



Hamden Plains United Methodist Church 15 Church St., Hamden, CT 06514 203-248-4654

www.hamdenplainsumc.com www.facebook.com/HamdenPlainsUMC/YouTube: https://tinyurl.com/t9q8gw6



General Conference 2024

Council of Bishops President Thomas J. Bickerton opened the postponed 2020 United Methodist General Conference on April 23 with a bold question: "Do you want to be in this room?"



He was speaking to delegates from Africa, Europe, Asia and the U.S. who are gathering to consider major proposals that could dramatically change the denomination.

"Are you willing to move forward in a spirit of hope and embrace a season of reformation, commit to the revitalization of The United Methodist Church and work for a culture marked by compassion, courage and companionship?" Bickerton asked.

If not, he said, "Maybe you are in the wrong place."

After opening worship, Kim Simpson, the chair of the Commission on the General Conference, said that 751 out of the 862 allotted delegates were registered and present as of noon on opening day of the lawmaking assembly, which continues through May 3 at the Charlotte Convention Center. That total includes 273 delegates out of 370 from the central conferences — church regions in Africa, Europe and the Philippines. Simpson said registrations are still ongoing.

General Conference is the only entity that speaks for the denomination. The 2020 General Conference was postponed several times because of the COVID-19 pandemic, meaning the last regular session of the lawmaking assembly took place eight years ago.

Since that time, more than 7,600 U.S. churches, about a quarter of the denomination's U.S. congregations in 2019, left The United Methodist Church under a policy that expired at the end of last year.

The mission of the Hamden Plains
United Methodist
Church is sharing
God's love by
creating a safe and
welcoming
community,
connecting people's
needs with God's
power, and
reconciling divisions
through Christ.

- Sunday Worship
 Service 10: 15 am
- Office Hours9:15am 12:15pmTuesday, Friday

STAFF
Rev. Jeremiah J. Paul
Pastor
Dunn Pearson
Music Minister
Nancy Estes
Secretary
Derrick Pommills
Property Manager



If you are interested in joining
HPUMC please contact Pastor J or
the Office
at 203.248.4654 or
secretary.hpumc@gmail.com





Hamden Plains United Methodist Church, Hamden, Connecticut

Sunday worship: 10:15 a.m.:

Pastor Jeremiah Paul, preaching

Services will be available at

https://www.youtube.comchannel/UCxwHc1E3YK4W1nHICT5iAA

or https://tinyurl.com/t9q8gw6

with thanks to Dunn Pearson, Producer

May 5 6th SUNDAY OF EASTER
Scriptures: Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98 (UMH 818); 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17.

Ochplares. Acts 10.44-40, 1 Saint 90 (Offin 010), 1 Soint 5.1-0, Soint 15.5-17

May 12 7th SUNDAY OF EASTER/MOTHER'S DAY

Scriptures: Acts 1:15-17, 1-26; Psalm 1 (UMH738); 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19.

May 19 PENTECOST SUNDAY

Scriptures: Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35B (UMH826); Romans 8:22-27; John

15:26-27; 16:4b-15.

In Memory of

May 26 TRINITY SUNDAY/PEACE WITH JUSTICE SUNDAY

Scriptures: Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29 (UMH761); Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17.

Advance reading of the scriptures is an act of spiritual formation.

Please indicate the number you want of each Red White Pink Salmon Viol	h color
Mothers Day All orders must be paid to Nancy Estes by May	y 5 th . Leave
in Office, collection plate OR Mail to Church	vat 15
Church ST., Hamden, Ct 06514 mark as Mother's day Flowers	
Your Name:	
In Honor of:	



from the desk of

Holly O'Brien HPUMC Lay Leader

Transitions are seldom easy, often difficult, and even heartbreaking. This is especially true for a congregation whose beloved pastor has been appointed to another church. HPUMC has two months to say good-bye to Pastor J and to prepare to welcome our new pastor. Although both difficult and heartbreaking, God's grace will see us through.

As your Lay Leader, I ask that you consider beginning this period of transition with prayer and an open Bible. On the narthex bulletin board, I have posted some verses of comfort and guidance that I have been praying for myself and our church. I am sure there are many more that are your source of strength.

Although the Bible is my primary source, Google and You Tube are not far behind! With just two keywords, I found the article on the reverse side of this page which may be helpful to us in the days ahead. Do you have favorite YouTube channels for inspiring messages and Christian music? I just added

https://www.youtube.com/@GoldenHillWorship/streams. to my Favorites so that I can continue to hear Pastor J's Spirit-led, faith-filled music and sermons.

A scene in the April 25 episode of *Young Sheldon* showed Sheldon's two college professors helping him decide where he would go for his graduate work. In their conversation, Sturgis said, "You're going to do great things, Sheldon, and we're proud to be a small part of your journey." As a congregation, we can say, "You're going to do great things, Pastor J, and we have been blessed to be part of your journey."

Grace and Peace







6 Truths to Encourage You During Pastoral Transition

Written by Ben Simpson, Pastor

Somewhere right now a church is losing its pastor. For whatever reason the pastor is leaving, the church has moved into a time of transition, and the members feel like they've had the wind knocked out of them. He has loved them, fed them, and protected them. He has doctored their wounds and rejoiced when they rejoiced. But now their pastor is moving away, and sadness and discouragement well up. If your church is in this scenario, I simply want to hearten you with six biblical truths.

- 1. God will be with your church at all times. You are not forsaken. God is with your congregation. "I will never leave your or forsake you," (Heb 13:5). Pastors will come and go. Only God will never leave us. And the presence of God is more vital to the life of the church.
- **2. God is in control.** God "works all things according to the counsel of His will" (Eph. 1:11). Do you believe that? This pastoral transition is not happening outside of the will of God. God is working this according to the counsel of his will. So the question is not, "Who is in control?" God is in control. The question is, "Will you rest in him by trusting him?"
- **3. God plans good out of this transition.** It might not feel good right now, but God has promised that he works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). You can rest assured that good will come from it. That's how awesome God is: even those things that don't feel good are used for good. It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith.
- **4. It's okay to weep.** While good will come out of this pastoral transition, that doesn't remove the deep sadness. Losing your pastor hurts. I'm reminded of how the Ephesian elders wept at Paul's goodbye: "And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship" (Acts 20:36-38). I believe the Ephesians knew that God would be with them, that he was in control, and that he was going to bring good out of this transition. Nevertheless, they wept. And it's okay to weep. It's actually a way of saying thank you to both God and your pastor.
- **5. Ministry must go on.** Notice what the Great Commission does not say, "Go therefore and make disciples . . . if you have a pastor." One church that I used to work with lost their pastor. When I'd call their lay leaders about a ministry opportunity, their answer was always, "Well, you see, we just don't have a pastor right now." They had forgotten that ministry must continue in the interim. The Great Commission doesn't include any conditionals. Does ministry become a bit harder without a pastor leading? Probably so, but if he was a good pastor, he would have obeyed Ephesians 4:11-12 by equipping the saints for the work of the ministry. In the interim, you and the lay leadership of the church must make sure ministry continues. Get to work!
- **6. The church must not scatter.** Jesus promised the flock would scatter at his crucifixion (Mat 26:31). For a season, that's exactly what happened. The same often happens in churches during a pastoral transition. Because "their" pastor is no longer there or ministry begins to lag, folks trickle out. Some reasons for going might be legitimate, but this may also be the time in which the congregation should most strongly gather together for support and encouragement. Recognize the temptation to scatter and work more diligently to stay bound together in unity and love. This will be a season of testing for you. I know you didn't ask for it, but with God's help, you'll endure it.



First Annual Women's High Tea Fund Raiser

Saturday, May 18th — 11:00am to 2:00pm
United Methodist Church, Branford
811 East Main Street, Branford, CT. 06405

Ladies, dress up and come join us for a time of Food, Desserts and, of course TEA!

There will be games, "Pick a Bag" & a prize for "Best Hat or Fastener"

Please call 204-488-0549 to register as seating is limited!

Tickets for this event are \$25 per person





West Hartford UMC



















Dear CT District Family,

All are invited to the Connecticut District Conference, <u>Saturday May 4th</u>, <u>2024</u>, <u>Trinity Church (Windsor) 180 Park Ave</u>, <u>Windsor</u>, <u>CT</u>.

Join us, <u>8:30 AM to 9:00 AM</u> for a delicious continental breakfast and an insightful session with our facilitator, Dr. Leonard Sweet. It's a wonderful opportunity to kick start the day with nourishment for both body and mind.

Continue to be enlightened and inspired by Dr. Sweet, as our keynote speaker at **1:00 PM**.

We're also thrilled to announce that attendees will receive a charming little gift that'll brighten your day and bring a smile to your face!

Every church has the potential to grow true evangelism. You can be the catalyst, come find out how!

To register:

https://ny-reg.brtapp.com/2024ConnecticutDistrictConferen...

To order your books:

Please note Dr. Sweet's two most recently published books **Jesus Human** and **Designer Jesus will be content for District Conference**.

https://www.amazon.com/Jesus-Human.../dp/1636130216/... https://www.amazon.com/Designer-Jesus.../dp/B0CW1FTHMH



Rev. Alpher Sylvester Superintendent, Connecticut District

Connecticut District 20 Broadfield Road Hamden, CT 06517 Phone: (914) 615-2227 CTdistrict@nyacumc.com

Web site:

www.CTDistrictUMC.org
New York Conference of
The United Methodist
Church

AGENDA

DATE: Saturday, May 4th, 2024

LOCATION: Trinity Church (Windsor) 180 Park Ave,

Windsor, CT

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Proven Techniques of How to Grow

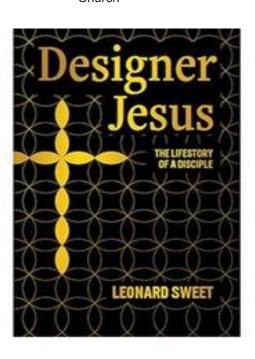
Your Church Through Evangelism

12:00 PM - 12:45 PM Lunch

1:00 PM District Conference, Renowned Guest Speaker Dr. Leonard Sweet, The Connecticut District Mass Choir, and

more!

Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester, D.S. Connecticut District, NYAC, UMC 646-533-4377

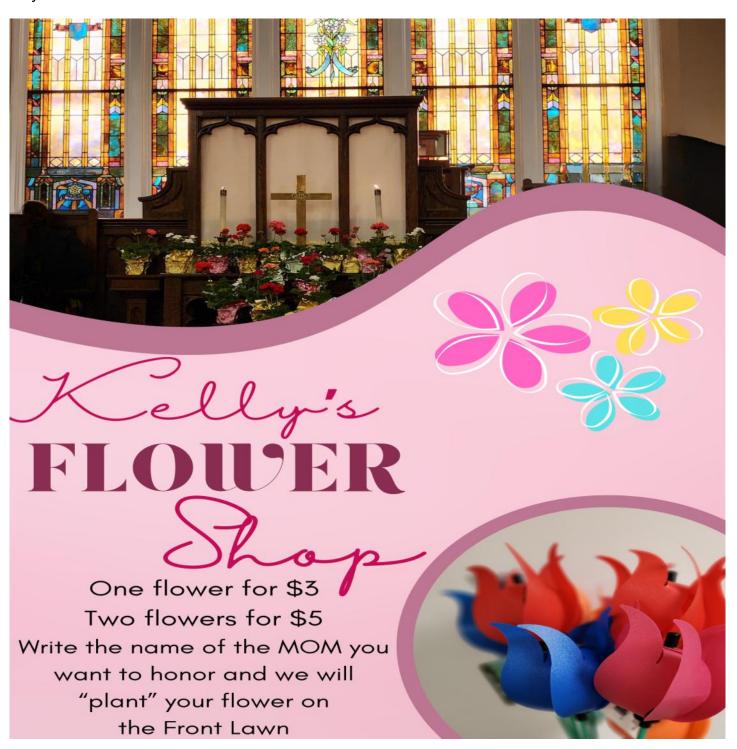




Hello All,

Please see the flyer for Kelly's Flower shop. The shop is set to open this Sunday May 5th, 2024. These flowers are to honor all the moms at HPUMC. After they are personalized these will be placed on the front lawn for display for the month of May.

Thanks so much for the opportunity, Ruby Cruz





JOIN THE FRESH AIR FAMILY!



Become a Host Family

- Apply to host a NYC child for one week this summer and make memories that will last a lifetime.
- The Fresh Air Fund is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging and welcomes host families from all backgrounds to reflect the communities we serve.

Become a Volunteer

- Recruit and interview potential host families in your community.
- Collaborate with a committed team of volunteers.
- Chaperone bus trips.
- · Make a difference!



Scan the QR code to learn more about us!







Second Wednesday Women's Group



12:00 noon Narthex

Bring Your Own Lunch
Beverages and Dessert Provided

Devotion
We are Women of Many Hats

Hat Decorating



The hats and all you need to decorate them will be provided, but feel free to bring anything special you might want to add.



June 12 is our annual Restaurant Meeting.

A reason to wear our hats!





On Saturday April 13th HPUMC was graced with a Fish Fry Fundraiser hosted by Alfreda Piggott and her We Care Ministry which consisted of James & Carol Outlaw, Sandra Wade, Shirley Connor (sister), Willis Connor (nephew), Tony Johnson (brother), Tanya Bell, Doris Clark, Maliyah Singh (granddaughter) and Contessa Brock (niece).

All the food for the Fish Fry was donated by private donors so all the money raised was profit. They made 150 dinners, sandwiches and along with a lot of donations they raised \$3200 for HPUMC.



Alfreda and her We Care Ministry was started 5 years ago just before COVID in 2019. They started with 23 meals being delivered to shut ins. Today they prepare and deliver 125 meals to shut ins, Lexington Ave. Group Home, TLC on Whalley Ave. and The Howe Ave YMCA Women. No one is turned away.

Meals can include Chicken and Dumplings, Pasta with sauce and meatballs, Ham, Turkey, chopped BBQ, meatloaf, etc. All meals come with all the fixings. Spe-

cial meals are made for Christmas, Thanksgiving, Easter and even the 4th of July.

Janine McKnight and her Milton and Eugine are also part of this ministry.

If you would like to donate to this wonderful Weekend Ministry please send donations to: Alfreda Piggott, 694 Circular Ave., Hamden CT 06514.











The Second Wednesday Women's Group

DATE: The second Wednesday of each month

TIME: 1:00 pm

PLACE: Hamden Plains UMC Prayer Room

APRIL

2nd Wednesday Women met on April 10th



Psalm 51:10 says: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me."

Spring is a time to start fresh-to wash windows, sweep the doorstep and purge your closet.

Sometimes our spiritual lives need a deep cleaning, too.

A spiritual spring cleaning is when we take stock of our spiritual lives to clean out our hearts and souls. This can include our prayers, our relationship with God, our views on the world around us, how we treat

others, our sense of purpose, or anything else that impacts your spiritual life.

Whether your faith life needs a fresh coat of paint or total renovation of the heart, there's no better time to jump in than now. Start with one thing at a time—maybe it's alone time with God, spending time in the Bible or treating others as He would.

After we've prayed for guidance, we need to wade into the clutter and grime of or hearts—and let the cleaning begin.!









Hi friends.

Thought this month I would share some info about your thyroid gland. Everyone has one.

Two of the most common thyroid disorders are hypothyroidism and hyperthyroidism. They can present with subtle symptoms that may not be easily detected.

The thyroid hormones are primarily thyroxin and triiodothyronine and they play crucial roles in regulating processes in the body. Your thyroid is located in your neck and is shaped like a butterfly and the hormones

it produces are essential for proper growth and development. They contribute to the regulation of our body temperature. The hormones also impact our cardiovascular system. They influence our heart rate, cardiac muscle contraction, and our blood vessel function. Thus it is so important to balance the hormone levels.

They also regulate lipid metabolism including our cholesterol levels. They influence our glucose metabolism and insulin sensitivity to maintain a healthy blood sugar level.

These hormones also help brain function. Insufficient hormone levels can lead to cognitive impairment and mood disturbances.

When and if you have routine physical exams by your primary doctor you will probably note that your doctor will include thyroid blood work should he order blood work.

Stay safe and healthy and see you soon.

Much love to all

Brenda Pineau R.N.





CONNECTIONAL BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP

Meets every Tuesday, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. IN PERSON In the Prayer Room ALL are welcome.

If Interested, contact Pastor J at 475.331.1122

or pastorjj.hpumc@gmail.com





If your health is compromised or you are in an at-risk group, please continue to enjoy our on-line worship option. We print the following in each Thursday's message field when we email the weekly bulletin and notices,

to ease access for our members and friends.

Recording on HPUMC YouTube Channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxwHc1E3_YK4W1nHICT5iAA or https://tinyurl.com/t9q8gw6 (Sunday service recording will be posted as early as Sunday at 7:00pm or late as Monday at 7:00pm)

Contact George Joseph at <u>dgjoseph.home@gmail.com</u> or 203.675.3595 if you need help.



SIGN UP TO SERVE

You can now sign up as a cook or server for "Dinner for a \$" using Signup.com. Just click the link or copy into your address bar to volunteer to help at dinner for a dollar. We will send you a reminder of your commitment the week before you are to serve. Help feed families here in the Hamden Community through this important ministry!!

https://signup.com/go/LpLESwA



"A picture is worth a thousand words." Thank you Melissa, Ruby, Derrick and Holly for sending me photos from our worship services and special events. They are such a beautiful and powerful testament to all that is going on at Hamden Plains UMC, we will be using them for the website, bulletin boards, and more. I welcome all photos, so if anyone has some to be included in our HPUMC Photo Ministry, please send them to Nancy Estes at secretary.hpumc@gmail.com.



REPORTERS FOR THE MESSENGER:

We are actively searching for reporters for our monthly Messenger at HPUMC. Their duties consist of reporting and interviewing community leaders, Pastor J and other members of our church, while writing articles on events and happenings throughout the year. These persons will work closely with our Editor and chief Nancy Estes completing articles before monthly deadlines and submitting pictures for editorial. If you are interested please contact Pastor J or Nancy Estes.



Fellowship Time: Sign-up sheets for HPUMC Fellowship Hour 2024 are now on the doors in the narthex Coffee Corner. Thanks so much for your help in making our Fellowship Hours welcoming for both members and guests.



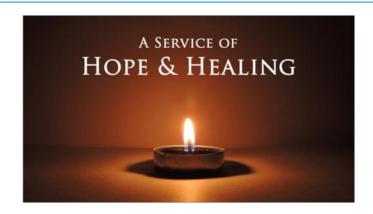


We have entered into a new way of contributing your tithes and offerings

You can now give right through an app on your phone or by scanning the QR code on the right. We will then notify you we received your contribution. www.venmo.com/HamdenPlains-UMC

Any questions please call the office at 203.248.4654





Shoreline/Havens Cooperative Parish Healing Prayer Services
The Rev Cindy Dodd, retired UM Elder, will be offering
intercessory prayer services at 3 churches within our
Cooperative Parish.

All are welcome.

4th Wednesday of Every Month 1:00pm HPUMC Prayer Room

All are invited to join the Prayer Team for lunch at 12:00pm

1st Tuesday of each month, 7pm, at 1st and Wesley UMC, 89 Center Street, West Haven 2nd Wednesday of each month, 1pm Branford UMC, 811 E Main Street, Branford 4th Wednesday of each month, 1pm Hamden Plains UMC, 15 Church Street, Hamden

The HPUMC Prayer Team meets every Wednesday from 11:00am - 12pm
All are welcome to join us.



Our **Prayer Team** meets in its established time: Wednesdays, 11 a.m. - Noon, in the Prayer Room (Nursery). If you are interested in participating, just come! If you want to know more, contact Holly O'Brien at 203.506.4822 or hollyobrien@snet.net.







Cans for Congo:

We want to send a thank you to those of you who have been donating their cans and bottles or receipts from recycling cans and bottles for the

Congo Mission to Mulungwishi Seminary. Please continue to bring in your receipts or cans to support this mission. The collection boxes for receipts and cans are located in the hall outside the offices.



HAMDEN FOOD BANK

always needs your support and contributions to help Hamden residents who are in need. The items

that we need are non-perishable foods and basic necessities, such as, soap, toilet paper, tooth paste, tooth brushes, and diapers. Your generous support will be greatly appreciated.



INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLE PROGRAM

OUR INK CARTRIDGE

RECYCLE PROGRAM will gain us credit toward church office supplies. Please bring them during office hours, Tues. – Fri. 9:15 a..m. – 12:15 p.m., leave them in a bag outside the parking lot door at your convenience, or bring them to Sunday worship.

Thank you for dropping off your used cartridges!!



TO DONATE ALTAR



FLOWERS please contact Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 (Tues.-Fri. mornings)

You may purchase flowers and bring them before Sunday services

or donate \$30. Please make check payable to "HPUMC" memoed "altar flowers" or cash,. Wording may be "in honor of" or "in memory of" and will be listed in the bulletin. You may take the flowers or leave them to be delivered to our home-bound members. Your color preference requests, if any, should be placed with Nancy Estes when ordering. Sign-up on the Flower Chart on the bulletin board out side of the office. Thank you to all who participate in beautifying our altar.



"Dinner for a Dollar"

serves take-out only from 6 – 7 p.m. following Quinnipiack Valley Health District guidelines. Cooking teams work 3 – 5:30 p.m.; serving teams

serve 5:30 – 8 p.m. Meals are "to go" only. To assist <u>ANY Saturday</u> contact Marty Hartog at 203.506.9788 or hartogm1@southernct.edu



The "JUNE Messenger" deadline
is Sunday, May 19
(always the third Sunday of the
preceding month).

NO ARTICLES ACCEPTED AFTER DEADLINE!

Please submit articles electronically (preferred) to secretary.hpumc@gmail.com or hard copy to Nancy at the church office (Tuesday through Friday 9:15 am - 12:15 pm) or by USPS at 15 Church Street, Hamden, CT 06514



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please let the office or Pastor know if prayers are needed



SPECIFIC PRAYER REQUESTS should be called or e-mailed to Nancy Estes at 203.248.4654 or secretary.hpumc@gmail.com or Holly O'Brien (203) 288-4252/ hollyobrien@snet.net

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray without ceasing; give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:17-19

Pam Gripper, infection

Alfreda Piggot's cousin, Shelia Vereen, Breathing issues at St Raphaels Hospital

Lois Hartsoe, heart issues

Holly Wesman, partner of Karen Sroka, cancer

Please pray for our Church daily



PLEASE CONSIDER SENDING A NOTE to any of the folks below who either live alone, have care needs, or both. This is the updated list. Megan Malanson is tracking these contacts. If you make one and would like to report that to Megan, please reach her at megmalanson@yahoo.com. If there is someone you think should be contacted by the pastor, please notify him at pastorij.hpumc@gmail.com.

seed for T

ADDRESSES FOR PEOPLE LIVING ALONE OR WITH CARE NEEDS:

(Some opted not to be on this list: please contact Pastor with corrections.)

Bales, Mary, 33 Woodruff Street, #113, Hamden, 06518

Hartsoe, Lois, 7310 Ashlar Village, Wallingford, 06492

Leno, Pat, 850 Mix Avenue, Hamden, 06514

Morrison, Claudette and Jimmy, 112 East Gate Lane, Hamden, 06514

Raccio, Carmine, 15 Sunrise Cove Road, Branford, 06405

Reynolds, Marianne, 520 Pool Rd. Apt. 424, North Haven, 06473

Shaw, Rosemary, 345 Fountain Street, Apt. 202, New Haven, 06515

Teodosio, Frank, 330 Amity Rd., Woodbridge, 06525

Please keep those serving in the military in your prayers



	<u> </u>	
Sundays	10:00 am– 12:00 pm	Preaching Healing Presbyterian Church
		Korean speaking
	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Iglesias Christiana Spanish Church
Mondays	6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Living Water Bible Study
Tuesdays	7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Hispanic AA
Wednesday	6:30 pm—8:30 pm	Spanish Church Bible Study
Thursdays	7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Men's AA
•	7:30 pm - 9:00 pm	Hispanic AA
4th Saturday	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	AA Spanish Speaking D-10 A-11
Various Days	/Times	Daniel Cohen

	May 5	May 12	May 19	May 26	
		Mothers Day			
Liturgist	Holly O'Brien	Megan Malanson	Preethi Varghese Joseph	Derrick Pommills	
Usher	Randi Harrell	Holly O'Brien	Derrick Pommills	Megan Malanson	
Fellowship Time	Sandra Wade	Shelly Jones	Joseph Family		
Counters	Lynn Brantley Perjah Delgado	Terri Bennett Kersten Moore	Kirby Stafford Marty Hartog	Lynn Brantley Perjah Delgado	



Rev. Dr. Brian Bodt

4th Kelly Cruz

1st

th Mary Bales

Janine Fiorillo

11th Cyrus Knights

19th Elias Joseph

Evan Cordova

22nd Arelyah Paul

22nd Savannah Paul

23rd Harold Estes

27th Al Lanza

Eileen Smith

30th Jeanine Raccio Affie

30th Kersten Moore



22nd Bill & Lorraine Welch 1977 23rd Dennis & Irma Lecza 1992







SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 Prayer Team 11 am	2 SPRC 7:30	3	4 Dinner for a Dollar 6 - 7pm
5 10:15 am Worship	6	7	8 Prayer Team 11 am Women's Group 12:00	9 7:30 p.m. Admin Team	10	11 Dinner for a Dollar 6 - 7pm
12 10:15 am Worship	13	14	15 Prayer Team 11 am	16	17	18 Dinner for a Dollar 6 - 7pm
19 10:15 am Worship Messenger Deadline	20	21	22 Prayer Team 11 am Hope & Healing Prayers 1 pm	23	24	25 Dinner for a Dollar 6 - 7pm
26 10:15 am Worship	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	



MESSENGER 2024

