



THE IMMANUEL DOVE

Discovering and displaying Christ in here and out there

Immanuel Presbyterian Church (USA) Tucson, AZ Volume 31 Issue 7



Lobsters. We have much to learn from lobsters. I thank Jordan Peterson for these lobster lessons from his book *12 Rules for Life: An Antidote to Chaos*. Lobsters are able to grow only by shedding their shells. To grow, they have to leave some things behind and be vulnerable—even risking their lives to grow. Lobsters are also smart. In order to find safe hiding places to grow new shells or rest, they regularly scout out their terrain and get a lay of the land for the best hiding places. Often times there are limited places of shelter on the ocean floor, so lobsters regularly encounter one another while

looking for their place of rest.

There are certain things lobsters do when conflict arises. They'll dance around, like a boxer, opening and closing their claws, moving backward and forward, side to side like Mohammad Ali—fly like a butterfly, sting like a bee, and ...dance *like a lobster*? Lobsters also have special jets under their eyes that spray out identifying chemicals that inform the other lobster about its size, sex, health, and mood. Usually this does the trick. If *that* doesn't work, lobsters have several levels or rules of engagement that keep their interactions from escalating. If *this* doesn't work, they'll wrestle and try to flip each other upside down.

Two very different things happen to the victorious lobster and the defeated lobster. The defeated lobster's brain basically *dissolves*. It grows a new brain. But the new defeated lobster brain is subordinate and more simple than its previous brain. This new brain is content with no longer being king of the sea and is entirely satisfied with just being a doormat on the ocean floor.

Have you been there before? I tell you what—there have been a few times in my life where I've felt like I had a defeated lobster brain. When painful things happen you feel defeated and flipped over like a lobster. Your brain feels like silly putty. I felt like I lost my mojo, my confidence. And I couldn't get out of my shell. It's a scary place to be. But there is hope. More on that in a few paragraphs.

However, the victorious lobster is a totally different animal. Their brain chemistry is entirely different than the defeated lobster. The victorious lobster has much more serotonin in their system compared to the defeated lobster. You can tell a victorious lobster from a defeated lobster by their posture. A victorious lobster infused with serotonin walks tall. They're confident. They don't back down so easily when challenged. They stand firm in the face of adversity or obstacles.

A defeated lobster, lacking serotonin, cringes. Their posture is scrunched up, inhibited, and droopy. They swim away at the slightest provocation. They don't stand their ground. They seem to invite abuse. But there's hope for all the defeated lobsters out there. When exposed to serotonin, defeated lobsters regain confidence. They stand taller. They fight longer and harder.

Continued...



JULY 2019



"Be strong and courageous," says the Lord. It's kind of like God injects us with spiritual serotonin. God is challenging us and charging us to stand up straight and be resolute.

To accept our responsibilities courageously. To willingly and courageously step into the chaos and trust that God will bring some order to it. And we do this together—not just alone. We are more than victorious lobsters in Christ Jesus!



We find ourselves in a lobster moment, Immanuel. The church leadership is in the midst of shedding old lobster shells and growing new shells. We're exploring important changes that will help us be even more faithful to Christ and his calling upon us as a church. It's always hard to bid adieu to things that we've grown accustomed to. You can be sure that we are committed to cherishing what helps us and also trying on new shells that will better equip us for all that God has for us. It is exciting and scary at the same time. The leadership will keep you posted and interpret our changes so that we aren't "shell shocked."

Fellow lobsters, let us face with undaunted courage all the exciting things God has called us to do!

Warmest Regards,
Pastor John



NEW LIFE CHALLENGES

News in the Missions World

Loving Water

Cobbie Palm, a Presbyterian mission co-worker in the Philippines, recently reported, "I was traveling to a neighboring community to distribute clean water and look into the development of waste management initiatives. A woman came out of a small store, and we asked her for water to drink." She responded, "We do not have water, but we have Coke and Sprite." She added, "Water now is dangerous to drink, so we drink Coke."

She explained how the Silliman Water Ministry is a service arm of the Presbyterian Silliman University. Cobbie told her they could provide clean drinking water if the community would commit to working on the solid waste, sanitation and wastewater that is destroying their water.

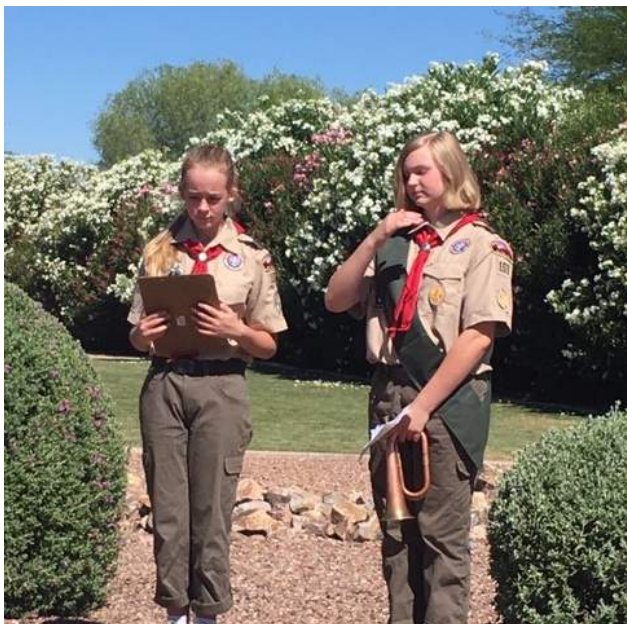
This is another example of how the Gospel message addresses the needs of the full life of God's people. A glass of clean water is perhaps more memorable than the Sunday sermon text.

Blessings,
Bob Seel



"I was thirsty, and you gave me drink." Matthew 25:35

**Boy Scout Troop from Immanuel
performed the flag pole raising at
Wingate Community Park on June 7th.**



More Than Just Singing

by Carol Schurr with Gale Griffin

The choir has finished singing for this year and we're each looking forward to our summer plans. At the same time, we know that in a couple of months, we'll be anxious to get started again. Usually around the first of August choir members start asking when rehearsals will begin.



I think it's safe to say that singing in the choir is part of our DNA—it's something many of us have been doing for a very long time, not just in this choir, but since we were kids. At the same time, it's more than that. It's an important part of our lives, spiritually and socially. Each summer, Billy and I reflect on our years with Immanuel's Sanctuary Choir, and each year we are more impressed at what we've accomplished together, and we're thankful for the friendships we've made and the sacred charge of leading worship with them at Immanuel.



Choirs are built on relationships, and the better the relationships, the better the choir experience. It starts as a commitment—and once each of us commits to being there, the relationships grow, and then a kind of covenant bonds us together. We are part of each other's lives. We pray for each other, make hospital visits, provide meals, give rides to the airport, feed pets when someone is out of town, meet for lunch or for coffee or chat on the phone. And we are really good at partying—our choir socials in September and at Christmas (and this year, we hope, during the summer) are a

special time of just being together and sharing a meal. The Choir is a family and we thrive on it. Some have been singing in this choir for more than 25 years!

People are sometimes amazed at the amount of detail (some would call it persnickiness) that goes into preparing for worship each week. We come from all backgrounds—Immanuel's choir is open to anyone. We like to say "if you can carry a tune and count to four, you qualify." Some are trained musicians; others have no particular musical training; but we all love to sing. So to ensure we sing well on Sundays and enhance everyone's worship, we work.

On Thursdays and Sundays, we work. Yes, we worship, but the work comes first. As Billy frequently says, "if you've put in the work, the Spirit can take over during worship." (And conversely, if you don't do the work, you don't give the Spirit much to work with.) Our work takes basically three forms: learning, practicing, and warming up. We learn and we practice on Thursdays from 6:45 to 8:30pm, and on Sundays we have 30 minutes of warming up and rehearsing that's akin to a baseball player's "batting practice." Muscles have to be warmed up and stretched to be coordinated. The brain needs reminding. And the memory needs refreshing. For choirs, it's our voices and our lungs that need warming up in order to sing, and our memories that need a little nudge to remember all we've learned on Thursdays.



What's the difference between learning and practicing? Until we *know* something well—until we've *learned* it—we can't practice it, or we risk practicing incorrectly. So we *learn* notes and rhythms, but we *practice* intervals, entrances, and cutoffs. We *learn* to sing vocally with correct pronunciation, but we *practice* intonation, phrasing, and articulation. Over and over. Practice instills what we've learned. And in between, we groan at Billy's stories and puns. Over and over. We spend 6-7 weeks learning each anthem we sing. Is it tedious? Sometimes. But it's rewarding, and we never go into worship unprepared, thanks to the persistence of our director.

Billy will tell you "there's no magic wand." It takes consistent work and he has his share. He practices at least 15 hours each week to prepare the prelude, introit, four hymns, two responses, anthem, offertory, and postlude. In addition, he has Thursday rehearsal (and its preparation) and Sunday "batting practice" to warm up the muscles. Billy's Sunday starts with 30-45 minutes of scales and chords on his piano at home before coming to church.

Slow, meticulous, methodical practice develops muscle control and helps prevent injuries—and no one needs injuries. Once at church, he turns on the organ to be sure it's working properly, opens the piano, adjusts the choir loft seating, double and triple checks his music to be sure it is in order, and practices at both keyboards before leading the choir in their "batting practice."



The rest of Billy's week is spent writing and researching new music for the choir. He is versed in 500 years of church music literature, both choral and keyboard. He has a solid grounding in biblical knowledge and theology, reading works by biblical scholars such as John Dominic Crossan, Marcus Borg, NT Wright, Amy-Jill Levine, Pamela Eisenbaum, Eric C. Smith, and United Methodist pastor William A. Ritter. For enjoyment in his down time, he reads science fiction as well as historical resources such as Eric Smith's "Foucault's Heterotopia in Christian Catacombs: Constructing Spaces and Symbols in Ancient Rome" and John Eliot Gardner's "Bach: Music in the Castle of Heaven" (all 672 pages of the Bach book!). And over the past 4 years,

Billy read nearly every book that Carol had to read during her seminary study, which only bolstered what he already does for the choir when he offers theological and biblical perspective to many of the anthems we sing.

This 17th summer at Immanuel will find Billy reviewing as many as 2,000 new anthems and bell pieces (literally!) and he will choose 3 or 4 that work for us. And he will compose the rest. Each year, on average, we learn 13 new anthems. Anthems are always written or selected to support John's sermon themes and scripture readings, and to suit the voices in the choir. When Billy writes, he writes specifically for the voices of Immanuel's choir—music that challenges us, and at the same time, music we can master, albeit after serious learning and practicing. So it's a win-win situation. When we sing well, worship is enhanced and God is glorified. We know that mediocre music or performances detract from worship and we believe the Immanuel congregation deserves the best, and God deserves our best. And so we work.

Stay tuned to this space next month when we share with you the "Sanctuary Choir Honor Roll"—a list of nearly 100 folks who, over the past 20-30 years, came, sang, and moved on for one reason or another (including passing on to life eternal). These people each helped to make Immanuel's choir what it is today. For their lives and their voices, we are grateful.

2 Summer Mission Events in July & August

School Supply Drive JULY 7, 14, & 21

Composition Books, Pencils,
and Hand Sanitizer



Presbytery de Cristo's Annual Matthew 25 Offering August 4, 11, and 18

Emergency Food Kits—can you make up a few?
We'll provide the bags on July 28.
Food kits contain the following items:

- ♦ 32 oz Gatorade or Powerade
- ♦ Vienna sausages or pop-top or vacuum-pouch tuna
- ♦ Single-serve packs of nuts, trail mix, dried fruit, or cookies
- ♦ Granola bars, cereal bars, or energy bars
- ♦ Peanut butter crackers or cheese/peanut butter crackers
- ♦ Applesauce, pudding, or fruit cups (and a plastic spoon)



Complete Food Kit

Bulk contributions of these items are also welcome.

Memorial Garden — Then and Now

By Laurie Snodgrass

In the early 1990's, several session members became interested in building a columbarium or memorial garden here at Immanuel. A committee was formed. Meetings were held and monthly progress reports went to session. We made many visits to churches and cemeteries and our decisions for our own memorial garden took shape.



Our members began to make their own personal decisions and we collected funds until we had what we needed to start the project.

Building began and one of our committee members was there every single day to assure all went as planned. Yes, we had the required monies saved to have enough left over to create the beautiful space just west of the Sanctuary. It is a lovely area which has many memories. Small and meaningful services have felt just right. Boxes were carefully designed to hold the cremains that fit right into the niche on the garden walls.

A devoted team of volunteers sees to the care and maintenance each month of the memorial garden. They give their time to ensure that our garden continues to be a place of beauty and peace. Presently the committee is examining the entry gate to allow for handicap access.

The original Memorial Garden committee who so expertly got the job done is not done with it yet! It is time to look ahead at expansion of the garden with new leadership. Our committee continues to be very effective but we know that it takes time and all must be done with Session approval. We anticipate the cost for future expansion will be more than the original cost to build—but we have a good financial foundation to work with.

If you are interested in joining the Memorial Garden committee—please contact the office.

CASA MARIA MINISTRY



Help make sandwiches to feed the hungry. We prepare 500 sack lunches for Casa Maria in South Tucson that are distributed to people in need of a meal. Each lunch should contain two meat and cheese sandwiches (please use only butter/margarine—no mayo, mustard, lettuce or tomato), a piece of fruit (such as a banana, peach, pear, or orange), and a dessert (2 cookies, 1 brownie, etc.). Please bring your sack lunches to the church between 8:00am and 9:00am. The Casa Maria team leaves promptly at 9:00am.

Upcoming Schedule:

July 27 TOPS Aug 24 Downard Family
Sep 21 Men's Breakfast Oct 19 Choir Nov 16 Boy Scouts Dec 14 Deacons

Time Together



Time Together is a special time for our young people ages 3-2nd grade to enjoy the messages about Christ being shared from the pulpit in a way that is fun and digestible for their ages. This is such a vital ministry that helps lay the foundation of a child's faith for years to come. This role involves showing up and teaching a quick lesson that has already been prepared with instructions and loving these sweet young children. If you feel a calling to serve in this ministry, please contact Sarah Tittle at (520) 243-3634 or Kate Kelly in the office.

Thank You and Congratulations Erika!

We celebrated Erika's nursery ministry and her family with a baby shower on June 30th. Erika has been our cheerful and faithful Nursery Director for nine wonderful years!

Erika and Colin are expecting a child and she has accepted an excellent full-time teaching position in her area of study! Congratulations Erika! We are so happy because Erika will remain at Immanuel, volunteering with children's ministry (when she can) in her new and bustling life of parenting and teaching! Since Erika joined the Immanuel staff nine years ago, she has brought to our nursery the highest levels of quality, care, and warmth.



We will all fondly remember Erika's love for infants and children, her warm people skills, and her faithfulness in running a top-notch nursery for nearly a decade. We have entrusted our children with her and we are all the better for it!



Welcome Aboard!

I am pleased to announce that Session has invited Grace Kelly to be our Acting Nursery Director and she has accepted! Grace's first Sunday in the nursery will be July 7th. We are excited about Grace because she exudes her name. I unreservedly would entrust my children and the children of Immanuel to her care. Grace has a warm faith and a cheerful countenance. She is a U of A student and lives on the East Side of town. Grace is CPR certified and comes with excellent references. She has experience working with children as a Teacher Assistant in several day cares. Grace has also served as an au pair and regular baby sitter. She is a perennial and enthusiastic VBS volunteer at her home church, Northminster Presbyterian. Immanuel, let's give a warm welcome to our newest staff member Grace Kelly! Stop by the nursery and introduce yourself. Our great tradition of a warm and welcoming nursery continues!



Hospitality News - Fellowship Snacks and Goodies Needed

Each month will be assigned a letter or letters, and if your last name begins with the letter for the month, you are asked to bring a snack to share on ONE Sunday that month for the service you attend! Spread the love: choose the third, fourth, first, or second Sunday, pick your favorite! Check out the list below and find which month corresponds to the first letter of your last name. Drop off your goodies in Witherspoon Hall prior to one of the services on a Sunday during your month and let the Hospitality Team do the rest! Some items will be used the same day, others will be saved for other Sundays! (It depends on what kind of goodies arrive!).

Here are a few ideas for Coffee Hour snacks: cookies, fruit, veggies and dip, cheese, crackers, finger sandwiches, baked breads, sugar free snacks, gluten free snacks, Chex mix, popcorn.

Freshly baked and packaged items are welcome too! Feel free to contact your Hospitality Elders, Tama Jarvis, Chuck Wilkie or Kelly Wood, or any members of the Hospitality Committee if you have any questions!

If your last name begins with...	Bring a snack to share during the month of...
M	July
K, L	August



NEW PARKING LOT—THIS JULY

Thank you! We are almost at our goal—we raised \$65,000 of the \$73,000 needed! Each “parking lot” space can be sponsored for \$300.00. If you would like to make a gift for this project, any amount would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for helping pave the way at Immanuel!



July Happenings



- **Outings to the Movies**— Join us for our monthly movie dates provided there is a good movie to see, usually in the early afternoon at the discount theater, Century Gateway 12 on Kolb south of Speedway. Look for notices in the weekly Community Life announcements. Call Ann Thornes at (520) 298-8401 for any suggested movies you would like to see.
- **Lydia Circle — Monday, July 15th at 6:30pm.** We will study Lesson 8: God with Us as the Holy Spirit. Lesson Leader is Amanda Leachet. Meet in Witherspoon Hall. Contact Kay Schmidt with questions at (520) 546-8011.
- **Men's Breakfast** meets Mondays at 8:00am at Biscuits Café on Broadway for the summer. Men, fellowship and great food —pancakes, sausage and lots of strong hot coffee. The Bible study is led by Pastor John Tittle.
- **Desert Sages** - We will be meeting for the month of July at our regular time: every Tuesday 10:00am-12:30pm in Witherspoon Hall to play games (bridge, hand & foot, poker, Mexican train & Rummikub) and have refreshments at noon. Contact Mary Kay Bush ausmbush3@gmail.com or (520) 885-0003 for more information.
- **Crafters Group** is on break for the summer. We will return in September.
- **TOPS** — Take Off Pounds Sensibly, meets every Tuesday at 6:00pm in Towner Hall Room 4.
- **AA** group meets every Wednesday at 7:00pm and every Thursday at 6:30pm in Towner Hall Room 4.
- **July Hospitality — For the month of July - if your last name begins with M.** Help us provide goodies to share for our coffee fellowship following each worship service. Just choose a Sunday during this month and drop off your snacks in the Witherspoon kitchen prior to either service. Some popular snacks are cookies, fruit, veggies and dip, cheese, crackers, baked breads, sugar-free snacks, gluten-free snacks, Chex mix/popcorn.



Immanuel is registered on AmazonSmile! When you shop on Amazon, make sure to designate Immanuel on AmazonSmile. For every qualifying purchase, Immanuel will receive 0.5% - that can add up! Remember, always start your shopping at smile.amazon.com

SUMMER WORD SEARCH

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

WORD BANK:

HOT	PLAY	SUN
BBQ	POOL	SUNGLASSES
BEACH	POPSICLE	SWIM
CAMPING	SAND	SWING
FUN	SUMMER	VACATION
ICE CREAM		
JUMP		
KITE		
PICNIC		

When do you go at red and stop at green?



When you're eating a watermelon!!!

momwithakeys.com

Why do fish like to eat worms?



Because they get hooked on them!

momwithakeys.com

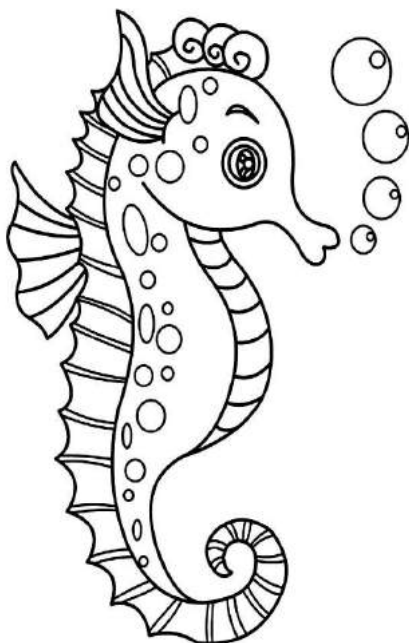


Where do sharks go on summer vacation?

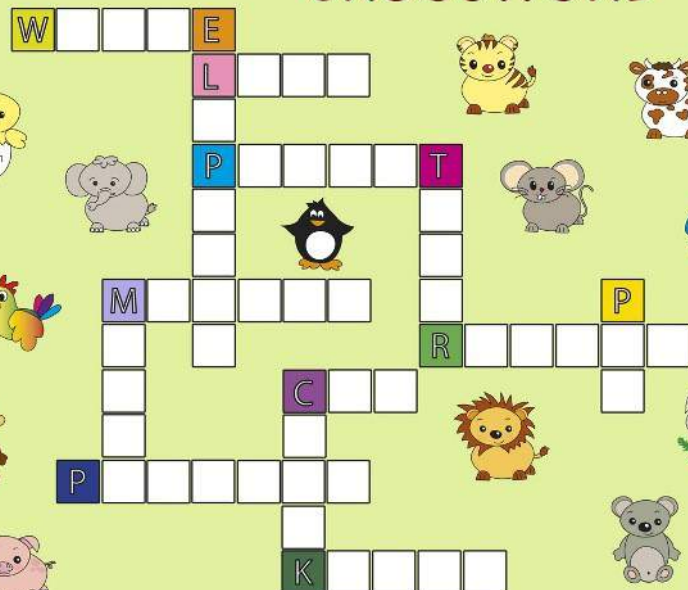


To Finland!

momwithakeys.com



CROSSWORD





Peggy Free – July 1st
 David Honeycutt – July 2nd
 Amanda Maass – July 3rd
 Jim Parks – July 3rd
 Anja Price – July 5th
 Onnolee Chirco – July 6th
 Ann Pastirik – July 6th
 Finn Samoy – July 7th
 Will Wright – July 8th
 Gary Wolfe – July 12th
 Jennifer Chirco – July 13th
 Diane Carey – July 15th
 Marianna Shoemaker – July 15th
 Jeremy Samoy – July 18th
 Harley Puckett – July 19th
 Niko Green – July 20th
 Cheryl Wood – July 22nd
 Ariana Speranza – July 24th
 Claudia Wright – July 24th
 Bobbie Jo Cain – July 26th
 Eleanor Grubbs – July 26th
 Richard Nelson – July 26th
 Joy Shifflette – July 26th
 Matthew Nebesny – July 27th
 Kathy Parker – July 27th
 Virginia McClain – July 29th
 Patricia Keene – July 31st



Andrew & Whitney Hodges – July 7th
 Ray & Nadine Stanley – July 7th
 Paul Tuohy & Robin Staples – July 11th
 John & Garnetta Falzone – July 24th
 Ed Vander Woude & Rachael Eggebeen – July 24th
 Billy & Carol Schurr – July 26th
 Bob & Susan Rieger – July 29th
 Ryan & Abigail Green – July 30th

If you don't see your birthday or anniversary listed, we most likely do not have it on file. Please contact the church office so we can share in your celebration!



August 2019 Dove Deadline— Friday, July 19



The Dove Newsletter

If you would prefer to get the Dove mailed to you, please contact the church office at (520) 296-2253.



IMMANUEL
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9252 E 22nd Street, Tucson, AZ 85710
520-296-2253 immanuelpc.org

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm Boy Scouts	2 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS	3 7:30pm AA	4 6:30pm AA	5	6
7 8:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	8 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm Boy Scouts	9 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS 6:30pm Session	10 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm AA	11 6:30pm AA	12	13
14 8:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	15 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm Boy Scouts 6:30 Lydia Circle	16 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS	17 7:30pm AA	18 6:30pm AA	19	20
21 8:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	22 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm Boy Scouts	23 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS 7:00pm Ministry Night	24 5:30pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm AA	25 6:30pm AA	26	27 8:00am Casa Maria
28 8:30am Worship 11:00am Worship	29 8:00am Men's Breakfast 6:30pm Boy Scouts	30 10:00am Sages 6:00pm TOPS	31 7:30pm AA			



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Christ in here and out there*

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