



April

2024

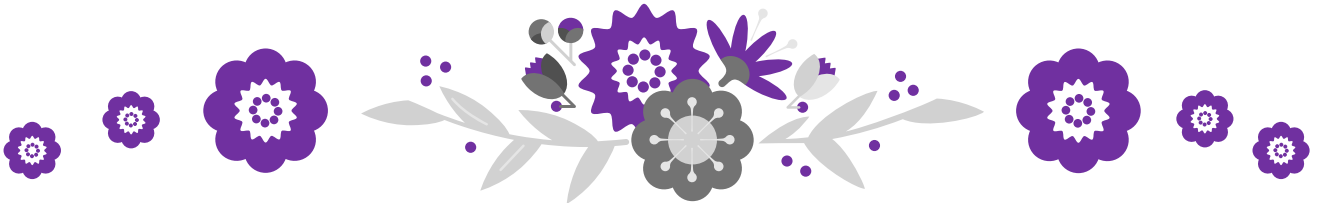
# SMOKE SIGNAL

## Our Mission Statement

Sharing the love of Christ with ALL people.

Burnt Factory Church  
1943 Jordan Springs Road  
P. O. Box 399  
Stephenson, Virginia 22656  
burntfactory.org  
PH: (540) 667-4993

*"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven."*  
Matthew 5:16



In our society today, Christians have come under attack for any number of reasons and unfortunately some of those reasons may be legitimate. People have left the church in numbers that are very disturbing and for reasons that are equally troubling.

But I believe there are vast numbers of devoted believers that are still making a difference in this world for the glory of God. I believe and I have seen glimpses of transformed hearts that are giving evidence that a nation-wide revival is just around the corner.

I believe a return to God and His Church will come one day soon. Maybe not this year or next year. Maybe not in five years or ten, maybe not in my lifetime, but it's coming one day and the truth of the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the Good News that is the Gospel will once again be embraced and reign supreme! The true spirit of our Lord will once again be proclaimed, and it will come when a thirsty and parched people who have no direction or purpose will yearn for truth and drink again of the living water of Jesus Christ!

Maya Angelou, the great American poet who died 10 years ago, wrote an interesting poem that I believe captures true Christianity. It is a poem that all who claim Christ as their Lord need to consider.

*When I say I am Christian, I'm not shouting I'm clean living.  
I'm whispering I was lost but now I'm found and forgiven!*

*When I say I am a Christian, I don't speak of this with pride.  
I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide!*

*When I say I am a Christian, I'm not trying to be strong. I'm  
professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on!*

*When I say I am a Christian, I'm not bragging of success. I'm  
admitting I have failed and need God to clean up my mess.*

*When I say I am a Christian, I'm not claiming to be perfect, my  
flaws are far too visible but God believes I am worth it!*

*When I say I am a Christian, I still feel the sting of pain. I have  
heartaches so I call upon His name!*

*When I say I am a Christian, I'm not holier than thou, I'm just  
a simple sinner who received God's good grace, somehow!*

Words to live by! God bless you all.

Pastor Steve



Pastor Steve & Melanie will be on vacation April  
15<sup>th</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup>  
Please contact Carrie for any needs or concerns.



## April Birthdays

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kay Keller  
Megan Powell
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Bruce Rodgers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jackson Jenkins
- 4<sup>th</sup> Dalton Earhart  
Silas Fout  
Etan Britton
- 5<sup>th</sup> Allie Goode  
Paul Gerometta  
Rick Walker  
Laine Everhart
- 8<sup>th</sup> Rich Wells  
Eva Reed
- 10<sup>th</sup> Chis Shepley
- 12<sup>th</sup> Pastor Steve Melester  
Teddy Rudolph  
Bonnie Rodgers
- 14<sup>th</sup> Christina Rohrbach  
Emma Skarupa
- 15<sup>th</sup> Jay Hanke
- 16<sup>th</sup> Alex Shepley
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jason Corron
- 21<sup>st</sup> Kendra Moore
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Jody Dorsey
- 25<sup>th</sup> Kelley Zirk  
Margie Willis
- 28<sup>th</sup> Layla Rodgers
- 29<sup>th</sup> Hannah Fair



## Happy Anniversary

- 16<sup>th</sup> Darrin & Kim Bursey
- 19<sup>th</sup> Jason & Kalyn Corron

## Remembering Buddy's Jokes

**Question:** What do you call a pile of **cats**?

**Answer:** A **meowntain**



\*Pulled from the May 2021 Edition of Smoke Signal.

# WORSHIP ROAD FOR APRIL 2024

- April 7<sup>th</sup>** This Sunday is packed with many celebrations! You sure do not want to miss it!  
We will celebrate Holy Communion.  
We will celebrate & consecrate our Pennsylvania Mission Team at 8:30.  
We will celebrate the Holy Service of Confirmation at 11:00 where five wonderful young people will make their profession of Faith in Jesus Christ and join the professing membership of Burnt Factory Church!  
Acts 3: 1-16 is our sermon text.
- April 14<sup>th</sup>** The fun keeps going! This Sunday, we will celebrate and recognize fourteen new members who will be coming into fellowship at Burnt Factory Church!  
Acts 4: 1-13 will be the subject of the sermon.
- April 21<sup>st</sup>** Pastor Steve will be away this Sunday and our wonderful Carrie Fair will be bringing forth the message. I know you all will be extremely blessed!
- April 28<sup>th</sup>** We will complete the month of April with a sermon that focuses on John 15: 1-11

Friends, I want to encourage you that no matter how hard it is to park on some Sundays and how crowded it can be to find a seat on some Sunday's, these are good problems! Come to worship anyway! Make worship a priority! You will not regret it!

God loves you and so does Burnt Factory Church!

## Looking ahead. Lots of great worship opportunities!

- |                            |                  |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>May 5<sup>th</sup></b>  | Holy Communion   | John 15: 9-17    |
| <b>May 12<sup>th</sup></b> | Ascension Sunday | Luke 2: 39-52    |
| <b>May 19<sup>th</sup></b> | Pentecost        | Acts 2: 1-21     |
| <b>May 25<sup>th</sup></b> | Trinity Sunday   | Romans 8: 12-17. |

## Pathfinders

Grief can present itself in many forms, and at any time it can pop up. Its an ongoing ,fluid entity that eases over time, but never really disappears. For many, we look for comfort in others who are feeling as we do, for some, we just want to be encouraged and feel heard. On April 17<sup>th</sup> there will be a gathering of the Pathfinders Grief ministry folks to share in their grief journey, eating a pizza lunch, supporting and praying for one another. Our topic for this meeting will be, “Grief is love with no place to go”. Come and join us, even if you have never come before, we invite you to the table.

Carrie Fair

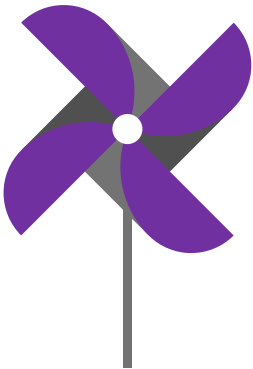


## Senior Activity Ministry

There will be a “GAME DAY” and get together on May 15<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm in the social hall. Board games and card games will be provided. If you have a favorite game, please bring it along to share! If you prefer not to play games, there will be a “Gather and Chatter” area to visit, laugh, and share stories. Light refreshments, drinks, and music will be provided. There will be a sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall starting on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Let’s get our *SENIOR GAME ON!!!*

*For more information or questions, you can contact Barb Caylor 549-327-3941*

*Blessings, Barb Caylor*



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Do you like to knit or crochet? Do you like to do something for someone else to encourage their prayer life? Would you like others to feel like they are getting a warm hug from Jesus? Well, if you answered yes to any of these, then I encourage you to attend the women’s’ meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 am to find out how you can become a part of the new and upcoming ministry. Come and See!

Martha Inglis





Spring has sprung and we are ready to say a big “HELLO” to warmer weather and sunny skies and all the fun activities that it brings!

On April 13<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, we will partner with the youth to do a church mission day gathering together to plant spring bulbs, put down some mulch, and do some general yard work around the shelter area. WE love our mission work of making cards for people etc. but this is an opportunity to get together and do some physical work being the actual hands and feet to better our church environment. Young kids can do big things too! Snacks and drinks will be provided. We will meet down at the church shelter at 1pm and finish up around 2:30.

## Save the Dates

**June 17-21**

Vacation Bible School

The theme is SCUBA!

From 6-8:30pm

**July 8-10**

Summer Camp

The theme is “The Story of Water”.

9am-1pm



Vacation Bible school is fun for the entire family, there are plenty of volunteer opportunities for adults and youth are encouraged to volunteer as crew leaders! VBS attendees are ages 3years to 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Summer Camp is for ages K-5<sup>th</sup>.

More information on all of these events will be coming soon!

Blessings,

Carrie Fair—Minister of Children and Administration



## Burnt Factory Youth

*All youth grades 6-12 are invited to participate in the following events:*

**April 13<sup>th</sup>:** Church Yard Work Day! The exterior parts of the church need some TLC. Parents of youth are ENCOURAGED to attend and lend a hand as well! Snacks will be provided.

**Time:** 1-2:30

**Where:** Church

**April 20<sup>th</sup>:** Motel Ministry: Youth will serve lunch for those in need along with providing toiletries.

**Time:** 10-1

**Where:** Youth will meet in the Fellowship Hall to prep food to take to APM (motel next to Five Guys on Route 7).

Please RSVP to Miss Erin for any of the above events

[youth@burntfactory.org](mailto:youth@burntfactory.org), or text 540-535-5283

## CONDOLENCES

As many have experienced the loss of a loved one, please remember them in prayer:



- Pat Dawson's stepson Chris claimed the promise of the resurrection on Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup>.
- After a long and courageous fight, Mary Lou Wales has claimed the promise of the resurrection.



For no one is cast off by the Lord forever.  
Though he brings grief, he will show  
compassion, so great is his unfailing love.  
For he does not willingly bring affliction or  
grief to anyone.

Lamentations 3:31-33



# April 2024 Faith and Health Corner



## Gardening

*“I went down to the grove of walnut trees and out to the valley to see the new spring growth, to see whether the grapevines had budded or the pomegranates were in bloom.”*

*Song of Solomon 6:11 NLT*

Spring gives us such pleasure as we see everything coming back to life, and it's a reminder of the new life that we have through Christ's resurrection. Gardening is a pleasure for most of us, but it is also an exercise and can lead to injuries. Raking, mulching, planting, trimming and digging are good physical activity yet can result in pain and stiffness in our neck, shoulder, elbow, wrist, knees and back if we over-extend ourselves. To enjoy the flowers, vegetables and fruits without pain try these tips from Dr. William Madosky, a St. Louis chiropractor.

### **Treat gardening as a sport**

- Warm up and stretch the muscles before beginning.

### **Be realistic**

- Plan your work carefully to avoid injury. Set a moderate pace and time schedule to allow enjoyment of the task and minimize potential injuries.

### **Remember good body mechanics**

- When lifting heavy bags of dirt or mulch keep your back straight, bend your knees, lift with the legs, and hold objects close to your body. If shoveling, lift the dirt and turn the entire body to empty it – don't twist.

## Change it up

- Use different muscle groups and minimize the repetitive stress placed on joints and extremities by frequently changing activities.

## Use a cushion, stool, or small bench when weeding

- The support helps reduce stress placed on knees and spine from gardening movements.

## Take frequent breaks

- By stopping to stretch, getting a drink or just enjoying the progress every half hour, you minimize your chance of injury or dehydration.

## Stop gardening if fatigued or in pain

- That “one last thing” when tired leads to injury. If pain occurs, stop! If pain persists, apply ice to the affected area for 15-20 minutes at a time to reduce inflammation. DO NOT USE HEAT – it increases the inflammatory process. If pain persists, contact the doctor.

We can spend time in the garden appreciating the glory of God’s creation, while caring for our body at the same time.

Source: [www.drmosky.com/articles.html](http://www.drmosky.com/articles.html)

*As always praying for your health and well-being. Praying that today you will be both a blessing and blessed.*

*Theresa*

You can reach me at any time by e-mail at [tgilbert@afpdocs.com](mailto:tgilbert@afpdocs.com) or [theresahgilbert@gmail.com](mailto:theresahgilbert@gmail.com) or by phone at (540) 247-5612

As your faith community nurse, I am here to serve as a bridge to better health, meeting the wholistic healing mission of the church by partnering with the pastor as a healer of the spirit, mind and body.



# The Believers

April 2024



**A big thank you to the person that left a Ziploc bag of money for The Believers!!** Your kind donation will be deposited and given to “Helping Hands Cancer Outreach”

Please text me at (540) 247-5612 or email me at [theresahgilbert@gmail.com](mailto:theresahgilbert@gmail.com) if you would like any information about our ministry for those affected by cancer.

Please keep our Co-Captain Lisa Garver (recently diagnosed with cancer) in your prayers as she recovers from surgery and awaits further treatment.

*“Cancer can touch you, but not your soul; neither your thoughts, nor your heart.”*

On behalf of Lisa Garver, Lisa Patterson and I look forward to your response and as always, we appreciate your support.

Theresa Gilbert

## **Have you given your email address to Keith Roberts, yet?**

Pastor Steve has special notices he needs to send to those who attend Burnt Factory. The notices will include not only prayer concerns, but also schedule changes during bad weather.

Keith keeps an email list in his computer for just such purposes. Your email address is protected, and emails are sent, recipients not disclosed, to protect your privacy.

Kindly send your email address to Keith Roberts at [john.k.roberts@comcast.net](mailto:john.k.roberts@comcast.net) with the message:

“ADD ME TO THE CHURCH EMAIL LIST”

## **Would you like to receive the Smoke Signal Newsletter by email?**

Kindly send an email to Becca Ratliff at [beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com](mailto:beccalea.ratliff@gmail.com) with a subject:

“Add me to the Smoke Signal Newsletter email distribution”





## Greetings from the Outreach Team!

### The Outreach Mission Statement

*1 Peter 4:10-11 “Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ.”*

We have many continuing volunteer opportunities for Outreach at Burnt Factory Church. This month we have a team led by Marcia Etu traveling to Pennsylvania on mission to help repair/restore homes of people still affected by 2021’s Hurricane Ida. Patty Leonard’s article updates us on the current needs and happenings at CCAP. Burnt Factory also has relationships and Outreach efforts with WATTS, Bright Futures, Helping Hands Cancer Outreach, The Laurel Center, Red Cross Blood Drives, and Project Esperanza. These groups all welcome donations and volunteers.

Our Family Promise Meals program had another successful day on March 17<sup>th</sup>. We prepared and delivered over 70 meals to families facing homelessness & living in temporary housing in hotels/motels. **Many thanks to all of you who contributed money, food, helped assemble meals, and delivered meals.** This is a big effort but is so very appreciated by those receiving Sunday dinners. Our next meal day is April 21<sup>st</sup>.

There are many ways that you can contribute to our Outreach efforts. If you have a desire to take part in any of our programs, in what ever capacity, please contact myself or any one on the Outreach Committee. We would love to speak with you.

Grace and Peace,

Sharon Woodard, Outreach Chair  
sfwoodard111@gmail.com



## CCAP Corner

### March 2024

***CCAP is a cooperative effort of individuals, civic groups, businesses, and religious communities in Winchester and Frederick County. They have unified to provide financial, material, and supportive assistance in a loving way. Even with the help of existing social service programs, CCAP clients are unable to meet their needs and responsibilities. CCAP's desire is to do God's work in a world where many basic human needs are simply not met.***

**Easter Dinner Donations for CCAP:** We asked for 180 items and received 398 items (more than double what we asked for)!! The Easter Dinner giveaway was Saturday, 3/23. Our donation will feed 25-30 families. The Easter baskets donated were adorable and put smiles on many little faces. Our Burnt Factory volunteers and donations continue to help keep this vital non-profit working for our community. Many thanks to everyone who continues to donate in so many ways to this organization.

#### **Needs at CCAP:**

- Gently used Spring and summer clothes for all, new underwear and socks, Tennis Shoes (all sizes and genders), belts, purses, adult backpacks, and gently used bath towels and bedding.
- The Clothing House needs volunteers to give 3 hours of their time weekly or monthly. The House provides free clothing to clients who are struggling to pay their bills. We also help the homeless with their clothing needs. We receive many wonderful clothing donations and volunteers are needed to sort the items, display them at the House & greet & assist our shoppers. The House is open Mon, Tues, & Thurs from 9 until noon. Go to [www.ccapwinchester.org](http://www.ccapwinchester.org) and click on the donate/volunteer tab at the top of the page for a description of the many opportunities to share your talents and time. You can also reach out to me or anyone on the Outreach Team if you have any questions about what we do as volunteers at CCAP. Contact me or anyone on Outreach if you are interested in helping at CCAP and we can give you a tour and talk more about volunteer opportunities.

**THREE Friendly Neighborhood FREEDGES:** We now have 3 community refrigerators open **24 hours a day**. They are located at **419 N Cameron St, at Abundant Church on 700 Aylor Rd. and 102 Montague Ave**. These are intended to serve low-income residents. Anyone can donate. Please label and date what you are putting in. Examples of Items needed: Fresh fruits and vegetables, granola, cheese, soups, prepackaged sandwiches, garden foods, and yogurt.

Your generous support of CCAP greatly enhances the ability to meet the needs of clients and help get them out of the crises they are in. Thank you.

Patty Leonard, Outreach Rep

# Bright Futures Great Community Food Pack

Hundreds of students in Winchester and Frederick County go hungry on week-ends. This is an opportunity to donate and pack bags of food for students to take home.

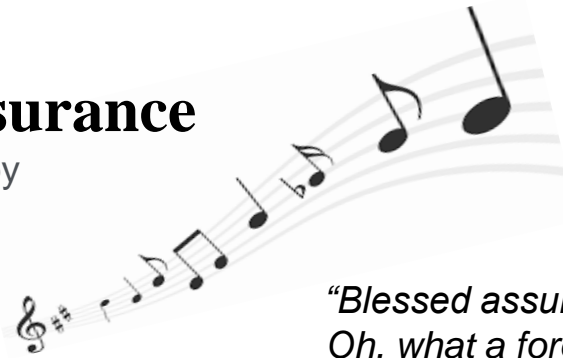
- Where:** Bright Futures Warehouse  
178 Indian Hollow Road (directly behind Virginia Farm Market)
- When:** May 21  
This is the 10 year anniversary of Bright Futures and final packing for the school year.
- Goal:** Pack 1,500 bags of food with 8 items in each bag. That's 12,000 items needed.
- How:** Information on Bright Futures Winchester Frederick County site (scroll to Great Community Yard Sale) to volunteer to join a food pack assembly line, pledge to bring food or make a financial donation. There is a list of foods on the site and food is being collected now until packing.

If you wish to donate food, I will be happy to deliver it to warehouse.

Karen Willis  
[krwillis1@comcast.net](mailto:krwillis1@comcast.net)  
540-539-6989

## Blessed Assurance

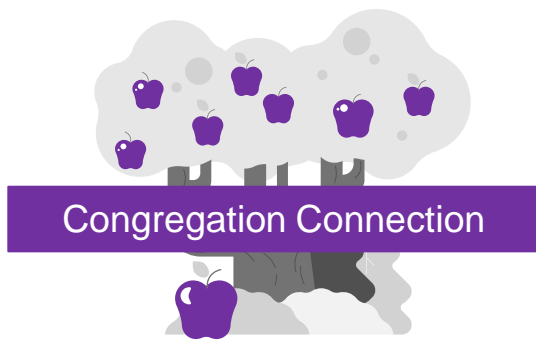
Fanny Jane Crosby  
(1873)



### *Chorus Spotlight*

*“Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine;  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.”*

*This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.”*



**Name:** Diana K. Smith

**Hometown:** Born and raised in Winchester, VA.

Currently living in Kearneysville, WV

**Time attending Burnt Factory Church:** All my life.

**What service do you regularly attend?** Both

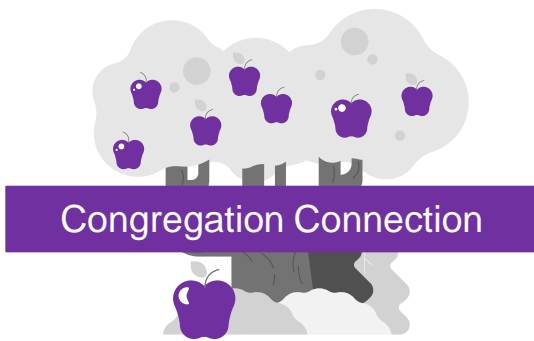
**What would you encourage others to get involved with?** Burnt Factory has many opportunities available, including but not limited to, missions, outreach, nurture. We can always use help with the hospitality table which includes, buying the food (church pays for food), making coffee, preparing the table prior to the end of the 8:30 service and cleaning up afterwards. If you sing or play an instrument we could use you in the choir, that sings at 11am service or Praise team at 8:30am or you can perform as duet, trio or solo. I'm always looking for music for the 8:30 service. We have a women's group and a men's group who also do mission work, meet & eat groups, etc. So many ways to get involved.

**Favorite part of Burnt Factory Church:** There are so many things I love about my church, but my favorites are Sunday mornings when I can come and join with friends & family to worship our Lord, love being a part of the music program and the meet & eat groups where we get to meet people we may not know and/or get to know others better. A great time of good food, fun & fellowship. A favorite memory is the church wide camping weekends that were held down at the shelter. It included games, singing around the campfire and of course lots of good food and laughs.

**Favorite hymn:** I have several favorite scriptures with one being **Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"**.

**Favorite scripture:** My favorite hymn is "Rock of Ages" because it was my dad's favorite.

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood,  
from thy wounded side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
save from wrath and make me pure.*



**Name:** Kathy Dixon

**Hometown:** Minneapolis, MN, but I have lived in Virginia for over 50 years.

**Time attending Burnt Factory Church:** My husband Gary and I have been members of Burnt Factory Church since 2014. Previously we lived in the Northern Virginia area and attend a church there.

**What service do you regularly attend:** Regularly attend the 11:00 am service.

**What would you encourage others to get involved with?** I am a member of the choir and would encourage anyone to get involved in the music ministries of the church. There are so many other ministries where people can be involved such as the Outreach Committee, BLTL and Women of Faith.

**Favorite part of Burnt Factory Church:** My favorite part of Burnt Factory is having the privilege of participating in worship activities such as the choir, decorating the altar with fresh flowers and helping with communion.

**Favorite scripture:** My favorite verse is my life verse: Psalm 100 verse 2

*“Serve the Lord with gladness – come before his presence with singing.”*





# April 2024 Calendar

Date/Time		Event
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup>	7 PM	Mission Trip Meeting
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup>	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thur 4 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Confirmation Sunday		
Sun 7 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tue 9 <sup>th</sup>	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Youth & Children Mission Saturday		
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM	Women's Group
	10:00 AM	Potato Planting
New Member Sunday		
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship

Date/Time		Event
Tue 16 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thur 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 AM	Youth Motel Ministry
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup>	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Blood Pressure Checks
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tue 23 <sup>rd</sup>	12:00 PM	2/4 BLT
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30 AM	Pastor's Office Hours
Thur 25 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 63
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	In-Person Worship
	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	In-Person Worship
Tue 30 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 PM	Seasoned Adult Ministry
	5:30 PM	Praise Team Practice
	6:30 PM	Choir Practice

For more info, view the calendar on our website:

[CalendarNew](#) | [Burnt Factory Church](#)