

Geneva Presbyterian Church

11931 Seven Locks Road, Potomac, MD 20854

(301) 424-4346 Office

www.genevapotomac.org

Rev. Mary Pullen, Interim Pastor

Dear Friends at Geneva,

With this issue of the Radiant, it is time for me to say farewell to my Geneva family. After thirty-six years as an ordained PCUSA minister, I am retiring. I'm looking forward to whatever God has for me in this next chapter of life.



I came to Geneva in December 2016; we've shared much along the way, happy times as well as sad.

My heartfelt thanks to Veronica Deriquito, Office Administrator, who has kept me organized with her outstanding computer skills. Her knowledge of technology makes my life easier. I'd like to express the same heartfelt thanks to Ben Shaver, whose musical creativity uplifts every worship service with inspiration and joy. Geneva is fortunate to have both of these fine young people on the church staff.

The Session, Executive Committee and Deacons all wear many hats, as is often the case in small churches. All of them have provided leadership and care to the congregation in numerous ways. I also appreciate Suzanne Funk, Amanda White, and the Geneva Day School Board of Directors and Staff for their support while I've been here.

In addition, we have many others who volunteer with different things, such as keeping the grounds so beautiful, the church building and manse in good repair, fellowship activities—the list goes on and on. You know who you are, and I thank you all for the countless hours of dedication that you give to Geneva. It takes everyone working together, especially in a small church, to keep things going. Geneva's greatest strength is the love that you have for each other.

My prayer for Geneva as you move into the future is that you will continue to be the faithful community of believers that God has called you to be. Continue to pray for and support one another, and be open to the leadership of the new pastor when that person arrives.

After I leave Geneva, I will not be able to come back for any kind of pastoral functions, especially once your new installed pastor is in place. It's very important for the congregation to be able to bond with the new pastor and get to know that person. I will pray continually for your success as move into the future.

Finally, I am blessed to have the love of my husband Randy, and my daughter Amy, who hold me up in so many ways.

It's been my great honor and pleasure to serve as your Interim Pastor these past two and a half years.

Blessings & Peace,

Pastor Mary



PASTOR MARY'S LAST SUNDAY

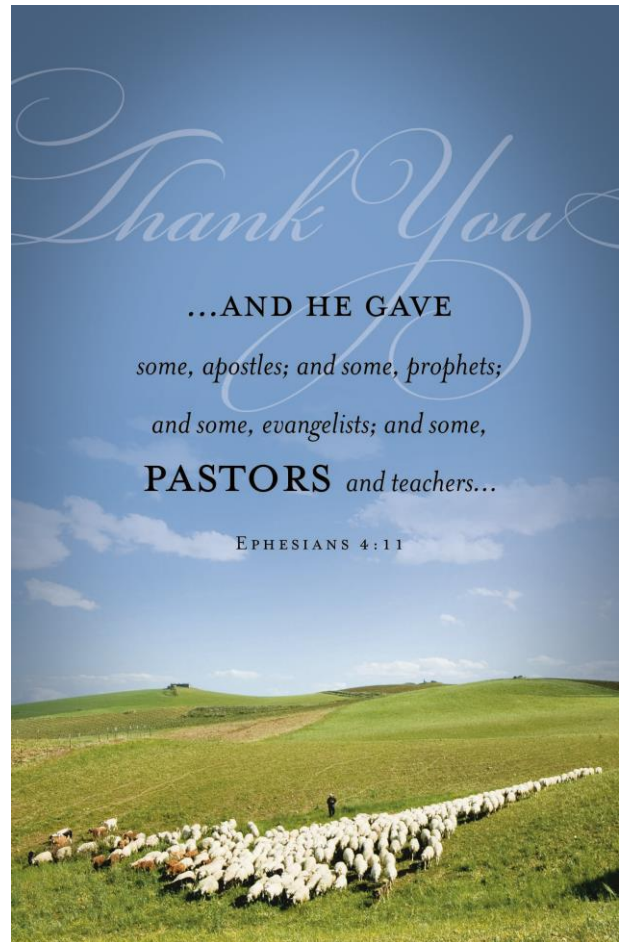
Pastor Mary's last Sunday at Geneva will be on May 26th. There will be a reception for her following the service. If you plan to attend the reception, please contact Rhonda Ricci at rhondaricci@aol.com to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you there!

AN UPDATE FROM OUR DEACONS!

The Deacons continue to work closely with the Fellowship Committee to coordinate events for our congregation. In the past months, we have held memorial services for Andrew Halls and Russ Morse. During Lent, we hosted a Lenten Dinner service for the Seven Locks area churches, as well as a Palm Sunday craft event and our annual Easter Egg Hunt.

The Deacons have created 5 Family Groups to help with communication and care for our congregation members and friends. The groups are listed at the end of this report.

Being a Deacon is a wonderful call to service. Deacons are the "servants" or "caregivers" of the congregation. People have all kinds of needs - they are recovering from



surgery, grieving, lonely, ill, or otherwise in a time where they welcome the ministry of care from our congregation. In a very real way, Deacons are the hands and heart of the Church in our ministry of caring.

In a small church like Geneva Presbyterian, pastoral care falls to the Deacons as does the small jobs that allow the Sunday service to run smoothly.

These small jobs that allow our Sunday service to run smoothly include:

- setting up of the Sanctuary,
- greeting those attending the service,
- ushering,
- serving communion once a month,
- taking down the Sanctuary after the service.

Pastoral care is:

- checking up on our members that we don't see in church on Sunday,
- helping our older members with small jobs around their homes,
- remembering to send a birthday card/anniversary card to members, or
- just calling and talking with a member.

Currently there are only 4 Deacons to tend to these responsibilities and **we need your help!** I challenge you to think about 2 things and step out in faith: first, become a Deacon; or second, **join the Deacons support team by volunteering to help with the weekly service jobs.** You can help with these jobs by **signing up for Sunday service set up on the kiosk in the Narthex.**

Many hands make light work!

Contact any Deacon for further information or to join our team.

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Renee Moloznik | rmoloz@hotmail.com |
| Bobbie Maxwell | bobbie.k.72@verizon.net |
| Rosie Perthel | rperthel@hotmail.com |
| Ludivine Kom Liapoe | ludivinekomliapoe16@gmail.com |

Geneva Family Groups

***denotes Session member**

Deacon: Bobbie Maxwell

Morse, Nancy

Ferguson, Maureen

*Allen, Mark & Holly

Dunne, Terry & Debbie

Torrence, Sara & Jim

*Sprinkle, Ken & Nan

Austin, Andrea
Rawson, Norm & Nancy
Tom Maxwell

Special Friends & Members Far Away

Royston, David and Judy
Murray, Doris

Deacon: Rhonda Ricci

Halls, Betty
Shima, Terry
Williamson, Doris
Prosswimmer, Paul and Barbara
Haller, Henry and Carole
Smith, Marie
Brasted, Elaine
Ruff, Rosalie
Wright, John and Patsy
Ricci, Robert
*Denaburg, Ken and Lettitia
Miller, Lisa & Craig

Special Friends and Members Far Away

Wheatley, Paul and Emma

Deacon: Rosie Perthel

Deacon: Ludivine Kom Liapoe

Kom Liapoe, Flore
Weinstien, Veronique
Ota, Toshiko
Nagel, Heinz
Cheong, May Lin
Crecelius, Chris
Fuentes, Francisco Javier
Hunt, George and Margo
Oen, Bill & Ema

*Perthel, Carl

Special Friends and Members Far Away

Allenspach, Fred and Ruth

Sanderson, Dick

Sakowski, Henry and Mary

Deacon: *Sheri Sankey

*Campbell, Jane & Marin, Pepe

Cheong, May Lin

Lenahan, Maria

Teng, Margaret

*Thibau, Janelle & Eric

Brown, Scott

He, Amy

Devine, Linda & Ed

Stiles, Jim and Judy

Harris, Katie and Jim

Special Friends & Loved Ones Far Away

Lee, Soon Hak & Betty

Lupo, Kyla & Vince

Sadler, Sara & Tom

Deacon: Renee Moloznik

Davis, Bev

Davis, PJ and Brent

Franks, Rollin & Alice

Wilson, Ginny

* Winch, Rolf & Elaine

*Kough, Jack and Robin

Alexander, Robyn and Jeff

Galliani, Sheena

Heimberg, Juliet and Scott

White, Amanda

Deriquito, Veronica

Sullivan, Tim

Funk, Suzanne

Special Friends & Members Far Away

Liu, Eleanor

Nunn, Pete and Ruth

Heginbotham, Erland & Ellie

Kaufman, Cindy and Jim

Pike, Al and Audrey

AN UPDATE FROM OUR TREASURERS

It's hard to believe, but by the time you read this, we will already be a third of the way through our fiscal year. As of the first quarter of 2019, our total financial assets (bank accounts, but not including the value of the Manse) are about \$30,000 higher than this time last year. This is mostly due to the surplus we had at the end of 2018 – our income was higher than budgeted, and our expenses were lower. That's a good thing.

However . . .

Year to date pledges are below what we budgeted for the end of March. Also, Per Capita contributions have been lagging the past couple of years, and we would like to encourage everyone to write a separate check for our Per Capita expenses, if you haven't already done so. This year, the per-person amount is \$42.

Because we do not currently have a full-time pastor nor a Director of CE (DCE) or youth director, our expenses have been lower than normal. However this will change once we are fully staffed. We know that the Pastoral Nominating Committee is working hard to bring us our new minister, and once that happens our expenses will go up again. Also, with the renovations we've been doing in the church (and possibly in the Manse), our Building & Reserve account is significantly lower than it has been. Things to consider as we move forward . . .

So – please consider making additional contributions to our Per Capita account and the Building & Reserve Fund, in addition to regular pledge amounts. Your contributions will be used wisely to make Geneva Presbyterian Church a better place for all of us - and our community.

With Thanks,

Robin Kough
Rolf Winch
Co-treasurers



Geneva Day School continues to be busy with applications and registrations for the new school year, with many classes already full. In addition to responding to many inquiries, it conducts private tours and highlight class possibilities for families. In this way, we are able to fully respond to individual questions and often have a chance to meet children, too. The office staff are wonderful about showcasing our great school!

Registration for Summer Camp is ongoing with Sessions 1, 2, 3, and 11 already full. As you know of family visiting with youngsters who may be interested in camp, reserve a space now. The exciting weekly sessions are always a BIG hit with children ages 2 through 6 or 7. Call the office for more information, a brochure or application.

The school has been very involved this year in thinking about friendship skills for our young population. Social and emotional skills are really the most important domain we teach because of its lifelong impact on relationships. We know our students will learn the ABCs and 123s, but we also know that their success in life is often based on social skills. The key time to teach and model this is in pre-school and kindergarten. A recent staff training highlighted the many ways of instructing and reinforcing these important skills.

Much of the recent staff activity has been related to assessing students and preparing May Spring Conference Reports. This involves a good deal of time for each teacher, and especially those with 40-60 students in part-time classes. Teachers are always happy to report on the many areas of growth each student has achieved, with suggestions for the summer: periodically review some pre-academic skills, read, and, most importantly, having fun with family and friends!

The Geneva Parents' Association (GPA) has had a busy spring with its on-line Auction, a Family Bingo and Fun Night, and Teacher Appreciation. Thanks to so many church families for donating to the auction and, hopefully, winning some exciting prizes or events! Thank you for this support and helping the GPA give back to the school, as well.

The school continues to update its website. Please visit it to learn more about the amazing work in all the classes and the latest new activities of your school! Feel free to visit to see how it is doing!

The school concludes its year on Friday, May 24, with the Kindergarten Graduation at 10:00 and the Family Picnic from 11:00-1:00. You are always invited to attend these special events and rendezvous with school friends.

Have a lovely spring and best wishes for a wonderful summer, too!

Warm Regards,

Suzanne Funk

Director - Geneva Day School

An Update from our Music Director!

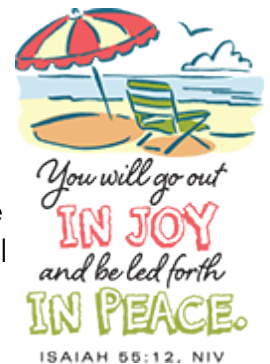
Happy Spring Geneva!

The birds are singing, bees buzzing, and flowers are starting to bud and bloom! We just had our wonderful Easter season with special music on Palm Sunday provided by our Handbell Choir, a deeply moving Maundy Thursday service filled with choral music and readings of Jesus's suffering and sacrifice for us, as well as our celebratory Easter service wherein the choir sang Randall Thompson's "Alleluia" and our soprano, Amber Wood, sang "I Know My Redeemer Liveth" from Handel's *Messiah*. We've filled our services with such beautiful music for such a beautiful time of the year!

Looking to the future, we have our wonderful Mother's Day service on May 12th where we will celebrate and honor our mothers. On Friday, May 24th at 7:00 p.m. we will have a joint Sanctuary and Handbell Choir concert. This concert will be a collection of some of mine and the member's favorite songs. Following the concert, we will have a wine and cheese reception in the Founders Room, provided by our Fellowship Committee. I hope you will invite all of your friends, family, neighbors, and coworkers to the concert! We are expanding our advertising and marketing strategies to try to reach a larger network of locals to come to the concert and hopefully want to come and worship with us at Geneva, but your personal invitation to our concerts continue to be crucial, so please continue to invite people! It will be a wonderful concert, so make sure you mark it on your calendars!

Sunday, May 26, will be the last Sunday with our full choir before the summer. This will also be Mary's last Sunday, so we will be enriching the service with lots of her favorite music. You wouldn't want to miss it! We're so grateful for Mary staying with us until the end of May and wish her a happy and relaxing retirement!

Throughout the summer we will have some substitutes playing for us, since I'm going to the Republic of Georgia with the Captiol Hill Chorale Rolf and Elaine Winch as well as Gabbi Levy. When I return, we will have some Sunday's where we will feature some of our choir members as cantors and soloists. In September, our paid choir members will be performing an abstract musical called "Songs for a New World" by Jason Robert Brown. The show is a series of songs connected by a theme: "the moment of decision." The four performers do not play the same characters throughout the show, but the characters they embody have developing character arcs. Mr. Brown, the composer, has said "It's about one moment. It's about hitting the wall and having to make a choice, or take a stand, or turn around and go back." The music and lyrics are incredibly beautiful, powerful, funny, and moving. It will certainly be an event you will want all of your friends and family to come to! Be on the lookout in the next Radiant for a specific date!



I wish you all a warm spring and pleasant summer!

In Christ,
Ben Shaver



 Happy Easter



Geneva Ladies' Lunch!

Ladies, mark your calendar for Saturday, May 18 for another Geneva Ladies Lunch. If you need transportation. We will meet at Mamma Lucia's in Fallsgrove at noon. Please talk to Rhonda Ricci or email her at rhondaricci@aol.com if you have any questions.



CLERK OF SESSION

It is said that on St. Patrick's Day the whole world is Irish. In solidarity with that notion, worldwide Presbyterians with their Scottish roots decided this year to congregate and celebrate. Well, if by "worldwide" we mean the small sliver of Presbyterians of Geneva Presbyterian Church! We joined together on the morning of St. Patrick's Day to enjoy a breakfast and a Congregational Meeting. No one was subjected to bagpipes that morning as was universally feared.

The Annual Congregational Meeting on March 17th was convened in the William A. Gibson Memorial Founders Room (preceded by a time of fellowship and breakfasting). A quorum of at least twenty members was confirmed and Part-time Interim Pastor Mary Pullen called the meeting to order. Copies of the Annual Reports were available both electronically (sent via email in early March to all church members) and in printed version. The Committee Chairs were each called on to present their reports and solicit any questions from the congregation.

The Executive Committee report was presented by Ken Sprinkle in place of Janelle Thibau (chair). Much of the report focused on the areas of capital improvements to the GPC physical structure and Manse renovations. Ken S. opened the discussion to general questions and receiving none, concluded the Executive Report.

The Treasurer's report followed with Rolf Winch providing the lead. Key among his discussion points was the fact that GPC over the past year has operated with a little bit of a financial surplus and that the church is generally financially sound. A balanced budget was proposed and accepted this year. Rolf W. stressed that some of the decreased expenditures experienced in 2018 are temporary (most notably the cost of a new installed Pastor and a Director of Christian Education are likely to entail noteworthy expenses).

Rolf W. also wished to recognize the contribution of the Geneva Day School to the fiscal solvency of the church. Amada White's ongoing service in managing the books/accounts is also much appreciated. When asked for questions, Rolf W. received one from Jim Harris re: the Statement of Financial Position reflecting the end of Nov. rather than the end of Dec. Rolf expressed gratitude for the sharp attention to detail and will make the correction (it will be emailed out once the correction is made).

The Geneva Day School (GDS) Director, Suzanne Funk, wished to express her pleasure at meeting the congregation and provide a verbal report of the highlights of her submitted report. The GDS continues to thrive. A few departures will be felt. An eight- year employee is leaving due to her husband's Dutch military service obligation while another teacher is departing after 38 years of service. Suzanne also wanted to mention the passing of Russ Morse who had served as treasurer for many years.

Collectively, the Congregation in turn expressed its great appreciation to Suzanne and to the GDS.

Next on the meeting agenda was the Mission Committee report. Jane Campbell (Committee Chair) shared that throughout the past year she has been in search for a defined "GPC" mission. . .with a little frustration she eventually came to see that the Day School in many ways is our mission—that we need to highlight that and enhance that aspect of our service. Additionally, The Lord's Table has been in transition and it is hoped that as it is reconfigured GPC will continue its long-standing relationship with it and its mission.

Jane Campbell also presented the Pastor Nominating Committee Report by opening with the comment that the committee members have been held to a high standard of secrecy and discretion. The PNC has met for approximately 49/52 weeks or so and therefore the commitment and diligence of its members is particularly praiseworthy. The PNC is still receiving applications for the position of Installed Pastor but that she cannot share very much more. Nancy Morse encouraged all to have faith in the committee and in the process. Pastor Mary likewise concurred that all should trust the PNC and their deliberations.

Ken Sprinkle of the Worship Committee expressed appreciation to Ben Shaver, to choir members, to lectors, to ushers (Terry Shima in particular for his constant service).

Carl Perthel of Christian Education Committee wished to thank lay leaders who participated, Francisco Fuentes, Lucille Fuentes, Rene Moloznik, Rosie Perthel, Pastor Mary, Dr. Caroline Fink, Katie Harris and Mark Allen. One Thursday per month at Ashbury Village, an educational offering by Pastor Mary has been ongoing. Carl mentioned that the Children's Sermon has been proceeding without fail (led by the Perthels and Pastor Mary—but room for one more as Fourth Sundays are not covered) . Finally, Carl P. wished to thank all the students of all ages who participated.

Ken Denaburg of Stewardship Committee wished to thank everyone who was involved in the process of publicizing and participating in the Stewardship Drive. In this context Pastor Mary noted that while there is a stewardship campaign annually, it really ought to be conceptualized as an ongoing focus throughout the year.

Mark Allen as Clerk of Session provided a report on the state of congregational affairs. It was noted that during the calendar year of 2018 there were nine Stated Session Meetings, two combined Session/Executive Joint Meetings, three specially called Session meetings and one Congregational Meeting. The membership stands at 96 which is down from 107 the previous year.

Renee Moloznik Moderator of the Deacons, noted that with only four Deacons some responsibilities are being shared with "Friends of the Deacons". The Diaconate is also working closely with Fellowship- Committee chairperson, Rhonda Ricci.

Pastor Mary Pullen provided an Interim Pastor Report which listed her schedule of activities past and present with the Lenten Bible study series receiving particular focus. In regard to Mary's departure, Ken S., noted that we are looking for a Gap Pastor to follow Mary's departure in June.

With approval of the reports, the meeting was drawn to a close with a prayer.

WORSHIP AT GENEVA – SPRING 2019

Mary Pullen retired from her position of full time Interim Pastor at Geneva on January 31, 2019 but agreed to return for the months of March, April and May. She works part time - about 20 hours per week.

Hopefully, the PNC will have a candidate in due course and we can finish this transition period. If you have any ideas and suggestions for guest pastors, please speak to Ken Sprinkle.

Update from the Wheatley family!



Laura turned 3 this week and had her first proper birthday party with cake, balloons and games. All were slightly overwhelmed by the noise and the chaos but Laura enjoyed it!

Andrew will be one in just 3 weeks - not sure where that first year has gone. He adores his big sister and they have fun play on the swings and seesaw together at the park.

Emma is back at work 3 days a week working with a team that tries to stop or curtail the next epidemic. Paul is working and has grown loads of vegetable seedlings which he hopes to plant out soon once the weather settles. One of our neighbors gave us a piano and the children are loving it. We attend a church with good provision for little ones and Laura loves Woddlers - the 2-4 age group there.

With love

Emma, Paul, Laura and Andrew

Congratulations

Congratulations to Evan Cavallini who got married on Saturday, May 11, 2019. Pictured are John, Evan, Stephanie and Claudia. Also pictured is Griffin, Evan and Stephanie's son. Congratulations to all the Cavallini Family.



Fellowship Summer Events

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Saturday, May 18 | 12:00PM Ladies' Lunch at Mamma Lucia's - Falls Grove |
| Friday, May 24 | 7:00PM Geneva Concert Wine and Cheese Reception to follow. |
| Sunday, May 26 | 10:30AM Rev. Mary Pullen's last day with us. Celebration during worship and reception to follow. |
| Sunday, June 9 | 11:45AM Second Sunday Potluck |
| Sunday, June 30 | 11: 45AM Ice Cream Sunday |
| Sunday, July 14 | 11: 45AM Second Sunday Potluck |
| Sunday, July 28 | 11: 45AM Ice Cream Sunday |

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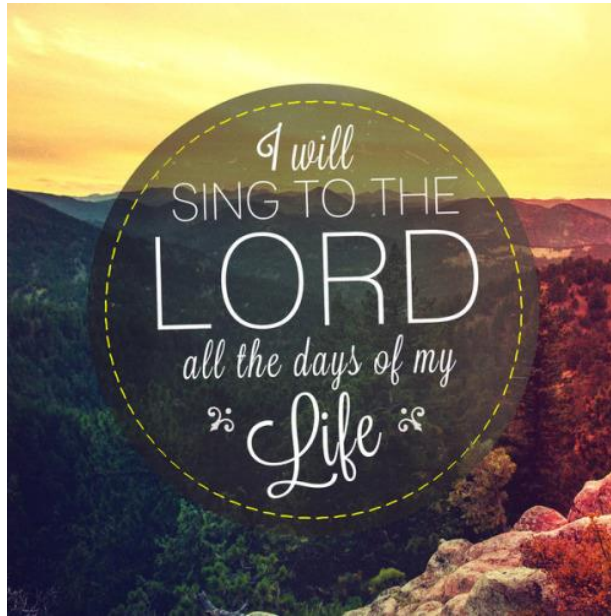
May 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|---|--|
| 28 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 29 | 30 7:00pm Iglesia | 1 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 2 | 3 | 4 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 5 10:30am Worship (Communion/Intinction) 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 6 | 7 7:00pm Iglesia | 8 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 9 | 10 | 11 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 12 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 13 | 14 7:00pm Iglesia | 15 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 16 | 17 | 18 12:00pm Geneva Ladies Lunch 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 19 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 20 7:00pm Session-Executive Committee Joint Meeting | 21 7:00pm Iglesia | 22 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 23 | 24 7:00pm Spring Concert - Geneva Sanctuary and Handbell Choir! | 25 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 26 10:30am Worship - Pastor Mary's last Sunday 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 27 | 28 7:00pm Iglesia | 29 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 30 | 31 | 1 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |

Geneva Presbyterian Church

June 2019

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|-----------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|---|
| 26 10:30am Worship - Pastor Mary's last Sunday 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 27 | 28 7:00pm Iglesia | 29 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 30 | 31 | 1 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 2 10:30am Worship (Communion/Intin ction) 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 3 | 4 7:00pm Iglesia | 5 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 6 | 7 | 8 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 9 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 11:45am Second Sunday Potluck 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 10 | 11 7:00pm Iglesia | 12 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 13 | 14 | 15 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 16 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 17 7:00pm Executive Committee | 18 7:00pm Iglesia | 19 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 20 | 21 | 22 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 23 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 24 7:00pm Session Meeting | 25 7:00pm Iglesia | 26 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 27 | 28 | 29 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |
| 30 10:30am Worship 11:45am Sanctuary Choir Practice 11:45am Ice Cream Sunday 2:00pm Iglesia 7:00pm AA | 1 | 2 7:00pm Iglesia | 3 7:30pm Handbell Practice | 4 | 5 | 6 7:00pm My Faithful Pastor Ministries 7:00pm Iglesia |



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