

Jefferson United Methodist Church 125 East Jefferson Street Jefferson, OH 44047 440-576-4561 jeannie@jeffersonumc.com ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED Non Profit Org US POSTAGE PAID Jefferson, OH 44047 Permit #7

Office hours are from 9:00 to 2:30. Monday thru Friday

Our Mission: To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

JUNE 2021

Volume 84



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

"Little children, let us love, not in work or speech, but in truth and action." (1 John 3:18)

A few weeks ago May 13 was listed on the Christian calendar as "Ascension Day." That is a day that comes after Easter and before Pentecost Sunday. It reminds us of Jesus "ascending" to heaven. And as we find in the closing chapter of Matthew 28, before he left, he gave clear instructions to the disciples which we now call the "Great Commission" to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:16-20). And this is our "commission" as today we are called to be a "go and see" church in combination with being a "come and see" church.

Daily reaching out to others with compassion, love, and concern, should be as natural as breathing. Giving hands and feet to God's love is what God's children are supposed to do. And to do so without advertising it, but as acts of humble service. There is a wonderful Jewish legend that illustrates this in a beautiful way:

There is a Jewish Talmudic tradition that teaches the "Legend of the Just "— or in Hebrew the "Lamed-Vav Tzadikim". "Lamed" is Hebrew for 30; "Vav" is six, so these are the "36-ers, the 36 humble, righteous ones, also known as "The Concealed Ones." The Legend of the Just states that at any time there are at least 36 righteous people on earth, those upon whom God's radiance rests. In what sounds like a remix of God's deal with Abraham and Sodom and Gomorrah — you remember, if Abraham could find ten righteous inhabitants the cities would be spared — these 36 "tzadikim" function as the safety on God's trigger finger. As long as there are these 36 righteous ones upon the earth, God will stay his hand from punishing the planet for its wickedness and waywardness.

The most remarkable thing about these "righteous ones", these "tzadikim", is that they have no inkling that they are "tzadikim". That's why they're known as "The Concealed Ones." They are simple men and women living a simple life inscribed, proscribed, and transcribed by a love of God so great that it spreads that love everywhere, every day, every way. Proof positive that you are not one of these righteous ones is if you proclaim your righteousness.

The Legend of the Tzadikim also asserts that the Tzadikim don't know each other, and if they do discover another Tzadikim they will die. From this tradition comes the teaching that every Jew is called to live humble, unobtrusive, dedicated, compassionate lives – to live as if they could be one of the Tzadikim, yet to live without ever professing any special righteousness for oneself.

Could you be one of the Tzadikim? Could you be one of the "Concealed Ones?" Might one of more of the Tzadikim be part of our church family? Hmmm...

Pastor Doug

MOVING ON FROM THE PANDEMIC

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Before you read further, this is not to say the pandemic is over, because it is not! However, things ARE changing for the better, demonstrated by changing health requirements for masks and distancing. We continue to closely follow those changing rules as we work to keep folks safe whenever we gather in groups.

What has not changed? For fully vaccinated folks, distancing and masking are optional in many settings, including our church; those who are not yet comfortable making changes should continue to abide by their comfort zone. We've kind of gotten used to those rules. If you are not vaccinated, we encourage you to continue to mask and distance.

On an incredibly positive note, read on. There was barely a ripple in the occurrence of flu this past season, due to mask wearing, hand washing and distancing. This is an important lesson for us all to remember when that season returns vet again.

Our hand sanitizers in the church building contain Purell and the dispensers work with a little encouragement and patience. It may take 2-3 passes to get enough gel due to the consistency but be patient and it will come. Remember, hand washing with soap and water (warm is best but not essential) is always preferred over using sanitizer. Germs are banished by the use of soap, which breaks down the protective layers of germs, friction, covering all skin surfaces, and water, which washes them down the drain - all done for 20 seconds which is Happy Birthday sung 2 times. Sanitizer should be reserved for times when soap and water are not available. Sanitizers kill good as well as bad germs, which can contribute to germs that are resistant to antibiotics. Last word on this: beware - the word "germ" covers two different organisms - bacteria and viruses. Many products say, "Kills 99% of bacteria", which means it may not kill viruses. Look for the listing of what the sanitizer kills - "human coronavirus" is what you are looking for- it doesn't have to say COVID-19.

If you have not yet been vaccinated, there are many places to receive the shot(s) including Ashtabula County Health Department, Drug Mart, Walgreens, Giant Eagle, Walmart, and CVS. Call to find out how to get an appointment - some use online, others by phone appointment or just walk in at certain times. Longer term use of the vaccines continues to yield very limited substantiated reactions. Use official infectious diseases sources for reliable information - my go to source continues to be Dr. Fauci. Remember in this age of the internet, there are many unreliable sources of unsupported information. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact me for further discussion.

Plans for our Health Ministry this year will include sessions on Advanced Health Care Directives – if you would like more information, please contact me by email: marthahaluszka@gmail.com. Martha Haluszka, Health Ministry

WORSHIP NEWS

We have been blessed over the last fourteen months of the virus to offer a Sunday morning worship experience in various locations and in a variety of ways. From live stream only, to the parking lot last summer, to in-person in the sanctuary, and back to live stream only, thanks to our worship team and ministry team we have continued to remain open and connected to each other and with the Lord.

Now as the virus situation improves, here are some new updates for worship plans for the Sundays to come:

- We will continue with one Sunday morning service at 9:30 a.m. throughout the summer.
- We will worship at 9:30 outdoors on the last Sunday of each month June, July-August. We will worship under the shade trees on the west side of the church.
 Bring a lawn chair or park right across the street from the village park.
- "Change the World" noisy offering will be taken on the last Sunday of each month.
- There will be light refreshments for a social time each Sunday morning after the service.
- Masks and distancing are no longer required but a few pews are still marked for those who do need distance.
- Hugs and handshakes permitted if the other person welcomes it.
- Communion will be served up front individually as each person comes forward.
 Small cups in trays and small pieces of bread handed to each person (served with gloves).
- Live stream will still be available every Sunday.
- Even though the virus is still a part of our life, we continue to praise God who has helped our church make it this far with "Faith over Fear!"

Verse of the day

From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. - John 1:16

Voice of the day

Death is what takes place within us when we look upon others not as gift, blessing, or stimulus but as threat, danger, competition.

- Dorothee Sölle, The Inward Road and the Way Back (2003)

Prayer of the day

Patient God, awaken us to the many ways you have shown us grace and help us to see others through your eyes.

* * * * *

BOOK CIRCLE FOR 2021

June - <u>Across the Winding River</u> by Aimie K. Runyan

July - Inspired by Rachel Held Evans

This is the list of the books for the daytime book circle for the next 2 months. We will meet next on **Thursday**, **June 10 at noon** at Kathy Housel's--outside. Bring your lunch, a mask & your drink. If you have suggestions for the months after July, bring them to the group in June. Keep reading!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICE

A Celebration of Life service will be held for former Jefferson resident **Clifford Currier** on Saturday, June 5 at 11:00 a.m. at our Jefferson United Methodist Church.

There will be a luncheon and fellowship time in Wesley Hall following the celebration. All family and friends are invited to attend.



VANCO (Online Giving) Users...

If you have used the church's online giving website (VANCO) and want to check to see how much you have given or change your account settings, you can do that.

From your Vanco Online account, you can review your giving history, manage recurring donations or update payment information.

- Go to the JUMC website: www.jeffersonumc.com
- 2. Scroll down to the big green "Give" button and click it
- 3. Log in using your email and password
- Click on "Profile". If you have scheduled any payments, they will be visible on the screen
 - To check the payments you have made, select "History" (if you want to print it, right-click on the screen and select "print")
 - To add or change your payment methods, select "Payment Methods"
 - c. To view or change your account settings, select "Profile Settings"
- 5. Log out when finished

I AM A CHRISTIAN

When I say that "I am a Christian," I am not shouting that "I am clean living." I'm whispering, "I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say, "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian," I'm not trying to be strong I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian" I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon His name.

When I say "I am a Christian" I'm not holier than thou. I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!





(If you'd like your birthday listed, just call the church office.)

		the church office.)
June	1	Mark Brail
	3	Sarah Claypool
	5	Betty Parker
		Elaine Greenlee
	6	Don Robinson
	7	Dan Claypool
	9	Delores Miller
	13	Mackenzie O'Neill
	18	Deanna Blough
	20	Heather Burns
	22	Jarod Collins
		Michael Stevenson
	23	Gregg Leary
		Jaime Ebersole
		Eileen Arrington
	25	Esther Blevins
		Deann Wendell
		Molly Lehnert
	26	Terry Smith
		Cathy Bishop
	27	Buzz Sly
	29	Cathy Poremba
		Lisa Ebersole
	30	Paul Shelko
		Jodi Bishop
		Ashley Lehnert

Children and Family Ministry

Upcoming Summer Events!!

1. Summer Bible Reading Bingo or Running the Race Reading Plan The idea is to help kids open their Bible every day And read a little about God. Each time they read a Bible story, They will put a sticker on that space (or mark it with an X). When they have "bingoed" (5 across, down or diagonally) You win a prize!

Fill a whole sheet and win again PLUS be entered to win an even bigger prize!! Bring your sheet to church or snap a pic and send it to 440-563-8758.

2. VBS IS COMING!!!!!!
Watch for more info. We are planning
Our VBS for July!

Big Important News!!
We need YOU!!

Volunteers needed for Nursery, Junior Church (Spark) and VBS

Let Lisa Know how you want to help us get back to our children's programming!! 440-563-8758

We are really excited about our summer plans and even more excited to get Back to Sunday School in September!!

Children and Family Ministry Team is looking for new people to help!!

One more thing....

We are looking for tech help too. Let the Ebersole's know if you want to learn how to Livestream our service or work in the tech booth.

RUNNING the RACE

SUMMER Reading Plan

Life — and exercise — move at different paces for different people.

Some enjoy leisurely walks, strolls or rolls, while others speed-walk, jog or even sprint. Some people have a 26.2 sticker on their vehicle, indicating they've run a marathon, while others boast of running a half-marathon (13.1) or no marathon (0.0)!

Thankfully, you don't have to be an athlete of any kind to run the Christian "race." The Bible uses running metaphors, however, to encourage followers of Jesus to train, focus, persevere and attain the heavenly prize. Use this Summer Reading Plan to strengthen your faith and your relationship with Jesus. Complete one square each day or every other day, and you'll journey through significant chunks of the New Testament this summer. Feel free to invite a friend or family member to join you as a



Mile 1 Read Philippians 1
Re-read verse 6 and consider how
your faith journey is a work in progress.

Mile 3 Read Philippians 3
Look back at verses 13 and 14, and brainstorm a list of ways to keep your eyes on the heavenly "prize."

Mile 5 Read Colossians 1
Re-read verse 11. Name three
specific ways God gives you strength
and endurance.

Mile 7 Read Colossians 3 Look back at verses 23 and 24. What keeps you running for God, not for other people or for personal accolades?

Mile 9 Read 1 Timothy 1
Doodle about how God's law keeps
you from wandering away from him.

Mile 11 Read 1 Timothy 3
What aspects of staying "above reproach" are most challenging for you as a follower of Jesus?

Mile 13 Read 1 Timothy 5 Anonymously perform a kind deed for someone in your family or community.

Mile 15 Read 2 Timothy 1
Describe specific ways your life reveals a spirit of power, a spirit of love and a spirit of self-discipline.

Mile 17 Read 2 Timothy 3 Add a daily Bible-reading time to your spiritual training regimen.

Mile 19 Read James 1 Look back at verse 12. Reflect on how God has kept his promises to you. How does that help you during times of trial?

Mile 21 Read James 3
Re-read verses 17 and 18. Pray for godly wisdom as you continue your faith journey.

Mile 23 Read James 5
After re-reading verse 19, think of ways to reach out to people who have wandered away from God.

Mile 25 Read John 20:1-18
Consider how the good news of Jesus' resurrection gives you reasons to run and share the Gospel message.

Mile 2 Read Philippians 2 Re-read verse 5 and pray to have the same attitude as Jesus.

Mile 4 Read Philippians 4 Write verse 13 on a sticky note and place it where you'll see it daily.

Mile 6 Read Colossians 2
Review verses 6 and 7, make a gratitude list and say a prayer of thanks to God.

Mile 8 Read Colossians 4 Write a note or letter to someone who needs spiritual encouragement.

Mile 10 Read 1 Timothy 2
Re-read verses 5 and 6. Offer praise to Jesus for being our mediator and ransom — and for running the race perfectly for us.

Mile 12 Read 1 Timothy 4
As you exercise, ponder verse 8 and brainstorm ways to build your spiritual muscles.

Mile 14 Read 1 Timothy 6
Review verses 11 and 12. In what ways might faith be viewed as a fight? To whom have you made bold profession of your faith?

Mile 16 Read 2 Timothy 2
Re-read verse 5. The next time you participate in or watch a sporting event, compare the value of God's "victor's crown" to earthly achievements.

Mile 18 Read 2 Timothy 4
Memorize verse 7. Think about people you know who have already "finished the race." How can their example strengthen you?

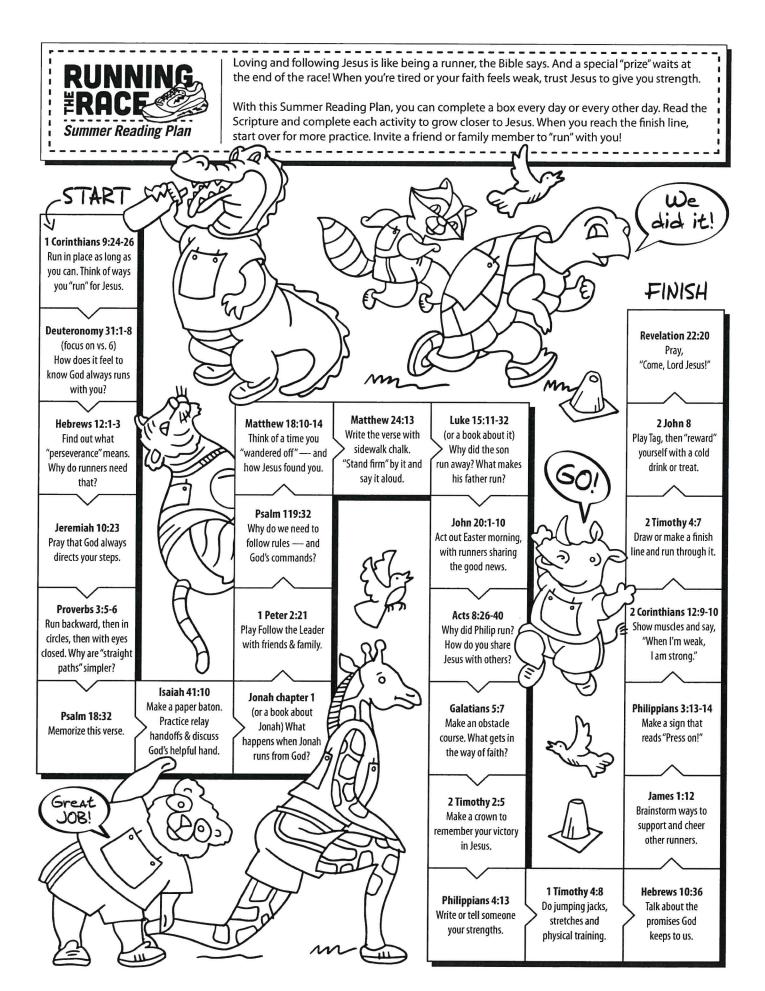
Mile 20 Read James 2 Put your faith into action today by meeting someone's needs.

Mile 22 Read James 4
Review verse 8. Confess your sins to God and ask him to come near you.

Mile 24 Read Luke 15:11-32 When have you run away from God? What brought you back? When have you seen proof of God running toward you (see verse 20, as well as James 4:8)?

Mile 26 Read 1 John 1 Re-read verse 7. Write "Walk in the Light" on a sticky note, and place it by a lamp or light switch.

Mile 26.2 Read Revelation 2:10 Praise God aloud: "Come, Lord Jesus!"



NOTE FOR PARENTS

Welcome to Summer Bible Reading Bingo! This is a resource for preschool and elementary children that will help them read their Bible during the summer and stay connected with God. This resource is designed to help children develop a daily quiet time with God that includes reading their Bible and getting to know God through His Word. It will help them learn how to use their Bible, learn more Bible stories, learn more about God, and will also help them with their reading skills.

What does this include?

This resource includes 4 Summer Bible Reading Bingo cards. Each age group (preschool and elementary) has 2 Summer Bible Reading Bingo cards. Each card is meant to last for a month. One month kids will read Old Testament Scriptures and the other month they will read New Testament Scriptures.

Preschool Bingo Cards

In each Bingo square for preschoolers, you will find a title of a Bible story. These titles match the ones found in the Beginner's Bible by Zonderkidz (if you don't own this Bible, you can use any preschool Bible. I have also included the Scripture it comes from in the space as well). Parents will read a Bible story to their child each day.

Elementary Bingo Cards

In each Bingo square for elementary kids (K-5th grade or 5-years - 11-years), you will find a Bible verse and a title that tells what the verses are about. Kids can open their Bibles, find the verses, and read them by themselves or with a parent.



SUMMER BIBLE READING BIBLE READING

Matthew **14:13-21**

JESUS FEEDS 5000

Acts

2:42-47

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE BELIEVERS

1 Corinthians 13:4-13

LOVE

John 21:1-14

JESUS & THE MIRACULOUS CATCH OF FISH Acts 12:1-19

PETER ESCAPES
FROM PRISON

Luke 19:1-10

ZACCHAEUS

Colossians 3:12-17

FORGIVENESS

Luke 10:38-42

MARTHA & MARY

Mark 4:35-41

JESUS CALMS THE STORM

John 3:1-21

JESUS TEACHES Nicodemus

Matthew 21:1-11

JESUS COMES TO JERUSALEM AS KING Ephesians 6:10-20

THE ARMOR OF GOD

FREE SPACE

Acts 2:1-13

THE HOLY SPIRIT

Luke 22:7-23

THE LAST SUPPER

Luke 12:22-34

DO NOT WORRY

Matthew 5:43-47

LOVE FOR ENEMIES

Acts 3:1-10

PETER HEALS A LAME BEGGAR John 2:1-12

JESUS CHANGES WATER INTO WINE Luke **24:1-12**

JESUS HAS RISEN

Matthew 2.1.12

THE MAGI VISIT

Acts 9:1-19

SAUL'S CONVERSION

Luke 2:41-52

THE BOY JESUS AT THE TEMPLE

Mark 6:45-56

JESUS WALKS ON WATER

Matthew 6:5-15

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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NEW TESTAMENT

SUMMER BIBLE READING

PRESCHOOL

Jesus Feeds Thousands

MARK 6:30-44

A Short

Man

LUKE 19:1-10

The First Church

ACTS 2:42-47

The Holy

Spirit Comes

ACTS 2

Jesus is Risen!

LUKE 24:1-11

Mary & Martha

LUKE 10:38-42

FREE

SPACE

Washing the Disciples' Feet & The Last Supper

JOHN 13:1-17 & LUKE 22:7-19

Jesus is Lost!

LUKE 2:41-52

Man

ACTS 3:1-10

Jesus' First

Miracle

MATTHEW 8:23-27 Jesus is The Lame

Arrested & Crucified

Earthquake

in Prison

ACTS 16:16-40

Jesus Calms

the Storm

JOHN 18 & 19

An Angel **Visits Mary**

LUKE 1:26-38

A Poor

Widow's

Gift

MARK 12:41-44

The Lord's Prayer

MATTHEW 6:5-15

Baby Jesus is Born & **Shepherds Visit**

LUKE 2:1-20

JOHN 2:1-12

A Net Full of Fish & Jesus Goes to Heaven

JOHN 21:1-14 & MATTHEW 28:16-20

Jesus is **Coming!**

REVELATION 21:1-4

Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar

JOHN 9:1-12

Man

A Changed

ACTS 9:1-19

The Bright Star & Three Visitors & **An Angry King**

MATTHEW 2:1-23

Lazarus Lives Again

JOHN 11:1-44

The Good

Samaritan

LUKE 10:25-37

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OLD TESTAMENT

SUMMER BIBLE READING



ELEMENTARY

Exodus 2:1-10

1 Kings 17:7-24

Psalm 100:1-5

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Samuel 3:1-21

BIRTH OF MOSES

ELIJAH & THE WIDOW

GRATEFUL PRAISE

ISAIAH'S COMMISSION

THE CALL OF SAMUEL

Genesis 18:1-15

Proverbs 3:1-3

1 Samuel 25:1-39

Jeremiah 29:11-13

Judges 4:1-10

THE THREE VISITORS

Wisdom & Trust

DAVID, NABAL & ABIGAIL GOD HAS PLANS FOR YOU

DEBORAH

Exodus 13:17-14:31

THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA 2 Kings 5:1-15

NAAMAN HEALED OF LEPROSY

FREE SPACE Genesis 12:1-9

THE CALL OF ABRAM

Psalm 23

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD

Daniel 3:1-30

THE FIERY FURNACE

1 Samuel 1:1-20

THE BIRTH OF SAMUEL

1 Kings 19:1-18

ELIJAH FLEES TO HOREB

Ruth 1:1-

RUTH & NAOMI

Joshua 6:1-20

THE FALL OF JERICHO

Psalm 18:1-3

THE LORD IS MY ROCK

Genesis 1:1-31

THE BEGINNING

Exodus 3:1-20

MOSES & THE BURNING BUSH Joshua

2:1-24

RAHAB & THE SPIES

1 Samuel

17

DAVID & GOLIATH

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OLD TESTAMENT

SUMMER BIBLE READING



PRESCHOOL

A Baby in a Basket

EXODUS 2:1-10

Deborah Leads the Way

JUDGES 4

Jonah & the

Big Fish

JONAH 1-3

The Brave **Oueen**

ESTHER

A Voice in the Night

1 SAMUEL 3

Naaman is Healed

2 KiNGS 5:1-15

David & Goliath

1 SAMUEL 17

Adam & Eve & The Sneaky Snake

GENESIS 2-3

FREE SPACE

King David

2 SAMUEL 2:1-7

Joshua & the Spies

& The Battle of

Jericho

JOSHUA 2 & 6

Joseph's Colorful Robe

GENESIS 37

Noah's Ark

Ruth &

Naomi

RUTH 1-4

Elijah Helps

a Widow

1 KINGS 17:8-16

GENESIS 6-9

Daniel & the Lions

DANIEL 6

The Wise

King

1 KiNGS 3:1-15

Ten Commandments

EXODUS 20

Food from Heaven

EXODUS 16

Samson

JUDGES 13 & 16

Hannah's Prayer

1 SAMUEL 1:1-20

The Burning Bush

EXODUS 3

The Beginning

GENESIS 1

Fiery Furnace

DANIEL 3

A New Home & The **Visitors**

GENESIS 12 & 18

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Jun 2021 (Eastern Time - New York) 12 26 8:30am - Stephen 1pm - Youth Conf **Currier Memorial** East Ohio Conf Juneteenth 11 18 25 7 East Ohio Conf Fri က 10 24 7:30pm - 30 @ 30 Mens 7:30pm - Mens Group 3pm - Quilters Thu East Ohio Conf 30 23 9:30am - Bible & 9:30am - Bible & 9:30am - Bible & 9:30am - Ministry Team | 9:30am - Bible & 9:30am - Ministry Team | 9:30am - Bible & Wed East Ohio Conf 9:30am - Ministry Team 9:30am - Ministry Team 9:30am - Ministry Team 22 4pm - Christian Cafe @ 4pm - Christian Cafe @ 11:30am - Team Talk 21 28 12pm - Blood Drive 11am - Finance Mon Jefferson UM Church, Holidays in United States Office Closed Memorial Day 13 27 9 9:30am - Worship 9:30am - Worship 9:30am - Worship 9:30am - Worship 9:30am - Outdoor Father's Day