

The Follower

"Come, follow me." Matthew 4:19



A monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Ministries

7075 Pacific Ave SE Lacey, WA 98503

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E-mail: faithlutheranlacey360@gmail.com

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April 2026



Holy Week & Easter

April 2 – 5, 2026



see p. 4



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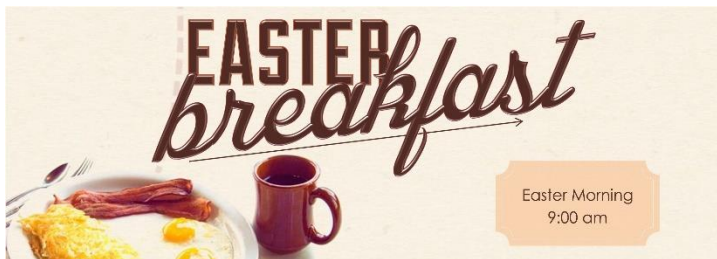
Leave our school a review

See p. 6



Gone Country Auction

see p. 5



EASTER breakfast

Easter Morning
9:00 am



MEN OF FAITH

Sat. April 25 | 9a – 12p



Worship Service Times

Sunday Worship Services

Traditional - 8:15 am

Contemporary - 10:45 am

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

Livestream available at:

<https://faithlutheranlacey.online.church>

Holy Week & Easter

4/2 – Maundy Thurs. w/HC - 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

4/3 – Good Friday – 10:00 am & 6:30 pm

4/5 - Easter Sunrise – 7:00 am

Communion Services – 8:15 & 10:45 am

Holy Week & Easter

You are welcome to join us for breakfast Easter
Sunday, April 5, beginning at 9:00 am in the gym.

On the menu: pancakes, scrambled eggs, mixed fruit,
bacon, and sausage.

Faith men of all ages, if you haven't signed up to
cook and serve during one of two shifts, sign up at
the welcome table or contact Andy Green to
reserve your spot! andygreen4416@hotmail.com.

Gather & Grow

Children's Sunday School

We'd love for your children to join us for Sunday
School from 9:30 – 10:30 AM starting in the
sanctuary! Classes are available for Pre-School
through 5th Grade. For everyone's safety,
please sign-in your child and provide an emergency
contact before class. We're excited to learn and
grow together!



Apr. 5

Set up: Robyn Hofstad

Refresh: Rachel Wilson

Clear: Erin Holmquist

Apr. 19

Set up: Marie Koehler

Refresh: Leona Carufel

Clear: Leona Carufel

Altar Guild Needs You

Altar Guild is looking for a few extra hands. We
would love to have you join us!

If you are interested in joining us or would like more
information, please contact Robyn Hofstad
at robynhofstad@yahoo.com or call, 360-561-8244.

Prayer Chain

If you would like to be a part of the Faith Lutheran
Prayer Chain, please let the church office know.
Prayer requests should be sent to Holly Carr,
253.533.0022 or teecarr5@gmail.com. Immediate
prayers should be texted.

Office Reminder

As a reminder, please inform the church office
anytime you have changes to your address, phone
number, or email address. This way we can keep our
records current and we can be sure you are getting
the information we send out. Please call or email the
office at 360-491-3552 or
faithlutheranlacey360@gmail.com.

Threads of Faith



Threads of Faith typically meets the *second Saturday*
monthly to work on quilts. Contact Barbara
Eriksen to inquire. 360- 915-3333.

We'll see you Sat, Apr. 11, 9 – 11 am!

Busy Bags for Little Ones

We're happy to offer busy bags for young children during the service! You can find them hanging up next to the table by the bulletins. Please return bags after the service so others can enjoy them too.

Care Warriors on a Mission

You are important to us! We want to support you in prayer and help when you need it.

Please ask your family to contact us when sickness, emergencies or scheduled/unscheduled surgeries and medical procedures are required. We want to be an extension of God's love to your family.

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

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, however, they will meet in the church during the season of Lent.

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.

Pinochle



Don't forget Pinochle, monthly on the third Thursday. We are always looking for more people to come. If you have friends who play but are not members, please invite them. The more the merrier. We bring a snack to share and eat around 11:30, then we play from 12 -2 or so. Plan to come join the fun!

Our next game is on **April 16** in the Community Center Cypress room.

Men of Faith

Men of Faith is a monthly meeting of men from all of our ministries, where we'll have a light breakfast & short bible study or devotional followed by a couple hours of work. We will work on any needed maintenance or improvement projects around campus each month; things like painting, pulling weeds, minor repairs, and whatever needs to be done.

Men of Faith meets the **LAST SATURDAY** of every month, from **9am to noon**. If you can only come for an hour or two, we welcome whatever you can do. Men and boys high school age to retired are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact me at mattkoehler@flschool.org.

Faith Lutheran Youth

Open Gym Nights

Students in **5th–12th grades** are invited to Open Gym on Saturday, April 18, from 6:00–8:00 PM. These evenings provide a fun, safe space for fellowship, games, and building friendships.

High School Youth Group

Our High School Youth Group (7th–12th grades) will continue meeting every other Wednesday night, April 15 & 30, from 6:00–7:30 PM.

Interested in being involved? Reach out to Justin Bevers at jbevers02@gmail.com or call/text **360-292-0353**.

Music Ministry

Do you enjoy singing or playing an instrument? There's a place for you in our music ministry! Our Praise Team—made up of instrumentalists and vocalists—leads contemporary music for the 10:45am service. Our Choir meets between services at 9:30am on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and sings throughout the year for special services. We'd love to include your gifts! Reach out to our music coordinator, Gillian Haynes, at g.haynes@flschool.org



Birthdays and Anniversaries

April Birthdays

Eric Bache	April 3
John Schmedake	April 5
Kent Quindt	April 6
Hank Sexton	April 8
Andy Green	April 9
Connie Dougherty	April 17
Josh Green	April 20
Jeannette Cisneros	April 21
Silas Hansen	April 22
Patricia Clark	April 25
Gail Ehlers	April 28
Josh Gabel	April 30



April Anniversaries

Timothy & Natsumi Quindt	April 2
Dave & Ann Caruso	April 4
Quadalupe & Jeannette Cisneros	April 4
Evan & Sarah Zander	April 6
Bart & Sue Shrum	April 8
Jim & Becky Flaherty	April 12
Chuck & Jolene Laguna	April 23



Don't see your name or birthday/anniversary up here? Contact the church office 360-491-3552.

Egg Hunt w/A Message

Connie Dougherty, Congregation President

Faith Lutheran Ministries is pleased to host an egg hunt again this year! The hunt will be **Saturday, April 4, at 1:00 p.m.** Don't be late – once the hunt begins, it's over very quickly!

Though the actual hunt will take place outdoors, we will begin indoors (in the main church building, not the gym) with a short Easter message and hunt instructions. After the message, children ages 2 through 4th grade will be dismissed by age groups to hunt for eggs outdoors (rain or shine!). All children will receive prizes and candy just for participating. **Children should bring their own egg bag or basket for collecting eggs.**

Mark your calendars for April 4 and help the children in your life think of others to invite to this event. It's fun, it's fair, and it's a great way to share the Easter message. We hope to see you there!

VBS Registration Now Open

Mark your calendars! Vacation Bible School is coming **June 22–26**—and you won't want to miss this unforgettable week.

This year's theme, **Rainforest Falls**, invites kids into a week of wonder as they explore the powerful nature of God. Through engaging Bible stories, fun animal buddies, and joyful worship, children will grow in their faith and discover how to stay rooted in God's love.

Support VBS – Donations Needed

We are collecting donations to help make this event amazing for our 150+ kids.

You can give in two ways:

- Through the Breez app → *Give to VBS* <https://faithlutheranlacey.breezechms.com/give/online>
- Give directly to VBS Director, **Sarah Zander**

Volunteers Needed

This is one of our biggest ministry events, bringing together our school, childcare, and church community. We would love your help.

If you're interested in volunteering, please contact: 360-870-7112 or Sarah.zander16@gmail.com

Join us as we grow, serve, and celebrate God's love together at Rainforest Falls.



Scan QR code to register



Thrivent Choice Dollars

If you are a Thrivent account holder, likely you are aware that you can have impact through Choice Dollars. Depending on the type and number of accounts you have, you can regularly direct Choice dollars to any of several thousand approved charitable organizations. Faith Lutheran Church and Faith Lutheran School are two of those. While the amount may not be great, the impact of your giving always is. Visit Thrivent.com for additional information.

Also, Thrivent members are eligible to join Thrivent Action Teams which can get seed money towards fund-raising for any number of projects, including scholarships, silent auctions (like Faith's annual auction), or raising money for school supplies. If you are a Thrivent member and are interested, contact Michael Kramer (michael_kramer@sbcglobal.net).

New Member Class

If you have recently completed new church member paperwork or have been considering it, we encourage you to join the New Member Class beginning Sunday, May 17, 2026, held between worship services at 9:30 am. Please contact Chuck Laguna, Kopyjo@yahoo.com; 360-350-2656 or the church office to sign up.

This is a great opportunity to become familiar with the LC-MS Lutheran faith and all that Faith Lutheran has to offer.

5/17/26: Getting to know you. Leader Andy Green

5/24/26 What do Lutherans Believe, Teach and Confess? Leader Michael Kramer

6/7/26 What is Lutheran? Leader: Chuck Laguna

6/14/26 How does the LCMS work? Leader: Licensed Lay Deacon: Timothy Quindt

6/21/26 Faith Lutheran 4-part ministry and how to get involved. Leader: Pastor Greg Strand



YOU'RE INVITED

Faith Lutheran Ministries Auction: "Gone Country!" Dress in your favorite western gear and join us for a night of fellowship, food, music, and giving back.

This special event supports Faith Lutheran Church, School, Childcare, and Community Center, helping fund important projects such as:

- Heart of Campus landscaping renovations
- Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall Remodel
- Athletic upgrades, including new uniforms and equipment
- School & Childcare Expansion research and planning
- Scholarship funds to support families seeking a Christian education

Last year alone, \$35,000 was awarded in scholarships. All paddle bid proceeds again this year will go directly to helping families provide a Christ-centered education for their children.

Your ticket includes drinks, appetizers, a delicious dinner catered by Steel Barrel BBQ, a full auction experience, live music, and even a line dancing lesson! Most importantly, it's a wonderful opportunity to connect with school families, church members, and our wider community.

We hope you'll join us for this exciting and meaningful evening as we celebrate and support the future of Faith Lutheran Ministries. Please consider inviting your friends and family to share in this special night of fellowship, celebration, and purpose.

We are now collecting auction donations. Don't know what to give? Donate what you would want to bid on! We do ask that items be new, and can be brought to the school or church office. We are requesting donations such as gift baskets, services, tickets, giveaways, getaways, etc. These items will be auctioned off the night of the auction. We also offer three levels of sponsorship you can purchase to support our mission. Each level of sponsorship offers additional incentive that you will not want to miss out on!

Follow the link to purchase tickets, donate & sponsor.

<https://faithlutheranlacey.ejoinme.org/MyEvents/FaithLutheranMinistriesAuction2026/tabid/1561108/Default.aspx>



2025-26 Enrollment

Enrollment for the 2025–2026 academic year continues. We look forward to welcoming new students and their families and appreciate your prayers. [Flschool.org](https://flschool.org) or 360-491-1733

Welcome Mrs. Ryle

Welcome New Resource Teacher...Mrs. Wendy Ryle
Mrs. Ryle has a Master’s Degree in Education with an endorsement in Special Education, along with 10 years of experience in education. In her role as our Resource Teacher, Mrs. Ryle will partner closely with teachers and families to provide intentional, individualized learning support for students. Her work will strengthen our ability to meet diverse learning needs while continuing to nurture every child.

We are so grateful God has brought her to FLCS. Please join us in giving Mrs. Ryle a warm Faith welcome!

Niche.com Reviews

Faith Lutheran Christian School has partnered with Niche.com to help showcase our wonderful school to families in our community and beyond. We are seeking positive reviews from families and alumni to highlight what makes FLCS special.

Your reviews help:

- Boost our school’s reputation
- Attract new families
- Increase visibility in searches
- Provide authentic social proof for prospective families

Leave a review here:

<https://www.niche.com/k12/faith-lutheran-christian-school-lacey-wa/>

Chapel Mission

Each trimester, our school selects a special mission focus for Chapel offerings. This month, our students are supporting a missionary serving in Ethiopia.

The students recently heard from Mr. Tim Kramer, a local soccer coach and friend of Mr. Milnes, who is part of a church-planting team traveling to Ethiopia. He shared how they build meaningful relationships within communities—by playing soccer together and connecting with children and families through prayer.

Through a partnership with a sports equipment manufacturer, soccer balls can be provided at cost—just **\$10 supplies one ball** to support this ministry.

We invite our church family to join our students in this effort. Your support helps create opportunities to share the love of Christ in a tangible way.

If you would like to contribute, please drop your offering off in the school office with Shelby Williams.



Dates to Remember

April 3rd - Good Friday, half day, release at 11:30am

April 6-10 Spring Break

April 13 North Clackamas Christian Choir at 9am

April 15 PIE Meeting 6pm

April 17th Popcorn Friday

April 21st Passport Testing

Sanctuary Project: Coming Soon!

By Matt Koehler

We are only 2 months away from starting construction! We have contractors for a lot of the work, but to save money we are handling some things with volunteer labor. THIS MEANS YOU if you are able! We need all the help we can get.

We will start construction the week of June 8, immediately after school ends. After that point, most of the church building will be unavailable for general use except the kitchen and school office.

There will be a number of needs for critical volunteer help during this time, including:

- Removing the pews out of the sanctuary, then reinstalling them at the end of the project. We are going to store them and refurbish them in the fellowship hall during construction, and are hiring a professional to reupholster them. This will take a few days at the beginning of the project, then a few more at the end of the project, probably late July or early August.
- Painting certain areas of the sanctuary walls, mainly the side walls. I'm not sure when this will occur, but we should be able to have people help in the evening or on the weekends when it's time to do it. Most likely toward the middle of July, possibly sooner.
- Setting up the gym every Sunday for worship services. This will involve putting up the stage, setting up chairs, preparing the sound and video systems, etc. I'll be looking for at least 4 people every week to help with this. Generally, this will be on Sunday mornings, probably starting around 7:30 am. After the service, we will need to take down some of our equipment. Other churches will be using the space after us, so they will put away some after their services as well.
- Little things like moving furniture and equipment out and then back in at the end of the project, cleaning up before moving back into the space, and other tasks. I'll put out information when those times come, probably in early August.

Please let me know if you are interested in helping with these very important jobs.

My email is mattkoehler@flschool.org, and my cell is 360-951-0521. I will be reaching out to many of you personally to ask for help. I appreciate any help I can get from all of our ministries!

Operation Barnabas

Supporting Military and Veteran Families

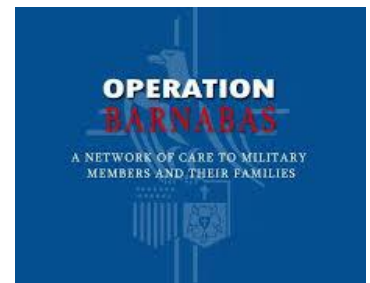
By Matt Koehler

At a recent conference on the best practices in ministry, I went to a session on Operation Barnabas. The LCMS has a small group of veterans that supports this project in congregations all across the country. Operation Barnabas is a program aimed at supporting active-duty military families and veterans through individual congregations.

We have a significant number of veterans and active-duty families at Faith, and I would like to see us establish an Operation Barnabas chapter here at Faith Lutheran, but we need a small group of people who are willing to coordinate that work. I have flyers available with information if you might be interested in helping with this. Here is a brief description from the flyer about what our chapter could be involved in: *Become an Operation Barnabas Chapter. Operating in a manner similar to other chapters in your congregation — such as your Lutheran Women's Missionary League chapter — an Operation Barnabas Chapter meets monthly or as needed around a specific goal. In this case, the goal is to actively engage the military members in your community. Successful chapters depend on the volunteerism and leadership of a dedicated group of people in your congregation; this is not another task for pastor! This is a chance for your congregation to actively serve in your community and share the love of Christ with those who have borne the burden of defending our nation.*

Here's the website with information about the program. <https://www.lcms.org/ministry-to-the-armed-forces/operation-barnabas>

Please let me know if you are interested in being part of this group! Thank you! My email is mattkoehler@flschool.org.



Budget Reminder

Connie Dougherty, Congregation President

Faith Lutheran Family,

A friendly reminder that we are over halfway into our budget fiscal year, which runs Aug. 1 through July 31.

First, a reminder about the budget process: Every summer Church Council proposes a budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Members approve the budget at a meeting, after discussing whether to add income and expenses to meet specific goals. Most of the income for the church budget comes from member giving; most of it is spent on payroll.

We the members track finances by reading the budget summary that's in the worship bulletin insert once a month. The summary compares gifts to budget needs. (Soon you will see the summary in newsletters as well.)

The willingness of this small congregation to commit financially to projects is incredible! A couple of recent examples come to mind:

- 1) Last summer we agreed to increase giving to cover the hiring of a professional music coordinator. What a blessing that has been!
- 2) Late last fall we agreed to go beyond the operating budget and fund the sanctuary remodel. We met our fundraising goal (with enough to replace our organ) and I can't wait until the work begins this summer.

If you read the budget summaries, you know **we are running behind on our commitments to the operating budget.** We are getting by because we are holding off on some of the expenses we put in the budget, but eventually this will catch up with us. **Please join Church Council in keeping an eye on our operating budget.** Together I believe we can catch up.

I hope that, like me, you are encouraged by the way God is working through us to bless our ministries. May He guide and direct us in our stewardship of His gifts.

Week Ending	Weekly			Year To Date			Annual Budget
	Received	Budget	Difference	Received	Budget	Difference	
3/22/2026							
General Fund	23,245.93	9,189.77	14,056.16	287,947.55	312,452.15	-24,504.60	477,868.00
Community Center *	509.25	1,346.15	-836.90	38,715.47	45,769.23	-7,053.76	70,000.00
Specific Funds **	5.00	509.62	-504.62	19,311.55	17,326.92	1,984.63	26,500.00
Totals	23,760.18	11,045.54	12,714.64	345,974.57	375,548.31	-29,573.74	574,368.00
Other Dedicated ***		319.11			27,074.20		

* Includes funds dedicated to building fund.

** The Specific Funds line includes Sunday School, Hospitality, Fellowship, Youth, Auction, Thrivent, LCEF, Lutheran Witness, and Scrip Profits.

*** Other Dedicated funds are not included in the budget.

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
4. 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.)
5. 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.





E A S T E R

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1	2	3	4
			2:45p Chapel	10a Service w/HC 6:30p Service w/HC	10a Service 11:30a FLS Early Out 6:30p Service	1p EGG HUNT	
Easter Sunday 5	Easter Monday 6	6:30p Praise Team 	6:30p Praise Team	8	9	10	11
7a Sunrise Service 8:15a Service w/HC 9:30a Breakfast in Gym 10:45a Service w/HC	FLS & Childcare Closed					9a Threads of Faith	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
8:15a Traditional 9:30a Festival Choir 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemporary	3:30p FLS Track 6:30p Life Group	3:30p FLS Track 6:30p Elders 6:30p Praise Team	2:45p Chapel 3:30p FLS Track 6p Council 6p HS Youth Group 6p PIE	10a 3M's Bible Study 11:30a Pinochle 3:30p FLS Track 5:15p Wiggle Church	2p Popcorn Friday 3:30p FLS Track 	6p FLY Open Gym	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
8:15a Traditional w/HC 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemp w/HC	3:30p FLS Track	FLS Passport Testing 3:30p FLS Track 6:30p Praise Team	2:45p Chapel 3:30p FLS Track	10a 3M's Bible Study 3:30p FLS Track	3:30p FLS Track	9a Men of Faith	
26	27	28	29	30			
8:15a Traditional 9:30a Festival Choir 9:30a Gather & Grow 10:45a Contemporary	3:30p FLS Track 6:30p Life Group	3:30p FLS Track 6:30p Praise Team	2:45p Chapel 3:30p FLS Track 6p HS Youth Group	10a 3M's Bible Study 3:30p FLS Track 5:15p Wiggle Church	Church & School		

April

Community Center

2026

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				5:30p Pocheco BB 6:30p EJVBC	10a 3M's Bible Study	5:30p SS Roller Derby	1p Egg Hunt 3p Breakfast Setup
Easter Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30a Easter Breakfast 12p Cristo Vive 12:45p Samoan AOG 3:30p SS Roller Derby 4p JA1 Church	6:30p EJVBC	7p PNW Premier VB	6:30p EJVBC	10a 3M's Bible Study 7p SS Metal Detecting Gym Floor	Maintenance	1:30p TCI	
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:30p Gather & Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45p Samoan AOG 3:30p SS Roller Derby 4p JA1 Church 7p NCCS Overnight	3:30p FLS Track 4:30p Life Group 6:30p EJVBC	3:30p FLS Track 5:30p SS Roller Derby	3:30p FLS Track 6p PIE 6:30p EJVBC	10a 3M's Bible Study 11:30a Pinochle 3:30p FLS Track 5:15p Wiggle Church	2p Popcorn Fri 3:30p FLS Track 5:30p SS Roller Derby	6p FLY Open Gym	
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:30p Gather & Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 12:45p Samoan AOG 3:30p SS Roller Derby	3:30p FLS Track 5p Johnston VB 6:30p EJVBC	3:30p FLS Track 5:30p SS Roller Derby	3:30p FLS Track 5p Johnston VB 6:30p EJVBC	10a 3M's Bible Study 3:30p FLS Track	3:30p FLS Track 5:30p SS Roller Derby	9a Men of Faith 6p NTEF Adult Prom	
	26	27	28	29	30		
9:30p Gather & Grow 11a Casa de Alabanza 12p Cristo Vive 1:30p FLS Plano Recit 3:30p SS Roller Derby 4p JA1 Church	3:30p FLS Track 4:30p Life Group 5p Johnston VB 6:30p EJVBC	3:30p FLS Track 5:30p SS Roller Derby	3:30p FLS Track 5p Johnston VB 6:30p EJVBC	10a 3M's Bible Study 3:30p FLS Track 5:15p Wiggle Church			