



The Follower

"Come, follow me." Matthew 4:19



A monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church

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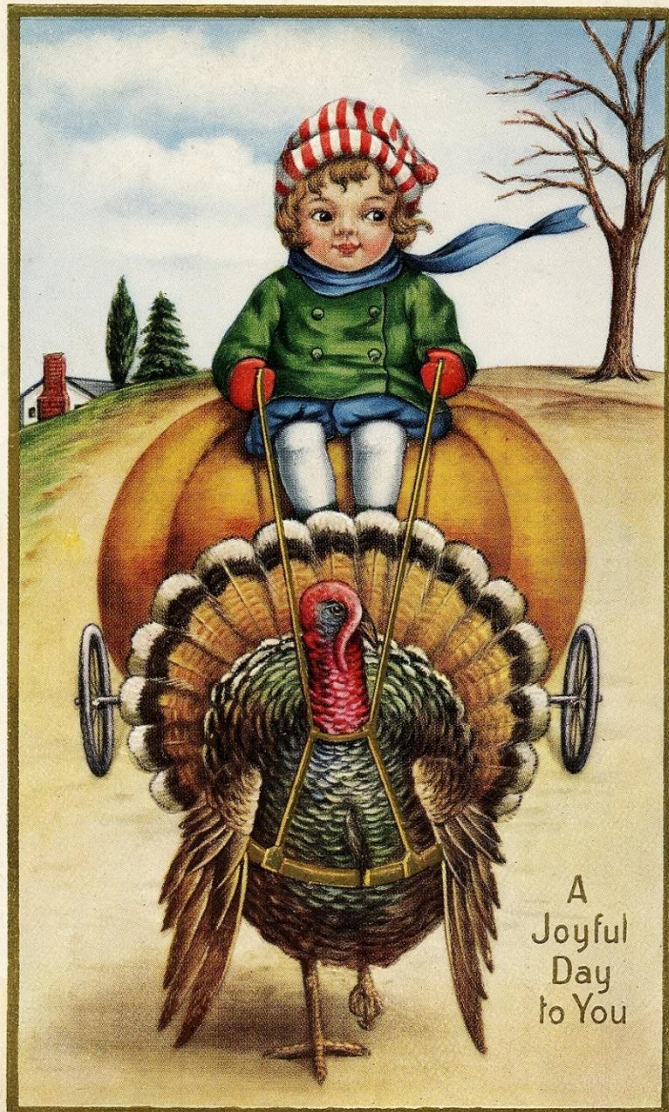
November 2023



Thanksgiving
Eve Service

Wednesday, Nov. 22

10:00 am & 6:30 pm



Sunday, Nov. 19 see p. 6



Schedule on p. 3

Worship Service Times

Sunday Worship Services

Traditional - 8:15 am

Contemporary - 10:30 am

Holy Communion is served on the
1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month.

Livestream available at:

<https://faithlutheranlacey.online.church>

You can also dial in using your phone

1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 326-609-037

Gather & Grow Hour

Adult Bible Class

New Adult Bible Study Beginning Nov. 12.

The Book of Esther — Michael Kramer, leader

While the Old Testament Book of Esther lacks the enthusiastic support of Martin Luther for its inclusion in the Christian canon, modern commentators find the book worthy of study.

Commentator Joyce G. Balwin writes, “The right reaction, however, is not to assume that for some reason God is on our side and will continue to give us on a plate all the good things we request, but rather to be in awe that the mighty God should condescend to answer our prayers despite our many shortcomings and downright failures. The sense of wonder should result in more whole-hearted commitment to his service.”

This study will follow the ten chapters of one of the best stories of the Old Testament and will explore both God’s intervention in human affairs through His servants and our responsibility in the face of social adversity.

Children’s Message

Bring your kiddos to church! It’s so enjoyable seeing the kids go up front and hearing their comments and questions. I think the adults get just as much out of the children’s message as the kids do. Children’s message is presented during both worship services.



Nov. 5

Set up: Monica Materiale, Rachel Wilson

Refresh: Rachel Wilson

Clear: Erin Holmquist

Nov. 19

Set up: Marie Koehler

Refresh: Robyn Hofstad

Clear: Linda Albro

Threads of Faith



Threads of Faith typically meets the *second Saturday* monthly to work on quilts. Our next meeting is **Saturday, Nov. 11 from 9 - 11am.** Contact Barbara Ericksen with questions at 360- 915-3333.

Men of Faith

What are the **Men of Faith**? We are a men’s group of all ages that meets on the 2nd Saturday morning of each month for breakfast, Bible study, prayer, and some fellowship doing projects around the campus.

Men from all the ministries of Faith, ***church, school, childcare, and community center*** are invited to join us on **Saturday, Nov. 11 from 8:30 - 11:30 am.**

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Matt Koehler, at 360-951-0521.

Care Warriors on a Mission

You, as a congregation, are important to us! We want to support you in prayer and help when needed.

Would you kindly notify your family to please contact us when emergencies or even scheduled surgeries, medical procedures, etc. come up so we can be of service as an extension of God’s kingdom?

Church office, 360-491-3552; Glenn Dunnam, 360-791-4175 or SuAnn Denning, 360-790-8982.

Pinochle



Join us for Pinochle the third Thursday at 11:30 am in the Cypress room. You are welcome to bring a lunch.

November & December dates are adjusted to the second Thursday for the holidays. Nov. 9 & Dec. 14

3M's Fellowship

The 3Ms are a group of **More Mature Members** and friends, ages 55+.

The group normally meets in the Community Center weekly on Thursdays at 10 am to share in fellowship and study God's Word.

For more information, contact Jim Nordness at 360-923-0289 or leave a note in his church mailbox. You may also call the church office at 360-491-3552.

Sunday School & Christmas Program

We are excited to offer a block of five weeks for Sunday School in November and December to prepare for Advent and Christmas and work on a Christmas Program.

Our dates for Sunday School are November 12 and 19, December 3, 10 and 17. The Christmas Program will take place on December 17 at the 10:30 service. We will have a practice on Saturday, December 16 to prepare for the program. If you would like to help with our Christmas Program, please contact Erin Holmquist at erinhq@comcast.net.

Adventures in Advent

Please join us for the 3 Wednesdays in Advent as we prepare our hearts for Christmas; November 29, December 6 and December 13. We will start at 6:00 with a meal. There will also be a time for music, devotions and crafts or games. All age groups are invited! If you have questions or would like to be a part of the planning team, please contact Erin Holmquist at erinhq@comcast.net.

Faith Lutheran Youth

5th through 12th grade students are welcome to join us Saturdays, **Nov. 11**, Nerf War (bring your own nerf gear) & **18**, Scavenger Hunt, 6 – 8pm for youth night. Justin & Sarah Bevers lead a lesson, provide snack, and offer a welcoming & fun evening. Contact them with questions or to volunteer at jbevers02@yahoo.com & sarsh04@yahoo.com.

National Youth Gathering '25

Every three years the LC-MS hosts a National Youth Gathering. The next gathering is scheduled for July 19 – 23, 2025 in New Orleans. Faith Lutheran and area Youth who are interested in attending should reach out to Justin Bevers at jbevers02@gmail.com. You must be 14 – 19 years old or entering your ninth-grade year (at the time of the gathering). We will begin fundraising soon.

Salvation Army Giving Tree

Be on the lookout for the Salvation Army Giving tree later this month. We have adopted five families through the Salvation Army for Christmas. The tags on the tree will have items you can purchase for families in need. You can take one tag or several. The needs range from clothes to toys to gift cards. Gifts can be wrapped or you can include wrapping supplies with your presents. Everything needs to be back to the church by Friday, December 8. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Holmquist at erinhq@comcast.net. Thank you for your support!



Fellowship

It's here! We are in the busy Fall and holiday time of year, bringing joys and challenges to juggle all the events and family responsibilities. Keep your eyes on Christ and your calendar handy. Laugh when the best laid plans fall apart and keep going!

Fellowship hosted a Memorial in October for the Scott Johnston family. Pastor Matt Henry flew in from Idaho to officiate alongside Pastor Greg. It was a time to remember and support this family in their grieving. Please remember them in prayer. Thanking all those who assisted and baked for the reception.

Reformation Sunday was also Confirmation for Shannon Green and Isaac Bevers. A cake reception was held in honor and celebration of these two young believers in our Faith Family. Remember them in prayer and support their faith journey.

November will be Thanksgiving and a time to remember those who don't have as much. Please pray about how you might help someone alone and hungry. Consider supporting the Salvation Army who always hosts dinners and needs donations of monies to feed those with nowhere else to go.

We have one service on November 19 at 9:30 followed by a congregational voters' meeting. Fellowship will set up as usual, so you can enjoy a cup of coffee with treats before and after the one service. Please stay to vote as this is the time to elect your church leaders for the new year.

Respectfully, Linda Albro

Fellowship Chair

360 701-7882 laalbro@gmail.com

You are Blessed to be a Blessing



Birthdays and Anniversaries

November Birthdays

Jim Holmquist	Nov 1
Ed Meyers	Nov 2
Karla Crites	Nov 5
Linda Schuldt	Nov 6
Beth Mantegna	Nov 7
Jan Pigman	Nov 7
Luke Reynolds	Nov 7
Emma Kellnhofer	Nov 11
Isaac Bevers	Nov 12
Chuck Hresil	Nov 12
Michelle Chappel	Nov 14
Darlys Leicht	Nov 14
Robert Buchanan	Nov 17
David Carufel	Nov 18
Elijah Reynolds	Nov 21
Mike Todd	Nov 22
Larry Feldcamp	Nov 24
Sarah Mantegna	Nov 24
Anne Spurgeon	Nov 24
Rodney Olson	Nov 27
Rebekka Mantegna	Nov 28



November Anniversaries

Chuck & Sandra Hresil	Nov. 24
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Don't see your name or birthday/anniversary up here? Contact the church office 360-491-3552.

Congregational Meeting, 11/9

The next congregation meeting is planned for Sunday, Nov. 19, after one worship service that will begin at 9:30 am. For those who wish to join the meeting online, a Zoom link will be sent the week before the meeting.

All members are invited to come to:

- 1) Elect church leaders for 2024 (Wow! Already!)
- 2) Listen to a brief report from our treasurer
- 3) Join in a discussion of our ministry successes and ideas for further strengthening our ministries

We are planning to hold both the one worship service and the congregation meeting in the sanctuary.

-Connie Dougherty, Congregational President

Faith Basketball

Basketball season is gearing up for our 5^h - 8th grade boys! They are practicing hard and improving their skills. GO EAGLES!

Date	Time	Opponent/Location
November 15	3:30p	Holy Family @ FLS
December 1	4:30p	FLS @ Evergreen Christian
December 5	3:30p	NWC @ FLS
December 7	3:30p	St Mikes @ FLS
December 12	3:30p	Holy Family @ FLS (Holy Family home team)
January 11	3:30pm	Hood Canal @ Faith Lutheran

Come out and support our team at these upcoming games:

Thank you to Mrs. McMillen and Mrs. Williams for giving their time to help our girls grow in the sport of volleyball!

FLS Class Highlight

The third grade is working hard learning so many things. Asking questions and being curious is an important part of being a student. We started the year learning about the different parts of our brains and how God created us. As the year is progressing, we are discussing how we can have a growth mindset. We know that God has given us brains that can stretch and grow as we practice hard things. In the picture you can see them working together on puzzles reminding them it takes teamwork to see the big picture. Third grade also has a class hamster. It is a great learning experience for all of us. – Jodi Grubb



Veteran's Day Assembly

Veterans and their families are welcome to join us Thurs. Nov. 9 for our annual Veterans Day assembly beginning at 2:30p in the church.

We will be putting together a photo slideshow that includes photos of veterans. If you were previously in the military, please send a photo to office@flschool.org.

Along with the photo, please include the Name of military member and the Branch of service.

In addition, some of our students are going to be writing letters to past military members. If you are a veteran, please send an email with your name and address to office@flschool.org.



Fred Meyer Community Rewards

Did you know that if you shop at Fred Meyer, you can link your rewards to Faith Lutheran and earn money for the school just by doing your normal shopping? Talk to the FM service desk for more info!

Prayer and Transformation

“Then Asa called to the Lord his God, and said, “Lord, there is no one besides Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength; so help us, O Lord, our God, for we trust in Thee, and in Thy name have come against this multitude, O Lord, Thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee.” 2 Chronicles 14:11

After reading the devotion printed below this letter, we felt God was calling us to a similar prayer ministry. We come to hearts united by faith in Him to invite you to come alongside us to pray together for our country, government, and its citizens in the midst of the great chaos that has descended upon us.

Please join us as we journey together in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving to our Lord Jesus beginning Saturday, November 25, 2023, at 10:30am, for no more than one hour in the Community Center at Faith Lutheran. Our plan is to meet for prayer twice a month (2nd & 4th Saturdays) and we sincerely hope you will join us. We pray in the precious name of Jesus, “Lord, we need You.”

“I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, Godly and dignified in every way.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2

Your friends in Christ,
Glenn Dunnam (360-791-4175)
SuAnn Denning
Anne Spurgeon

Taken from *Our Daily Bread*,
Sunday, July 16, 2023

In 1982, pastor Christian Fuehrer began Monday prayer meetings at Leipzig’s St. Nicholas Church. For years, a handful gathered to ask God for peace amid global violence and the oppressive East German regime. Though communist authorities watched churches closely, they were unconcerned until attendance swelled and spilled over to mass meetings outside the church gates.

On October 8, 1989, seventy thousand demonstrators met and peacefully protested. Six thousand East German police stood ready to respond to any provocation. The crown

remained peaceful, however, the historians consider this day a watershed moment. A month later, the Berlin Wall fell. The massive transformation all started with a prayer meeting. They cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He brought them out of their distress. (Psalm 107:28)

As we turn to God and begin relying on His wisdom and strength, things often begin to shift and reshape.

Council Positions

Connie Dougherty, Congregation President

At the Nov. 19 voter’s meeting, we will vote into office our 2024 officers and board chairs. You may have seen the October newsletter article about what it means to serve on Council. In a nutshell, this group meets once a month and votes on decisions that can impact all of us.

Nominations are open for all positions. Below you will see how things are shaping up. Please pray about your own church involvement.

Nominees/Volunteers for 2024

Congregation President: Connie Dougherty

Vice President: No volunteers

Secretary: No volunteers

School Board Chair: No volunteers

Treasurer: Rodney Olson

Financial Secretary: Veronika Dunnam

Christian Ed. Chair: Erin Holmquist

Fellowship Chair: Linda Albro

Youth Ministries Chair: Justin Bevers

Stewardship Chair: Becky Flaherty

Head Trustee (facilities): No volunteers

Evangelism Chair: No volunteers

If you have questions about the duties of a particular position, please inquire with the church office and/or speak with one of us currently serving (as seen on the list above).

On a related note, in 2024 Council will be considering changes to our by-laws to make our governing structures a bit simpler, which should, in turn, make our Council positions easier to commit to. Of course, any proposed changes will come to the congregation for a vote. More on that in the future!

Checking Things Off the List!

By Matt Koehler, Campus Manager

October was a busy month around the campus! I tell people all the time that I have a “never-ending to do list”, and it always seems like things just keep getting added to the list. But I’m always checking things off the list too, and I appreciate the help from a variety of people in getting things done. For our Men of Faith day in October, we had some extra help from some of our Middle School families for a couple projects outside the Community Center.

First, we took down the fence that had surrounded the old Childcare play area on the West side of the FCC. Using a generous donation from a family, we will be expanding that fenced area so the middle school students can have a protected area for class breaks. That fence should be done or near completion by the time this newsletter comes out. Second, we pulled up all the large bushes that have been growing out of control at the FCC entrance. They will be replanted at a church family’s property. These plants needed too much maintenance, and were a safety hazard with their overgrowth by the entrance. We will be planting low growth azaleas in their place.

Our teaching and childcare staff attended a conference October 18-20, so the school and childcare were closed. We took advantage of that “quiet time” on campus to get a few projects done. The gym floor was scrubbed and waxed, and it looks so much better! We painted the men’s bathrooms in the church building and the FCC, and replaced faulty ventilation fans in both church building bathrooms. We were also able to spray for a recent outbreak of ants in some of our buildings while the students and staff were not on campus during this time.

I’ve been spending time cleaning out closets and the Whitney storage building, trying to get rid of things we don’t need and organizing the things we do need. As an organization, we tend to be “pack rats” and hold on to things. Sometimes storage areas pile up and need to be cleaned out, so that will be my focus for November.

With almost 9 acres and multiple buildings, that “never-ending to do list” keeps adding items to the list. If you are interested in helping out in some way large or small, please let me know. Special skills are welcomed but not required. We can always use help

weeding, trimming, mowing, painting, organizing, helping with special projects, etc. If you have a little time or a lot, or if you need to complete some volunteer hours for the school, let me know and I’ll give you a task! My email is mattkoehler@flschool.org, and my phone number is 360-951-0521. Thank you for being a part of the Faith Lutheran family!

Campus Improvement Funds

By Matt Koehler, Campus Manager

We recently completed some repairs to the gutters and fascia on the 4-classroom building, eliminating some dramatic leaks and lots of rotting wood. That’s part of having a campus full of aging buildings, you have to keep up with maintenance and repairs. Sometimes those can get expensive!

Did you know that we have special funds set up for donations to help with maintenance and repairs around the campus? We set up these funds to help cover things that come up that weren’t expected or budgeted for, or are too expensive to be included in the regular budget. Part of the cost of the classroom building project was covered by the Church/Campus Improvement Fund.

We have several other facilities needs that we have to address in the next year or two. Foremost of those is the siding on the Church building, especially on the upper portion. The siding on the upper portion has started to de-laminate, and will eventually fail if not replaced. Failed siding could lead to major leaks, rot, and structural damage. Most of the siding on the lower portion of the church is fine, but some of it needs replacement as well. The cost of this siding project is estimated at \$50,000.

I’d like to encourage everyone to consider donating to the Church/Campus Improvement Fund whenever you have a little extra, not to replace your regular giving but when you’re able to give above that. I appreciate that times are tight financially right now, but every little bit helps. We also have a separate fund for improvements to the Faith Community Center. That’s what we used to replace the hallway flooring last year.

Please prayerfully consider these donations. We appreciate anything you can offer, thank you!

Giving is a Breeze

The Church uses a software program that deals with social needs of the Church. This software is called Breeze. It allows for an easier way of getting information out to the Church members as a whole as well as small groups.

One aspect of this software is it has a modular that we can track church contribution.

To establish your on-line giving using the Breeze on-line giving program, follow the link:

<https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>

Please be aware the Breeze on-line giving bank transfer feature does include a processing fee of 1%. The processing fee for credit cards is 2.9% plus a small transaction fee. Faith will absorb these fees but you have the option to give back both the transfer and credit card processing fees by simply checking the box. Upon doing so, the fees will be added to your donation.

If you have any questions, please contact either Veronika Dunnam, financial secretary at financialsecretary@faithcampus.org or Becky in the church office.

Texting is a Breeze

With this software, we have an extended opportunity to communicate with you through text messaging. We are able to generate messages through the app directly to your phone. These messages are legitimate and not spam or fraudulent. Please make sure your information is up to date with the church office so you don't miss important notifications.



Text to Give

To donate by text, a donor simply:

1. Text the amount they'd like to give to **(360) 732-8020** (e.g. \$50). Remember to include a space between your dollar amount and your keyword. If a user submits \$50Missions, they will receive a "Sorry, not sure what you meant" error message. The proper format must be \$50 Missions in order for the command to be received properly.
2. If a person has donated by text before, they'll receive a text in response confirming that their gift has been received successfully and they're done.
3. If it's the first time a person is donating by text, they'll be sent a message that says, "It looks like you are a new giver; to begin: (link provided). It will be a link to the church's online giving page. Clicking on the link they will be asked to supply their payment method (credit card, debit card, or bank account). This payment source will then be linked with their phone number so that, in the future, all they will need to do is text in the amount. (They will not need to re-enter their payment information.)"
4. If the donor didn't specify a fund by keyword, donations will automatically go to the default fund in Breeze. **Example giving by keyword: \$50 missions** Note: *Donors can only give to one fund at a time.*

We've made giving easier! Scan the QR code with your mobile device for instant access to Breeze Online Giving.



Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart!

Our Father in heaven has claimed us as His own. By the shedding of His Son's blood, by His death for our sins and His resurrection for our justification, God the Father has received us back into His family. By water combined with His Word, promise and name, the Holy Spirit has taken up residence in us. We belong to Father, Son and Holy Spirit. He is in us, and we are in Him. And being in Him, all things are ours. In Him, we are richly and abundantly blessed.

Our true treasure and wealth is that we belong to the most holy Trinity and everything that is His belongs also to us: righteousness, peace, eternal life. Even our temporal treasures are gifts from His fatherly, divine goodness and mercy.

We receive our treasures from Him, and thus, as good stewards of His varied grace, we manage them in such a way that they may be returned to Him. We bring them to Him, hallowed through prayers of thanksgiving and God's Holy Word, as a sacrifice. Thus all our possessions, as gifts from God, are also sacrifices to Him, from which we eat to nourish our bodies and share with our family, neighbors and fellow Christians, with the poor and even our enemies, as holy things given by our holy God. His temporal gifts are blessings to and for us, and bring blessing upon us even as they are pressed into His service for His kingdom and the souls that receive them.

Thus we place all that we have into God's hands. He never fails to remember us and pours out the fullness of His promises upon us. We give thanks for all that He has done, is doing and will continue to do. We give thanks by not taking for ourselves, but giving to all even as our heavenly Father has given to us.




As we prepare for Thanksgiving celebrations, may we all give thanks continually for all that we are and all that we have because of God's providential care. And may we be all the more diligent in bringing everything that we have received from God to Him, so that He may bless it and employ it for the good of all — even for us. For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



November 2023




Faith Lutheran Church

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 5p Auction Meeting 6p Council	2 10a 3M's 6:30p Praise Team	3 3:15p Craft Fair Setup Popcorn Friday	4 10a Craft Fair 
5 8:15a Worship w/HC 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:30a Worship w/HC	6	7	8	9 10a 3M's 2:30p Veteran's Day Assembly 6:30p Praise Team	10 No School Veteran's Day	11 8:30a Men of Faith 9a Threads of Faith 6p Youth Night
12 8:15a Worship 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:30a Worship	13	14 5p Confirmation Parent Night 6:30p Elders	15 3:30p FLS BB Game 6p Council 6p PIE Thanksgiving Basket Donations Due	16 10a 3M's 6:30p Praise Team	17 11:30a FLS Early Out	18 6p Youth Night
19 9:30a Unified Worship w/ Communion 10:30a Voters' Meeting	20 No FLS Parent/Teacher Conf.	21 No FLS Parent/Teacher Conf.	22 10a Thanksgiving Worship 6:30p Thanksgiving Worship No FLS Parent/Teacher Conf.	23  No School or Childcare	24 No School or Childcare	25
26 8:15a Worship 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:30a Worship	27	28	29 6p Adventures in 	30 10a 3M's 6:30p Praise Team		



November 2023

Faith Community Center

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 9a Lacey Comm. Outr 9:30a Gather & Grow 12p Cristo Vive 4:00p SS Roller Derby	6 3:30p FLS BB 5p TCYFL Banquet	7 3:30p FLS BB 5:30p SS Roller Derby	1 3:30p FLS BB 5:15p EUVBC	2 10a 3M's 3:30p FLS BB 5p TCYFL Banquet 5:30p Kindermusik 6:30p Poly Dance	3 3:15p Craft Fair Setup	4 10a Craft Fair 
12 9a Lacey Comm. Outr 9:30a Gather & Grow 12p Cristo Vive 12p TCYFL Banquet 4:00p SS Roller Derby	13 3:30p FLS BB 5:15p EUVBC 7p Faria VB	14 5:30p SS Roller Derby	8 3:30p FLS BB 5p TCYFL Banquet	9 10a 3M's 11:30a Pinochle 3:30p FLS BB 6p Panthers Fastpitch 6:30p Poly Dance 7p SS Metal Detect.	10 5:30p SS Roller Derby 6p Lacey Outr Youth 7p Birthday Party	11 11a TCYFL Banquet 6p Youth Night 
19 9a Lacey Comm. Outr 9:30a Gather & Grow 12p Cristo Vive 4:00p SS Roller Derby	20 5:15p EUVBC	21 5:30p SS Roller Derby	22 6p EUVBC	23 	24 6p Lacey Outr Youth	25 5:15p EUVBC
26 9a Lacey Comm. Outr 9:30a Gather & Grow 12p Cristo Vive	27 3:30p FLS BB 5:15p EUVBC 7p Faria VB	28 3:30p FLS BB 5:30p SS Roller Derby	29 3:30p FLS BB 5:15p EUVBC	30 3:30p FLS BB 5:15p EUVBC 5:30p Kindermusik 6:30p Poly Dance		