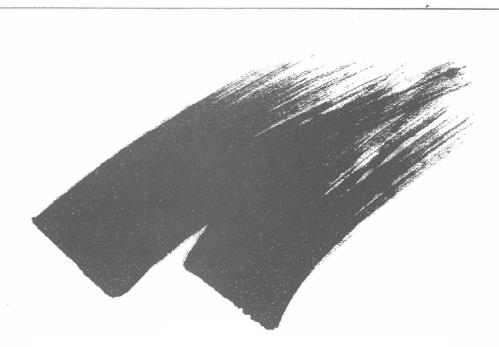


Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time June 17, 2007



"Your sins are forgiven."



St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Parish

1500 Brookdale Road, Naperville, IL 60563 e-mail: mainoffice@stapostle.org

630 355-8980 (Main Office)

Visit us on the internet at www.stapostle.org

630 305-6318 (Religious Education)

630 355-0521 (Facsimilie)

Pastoral Staff — Full Time

Rev. Joel Fortier – Pastor, jfortier@stapostle.org

Rev. Mark Cote - Associate Pastor, fr mark c@yahoo.com

Rev. Bob Colaresi, O. Carm. – Weekend Assistant

Rev. Mr. William Worden, D. Min. - Deacon, ext. 105

Rev. Mr. Chuck Lane – Deacon, ext. 220, chucklane2@juno.com

Rev. Mr. Jim Breen – Deacon, 630-357-4853, jimb4853@yahoo.com

Rev. Mr. Larry Kearney Deacon, ext. 225, lrkearney@comcast.net

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Robert Frazier - Liturgy and Music, ext. 112, rfrazier@stapostle.org

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Lynne Vehlewald - Librarian, ext. 125, library@stapostle.org

Pastoral Leadership Community

Ivan Deatsch Steven Grumbine
Pam Foster Dan O'Grady
Guy Francesconi Ray Vogt

Julee Gard

Commission Facilitators

Worship Gwen Wells

Parish Life

Faith Formation Lorraine Katz Administration Dave Otto Service Phil Meno

Stewardship

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday reconciliation is available after 8:30 a.m. Mass, 3:30 to 4:15 p.m., or after the 4:30 p.m. Mass in the Reconciliation Room of the Chapel. Fr. Joel and Fr. Mark are available during the week by appointment. Communal Penance services are held occasionally throughout the year.

Sick and Home Bound

Call the Church Office to receive prayer/Eucharist from a priest, deacon or Minister of Care.

Baptism

Baptisms are usually celebrated two Sundays each month at a 1:45 p.m. service. On selected dates, Baptisms are celebrated at weekend Masses. Parents are required to attend a two-part awareness and renewal program prior to the Baptism. Call the Church Office a few months in advance to make arrangements.

Matrimony

A couple planning on being married at St. Thomas should contact the church six months in advance. One year is preferred. Either the bride or groom, or their parents, must be a registered parishioner for at least three months prior to calling to set a date.

Religious Education

Call the 305-6318 to register.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults)

Any person wanting to learn more about the Catholic Faith, or to join our Catholic community should call the church at 355-8980.

Counseling Service

Call Samarian Interfaith 357-2456 or Jan Olah, Pastoral Care 355-8980 x 124.

Sunday Nursery

Nursery care is available for your child age one (must be walking) to four at the 9 & 10:45 a.m. Mass. For more information call the church office.

Liturgy Schedule

Daily

(Monday — Friday) Rosary — 8:10 a.m.

Mass — 6:30 & 8:30 a.m.

(Saturday)

Mass — 8:30 a.m.

Weekend

Saturday Vigil — 4:30 p.m. Sunday — 7:30, 9:00, 10:45 a.m., & 12:15 p.m.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every first Friday of the month 9 a.m. — Noon.

A Blessing for Fathers

We bless you and we praise you, God of our fathers! You are the God of Adam, father of the human family. You are the God of Abraham, our father in faith who was ready and willing to give up everything to be faithful to you.

You are the God of Isaac.

who was born of laughter and old age, and the God of Jacob, whose clever trick gained an inheritance for twelve tribes of sons and daughters.

You are the God of Jesse, from whose loins a nation sprang, a sturdy family tree of monarchs, prophets and priests.

You are the God and Father of Israel, your child whom you love with all your heart.

You are the God of Zechariah, who fathered the Baptist and taught him the Torah,

and of Joachim, the grandfather of Jesus.

You are the God of Joseph, who loved and raised Jesus as his own. You are the God and Father of Jesus, and our Father in heaven, too: Holy is your Name!

We thank you, God, for the gift of our fathers, for grandfathers and godfathers and fathers-in-law, too. Send your Holy Spirit upon our fathers, in whose laps we were cradled, on whose knees we were bounced, by whose hands we were fed, instructed, at times corrected, in whose company we learned to work and play and pray, at whose side we hear your word and celebrate your mysteries. Heal their pains and disappointments. Forgive all that needs to be forgiven. Give to them the good that they have given others.

Fill this world, O God, with a father's love! We ask this your Son Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray to you as Abba. He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, who is Father of the poor, one God forever and ever. Amen.

Welcome into your arms those who have died.

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Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 17, 2007

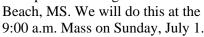
I live, no longer I, but Christ lives in me.

- Galatians 2:20

Worship Commission

The Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle

The patronal feast of our parish, the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, is observed throughout the church on July 3. This year, with the use of technology, we are attempting to jointly celebrate part of a liturgy with our brothers and sisters at St. Thomas the Apostle in Long



Healing Masses

Prayers for healing will be offered at all masses on the weekend of June 30 and July 1. All who wish to be prayed for my stand after the homily. A designated member of the community will come to you and pray with you for your special intention. At 9:00 a.m. we will have prayers for healing after mass only due to our joint celebration with St. Thomas the Apostle in MS at this particular liturgy.



Weddings

This is the third in a series of articles on the celebration of weddings as sacrament and parish liturgy.

Preparing Yourselves to Celebrate Marriage

The months before a wedding are usually a time of intense planning for the "big day." Here are three things not to overlook in preparing for a Catholic wedding:

- 1. In the Roman Catholic Church, the couple is the minister of the sacrament of marriage. The bride and groom exchange vows to each other. The priest or deacon serves as the church's chief witness; he does not "pronounce them husband and wife." Other roles in a Catholic wedding include two additional witnesses (the "best man" and "maid of honor"), lectors to proclaim the scripture readings and intercessions, music ministers to lead the assembly's singing, and, if the wedding takes place within Mass, additional ministers of communion (as needed).
- 2. 2Some things are essential for a Catholic wedding; others are not. Essential things include the scripture readings, homily, statement of intentions ("Have you come here freely and without reservation...?"), consent or exchange of vows, and nuptial blessing. Things that are not essential include seating guests of the bride and guests of the groom on separate sides of the aisle, keeping the bride and groom apart before the wedding, unrolling a white aisle runner before the entrance procession, lighting a unity or wedding candle, and placing flowers before a statue of Mary.
- 3. There are no spectators at a Catholic wedding. The bishops at the Second Vatican Council made "full, conscious, and active participation" by all worshippers "the aim to be considered before all else" in liturgy (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, 14). Just as at Sunday Mass, certain individuals fulfill various ministries within the wedding liturgy, but the entire assembly of worshippers celebrates the liturgy. When you go to a wedding, listen attentively to the scriptures the couple has chosen, sing the music they have selected, respond to the prayers in a strong voice. The enthusiastic participation of the entire assembly of worshippers is the best gift anyone can give to the couple on their "big day."

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Pray For Our Parish

11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Your mercies, O God, cannot be counted, nor do you tire of offering us forgiveness.

Grant us than, a heart both faithful and repentant, ready to respond to your great love, so that along all the pathways of life, and to everyone far and wide, we may be able to proclaim the gospel's message of reconciliation and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. Amen.

From: Prayers for Sundays and Seasons, Liturgy Training Publications. www.ltp.org

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 18, 2007

8:30 †Doloris Gresko, by The Gresko Family

Tuesday, June 19, 2007

8:30 †Mary Hodgson, by Family 25th Anniversary of Don & MaryAnn Manderscheid

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

8:30 †Leonard Augustine, by Virginia Augustine †Betty Kiepec, by Joe Fortier

Thursday, June 21, 2007

8:30 †Eugene Wegman, by Al & Nanette Wild

Friday, June 22, 2007

8:30 †Robert Boyle, by The Boyle Family †Alphonse Behna, by Nadia

Saturday, June 23, 2007

8:30 †Ersilia Fuerst, by Family

4:30 †Joanna Vesper, by Mark Vesper

†Page Haskell, by Bill & Joanne Shackelford

Sunday, June 24, 2007

7:30 For the People of St. Thomas

9:00 †Richard McCarthy, by Family

†Vince Shepard, by Nancy & Bill Ring

10:45 †John Dieser, by The Dieser Family

†Joseph Nagle, by The McCarthy Family

12:15 †Vern Duranceau, by The McCarthy Family

NEW St. Thomas Parishioners

Kristin Hemani

Beth Mahler

The Robert McCorkle Family

The Michael Dichoso Family

The Humberto Castilla Family

The Ventsam Family

The Foy Family

The Doster Family

Stephen & Joanne Potts

Wes & Suzanne Collins

The Vernice Brady Family

Michael & France Cevallos

Josephine Belingon

John & Grace O'Connor

Michael & Nancy Deppeler

The Risden Family

The Steve Taft Family

Frank & Diane Alberson

The Wm Howard Family

Mary Ann Lopez

The Paul Williams Family

The John Moore Family

Today's Readings

First Reading — The Lord forgives David for taking the wife of Uriah, and for having Uriah killed (2 Samuel 12:7-10, 13).

Psalm — Lord, forgive the wrong I have done (Psalm 32).

Second Reading — If justification comes through

the law, then Christ died for nothing

(Galatians 2:16, 19-21).

Gospel — Jesus forgives the woman because of her great love (Luke 7:36 — 8:3 [7:36-50]).

Readings for the Week

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10: Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11: Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Cor 12:1-10; Mt 6:24-34

Sunday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71; 1 Pt 1:8-12;

Lk 1:5-17

Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139; Acts 13:22-26;

Lk 1:57-66, 80

Faith and Spiritual Formation Commission

Current

Young Adult Ministry for People in Their 20's & 30's

Current is looking for some help. We would love to talk with you about taking a leadership role. Email us at currentcore@currentministry.com. Or you can just come to our next Core Meeting on June 20 at 7:00 at St. Thomas Church. Contact Dave at 851-3444 X225 for more information. Also, help fight cancer at the Relay for Life on June 22-23. Contact Kris at kdulski@calamos.com or 527-9608. Finally, if you want to be a part of our Walking Club, contact Kris at 527.9608 or kdulski@calamos.com. If you want any other information about Current, check out www.currentministry.com!

C.A.R.E. CORNER

We all have expectations for ourselves and for others. We even have set expectations for God. More important, however, are God's expectations for us. Several of the Ten Commandments focus on God's position with regard to respect. Most of us know the fourth Commandment: "Honor your father and your mother" In other words, show respect to your elders. You can learn important things from those with life experience and wisdom. But where does this idea fit into a youth-oriented society?

God also asks us to show respect for our spouse by remaining faithful and to respect others by not tarnishing their reputations or making false accusations against them. Actually, God expects us to respect all life through His command "You shall not kill" (Exodus 20:13). How well does our modern day society live up to these expectations?



Spirit Moments





The Song of All Seed by Macrina Wiederkehr

Life unfolds a petal at a time slowly.

The beauty of the process is crippled when I try to hurry growth.

Life has its inner rhythm which must be respected.

It cannot be rushed or hurried.

Like daylight stepping out of darkness, like morning creeping out of night life unfolds slowly a petal at a time like a flower opening to the sun, slowly.

God's call unfolds a Word at a time slowly.

A disciple is not made in a hurry. Slowly I become like the One to whom I am listening.

Life unfolds a petal at a time like you and I, becoming followers of Jesus, discipled into a new way of living deeply and slowly.

Be patient with life's unfolding petals. If you hurry the bud it withers. If you hurry life it limps. Each unfolding is a teaching a movement of grace filled with silent pauses breathtaking beauty tears and heartaches.

Life unfolds a petal at a time deeply and slowly.

For reflection: How do you find yourself slowly unfolding in some way at this time in your life?

Religious Education

Registration for Religious Education (Grades Pre-K – 8th)

Registration for Religious Education (Pre-K – 8) is being held through out the month of June. Families currently in the program should receive their packet in the mail around June 11. New parishioners / participants must pick-up their registration packet during Welcome Sunday registration on Sunday, June 10 or afterwards in the R.E. Office. There is a \$35 deposit per family to help cover the initial costs of books and supplies. Fees are \$100 for one child, \$155 for two and \$200 for families of three or more.

Registrations are due July 1. High School Registration, which is a separate packet and fee, will be mailed the first week of July to those currently in the program. Please call the Religious Education Office (305-6318) with questions.

TREC — High School Youth Ministry

We got back from Haiti yesterday. Our team of Kasia Stachon, Jeff DeLacey, Chris Pluchar, Krista Perine, Sara Deegan, Amanda Nakashian, Sammi McKenzie, PJ Butler and myself came back changed (I actually am just predicting that since I am writing this the day before we actually leave, but since I am making up stuff...). We had an amazing experience! Whether it was Krista putting down a military coup single-handedly or PJ taking over as president for a week, we made a difference. When we saved the lives of ten children who were being attacked by one of those wild Haitian goats, we thought it was too much. But then when we solved poverty in the country, saving ten people seemed pretty minor.

Actually, everybody who has been to Haiti has been changed. This trip I am sure is no different. Ask the team members when they come back to share their stories. Almost forgot, APEX is still meeting for the summer Wednesdays at 7:30. And if you want to be on the St. Thomas Softball team on Sundays in August, please let me or Jake know.

Attention HIGH SCHOOL Parents

Registration
Packets for the 2007-2008
TREC program will not be mailed until **July 1**.



There is good news to share with you about the 2007 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal.

Many thanks to those of you who have already pledged to the Appeal. We are half-way to our Diocesan goal, with \$3,766,000 pledged. This year we have 16% more donors and 24% more revenue compared to this time last year.

Still, half-way to goal is half-way. If you have not had the opportunity to make a pledge, now is the time to do so, before busy summer schedules take over. You can either send your pledge on the forms in the back of church or give directly through the Diocese of Joliet website www.dioceseofjoliet.org. Click on Donate Now Click and Pledge.

At St. Thomas the Apostle parish, we have reached 49% of our goal with \$70,686.55 pledged. Let's make sure that we reach 100%.

The ministries of the Diocese touch so many of our families and our neighbors that it is our responsibility to help our neighbors and friends. Please be generous. Thank you!

Service Commission

Outreach & Social Justice

St. Thomas Habitat for Humanity

Please keep the following parishioners in your prayers as they travel to Tutwiler, MS the weeks of June 9-16 and June 16-23. They will be helping with home construction, interacting with members of the Tutwiler community, and experiencing life in the Mississippi Delta....all while being the hands and feet of Jesus, praying together, and having fun! Team members are:

| Wook 1 | l — June | 0.16 |
|--------|------------|------|
| VVEEK | ı — .ı une | 7-10 |

Jim Breen John Ball Paul Guarneri **Bob Bronson** Carol Healy Carol Ann Fisher **Doug Higgins** Ann Gerding Sue Lane **Bob Hartmann** Liz Michalski Marcia Hartmann **Bethany Nichols** Roger Kilty Bill Nichols Kelly Kuckleman Billy Nichols Lynn Nichols Phyllis Lucker Mary Ann Rempe

Ken Rynearson Roger Tangemann Don Wegman Eleanor Wegman

Bill Rynearson

Week 2 — June 16-23

Richard Kuckleman

Lois Sabino

Don Wegman

Eleanor Wegman

Mark your calendars for June 30, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. for a prayer vigil and peaceful protest at Planned Parenthood location near St. Thomas.

Pro-Life Prayer Vigil Action

Why protest Planned Parenthood? More information next week!

Clean Out the Clothes Closets and Shoe Boxes

St. Vincent de Paul Clothing Drive and Haiti Shoe Drive June 23-24

The work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society is funded by your gifts, both monetary directly to the St. Thomas conference and by your donations to the St. Vincent de Paul store in West Chicago.

In Duchity, Haiti, most children and adults walk the village in bare feet. That is a significant contributor to health issues, such as worms and infections.

Donations of gently used items.....shoes, clothing, purses, dishes, cookware, towels, bedding, toys, etc. are greatly appreciated. Receipts will be provided. Please separate the shoes from other articles.

A truck will be in the St. Thomas parking lot after all Masses the weekend of June 23-24.





Feed My Starving Children Food Packing

June 21 - 23 Naperville Evangelical Free Church 1551 E. Hobson Rd, Naperville, To schedule to pack food, call 630-983-3232

June 29 - 30

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

1145 N. Fifth Ave [Route 25], St. Charles To schedule to pack food, call 630-584-2199

Call to "Planned Parenthood" Action

Our teenagers must be protected from Planned Parenthood. Sound strange? Planned Parenthood is a for-profit organization that encourages teens to become sexually active, use birth control products that threaten their health, and get abortions when they become pregnant.

As part of the June monthly witness protest, the St. Thomas Pro-Life Community is organizing a special prayer service and witness march on Saturday, June 30.

8:30 a.m. Mass – St. Thomas Chapel 9:00 a.m. Prayer Service – St. Thomas Chapel 9:30 a.m. Witness March - Brookdale Rd. to Raymond Drive to North Aurora Rd. 9:45 11:30 a.m. - Prayer Vigil and Witness Protest

Let Planned Parenthood know that we will not stand by and allow their corrupting influence to go unchallenged in our neighborhood. See next week's bulletin for more factual information. Do your own research on Planned Parenthood. Form your own opinion. Contact Steve Obendorf (parishioner) for more information.

A Father Francis Thank You from Haiti

Father Francis is the associate priest at Ste. Marie-Madeleine, our Twinning parish in Duchity, Haiti. He visited with us a few months ago. He has little knowledge of English, but a large heart. A particular responsibility of his is the Holy College Thomas Apôtre school (grades 7 – 11). Our parish has recently provided funding for the classroom for Grade 12, to be ready in September. He sent us the following message.

Hello everyone.

I hope that all goes well for you. On our side life goes well. I make a point of announcing to you that the Holy College Thomas celebrates its 7 years of Foundation. I benefit from this occasion to thank you for your generosity with regard to the children for Duchity. The college Saint Thomas Apôtre is the first secondary college with Duchity. Moreover it is one of the best school establishments of the department of the Large Handle (lower peninsula of Haiti).

The fame of the college goes very far. All that, it is thanks to your kindness and generosity. In the name of all the pupils of the College, I thank you sincerely. Thank you for your financial support. You know in the next year we will have to have a new class. The building work will begin very soon.

Still, I do not have the words to thank St. Thomas who is in Naperville. I ask you to transmit these words of thanks to the very beautiful world which does not cease helping our children to find education.

Fr. Francis

Pastoral Care

Prayer Shawl In Residence:

Prayer shawls are knitted/crocheted by St. Thomas Ministry women. With each stitch, the talented women of the Parish pray for the individual that wears their labor of love. The shawls are blessed and worn by individuals in a physical, mental, or emotional crisis.

Beginning June 2007 a Prayer Shawl will be "IN RESIDENCE" in the chapel here at St. Thomas.

The prayer shawl, on the rack to the right of the tabernacle, has been designated for temporary and prayerful usage. The prayerful visitor should feel free to place the shawl around the shoulder area to feel the warmth and comfort of God's love and healing. They will be holding a unique piece of work.... just as they are a unique creation loved by God and cherished by St. Thomas Parish. We request that this shawl be replaced on the rack when your visit is complete.

Anyone in need of a personal prayer shawl, please call the parish nurse office, x 104.

Prayers and Blessings, The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Recommended Summer Reading

Have you started to make your summer reading list yet? Think about adding a few 'good books' on Catholic Social Teaching to that list. Here are some *great* books recommended from the JustFaith program. Drop by the Outreach & Social Justice Office to preview the selection.

How Much Is Enough? (Arthur Simon)

Unexpected News (Robert McAfee Brown)

A Place at the Table (US Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Cloud of Witnesses (Jim Wallis)

The Powers that Be (By Walter Wink)

Compassion: A Reflection on Christian Life (Nouwen, McNeil and Morrison 1983)

Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation (Jonathan Kozol 1995)

Gandhi the Man - The Story of His Transformation (Eknath Easwaran 1997)

Toward a Spirituality for Global Justice - A Call to Kinship (Elaine Prevallet 2005)

Administration Commission

Jobs Ministry Weekly Networking Meeting Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. (after the 8:30 a.m. Liturgy) Lighthouse

The Saint Thomas the Apostle Jobs Ministry Bulletin Announcement for June 2007 to run beginning the weekend of June 9 and June 10, 2007 and run through the weekend of June 16 and June 17, 2007:

The June 2007 St Thomas the Apostle Jobs Ministry Meeting will be held on Thursday evening June 21, 2007 at 7:00 pm in the Lighthouse. Our Speaker will be Bob Podgorski, Manager, Extension Services for Harper College in Palatine, IL. Prior to joining Harper College Bob was president of a Human Resources Consulting firm. Bob has over 38 years of Senior HR management experience at Fortune 500 companies and is a presenter on career subjects and is the coordinator of the St. Hubert Job and Networking Ministry.

Bob's presentation is titled "Competencies Vs Skills". Bob will explore how we often fall into the trap of talking about our skills and neglecting our competences. This is important to recognize since our skills maybe so specific that they may not translate well into a new job, a new company or a new industry. Bob will give us a practical and easy way to apply a method of identifying our competences and using them dynamically in our resume, networking and job interviews.

Please plan to attend this very informative presentation by Bob Podgorski, as he shares his "Skills Vs Competencies" experiences.

For additional info please contact Jim Breen at jimb4853@yahoo.com.



THE WEEK AHEAD...

Monday, June 18

9:00am-12:15 p.m. 5:30—9:45 p.m. 7:15-9:00 p.m. 7:30—9:00 p.m.

Scripture Safari, Ministry Center Delegate Assembly, Lighthouse Healing the Soul, Rectory Basement Justice & Peace, Meeting Room 4

Tuesday, June 19

9:00am-12:15 p.m. Scripture Safari, Ministry Center Celebration of the Arts, Meeting Room 4 7:30—9:00 p.m.

7:00—9:00 p.m. Adult Basketball, Gym

7:30—9:00 p.m. Charismatic Prayer, Meeting Room 2

Wednesday, June 20

9:00am-12:15 p.m. Scripture Safari, Ministry Center

7:00—9:00 p.m. Apex, Youth Center

Current Core, Resource Center 7:00—9:00 p.m. 7:00—9:00 p.m. Social Justice Rally, Gym 7:30-9:15 p.m. Finance Committee, Senior Center

7:30—9:15 p.m. Small Group Baptism Meeting, Lighthouse

Thursday, June 21

9:00am-12:15 p.m. Scripture Safari, Ministry Center Healing the Soul, Rectory Basement 9:00—11:00 a.m. 7:00—8:30 p.m. DuPage United, Meeting Room 4 Healing Forum, Gym 7:00—9:30 p.m.

7:00—9:00 p.m. Racial Justice, Resource Center

Friday, June 22

9:00am-12:15 p.m. Scripture Safari, Ministry Center

Saturday, June 23

9:00 am-12:00 p.m. Gathering Place Café, Gathering Area 9:00—10:30 a.m. Men's Christian Fellowship, Resource Center Philippino Dance Rehearsal, Gym 2:00—5:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 24

10:00—11:30 a.m. Puppet Practice, Resource Center 10:00am-12:00 p.m. Social Justice Rally, Gym

1:45-2:45 p.m. Baptisms, Church