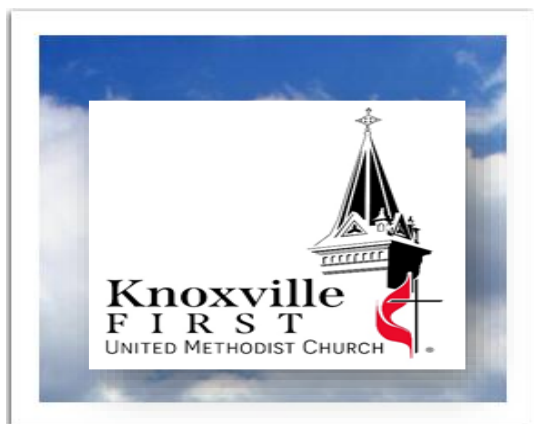


The Link: Connected in Christ

September 2023



Our Mission: “Bring People to Christ”

Church Service Times

**Saturday Chapel
Worship 5:00 PM,
in-person worship**

**Sunday Sanctuary
Worship 9:30 AM,
in-person worship.**

**Sunday Children's
Church 10 AM**

**Live Worship
Streamed Online
Sunday 9:30 AM
YouTube and KNIA**

**Radio Worship
Worship with us via
the radio at 1320 AM,
95.3 FM or 94.3 FM at
9:30 AM. on Sundays.**



Strength for the Day

Ah, September! The beginning of all good things. The kids are back in school. Football is back on the telly. And as a church family, we are about to start --- The Story! The wonderful 31 week trek through the Bible --- the greatest love story of all time!

Starting September 10 Rally Sunday, I hope you'll join others in Sunday morning worship and again Tuesday evenings from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the West Fellowship Hall to hear, discuss, and learn The Story and your place in it. Ultimately, I hope you'll become so enthused about The Story that you'll want to share it with others!

Last week in worship we talked about the Upper Story, the Lower Story, and Your Story. The Upper Story is the Big Picture of God's word, the Bible, to us. Let me share with you a little of the "Upper Story" to help prepare you for this year.

The Bible is the self-communication of God --- to people --- to you and me. It is the self-revelation of God's mind, God's will, God's purpose and plan ---- and most importantly, God's infinite and relentless love for the world and all of humankind He has created.

The Bible is the quintessential love story in all of history. It's the story of a love so strong that it found expression in creating something and someone to love. It's the story of love lost, spurned, rejected. A story of a pursuing and protecting love that cares for, and promises to save, the one loved. A love story that can have a beautiful --- or a tragic ending, for each person who reads it.

So. How did this story come to be then? How did we receive the Bible --- this written word of God? What exactly is it --- this book?

Or, more precisely --- Book of books. You see, the Bible is a library ---- it contains almost every literary genre you'd care to read ---- historical documentary, narratives, poetry, letters, apocalyptic, parables, songs, sermons, wisdom sayings, and more, displayed in sixty-six separate writings, or "books", written over a period of between 1,000 and 1,500 years, depending upon which Biblical scholars you choose to believe.

Its authors include everyone from fisherman to Kings to judges and priests, shepherds and prophets, doctors and tax collectors, missionaries, prisoners and exiles.

The Bible is composed of two "Testaments" --- the Old and the New. A quick look at each.

The Old Testament: From its beginning account of our creation to have a loving and dependent relationship with God ---- and our free choice to reject this relationship --- the Old Testament is the story of God's never-ending love-in-action to keep his promise to reconcile us with Him. Beginning with the person of Abraham, a man chosen because of his faith to be the recipient of God's plan for the world's salvation ---- it is the story of God's choosing and growing and forming a nation of slaves into priests --- a nation who would carry, represent, and ultimately give birth to ---- the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation, in the person of Jesus Christ ---- the Son of God.

It tells the story of God's chosen people and their un-ending and unsuccessful struggle to live faithfully and consistently in a right relationship with their Creator. It also tells the story of the infinite faithfulness of God shown to his people, and His willingness and ability to use imperfect, and sometimes improbable, people to accomplish His perfect plan of salvation.

The New Testament was written in a very compressed time span compared to the Old, with all the books completed roughly between 50 and 100 A.D. It describes the fulfillment of God's promise and way of salvation for the world in the person and work of Jesus. It documents the grace-filled life, sacrificial and atoning death, and victorious resurrection of God's Son ---- it describes the beginning and spread of the early church throughout the known world ----- it shares letters from various church leaders to the first congregations about how to live a life of faithful discipleship in an often times "harsh" world ---- and ends with a final encouraging note of hope and assurance that God is in control, and that his power and love for us will ultimately prevail over the Evil in this world.

What a great Story! Don't miss it! Peace, Pastor Jamie Cutler

RALLY SUNDAY

September 10th, 2023

Breakfast 8:30-9:30am

Breakfast Sandwiches, Fruit, and Drinks

Worship Service 9:30am

**Join us for a fun upbeat service,
featuring new music from our
Praise Band, a short Readers
Theater presentation, and a
special interactive sermon from
Pastor Jamie.**



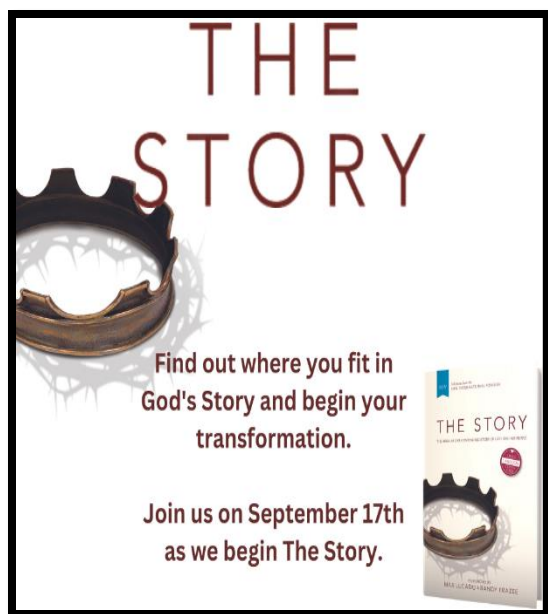
Join us on September 13th at 6:30pm in the Chapel for The Gathering

All are welcome to gather with us. Come just as you are.

Discover God's love, peace, healing, and forgiveness as we worship together through music, stories, bible lessons, prayer, and more.

What is "The Gathering"?

The Gathering is a new worship experience being offered every other Wednesday night at 6:30pm in the chapel. The hope is that this service will get the Spirit moving among us as we explore different ways to pray, build relationships with each other, hear how God and the Spirit are working in our lives, while leaning on scripture to guide us. Music will vary by session. We may sing old hymns, new worship songs, or even occasionally secular songs that go with the message for the evening. Each service will be interactive and a sensory experience, so don't expect to just sit and listen. We will be interacting with each other and with the message. The service is designed to go 30-45 minutes but there may be times the Spirit takes us to an hour. We hope that you will join us September 13 at 6:30pm to experience "The Gathering".



Join us on September 17th as we begin "The Story"

Throughout this 31 week journey, we will learn the Upper Story of the Bible, salvation, and the Lower Story, the individual characters and stories in the biblical narrative.

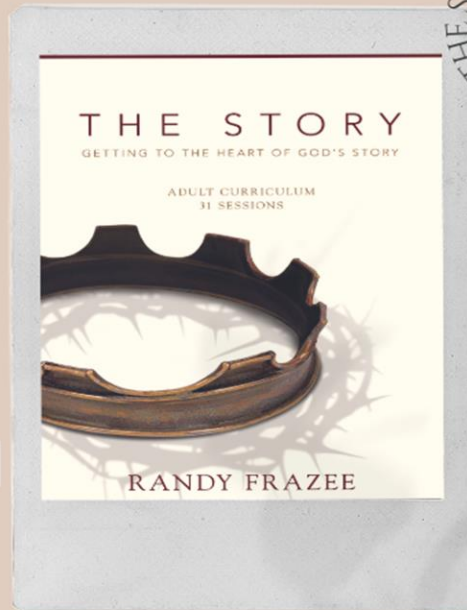
This will be a transformational experience as we read the Bible in a new way and learn where we fit into The Story and how we, as God's people, are called to be the light in the world and bring people to Christ through our everyday lives.

You can pick up your copy of The Story in the Narthex for only \$5. Childrens, Youth & Teen Story books are available to order online at www.christianbook.com.

***Do you want to dig deeper
into The Story?***

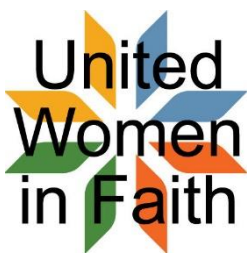
*Join us on Tuesday's
beginning **September 19th**
at 6:30pm for group
discussion and deeper study
into The Story.*

*The Story
Adult Group Study
Tuesdays at 6:30pm
beginning September 19th
At KFUMC, downstairs in the
Fellowship Hall*



THE STORY LIFE GROUPS
+

WWW.KFUMC.COM/THESTORY



Freedom House Speaker

United Women in Faith general meeting will be on September 7 at 6:00 p.m. There will be a light supper then a speaker from Freedom House. Freedom House is a restoration home in the Pella area which provides refuge for girls who have been sexually exploited. You don't have to be a member of UWFaith to come to this meeting. If you plan on coming, please let Kitty Shepherd (641-891-7590) know by Sept. 4th.

Men's Breakfast and Guy Stuff!



If you're man enough to eat pancakes, eggs, and sausage for breakfast, you're man enough to join the guys of the church at Mrs. D's on Saturday, September 16, from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

We'll have breakfast, a devotion, and then some discussion about how often we'd like to get together to do things, and what those things might be.

A possible "thing" this fall might be to use our façade grant money from the city to DIY replace the deteriorating siding on the garage at the Outdoor Life Center with thin-brick.

Please watch the DIY video at the link provided before September 16 and we'll talk about what you think about it over breakfast. See you then!

https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=561969515&tbm=vid&q=Brickwebb+thin+brick+sheets+installation&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiLmf7-YmBAxWWj4kEHftLABkQ1QJ6BAqJEA&biw=1920&bih=963&dpr=1#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:b7068aeb,vid:2ECGaX-BB-k

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Happenings



School has started and we are getting ready to begin our fall programming. I am very excited about the programs we will be offering this fall as we will have something for everyone from preschool through seniors in high school. If you have any questions on any of our upcoming programming, please contact me at lpetersen@kfumc.com.

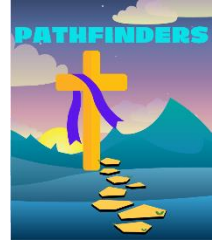
Children's Church

Children's Church will begin on Sunday, September 17th and will be from 10-10:30am (right after Children's Time). Our curriculum is designed for preschool and early elementary kids. We will be following Pastor Jamie's sermon series on The Story, using the book The Story for Children. We will also be collecting an offering during Children's Church and the kids will get to help decide which charity the money will go towards.



Pathfinders

This group of 3rd-5th graders will meet every other week beginning October 4th. They will meet at the church on Wednesdays from 3:45-5pm. We have transportation available to pick up the kids from Northstar Elementary and bring them to the church. Our lessons focus on a range of fun activities including bible stories, devotions, games, team building, service, and more. This is open to any 3rd – 5th graders, encourage your kids to invite a friend! Please let me know if your child will attend by September 27th so we can plan for transportation.



Living Way Youth Group



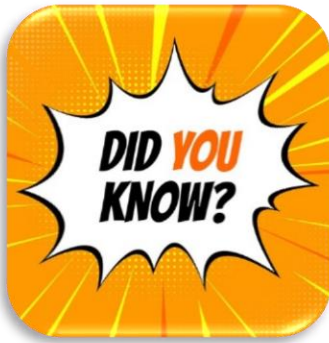
Our Youth Group is comprised of youth grades 6-12. They will meet on the first and third Sunday of the month from 5-7pm. Our first meeting will be on October 1st. Our Living Way Youth will enjoy team building, games, devotions, and more!

MSPS/KFUMC Family Movie Night

Join us on October 7th (time TBA) for a fun family movie night. We will have popcorn, treats, and drinks and enjoy watching a family friendly movie in our new Outdoor Family Life Center (will move inside if needed due to weather). More details to come!



For a complete listing of program dates and details, visit our website at
<https://kfumc.com/childrens-youth-and-families/>. Blessings, Lauren





Did you know that Montgomery Street Preschool (MSPS) has been a valued ministry of our church for 50 plus years?

Starting in the early 1970's as Mom's Morning Out, the preschool evolved and moved into the church building in the early 80's when the name was changed to Montgomery Street Preschool. It became state licensed in 1993 and moved to its second floor location in 2003. Montgomery Street Preschool (MSPS) is the only faith based preschool remaining in Knoxville and is the only 2 year old preschool program in Marion County. MSPS prides itself on small class sizes with two teachers in each room. Classes are available for 2, 3, and 4/5 year olds. Developing the whole child through hands on learning and experiences is what makes MSPS special. Tuition for MSPS pays our teacher salaries. Donations to MSPS, both monetary and items, are always accepted and your church giving can be directed to MSPS. We hope that MSPS will be part of our church for another 50 years or more!

Montgomery Street Preschool
Donation List for the
2023/2024 School Year:

- 5 oz dixie cups
- 100% Juice bottles
- Clorox/Lysol wipes
- Markers
(washable 8 or 10 count, fine tip & normal)
- Thin paper plates both large and small
- Paper towels
- All purpose cleaner
- Napkins
- Liquid Hand Soap Refills
- Nilla Wafers or Graham crackers
- Goldfish/Cheezit crackers
- Fruit Loops, Apple Jacks, Cocoa Puffs
- Canned fruit or applesauce

**Jesus said "Let the little children come to me
and do not forbid them..." Matthew 19:14**



Welcome to the New MSPS Staff!

Join us in welcoming Carey Liston and Chelsea Kingery to the MSPS staff for the 2023/2024 school year!

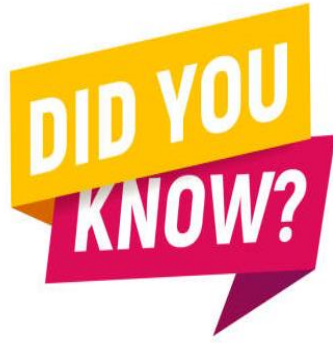


My name is Ms. Carey. My husband, Jay and I moved to Knoxville in 1997. I worked at the VA Child Care Center and Stepping Stones Center for 27 years. I have an Associate Degree in Child Development. We have four children: Cameron 24, Madelynn 22, Grant 20, and Bridgette 14. In my spare time I enjoy working on projects around my house and doing crafts. I enjoy working with 3 year olds because everything is exciting and new when seen through their eyes.



Hello! I am Chelsea Kingery, but your kids will get to know me as Miss Chelsea. I am the assistant teacher to Miss Katie in both Kinder Explorers and Totally Twos. This is my 1st year at MSPS. I have been involved in childcare in some form since 2009.

I grew up and graduated from Knoxville. I currently live in Knoxville with my husband Jordan and our four children Zander, Brant, Easton, and Harper. In my spare time I am also a child passenger safety technician and instructor. I love putting together puzzles. I can't wait to meet all our MSPS families.



KFUMC is starting a youth Pickleball group!

We plan to have our first Pickleball play on 9/16/2023.

The age range as 2nd through 5th grades

Please join us at the Family Life Center Pickleball courts, 123 S. 4th Street at 10 am

We have all the equipment needed, wear comfortable sport clothing and tennis shoes.

Let the fun and fellowship begin!!!

KFUMC now offers a beginner pickleball group?

Join us on Mondays from 5-7 pm, the Pickleball courts at the family Life Center.

Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in America. Pickleball was born in 1965.

Joel Pritchard, a congressman and Bill Bell, a businessman dreamed up the sport in the summer of 1865. The friends had returned home after a game of golf and found their restless families in need of something to do. So, they picked up some ping pong paddles and a plastic ball and started hitting it around a badminton court. Pritchard, Bell and another friend came up with the official rules shortly thereafter.

Pickleball is a hybrid of three different sports, badminton, ping pong and tennis.

Come join us on Monday 9/11/2023 at 5 pm to learn this fun game and be a part of the growing ministry!



SCHOOL, FALL, and CHURCH



School has reconvened, class is in session! We commonly ask the age-old question, where summer has gone. And of course, there is always some hot days to deal with. Adults often proclaim, "I wish I had paid better attention when I was in school." And, "There are so many things I'd like to learn if I had to do it all over again." Yes, most of us would do things a little bit better if we had another run at it.

God and Jesus know the importance of an education. We read in Proverbs 24:5 "A wise person is mightier than a strong one; a knowledgeable person than a powerful one." In 1 Kings 3-15, God tells us that wisdom exceeds material gain. We often proclaim that knowledge we have gained is something that can't be taken from us. Parents know the importance of an education. We all can help with the learning process of our children and grandchildren. Teach them to do right, and be nice. Learning to respect one's self and respect others is another great life-long lesson. Jesus taught us the important golden rule to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. As adults we can role model for our children just as Jesus modeled for us. Let's pay attention to the Master Teacher.

This fall provides our church family many wonderful opportunities. We invite you to be a part of "THE STORY", which follows God's love throughout the Bible with us. We also offer children's church and youth groups to be involved in, choir, and many other activities that you will be reading about throughout this issue. So, please become engaged, there are opportunities for everyone! See you Sunday!

--Pastor Brent

September 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 27	28	29	30	31	1	2
8:30 AM Homebuilders ☞ 9 AM Holy Donut Hole ☞ 9:30 AM Worship Service ☞ 10:30 AM Brian Fenoglio Sr ☞ 10:30 AM Faith Forum ☞ 5 PM Youth Group Bonfire ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	7:30 AM Monday Morning ☞ 11:45 AM Staff Meeting ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 2 PM Almost Free Shop ☞ 5 PM Beginners Adult Pr ☞	Lauren Off ☞ Lauren's Birthday ☞ 9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor ☞	11 AM Skit Practice ☞ 12 PM WINGS ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 4:30 PM MSPS Meet the Te ☞ 4:30 PM Cooking for a C ☞ 6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7 PM Chancel Choir Practic ☞	12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 6:30 PM Memorial Commit ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Alcoholics Anonym ☞ 6 PM Narcotics Anonym ☞	Communion/Food Donat ☞ 8 AM Jr Family Life Center ☞ 4 PM Clean & Sober Soc ☞ 5 PM Chapel Worship Se ☞
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Communion Sunday/For ☞ 8:30 AM Homebuilders ☞ 9 AM Holy Donut Hole ☞ 9:30 AM Worship Service ☞ 10:30 AM Faith Forum ☞ 1 PM Sorority Meeting ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSE ☞ 8 AM Fellowship Hall Reser ☞ 9 AM Peter, Paul & Picklebu ☞ 12:30 PM Jr Family Life Cer ☞	MSPS First Day ☞ 9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 11:45 AM Staff ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 6 PM Lay Servant Meetin ☞ 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor ☞	11 AM Skit Practice ☞ 12 PM WINGS ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 1:15 PM Pastor's KAMA I ☞ 6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞	12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 1:15 PM Gathering Planr ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 5 PM UWF Executive Me ☞ 5 PM UWF General Me ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Alcoholics Anonym ☞ 6 PM Narcotics Anonym ☞	4 PM Clean & Sober Soc ☞ 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr ☞
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
RALLY DAY 2023 ☞ 8:30 AM Homebuilders ☞ 8:30 AM Rally Sunday Br ☞ 9:30 AM Worship Service ☞ 10:30 AM Faith Forum ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 6 PM Jr Youth Group Movi ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	7:30 AM Monday Morning ☞ 11:45 AM Staff Meeting ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 2 PM Almost Free Shop ☞ 5 PM Beginners Adult Pr ☞ 6 PM Girl Scouts ☞	9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 5 PM Garden Club ☞ 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor ☞	11 AM Skit Practice ☞ 12 PM WINGS ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 6:30 PM The Gathering ☞	9 AM Rachel Circle Meet ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 5:30 PM Pastor Brent Reser ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Alcoholics Anonym ☞ 6 PM Narcotics Anonym ☞	7:30 AM Jr Men's Group ☞ 10 AM Youth Pickleball ☞ 4 PM Clean & Sober Soc ☞ 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr ☞
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Start New Sermon Series ☞ 8:30 AM Homebuilders ☞ 9 AM Holy Donut Hole ☞ 9:30 AM Worship Service ☞ 10 AM Children's Church ☞ 10:30 AM Faith Forum ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 5:30 PM Confirmation Kick ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	7:30 AM Monday Morning ☞ 11:45 AM Staff Meeting ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 2 PM Almost Free Shop ☞ 5 PM Beginners Adult Pr ☞ 6 PM Girl Scouts ☞ 6:30 PM SPRC ☞	8:30 AM Pastoral Interview ☞ 9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 6:30 PM Jr The Story Sm ☞ 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor ☞	12 PM WINGS ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7 PM Confirmation ☞ 7 PM Choir Practice ☞	11 AM Homebuilders Lu ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7 PM Rebecca Circle UW ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	8 AM Preparation for UWF ☞ 9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 10 AM KHS Alumni Pickleb ☞ 12 PM Alcoholics Anonym ☞ 3 PM Homecoming Parade ☞ 6 PM Narcotics Anonym ☞	9 AM UWF KFUMC Hosting ☞ 10 AM KHS Alumni Pickleb ☞ 10 AM Youth Pickleball ☞ 4 PM Clean & Sober Soc ☞ 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr ☞
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
8:30 AM Homebuilders ☞ 9 AM Holy Donut Hole ☞ 9:30 AM Worship Service ☞ 10 AM Children's Church ☞ 10:30 AM Faith Forum ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	7:30 AM Monday Morning ☞ 11:45 AM Staff Meeting ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 2 PM Almost Free Shop ☞ 5 PM Beginners Adult Pr ☞ 6 PM Finance Committee ☞ 6 PM Girl Scouts ☞ 6:30 PM Trustee Meeting ☞ 7:30 PM Board Meeting ☞	9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 6:30 PM Jr The Story Sm ☞ 7:30 PM Alcoholics Anor ☞	12 PM WINGS ☞ 1 PM Neighbor Helping ☞ 4:30 PM Cooking for a C ☞ 6 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 6:30 PM The Gathering ☞ 7 PM Choir Practice ☞	12 PM Classical Stretch ☞ 1:30 PM Sarah Circle Me ☞ 5 PM Pickleball (Peter, P) ☞ 7:30 PM NA Meeting ☞	Lauren @ Wartburg in Dubuque for Training ☞ 9 AM Almost Free Shop ☞ 6 PM Narcotics Anonym ☞	10 AM Youth Pickleball ☞ 4 PM Clean & Sober Soc ☞ 5 PM Chapel Worship Sr ☞