

Encouragement from the Pastor



PITTSBORO BAPTIST CHURCH

The Spiral - "Keeping the people informed"

"And they said to me, "The survivors who are left from the captivity in the province are there in great distress and reproach. The wall of Jerusalem is also broken down, and its gates are burned with fire." So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven." **Nehemiah 1:3-4 (NKJV)**

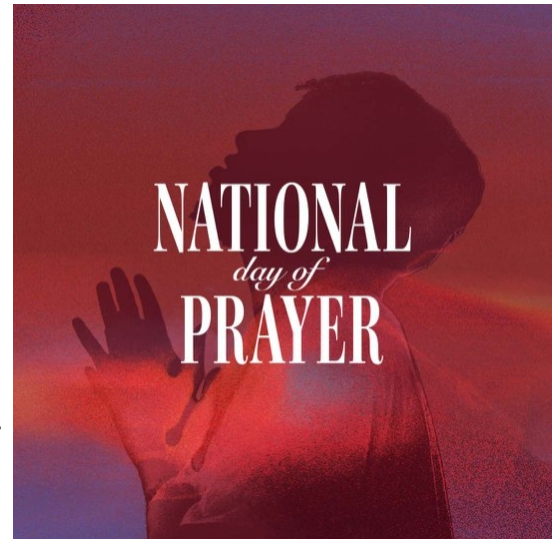
Dear Church Family,

We have an opportunity in our community to come together for prayer on the National Day of Prayer (May 7, 2026).

For a short time that afternoon, we will gather for worship and guided prayer as we pray for our leaders, families, schools, churches, and nation. Before my family moved to Pittsboro, I was very involved in National Day of Prayer events for the area I previously served. Those events were what held us together in some of the more limited gathering opportunities we had during the Covid-19 era and ultimately gave way to community revival efforts. Fruits of those labors of prayer still exist to this day. This first attempt may be small, but I am trusting God to do BIG things as we weave this into one of the many things we do as a church to engage our community. I hope that you plan to attend Thursday's prayer service.

The National Day of Prayer officially began in 1952, but public prayer and national days of prayer have a long-standing and significant history in America. In 1775, our forefather's asked the colonies to pray for wisdom in forming our new nation. President Abraham Lincoln called on American to humble themselves, fast, and pray in 1863. There have certainly been other times that our leaders recognized their need for God's wisdom, direction, and power. I realize that we may not all agree where we are politically, socially, morally, economically, or spiritually, but I think we can all agree that the best thing we can do in this tense and critical time is to pray.

More than 2500 years ago, a man named Nehemiah wept over the devastation that had been caused to Jerusalem by their enemies. News had reached him that Jerusalem's walls lay in ruin, her gates burned, and her people living in shame, disgrace, and exile. Nehemiah was far from home and his heart was devastated. Instead of being overwhelmed or defeated by his circumstances, Nehemiah looks to God in prayer (Nehemiah 1:4-8). Scripture tells us that he fasted and prayed for nearly four and half months about this situation. And God would accomplish more through Nehemiah in 52 days than had been accomplished in 141 years of brokenness, disobedience, unfaithfulness, and in staying true to the context of the passage, simply being in a state of insecurity and ignorance of knowing what to do once they had returned to Jerusalem.

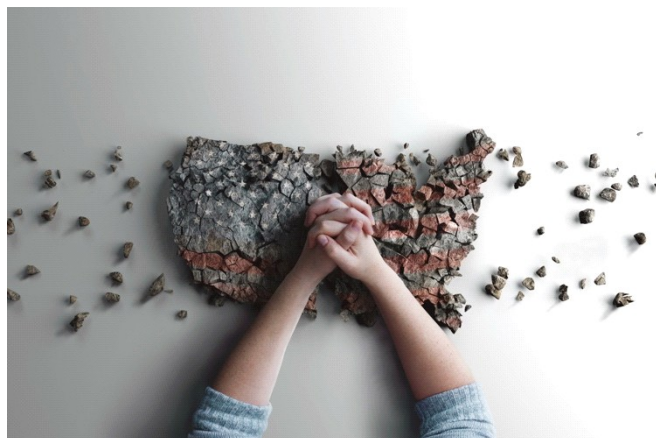


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Encouragement from the Pastor (*continued*)

Nehemiah prayed a prayer of confession, national repentance, praise and thanksgiving, and intense supplication, asking boldly for God to act in mercy and grace. God moved. Doors were opened, resources came, opposition was defeated, and the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt (fun fact: I have seen fragments of that very wall on display in the old city!). The story of Israel was transformed by the Lord whose people had turned their faces and hearts back to Him.

I feel that we live in a moment that relates in a lot of ways to Nehemiah's. Many of the "walls" in our nation bear real damage foundationally. The walls of our communities, families, and leadership are largely in disrepair and division. While ungodliness and lostness are contributing factors, I think the church is largely responsible. We are called to be "salt and light" in our culture (Matthew 5:13-14). The deterioration that we are seeing – whether in personal life, family life, or society – can be traced back to a lukewarm and non-responsive church in a society that needs the Lord. If we are the



ones who bear the message of the Gospel and the hope that's found in Christ and we don't faithfully share that in the world, how will they ever be saved and brought to repentance? The Bible says that "the time has come for judgment to begin with God's household" (1 Peter 4:17). We can't address the unrighteousness in our country if we don't first address the unrighteousness in our own house. For quite some time, the church in America has replaced their devotion to the Lord in the name of idols, complacency, compromise, and self-serving desires. We're foolish to believe that the blame all lands on the leaders we're not happy with. We need to humble ourselves, look within, and recognize that the problem isn't solely on them, but us. It is tempting to believe that the solutions are purely political, cultural, or economical. Electing the right people and passing great laws and policies are all fine, but restoration has to begin in the hearts of God's people. Only then can we address what is unrighteous outside of us.

Don't underestimate the power of what the Lord did. Prayer was not Nehemiah's last resort, but his first priority. He postured himself before the Lord in humility, brokenness, transparency, repentance, and worship. He acknowledged where all wisdom, power, and redemption came from, and God responded. Nehemiah's story is just one part of a much larger testimony of what God can do when His people genuinely turn to Him. He heard their cries, forgave their sin, and healed their land. The same God who rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem in Nehemiah's day is close to us as well. He is never surprised by what the headlines read, and He has not withdrawn the offer to come near to us if we will draw near to Him (James 4:8-10). Nothing is impossible for our God! There is no one or nothing that is out of His reach.

That's why we pray, and that's why this upcoming National Day of Prayer event is so heavy on my heart. We're gathering – not under a national banner to stir up a political movement – but as the people of God. I am praying that we come together humbled, hopeful, and hungry for the presence of the Lord. Together we are going to lift up our families, community, nation, leaders, and churches to the One who is able to do far more than we could ever ask or imagine.

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I hope that the patio is packed out with people to come together for prayer. Invite a neighbor, coworker, or family member. Let them know that we are simply going to pray about everything that's on our hearts. God can use this prayer service to draw people back to Him. Nehemiah was just one man who was far from home with nothing but a broken, humbled and praying spirit, and look at what God did! Imagine what He could do when His church shows up and prays together. Join us Thursday, May 7th for the National Day of Prayer in Pittsboro.

You are loved!

Peter





You Are Invited to

The National Day of Prayer Service

Thursday, May 7th from 12:05pm – 12:30pm

The Patio (outside area of the former HAVOC Brewery)

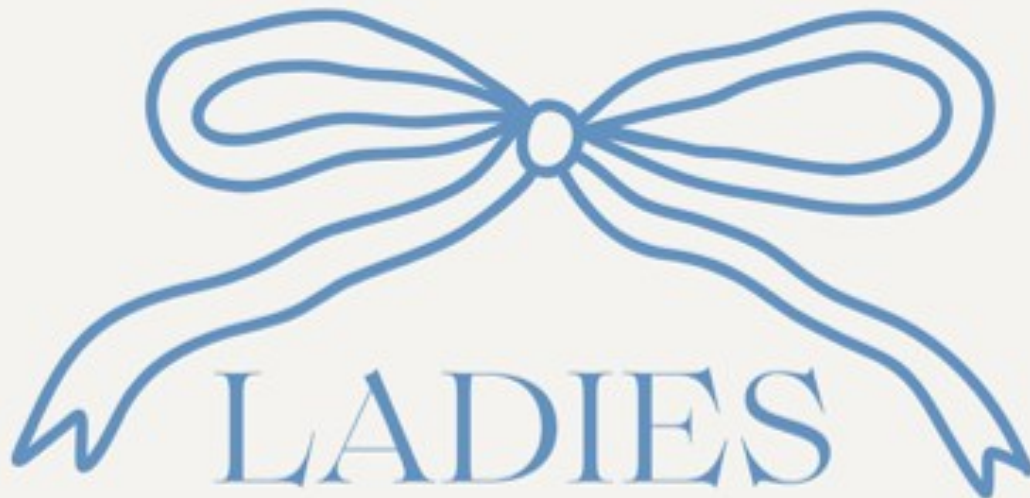
39 West Street : Pittsboro

Join us for a special **National Day of Prayer Service** as we come together to seek God for our community, our nation, and our churches.

This will be a meaningful time of worship and guided prayer as we pray for our leaders, families, schools, and nation. Let's come together in faith and lift our prayers to the Lord.

Everyone is welcome.

* Sponsored by Pittsboro Baptist Church *



Craft Night

Crafts · Snacks · Fun

All Ladies & Youth
Welcome

Friday May 15th
7.00 PM

PITTSBORO BAPTIST CHURCH

RSVP: Rachel Cain
940-395-6785
by May 8th

Register Here!





Join us for our next Bible study!

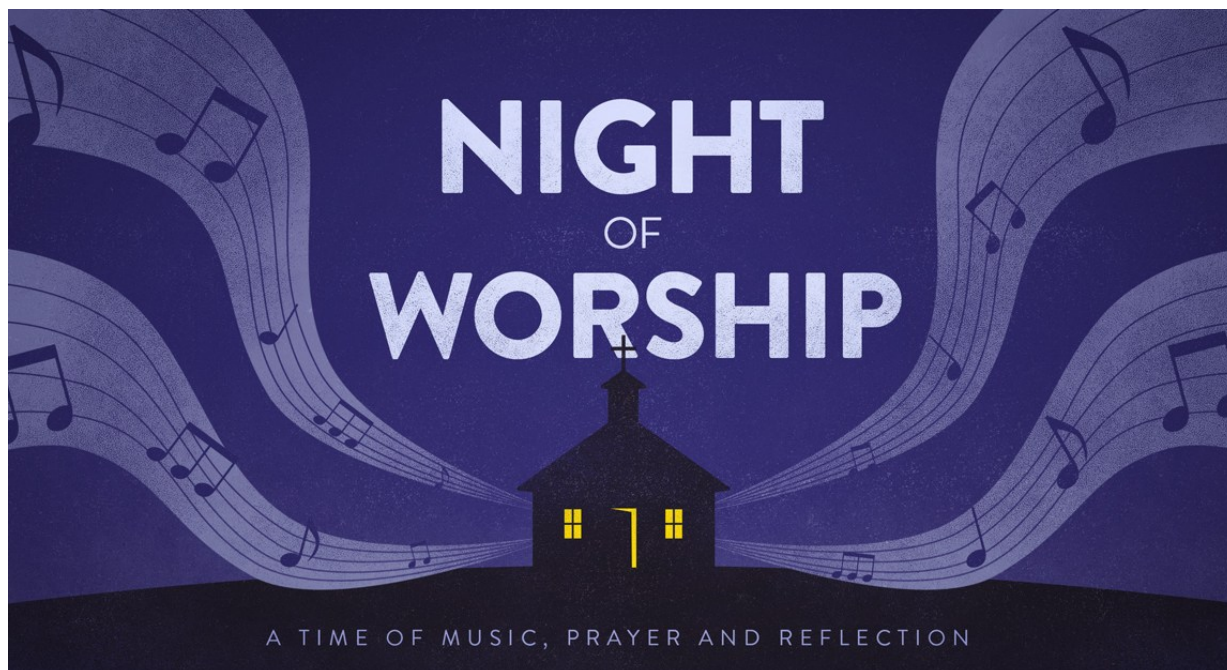


In this 8-session Bible study, teachers Jen Wilkin, Ruth Chou Simons, Kelly Minter, Adrienne Camp, Elizabeth Woodson, and Courtney Doctor invite you to place your feet firmly on the path of life revealed in the book of Proverbs.

**Join us for
Summer Evening Bible Study
June 23, 2026 at 6:30 pm
in Fellowship Hall
Sign up with Rachel Cain
940-395-6785
Lifeway.women**

Register Here!





Join us for a night of prayer on May 17th at 5:30 PM. All are welcome as we gather together to reflect, connect, and strengthen our faith. We look forward to seeing you there!





On Father's Day, June 21st during a portion of our worship service, we will have an opportunity for Christian parents to make a commitment to God to raise their children according to God's word and God's way. These families may have never dedicated their children to the Lord as babies. This is your opportunity to do that. If you would like to participate in this special dedication please contact Pastor Peter or the church office at 919.542.2986.

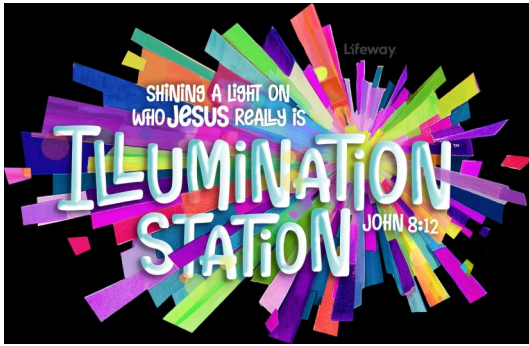
From the day I was born, I have been in your care, and from the time of my birth, you have been my God. Psalm 22:10



Rock of Pages Book Club
May 18, 7:00 p.m.
PBC Fellowship Hall

We will discuss
When Crickets Cry
by Charles Martin

All ladies are invited.



Save the date!

June 16-20, 2025

9:00am-12:30pm

Vacation Bible School

Pittsboro Baptist Church

Registration is open

All children age 4 (entering 4 year old PreK)
to those who just completed 5th grade



By Baptism:
Stasia March
Ricky Pena

PBC Youth News

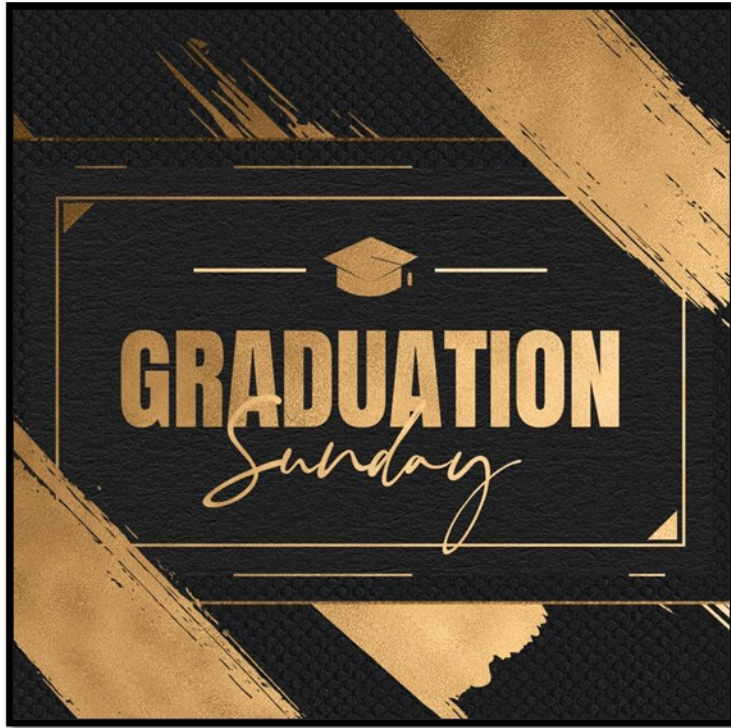
Have you ever heard the phrase "Maycember"? It's a time in the life of many parents, children, and youth where everything seems to come to an end all at once – the school year, sports seasons, awards ceremonies, recitals, productions and programs, end of year testing, field trips, and graduations! We are officially in "Maycember"! This is more reason to pray for our youth families. Life gets hectic, busy, and super-fast-paced. Pray that our students and their families would be able to close out the school year with joy, grace, gratitude, and a little more patience than we normally have.

April was a solid month for our student ministry. On April 11th, we served the families of our church by hosting a "**Parent's Night Out**" fundraiser. 21 children came over to the church that evening for a night of food, play, and a movie. We had great support from our youth group as they spent time with the children. Parents gave monetary donations to our student ministry to benefit our upcoming Youth Camp. We raised a little over \$900!

On April 25th, our youth group baked pies and cookies in collaboration with the Chatham County Sheriff's Department's annual fundraiser for the Special Olympics. These pies and cookies will be a part of chicken and sides fundraiser that they hold in Goldston. We were blessed to be able to serve others in the love of the Lord.

We are looking forward to celebrating the Senior Class of 2026 on Sunday, June 7th for Graduate Recognition Sunday! During the worship service, we will recognize and honor high school and college graduates and celebrate their achievements. In next month's Spiral, we will be paying special tribute to each of them. Our youth will be serving during this year's VBS on June 15-19 & then we are greatly looking forward to a much-needed week of worship, fellowship, and fun at Crossroads Summer Camp in Anderson, SC June 22-26! Thank you for your prayers and support of our youth group. God has big things in store, and we can't wait to see what He will do as we enter "Maycember"!





Graduation Sunday is on **June 7th** & we want to honor all of our high school and college-level graduates during the morning service.

1. **Submit a graduation photo and accomplishments to Pam at (pbcontactus@gmail.com)**
2. **Plan to stay for lunch on Grad Sunday**
3. **Let's Celebrate!**

An epic afternoon of friendly, but fierce competition, high stakes prizes, and the crowning of champion awaits ALL youth who volunteer for VBS.

"Squad Wars" is coming on June 18th (1pm – 5pm).

Stay tuned... get ready!



We're Getting Closer... Crossroads Summer Camp is June 22-26, 2026 at AU! #camplifebestlife #CRSC26



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Paul & Julie LoRusso ♥
Catherine Jurius
Sunny Allen | 17 Christian & Ashley Batcheller ♥ |
| 2 Carolyn Johnson
Brenda Lipofski | 18 Jay & Hannah Weatherington ♥
Dane Allen
Luke Barker |
| 3 Lynn McCarthy | 19 Sue Devinney |
| 6 Karl & Kathy Shaffer ♥
Connor Cashion | 21 Don Dodson |
| 7 Marie Gaster Breeding | 22 Julie LoRusso
Josh Jurius
Rachel Cain |
| 8 Pete & Chelsea Shandruck ♥ | 30 Jamison Davis
Jackson Davis
Kimberly Houston |
| 10 Jimmy Davis | |
| 12 Paul LoRusso | |
| 14 Charles & Deborah Dismuke ♥ | |





Thank you to those serving

Ushers

Connor Cashion, Henry Cain,
Owen Powers & Carter Melton

Greeters

Jimmy & Susie Griffin



- May 3** Jessica Vrvilo & Brooke Smith
- May 10** Ashley Batcheller & Sunny Allen
- May 17** Jon & Melissa Harshman
- May 24** Tara & Jenna Smith
- May 31** Jessica Vrvilo & Brooke Smith



- May 3** Tara, Micah & Mali McDonald
- May 10** Kelly Smith & Meredith Tetterton
- May 17** Amber Kilpatrick & Darby Powers
- May 24** Hunter & Hannah Brown
- May 31** Chelsea Shandrick & Sunny Allen



- May 3** Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
- May 10** Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
- May 17** Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
- May 24** Jennifer & Caroline Cashion
- May 31** Jennifer & Caroline Cashion

checkitout

News from the Pearle Johnson Memorial Library

Sunday Library Schedule

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

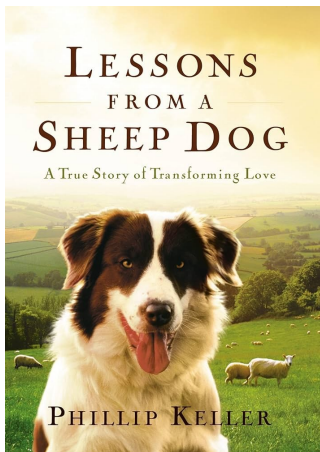
10:00 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.

In November, we highlighted several small books in this column, citing how big an impact they can have. Sometimes, I question if we should add them to the collection, fearful they will never be seen sitting between the larger tomes on the shelves. A little book, only 73 pages in length, was recently donated to the church library. It was about a sheep dog, a border collie, to be specific. I have been blessed with having two border collies in my life, totaling a 26 year time span, so I *had* to read it. It took only an hour to read but the words slapped me in the face numerous times. Little book- big impact. Even those who say they don't have time to read, can find an hour or two to read one of these potentially life-changing, enlightening books from the PBC Library.

KTS

Lessons from a Sheep Dog- A True Story of Transforming Love by Phillip Keller

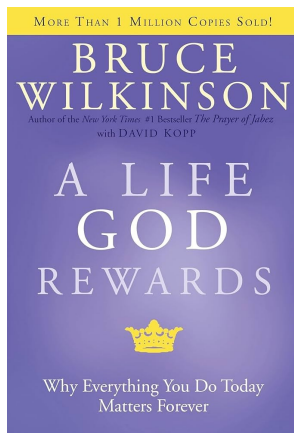
What you see is not always what you get - and this true story of a man and his dog is no exception. Woven just under the surface of this simple parable, Keller presents profound spiritual truth. It is the story of Lass, a worthless animal thought to be untrainable, who becomes a magnificent and valuable sheep-dog - not terribly unlike how God's love can transform our worst characteristics into blessings that serve to further His Kingdom. Allow yourself to see



Biblical truth in this classic tale of what can happen when you yield to the Master.

A Life God Rewards – Why Everything We Do Today Matters Forever by Bruce Wilkinson

In this book, you're going to discover that



God's son Jesus revealed a direct link between what you do today and what you will experience after you die. Astoundingly, the majority of spiritual seekers around the world -- including millions who follow Jesus -- seem to have missed what He said. Could you be one? If so, your picture of the future is

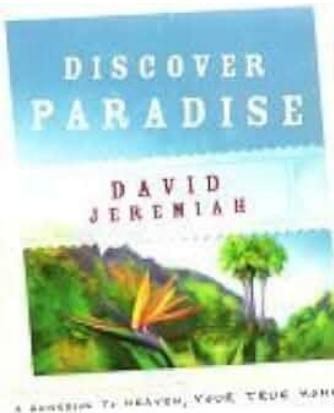
missing about a billion stars. Author Bruce Wilkinson shows you what Jesus said about God's plan to reward you in eternity for what you do for Him today. What you'll discover will unlock the mystery of God's power, plan and will for your life. And you'll begin to live with the unshakable certainty that what you do today matters ... forever!

Discover Paradise- A Guidebook to Heaven, Your True Home by David Jeremiah

From an amazon.com reviewer:

I gave this book to my friend who is a widow. Reading about Heaven and all the joys her husband is now experiencing, my friend got her zest for life back. After two years of grieving it's so good to see her smile again. This beautiful book makes Heaven so real and so exciting, that she can hardly wait to get

there and join him. She is now giving it to all her children and grandchildren in the hope that it will comfort them as well. God has great things in store for those who love Him!





	9-9:30a.m.	10-10:30a.m.
May 3	Judy Beaver	Sue Devinney
May 10	Cindy Springle	Susie Griffin
May 17	Ann Mills	Roderick Parker
May 24	Kathy Shaffer	Kathy Shaffer
May 31	Ann Mills	Kathy Shaffer

May 2026







When it comes to mothers mentioned in the Bible, no one can deny the remarkable character of Mary, the mother of Jesus. When she received news of the angel Gabriel that she would become the mother to the Savior of the world, she replied with great faith:

“I am the Lord’s Servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.”

Though no women on earth carried the weight of bearing the Son of God as Mary did, mothers certainly understand the high calling and responsibility of motherhood. No matter what calling God has placed on our lives, may we all respond with the same level of trust and faith as Mary displayed.

Prayer: Lord, I pray for expectant mothers all over the world. I ask that you keep their children safe in their wombs as they patiently await their arrival. Thank you for the joy that they will experience as they prepare for their children’s birth. Calm their minds and strengthen their bodies as they seek to raise their children in your wisdom and truth. Amen.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Sunday service	9:30am- Staff Mtg 10:00am-Women's Monday School	7:00pm - Property Management Meeting	8:00am-Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am-Prayer Quilters 5:00pm-The Table 6:30pm- Dinner, JD's Youth and Parent Connect	 National Day of PRAYER Noon-12:30pm-Prayer service at patio (near old HVOC)		5:30pm -BLAST
Mother's Day 10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Sunday service/ Dedication 	9:30am- Staff Mtg 10:00am-Women's Monday School 7:00pm-Deacon's Mtg	8:00pm-Finance Meeting	8:00am-Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am-Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, JD's Youth and Parent Connect		11:00am - Lunch break missions 7:00pm - Craft Night	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Sunday service 5:30pm-Night of Prayer	9:30am- Staff Mtg 10:00am-Women's Monday School 7:30pm-Women's Book Club		8:00am-Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am-Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, JD's Youth and Parent Connect	6:00pm - Preschool Graduation		5:30pm-BLAST
24	MEMORIAL DAY 25	26	27	28	29	30
9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Sunday Service	OFFICE CLOSED  MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE		8:00am-Men's Bible Study at Bojangles 10:00am-Prayer Quilters 6:30pm- Dinner, JD's Youth and Parent Connect	11:30am-Prayer Quilters		
31						
9:30am - Sunday School 10:30am-Sunday Service						

Happy Mothers Day



APPRECIATION

- BEAUTIFUL
- BREAKFAST
- CANDY
- CHARMING
- COMFORT
- DEVOTED
- FLOWERS
- FORGIVING
- GIFTS

- GUIDANCE
- HUGS
- JEWELRY
- JOY
- KISSES
- LAUGHTER
- LOVE
- MATERNAL

- MOM
- MOTHER
- NURTURE
- PERFUME
- PROTECTIVE
- SHARE
- TELEPHONE
- TENDER

THE BEST

- WARM
- WISE

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.