



The Messenger

June 2025

Contact Us

Pastor Tim Dibble

Pastor's phone

248-622-9514

Pastor's email

revtcd@yahoo.com

Office Administrator

Fiona Dibble

Church Office Phone

231-894-5789

Church email

whitelakeunitedmethodist

@gmail.com

Address:

White Lake UMC

8555 Cook Street

Montague, MI 49437

Website:

www.whitelakeumc.org

From the Pastor's Desk

Summer is just around the corner . . . Hallelujah!

After the self-examination of Lent and the resurrection joy of Easter my faith focus calls me outward much as the warming weather, blooming flowers, budding trees, and the sounds of lawn mowers calls me outside into the emergent wonder of God's blessed Creation here in White Lake. I am and I hope you are as well looking forward to the wonderful opportunities in which we may share God's compassion, charity and love.

In the few days following Easter morning, Jesus appeared to the disciples calling them to the ministry of new birth in which they might join him in true resurrection, united by the Holy Spirit, and transformed into his body still incarnate on earth until Jesus returns one day. This call to share the miracle of Christ's Gospel has been passed down through the sacred traditions of our faith to us.

As the coming days and weeks begin to fill with the tasks, programs, celebrations, and activities of summer may we ever be kept mindful of why we are so busy and never lose sight of whom we are . . . disciples of Jesus Christ. May we experience the joy, confidence and power that will enable our witness and bring more of our neighbors into a personal relationship with their Lord. May we reason through the tasks ahead of us . . . pacing ourselves, examining and planning together, relying on one another and joining together as one voice . . . one mission . . . one family.

We are entering into exciting days, weeks and months as we continue to grow in numbers, mission and outreach, and most importantly in faith! Let us keep in our hearts, minds and spirits Jesus first and last and everything in between. Then and only then will all our efforts be truly blessed and in God's will.

God bless!

Rev. Tim Dibble

**OFFICE
NOTES**



The Church office is located at
8555 Cook Street, Montague, MI 49437
Phone # 231-894-5789

Church Office Hours

Mon 10am—3.30pm
Tues 12pm—3.30pm
Wed 10am—3.30pm
Thurs 10am—3.30pm
Fri 10am—3.30pm

Deadline for the July newsletter
Wednesday June 25th, 2025

Dates to note:-

June 9th – 12th. Pastor Tim and Fiona will be on planning retreat. Office will be closed at church building but phone/email etc. will still be handled remotely.

June 13th - 15th, and June 23rd – 27th Pastor Tim will be on vacation.

Our Vision Statement

Worship God

Follow Jesus

Love and Serve All

“As followers of Jesus, we the people of the White Lake United Methodist Church are committed to welcoming and loving everyone, without regard to age, ability, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, family make-up or faith tradition. We embrace the principles of love over hate, inclusion over bias, respect over prejudice, equality over bigotry and caring for all. We are committed to living out unconditional love in our lives, worship, study, and service.”

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS!

VOLUNTEER FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY, JUNE AND JULY:

First Sundays Barb & Bill Rifaill (231) 894 0241

Second Sundays Shirley Atchison (231) 750 5070

Third Sundays Mary Todd (231) 557 5701 July 20th Martha Tanis (231) 215 8328

Fourth Sundays Charlene Lindquist (231) 726 8364

Fifth Sundays in June, August, and November will be Ruth Grenell and Martha Sadony

Sue Thumser has volunteered to be a substitute provider if needed. Volunteers may also swap with each other if scheduling conflicts arise.

If you have a conflict later, you may switch Sundays.

Do you want to do just one birthday or anniversary special? Contact the scheduled person and make arrangements!
Further information or assistance can be obtained from the church office 894-5789 or Barb Lloyd, 894-2543.





Prayer Request Card – are available on our Welcome Desk in the Welcome Center at both campuses. Fill it out and hand to Pastor Tim on Sunday mornings.

➤ **Instant Messenger on church Facebook page**

(<https://www.facebook.com/WhiteLakeUnitedMethodist>).

- This is a private message service that Pastor Tim monitors. Pastor Tim also tries to monitor postings/updates that many share on the church Facebook page.
- **NEW Church Website** has a Prayer Request page that folks can send a message through that will be monitored and picked up by the pastor.
- **Weekly Printed Announcements** – It is our plan to continue to publish our Prayer List here each week. Feel free to take a copy home to use as a guide for your prayers during the week!
- **Monthly Newsletter** – We will publish our existing Prayer List each month.
- **Contact the Pastor/Church Office** – phone or email the Church Office to make a specific prayer request of Pastor Tim.
- **For prayer requests to our Prayer Chain** please contact Martha Tanis at 231-894-8525 or Laura Kiel at 231-894-9253. They are responsible for starting the Prayer Chain.
- **To be added to the Prayer Chain**
- **e-mail list to receive notifications of new prayer requests**, please e-mail Jan Dyer at jareyd@aol.com. We can never have too many folks praying!



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- Prayers for Gwenneth Bean's recovery after breast cancer surgery on May 30th.
- Bill Rafaill is asking for continued prayers for his sister. Bill's sister consulted a cancer specialist to review all possible treatments and how they work together. While the specialist is waiting for the results of one more test from the biopsy, the specialist feels a mastectomy would be the best course of action as that eliminates the need for radiation.
- Prayers for Leeann Alexander who had surgery on Tuesday, May 20th.
- Bob Suits is back home after a couple of brief hospital stays for treatment of his breathing issues. Prayers for him, and for Lee.



June 8th 2025 – Pentecost Sunday with Holy Communion
Resurrection Story: “Transformed”

Celebrate the birthday of the Church with us

Pentecost is June 8th, 2025

9am and 11am, with Holy Communion.

Worship Ministries



Sunday Morning

Services

9:00am

Traditional style

10.00am

Fellowship Time

11:00am

Praise Band Service

Including Kids' Church

Hallelujah Kids' Chorus &
the Youth Class

Upcoming Worship Series – Easter Season



Sunday
June 15th
Guest Preacher:
Ward Heaton

Celebrating all the
important men in our lives



Worship Series: "Do Unto Others"



Just as water reflects the
face, so one human heart
reflects another.
– Proverbs 27:19

**kindness.
compassion.
humility.
respect.
love.**

June 22: "Blue and Red Make Purple: Kindness"
June 29: "The Polarization Within: Compassion"
July 6: "Listen More, Speak Less: Humility"
July 13: "Living Together on Uncommon Ground: Respect"
July 20: "Malice Toward None: Love"

The new worship theme begins
on June 22nd

"Do Unto Others"

Music Ministry

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

June 1 - Clay Cudney

June 9 - Communion

June 15 - Kevin Munson

June 22 - Jinny Bellinger

June 29 - Rick Kelley

July 6 - Communion

July 13 - Melody Kraut

July 20 - Lainey Gibson

July 27 - Jim Brown

On Wednesday, May 21st we had a gathering of our music makers – bells, choir, band, and more. Despite the weather, we had a great potluck meal and fun conversation. Thanks to all our musicians, singers, and especially to our music director, Gwen, who successfully brings it all together.

The Praise Ringers and Choral Joy will be enjoying a well-earned rest for the summer, whilst individuals and guests share their special music with us.



South Group Scoop

May has been a busy month for our youth. We have already done some yard work, got some of our other projects scheduled for summer, and some of our Fall and Winter activities through to New Year's Eve!

Plotting and Planning..... Yes!

We have finally arranged our Summer Mission Trip. We will be at Lake Michigan Campground from Thursday June 19th to Sunday, June 22nd. We will be doing work at the campground, and have fun activities, taking advantage of all that the campground has to offer, including a couple of surprises.

Watch this space for news and dates for our other activities this year.

Thanks again. God is great and always provides.

The Youth Team



MISSION OPPORTUNITIES

Happy 102nd Birthday to our lovely Betty Nafe.

Betty continues to lead our team that prepares chicken dinners for the Muskegon Women's Mission every other week.

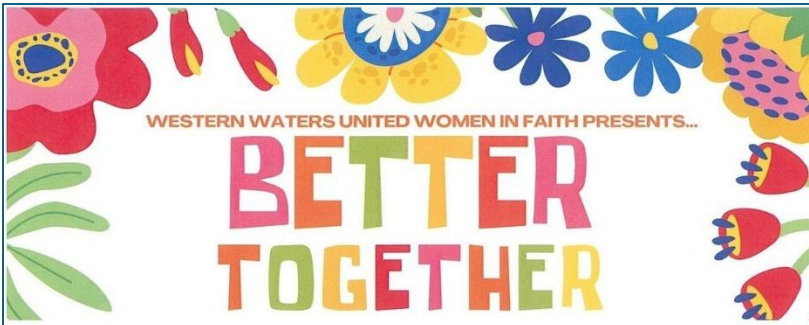
Thank you to Betty, and the whole team for your dedicated effort to support women in need. You are a wonderful example to us all, as you give your time and effort to serve our community.

What a great cake!





Did you know that ALL women and girls in the United Methodist Church are members of the United Women in Faith? All pastors are members too!
 Next meeting is on Monday, June 2nd at 10am.




WESTERN WATERS UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH PRESENTS...

BETTER TOGETHER

A big thank you to all the ladies who helped us welcome the District UWF to White Lake for the Women's Day retreat. The food and hospitality were, as always, excellent. Everyone's hard work was greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Speak to Sue Lloyd for more information about our Care Circle



White Lake UMC's United Women in Faith invite you to join

A CARE CIRCLE

for our sisters and brothers with past and present cancer diagnoses.

*We will care for each other by listening and learning and loving.
 Listening to each other's fears, anxieties and hopes.
 Learning each other's needs, concerns and wishes.
 Loving each other through phone calls, cards and hugs.*

As we are held in God's hands, let us hold each other in a circle of care.

Please contact Sue Lloyd at slloyd6907@charter.net, or by phone at 231-894-5292, if you want to join the Care Circle.

All are welcome, regardless of gender, ability, talent, experience, health.

Potluck/Social Evening

Thanks to all the ladies who joined us for our recent potluck dinner/social event. The food was good, with splendid company and some fun games together. (Dominoes, Sequence, and Cribbage) If it hadn't been for the oncoming storm, we may have played late into the night!



ANNUAL UWF
YARD SALE

Our UWF group will be holding their Yard Sale on July 11th & 12th.

We will be collecting donations for sale from Monday July 7th to Thursday July 10th.

Now is the time to have a clear out and let us turn your unwanted items into much needed money for mission. More details to follow but please save the date!



YARD SALE



Friday July 11 th & Saturday July 12 th 9am – 2.30pm	8555 Cook Street Montague, MI 49437 (231) 894 5789
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Health & Wellness Ministries

Anyone is welcome to join us for gentle chair yoga exercises. No experience necessary.

Join us for

CHAIR YOGA

A fun and relaxing way to get ready for summer!



Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
3:30 to 4:30 pm
WLUMC Fellowship Hall

All are welcome, all 3 days or any day.

More information call WLUMC office, 231-894-5789

Your WLUMC Health & Wellness Team look forward to seeing you!



Wednesday

June 18

2:00PM - 7:00PM

White Lake United Methodist Church Community Blood Drive

LOCATION

White Lake United Methodist Church - Conference Rm 7
8555 Cook St.
Montague, MI 49437

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

- Call 866-642-5663
- Visit versiti.org/mi
- Or scan the QR code below

Walk-ins welcome, as schedule allows

Donate blood at this drive to support The Free Store.

Helpful tip:
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



Click on the QR code to sign up for donating blood. If you need assistance with this, call in at the church office.

What a great way to help our community. All the blood products from this drive stay right here in Michigan.

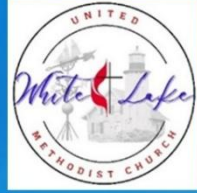
The White Lake Community Free Store will also benefit from our efforts.

Faith Formation



Come and share fun and fellowship with us at family camp. We have two platform tents and two RV/tent sites available for our group.

BOOK YOUR SPACE NOW!



Call Ruth Tuttle
(517) 902 6112 or
The Church office
(231) 894 5789
To book your place

White Lake UMC Summer Campout

August 1st – 3rd 2024

Lake Michigan Camp and Retreat

YOU ARE INVITED!

Lots of fun for ALL ages.



DATE FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Women's Retreat – September 26th – 28th at St Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt, MI

ENDOWMENT UPDATE



WLUMC Endowment Report for April 2025

Beginning Balance (03/28/2025)	185,657.42
Dividend Income	430.77
Change in Market Value	-513.48
Ending Market Value (04/30/2025)	185,657.42

The fund had a slight loss of \$ 82.71 during April and our funds were stable compared to March.

I appreciate the endowment committee as they have helped through this transition to new leadership. I would especially like to thank Jeff Petersen as he has helped me navigate through this process.

As the year goes by, we have been giving out our grant money to those teams who submitted grant requests. We encourage groups and individuals to look for ministry opportunities for 2026.

I am certain that we will gain more in our fund as we proceed in to the future.

In Christ, Tim Todd (Endowment Fund Team Leader)



TRUSTEES NEWS

Praise Center:

- Thanks to the gang, keeping the lawns nice. We will need to maintain both internal and external parts of our building. What an incredible building it is. Jeff Petersen, Dave Allen, Steve Welter are due a thank you from all of us.
- The elevator is of concern. We are needing to renew the state license for that equipment. I have contacted our State Inspector. I have asked we hold off our inspection and certification until we sell or have otherwise dealt with the building. It is quite expensive to have these inspections. Stay tuned.

Thank you, so much, for the continued efforts to maintain our incredible facility and the many missions it supported.

Montague Campus:

- Work is done on the Prayer Walk. Wow, great work with the added, outside prayer area. We moved a bench from the Praise Center to the Prayer Walk. Check it out. Use it. What a great addition to our grounds.
- Gardens are coming to life and in need of help from any of us willing to roll up a sleeve or two and dig in some dirt to support this ministry of a wonderful, visual and environmental masterpiece. Memorial Garden, Raised Garden, Bio Swales, Fern Garden, Sign Garden, Fruit Garden, Retention Area, East Tree Area, plantings around the church building and Playground Area. All are in need of you and whatever you can do. Claire Schlaff is asking for help in a number of these areas. Those of us afflicted with that green thumb and willing to help please contact Claire.
- Jeff Petersen and Ken Wentworth have taken on the Community Garden. Joe Clarke has added his touch to the garden area with tilling and preparing for planting.
- Mowing crews are being set for the season by Jeff Petersen. Anyone wishing help can contact Jeff.

Parsonage:

- All seems quiet on this front. Working on replacing some fencing around the walkout area. Denny and Glen have stepped up to help with this process.
- Huge thanks to Glen Naghtin, Ken Wentworth, Denny Atchison, Dave Allen, Tom Hinken, Jeff Dillen, Ward Heaton, Bob Tuttle, for all their help with: Brush, Fences, Leaves, etc. around the parsonage. What a huge difference a bunch of hands and some time makes. It is truly appreciated. THANKS!!!

What a great combination of facilities and people to improve the lives of so many through our ministries and outreach to our communities.

Great to be a part of a community and congregation that makes such a huge difference.

Dick Baerman, Trustee

Nurture Outreach Witness



NURTURE

Caring for and encouraging growth or development

OUTREACH

Showing kindness, compassion, and support to those in need.

WITNESS

Openly professing one's faith through words and actions

Greetings to all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

What are your
to help assemble

parade? Thank you to all who offered ideas for the float. The NOW team will meet early in June to design our 4th of July entry and begin work on our Summer Splash event scheduled for mid-August.

plans for this beautiful Michigan summer season? Would you like
our 4th of July parade float or walk/ride along with us during the

News flash...WLUMC has a bounce house! Thanks to all who made it possible for us to purchase a nearly-new bounce house to enjoy whenever we want.

Peace and love to you all,
Sue Lloyd

FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Watch this space for information on our Summer Splash, Halloween Party, Trunk or Treat, and the 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Festival. Volunteer and get involved!



Our Native Landscape

The Bioswales

News from Claire Schlaff

Some native pollinators can only survive on native plants. That's why we grow natives!

In 2014 our church Green Team began planning for the new parking lot and native landscape. Following the construction of the parking lot in 2015, planting throughout the landscape began in earnest in 2016 and has been a work in progress ever since! This summer I hope to submit a monthly update featuring each of the main native gardens, beginning with the bioswales.

At 200 ft long and 6 ft wide, with their sloped sides (to allow for capture and filtering of rainwater runoff from the parking lot), and the preponderance of rocks and chunks of asphalt that had been used to fill the bioswales after construction (which I have gradually replaced with soil while planting), and the need for drip irrigation instead of sprinkling (which now covers most, but not all of the plants), and the need to step gingerly on plants while weeding in the center of the 6-foot wide expanse, and the need to duck under ropes to get there, it has been a challenge maintaining these bioswales! Perhaps the biggest problem is my trial-and-error approach to gardening! After nine years, I think we are finally getting closer to finding solutions to the main problems – weeds and erosion.

Unless plants cover virtually every inch of the bioswales, with their root systems firmly in place, rainwater rushing downhill from the west washes the soil along with it and leaves the roots mostly bare. Then the plants dry up and die, leading to more erosion and more weeds filling in the void left behind. Wild strawberries have been our main groundcover, and it has been clear that we needed groundcovers with deeper root systems.

I have since added *potentilla simplex*, silverweed (which looks like a little silvery fern), and wild petunias. This year I am adding a sun-tolerant sedge, *carex bicknellii*. I have tried to limit the use of tall plants at the edges of the bioswales because they get tangled in the ropes, so firm-rooted groundcovers are essential at the edges for handling the rush of rainwater.

Tall plants in the bioswales include *penstemon digitalis* (blooms in June, and it is fun watching bees go into and out of its white bell-shaped flowers), swamp milkweed (good for monarch butterflies), purple coneflower, New England aster (blooms in the fall, so is essential for our pollinators), and false sunflower (which gets too dense and is usually full of aphids, so I am phasing that out). Butterfly weed adds some bright orange to the bioswales, and numerous “volunteer” plants are present here and there, such as *coreopsis*, black-eyed Susan, and yellow coneflower. At the ends of each bioswale we have a non-native, catmint, which is great because it stays present all summer and keeps drivers from taking shortcuts across the ends of the bioswales!

The small trees and shrubs in the bioswales are serviceberries (the birds love these early berries), St. John's Wort, and witch hazel (which aren't doing very well after several years of being there).

I spray the flowers in the entire landscape at least weekly, using Deer Stopper (smells like mint, which deer don't like). I buy it condensed, mix it with water, and use it with a pump sprayer.

I need to focus on the bioswales this summer because I'm not getting any younger and I worry about what will happen to these when I am no longer able to keep them maintained. I appreciate any help you can give with tending to the other gardens while I am weeding and planting in the bioswales. If you stop by and ask me, I can find a small, easy task for you! I think you will find it to be rewarding living amongst our pollinators!





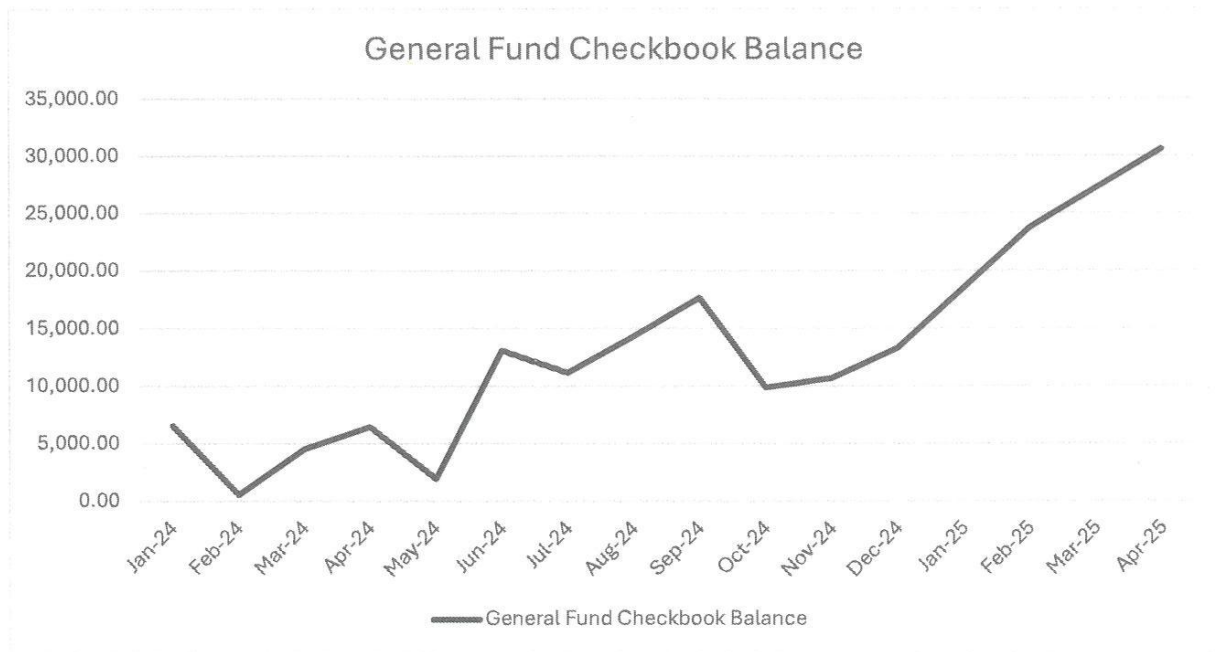
April 2025 Finance Report

April 2025 Finance Report (as of April 30, 2025)						
	April	April	% April	YTD	YTD	% YTD
	Actual	Budget	Budget	Actual	Budget	Budget
General Fund Income	\$ 31,722	\$ 28,816	110%	\$ 114,198	\$ 112,279	102%
General Fund Expenses	\$ 21,440	\$ 27,818	77%	\$ 97,509	\$ 113,855	86%
Net General Fund Surplus	\$ 10,282			\$ 16,689		
General Fund Checkbook Balance	\$ 30,604					

The finance report through the end of April shows that the general fund giving was adequate to cover expenses with a \$10,282 surplus. Giving for the year so far has met expenses with a surplus of \$16,689 which is very positive. Our general fund checkbook balance as of the end of February was \$30,604 which is more than enough to cover 1 month's expenses. The church is up-to-date on its Ministry Shares obligations.

The graph below shows the trend in the WLUMC checkbook balance for the general fund. Since early in 2024 the church has greatly improved its financial situation to the point where we consistently have a buffer of over 1 month's expenses in the General Fund checkbook. This is very positive and reflects continued strong giving support from the congregation, for which we are very grateful.

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7



June Events at a Glance

- 1st Guest Preacher Ken Wentworth
No Communion served this Sunday (Pastor Tim is at Annual Conference)
- 2nd United Women in Faith meeting 10am in the Fellowship Hall
- 3rd Grief Share class 6pm Room 7
- 4th Worship Design Team 12pm Room 7
- 6th Health & Wellness Team meeting 10am in the Fellowship Hall
- 8th Pentecost Sunday – Communion served at both services
- 9th – 12th Pastor Tim & Fiona on planning retreat.
- 13th - 15th Pastor Tim on vacation
- 15th Father's Day – Guest preacher Ward Heaton (Blood Pressure Checks after each service)
- 16th Endowment Team meeting 10am Room 7
- 18th Blood Drive – Rooms 7 & 15
- 23rd – 27th Pastor Tim on vacation
- 28th Men's Breakfast 8am

<i>WEEKLY SCHEDULE AT WHITE LAKE UMC, 8555 COOK STREET, MONTAGUE</i>						
<i>CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT (231) 894 5789 FOR MORE DETAILS</i>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9am TRADITIONAL WORSHIP	Office open 10am to 3.30pm		Office open 10am to 3.30pm	Office open 10am to 3.30pm	Office open 10am to 3.30pm	Men's Breakfast 8am
11am PRAISE BAND WORSHIP Including Kids Church	UWF 10am (first Monday of the month)	Office open 12 to 3.30pm		Stitchers group 9.30am onwards		(4th Saturday of the month)
YOUTH GROUP 4-6pm	Chair Yoga 3.30pm	AL-ANON 7pm	Chair Yoga 3.30pm	FREESTORE 5-8pm	Chair Yoga 3.30pm	FREESTORE 11am—2pm
	THE GATHERING FREE MEAL 6-7pm		Faith Group 7pm NA MEETING 7pm	THE GATHERING FREE MEAL 6-7pm		
	NA MEETING 6.30pm				NA MEETING 6.30pm	