant ministry partner and wife of 46 years, Prema (Samartha) Devadhar; their daughter and son-in-law, Trina and Gage Hemmelgarn; and three granddaughters, Nyla, Laili and Miana. Suda immensely enjoyed living near his family and cherished the time spent with his granddaughters, cheering them on from the sidelines as he attended their athletic meets, no matter the distance.



He was also passionate about deepening the spirituality of all people, but especially that of youth and young adults. He led numerous spiritual pilgrimages to Taizé, France, the Holy Land, Korea and through The Mission of Peace. These pilgrimages brought many young people to deeper and more intentional service in the church.

He exemplified servant leadership through his unyielding commitment to radical inclusiveness and his advocacy for justice. Suda's pastoral heart, deep spirituality and consistent prayer life was transformational. On multiple occasions he prophetically proclaimed, "I envision a Church of the Pentecost in which the Holy Spirit is igniting, gifting and empowering God's children of all ages, backgrounds, colors and personalities to glorify their Creator as passionate witnesses for Jesus Christ. Such a church does not merely serve the poor, the left out, the different, but welcomes them warmly into its hearts, homes, and worship."

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, will be remembered as a humble, gentle, kind, compassionate, talented, devoted, loving "Follower of God."

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The United Theological College of Bangalore, India, or The Pastors Respite Fund of the New England Conference.

Contributions to The United Theological Fund of Bangalore, India, may be made to Grace Trinity United Church of Christ with "United Theological College" in the memo line and mailed to:

Grace-Trinity United Church of Christ

5200 Oxford Ave

Philadelphia, PA 19124

You can also give online at <https://gracetrinity.org>.

Contributions to the Pastors Respite Fund of New England may be mailed to:

The United Methodist Foundation of New England

42 Route 111, Suite 200,

Derry, NH 03038

You may also donate online at <https://www.umfne.org/pastors-respice-donation-form>

## WORSHIP



### **Worship and Potluck Picnic in the Park Sunday, August 27**

Celebrate the end of summer by joining us in God's creation at 9:30 am at Watson Park in Merrimack. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit on, a pot luck dish to share and any lawn games that you would like to play. If it rains, we will worship here at church followed by a pot luck lunch in Fellowship Hall.

# ST. JAMES COMMITTEES AND TEAMS

## News from the Board of Trustees

Submitted by Lesley Fallu

- Get your cleaning supplies ready. The next all-church work day is on Saturday, September 9, from 9:00 – 12:00. We will focus on cleaning the undercroft, the hallway, and the stairways to get this area ready for the fall. We also have some painting jobs to be done: the undercroft floor and some doors. If you have time prior to that day to work on something, see Dick Wallace.
- Although the Trustees are not holding meetings this summer, there are still improvements being made at church. The new railing was installed at the end of June and the energy audit was performed on the parsonage in July. We continue to try to bring energy costs down, even as prices are rising.
- If you know of any repairs that need to be done, please notify a Trustee.
- Last month, we thanked our volunteers and contractors. This month, we would like to thank our office administrator, Robin House. In addition to all of her other responsibilities, Robin is constantly fielding calls and taking messages for the Trustees. We really appreciate all that she does for the church.

## OUTREACH

### Outreach Team is Collecting School Supplies

Submitted by Cheryl Barb

The Outreach Team here at St. James would like to provide school supplies to local children in need. We will collect backpacks and school supplies through the end of August, while most stores have their back-to-school sales. See Cheryl Barb if you have any questions.



### Brooke's Purses



### Brooke's Purses Enters Its Eighth Year

Submitted by Betty Ann Dudziak

We will begin collecting purses and personal care items in August. We welcome contributions of the following (travel size for most items): deodorant, lotion, shampoo, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, combs, socks, gloves or mittens.

This year's purse filling event will take place in Fellowship Hall after church on Sunday, September 10.



## Food Pantry News

Submitted by Julie and Olivia Gage

The number of families that the Merrimack Community Food Pantry serves is on the rise. On one Tuesday in mid-July, we provided food to a record 71 families. In 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023 we served 1884 clients from 296 households. Of those served, 27% were minors, 26% were seniors, and 47% were adults. 70% of the food that we provide to our clients comes from the New Hampshire Food Bank. We are also very grateful to the Depot Farm Stand and one individual with a large vegetable garden for their generous donations of produce.

Donations wish list: Personal care items (shampoo, etc.), condiments, jelly, pasta sauce, and spaghetti.

WALK. GIVE. CHANGE THE WORLD.

### Greater Nashua CROP HUNGER WALK

OCTOBER 22, 2023

NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Join our Crop Hunger Walk Team

This year's Greater Nashua Crop Hunger Walk is scheduled for Sunday, October 22. Join us as we raise funds to help neighbors near and far get the meals they need for today and sustainable food security for tomorrow. Register to walk with the St. James United Methodist Church team or make a donation on the Greater Nashua Crop Hunger walk website:

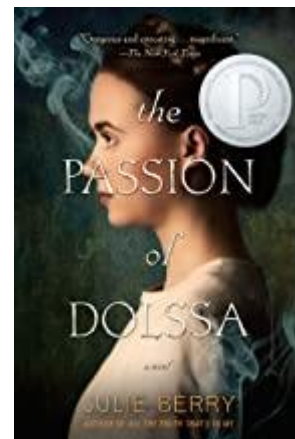
<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2023/event/nashuanh>.

The CROP Walk is a fundraiser for Church world service, a faith based humanitarian agency. To learn more about Church World Service, visit their website: <https://cwsglobal.org>.

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### St. James Summer Reading

Read along with us and then join the book discussion group on Zoom. During the month of August, we will read "The Passion of Dolssa" by Julie Berry. The book discussion will be Wednesday, August 23 at 7 pm. Email Pastor Annie [rev.anniebs@gmail.com](mailto:rev.anniebs@gmail.com) for Zoom link.



# SAVE THE DATE

with Carter Heyward

Tuesday, August 29th  
@Unitarian Universalist Church  
Concord, NH

10am-4pm Seminar  
6:30pm Lecture

REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN

SPONSORED BY THE  
New Hampshire Council of Churches  
& NH Ministry Partners

A Free Daylong Seminar  
& Evening Lecture

*"An absolute must do event!"*  
—Susan Thelander, Director  
Orange Theological Seminary

The **7** Deadly Sins of  
**WHITE  
CHRISTIAN  
NATIONALISM**  
A CALL TO ACTION

CARTER HEYWARD

Register for the whole day or just the seminar or lecture at <https://www.nhcucc.info/event-details/lecture-seminar-with-carter-heyward>.



## Sunday School Starts September 10

We are looking forward to another fun year of sharing the love of God with the children of St. James. The Whole People of God Sunday school curriculum is no longer available since the publisher is going out of business, so we will be using a combination of religious education resources this year. Online registration is on the church website [www.stjames-umchurch.org](http://www.stjames-umchurch.org) or contact the church office.

?? ?

### Bible Quiz

?? ?

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches. Which list includes a city that is not among those seven?

- A. Ephesus, Thyatira, Philadelphia
- B. Smyrna, Laodicea, Galatia
- C. Pergamum, Thyatira, Smyrna
- D. Sardis, Ephesus, Laodicea

Answer: B (See Revelation 2-3.)





## VBS 2023

Stellar VBS was a huge success. On Friday, July 21 and Saturday, July 22, 16 kids and 8 volunteers discovered what it means to shine Jesus' light in everyday life.

Thank you to our volunteers: Pastor Annie who led the Bible Adventures and built our awesome rocket ship, Paula MacNeal led Imagination Station, Cheryl Barb was the music leader, Joyce Hawkins, Peggy Hodkinson, and Jane Mercier prepared meals and snacks, Robin House led All-Star games, and Jessica Belch and Lesley Fallu served as Crew Leaders. We would also like to thank Betty Ann Dudziak for baking star and alien shaped cookies for the kids to enjoy and of course many thanks to parents for bringing your kids to VBS.





## FELLOWSHIP

### Monthly Breakfast



The St. James United Methodist Men (UMM) would love to have you join them for breakfast on the first Saturday of every month. RSVP to George Fisher at [fishergf@comcast.net](mailto:fishergf@comcast.net) so he knows how many people to expect.

Date: Saturday, August 5

Time: 8:00 am

Place: Mary Ann's Diner, 1 Craftsman Lane, Amherst



### Summer with St. James Ice Cream Social and Game Night August 10 at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall

Enjoy some yummy ice cream while playing your favorite games with friends and family! Bring a game to share or learn a new one.



### Summer Coffee Hour

We need volunteers to make coffee and provide refreshments for coffee hour after church during the month of August. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office if you would like to help.





## Harvest Fair Saturday, October 21, 2023

Submitted by Lesley Fallu

Thanks in advance for your help to make this year's fair a huge success.

### What You Can Do in August:

- Bring jewelry, jewelry boxes, and completed crafts to the Church Office.
- Bring books, puzzles, and yard sale items to the tables in the Undercroft.
- Attend the next workshop (no experience needed) to make Decorative Framed Art:
  - Thursday, August 17, Wesley Room, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

### What You Can Do in September:

- On Sunday, September 10, after church, sign up to work at the fair, make baked goods, make candy, donate toward the Silent Auction, lend a pop-up tent
- Continue to bring in all items for the fair.
- Attend the Fair Prep evening to make signs and price tags:
  - Thursday, September 14, 6:00 – 7:30
- Join the Apple Pie Assembly Line:
  - Saturday, September 30, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Apple Pie Assembly Line

**Save the Date:** On Saturday, October 28, we will be having the Roast Pork Dinner. Can you help?

**Questions:** Contact Lesley Fallu, [lfallu@comcast.net](mailto:lfallu@comcast.net), or Brenda DuLong at [bsdulong@gmail.com](mailto:bsdulong@gmail.com).



Follow st.jamesumc on Instagram!

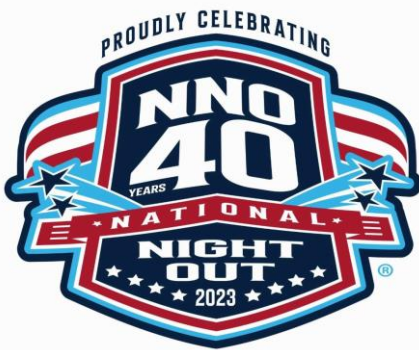
## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### Troop 401 News

Congratulations to Ben Adams who has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Ben's Eagle Court of Honor was held here at St. James Church on Saturday, July 8. Photo from BSA Troop 401 Facebook post.



### National Night Out with the Merrimack Police Department Tuesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 5:30 - 7:00 pm Abbie Griffin Park



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. This is a free event with food, games, crafts, music and more.



### Merrimack Garden Club Plant Sale

Saturday, August 5 8am – 12 noon

Here at St. James in "The Grove" of trees between our parking lot and HotRize.





Use simple ingredients and your imagination to bake these fluffy, cloud-like treats.

### What you need:

- 3 egg whites
- ½ tsp. vanilla extract
- Mixer
- 1 Tbsp. cornstarch
- Parchment paper

### What you do:

1. Preheat oven to 300°. In a mixing bowl, combine egg whites and vanilla. Mix at medium speed until frothy.
2. While whisking, gradually add sugar and cornstarch. Keep whisking at high speed until stiff peaks form.
3. Spoon mixture onto a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Create fun shapes.
4. Bake 20 minutes. Cool and enjoy!



## Creator of the stars

The stars and sky testify to God's amazing power and creativity.

**Directions:** Use the clues and Bible passages to fill in the blanks. Then transfer the circled letters (in order) to the spaces below to complete a verse of praise.

God determines this and calls each star by name. (Psalm 147:4)

○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

The heavens are the work of God's what? (Psalm 8:3)

\_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_

What does God bring out one by one? (Isaiah 40:26)

\_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_

God made two great lights to do this. (Genesis 1:16)

○ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_

God promised Abraham this would be like the stars. (Genesis 15:5)

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

The sun, moon and stars have this. (1 Corinthians 15:41)

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

The lights in the sky serve as what? (Genesis 1:14)

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ ○ \_ \_

The heave\_\_s declare the \_\_lory \_\_f \_\_od;  
the ski\_\_s \_\_roc\_\_aim the wo\_\_k of his ha\_\_ds.

PSALM 19:1, NIV

Answer: number, fingers, host, govern, offspring, splendor, signs; The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Psalm 19:1, NIV



# August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>30</b> 9:30am Worship 5:30pm NH Table Tennis Club	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 9:00am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 7:00pm Finance Committee Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:00am Merrimack Garden Club plant sale 8:00am Monthly Breakfast
<b>6</b> 9:30am Worship 5:30pm NH Table Tennis Club	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 9:00am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 7:00pm Church Council Meeting	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 6:00pm Ice Cream Social & Game Night	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:30am Worship 5:30pm NH Table Tennis Club	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 9:00am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 7:00pm SPRC Meeting	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 1:00pm Dress sewing group 6:00pm Harvest Fair Craft Workshop	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:30am Worship 5:30pm NH Table Tennis Club	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 9:00am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry 7:00pm Trustees Meeting	<b>23</b> 7:00pm Summer Book Club	<b>24</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30am Worship & Potluck Picnic at Watson Park 5:30pm NH Table Tennis Club	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong 9:00am Clothes Closet 9:30am Food Pantry	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 8:00am Fit & Strong	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00am Monthly Breakfast