

# The Creekside Connection

A publication of

**Creekside  
Church of the Brethren**

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*The Creekside Connection is published monthly to keep members and friends informed of church programs and to report news about the people of Creekside Church.*



60455 C. R. 113  
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• Rooted in God • Growing in Jesus • Bearing Fruit in the Spirit

# The Creekside Connection

OCTOBER 2008

## Pastor's Ponderings

Autumn is my favorite season. I love the cool days and cooler nights. I love the sight and sound of Canadian geese flying in formation against the backdrop of beautiful autumn sunsets. I love to watch deer gleaning remnants in harvested cornfields. Most of all, I love the glory of hardwoods adorned in brilliant hues of gold and red. Fall is the time for cooking squash dishes. My fishing buddy Dan and I will be targeting muskies as they go on a feeding rampage before winter seals the lakes in ice.

Autumn is more than the interval between summer and winter. It is the season glory, maturity and harvest before the long, frigid winter. There are people who cannot relate to my autumnal enjoyment. For many, it is a somber prelude to the cold, stark, snowy, gray days of winter. Before long, the northern hemisphere will be frozen stiff. Dark, winter skies will mirror the mood that some of us experience.

I see autumn as a parable of the stark shift from faith to doubt that all Christians experience sooner or later. Doubt is no respecter of persons. The verdant, fruitful season of faith inexplicably slips into a deep freeze. Exclamation marks become question marks. Doubt can be triggered by a broken relationship, a prolonged illness, a troubling question you never considered for which there is no adequate answer, or a precarious, uncertain future due to the faltering economy. Doubt can creep in undetected. One day you feel the joy of knowing you are a child of God. The next day you feel like a spiritual orphan. "God is," becomes, "God is not."

Pastor and author Brian McClaren says one of the things he appreciates about new Christians is that they have not yet learned to be spiritually dishonest. A young woman in his church who is a growing Christian asked McClaren, "Please pray for me. I'm going through one of those stages again when I don't believe that God exists." She is not alone, but I have yet to hear anyone say during the Sunday sharing of prayer requests, "I need your prayers because I'm having doubts about Jesus' resurrection. I'm not sure about God, either. God may exist, but his absence tells me God doesn't care."

Doubt has the power to destroy faith. It makes us question everything. It can lead to cynicism, despair, and depression. Doubt is destructive, but I believe it can be instruc-

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

tive as well. Doubt is not of the devil. We need *healthy* doubt; otherwise we will fall for every claim that comes along. Doubt is a necessity when watching television commercials. Doubt is necessary when listening to attack ads about the presidential candidates. Contrary to what many *still* believe, Obama is not a Muslim, nor is every McCain advisor a greedy, sleazy lobbyist.

Doubt is an either-or proposition. It can be healthy or destructive. When I struggle with holding fast to a particular belief or letting it go to embrace something better, I think of what Frederick Buechner said about doubt: *"Whether your faith is that there is a God or that there is not a God, if you don't have any doubts you are either kidding yourself or asleep. Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving."*

The Bible was used to legitimize slavery and the belief that whites were superior to blacks. Then along came the Quaker abolitionist John Woolman who said, "I doubt that." The Roman Catholic Church believed the Pope was infallible, then along came a Catholic monk named Martin Luther who said, "I doubt that." The hypocrisy of Christians causes scores of people to doubt the legitimacy of the church and the value of faith. But I believe that sometimes, confessions of doubt and uncertainty from committed Christians can be an instrument to draw seekers to the faith.

One of my college professors often said, *"One-eighth of an inch beneath your skull is the most amazing matter in the universe."* God has given us brains that are curious and not content with simplistic answers to complex matters. God has given us the capacity to distinguish truth from falsehood. Though it is sometimes frustrating and painful, this God-given hunger for truth leads us to doubt long held beliefs that are not adequate for the times and circumstances we face. Doubt helps us know what to cling to and what to let go of. I like Brian McClaren's "angling" metaphor in describing this process. He says, *"Some beliefs I've released, others have proven themselves as keepers."*

The Bible says God makes all things new, and that if anyone is in Christ, he or she is a new creation. Our faith is grounded in Jesus, not ideas or beliefs about Jesus. Jesus is always faithful and present with us until the end of time. So let's be honest with each other, especially during the dry spells. The presence of doubt does not spell the end of faith, but rather the possibility of a deeper, more enriching faith.

Anticipating God's glorious autumn,

Pastor David

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors


As Jesus tells us in the Parable of the Good Samaritan, all people are our neighbors. You can make a difference for others, beginning in your own neighborhood. Make and share this craft so people know your care and are thankful for your community.

### What you need:

- Clear, disposable, non-powdered, non-latex gloves
- Craft paint
- Paintbrush
- Popped popcorn (about 3 cups per glove)
- Rubber bands
- Ribbon or raffia
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Markers or crayons
- Hole punch

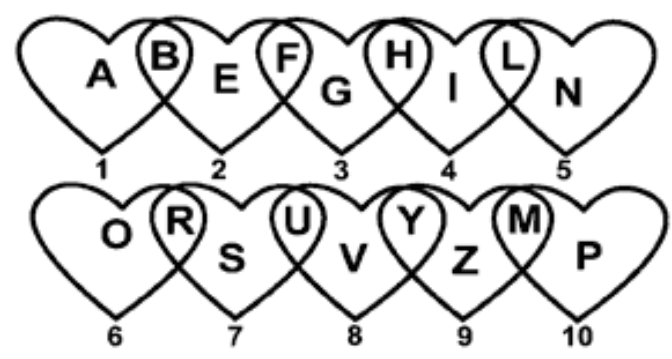
### What you do:

1. Paint one side of the glove's fingertips to look like fingernails.
2. Fill the fingertips, then the rest of the glove, with cooled popcorn.
3. Wrap a rubber band around the wrist of the glove.
4. Tie ribbon or raffia around the rubber band.
5. Make a card. Ideas include "Welcome to the neighborhood," "Thanks for being such nice neighbors," "Here's how we'd like to serve you," etc.
6. Punch a hole in the corner of your card and tie it to the glove.
7. With an adult, pass out your "neighborly" gifts.



## THE SECOND GREAT Commandment

In the Gospels, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind" (Matthew 22:37, NIV). Do you remember what the second great commandment is? Use the code below to discover it.



"L

4,5	6	8	2	8,9	6	7,8	6,7
5	2	4	3	3,4	1,2	6	6,7
				1	7		
8,9	6	7,8	6,7	7	2	4,5	2,3

*Matthew 22:39, NIV*

Answer: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

A conference for congregational historians

## Preserving Our Heritage, Telling Our Stories

Saturday, Nov. 1

Waterford Mennonite Church, Goshen, IN

Registration at 8:30 a.m. Sessions start at 9:00 a.m.

An important but often overlooked component in our Christian life is knowing our history. To understand who we, as people of God, are now and who we might become requires understanding who we have been. That's why congregational historians are so valuable. "Preserving Our Heritage, Telling Our Stories" will highlight their role in nurturing belief and religious identity, provide tools for the task, and allow congregational historians to share ideas and concerns. Sessions will include:

- Record management and preservation
- Interpreting and proclaiming our stories
- The importance of properly remembering negative events from our past

"Preserving Our Heritage, Telling Our Stories" is co-sponsored by the Mennonite Church USA Historical Committee and Michiana Anabaptist Historians. Reservation deadline is October 15. To reserve your place, or for more information, contact the Mennonite Church USA Historical Committee at 717-535-7477 or [archives@mennoniteusa.org](mailto:archives@mennoniteusa.org). Registration fee is \$10, which includes lunch and a copy of the manual *Heritage Preservation: A Resource Book for Congregations* by David A. Haury.



We are really on our way! World Communion Sunday is fast approaching and our school kits will be off to children all around the world. The last Sunday to donate is October 12. Here is an update on where we are:

Materials Needed for 150 School Kits

- Spiral Notebooks - 44
- Rulers - 14
- Erasers - 32
- Scissors - 59
- Bags - 33

If you would rather make a monetary donation, please mark your envelope School Kits. Thanks again for all your support. Angi



## OCTOBER Birthdays

Oct 1	Jan Weaver
Oct 2	Michaela Hoke
Oct 3	Gail Vance
Oct 6	Vanessa De Pue
Oct 7	Marcia Blanton
Oct 8	Denny Weaver
Oct 10	Doris Walters
Oct 12	Andrew Lund
Oct 15	Sabrina Fritz
Oct 16	Nan Davis
Oct 17	Erika Toops
Oct 18	Joyce Gordon
Oct 19	Jim Vance
Oct 20	Keith Vardaman
Oct 23	Vicki Ellis
Oct 24	Sandy Schrock
Oct 24	Henry Schmucker
Oct 24	Luis Davila
Oct 29	Marcia Sowles
Oct 31	Jeanne Brandon



## OCTOBER Anniversaries

Oct 1	Paul & Norma Pletcher
Oct 19	Louis & Jeanne Brandon

## ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

DATE	Worship	Sunday School
9/7/08	98	No SS
9/14/08	88	67
9/21/08	105	47
9/28/08		



**Samantha Cooper**  
Ball State University  
Schmidt Hall #110  
Muncie, IN 47306

Email: [skaycooper9489@yahoo.com](mailto:skaycooper9489@yahoo.com)

**Melissa Taylor**  
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Jonathan [jonathanhoke@msn.com](mailto:jonathanhoke@msn.com)



We are the proud grandparents of Aiden Allen Patrick Neal. Born on Sept. 6, 2008 - 9 lbs. 2 oz and 21 inches. He is absolutely perfect! The proud parents are David and Ceppy Neal of Aspen, CO.

Bonnie & Roger Neal

CAMP MACK

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P.O. Box 158, Millford, IN 46542  
 Phone: 574-658-4831 Fax: 574-658-4765  
 E-Mail: [campmack@npsc.net](mailto:campmack@npsc.net) Website: <http://www.campmack.org>

**CAMP IS NOW IN RETREAT SEASON!** Your Sunday School class, church board, choir, youth or other group is invited to schedule a retreat to worship the Creator and enjoy the serenity of this sacred place.

**UPCOMING RETREATS:** Camp Mack's Fall **Seasoned Citizens' Retreat** is October 13-16 followed by the fall **Quilting Retreat** on October 16-19. These retreats offer lots of fun, fellowship and inspiration, so check out our web site or call Camp today for registration forms.

**FATHER-SON WEEKEND:** Fathers, sons and grandpas, too -- you are invited to a Father-Son Weekend at Camp Mack on Saturday and Sunday, October 18-19. The weekend theme is "Survivors." Discover some new wilderness survival skills and create wood-

working projects. Build those memories with your father or son that last a lifetime. The cost for a father and son is \$91. Additional persons are \$42 each.

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DINNER:** 2008 counselors and support volunteers are invited to be the camp's guests at a recognition dinner on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration and hors d'oeuvres begin at 4:30 p.m. with the dinner at 5:00 p.m. Enjoy musical entertainment by the Silvertone Harmonica Players.

**ENCOURAGE YOUR PASTOR(S)** to be the guests of the Camp at the fall **Pastors' Sabbath** at Camp Mack. The Sabbath begins at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 11 and concludes at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Camp Board, staff, guests.

**A Quiet Place Quote:** "In silence all of our usual patterns assault us. That is why most people give up rather quickly. When Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, the first things to show up were the wild beasts." Richard Rohr.

World  
Communion  
Sunday



October 5 is World Communion Sunday. If you have clothing from another country, you are invited to wear it to worship that day to represent our relationship with Christians around the world.

## Area high school students can check out 44 colleges and universities at Wabash County College Fair

Area high school students can check out 44 schools in one place at the 2008 Wabash County College Fair on Tuesday, Sept. 30 at Manchester College.

Students from Huntington, Kosciusko, Miami, Wabash and Whitley counties are especially encouraged to attend the fair, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the College Union on the North Manchester campus.

At the free event, representatives from colleges, universities and technical schools will provide information about areas of study, financial aid, admission requirements, athletics, extracurricular activities, scholarships and more.

For more information about the Wabash County College Fair, contact the Manchester College Office of Admissions at 800-852-3648. For directions to the campus, visit [www.manchester.edu](http://www.manchester.edu). It is not necessary to register in advance for the College Fair.

Schools sending representatives: Adrian College, Ancilla College, Anderson University, Baker College, Ball State University, Bethel College, Bluffton University, Butler University, College of Mount St. Joseph, Defiance College, Earlham College, Franklin College, Goshen College, Grace College, Hanover College, Huntington University, Indiana State University, Indiana Tech and Indiana University campuses at Bloomington and Kokomo.

Also: Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne, Indiana Wesleyan University, International Business College, ITT Technical Institute, Ivy Tech Community College at Warsaw, Kettering University, Manchester College, Marian College, Oakland City University, Purdue University's Aviation Technology Center at Indianapolis.

And: Purdue University, Saint Joseph's College of Indiana, Saint-Mary-of-the-Woods College, Saint Mary's College at Notre Dame, Taylor University at Fort Wayne, Taylor University at Upland, Trine University, University of Evansville, University of Findlay, University of Indianapolis, University of Saint Francis, University of Southern Indiana, Valparaiso University and Vincennes University.

## On the Way

### *Continuing in Faith*

Summer is gone. Many wonderful experiences and closings have happened at Camp Mack this summer with our theme "Handle With Care". Some hearts have changed and many leaders and campers have grown closer to Christ and to nature!

#### **PRAISE GOD FOR:**

1. His faithfulness to Camp Mack over the past 83 years.
2. His provision of resources through the faithful giving of supporters and friends.
3. A good campaign steering committee who desires to serve the camp and the two districts.
4. The churches and individuals who continue to believe in and support Camp Mack

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

1. The ongoing work of the campaign steering committee.
2. Volunteers who have stepped forward to assist during the campaign.
3. Effective communication between visitors and individuals and churches who are now stepping up to the plate in support of the "On The Way" "Continuing in Faith" campaign to grow Camp Mack into the future.
4. God to work in the hearts of all givers to the campaign, infusing them with joy as they remember "equal sacrifice, not equal gifts".

"And whatever you ask for in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith".

Matthew 21:22

Thank you for praying with us.

God bless you,

Val Kline  
Dan Snider

#### **Office Deadlines**



There has been some abuse of former office policies concerning deadlines for bulletins and newsletter articles. The board agreed that there will be enforcement of a Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. deadline for bulletin and newsletter. This will include a copy to be written in full and edited.

- 11/5—9:00 a.m. Volunteer Fellowship
- 11/6—6:30 p.m. Church Board Mtg.
- 11/7—9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.—Fiber Friends
- 11/9—Congregational Business Meeting
- 11/11—6:30 Worship Team Mtg.
- 11/12— 7:00 p.m. Choir
- 11/13—Shalom Team Mtg.
- 11/16—Choir Sings
- 11/16—Christ the King Sunday
- 11/19—7:00 p.m. Choir
- 11/23—Choir Sings
- 11/23—Thanksgiving Sunday
- 11/23—1st Sunday of Advent



#### **Church Community Services**

#### **LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF?...HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN ONE WOMAN'S LIFE!**

You are invited to become a volunteer mentor for a participant in Soup of Success—a Church Community Services program—who is striving to make positive changes in her life. If you have ever parented a child, held a job, managed a household, gone to school or figured out how to make ends meet, you have all the expertise necessary to be a mentor. Come pass on the encouragement and challenge that have helped you along the way, and join a group of women who are making a difference. Training and support is provided. For more information contact Kathy or Abbie at 523-1551.

## Creekside Kid's Update

Our Trip to Heifer International is October 18 and the kids are getting very excited to visit and present them with our donation. We have had an overwhelming response from our church family and we thank each and every one of you.

If you would still like to donate, we are taking donations until Sunday October 5. We again thank you for all your support and can't wait to tell you all about our trip.

Angi

## JOINING CREEKSIDE BY MEMBERSHIP TRANSFER



### Keith and Doris Hostetler

Keith was a draftsman at the NIBCO Corporation and Doris did embroidery for the athletic department at Memorial High School. Though he grew up in the Zion Missionary Church, Keith played on Elkhart City's fast-pitch softball teams as well as the ECCOB basketball team. Doris has been a life-long member of our congregation and is the daughter of Zelma Nickler.

### Ned and Jerry Hostetler

Ned (Keith Hostetler's brother) worked in various capacities in the recreational vehicle industry. Enjoyable activities for Ned include reading and riding around The Willows in his electric golf cart. Jerry worked for twenty-five years in the office at Whitehall Industries and currently works at the Hallmark store in Concord Mall. His favorite activities include collecting birdhouses and working outdoors.



### Eric and Sharon Houser

Eric and Sharon come to Creekside from the Middlebury Church of the Brethren. They have two daughters, Sara and Heather. Eric ran his own landscaping business and is currently responsible for the grounds and maintenance at the Arbor Crest apartments on Old US 20. Sharon is the assistant manager at the Village Inn Restaurant in Middlebury. Eric's interests include hunting and working outside. Sharon enjoys taking walks and baking.



### Teresa White

Teresa grew up in Iowa and comes to us from the United Methodist Church. Teresa worked with Angi Marcin at the KIK Corporation, and is in her eleventh year with the customer service department. Teresa has three children and two dogs. Her interests include reading (good) books, collecting sea shells, and bells from different states.



### Peter Miller

Peter has been a long-time member of our congregation. For the past few years Pete has lived in Mexico, Indiana where he helped care for his sister. While in Mexico he worked with the worship ministry of an American Baptist Church. Pete has moved back to Elkhart and is returning to his spiritual home at Creekside. Pete is the father of Curt Miller.



### Wylan Shultz (no picture available)

Wylan graduated with a chemistry degree from Manchester College, and after her children were raised she worked for years as a medical secretary in Ithaca, New York. She moved last year from Blacksburg, Virginia to the Greencroft community. Wylan enjoys crafts, ornithology, and swimming. Wylan and Mytris Justiniano are sisters.



## Manchester College hosts visit days for high school students, families

High school students of all ages, their families and guests are invited to see for themselves why the college guides say Manchester College is a "Best College" and a "Best in the Midwest."

The northern Indiana college is hosting Spartan Days for prospective students this fall. Here's the schedule:

Saturday, Nov. 8  
Saturday, Nov. 15

During the visit, students will tour campus; meet current students, discover academic, athletic and other extracurricular opportunities; learn about scholarships and financial aid; talk with admissions staff; and eat a complimentary lunch.

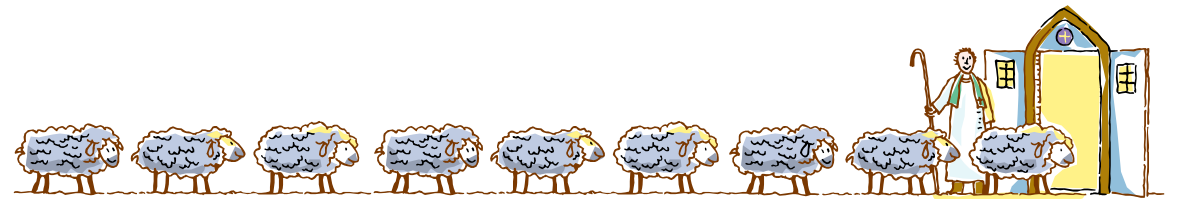
A spring Spartan Day is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29.

For more information about Manchester College and to make a reservation for Spartan Day (or any campus visit), click on Future Students at [www.manchester.edu](http://www.manchester.edu), call 800-852-3648 or e-mail [visit@manchester.edu](mailto:visit@manchester.edu).

Manchester College, with about 1,150 students, offers more than 55 areas of study on its residential campus in North Manchester, IN.

*A Sunday School teacher decided to have her young class memorize one of the most quoted passages in the Bible - Psalm 23. She gave the youngsters a month to learn the chapter. Little Rick was excited about the task - but he just couldn't remember the Psalm. After much practice, he could barely get past the first line.*

*On the day that the kids were scheduled to recite Psalm 23 in front of the congregation, Ricky was so nervous. When it was his turn, he stepped up to the microphone and said proudly, 'The Lord is my Shepherd, and that's all I need to know.'*



**Gluten Free and Wellness Show  
Saturday October 4 8am to 2pm**

**Presented by CFMC Families Living with Celiac Disease Support Group and  
Maple City Market**

**Clinton Frame Mennonite Church  
63846 County Road 35  
Goshen, IN**

**This year's show will include gluten-free vendors, guest speakers Jill Noyes CCE M. Ad. Ed, Charlotte Weaver, Nutritionist, and a gluten-free cafe serving lunch from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., along with blood pressure checks. Ms. Noyes will be giving a presentation called "Cooking Gluten-Free; Fun and Frugal". Ms. Weaver's topic will be "Starting the Gluten-Free Diet". They will both be available the day of the show to answer any questions.**

**If you have any questions or want to participate in the show, call Tanya Trick at 574-825-3366 or e-mail [dtdatrick@hotmail.com](mailto:dtdatrick@hotmail.com)**

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.' This soon became part of her nightly routine, to include this closing.

My curiosity got the best of me and I asked her, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?' Her response, 'Because everybody always finishes their prayers by saying 'All Men!'

## Jr. High News

**Sunday October 5th** - CROP WALK. Please help support our Jr. Highers as they walk together to make a difference in the lives of many in need. We will walk as a group so you will only need to contribute one time. Thanks for your support!

If you haven't signed up to sponsor the Jr. High for the Crop Walk please stop by their classroom and do that. They appreciate your support.

**November 19th** - SOUP OF SUCCESS. Volunteer night to help prepare recipes for holiday baskets.

### JOINING CREEKSIDE BY BAPTISM

#### Cara Mastic



Cara Mastic was baptized on September 21 in the prayer garden pool. Encircling the pool were many family members and friends who offered prayers for Cara's commitment to discipleship. Although the blue-green algae was plentiful, it did not interfere with the efficacy of the service. Cara is beginning her freshman year at Penn High School, and her dance and music talent in worship has blessed us. Cara is the daughter of Dave & Laurie Mastic.

#### Bryce Metcalf

Bryce graduated in 2008 from Jimtown High School and is a freshman at Indiana University in South Bend. His interests include watching movies (could we have another Roger Ebert in the making?) and reading. Bryce is the grandson of Jan Weaver.



#### Cody Vance (no picture available)

Cody grew up in our congregation and is active in our youth group. He is active in sports, lettering in football, wrestling, and track, with a jacket full of patches to prove it! Cody is the son of Jim and Kristen Vance.



#### MMA NEWS ALERT:

Environmental expert and author Luke Gascho will be a guest at Better World Books, 118 East Washington St., Goshen from 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. as part of the Oct. 3, Goshen First Fridays event. You will be able to talk with him about his new book *Creation Care: Keepers of the Earth*. Published by MMA, *Creation Care* shows the connection between faith, finances, and everyday living - and shows us how we can be better stewards of our planet. You can go to MMA News at [MMA-online.org](http://MMA-online.org) for more details.



### Church Community Services

The annual fundraiser for Church Community Services is here again! "You Take the Cake" will take place at Trinity United Methodist Church, on Saturday, October 18th, at 6:00 p.m. We are selling balloons with prizes in them. You could win a diamond or a ruby for \$20! Cakes will also be auctioned off.

This event will be fun and laughter filled! Tickets sell for \$25/individual or \$175/table. To purchase tickets, contact Dean at 574.295.3673.



# 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 9:00 a. m.—Volunteer Fellowship 7:00 p.m.—Choir	<b>2</b> 6:30 p. m.—Church Board	<b>3</b> 9:30 a. m.—3:30 p.m. —Fiber Friends	<b>4</b> RYC—Manchester College
<b>5</b> 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School RYC—Manchester College CHOIR SINGS World Communion Sunday (bread & cup communion) 	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Advent Planner—AMBS 7:00 p.m.—Fellowship Team Mtg.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 
<b>12</b> 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Consecration Sunday 2009 Budgets Due	<b>13</b> Financial Team	<b>14</b> 6:30 p.m.—Worship Team Mtg.	<b>15</b> 7:00 p.m.—Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School CHOIR SINGS Drop In—Youth	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>DEADLINE FOR NEWSLETTER</b> </div>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:00 a.m.—Worship 10:45 a.m.—Church School Cliff Daly—during Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 7:00 p.m.—Shalom Team Mtg.	<b>31</b>	