

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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April 2025

The Network

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

APRIL 2025

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Website: www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

The Network

APRIL 2025 Issue

The DEADLINE
for submissions to the
MAY 2025 Issue
is April 15, 2025



ST. PETER'S MISSION STATEMENT

Centered in Christ and empowered by
God's Spirit, we love, grow and serve.

Our core values:
Christ-centered
Open-minded
Caring
Welcoming
Generous

Interim Minister

Pastor Roger Dennis

Pastor@stpeterscapecod.org

Minister of Music

Craig S. Tocher

Ministerofmusic@stpeterscapecod.org

Ministry Administrator

Susan Madigan Kiehnau

office@stpeterscapecod.org

Operations Administrator

Ann German

businessoffice@stpeterscapecod.org

Financial Staff:

Suzanne Bassett, *Treasurer*

assistanttr@stpeterscapecod.org

Lois Thomas, *Financial Secretary*

Lynn Hatch, *Assistant Financial Secretary*

Church Council:

Jane Wordsworth,
President

Chris Janson,
Vice President

Tony Esposito,
Secretary

Suzanne Bassett,
Treasurer

Keeton Arnett

Juliet Bongfeldt

Peg Flood

Aline Glifort

Kathy Glifort

Paul Luciano

Rodney Schuller



OFFICE HOURS

8 am to 4:00 pm

Tuesdays - Thursdays



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Affirmation of Welcome

Welcome to new visitors and old friends.

We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation and strive to welcome people of every age and size, color and culture, all sexual orientations and gender identities, any socioeconomic status, marital status, ability and challenge.

Welcome to believers and questioners, and to questioning believers. Welcome to all who seek Christ's love and grace.

This is a place where you are welcome to rejoice and lament, seek healing and offer service. Welcome in the name of Jesus.

Website:

www.StPetersLutheranCapeCod.org

Office email:

Office@StPetersCapeCod.org

Church Phone: 508-432-5172

"Pastoral Perceptions"

When this newsletter arrives at your homes, we will fast be approaching the "Great Week." I speak, of course, of "Holy Week" with services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and celebrating the Resurrection of Christ on Easter.

Many followers perceive each day's observance (worship service) during the week "stands on its own." This idiomatic phrase implies that each service functions independently without any external support. This perception is inaccurate.

The celebration of the Great Week is one service. In the early years of the church, faith communities observed each day with particular emphasis in the context of the week. The week's observance emphasized the great work, promises, and blessings bestowed by God in the last days in the life of Jesus. For the early church, and observed by a few communities today, Palm Sunday began the Great Week. Today, most churches limit their celebration of the Great Week to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday with even fewer observing the Saturday Vigil.

In early church history and still celebrated primarily by faith communities in the Orthodox traditions, Holy Monday emphasized the story of Joseph, who was sold into slavery and the story of the fruitless fig tree.

Holy Tuesday readings and teachings centered on the parable of the Ten Virgins. Charity and faith the emphasis of church teachings.

Holy Wednesday's lessons and teachings emphasized the story of Mary Magdalene. Mary regretted her life of sin and washed the feet of Jesus.

Nearly all followers know that Maundy Thursday centers on the Last Supper, Friday the Crucifixion, and Easter the Resurrection.

I pray I will see you during our observances of the Great Week. Amen

Pastor Roger Dennis

Women's Bible Study

The next Women's Bible Study will meet on **Saturday, April 5 at 10:00 am** in the Luther Room.



Second Service

We will hold our second service with a focus on healing on **Sunday, April 6 at 11:15 am**. Please join us!

Holy Week Schedule

- Wednesday Lenten Services at Noon in the Sanctuary, April 2 and 9
- Palm Sunday, April 13 @ 9:30 am
- Maundy Thursday, April 17 @ 7 pm
- Good Friday, April 18 @ 7 pm
- Easter Sunday, April 20 @ 9:30 am

Lenten Challenge

Pastor and Barbara Dennis once again ask the congregation to join them in bolstering the food pantry at St. Peter's. Two of the Lenten season disciplines are fasting and doing acts of love. This Lenten season, Pastor and Barbara will shop with an eye on "Buy one, get one free" or "Buy one and get another one at a reduced price." The free or reduced-price item will then be shared with the food bank. In fact, they plan to set aside funds to simply donate "both" items.

Will you join us?

Estimates of Giving

Thanks to all for your 2025 Estimates of Giving to St. Peter's towards our 2025 Spending Plan. For your information, below is a breakdown of the yearly pledges by family units:

Up to \$999	16
\$1,000 - \$1,999	15
\$2,000 - \$2,999	15
\$3,000 - \$3,999	13
\$4,000 - \$4,999	4
\$5,000 - \$5,999	4
\$6,000 - \$9,999	6
\$10,000 +	5

Thank you for your continued financial support and prayers.
Submitted by Lois Thomas, Financial Secretary

St Peter's Annual Congregation Meeting Summary

The 2024 Annual Congregation Meeting was called to order by President Juliet Bongfeldt at 10:44 am following services on Sunday, February 23. Fifty-five members attended in person, and five were present on line. James Merriman served as our parliamentarian. After an opening prayer by Pastor Roger Dennis, President Bongfeldt led the Affirmation of Purpose.

Resolutions #1 calling for the acceptance of the Minutes of 2023 Annual Meeting was adopted by vote. After several corrections were made to published ministry reports, Resolution #2 regarding the ministry reports was approved.

Suzanne Bassett, Treasurer, presented highlights of the 2024 and proposed 2025 operating budgets noting that although the 2024 budget projected a significant deficit, the year closed with a \$30,284 surplus which was transferred to the General Fund (reserve fund). Ms. Bassett also noted that because of anticipated increased expenses, the 2025 operating budget projects a \$55,857 deficit; work to mitigate that deficit will be ongoing. Resolutions #3-5 calling for the acceptance of the financial secretary and treasurer reports, and a 2025-2029 Capital Plan were adopted by vote.

The Nominating Committee, comprised of Paul Bongfeldt, Lynn Archambault, and Russ Olson, presented a sterling slate which was gratifyingly supplemented by volunteers from the floor; the latter include Karen Beggs and Kathy Glifort (2025 Nominating Committee), Chris Janson (Alternate to the 2025 Synod Assembly), and Peg Flood (2025 Cape Cod Council of Churches Annual Assembly). Resolution #6 to approve the slate was subsequently adopted by vote.

After the meeting adjourned at 11:30 am, Pastor Dennis offered a closing prayer in which he asked the Holy Spirit for continued guidance as the congregation seeks to fulfill Christ's mission on earth.

Submitted by Tony Esposito, Council Secretary

Parsonage Renovation Update

Many great things are happening at the parsonage as we continue to make progress. So far we have:

1. Refinished all doors, trim and cabinets
2. Installed new interior and exterior lighting
3. Removed all appliances, countertops, backsplash, sinks and toilets
4. Conducted a MassSave energy audit
5. Repaired all the screens
6. Ordered new appliances
7. Selected a paint color

We even found a home for the Edison batteries that were in the garage. They will be out on display in the car barn at Heritage Plantation!

Next up will be interior painting, the installation of new appliances and toilets, as well landscaping renovation.

Thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time (and trucks) to accomplish what we have done to date. Thank you for your generous and continuing support that makes this all possible.

Submitted by Suzanne Bassett for The Parsonage Renovation Committee

Volunteer Opportunities Abound at Broad Reach Hospice in Chatham

Perhaps you have the gifts of time and compassion for those who are journeying to end of life? Perhaps you would be willing to share a couple of hours a week to provide companionship for someone under the care of Broad Reach Hospice? Perhaps you have a passion for music, art or other creative skills that might enhance the quality of life of someone with Alzheimer's

Broad Reach Hospice would welcome your inquiry. The Volunteer Coordinator would arrange a visit with you to discuss the details of the program and the online training experience. Please contact Karen Spangler at 508-945-4601 or via email to: kareenspangler@broadreachhealth.org.

Mountain Dulcimer Festival Trip is a Resounding Success!

Seven members of our fledgling Mountain Dulcimer Fellowship Group attended their first Mountain Dulcimer Music Festival in Albany, NY. I think we would all agree that we got the definitive answer to "What's a dulcimer?" Attending were (L-R) Barbara McWilliams and her grandson Revan, Carol Schachinger, MJ Pattison, Donna Albert, Marianne O'Boyle, and Paul Muratore. On Friday morning we departed very early from Western Pennsylvania, New York City, and Barnstable MA and convened at the



Methodist Church in Latham NY joining more than 100 dulcimer players from up and down the Eastern United States. For the next 36 hours between us, we took more than a dozen dulcimer workshops in seven one-hour sessions, an afternoon open stage and two evening dulcimer concerts on Friday and Saturday nights. There was barely time to eat meals or visit the bathroom! It was exhilarating, exhausting, and lots of fun.

Three of our group stayed at a hotel close to the venue and four of us were guests of friends of the Pattison's who attended Stew's church in Guilderland when he was pastor in the Capital Region. We are very much looking forward to sharing what we learned both with each other (since we didn't all attend the same classes) and with the rest of our group back here on the Cape.

Our April meetings will be:

Thursday, April 3 at 4 pm

Monday, April 7 at 7 pm

In the hope that we can get everyone in the same room and play our songs together, we are planning a pot luck supper at the Pattison's on **Wednesday April 23 at 5:00 pm** to break bread and have "show and tell."

We are very grateful to St. Peter's Anderson Bequest for making this trip possible for all of us. Don't hesitate to ask any of us about the trip.



Submitted by MJ Pattison

Each month as part of the Stewardship theme, “sharing our gifts,” we will be featuring a different ministry team or volunteer group at St. Peter’s.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



Sharing our gifts

The St. Peter’s Prayer Shawl Ministry meets twice a month on the first and third Fridays at 1:30 pm in the Luther Room.

Members prayerfully knit or crochet shawls which are gifted to recipients for a variety of reasons. Many are given for illness and some for bereavement, but shawls are also given for happy occasions. There seems to be an ongoing need for these warming, comforting “hugs” from the congregation. Amazingly, this ministry is within reach of gifting one thousand shawls!

Yarn, needles, and patterns are available, and members will willingly help if someone wants to learn to knit or needs a “refresher.”

Submitted by Marianne O’Boyle

Call Committee Update

As I wrote last month, patience is the keyword in this process. And there appears to be some motion, finally! The synod reported to me a few days ago (I am writing this on March 28) that our profile document (MSP) was shared with three potential candidates over the last few months. One candidate was pursuing another call in another synod but might circle back to us, a second’s spouse subsequently accepted a job in another region and a third was reviewing our profile, with interest. This is a significant change from a few months ago.

This is a long process. As I think most are aware by now, the demand for pastors exceeds the supply. As reported last month, we are one of two congregations in MA and one of seven throughout New England awaiting candidates.

One of our members recently asked about suggesting candidates to the synod. I forwarded this request to Kim Bergstrom, our synod liaison. She responded, “If someone in the congregation has a connection with clergy who might be interested in the call, and they are an ELCA pastor, they can contact the Associate for Mobility (Rev. Susan Gaeta sgaeta@nesynod.org). The candidate will need to activate their Rostered Minister Profile in the ELCA mobility system and indicate New England Synod as a synod of interest.” If they are not an ELCA pastor, they should contact Kim directly at kbergstrand@nesynod.org.

Submitted by Chris Janson



Food Pantry Update

Loaves and Fishes Pantry

Monday: 1:00 - 3:00 pm **Tuesday:** 3:30 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday: 12:30 - 2:30 **Friday:** 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thanks to everyone who has taken on the Lenten Challenge introduced by Pastor and Barbara Dennis. Our donations have definitely increased, and it is so nice to see the variety of items that have been dropped off. We have a number of clients coming during their brief lunch break at a nearby resort or after a long day of landscaping. The granola bar they grab gives them a little boost to either get back to work, get home to get dinner, or help the kids with homework. One grandmother, a weekly shopper, loves it when we have Ritz crackers, her favorite afternoon snack with slices of cheese. She regularly cares for three busy grandchildren who stay through dinner and then she drives them home, gives them a bath and gets them ready for bed before their tired parents get home from their late shift at work. We love it when she gets to indulge and have her favorite snack thanks to our donations. Her first great grand baby is on the way and will be living with her for awhile, so she will need a case of crackers! One of our many wonderful volunteers loves it when we have taco supplies because she often helps shoppers put together a quick meal as she knows they are tired after work and heading right home to cook dinner. Chili powder or Italian Seasoning may be a staple in most of our kitchens, but not everyone has the luxury to be able to readily grab spices or condiments from the cupboard, so never hesitate to pick up any spices or a jar of relish. You may make someone's day when you drop it off in the pantry barrel.

There are a number of BOGO and coupon items that are not the traditional non-perishable items we usually request for the pantry. It is difficult to pass up buying one package of English Muffins and get two free. Rather than stuffing the extras in your freezer, drop them off for the pantry. It made me realize that we could easily accept some of these donations like the muffins or the free bag of carrots or potatoes. They could be left in or near the barrel, dropped off during pantry hours, or left in the upstairs refrigerator in a bag labeled *food pantry*. I will make sure that we check the refrigerator regularly through Lent to see if there are any donations. Thanks for bringing hope, health and happiness to our neighbors in need!

Ruth Brenneman, St. Peter's Food Pantry Coordinator

Email: Ruth Brenneman at: thomasbrenneman41@comcast.net

Bible Study, From Age-ing to Sage-ing: The Gift of Years and the Road to Wisdom

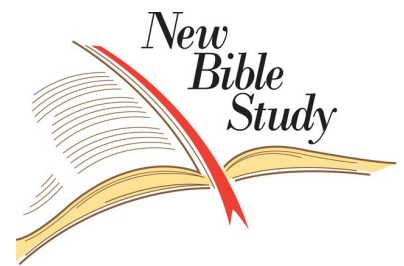
Pastors Jay Tichenor and Stewart Pattison are half-way through their four-week journey along the path of aging. Despite all the messages which tell us that aging is a time of diminishment and loss, it's also a time of inner flourishing. As the season of Lent points us toward the redemption of life in Christ, so the spiritual path of aging invites us to pay more attention to the light of the resurrection growing within us as we move toward the end of our mortal lives. The class will meet in the Luther Room fifteen minutes after the service ends.

Each one-hour session will have two parts. Jay will lead a topical discussion on four significant questions we face as we pilgrim through this time of life. Guided by From Age-ing to Sage-ing: The Gift of Years and the Road to Wisdom, by Zalman Schacter-Salomi and Ronald S. Miller, we will explore the good news that aging is a time of *life* not a slow ride to decrepitude and death. In the second part, Stewart will lead a time of spiritual reflection drawn from Scripture.

The outline of the two remaining classes with the relevant passages from the book is:

- April 6: Completing one's life: relationships, forgiveness, resurrection (pages 81-106)
- April 13: Looking ahead to the rest of your life (pages 135-174)

Copies of the book will be available to all class participants. Please accept this invitation to discover the unique gifts God offers us to receive and share as we experience the richness of this time of life.



LOCAL GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS

- Run by Broad Reach Hospice's bereavement coordinator, Rebecca Chesbro, this grief support group is open to anyone grieving the loss of a spouse. It meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 2 pm in the Luther Room at St. Peter's.
- The Northside United Methodist Church, 701 Airline Road, Brewster, has a grief support group at their church for all who are experiencing some type of grief that meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays at 2 pm.

St. Peter's Ministries



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The St. Peter's Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Friday, April 4 and tentatively on Friday, April 18 (Good Friday, to be determined) at 1:30 pm in the Luther Room.

Please join us for prayerful work and pleasant conversation. There is yarn available as well as needles and patterns if needed.

ESTHER CIRCLE

This month the Esther Circle is collecting new stuffed animals and art and craft supplies for Children's Cove. This is a child advocacy center which, as stated on their website, "provides a compassionate, efficient, child-friendly facility for child abuse intervention."

Donations may be placed in the bins in the Narthex and should be brought to church by Sunday, May 4. The younger children appreciate having a cuddly stuffie to snuggle with and the older ones enjoy receiving the arts and craft supplies as well as journals along with pens, pencils and markers.

Esther Circle will meet on Tuesday, April 8 at 12:30 in the Luther Room. After the meeting we continue our discussion of Joan Chittister's book, *The Gift of Years* with the chapters "Adjustment" and "Fulfillment."



SACRED SORROW



"Grief is neither a problem to be solved nor a difficulty to be overcome. It is a sacred expression of love; a sacred sorrow." St. Peter's ministry for bereaved parents will meet on Thursday, April 17 at 1:30 pm in the Luther Room. Please join us if you have had the misfortune to lose a child - of any age. It truly helps to be with others who understand your journey.

Reminder: "When the weight of grief feels unbearable, just breathe. Not to erase the pain, but to carry yourself through it - one breath, one moment, one small act of survival at a time."

Bereaved Parents of the USA, A Journey Together - First Quarter 2025

For more information about the Prayer Shawl Ministry, Esther Circle, or Sacred Sorrow, please contact Marianne O'Boyle at 508-775-2757 or marianne@o Boyle.net.

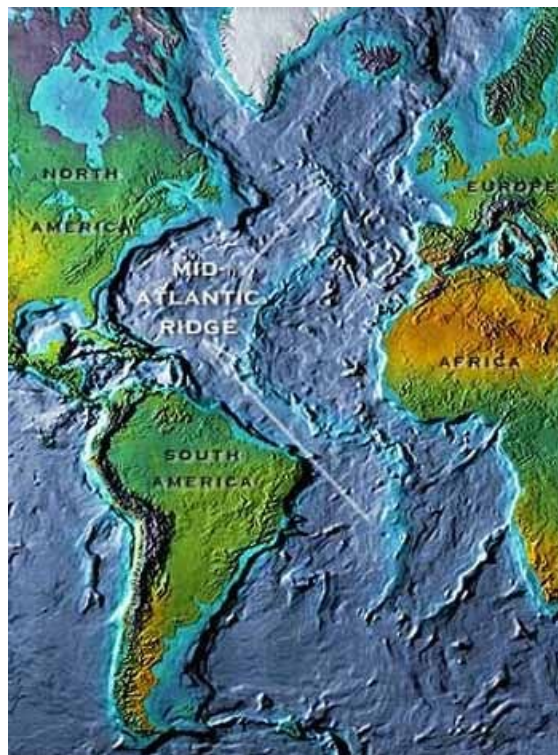
Through the Lens of Science with Doug...

Doug Kenney is a retired science teacher who lives at Regal Care of Harwich and joyfully shares a monthly newsletter article with us. Call him at 508 430-6309. April 2025

The Mid-Atlantic Mountain Ridge

The ridge of submarine mountains in the center of the North and South Atlantic Oceans is the longest range of mountains in the world. It runs from northeastern Greenland to the southern tip of Africa at a length of about 10,000 miles. From north to south, the islands that emerged from the ocean level are Jan Mayen (Norway), Iceland (Denmark), Azores (Portugal), St. Paul Rock (Brazil), Ascension (UK), Cape Verde (US), St. Helena (UK) Gough (UK), and Bouvet (Norway). Iceland has the highest elevation of them all because it has active volcanoes above the ground. Bermuda must be added to this list because a hundred million years ago, it was part of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The North American tectonic plate moved Bermuda westward to its present location at 32 degrees north by 64.7 degrees west.

Tectonic plates between the Americas, Eurasia, and Africa are pushing on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge causing the Atlantic seafloor to spread east and west at about an inch per year. It's this pressure that has caused the Americas to separate from Europe and Africa. The North American plate bumps up against the Eurasian plate, and the South American plate bumps up against the African plate. Here's a view of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge:



April Birthdays & Anniversaries

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



- 3 Hank Ritz
- 6 Gayle Olson
- 7 Marie Strojny
- 11 Kayla Jolibois
- 12 Daniel Campanaro
- 13 Cynthia Horgan
- 13 Gayla Bergman
- 14 Abigail Meyer
- 14 Kimberly Ilg
- 17 Jim Merriam
- 18 Ruth Brenneman
- 20 Lynne Meyer
- 22 Peter Goode
- 22 Cynthia Meyer
- 22 Eleanor Meyer
- 22 Susan Kiehnau
- 25 Claudia Bellis
- 29 Ralph Nixon

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES



- 8 Ellen & Peter Goode
- 12 Jayne & John Padgett

In 2024, St. Peter's received
\$1,267 in Thrivent Choice Dollars
grant funding.

Thanks to our Thrivent
Members who made this happen!

Update your information in St. Peter's Directory!

If you have any changes or if we don't
have your birthday or anniversary
listed, please send to:

Office@StPetersCapeCod.org

Flowers are placed at the
altar to the glory of God
on a woman's 75th birthday.



If you know someone with this special day
coming up, please let us know.

April 2025 at St. Peter's

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Room Guide: CR Conference Room DN Downstairs Narthex FH Fellowship Hall FP Food Pantry LR Luther Room N Narthex S Sanctuary Z Zoom	1 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 11a Bell Choir S 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2p Choir S 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	2 12p Lenten Service S 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	3 4p Dulcimer Fellowship Group LR	4 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1:30p Prayer Shawl LR	5 10a Women's Bible Study LR 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
6 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 11a Adult Sunday School Luther Room 11:15 am Healing Service, Sanctuary 4p Girl Scouts FH	7 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish 5p Girl Scouts FH 6p Men's AWOL LR 7p Dulcimer Fellowship Group DN	8 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 11a Bell Choir S 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 1230p Esther's Circle LR 2p Choir Practice S 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP 6p NAMI Meeting LR	9 12p Lenten Service S 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 130p Council Offs. CR 2p Nauset Neighbors LR 4p YOH Board Meeting LR	10 10a Pastoral Care Team CR & Z 1p Finance Com. Mtg CR 7p Girl Scouts FH	11 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	12 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
13 Palm Sunday 9:30a Worship, Sanctuary 11a Adult Sunday School Luther Room	14 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish 130p JustPeace LR 6p Men's AWOL LR	15 Tax Day 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 11a Bell Choir S 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2p Choir Practice S 2p Broad Reach Grief Group LR 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP 6p Council Mtg FH	16 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH	17 Maundy Thursday 130p Sacred Sorrow LR 4p SMMC Service, S 7p SPLC Service S	18 Good Friday Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 130p Prayer Shawl LR 4p SMMC Service, S 7p SPLC Service S	19 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
20 Easter 9:30a Worship Sanctuary	21 Easter Monday 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish 430p SPLC @ Faith Family Kitchen 6p Men's AWOL LR	22 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 11a Bell Choir S 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2p Choir Practice S 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	23 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH 5p Dulcimer Potluck @ Patti-son's	24 2p PSALM Meeting LR	25 Church office closed 10a Loaves & Fish FP 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH	26 4p SMMC Worship, Sanctuary
27 9:30a Worship Sanctuary	28 1230p Monomoy Bridge FH 1p Loaves & Fish 6p Men's AWOL LR	29 8:10a Sojourners Pkg Lot 11a Bell Choir S 12:30p Monomoy Bridge FH 2p Choir Practice S 3:30p Loaves & Fish FP	30 12:30p Loaves & Fish FP 1p Kathy's Bridge FH			