



POUGHKEEPSIE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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The Journey

SEPTEMBER 2023

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YOUTH MINISTRIES COORDINATOR

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MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

As *Jesus* was walking along, he saw a man called *Matthew* sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

— Matthew 1:9-13

Seeing the potential in a person, place, or situation is a valuable and positive gift. Some people can walk into expansive vistas of space in a house and see all the possibilities waiting to be realized. Other people can see a face staring out of a piece of marble or a hand reaching forth from the surface of a canvas, yet were they to ask me, I would have to admit that all I could see would be canvas, stone, and empty space.

Looking beyond what is, toward not only what might be but what is calling out to be, is a unique gift that, I feel, all positive people possess to some degree. We look around at our world and confidently say things could and should be better. "If only I were in charge," the saying usually goes, "I would put things right!" Seeing in the vast resources of life the ability to make it more abundant and productive.

Indeed, almost every canvas, it turns out, whether it be of stone, cloth, or flesh and blood, has a potential that reaches beyond what is and calls out to what is possible, to what could be. *Jesus* recognized this potential in the twelve when he called them out to be more than what they were. And again in the many who followed after him, even to this day.

As we say a reluctant goodbye to the summer, gearing up for another nine months in "regular mode," we need to ask ourselves what is possible in the next year in the life of PUMC. Do we see the potential of being able to make our Christian ideals more of a reality? Do we see the latent ability in each of us to affect the lives of others around us? Can we gain a holistic vision of life in the *Spirit* that calls forward and begs for a change toward making our world reflect its fullest potential for everyone?

When *Jesus* said "follow me," those who heard could not know that they were in for the ride of their lives, nor could they hope to see that their actions could have had such an impact as to change world history. Can we who hear that same call fully appreciate the potential for a life placed in *God's* hands? Can we see the possibility of another year of *God* using us to transform the world? I don't think we can ever fully discern the hand of *God*, or appreciate the possibility of a new day, but as people who move by faith, we don't have to. I believe that all we need is to follow where the *Spirit* leads, trust in *God*, and be the forward face of *Christ* as we work to bring in the kingdom of *God*.

Yours in *Christ*,
Kregg _____



FEASTING ON FINANCE



God, our provider, in Christ you give us a spring of pure water that overflows to eternal life. Your love and hope fill our hearts, so we want to worship you in Spirit and truth. Open our eyes to see the places in this community where our church's ministries could reach new people. Direct our energies for your purposes and the fulfillment of your mission, so that our community will become like a field ripe for harvest. We ask this through Christ, our risen Lord. Amen

Ephesians 3:20

To him who by means of his power working in us is able to do so much more than we can ever ask for, or even think of: to *God* be the glory in the church and in *Christ Jesus* for all time, forever and ever!

NOW, ON TO FINANCES

From the PUMC Balance Sheet dated July 31, 2023

	Checking		Savings
00540 Non-Restricted	\$66,326.94	00610 Seeds of Strength	\$33,004.70
00541 Restricted	35,275.63		

From the PUMC P&L dated July 31, 2023

Revenues	\$190,801.76
Expenses	232,824.53 *
Net Ordinary Income	-\$42,022.77

* Includes additional, **unbudgeted**, expenses funded with PPP fund

Budget Actual vs Planned

- as of **July 31th** we are 7 months, or **58.3%**, into the 12 month **fiscal year**.
- 48.9% of Total Fiscal Year Revenue, to date.
- 59.7% of Total Fiscal Year Expense, to date

FYI, apportionment payments are paid monthly and are current as of **July 31th**.

SOME OF WHAT YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE LOOKS FORWARD TO IN 2023 INCLUDES

- **Audit of 2022 Church Finances** is complete.
 - Electronic copy of audit was sent to NYAC
 - Paper copy of audit is on file in PUMC Office.
 - o All paper source documents are on file at PUMC
 - o I am exploring electronic storage of the audit + source documents. TBD.
- **Employee Retention Credit (ERC)** is part of the Paycheck Protection Program of the CARES Act. This is a reimbursement credit against part of our employee salaries for CNS, HTASC and PUMC in both 2020 and 2021. Any ERC funds received will be distributed pro-rata to CNS, HTASC & PUMC.
- **2024 Budget** — In September, the Finance Committee will begin developing the 2024 Budget.
- **United Methodist Special Sunday's in 2023**
 - 10-01-2023 World Communion Sunday
 - 11-26-2023 United Methodist Student Day Sunday

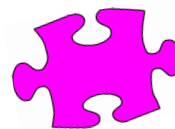
As always, feel free to contact me.

In service,
Will Cass _____
 Finance Committee Chair



STEWARDSHIP

(Beth Borchert)



SPOTLIGHT ON STEWARDSHIP: PIECE # 8 — TIME

If I had a nickel for every time I said, “. . . there just aren’t enough hours in the day to do it all . . .”, I could go on a very nice vacation. Time is a precious commodity. It is important that we be careful stewards of our time. My mother used to play cards – a game called Flinch-with my grandmother every day after work. Some might view this as a waste of time, but I would argue that it was actually very good stewardship of their time. It helped Mom unwind after an often-stressful day. It helped Grandma unwind after fielding the after-school rush with her grandchildren. It helped both Mom and Grandma keep their cognitive skills sharp, as they each tried to formulate a winning strategy. It provided them both the opportunity to talk about world news, church news, neighborhood news and family news. It helped them have a healthy and loving relationship.

I love to hear about how our church members spend their time! A few of us play cards. A lot of us give our time to charitable organizations. A lot of us help individuals in need. A lot of us give our time to the church, whether it is serving on church committees, organizing the newsletter, helping with VBS, helping with the Tubman Academic Skills Center, or any of the multitude of opportunities available right here. What’s that you say, “. . . there just aren’t enough hours in the day to do it all . . .”?

This month I am asking myself, when the “lazy days” of summer are over, how will I spend my time? How about you?

- 1** There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:
 - 2** a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot,
 - 3** a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build,
 - 4** a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance,
 - 5** a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,
 - 6** a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away,
 - 7** a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,
 - 8** a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.

— Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 (NIV)

FITTING TOGETHER OUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP PUZZLE FOR 2023

Pledged giving through July 28, 2023 was \$143,110 or 60.9% of our budget goal (\$235,000). Non-Pledged giving through July 28, 2023 was \$22,579 or 30.1% of our budget goal (\$75,000). Our combined giving was almost 53.4% of our budget goal. Pledged giving continues to stay on track, but it looks like we may have been too optimistic in our non-pledge budget estimate. Even so, we continue to praise God for helping the pieces of our financial stewardship puzzle fall into place! Thank you to all of our faithful givers!

WHETHER OR HOW TO RESPOND TO AN ACT OF HARASSMENT



If you have ever wondered whether to respond, or how to respond when you witness an act of harassment against another person, check out the new book “I’ve Got Your Back,” by *Jorge Arteaga* and *Emily May*. It’s available in the Dismantling Racism Library, located in PUMC’s Lounge. It offers 5 different response techniques, with examples and practice situations, as well as encouragement to become part of the solution to the growing problem of harassment in every form. It is short, easy to understand and offers guidance for evaluating your own safety in these situations.

This book was the vehicle employed in the programs sponsored by the Dutchess County Commission on Human Rights on Bystander Intervention, this past spring.

NOTES FROM THE **CHOIR** ROOM

[*Polly James* — PUMC Choir Director]

“**ALL GOD’S CHILDREN GOTTA PLACE IN THE CHOIR!**” Do you remember that song? Are you singing it now — even in your head? I know you are! There are many versions, but all have the same message —

WE ARE ALL CHILDREN, WE ALL HAVE A PLACE IN THE CHOIR.
SOME SING LOW, SOME SING HIGHER, SOME SING OUT LOUD,
AND SOME JUST CLAP THEIR HANDS.

It seems the summer has flown by, and September is already filling up with important info. First thing I did was to note Choir, Thursday nights at 7pm. Then there is the Joyful Ringers, and we can’t forget our children ringers, the Halo Bells,.

IF YOU WANT TO RING, CONTACT *Pat McCullough*

IF YOU WANT TO SING, CONTACT *Polly James* or any choir member.

IF YOU WANT TO SING WITH THE PRAISE SONGS, CONTACT *Stephen Siktberg*.

IF YOU OR YOUR CHILD WISHES TO SING IN THE CHILDREN’S CHOIR, contact *Angela Soto-White*.

September — new beginnings, new adventures, new friends, much love and fellowship.

HALO BELLS & JOYFUL RINGER

[*Pat McCullough* - Handbell Choir Director]

Handbells will be ringing again in the fall. **Halo Bells** (kids 3rd grade and older) will rehearse after services starting September 17th. **Joyful Ringers** (adults) will rehearse Tuesdays, 6-7pm, starting October 17th. Anyone interested please contact me as soon as possible.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!



CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Church Council met on Wednesday, August 2. Highlights included:

- An outdoor sing-along with refreshments will be held on Saturday, August 26th. All church members are invited to attend.
- Adaptations are being made in the nursery school program. Enrollment has fallen with the implementation of Universal Pre-Kindergarten programs in all school districts.
- A Prayer Room has been established in the former Cribbery. It will provide a private place for members to meet with the Healing Prayer team.
- A new Adult Discipleship program based on the book Coffee with Jesus will meet from 8:45am – 9:30am on Sunday mornings. Barb Adams will serve as the coordinator.
- A new insert is being designed for the bulletins to provide a listing of all church programming leadership.
- *Joseph Norman* will conclude his long tenure as The Journey editor at the end of 2023. *Karyn Milham* will serve as the new editor.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6th. Leaders will be asked to provide a program calendar and present any new proposals.

IT'S TIME FOR FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE!



Fall is coming soon and we're busy making plans for our many activities. Please plan to join us at our Friendship Circle meeting on Monday, September 11th at 1:00PM. It will be held in Fellowship Hall.

We'll start with a brief commemoration of the tragic 9/11 events, led by *Sandy Pullinger*. Our business meeting will focus on plans for our progressive lunch, Fall Festival, Election Day Pie Bake, and community outreach projects.

We'll look forward to seeing you there!

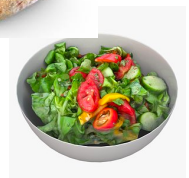
PASTA DINNER



WHEN — Thursday, September 14th, 5pm-7pm

WHERE — Here at PUMC

WHAT — Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Bread, Dessert



On Sunday, September 10th, we will be kicking off the school year (for adults too!) with a gathering after church including a simple brunch, games, a bouncy house (weather permitting), etc. Put it on your calendar and join us for some fun and fellowship!



“AUTUMN FEST” IS COMING

Saturday October 21 10am-2pm , Sunday October 22 (AFTER SERVICE)

ACTIVATE	WHAT	NEEDED BY	CONTACT
“Bake Shoppe”	<p>Suggestions: Cookies (all kinds), Small Fruit Breads, Candy/Fudge, Coffee Cakes; 6” Pies: Pecan, Pumpkin or Apple; Brownies or bar dessert in pan (we will cut & package).</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact us if you need 6” tins. • Please <u>no</u> cupcakes or muffins 	<p>Friday all day or Saturday by 9 am</p>	<i>Cathy Close</i>
“Delicious Dessert Takeout”	<p>Suggestions: Cheese cake, Layer cakes, Apple Crisp, Cream Puffs Pies: Pecan, Pumpkin, Apple or Lemon Meringue; Fancy Dessert Tarts</p>		<i>Arnette Schmidt</i>
“World Famous” Gift Basket	<p>Use your artistry and creative talents to create a gift basket for us. Use your imagination!</p> <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not include perishable items or outdated goods. • Attach an attractive card listing all the basket items. • Call if you need ideas 	<p>October 15</p>	<i>Sandy Pullinger</i>
Hand Made with Love	<p>What have you created that would add to our items? — Baby Quilts, Cell Phone Carriers, Kitchen Items, Cloth Shopping Bags, Bookmarks , Watercolor Paintings, Postcards, Snuggler Bags and many more items.</p> <hr/> <p>Call if you have a question</p>		<i>Anne Bierce</i>
“Jewelry Boutique”	<p>Do you have jewelry that you would like to donate? (Necklaces, earrings, pins, etc). We also need jewelry boxes for earrings, necklaces and pins. Perhaps you have been gifted a special soap or hand lotion you cannot use or a fashionable sheer neck scarf.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A collection box will be placed in the church office and the Narthex on Sundays. • Please include your name and phone number with your jewelry donations. 	<i>Carla Vinson</i>
“Gourmet Bag Lunch”	<p>Yes, a gourmet lunch in a bag for \$10! You get PUMC’s delicious Chicken Salad Croissant, Asian Broccoli Salad & Dessert Bars, lovely napkin and utensils. Buy 2 and have a “luncheon or light supper” with a friend!</p> <hr/> <p>Gluten-free options are available.</p>		<i>Doris Stahl</i>

KIDS' CORNER



Godly, biblical wisdom is more valuable than gold or silver. Make this do-it-yourself toy to practice your searching skills.

What you need:

- 12 small, smooth rocks
- An empty, clean egg carton
- Paintbrush
- Acrylic paint (gold or silver)
- Black permanent marker

What you do:

1. Clean the rocks and egg carton. Place newspaper on a table to protect it from paint.
2. Paint all sides of the rocks and carton. Let dry. Add a second coat, if desired.
3. When rocks are dry, number each rock (1-12) with marker. Place rocks in the carton.
4. Play hide-and-seek with a friend. Take turns hiding the rocks in a room, sandbox or backyard. Give clues, if needed, and count the rocks as they're returned.
5. Use your imagination to incorporate a treasure hunt into study time or family devotions.



A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.



R G S Z M P N B T L W
 V E V I B G R N V R
 I V N V N Y V I B L F
 R M Z O O N B
 K I Z B V I H U L I Z O O
 L U B L F R Z O D Z B H
 K I Z B D R G S Q L B
 K S R O R K K R Z M H

1:3-4, NIV

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV

HEALING PRAYER ROOM



Great news! We now have a dedicated prayer room again. What used to be the Cribbery will now be our Healing Prayer Room. There is new paint, new framed scriptures, a new carpet and LOTS of prayer!

Healing prayer will continue to be offered during Communion, but anyone can come to the prayer room any time for more private prayer. It will be staffed after every Sunday service, and appointments can be made for prayer weekdays. We invite anyone interested in joining our Prayer Team to contact *Vickey Carroll, Lloyd Wright, Pam Terwilliger or Kaye Schrock* for further information. Prayer is powerful . . . Come . . . Pray.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

OUR MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

Barbara Bates, Gladys Bierce, Janet Cole, Ron Cole, Dylan Coughlin, Sandra DeGuzman, Irene Feller, Emily Griess, Betsy Grover, Tom Halloran, Doris Hammell, Sandra Hansen, Gwen Higgins, Pat Hughes, Dick James, Donna Jonnigan, Danny Jones, Betty Longobardi, Julia Miller, Kathleen Nicodemus, Michelle Olavarria, Karla Quinlan, Diana Silverman, Michelle Simonis, Jeff Tryon, Kerianne Wendover, Catherine White, Sarah-Grace White, Marilyn Zier.

FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH

Jonathan Brown, Georgia Kustas-Beurket, Cris and John Burke, Jerry Calvin, Jordan Fidler, Bryan Foy, Tom Humphries, Edgar Martinez, Adonis Marzan, Hilary McAllister, Jean Slater, Wayne Surico, Robert Thompson-Gee, Ronald Tomaso, Jackie Triguero, Clifford Zier.

Also all those impacted by the Coronavirus, and the people in Ukraine.

MEMBERS OF OUR MILITARY (BOTH THE ACTIVE AND/OR RETIRED)

Michael Clear, Staff Sergeant in the Army, stationed in Syria; **Joshua Lord**, 1-69 Infantry Medical Platoon Sergeant, NYC; **Randal Middleton**, Naples, Italy Naval Base, **Major Jason Oliver**, Texas.

DEADLY DEPARTED

Harold E. Veeder, Jr (Hal) left this earthly place for a place of peace on August 6, 2023, surrounded by his beloved family. *Hal* was born in Poughkeepsie on October 19, 1936, the son of *Harold E. Veeder, Sr* and *Mae Knapp Veeder*, both deceased.

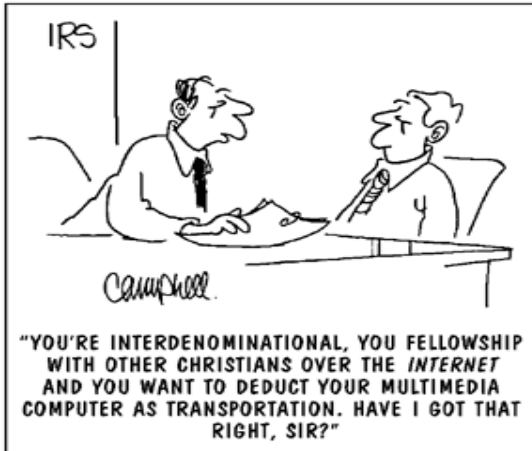
He graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1954 and from the Albany College of Pharmacy in 1958 (and a member of Kappa Psi Fraternity). He received an honorable discharge as a hospital corpsman in the USNR in 1961 and had served at St. Albans Naval Hospital and on the destroyer escorts USS Kyne and USS Snyder. *Hal* earned his private pilot's license in 1962.

He became a Vice-President of Veeder Pharmacy, Inc. in Poughkeepsie and the Town of LaGrange. He left in 1985 to pursue other ventures in his profession. *Hal* served a six-year term on the Board of Directors of Rehabilitation Programs, Inc (now Abilities First). *Hal* was a long-standing member of Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church, starting in Sunday school when it was the Washington Street Methodist Church.

As an environmentalist, *Hal* had a great bond, with the beautiful Hudson River, and animals of any species. He was also a member of the Bardavon, Dutchess Arts Council, Walkway over the Hudson, and a contributor to Dutchess Outreach and food banks. He enjoyed photography, RV traveling, his many cats, maintaining his townhouse on the river and being with family and friends whenever possible.

Survivors include his former wife *Margaret Grey*, two daughters *DeeAnn Veeder (Dave)*, *Cynthia Finley (Brian)*, two sons *Donald Veeder (Ann)*, *Rick Veeder (Donna)*, brother *Gary J. Veeder (Pamela)*, eleven grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren, one niece, one nephew, two grandnieces, two grandnephews.

CHORTLE



THOUGHTS



IF GOD IS YOUR CO-PILOT, SWAP SEATS!

PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU SAID, PEOPLE WILL FORGET WHAT YOU DID, BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL.

CALENDAR

Friday, September 1, 2023	Monday, September 11, 2023	Wednesday, September 20, 2023
	9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 1:00PM FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 7:00PM TED TALK	7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:30PM NANCY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM FINANCE
Saturday, September 2, 2023		
8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS		
Sunday, September 3, 2023	Tuesday, September 12, 2023	Thursday, September 21, 2023
8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 1:00PM SMITH AME SERVICE 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA	1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA	5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR
	Wednesday, September 13, 2023	Friday, September 22, 2023
	THE JOURNEY DEADLINE 7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:00PM SANDY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM SPRC	8:30AM COLLATING/MAILING THE JOURNEY
Monday, September 4, 2023		Saturday, September 23, 2023
LABOR DAY 9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS	Thursday, September 14, 2023	HOMELESS SHELTER EVERGREEN YARD SALE (OUTSIDE) 8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
	5:00PM PASTA DINNER 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR	Sunday, September 24, 2023
Tuesday, September 5, 2023		8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15AM HALO BELLS 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA
1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA	Friday, September 15, 2023	
		Monday, September 25, 2023
Wednesday, September 6, 2023	Saturday, September 16, 2023	9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS
7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:30PM NANCY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM CHURCH COUNCIL	8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS	Tuesday, September 26, 2023
Thursday, September 7, 2023	Sunday, September 17, 2023	1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA
5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM CHOIR	8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 11:15AM HALO BELLS 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA	Wednesday, September 27, 2023
Friday, September 8, 2023		7:30AM MORNING PRAYERS 12:00PM MEDITATIVE MOMENTS (ZOOM) 1:00PM SANDY'S BIBLE STUDY 7:00PM TRUSTEES
	Monday, September 18, 2023	Thursday, September 28, 2023
Saturday, September 9, 2023	9:00AM MONDAY STUDY GROUP 6:30PM POUGH GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 7:00PM RADIO CONTROL CLUB	5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM EVANGELISM & CHURCH GROWTH 7:00PM CHOIR
8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS 12:00PM DAR		Friday, September 29, 2023
Sunday, September 10, 2023	Tuesday, September 19, 2023	
RALLY DAY 8:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE 8:45AM ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00AM IN-PERSON & STREAMING SERVICE 10:00AM CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL 2:00PM PARKSIDE AA	1:00PM ARTS & CRAFTS GROUP 5:30PM PRIMARY PURPOSE AA 7:00PM DISMANTLING RACISM	Saturday, September 30, 2023
		8:30AM GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS