

Hope Anchor for July/August 2026

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SUMMER SCHEDULE
9:30 WORSHIP SERVICE

SEE WEBSITE FOR TRADITIONAL OR
CONTEMPORARY SERVICES

 HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

"YOU DID NOT CHOOSE ME
BUT I CHOSE YOU.
AND I APPOINTED YOU TO GO,
AND BEAR FRUIT –
FRUIT THAT WILL LAST –
SO THAT THE FATHER WILL GIVE YOU
WHATEVER YOU ASK HIM IN MY NAME."
-JOHN 15:16

211 Elton Adelpia Road
Freehold NJ 07728



**Anchored in
Christ**

Growing in Faith, Love and Service



www.youtube.com/hopefreehold



www.facebook.com/hopefreehold



www.instagram.com/hopefreehold



www.hopefreehold.org



www.hopefreehold.org/hopegrowshere

Congregation Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2026

THIRTY-FOUR PRESENT: QUORUM IS MET!

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	MEMBER
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER	10:34 am JUNE 14, 2026	BILL UNGER
OPENING PRAYER		JOSH RENIK-STAUDINGER
REVIEW OF NOVEMBER MINUTES	No questions or discussion	Motion to vote: Deb Unger Second: Laura Kropa Vote: 29 : yes 3 Zoom : yes
ACCEPTANCE OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS	Mike Della Rosa will re-join council, as treasurer, for a one year term	Motion to vote: Bill Unger Second: Deb Unger Vote: 29 : yes 3 Zoom : yes
APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council unanimously approved report at May 11 council meeting. • According to Mike, and the report, we are in good fiscal shape. About 	Motion to vote: Barbara Tyrell Second: Wanda Nebiola Vote: 29 : yes

	<p>\$14,000 increase in general account from this time last year</p>	<p>4 Zoom : yes</p>
<p>APPROVAL OF SPENDING PLAN FOR 9/1/26 TO 8/31/27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This plan includes the operating, General Fund, budget. What it takes to run the church • Council unanimously approved plan at May 11 council meeting. • Chairperson John Drager’s comments are in the meeting packet. • Spending plan is about 20% HLC and 80% HCS • A 4% increase in staff salaries is included • Thank you to John Drager as chairperson and Dave Lynch for help in putting spreadsheets together 	<p>Motion to vote: Bill Unger Second: Barbara Tyrell Vote: 30 : yes 4 Zoom : yes</p>
<p>THANK YOU’S</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill wanted to thank everyone who put together all the reports, the Audit Team, the 	

	<p>Pat Fensham</p> <p>Bill</p>	<p>Will there be an opportunity for the congregation to make design suggestions or modifications to the design?</p> <p>Yes. Once we have plans in place we can post composite posters in the Narthex for the congregation to study and will then invite any comments and suggestions before the vote.</p>
THANK YOU TO BILL UNGER	<p>This is Bill's last meeting as President. Sarah Kozak will be the new Council President</p>	<p>Thank you to Bill for 12 years of leadership and endless work.</p>
MOTION TO END THE MEETING		<p>Motion : Deb Unger</p> <p>Second: Bill Unger</p> <p>Vote:</p> <p>29 : yes</p> <p>4 Zoom : yes</p>
CLOSING PRAYER		<p>JOSH RENIK-STAUDINGER</p>
<p>MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:06 am</p>		

LINK TO SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATION:

[HLC CONGREGATIONAL MEETING](#)

Next meeting: July 13, 2026

What Does It Mean?

The story is told of a group of seminary students who liked to get together, outside of class, to play basketball. Since the school had no gymnasium, however, these friends played basketball in a nearby public school. The elderly school janitor would wait patiently each week until the seminarians finished playing.

Invariably he would be sitting there reading his Bible. One day one of the seminarians asked him what he was reading. The man answered, “The Book of Revelation.” Surprised, the seminarian asked him if he understood it. “After all,” said the student, “it’s a difficult book to understand.”

“Oh, yes,” the man assured him. “I understand it.”

“Well, what does it mean?”

Very quietly the janitor answered, “It means that Jesus is gonna win.”

Many of us have been led to believe that the Book of Revelation is a difficult, if not impossible, book to understand. Even more, we have also been led to believe that it is a book to be feared because it allegedly talks about all the terrible things that are going to happen during the “end times.” But while the Book of Revelation can indeed be challenging, in particular since it’s filled with all kinds of strange imagery, and while there are indeed scary-sounding elements to it, it is not a book to be feared. In reality, believe it or not, it was a book written to give the early Christians a sense of hope and comfort and confidence during a time of persecution.

So for seven weeks this summer, beginning in July, I am going to preach a sermon series on the Book of Revelation. Much of our confusion and uncertainty about the book stems from the simple fact that few of us have

ever taken the time to actually study it, myself included. Only a few passages ever appear in the Sunday readings. And outside of using it during funerals (especially Revelation 7:13-17 and Revelation 21:1-7), we rarely get the chance to even hear it during worship.

Therefore, if you've ever wondered what the Book of Revelation is all about, and what it really means, I invite you to come and be a part of our summer worship series focusing on the oft-misunderstood Book of Revelation. Hope to see you!

Pastor Ed

SUMMER PREACHING SCHEDULE

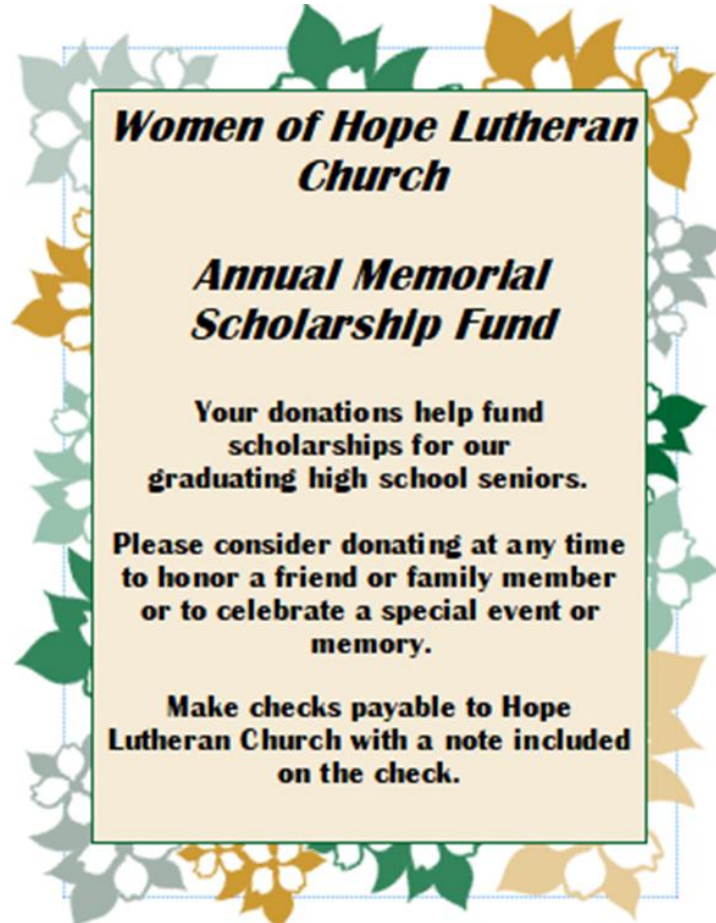
Week #	Date	Church Year	Theme
1	July 12	Pentecost 7	Revelation (Greetings & First Vision)
2	July 19	Pentecost 8	Revelation (Elders, 4 Living Creatures)
3	July 26	Pentecost 9	Revelation (The 7 Seals)
4	August 2	Pentecost 10	Revelation (The Lamb of God)
5	August 9	Pentecost 11	Revelation (Multitude, Every Nation)
6	August 16	Pentecost 12	Revelation (The Beast & the Dragon)
7	August 23	Pentecost 13	Revelation (New Heaven & Jerusalem)

End of summer bonus from the book of Esther

8	August 30	Pentecost 14	Esther (For a Moment Like This)
9	September 6	Pentecost 15	Esther (From Sadness to Joy)



Join us **Sunday, July 12** to celebrate the
THREE WOH Scholarship winners!
Nate Raguseo
Laura Keller
Peyton DiGregorio
and stick around after the *930am Worship Service*
for *cake and coffee*, courtesy of the **Women of Hope**





Make sandwiches with us!
Tuesday, July 14th @ 6pm

We could also always use donations if you can't make it! (bread, meat, jelly, etc)



Bingo Chips and Dips

Bring your favorite dip to share and
we will provide the chips!

Saturday, July 18 at 6pm

Lots of FUN, Family Fellowship!
You got to be IN IT to WIN IT!!!



I would like to collect donations to help a local charity called [Liv Like a Unicorn](#)

We can collect affordable items to help them assemble
“Unicorn Boxes”

Unicorn Boxes are essentially chemo bags, full of stationary activities to help entertain children that are undergoing chemo

[FIVE BELOW](#) is a great store to find FUN activities to buy
Keep in mind, genders both boys and girls, and the age range could be anywhere from 2 years old up to 18 years old

Some suggestions:

Small Play – Doh kits

Small Lego kits

Diamond Art

Coloring Books

Crayons/Markers

Craft Kits

Fidget Toys

Card Games

Travel sized Board Games

You can also get ideas from their Amazon Wish List
you can order and ship them here at Hope -

[Amazon Gift List](#)

I'm calling this "*Christmas in July*" but will accept these donations **ALL SUMMER!**

I will have a box available at all times for designated donations – I will coordinate a **HUGE!!!!** Drop off with the organization around **Labor Day.**

We can help change lives with this and bring smiles to so many faces



Feel free to visit their website for transparency and further information –

[Liv Like A Unicorn](#)



**Annual Women of Hope
Lutheran Summer Luncheon**

**July 24th 11:30 - 1:30
Front patio of Applewood**

Salad Choices:

Jackie's Chicken

Chicken salad, Mandarin oranges, and pecans on assorted greens

Steak Salad

Sliced London broil, and blue cheese crumbles on assorted greens

Tuna-Stuffed Tomato

Tuna salad in a tomato on assorted greens

Assorted beverages and cookies included

\$25 cash payable in advance or at the luncheon;
server fee included [no tipping allowed].

Please RSVP with salad choice:

Janice: 732-677-8604

janeseif6@yahoo.com

Jackie: 732-513-8804

madamepeters@gmail.com



Special off site Summer Meeting!!!

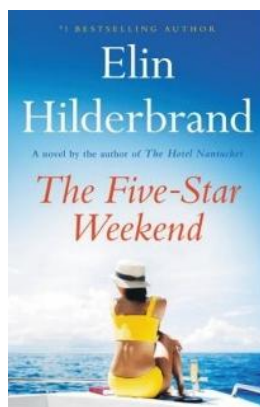
Sunday, August 2 at 1230PM

**at the Tulip Tree Café, located within
Calgo Gardens**

462 Adelphia Road Freehold

If you don't normally attend book club and would like to attend this special meeting, just email Cheryl @ hoperlutheran17@gmail.com so we can get a correct headcount for the reservation!

The Summer Book Club book is –





Bible Family Feud Night

Bring your favorite snack to share!

Saturday, August 8 at 6pm



VBS Set up
Sunday, August 9 after Worship

And for VBS week
Monday, August 10 – Friday, August 14
9am – Noon

If you can help, let Josh know
@ hopelutheranmusic@gmail.com

Sign ups are **AVAILABLE!**
Hard copies are also here at church
Only one registration needed per family

We can't wait for a week of
FUN, FAITH, and FELLOWSHIP!



VBS 2026

DATES: August 10-14, 2026 | **TIME:** 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM | **COST:** \$40 per child for the week

Join us for an exciting rainforest adventure as we discover God's love through Bible stories, music, crafts, science activities, snacks, games, and more!

Volunteers are always needed! Contact the church office at (732) 462-7545.

CHILD INFORMATION

1. Child's Name _____ Age _____
2. Child's Name _____ Age _____
3. Child's Name _____ Age _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian Name _____
Address _____
Cell Phone _____
Email Address _____
Additional Parent/Guardian Email _____
Person Picking Up Child _____
Home Congregation _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (When parent/guardian cannot be reached)

Name _____ Relationship _____
Telephone _____


MEDICAL INFORMATION

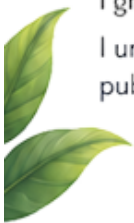
Allergies _____

PERMISSION & RELEASE

I grant permission for my child(ren) to participate in Rainforest Falls VBS at Hope Lutheran Church. I understand that photographs may be taken during VBS activities and may be used in church publications, social media, and promotional materials without identifying information.

ALL CHILDREN ATTENDING MUST BE COMPLETELY POTTY-TRAINED.

211 Elton Adelpia Road, Freehold, NJ 07728 | (732) 462-7545 | hopefreehold.org |    @hopefreehold





Work Release Program
will be here the week of
Monday, August 17 – Friday, August 21

We get lots of hard work and labor done
here and all we do is provide lunch!

That's where YOU come in!
Please sign up for a day if you can

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C48A8AB23A0FFC52-64625205-lunches>

Lunch is provided hot/cold and delivered
to Hope at around **1130am/1145am**
Details are provided the week before
as far as headcount and any
dietary requirements

Growing Together in Faith

I hope you're enjoying the summer, finding time to relax, be with family, and maybe take a vacation. Even though things slow down a bit, there's still a lot happening at Hope, and I'm excited for what's coming up in the next few months.

We'll be making sandwiches for St. Peter's Community Lunch on **Tuesday, July 14 at 6 PM**. This remains one of my favorite service opportunities at Hope, and everyone is welcome to join us as we prepare meals for our neighbors. Whether you've helped before or are joining us for the first time, we'd love to have you there.

Vacation Bible School is our biggest summer event and will be held **August 10 to 14**. We're looking forward to welcoming children from our church and the community for a week of faith, music, crafts, games, and learning. We still need volunteers, so if you can help, even just for a day or a few hours, we'd love your support. We'll also decorate for VBS after worship on **Sunday, August 9**, and any extra help would be appreciated.

Our music ministry is still going strong this summer. The choir will sing on the first and third Sundays each month, except for the first Sunday in August: June 7, June 21, July 5, July 19, and August 16. Choir rehearsals are on the Tuesdays before those Sundays: June 2, June 16, June 30, July 14, and August 11. Thank you to everyone who shares their musical talents and helps lead worship. Your dedication is a real blessing to our church. We've already had a few voices joining us for the summer - I hope you're the next!

On **Thursday, July 9**, we'll also be recording music videos in the sanctuary. I could use a few volunteers to help move equipment and prepare the sanctuary before we begin. If you're available to lend a hand, please let me know! This is also a great opportunity to earn volunteer hours.

Looking ahead to fall, I'm planning a Fall Kickoff Party at my house for all Hope members and families. It will be a great chance to reconnect after summer, enjoy some food and fellowship, and celebrate the start of a new season of ministry. I'll share more details soon, and I hope you can join us!

I'm also planning a bowling night in August for Hope families. I'll share more information as soon as we finalize the details.

Watch your email in July for news about a new Bible study starting this fall. I'm excited to share more soon and hope many of you will join as we keep growing together in God's Word. I'll be on vacation from July 29 to August 8, but I'll be back in time for VBS preparations and the start of another great season of ministry.

Thank you for helping make Hope a welcoming and caring place for our children, youth, and families. Whether you're traveling or staying close to home this summer, I pray you have a safe and restful July and August. I look forward to seeing you this summer and to getting ready for a great fall together.



Wellness Support for Our Church Family

Complimentary health coaching offered by Jeannay Murphy
of Divine Balance Holistic Health and Lifestyle Coaching

Would you like support with your health goals but aren't sure where to start? Jeannay Murphy is offering free health coaching sessions for members of our church congregation. These sessions are designed to provide encouragement, practical guidance, and personalized support for those seeking a healthier, more balanced lifestyle.



What is a Health Coach?

A health coach is a supportive partner who helps you make realistic, lasting changes that align with your own values, goals, and season of life. Rather than telling you what to do, a health coach helps you clarify what matters most, identify obstacles, build confidence, and create practical next steps toward better health and well-being.

Health coaching can support areas such as nutrition, stress, sleep, movement, energy, healthy routines, and overall wellness. The focus is on encouragement, accountability, and small, sustainable changes over time.



What to Expect

- Free sessions for church members
- Appointments scheduled individually based on availability
- Available in person or remotely
- Support with wellness, nutrition, stress, lifestyle habits, and motivation
- A compassionate, one-on-one approach



About Jeannay

Jeannay Murphy is a National Board Certified Health & Wellness Coach with training in motivational interviewing, SMART goal setting, nutrition, overall wellness, meditation, and lifestyle support. She also works part-time in a functional medicine setting and can help guide individuals toward additional support when needed.



Please Note: Health coaching is *not a substitute* for medical care, diagnosis, or treatment.

Schedule Your Complimentary Health Coaching Session

Please contact Jeannay Murphy for more information.



917-855-1658



jeannaymurphy@gmail.com

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY • IN PERSON OR REMOTE

PLANNED AND ESTATE GIVING

As we enter into the “tax return season” it is a perfect time to give some thought to estate planning. Planned and estate gifts are perfect ways for giving your church monetary support for “tomorrow.” These monetary gifts also provide the giver with the opportunity to pinpoint the areas of church life that interest them. Charitable contributions can significantly reduce the taxable value of your estate, potentially lowering estate taxes and maximizing the inheritance for your heirs. Donations made through your estate plan can qualify for tax deductions, providing a financial benefit to your estate and ensuring more of your assets are passed on to your loved ones and the causes you care about. There are many avenues to include Hope in your estate planning:

- Remember Hope in your will!
- A bequest to Hope is an enduring statement of faith!
- Support the people and causes you love through your will!
- Endow your church contribution through your will!
- Give a tithe of your estate for Gods church!
- A gift freely given for the benefit of all!
- A bequest to your church. An everlasting gift!
- Make your church the beneficiary of an IRA or Retirement plan!
- Use life insurance for charitable giving!

Planned giving provides resources that allow the church to make differences in the lives of their members and others whom they minister to in the future.

Bill Unger, for Hope Congregation Council

HOPE FAMILY PRAYER LIST

Ed Leatherman; Unger's family friend, Gloria; Steve Keller's
mother and step father; Jeanette Kropa; The Costantino Family,
family friends of the Somodi Family; Rita Corn's father in law,
Jules Corn; Josh Staudinger family friends, Marion Pierce and
The Vega Family; Kropa Family cousin, Sharon Laskosky; Cat
Burger's friend, Charlotte; Jeannay Murphy's family members,
Rosemarie A, Rosemarie L and Lila Hughes; Kira Noseworthy;
Tracey Radosti's sister; Charles Sona; Bob Robinson; Ashley
Rosenberg; Gerry Bergh; Ryan McAuly, Kless Family nephew;
Courtney Volk; Deloris Laub; Dolores O'Brien; Marilyn Wolter,
Cindy Lynch's mother; Dani Hulsart family friend of the
Donmoyer Family ; Pam Renouff;

Those serving as first responders and in the armed services –
Rachel Heilman; Matteo Trama...

Summer Schedules (one service @ 930am)

	<i>Assisting</i>	<i>Altar</i>	<i>Counting</i>
<i>July 5</i>	Rita	Rachel	Sarah & Michelle
<i>July 12</i>	John	Debbie	Pat & Debbie
<i>July 19</i>	Bill	Barbara	Bill & Barbara
<i>July 26</i>	Tom	Rebekah	Mike & Bonnie
<i>August 2</i>	Rebekah	Jeannay	Matt & Chris
<i>August 9</i>	Debbie	Pat	Pat & Debbie
<i>August 16</i>	Sheth	Diane	Sue &
<i>August 23</i>	Ken	Sue	Mike & Bonnie
<i>August 30</i>	Rita	Rachel	Mike & Bonnie

Traditional Acolytes –

Melody B

Contemporary Acolytes –

Hedin Girls, Joey M and Ryan S

We could use more ACOLYTES as well – it is a nice, EASY Service position PERFECT for any of the students that has received their First Holy Communion!!

Summer Usher Schedule (one service @ 930am)

<i>July 5</i>	Mark and Ken
<i>July 12</i>	Bill and Rebekah
<i>July 19</i>	Diane and Matt S
<i>July 26</i>	Chris and Rebekah
<i>August 2</i>	Mark and Ken
<i>August 9</i>	Bill and Matt M
<i>August 16</i>	Dominick and Wayne
<i>August 23</i>	Mark and Ken
<i>August 30</i>	Chris and Rebeka

**We are looking for greeters for when we go back
to TWO services!!**

**We are just looking for someone to ENGAGE
with our members when they enter!**

Email if you are interested!

July



2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			7p – 12 Step	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step	7p – 12 Step	12p - Counseling
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
930a – Trad Worship	530p – WW Group <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	7p – Zoom Yoga <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	<i>Music 12-9p</i> 5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	12p – Counseling <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
930a – Contemp <i>WOH Scholarship and Refreshments</i> <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	530p – WW Group 7p – <i>Council</i> <i>Cheryl Vacation</i>	<i>6p - Sandwiches</i> 7p – Zoom Yoga <i>730p - Choir</i>	7p – 12 Step	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step	7p – 12 Step	12p – Counseling <i>6p – BINGO!</i>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
930a – Trad Worship	530p – WW Group	7p – Zoom Yoga	7p – 12 Step	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step	<i>1130a – WOH Luncheon</i> 7p – 12 Step	12p – Counseling
26	27	28	29	30	31	
930a – Trad Worship	530p – WW Group	7p – Zoom Yoga	7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	

JULY 2026 YOUTH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Service hour opportunities for youth and confirmands! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out our team! Faith Formation Director: Josh Staudinger (josh@hopefreehold.org) Youth Group Leader: Inhyoung Chae (lstaudinger@gmail.com)</p>			1	2	3	4
5 9:30AM Service	6	7	8	9 BAND/CHOIR RECORDING 12:30 - 9 PM	10	11
12 <i>Contemporary Service</i> 9:30AM Service	13	14 Sandwich Making for St. Peters 6PM Choir Practice 7:30PM	15	16	17	18
19 9:30AM Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9:30AM Service	27	28	29 JOSH AWAY Through 8/8	30	31	

August



**VBS VOLUNTEERS
ARE AWESOME!**

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						12p – Counseling <i>Josh Vacation</i>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
930a –Trad Worship <i>1230 – Book Club</i> <i>Josh Vacation</i>	530p – WW Group <i>Josh Vacation</i>	7p – Zoom Yoga <i>Josh Vacation</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Josh Vacation</i>	12p – Counseling <i>6p – Family Feud</i> <i>Josh Vacation</i>
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
930a –Contemp Worship <i>VBS Setup</i>	530p – WW Group <i>7p – Council</i> <i>VBS!!!</i>	7p – Zoom Yoga <i>730p - Choir</i> <i>VBS!!!</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>VBS!!!</i>	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step <i>VBS!!!</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>VBS!!!</i>	12p – Counseling
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
930a –Trad Worship	530p – WW Group <i>Work Release</i>	7p – Zoom Yoga <i>Work Release</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Work Release</i>	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step <i>Work Release</i>	7p – 12 Step <i>Work Release</i>	12p – Counseling
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
930a –Trad Worship	530p – WW Group	7p – Zoom Yoga	7p – 12 Step	5p – Counseling 7p – 12 Step	7p – 12 Step	
30	31					
930a –Trad Worship	530p – WW Group					

