

FEBRUARY 2025

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER



Following THE LIGHT

IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

FOLLOWING THE LIGHT: IN THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Beginning on Epiphany Sunday, we are following Jesus, the Light of the World, in the early days of his ministry in the Gospel of Luke. As we follow the Light, may we each learn how our lives reflect His light to all those around us.

UPCOMING SERMONS

- February 2 | Communion
Luke 4:38-44 | Jesus Heals Peter's Mother
- February 9 | Luke 5:1-11 | Jesus Calls the Disciples
- February 16 | TBD
- February 23 | Luke 6:1-11 | Jesus Keeps the Sabbath
- March 2 | Luke 9:28-36



Children's Ministry notes



THANK YOU for a wonderful Christmas Eve Worship Service. Our Children and Worship team truly appreciate the way we're embracing our youngest members in our worship experiences, and the Christmas Eve service was particularly meaningful. We are also grateful to those who stepped in to take on roles, helping us come together more fully on our Journey to Bethlehem.

Roles

Child Wonderer: Rose Bork

Isaiah: Dave Tanis

Mary: Clara Ward

Shepherds: Anubis Eckermann, Mia Garza
+ Mallory Weerstra

Magi: Hope Ward, Jakob Bork + Ramona Garza

Adult Wonderer: Dee Hubbard

Gabriel: Anne VanderZiel

Joseph: Amanda Eckermann

Storyteller: Pastor Amanda

Children and Worship

After the children's blessing, students ages 4 yr old-2nd grade can go down to the worship center with the helper. Please see the bulletin for who the Teacher and Helper is each week. Students will come upstairs at the end of worship to meet their adult in the cafe during connection time.

February 2 | The Mustard Seed

February 9 | The Leaven

February 16 | The Sower

February 23 | The Good Samaritan

March 2 | The Great Banquet



Budget Report Year End 2024

<u>Budgeted Income</u>	\$35,815.67	<u>Actual Income</u>	\$102,560.11*	<u>Income YTD</u>	\$380,855.95
<u>Budgeted Expenses</u>	\$35,815.67	<u>Actual Expenses</u>	\$30,474.57	<u>Expenses YTD</u>	\$380,855.95
		<u>Net Income</u>	\$72,085.54	<u>Net Income YTD</u>	\$0.00

*Actual Income Total is from the following deposits: \$44,289.06 Contributions

\$49,382.99 Payroll & Health Relief IRS Refund

\$8,888.06 Misc. Deposits & Internal Acct. Transfer

Please know you can mail your contribution or use the link on our website if you are unable to worship with us.



Weather Cancellations

In the event of inclement weather, any service cancellation will be communicated by 8AM on Sunday morning. Following the decision to cancel made by the preaching pastor and the Vice President of Consistory, the church office will send email communication, as well as posting our cancellation on the following news outlets; Wood TV8, Fox 17, WWMT Channel 3 and WHTC 1450 AM Radio.

For any church events happening throughout the week, the cancellation and communication will come from the ministry organizer.

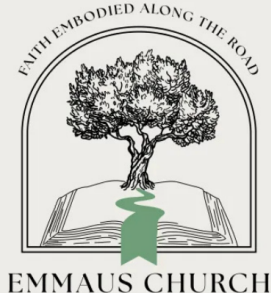
Building Rentals

Are you interested in utilizing the building to host a special event, class, or meeting? Here are the next steps to proceed.

- 01 Event Submission** ☒
Fill out the Building Rental Form. Pick one up in the church office or ask for one to be sent to you.
- 02 Getting Approval** ☒
The approval or denial of your event will depend on the availability of the requested space and the decision of Trinity staff.

- 03 Pay Security Deposit + Rental Fee** ☒
To confirm your event date and time, the deposit must be paid.
- 04 Receiving Access** ☒
Collect the keys from the church office no sooner than one week before your event. You will also be provided with a cleanup checklist.
- 05 Host Your Event** ☒
Host your event, ensure the space is clean, and vacate the building by the designated time.
- 06 Returning Keys + Receiving Security Deposit** ☒
Please return the church keys within one week following your event. Your security deposit will be refunded within a week after we receive the keys.

MEET EMMAUS CHURCH



Dear Trinity Reformed Church,
Thank you so much for your generous donation to the ministries of Emmaus Church! We are so grateful for the ways this gift will positively impact our community and are so grateful for your support!
Thank you + God Bless,
Emmaus Church Leadership

ABOUT EMMAUS CHURCH

Emmaus is a community focused on radical hospitality, walking the road of life together, gathering around table, opening the Word, and going back into the world with our hearts burning within us. Learn more about our values and what makes us unique [here](#).



DOING
THE MOST
GOOD

THE SALVATION ARMY

GREAT
LAKES
DIVISION



Dear Trinity Reformed Church:

On behalf of the children who woke up to find presents under the tree this Christmas, we would like to say THANK YOU for being an Angel Tree toy collection site. The items you collected blessed the children of the families we served. Your Christmas kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated!

This Christmas, The Salvation Army served 893 families and 2,322 children through our Christmas 2024 Toy and Food Distribution. It was heartwarming to see the families find items they felt would make their children happy, as well as select from the food we offered to provide a delicious Holiday Dinner. We could not have brought this joy and hope to so many without your assistance and support.

May God Bless You today and into the 2025 New Year.

W.M.M. Resource Center
1120 96th Avenue
Zeeland, MI 49464

December 31, 2024

Trinity Reformed Church
712 Apple Avenue
Holland, MI 49423

Trinity Reformed Church,

Thank you for your donation to W.M.M.Resource Center on December 20, 2024. Your contribution, valued at \$ 1,200.00 is summarized as follows:

* Donation of \$ 1,200.00 made by [REDACTED]

W.M.M. Resource Center is classified as 501c (3) non-profit organization by standards of the IRS. This receipt is for your records.

Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,

Mary Wyrick
Treasurer



Since 1969

FIGHTING HUNGER PROVIDING HOPE EMPOWERING PEOPLE

January 08, 2025

Trinity Reformed Church

712 Apple Ave
Holland, MI 49423

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your generous donation of \$724.00 to Community Action House on 12/31/2024. As a community-powered nonprofit, your support makes it possible for so many of our neighbors to access food, support, connection, and hope. We are so grateful for you.

You fight hunger by increasing access to healthy food for our neighbors. Food Club guests find access to fresh, healthy groceries that work best for their families. Community Kitchen visitors experience warm welcome, good food, and resource connection to help them move forward. And behind the scenes, Lakeshore Food Rescue redirects thousands of pounds of food each week, so that no good food goes to waste when it can help fill families' tables.

You provide hope for those seeking support and connection. A shower, a meal, and someone to listen - at Refresh, our team connects people in need with immediate resources, then partners to build toward a more stable future. Through "whatever-it-takes" case management, our Outreach Team works with neighbors experiencing homelessness to pursue the goal of safe, stable housing, and makes sure that no one has to face challenges alone.

You empower people through Financial Wellness. Our team walks alongside guests as they build on existing skills, overcome challenges, and set goals. Through one-on-one counsel, classes, and resource connection, our team helps prevent a financial challenge from becoming a financial crisis, and helps guests unlock new possibilities for their families. Your generosity is building a community where healthy food is accessible, hope is growing, and all of our neighbors have the opportunity to build toward a brighter future. Thank you for being our community's expression of care for the families who need it most.

With gratitude,

Scott Rumpsa
Chief Executive Officer

Your support means so much!
Your gift helps nourish, equip, and
empower neighbors for generations!

Contact Us: (616) 392-2368 ext. 136 | giving@communityactionhouse.org

Community Action House (CAH) is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. Your donation is tax deductible to the extent allowable by law. No goods or services were provided by Community Action House in exchange for this contribution.



COMMUNITYACTIONHOUSE.ORG

“SOUPerbowl” SUNDAY

On Sunday, February 9th, we cordially invite you to participate in a canned soup drive aimed at assisting our neighbors. These canned goods will be collected and donated to Community Action House.



Second Sunday Brunch

Sunday, February 9

Join us for breakfast burritos following the worship service. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk to let us know you are coming.

Trinity Care Closet

This month, Care Closet needs the following items. Would you please consider making a donation to assist our neighbors who could benefit from some extra support?

Look for the donation basket located on the Welcome Desk!

Thank you very much for your continued support of Trinity's Care Closet.

Donations of the Month

FEBRUARY

HOUSEHOLD
CLEANER

+

TOILET BOWL
CLEANER



Cover to Cover Book Club

The 2024/2025 Book Club meets the 4th Thursday of every month. Participation is limited to 12 people. If you are interested in joining, please see Sharon Kruse.

February 27 | The Women of Copper Country by Mary Doria Russell

March 27 | News of the World by Paulette Jiles

April 24 | The Sun Does Shine by Anthony Ray Hinton

May 22 | The Edge of Summer by Viola Shipman

Cover to Cover Book Club will meet in The Reflections Room at Trinity.

TUESDAY COFFEE WITH PASTOR AMANDA



10:30AM

While I've met many folks, there's always more to learn about each other. And there's folks I haven't gotten to know yet. Let's have coffee together!

I'm setting aside every Tuesday morning at 10:30am for coffee. Your house. A local coffee shop. My office. Whatever works best for you!

Just sign up in the Church Office for an upcoming Tuesday, then I'll reach out and confirm details!

Merry Christmas Happy 2025

(Year of the Snake)
(2025)

This year began with Megumu and Manato visiting Japan. We took a trip to Aomori and saw the Nebuta floats made for the Nebuta festival held in summer. We also were hosted by the



Wayne Miho Manato Megumu

boys while we were on a short home assignment in summer. Below left are Meg's cats, on the right is Manato's, and ours is in the middle.

We continue to serve at Tokyo Union Theological Seminary and Ferris Girls' School. Our prayer for you is that you will be blessed in 2025 with the Hope that Jesus brings us during this festive season.

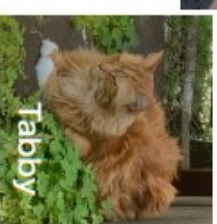
Wayne & Miho Jansen



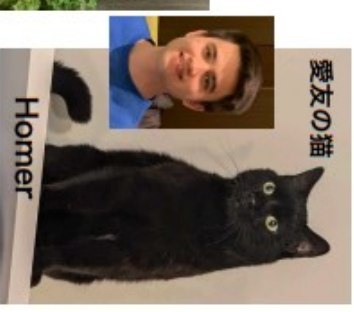
Boba

Hinoki

慈の猫



Tabby



愛友の猫

Homer



Choosing Music for Sunday Morning Worship

In finding myself with the honor and responsibility of choosing music for Sunday Morning worship, Pastor Amanda has given me confidence, not in myself, but in the Holy Spirit's ability to guide me and speak to me. It's my joy and privilege to be God's conduit. He tells me, I "can do it"!

The process sort of goes like this:

First of all I need the house quiet. Usually, don't we all hear God's voice better when we are silent, without distractions?

I lay out the music options (there are tons!) and carefully consider the pros and cons: what might fit best into our service, what enhances the sermon, where is the life of Trinity's family presently, mostly, how God is speaking to my heart.

Then artistically it's important for me to find a balance. It's like making a beautiful bouquet. I look for style, depth, light, focus, contrast, beauty, meaning, and a soul stretching testimony to our Great God. If it's a new song for Trinity, is it teachable? There are always lots of questions. The bottom line is that we want to worship, praise and glorify God with our whole being!

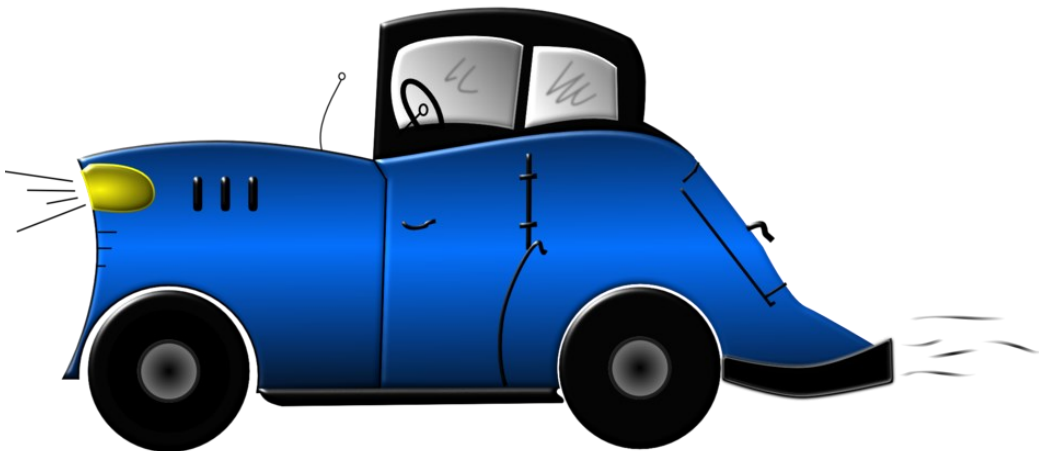
I need to prayerfully invite the Lord into the decision, spreading the musical choices out before Him and asking for His guidance, leaning on Him and His Word. Then I often feel a clear, deep peace and even joy, when the choices seem to fit. Even then I still leave the option open for flexibility and change and more nudgings of the Holy Spirit. I want to know what He desires... don't we all want to know God's heart!?

Sometimes a Trinity member will make a request. For example, our dear Doris Welling, shared how powerful it was to her to have the congregation sing Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer." Even though I know it is challenging vocally, we've been singing it at least once a month and God is blessing His people through this song.

People of faith sing! What a glorious gift God has given us! "To God Be the Glory". I love that our church family prays for each other! Keep up the good work! God is doing great things through us!

Always only for my King,
Lavonne





Songs to Sing while Cruising our Highways

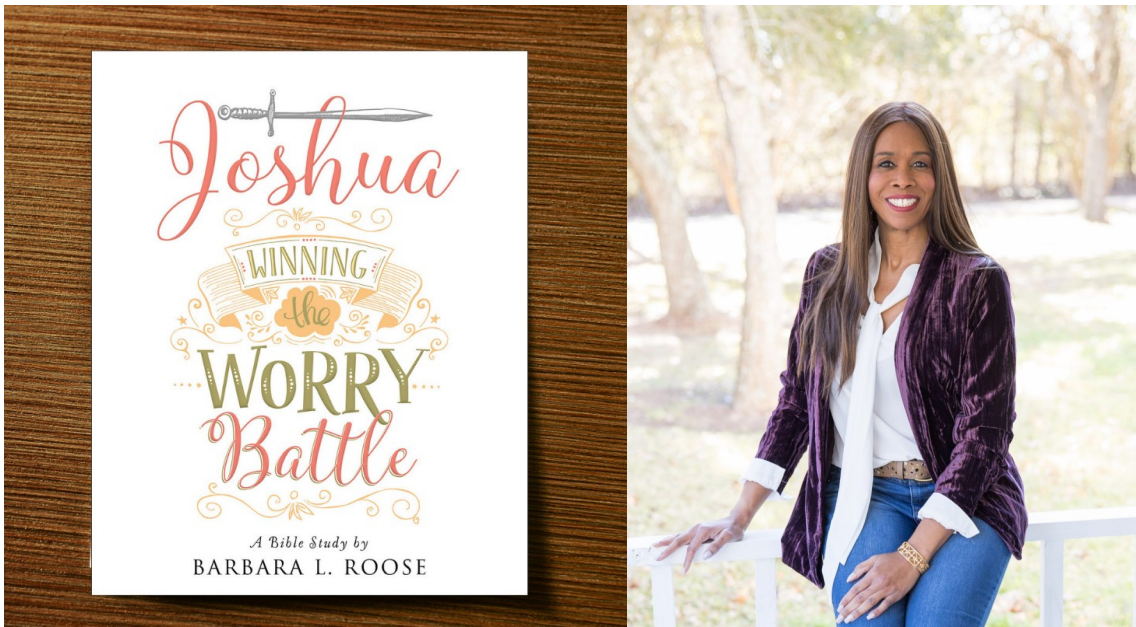
At 45 mph....."God Will Take Care of You"
At 55 mph....."Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
At 65 mph....."Nearer, My God to Thee"
At 75 mph....."Nearer, Still Nearer"
At 85 mph....."This World Is Not My Home"
At 95 mph....."Lord, I'm Coming Home"
At 100 mph...."Precious Memories"

Doug Vande Wege

I love you not only because you love me
but because you love God more than me
I love you because Christ is the center of your life
and you no longer live, Christ lives within you
I love you because with the help of the Holy Spirit
you love, you care, you share
I love you not only for what you are
but for what you are doing in my life
I love you because you not only accept the fact that in my life
God comes before you
but that you are happy because of it
I love you because you Christian fellowship
has brought me closer to my God
I love you because you accept me the way that I am
and at the same time, you help me to see
where I can go
I love you because you are willing to hurt me as well as yourself
by showing to me my foolish actions
which I knew were wrong, yet I was too lazy to correct
I love you because you add to my smile
a warmth I have not felt by anyone else
I love you because you are you
and you accept me as me
I love you because you love
because you care
because you share
I love you because you are
more than a friend...

Linda Louisa Johnson





WOW - Women of the Word Book Study
Wednesdays, 7:00 - 8:30 PM
February 12 - April 2

Led by Teresa Harrington

“In this six-week Bible study on the Book of Joshua, we will join God’s people as they arrive on the edge of the promised land only to find themselves in hostile territory, faced with fear and uncertainty. As we dig into the story of how Joshua and the Israelites claimed God's promised victory, we'll discover that winning the worry battle requires more than having faith; it requires learning to fight in faith! Following their bold, courageous footprints, we'll learn how to fight in faith as we internalize God's promises, draw strength from God's faithfulness, act in obedience to God's commands, and believe what our limitless God can do. Through in-depth study of how God gave the Israelites victory over their enemies and generously blessed them, too, we'll be equipped with biblical wisdom, encouragement, and practical tools that will enable us to overcome our daily worry struggles as well as the bigger battles of fear that we face.”

Meeting Schedule

February 12: Introduction, Week 1 Video
February 19: Week 1 Discussion, Week 2 Video
February 26: Week 2 Discussion, Week 3 Video
March 5: NO MEETING/Lent Begins
March 12: Week 3 Discussion, Week 4 Video
March 19: Week 4 Discussion, Week 5 Video
March 26: Week 5 Discussion, Week 6 Video
April 2: Week 6 Discussion

The deadline for registration is Sunday, February 2. The cost of the workbook is \$10.00.

Trinity Reformed Church

712 Apple Avenue Holland, MI 49423

Phone: (616) 396-6526

Website: www.trinityrc.org | Email: info@trinityrc.org

Trinity Staff

Amanda Bakale, Pastor

Hope Ward, Assistant Treasurer

Samantha Valentine, Administrative Assistant

Lauren Garza, Children's Ministry

Jim Allen, Facilities Coordinator

Dan Kruithof, Custodian

amanda@trinityrc.org

hope@trinityrc.org

samantha@trinityrc.org

lauren@trinityrc.org

jhallen_48@yahoo.com

dan@trinityrc.org

2025 Trinity Consistory

Elders:

Gregg Harper

Teresa Harrington

Dee Hubbard

Bob Koning

Lynda Simmons

Deacons:

Warren Kooyers

Steve Lundy

Matt Oom

Shirley Perez

Jay Lynn Wheeler

February Birthdays

Doug Dykstra	2/8	Wyatt Wilkinson	2/11	Shawn Shull	2/23
Tim Kroll	2/8	Dee Hubbard	2/18	Lovie Black	2/26
Mallory Weerstra	2/8	Rodger Dalman	2/19		
Ed Wheeler	2/8	Rob Harrington	2/22		

February Anniversaries

Gordon + Elsie Kossen	2/2	Ed + Jay Lynn Wheeler	2/12
Tom + Linda Lampen	2/11	Rob + Jeanne Dannenberg	2/13

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday | 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

After Hours Emergency Contact

Pastor Amanda | 519-497-8654 | amanda@trinityrc.org

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:45am Rescheduled Elders + Deacons Meetings 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House coffee & breakfast 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	27 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Monday Night Basketball 7:00pm - 9:00pm Worship Life Meeting	28 11:45am - 12:45pm Staff Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	29 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Rescheduled TRC + BH Partnership Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm Women of the Word Prayers in the Night	30 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Gospel of John 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	31 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife 3:00pm - 9:00pm Lopez -Koolhaus Rental	1 10:00am - 2:00pm Quilt/Craft Group Meeting
2 Groundhog Day 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House coffee & breakfast 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	3 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 6:00pm - 8:00pm Finance Team Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm Monday Night Basketball	4 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	5 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Women of the Word Prayers in the Night	6 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Gospel of John 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night 7:00pm Community Connections Meeting	7 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	8 9:00am - 12:00pm Community Connections Breakfast Burrito Prep 12:00pm - 5:00pm Berends Rental
9 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 10:45am - 11:45am TRC Second Sunday Brunch 11:00am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House coffee & breakfast 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	10 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Monday Night Basketball	11 9:30am - 10:30am Care Closet Packaging 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	12 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 11:00am - 1:00pm Care Closet 7:00pm - 8:30pm Women of the Word Winning the Worry Battle	13 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Gospel of John 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	14 Valentine's Day 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	15
16 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House coffee & breakfast 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	17 Presidents' Day 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Monday Night Basketball	18 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study 7:00pm Consistory	19 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Women of the Word Winning the Worry Battle	20 9:30am - 10:30am Third Thursday Breakfast 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Gospel of John 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night	21 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife 6:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Leadership Meeting	22 10:00am - 3:00pm TBD Lampen Rental
23 8:00am - 9:00am TRC Worship Team Rehearsal 9:30am - 11:00am TRC Worship 10:45am - 11:30am TRC Post-Service Coffee 11:00am - 12:00pm BH Set-up + Rehearsal 11:00am - 12:00pm Bread House coffee & breakfast 12:00pm - 4:00pm Bread House Worship	24 5:00pm - 7:00pm Bread House Praise & Worship Practice 7:00pm - 9:00pm Monday Night Basketball 7:00pm - 9:00pm Worship Life Meeting	25 7:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Bible Study	26 7:30am - 8:30am Men's Bible Study 10:00am - 11:00am Folding Group 7:00pm - 8:30pm Women of the Word Winning the Worry Battle	27 9:30am - 11:00am Women of the Word Gospel of John 1:00pm - 2:00pm Escape Ministries 6:30pm - 9:00pm Bread House Family Night 7:00pm - 9:00pm Cover to Cover Book Club	28 6:00pm - 9:00pm Bread House Prayer Meeting 6:00am - 7:30am Holland Middle Wyldlife	1 10:00am - 2:00pm Quilt/Craft Group Meeting