

**Volume 13, Issue 9**

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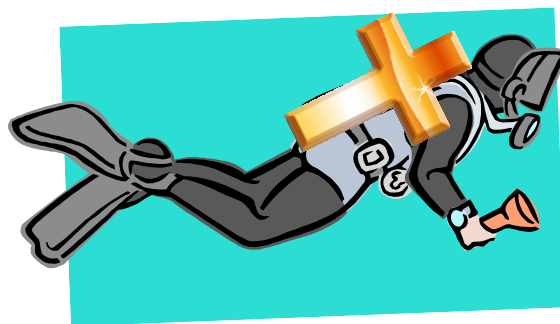


**September 2008**

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# Want to be part of the **D.I.V.E. Team?**



*The DIVE Team is the new hands-on discipleship and outreach group that will begin Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm*

See page 2 for more information

## The Dive Team

***“The DIVE Team is the new hands-on discipleship and outreach group that will begin Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 1830 hrs (6:30pm)”***



VICAR ERIC WANTS YOU! Are you being recruited to the Vineyard of Faith “DIVE” Team? You have heard me preach and write about Christian outreach and true discipleship. Now is the time that we are going to press forward into uncharted waters both at our church and in our community. *Joining the DIVE Team requires a serious desire to rescue the hurting and lost people of Windsor while diving into a deeper faith and developing both your spiritual life and gifts through high grace-low risk hands on experiences.* We are offering this opportunity to all, *however*, I seriously believe the Marine Corps recruitment slogan of “We don’t accept applications, only commitments” is applicable to this unique group. Nothing worth having is easy.

Vineyard of Faith needs passionate Christians who are ready to say, “SEND ME LORD, SEND ME!” Right now, Satan is working hard to break down Christians in many ways. He is innovative, and sneaky, constantly working to break down relationships, churches, ministries, and individual trust in our God. It would be foolish for us not to realize he is hard at work here at Vineyard of Faith at this very moment. Satan masquerades as an angel of light, so often times, he will make his ways and work appealing though opportunities which appear right and true. Test every decision, every spiritual thought on the basis of God’s Word alone. If we remain in the Vine (our God), we branches will recognize bad fruit (John 15:5). This is important work for the Lord. Vineyard of Faith is moving from a strong defensive position to include a strong offense. That’s what the DIVE Team is all about. If you think you don’t have the time for this, please think again!

**D = Devotion**

**I = Influence**

**V = Vision**

**E = Experience**

***Devotion*** refers to the individual’s commitment to Christ alone. All DIVE Team members will commit to deeper devotion through regular Scripture reading and time in prayer on a daily basis.

Continued, next page



## The Dive Team, continued...

***Influence*** refers to the impact that DIVE team members will have on both members of the community and members of Vineyard of Faith through acts of faith and love.

***Vision*** refers to the quest to search for new, God-breathed ideas for reaching our community with the Gospel, developing disciples, developing our church, and simply loving people in new ways.

***Experience*** refers to the hands-on experience/practice all DIVE Team members will gain through combining preparatory training with hands-on outreach in our community.

The DIVE Team will train and deploy together in our neighborhoods on a variety of team service/outreach projects. Weeks 1-3 will consist of intensive information, equipping, and strategic planning sessions for why and how we will infiltrate our community for Christ. Following the intensive sessions, this group will meet twice per month, once for training and once for deployment. Over time we will prioritize various projects to work on, and we will focus on building the outreach efforts of our church.

### Here's a snap-shot of our first three weeks:

**Week One:** This first meeting will be an informational and commitment building meeting. We will present a map of Windsor and divide our city into approximately 12 areas. We will go over our tentative plan and make adjustments as necessary to ensure we are all on the same page for an exciting season of Discipleship and Outreach.

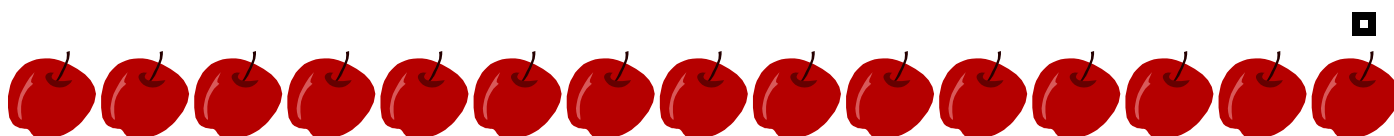
**Week Two:** We will study Spiritual Warfare and Prayer. Don't let the title deter you. We will cover Spiritual Warfare from cover to cover.

**Week Three:** We will focus on Evangelism (Servant and Strategic). We will break up into teams and after these three weeks of training, we will deploy into our regions to observe, pray, and casually talk with people about the needs of the community and how the church can best serve our city. This is the most important preliminary work for the DIVE Team. This work will serve as the basis for future outreach efforts and projects. Training and Discipleship studies will be built around the type of outreach and goals the DIVE Team develops.

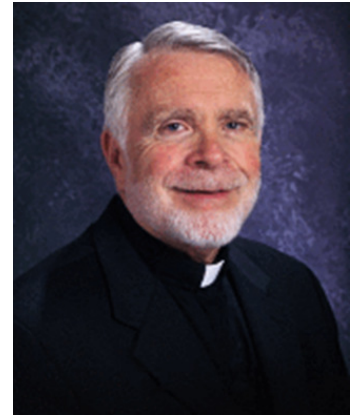
*Consider joining the DIVE Team! It will be a challenging, humbling, and immensely rewarding experience. We'll also enjoy a great deal of fun and fellowship as we embark upon a tremendously important task together. If you are interested, I need you to show up to our Vineyard of Faith meeting room inside the main ministry center on Wednesday September 17<sup>th</sup> for our first session at 6:30pm. Session one is open to all, the following sessions are only for the committed. If you are unable to make it to session one, please e-mail or call me.*

Grace and Truth,

Vicar Eric



## From Pastor Ted's Desk....



**“We may not have it all together . . . but together, we have it all!”**

So intoned the speaker at a conference I was attending. That phrase struck a chord with me. That's the “theology of body life”, I thought to myself. That's what the apostle was trying to get across in his letter to the Corinthian congregation, the first letter, chapters 12 and 14. The body, that is the Christian community, is one body, made of many different parts. There is one Head, Jesus Christ, but all the rest of the members of the body are meant to carry out their unique functions for the good of the body. The hand is not a foot. Nor is the nose the mouth. Each body part has a unique function (or functions) it was created to perform. The nose was meant to smell. The foot was meant to run. Strangely at times we get that mixed up don't we? Our feet smell and our nose runs! But that's not what God intended.

So God has designed things so that in the Christian community there are the necessary gifts that the body needs. It needs leaders—so God gifts some with the gift of leadership. It needs administrators—so God gifts some with the gift of organizing people and resources. It needs those who can preach and teach adults—so God gives some the gift to preach and teach adults. It needs those who can teach and nurture the children—so he gives some the gifts to do that. He gives some the gift to pray without ceasing and without wearying because he knows there are always members in the body who are in need of intercessory prayer. He gives some the gift to minister to human hurts and needs because he knows there are always members in the body (and the broader community) who are hurting. He gifts some to boldly witness to others because he knows that there are people out there who need to hear about Jesus and his love. And so on and so forth.

Sometimes in the church we don't have it all together. From time to time we struggle with that here at Vineyard of Faith. Right now it seems we are struggling to get our act together. But as we do we can do it in this confidence—together we have it all. As a body (and as individuals) we need to identify the gifts, and encourage one another to employ the gifts. We need to plan together wisely as a body so that those with the gifts of mercy are formally serving in that area. And those with the gift of evangelizing are formally engaged in outreach ministries by the congregation. And those with the gift of teaching and nurturing are leading classes. And those with the gift of giving with liberality are given the opportunity to exercise that gift.

Perhaps it would be helpful to make a distinction between a gift and a role. A person may not have the gift of evangelism—but he still has the role of being a witness for Jesus Christ in word and deed. A person may not have the gift of giving with liberality—but she still has the role of putting gifts into the offering plate in support of the ministry of the congregation. A person may not have the gift of exhortation—but he still has the role of helping to encourage one another in his or her Christian walk.

Speaking of encouragement; in order for a Christian to discover his or her spiritual gift, he or she needs “feedback” from the body. When someone blesses us with their teaching or with their words of encouragement, we need to tell them! “Thank you for blessing me today with your words of encouragement. You often help me to feel better or think more positively.” Or—“Thank you for your small group Bible study leadership. You really have a gift for involving people in discussion and discovering together what God's Word is saying to us today.” When we provide such “feedback”, we encourage people to keep on using their gift, and confirm in them the conviction that this is the way God wants them to be serving in the body. It's easy to criticize others in ministry. It's more blessed to them and to the body to encourage them.

“We may not have it all together—but together we have it all!” In that confidence let us minister together for the sake of each other, and for the sake of the community God has called us to reach with his love. ■



# Children's Ministry News

## WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE MISSIONARIES?

The Children's Church kids have started a new series called "Sharing God With Others." This series will help the kids learn about missions as they investigate the lives and work of real Bible-time and modern-day missionaries. They will learn that they too can tell others about Jesus. God can use them to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to their schools, neighborhoods, and families.

Playing the role of a secret agent, the kids will be given a weekly mission to discover what makes a good missionary. They will search the Bible for answers and learn how those Bible truths apply to their own worlds.

When Jesus told his disciples to "Go... and make disciples of all the nations," there was no age limit! The Great Commission is given to all believers, no matter how young or old.

We are excited about what God is doing in the lives of our children at VOF and would appreciate your prayers for the children and leaders.



And now, we invite you to go through parts of the first lesson that they experienced at the end of August!

What in the world is a missionary? Read the following verses and write down what it tells you:

John 20:21:

Matthew 28:19:

Acts 1:8:

2 Corinthians 5:18-20:

Romans 10:13-15:

So what did you find? What is a missionary? **A missionary is a follower of Jesus who tells others about Him.**

Do you know any missionaries? What does a missionary do?

God wants every single person on earth to know about Him. When Jesus was on earth, He taught His

disciples how to tell everyone Good News. The disciples were missionaries who followed Jesus and told others about Him. Now that Jesus is in heaven, God gives us this job of bringing the message to others. Many people at home and far away have never heard that Jesus died for them.

It's our job to tell them.



Missionaries share God with people right around them in their neighborhoods and schools, and in faraway places, too. Another name for doing this is an ambassador. An ambassador is a person sent to give a message or do a job.

Now that you know better what the word missionary means, can you of someone you know who does this?

Have you ever told someone who Jesus is, and that He wants to forgive their sins and give them life in heaven that never ends? If you have, YOU are a missionary too!

## FREE ANSWERS IN GENESIS CONFERENCE SEPT. 5<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup>

Recently at Vineyard of Faith, we have been using a lot of Children's Ministry materials from *Answers in Genesis*, a Christian apologetics ministry that focuses on upholding the truth of God's Word from the very beginning. Now, you can attend a **free** AiG conference led by Mike Riddle at Santa Rosa SDA Church on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

- 9:00 am: Dinosaurs (Grades 1-6)
- 10:30 am: Apemen and Amazing Creatures (Grades 7-12)
- 6:30 pm: Apologetics 101- Answering the Tough Questions
- 8:00 pm: 4 Power Questions to Ask an Evolutionist

### Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

- 10:45 am: Do You Have a Biblical Worldview?
- 6:00 pm: Cloning, Stem Cells, and the Value of Life
- 7:30 pm: Facts about Apemen
- Santa Rosa SDA - 840 Sonoma Ave. in Santa Rosa*
- santarosasda.org*





## Stephen Ministry at VOF

### “SURRENDER”

*Corrie ten Boom once visited a weaver's school where the students were making beautiful patterns. She asked, “When you make a mistake, must you cut it out and start from the beginning?”*

*A student said, “No. Our teacher is such a great artist that when we make a mistake, he uses it to improve the beauty of the pattern.”*

*That is what the Lord does with our mistakes. He is the greatest artist but we must surrender. Surrender your blunders to the Lord. He can use them to make the pattern of your life more beautiful.*

*My life is but a weaving, between my God and me.  
I do not choose the colors. He worketh steadily.  
Ofttimes He weaveth sorrow, and I, in foolish pride,  
Forget He sees the upper, and I, the underside.  
Not till the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly,  
Will God unroll the canvas and explain the reason why,  
The dark threads are as needful in the skillful Weaver's hand.  
As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned.  
By Corrie ten Boom*

As I was thinking about surrender this week, not only surrendering my mistakes to the Lord but surrendering my entire being to the Lord, I realized that I have a long way to go. Just when I think that I have one area of my life cleaned up, God shows me another area that needs work. But this is the process of sanctification isn't it? We never arrive until we reach heaven itself. So on our journey, God is growing us up in Him, Through Him, and For Him.

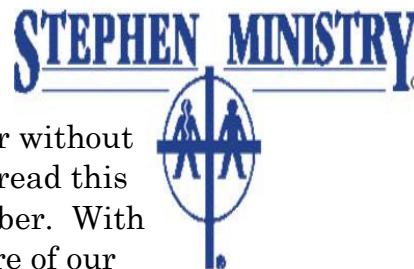
Ministry requires long hours, hard work, and sacrifice. If we are really sold out for God and are passionate followers as we claim, we must be about our Father's business. Ephesians 2:10 reads, ***For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.***

I find that the more I surrender to God by obeying His Word, the more I give way to His leading. Sometimes He asks us to make changes in our lives. Change is never easy for me. I don't always like it my friends. But to know God's purpose for my life is always my goal and to live in it brings the greatest joy. Max Lucado would call it your “Sweet Spot”. This is when you say “I was created to do this.” For those of you that are serving God and love what you do for Him, you know what I mean. When our ministry becomes a burden to us, God may be moving us to serve Him somewhere else. We must listen to Him no matter what the cost.

*continued, next page*



“Surrender”, continued



Stephen Ministry will continue at Vineyard of Faith with or without the funding. I have already cut my hours in half by the time you read this in order to keep things flowing at least until the middle of November. With our reorganizing of Stephen Ministry, we hope to reach out to more of our church family. When you see a Stephen Minister on Sunday morning sitting near you, please feel free to talk to him or her if you have a need you'd like to share. If you have a prayer request, you may also give that prayer to a Stephen Minister.

Many of the hours that I put in are making phone calls to you and your loved ones about how we can pray for you. Our Stephen Ministry Team will be splitting up these calls, so don't be surprised if you receive a call from someone other than me this week. Yes, I will also be available to you, but by spreading out our ministry amongst our entire Stephen Ministry Team, we will alleviate some of the time that I put in at VOF and make time for other things. We hope to form a stronger community of care.

As God continues to challenge me to surrender more and more of my life to Him, I would challenge you to do the same. What is God asking you to surrender to? Are there mistakes that you have made? Are there changes He wants you to make? As we surrender more and more to Christ, we grow in our walk with Him. He may lead us to join a bible study or serve in a new capacity at church. Whatever God asks of you and me, let us surrender fully to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the author and perfecter of our faith.

I'm excited about Vineyard of Faith and what God has planned for us. If you are going through a struggle in your life, call me and I will connect you to a Stephen Minister.

Serving Him,  
Sharie



PSALM 29:11, NRSV





# Kids In the Vineyard



A new page every month in The Vine just for the kids at VOF! This page will include a special maze, puzzle, or other activity, as well as answers to the questions kids have about God or the Bible!

## THE QUESTIONS KIDS HAVE...

### What does God look like? ~Jackson

No one knows what God "looks like" because God is invisible and doesn't have a physical body as we do. But we can learn about God and see what God acts like by learning about his Son, Jesus. In the Bible we can read about how Jesus lived, how he treated people, and what he taught. That's what God is like.

*Jesus replied, "Don't you even yet know who I am, Philip? And I have been with you for all this time! Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking to see him?" (John 14:9)*

Other verses to read: John 1:18; 5:37; 6:46; 1 John 3:2

### Who is the Devil and how did he become the Devil? ~Rheanna

The devil is also called Satan. The word *devil* means "liar" or "enemy." Satan used to be an angel. But he wanted to be like God. God kicked him out of heaven. Ever since then, Satan has worked on earth, trying to defeat God and God's people. He is God's enemy. But God is far stronger than Satan. In the end, Satan will

be thrown into hell and suffer forever.

*But if you keep on sinning, it shows you belong to Satan. He has been sinning from the beginning. But the Son of God came to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8)*

Other verses to read: Genesis 3:1-15; 1 Chronicles 21:1; Job 1:6-13; 2:1-7; Zechariah 3:1-2; Matthew 4:1-11; John 14-30; 2 Corinthians 11:14; Ephesians 6:11; Hebrews 2:14

### What is Heaven like? ~Adam & Jackson

The Bible uses some wonderful pictures to tell us what heaven is like. In our world, we think that gold is important because it's so valuable. But in heaven, the streets will be gold—we'll **walk** on it. The best way to picture heaven is to imagine the most exciting and fun place that you've ever been to. Heaven will be like that, only much, much better. Jesus told his followers that he was leaving earth to go to heaven to prepare a place for them. He has a special place for us, where there is no crying or sadness and we will be filled with joy.

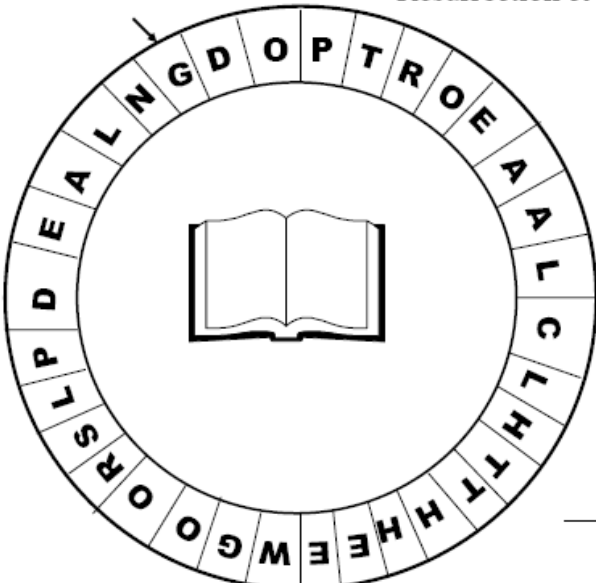
*[Jesus is speaking] "There are many homes in my Father's house. I am going to prepare a place for you. I will come again and take you to me. Then you will be with me where I am about to go. If this weren't so, I would tell you plainly."*

*(John 14:2-3)*

Other verses to read: Isaiah 60:17; Revelation 21:21

*More questions coming next month!*

Resurrection & Commission



Starting at the arrow skip every other letter and determine the secret message.

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# Birthdays of the Month

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Eric Allen       | -September 1  |
| George Brown     | -September 5  |
| Robert Hanna     | -September 5  |
| Peggy Decker     | -September 6  |
| Jonah Ortiz      | -September 7  |
| Jane Glanton     | -September 8  |
| Rachel Hall      | -September 9  |
| Ron Johnson      | -September 12 |
| Matt Lefor       | -September 12 |
| Michael Baeyens  | -September 15 |
| Amber Hayes      | -September 16 |
| Landon Wagner    | -September 16 |
| Heather Clay     | -September 19 |
| Andrew Hoesly    | -September 19 |
| Valerie Williams | -September 19 |
| Alaura Finger    | -September 20 |
| Madeline Ortiz   | -September 20 |
| Larry Barnes     | -September 21 |
| Kathryn Marko    | -September 22 |
| Patrick Ortiz    | -September 23 |
| Austin Hegg      | -September 24 |
| Wyatt Wagner     | -September 26 |
| Janet Corriea    | -September 28 |
| Christina Kraus  | -September 29 |
| Nicolas Wycoff   | -September 29 |
| Niema Brown      | -September 30 |

# Celebrating Anniversaries this Month



- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| John & Barbara Kirvan | -September 10 |
| Ron & Kathi Johnson   | -September 18 |
| Gary & Dana Finger    | -September 26 |
| Jeff & Denise Sanders | -September 26 |



*Chad & Nancie Chadwick would like to announce the birth of their first grandson:*

**Ethan Hadden-Shane Durbin**

Birthdate: July 1, 2008

Weight: 6lb.s 10 oz.

Length: 18.5 inches



Need to update your information for the V.O.F. phone directory? Forms are available in the church foyer. Just drop in offering basket when completed.

Diana & Grace Marcheschi  
2601 McBride Lane  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dr. Nancy J. Baker (South America)  
NCERD VSO Guyana  
106/7 Lamaha & Carmichael  
Georgetown, Guyana

Sandra Arriola & Marc Massaro  
1350 Ala Moana Blvd. # 2511  
Honolulu, HI 96814

Marie Rogers\Dana & Anna Mosher  
1253 Spyglass Ct  
Ripon, CA 95366  
(209) 599-5661

Lestena Bee  
1100 University Street  
Healdsburg, CA 95448





**Elephants,  
Lions, and Tigers!**

**HUGE  
BIG TOP**

Vineyard of Faith will be hosting the  
**CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS**

on Friday, September 5th.  
 There will be 2 shows: 4:30 PM and 7:30 PM  
**Tickets are available now!**  
 Presale (save 25%): \$12.00- Adults; \$6.00- kids

**NEED TO CONTACT THE STAFF?**

**Church Office: (707) 837-8712**



Vicar Eric Allen - *Pastoral Intern*

-ext. 202 eric@vof.org

Jill Allen - *Youth Ministry Director*

-ext. 203 - jilla@vof.org

Sharie Lefor - *Stephen Ministry*

-ext.204 - officesl@vof.org



Ken Corriea - *Music Director*

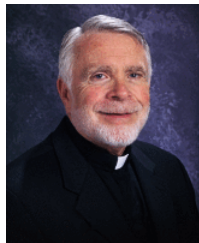
-ext.207 - kcorriea@vof.org



Rev. Ted Zimmerman -

*Supervisory Pastor*

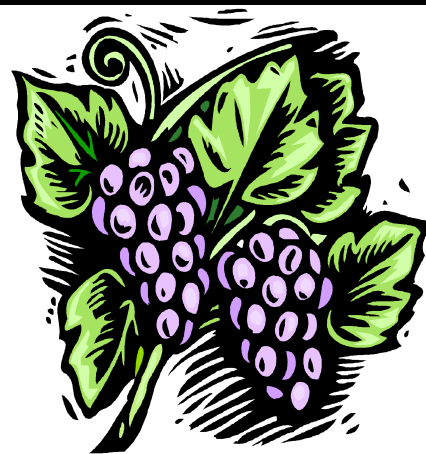
-ext 201 - revted@vof.org



Angel Frische - *Administrative Assistant*

-ext. 200 - office@vof.org

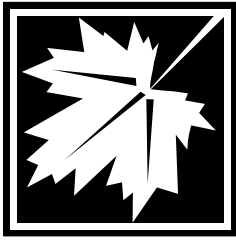
*John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit..."*



*Vision Statement*

Our vision is to share God's grace and love with everyone we can through innovative expressions of faith. As a Christ-centered church family, we will care for all people and equip Christians for a significant life-changing ministry.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 PM Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM Steps Come Alive Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>4:00 PM SWAT Jr. High 7:00 PM Facility Use: AA</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00 PM Facility Use: AA 7:30 PM Praise Practice</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4:30 PM Circus: 1st Show 7:30 PM Circus: 2nd Show 6:00 - 9:00 PM Open Prayer Time</p>	<p>6</p> <p>7:30 AM Reel Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM First Place Weight Loss</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>8:30 AM Praise Practice COMMUNION 10:00 AM Praise Service &amp; Children's Church</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:00 PM God's Iron Men Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:00 PM Steps Come Alive Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>4:00 PM SWAT Jr. High 7:00 PM Facility Use: AA</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:00 PM Facility Use: AA 7:30 PM Praise Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:30 AM Reel Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM First Place Weight Loss</p>
<p>14</p> <p>8:30 AM Praise Practice 10:00 AM Praise Service &amp; Children's Church</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 PM Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM Steps Come Alive Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>4:00 PM SWAT Jr. High 6:30 PM DIVE Team Mtg. 7:00 PM Facility Use: AA</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00 PM Facility Use: AA 7:30 PM Praise Practice</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>7:30 AM Reel Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM First Place Weight Loss</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8:30 AM Praise Practice COMMUNION 10:00 AM Praise Service &amp; Children's Church</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00 PM God's Iron Men Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 PM MST Meeting 7:00 PM Steps Come Alive Recovery Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>4:00 PM SWAT Jr. High 6:30 PM DIVE Team Mtg. 7:00 PM Facility Use: AA</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:00 PM Facility Use: AA 7:30 PM Praise Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:30 AM Reel Men's Bible Study 9:00 AM First Place Weight Loss</p>
<p>28</p> <p>8:30 AM Praise Practice 10:00 AM Praise Service &amp; Children's Church 12:00 PM Fellowship Potluck</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:00 PM Steps Come Alive Recovery Meeting</p>	