



Darlington and Fayette United Methodist Churches February 2026



Inside this issue...

<i>Pastor's Corner</i>	2
<i>Extra Giving</i>	3
<i>Monthly Financials</i>	3
<i>Online Giving</i>	3
<i>Menards Rebate</i>	3
<i>End of Year Giving</i>	3
<i>Mens Silent Auction</i>	4
<i>Scholarship Info</i>	4
<i>Rosie Bags</i>	4
<i>New Members</i>	4
<i>Foundation News</i>	5
<i>Script Info</i>	5
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	6
<i>Lay Servant Trainings</i>	7
<i>Choir</i>	7
<i>February bible Readings</i>	8-10
<i>February Lectionary</i>	10
<i>Use of Church</i>	10
<i>With Sympathy</i>	10
<i>February Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	11
<i>February Worship Leader Information</i>	11
<i>February Calendar</i>	12



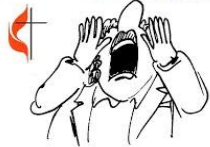
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SILENT AUCTION!!!



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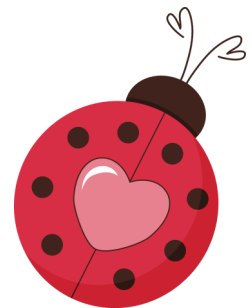
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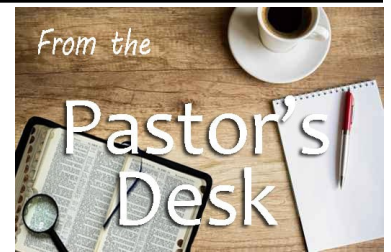


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“Justice That Flows from Love”

As we look around our country and our world today, it is hard to ignore the weight of what is happening. We see people dying, people cuffed and imprisoned, communities living in fear, outrage filling our news and conversations. In such a time, the question is not only *what is happening*, but *how do we understand it as people of faith*. Scripture invites us to ask a deeper question: what does the Bible mean when it speaks of **justice**?



The prophet Amos cries out to a nation that believed it was doing fine while ignoring the suffering in its midst. God’s word through him is clear: “Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream” (Amos 5:24). Biblical justice is not merely about rules, punishment, or power. It is about restoring right relationships—between God and people, and among people themselves—so that life can truly flourish.

In our polarized world, it is important to say this clearly: God is not red or blue. God is love. As your pastor, I respect the wide range of political opinions and perspectives among us. Thoughtful people can have real reasons for choosing different sides. Yet there is one thing that cannot be reduced to political conflict: **human dignity**. Scripture tells us that “God created humankind in God’s image” (Genesis 1:27). Every person, without exception, bears that image and is a beloved child of God.

Yes, we are called to be good citizens, to respect laws, and to care for our communities. But when systems or actions harm people and cause fear, confusion, or despair, faith requires us to pause and ask: is this truly justice, or is it violence disguised as justice? Micah reminds us of God’s desire: “to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God” (Micah 6:8).

How we handle conflict reveals who we are. Ignoring, oppressing, avoiding, or using violence are not God’s ways. God’s way is different: God is present, God sees, God listens, God understands, God sympathizes, and God makes a way—always in love. As Paul writes, even the greatest works mean nothing without love (1 Corinthians 13).

Without love, justice becomes violent. Without justice, love becomes self-neglect. Our God holds them together. So let us seek justice—not with force, but with love—and pray that God’s justice may flow like rivers, filling the world with life, as waters fill the sea.

Rev. Han Lee



Extra Giving from Offering Envelopes during the Month of December



- In Memory of Stan Howard given by Marion Howard.
- In Memory of Mike Curry given by Karen Curry.

Add your loved ones or friends to this list by filling out your offering envelope and designating an **extra** amount to be given in Memory or in Honor of someone to celebrate a Birthday or Anniversary. It's a great way to acknowledge those special people in your life. The amounts will never be listed!

Online Giving & Mobile Giving

Go to <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZJ3M/home> for our online giving version or download the app in your Apple or Google Play app. Enter with church code **FS4XM7**. Thank you for your continued support to the church.



A look at the Darlington numbers for December.

Income	\$ 15,867.16
Expenses	- 14,112.14
Difference	\$ 1,755.02

YTD 2025

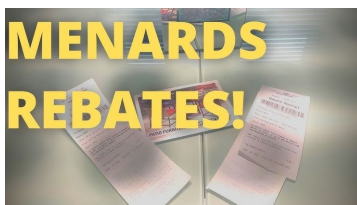
YTD Income	\$ 180,275.38
YTD Expenses	- 147,810.48
YTD	\$32,464.90

2025 Apportionment Total - \$28,488

Paid YTD - \$11,761
 Balance Left for 2025- \$ 16,727
 Percentage paid - 41.28%

Helping the Church

Feel called to help out the church but can't figure out a way to do it..... Do you shop at Menards??? If you do then consider keeping your rebates for the church. If you don't send them in and want to donate, either send them to the Church, attention Vickie Pratt, Treasurer, or drop them in the collection plate. They can use your donated reward dollars to purchase supplies.
THANK YOU.



End of year monetary giving statements have been mailed. If you did not receive one for your financial gifts or if you find an error on your statement, please leave a message for Becky at the church 776-4114.

— END OF YEAR —
GIVING
 STATEMENTS

Men's Silent Auction

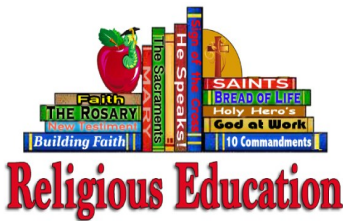
The United Methodist Men will be holding a Silent Auction in the back of the League Room at the Darlington Church. Please be sure to check out the wonderful assortment of items for sale and bid high to win your top picks which in turn, helps out the church!

Watch for the dates to be announced.



Scholarships

Seniors and College Students and their Parents, please watch your email in February for the Scholarship information from the UWF & United Methodist Foundation.



If you have a child in grades 1st-8th, please let Jamie Smith or the church office know so we can update our list. If you are willing to serve or lead, contact the office. **They meet every Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. Class Resumes January 28.**

Rosie's Bags

Rosie Bags are back and looking for donations. Rosie Bags send a weekend snack bag home with about 40 DEMS students per week. With rising costs and growing number of students in need, our funds over time have depleted quickly. We are asking for **monetary or food donations** to help offset the cost of snacks for our needy students. Any questions, please reach out to Danielle Hardyman or Jamie Hartwig.

If you would like to donate to this program, submit donations in the offering plate or send to the church office. Please mark donations "Rosie's Bags".

Thank you for your support.



New Members in January



*Matt & Karen Smith
&
Cindy Miller*



Eating from Trees We Did Not Plant

There's a quiet grace in realizing that much of what sustains us comes from work we did not do.

We eat fruit from orchards we didn't plant. We sit under shade trees someone else nurtured decades ago. We benefit from schools, churches, hospitals, and ministries that were dreamed up and funded by people who never knew our names. Their generosity was never meant to circle back to them personally – it was offered for the sake of people they would never meet.

That truth can be unsettling in a culture that often asks, "What's in it for me?" Yet Scripture consistently points us toward a different way of living - one rooted in trust, hope, and love for the generations yet to come.

Generosity that only exists when there's a direct benefit attached is really just a transaction. But generosity rooted in faith looks beyond immediate return. It plants seeds without demanding proof of harvest. It trusts that God will use our gifts - of time, money, energy, and love - in ways we may never see.

Many of the faithful choices we make today won't bear fruit tomorrow. They may not even bear fruit in our lifetime. But they matter. They shape communities. They strengthen ministries. They create possibilities for people we'll never know, just as others once did for us.

Living generously is an act of hope. It's a declaration that God's story is bigger than our own chapter - and that we're willing to plant trees so others can eat, rest, and thrive long after we're gone.

Rev. Jason Mahnke, Wisconsin United Methodist Foundation



Scrip sales cost you nothing and provide support for our church. The UMW sells Scrip cards: gift cards to over 750 retailers. These cards are sold to you at face value, costing you nothing more than you would normally spend. They are purchased through a discount, yielding a small profit for the church.

You can place an order with Sheila Kelly at kellysheila87@gmail.com or 608-482-1141. You can even purchase scrip on-line for immediate arrival of your printable gift cards. Thank you Sheila for your hard work directing this important fund raising program!



Ash Wednesday and the Journey of Lent

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a forty-day journey that leads us toward Easter. This year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th, and we will gather as the Church to enter this sacred season together. Lent is a holy time in the life of the Church, set apart for prayer, repentance, fasting, and renewed devotion to God. In The United Methodist Church, Lent is not about guilt or punishment, but about grace. It is an invitation to turn our hearts again toward God, who is always ready to receive us with mercy and love.

On Ash Wednesday, we receive ashes on our foreheads, often in the shape of a cross, while hearing the words, “Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return,” or “Repent, and believe the gospel.” The ashes remind us of our human frailty and our deep need for God. They are a visible sign of repentance and humility, but also a sign of hope, because the cross traced on our foreheads points us to Christ, whose love overcomes sin and death.

Lent echoes Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness, where he prayed, fasted, and prepared for his ministry. During this season, we are invited to follow Jesus more intentionally. Traditionally, Christians observe Lent through three key practices: prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Prayer draws us closer to God. Fasting helps us loosen the grip of distractions or unhealthy attachments. Giving turns our attention outward toward the needs of our neighbors.

Observing Lent well is not meant to be a private struggle, but a shared journey. As a congregation, we walk this road together by worshiping faithfully, studying Scripture, serving others, and supporting one another. United Methodist teaching reminds us that Lent is a time for both personal reflection and communal transformation. As we confess our sins, we also listen for how God is calling us, as a church, to live out compassion, reconciliation, and hope in the world.

Lent does not end in despair. It leads us to the joy of Easter morning. By slowing down, telling the truth about ourselves, and opening our lives more fully to God during this season, we make room for resurrection. May this Lent be a meaningful time of renewal for each of us and for our church family, as we journey together toward the cross and toward new life.



Lay Servant Training: Leading Worship

Feb. 15 & 22, 1:00 - 6:00pm, Cudahy UMC

Join the church family of Cudahy UMC for the Leading Worship Class on February 15th and 22nd, 1-6 pm.

(Both sessions must be completed for class credit)

The course will be in person or on Zoom. The registration fee is \$20. The Zoom link will be sent after registration is completed. The class will be taught by Nan Owen Hoekman, Certified Lay Speaker, Cudahy UMC.

Register here:

<https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/lsmleadingworshipcudahy>



Lay Servant Training: Called to Preach

April 10, 9 am - 4 pm & April 11, 9 am - noon Elk Mound: Trinity UMC

Called to Preach is a course designed for those who have not completed formal preaching training, for pastors seeking a basic refresher course, and for others who are called upon to preach in a pastor's absence. Called to Preach is the required preaching course in the lay speaker track of study. Please purchase From Pew to Pulpit, by Clifton F. Guthrie, available at Cokesbury.com.

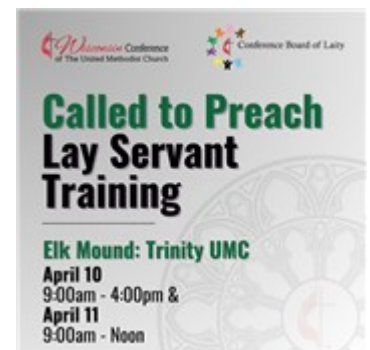
The cost of the training is \$25.00. Pay upon arrival.
(Both sessions must be completed for class credit).

Register here <https://wisconsin-reg.brapp.com/lsmregistrationcalledtopreach>

Course Coordinator:

Rev. Joel Certa-Werner, joelumcrev@gmail.com

Registration Deadline: March 31, 2026



The Choir will be singing on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month.

Choir practice will be on Wednesday nights at 7pm. If it is a Sunday that they sing, they will have practice at 9 a.m. to run through the songs.

We are looking for more people to join the choir. If you are interested please contact Doug Kelly.



Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches

DAILY BIBLE READING PLAN FOR FEBRUARY 2026

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
___ 2/01/26	Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
___ 2/02/26	Psalms 112	Fearing the Lord
___ 2/03/26	Romans 4:7-8	The "Blessed"
___ 2/04/26	Isaiah 58:1-12	True Fasting
___ 2/05/26	Esther 4:12-16	Esther's Fast for Deliverance
___ 2/06/26	I Corinthians 2:1-16	Wisdom From the Spirit
___ 2/07/26	Matthew 5:13-16	Salt and Light
___ 2/08/26	Matthew 5:17-20	The Fulfillment of the Law
___ 2/09/26	Ephesians 2:19-22	Citizens of God's Household
___ 2/10/26	Psalms 78:1-8	Keep God's Commands
___ 2/11/26	Proverbs 2:1-8	The Knowledge of God
___ 2/12/26	Exodus 24:12-18	God's Law and Commandments
___ 2/13/26	Psalms 99	Exalt the Lord Our God
___ 2/14/26	II Peter 1:16-21	Jesus – Prophecy of Scripture
___ 2/15/26	Matthew 17:1-9 (Transfiguration Sunday)	The Transfiguration
___ 2/16/26	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Rend Your Heart
___ 2/17/26	Deuteronomy 4:29-31	Seek the Lord With All Your Heart
___ 2/18/26	II Corinthians 5:20-6:10 (Ash Wednesday)	Be Reconciled to God
___ 2/19/26	Psalms 32	Confession and Joy of Forgiveness
___ 2/20/26	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	The Fall of Man
___ 2/21/26	Romans 5:12-19	Death Through Adam – Life Through Christ
___ 2/22/26	Matthew 4:1-11	The Temptation of Jesus
___ 2/23/26	Psalms 121	God – Our Guardian
___ 2/24/26	I Peter 1:17-20	Redeemed by the Blood of Jesus
___ 2/25/26	Genesis 12:1-4	The Call of Abram (Abraham)
___ 2/26/26	Romans 4:1-5	Righteousness Comes by Faith
___ 2/27/26	Romans 4:13-17	Righteousness Comes by Faith
___ 2/28/26	Philippians 3:8-9	Righteousness Comes by Faith

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Darlington & Fayette United Methodist Churches

WOMEN OF THE BIBLE WEEKDAY READING PLAN FOR FEBRUARY 2026

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
__2/2/26	Genesis 35:21-29	The sons of Jacob by Leah, Rachel, Zilpah (Leah's maidservant) and Bilhah (Rachel's maidservant.) Also, Isaac dies.
__2/3/26	Genesis 36:1-8	Esau (Jacob's brother) obtains wives from the land of Canaan.
__2/4/26	Genesis 38:1-11	Judah makes a promise to Tamar (his daughter-in-law) that he does not keep.
__2/5/26	Genesis 38:12-30	Tamar has twins fathered by Judah.
__2/6/26	Genesis chapter 39	Potiphar's wife and Joseph.
__2/9/26	Genesis 46:15-27	Sons of Rachel, Bilhah, Leah and Zilpah. Also, Joseph married Asenath.
__2/10/26	Genesis 49:1-4	Reuben's sin with Bilhah (in Genesis 35:22) causes Jacob to chastise him.
__2/11/26	Exodus chapter 1	Courage of midwives Shiphrah and Puah.
__2/12/26	Exodus 2:1-10	Moses' mother (Jochebed) and sister (Miriam.)
__2/13/26	Exodus 2:11-25	Moses flees to Midian and marries Zipporah.
__2/16/26	Exodus 12:31-42 and Exodus 12:50-51	The Israelite men (about 600,000) plus women and children departed from Egypt.
__2/17/26	Exodus 15:1-21	Song of Moses and his sister Miriam.
__2/18/26	Exodus 35:20-29	Some of the women's offerings to the Lord -blue, purple or scarlet yarn or fine linen.
__2/19/26	Numbers chapter 12	Miriam and Aaron oppose Moses.
__2/20/26	Numbers chapter 25	Cozbi and Zimri sin and are killed.
__2/23/26	Numbers 32:1-5 and Numbers 32:16-19	The Reubenites and Gadites ask for land to build pens for livestock and cities for their women and children.
__2/24/26	Deuteronomy 10:12-22	The Lord God cares for widows, aliens and the fatherless.
__2/25/26	Deuteronomy 24:17-22	The Lord's provisions for widows, aliens and the fatherless at harvest time.
__2/26/26	Joshua 1:1-2 Joshua 2:1-21	Rahab hides Israelite spies.
__2/27/26	Joshua 6:12-27	Rahab and her family are spared when Jericho is destroyed.



NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE READING PLAN SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 2026		
(Schedule-Read one chapter each weekday to complete the New Testament in one year.)		
<u>End of Week (Saturday)</u>	<u>Chapters Completed</u>	<u>Check-off</u>
February 7	Matthew 27	_____
February 14	Mark 4	_____
February 21	Mark 9	_____
February 28	Mark 14	_____

(Progress Milestone: 42 chapters read – 16.1% of the New Testament)

February Lectionary

February 1
4th Sunday after the Epiphany

Micah 6:1-8
 Psalm 15
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31
 Matthew 5:1-12

February 8

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a (9b-12)
 Psalm 112:1-9 (10)
 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
 Matthew 5:13-20

February 15

Transfiguration Sunday

Exodus 24:12-18
 Psalm 2
 2 Peter 1:16-21
 Matthew 17:1-9

February 18

Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
 Psalm 51:1-17
 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10
 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 22

1st Sunday in Lent
 Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

Psalm 32
 Romans 5:12-19
 Matthew 4:1-11



Church Use Reminder

We invite you to use our nursery room during church service. We also have rooms available in the Education Building and church, should you want to host a meeting or gathering. Please contact the office to reserve. As always, we ask that you kindly pick up after use and leave the rooms as you found them. Thank you

With our Sympathy

We mourn with our community the passing of **Anne Craig**

Her Daughter
 Steph Hanewall
 159 Ravine St
 Darlington, WI 53530





- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Feb 1 Ashley Gossens | Feb 18 Katie Hanewall |
| Feb 3 Kari Gornik | Feb 18 Bryan Brown |
| Feb 4 Kameron Blosch | Feb 18 Cindy Dunham |
| Feb 4 Georgina Meyers | Feb 19 Connie Ostby |
| Feb 5 Pat Hardyman | Feb 19 Carly Winslow |
| Feb 7 Julie Davis | Feb 20 Steve Smith |
| Feb 9 Sheila Kelly | Feb 21 Steven Parkinson |
| Feb 9 Chloe Havens | Feb 21 Craig Curry |
| Feb 12 Chad Stephenson | Feb 23 Marie Wamsley |
| Feb 12 Margaret Ruppert | Feb 23 Carter Lancaster |
| Feb 12 Gloria Boatman | Feb 23 Xzander Bennett |
| Feb 14 Roger Gorgas | Feb 24 Jeremy Calvert |
| Feb 16 Lana Bryson | Feb 24 Trisha Douglas |
| Feb 16 Hannah McCarthy | Feb 24 Elizabeth Wiegel |
| Feb 16 Ryan Boatman | Feb 25 Michelle Eaton |
| Feb 17 Gina Douglas | Feb 25 Hendrix Lund |
| Feb 17 Gabrielle Steiner | Feb 26 Tyler Schwoob |
| | Feb 26 Steve Howard |
| | Feb 26 Lillian Ward |
| | Feb 28 Jackson Boatman |



- Feb 14 Vicki & Bill Whitford
 Feb 15 Rebecca & Garth Garrison
 Feb 24 Dan & Kori Hemming
 Feb 25 Harold & Sandy Morrison
 Feb 27 Christine & Howard Hill



February Ushers

- Feb 1 Cathy Paulson
 Beaver Paulson
- Feb 8 Dick Allendorf
 Tim Osterday
- Feb 15 Nick Zuberbuhler
 Zeke Zuberbuhler
- Feb 22 Brooke Douglas
 Gracie Douglas

February Liturgists

- Feb 1 D- Judy Whalen
 F- Lance Lansing
- Feb 8 D- Joan Thompson
 F- Pam Gould
- Feb 15 D- Kent McConnell
 F- Ron Ingwell
- Feb 22 D- Kent Mieke
 F- Dennis Wirth

February Acolytes

- Feb 1 Rya Fitzsimons
 Piper Ritchie
- Feb 8 Coby Lancaster
 Hendrix Lund
- Feb 15 Wheeler Douglas
 Kynrk Johnson
- Feb 22 Jake Fox
 Frankie Smith

Sneak peak at Mar 1

- Liturgist: D- Judy Whalen
 F- Lance Lansing
- Ushers: Beaver Paulson
 Cathy Paulson
- Acolytes: Rya Fitzsimons
 Piper Ritchie



Winter Weather

Please always do what is best for you when considering journeying out for worship or other church events during weather incidents. We will share our cancellations through email and Facebook. In addition, we will try to share with WEKZ radio in Monroe and WDMP in Mineral Point.



Thank You

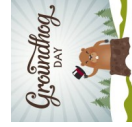
COME WITH US Worship February 2026



	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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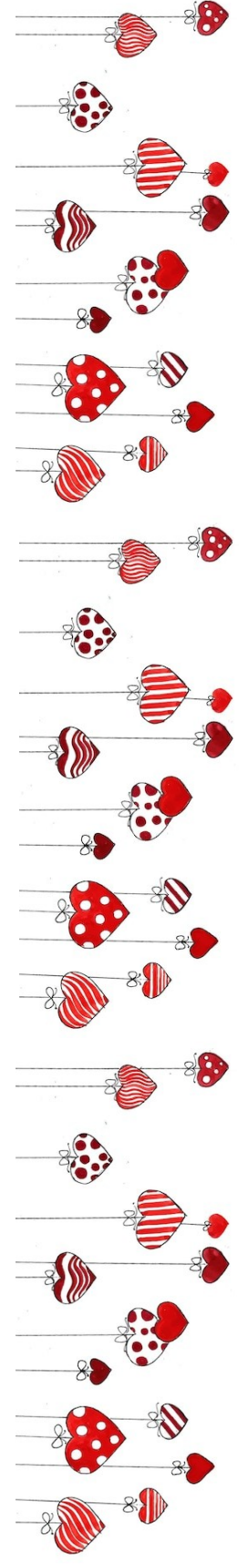
1 4th Sunday after the Epiphany
Communion Sunday
 8:30 Worship in Fayette
 9:00 Choir Practice
 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/Choir

8 5th Sunday after the Epiphany
 8:30 Worship in Fayette
 10:00 Worship in Darlington



15 Transfiguration Sunday
 8:30 Worship in Fayette
 9:00 Choir Practice
 10:00 Worship in Darlington w/Choir

22 1st Sunday in Lent
 8:30 Worship in Fayette
 10:00 Worship in Darlington



2
 3 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry
 10:30 Worship @ Manor

9
 10 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry
 Pastor @ Bishop's Day Apart

16
 17 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

23
 24 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

4
 6:00 Religious Education

11
 6:00 Religious Education
 7:00 Choir Practice

18
 6:00 Religious Education
 6:00 Ash Wednesday Service
 6:30 Admin mtg.

25
 6:00 Religious Education
 7:00 Choir Practice

5
 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

12
 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

19
 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry
 6:00 Finance mtg.
 6:30 Admin mtg.

26
 10-3 Darlington Food Pantry

6
 4:00 Second Harvest
 Mobile Food Pantry

13

20

27

7

14

21

28