

LAKESHORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

THE OPEN DOOR

May, 2023

"Behold, I have set before thee an open door..." Revelations 3:8



Editor: Bev Matlas

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JOIN US FOR WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY

SUNDAY 10AM

-OR-

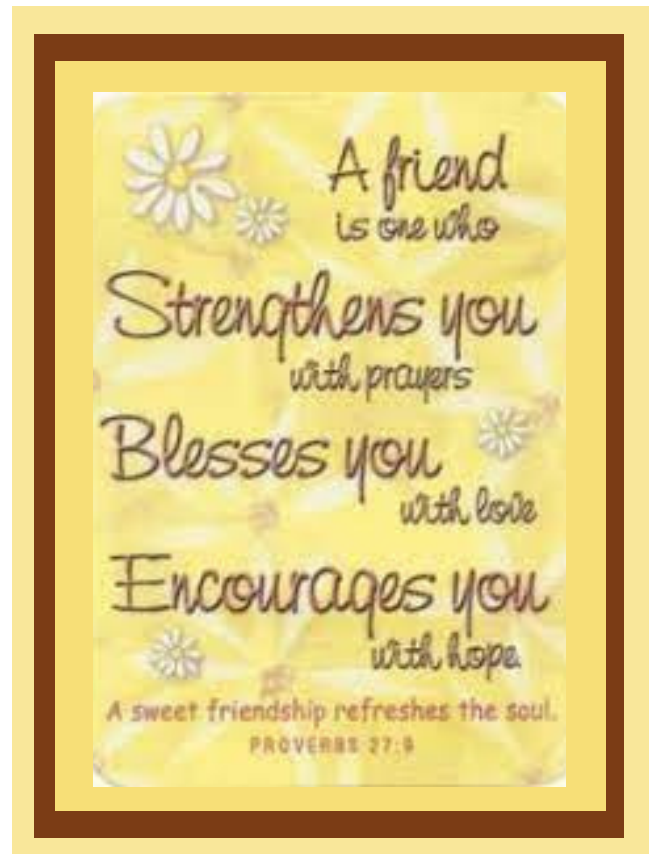
**ACCESS THE LIVESTREAM
OF SUNDAY'S WORSHIP**

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Phone – (929) 282-0976 at prompt
enter 574 737 948 #

The Message

May 7	Pastor Bre	June 4	Pastor Bill
May 14	Pastor Bill	June 11	Pastor Bill
May 21	Pastor Bill	June 18	Pastor Bre
May 28	Pastor Bre	June 25	Pastor Bill



In This Issue

<i>From the Pastor's Desk</i>	2
<i>Community Corner</i>	3-9
<i>Birthdays & Anniversaries</i>	10
<i>Finance Update</i>	10
<i>More Lakeshore</i>	10
<i>April Events</i>	11
<i>Children's Zone</i>	12
<i>May Event Calendar</i>	13

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From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Lakeshore Church Family & Friends,

Last Sunday (April 23) Lakeshore Church elected two new deacons, Carole Cesefski and Kathrin Pennanen. This marks the first time in quite a while that the Deacons have had all eight positions filled. The word “deacon” is a Greek word that means servant. Our deacons serve God, our church family and anyone in the world they have the opportunity to help. Our Deacons have excellent leadership with Lori Pollack and Pearl Vermander sharing the leadership. Thank you Deacons for serving the Lord in all the ways that you do.

Lakeshore Church also elected Janet Saxon to serve on Session, filling the opening created when Bill Stevenson left to help build the next generation of submarines for the United States Navy in Groton, Connecticut. Janet will be the Session representative to the Christian Education Committee. We thank our Nominating Committee for doing a fine job filling vacancies in our leadership.

Next Sunday (April 30) during worship we will ordain our two new deacons and one new elder. We will also install Debi Singer, whom we re-elected to serve on Session in November, but who was in Mississippi when we installed our other officers in January. After next Sunday we will have all our Deacons and Elders ready to serve through 2023!

You, the Lakeshore Church Family, are a growing family. The first three weeks of April in 2021 we averaged 34 people in worship, in 2022 the number in worship for the same three weeks rose by 13 to 47, and this year we averaged 63 in worship the first three weeks of April. In all those years Easter fell in the first three weeks of April. We could pat ourselves on our backs, but a better approach would be to rededicate ourselves to welcoming everyone who comes through our doors on Sunday morning, and not let anyone sit alone in fellowship after worship.

Our Deacons provide copies of “Our Daily Bread,” to anyone who worships with us. Each booklet provides a scripture reading, a meditation and a prayer for each day. The current large print edition covers the months of April, May, and June. I am happy to say that we only have one small print edition left, therefore I’ll ask the Deacons to order 10 more copies. Everyone in our church family who can use “Our Daily Bread” should have one. The meditation for April 19 began like this: “For many around the world, life is getting lonelier. The number of Americans who have no friends has quadrupled since 1990. Certain European countries have up to 20 percent of their population feeling lonely, while in Japan, some elderly folks have resorted to crime so they can have the companionship of inmates in jail.” I like to think that the person who stumbles into Lakeshore ends up with two friends - someone in the church and Jesus Christ. We need one another in Lakeshore, and the Bible tells us “A threefold cord is not easily broken.”(Ecclesiastes 4:12)

“Friendship doubles our joy and divides our grief.” Friends in the Lakeshore Church family “are those people who ask how we are and then wait to hear the answer.” Jesus Christ, the Head of Lakeshore Church, wants us to be friends with everyone who enters our church building. God is rewarding our friendship with growth. Thanks be to GOD!

Pastor Bill



We Know and Believe, But....

Easter is such a 'beyond amazing' time for Christians.

How do we even begin to truly fathom all that God and Jesus chose to do for us over 2000 years ago, let alone comprehend the depth of His love and compassion and the ramifications of our redemption...

Where would we be without our redemption?

If we truly meditated on that question would we allow it to help us more fully receive it and live like we KNOW and BELIEVE we're truly forgiven, free, and loved beyond measure?

And would we better equipped to see other imperfect, repentant and forgiven sinners in that same grace?

Um, gotta go - gotta go do some meditating...

Dear Heavenly ABBA and Jesus -

Thank You.

Because of You, I am forgiven, redeemed and FREE.

Thank You that if I chose to, I can see You loving me the way You say I deserve to be loved. Help me to fully receive that truth so I share it actively with others, and they can imagine and claim it for themselves.

In Jesus name, AMEN!



More Than Names on a Slate

Did you wonder how Carole Cesefske, Kathrin Pennenan and Janet Saxon were on the April 23rd election slate to fill vacancies on Deacons, and Session? It all starts with the Nominating Committee.

The Committee is comprised of three members-one from Session, one from Deacons, and one from the congregation. Clay Osborne, chair, Brenda Losey, and Linda Smalldon are the 2022-23 members of this Committee.

They are charged with giving careful consideration as to whether the potential candidate has the spiritual gifts that will benefit the congregation and the larger church as well as the physical and intellectual qualities to carry out the duties of Deacon or Elder.



A closed session of the Nominating Committee is held to formally nominate the candidates for the open positions. Once a slate of candidates has been nominated, the slate is presented at a Congregational Meeting for a vote. The Meeting is open to all, but only members of the church are eligible to vote.

Congratulations to Carole and Kathrin who were recently elected as Deacons and Janet, elected as Elder.

Ordination and installation will be held during the 10 am service on April 30.

Community Corner

Hosanna in the Highest Heaven



The congregation had a front row seat for the children's Palm Sunday Drama, Hosanna in the Highest Heaven. Pastor Bre adapted the drama from a skit of the same name written by LD McKenzie.

The story of Jesus' ride into Jerusalem on a donkey, to shouts of Hosanna! was brought to life by a cast that included:



Pastor Bre as narrator
Daniel Ryan as the
donkey's owner

Pastor Bill as the donkey
Maisie Bazydlo and Sophia Bade as
Jesus' disciples



J Ryan as Jesus



Canaan Bazydlo as the very
active, mooing cow



Jessica Bade and Pastor Diane as
the "crabby" bystanders

You may remember laughing during the Christmas Pageant as the cow (played by Caleb Sheldon) chased his tail. We were laughing again at the cow's MOOs as he crawled around the sanctuary, stopping to nudge one of the disciples (was that in the script, or just a brother picking on his sister?)

Take a bow. Job well done!



Lori Pollack

Fill Your Hearts and Souls With Gratitude

She drove pre-occupied with a list of things to do in her head. Cars and trucks sped by her. It was a lovely day. The air was warming and the sky topaz. Distracting in its beauty. She was late getting home and began to be a bit anxious but determined not to speed. Finally getting off the exit to travel the last few miles.

Thoughts drifted to possible vacation plans. Her sister and brother-in-law had left to go on a cruise. She dreamed of one day having that opportunity. The old feeling of want and failed dreams starting to creep in her thoughts as much as she attempted to void the train of thought. She sighed.

Traffic was backed up and the frustration was building. Inching yard by yard until about one mile from home.

Abruptly, an alert went off in her head. She committed to her sister that she would call and make sure her nephew got up for the midnight shift on his new job.

She canvassed the available turn off sites before the last light and pulled over on the shoulder at the corner market. The cell phone had fallen between the front seats and several minutes later was able to complete the call.

Upon reentering onto the road, she viewed a large haul truck blazing towards a four-way blinking light in the opposite direction. Nothing unusual as traffic always sped in both directions on that area of the road.

She saw an object in her peripheral vision heading towards the light in the going West.

cont'd on page 6

Gaming the Old-Fashioned Way

When you hear the word Game, you might think of a video game if you are a kid or a kid at heart. Or perhaps you think of an online game on your phone or computer like Candy Crush, Solitaire, or Wordle.

Well, forget all of that electronic stimulation and step back to the good old days of board games and a deck of cards and join us for Family Game Night on the second Saturday of the month.

The next Family Game Night is May 13th, beginning at 6pm.

Bring a munchie to share, your favorite game, and expect to laugh and have fun!



Taking Care of Business

Session has been busy taking of business. Tom and Barb Drake officially transferred their church membership to a local church in Lyman, South Carolina where they reside. Some of you may remember Tom hosting several southern gospel musical groups here at Lakeshore.

Pastor Bill was granted vacation time to visit his daughter Christina in Washington, DC. Christina will be stationed in the country of Mali in Western Africa. Her diplomatic assignment will be to help Mali with the country's elections and writing a democratic constitution. Mali is located near the equator. Christina will be in our thoughts and prayers.

At the next Session meeting we will be welcoming a new member on Session. The next Session meeting is scheduled for May 11th at 1:30pm

Community Corner

Hopping Down the Bunny Trail



The Easter Bunny came bright and early to Lakeshore and hid a lot of Easter eggs around the church grounds just in time for this year's Egg Hunt following the Easter Sunday Worship Service.



The children and adults had a great time finding these eggs filled with candy and toys.

Richard and Jackie Bolman's grandson gathers a basket full of eggs. Will he share them with his brother and sisters?



The children also received an Easter pencil from the Evangelism and Outreach Committee. We know it was a boring present for the children, but the chairperson for E&O didn't put her bunny ears on in time to come up with a better idea.

By the Grace of God (cont'd from page 5)

She could hear the screaming of brakes as truck veered to the right and was barreling towards her.

Seconds seemed like an eternity as she tried to stop her vehicle while praying for the forgiveness of her sins and thanking God for the life she had been given.

The truck made a final effort to avoid hitting any one and steered into a rural restaurant on the corner. She hadn't realized she had stopped in the middle of the road and wept.

If her sister hadn't asked to her call her nephew daily to make sure he got up for the midnight shift, if she hadn't forgotten until almost home to pull over and call him,...

She felt guilty at the thoughts that consumed her prior to the incident and vowed to have gratitude for each day!

God provides new beginnings and new opportunities each day that we arise! Situations that occur in our life that cause reflection and hope for a brighter season. God knows our heart and the path our lives will take. Gratitude in each phase of life will provide joy and direction on the road of life which often is filled with bumps, gravel and dead ends.

So, with this beginning of a new season, let's fill our hearts and souls with gratitude, love and joy and we can traverse the obstacles no matter how complex. Isaiah 40:31 "but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."

Community Corner

Truly Works of Art

The Blue Water Fiber Arts Guild was originally known to us at Lakeshore as the “Rug Hookers.” The name brought all of us a chuckle.

The Guild began in 1999 as a group of friends who shared a love of crafting beautiful wool rugs. Jeanne Howison, the Guild’s chairperson, says anyone who works with fiber, including quilters, crocheters and knitters, are welcome to join.

The Guild’s twelve members meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 10am – 3pm in Lakeshore’s Fellowship Hall.



Feel free to stop by to admire the beautiful works of art they are creating or bring your own project, your lunch, and join them for the day. Desserts, coffee and tea are provided.



If you would like more information regarding the Guild, please contact Sue Colwell at (810) 300-3943 or email her at tizladybug@gmail.com.

Let the Bells Ring

“For bells are the voice of the church; They have tones that touch the hearts of young and old.”

Lakeshore is blessed to have a fine set of handbells that have been little used in the past 15 years. We just haven’t had enough people to ring them. We are now blessed with a new member, Janet Saxon, who would like to get a group together to ring in the bells for worship. Last Sunday, April 23, during the fellowship time we had bells out for anyone to pick up and play.

Would you like to be part of the Lakeshore bell ringers, sometimes called “Ding-a-lings?” You’ll have fun while adding divine notes to our worship services. If you have any interest in bell ringing, call Janet Saxon, 248-396-0460.

What's a Church Brand?

When you think of a "brand" what's the first thing that comes to mind? It's usually a specific product or service, like Apple? Starbucks, or Uber. How could anyone forget some of these commercials and slogans-



Big Mac-2 all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame seed bun.

Don't leave home without it.



Plop plop fizz. Oh what a relief it is.

A brand is more than the product or the slogan, its the way a person feels about them.

The same goes for a "church brand". When someone thinks of Lakeshore Church, or visits our website, or joins us online for Sunday service, what's the impression they are left with?

We say we are friendly, welcoming and loving . As soon as a person walks through the front door we call them "family". It doesn't matter if they are tall or short, heavy or thin, male or female, grouchy or happy, they become part of our church family.

So what is Lakeshore's church brand?

How about

"Be Yourself, Be Accepted"

Now that's a church brand that leaves a lasting impression.

Come Away--Spend Time With God Great Lakes Pilgrimage Spiritual Renewal Weekend

A Pilgrim is a person who journeys to a sacred place for religious reasons. Every fall, a small group of Christians, called pilgrims, from various denominations, gathers at Echo Grove Camp and Retreat Center in Leonard, MI for a Spiritual Renewal Weekend.

The weekend is developed and delivered by members of the Great Lakes Pilgrimage (GLP), under the spiritual direction of Pastors Bill and Roxie Davis and Pastor Michelle James, Faith Community Presbyterian, Novi. The weekend is formed around a series of talks by both clergy and lay people on topics such as priorities, grace, study, leadership and Christian action. The weekend also includes chapel services, communion, small group discussions, music, singing, laughter and prayer.

Lakeshore Church has had 13 of it's members attend one of these Weekends. Feel free to speak with current members of our Lakeshore Church family who have attended past weekends, Dick Smalldon, Wanda McCormick, Steve Steinhaus, Pearl Vermander, Pastor Diane, Lana Gerrow, and Pastor Bill and hear how the Renewal Weekend impacted their faith lives.

The next Pilgrimage Weekend is October 13-15 - Friday evening through Sunday afternoon. If you think you'd be interested in attending, please ask Pastor Bill for a registration form. Registration is capped at 12, and will fill up fast. Yet if you register now and in August or September you find that you are unable to attend, there will be no problem. You'll get a full refund.

We hope you will be inspired to take this opportunity to Come Away, spend time with God, and let Him meet you wherever you are on your faith journey.

Community Corner

Deacons Devoted

Deacon derives from the Greek word diakonos which can be translated as “helper”. A Deacon is instrumental in the temporal needs of the church family and community.

Lakeshore Presbyterian Church is blessed to have an amazing group of individuals as our Deacons. The Deacons for 2023-2024 are as follows:

Pearl Vermander (Co-Chair)

Lori Pollack (Co-Chair)

Carole Cesefske

Wanda McCormick

Toni Osborne

Kathrin Pennanen

Bill Pyke

Toni Osborne

Linda Smalldon

Pat Eppley, Session Representative

Congratulations to Kathy Pennanen and Carole Cesefske who were elected to Deacons on April 23. We are excited to welcome you both!

We are off and running in the first quarter of 2023 with initial plans for events for the year. Our beloved Senior Celebration will be held on October 26, 2023 in the Fellowship Hall from 11:00 am to 2:30 p.m. the logistics are still in the process of being finalized. We are investigating holding a Church Carnival for individuals with special needs and will be hearing from the organization’s support group contact Tracey Hopp at the May meeting.

With the ever-increasing needs of our community, the Deacons have initiated Ministry and Outreach for 2023. Homelessness is a continuing and growing issue in all areas of the country and our area is not exempt. Our esteemed Elder Dick Smalldon informed us of a new facility to serve homeless men locally.

The other organization the Deacons are providing financial outreach is the Hunter House. This organization’s mission is “to provide a complimentary home away from home, steps away from the hospital, for those in need of restoration while either comforting a sick loved on or receiving treatment themselves.”

A part of our Ministry is spiritual outreach. The booklet, Our Daily Bread, is also supported by Deacons’ Ministry and Outreach.

In service to our Church Family and our Community, we have strived to start the first quarter of 2023 with an enthusiastic spirit to accomplish “God’s Work”.

The Deacons also assist the Church in Communion, Fellowship, Ushering and the Offerings.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.” (Matthew 25)

We hold our monthly meeting the first Thursday of each month. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

All are welcome!

Lori Pollack, Co-Chair

Twelve Disciples-One Jesus

Several members of our congregation attended the Maundy Thursday drama and worship service at First Presbyterian Church. The drama, "Twelve Disciples-One Jesus, written by Pastor Roxie, starred Pastor Bill as Jesus, and Clay Osborne as Philip.



We all enjoyed the event and welcomed the fellowship of FPC.

Community Corner

Birthdays & Anniversaries

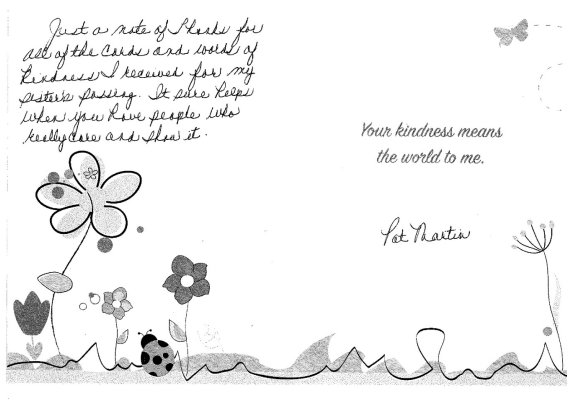
May 1 Sue Bergeon Wyatt Bade	May 14 Jay Smith
May 2 Roger & Mary-Beth Sheldon	May 17 Mary-Beth Sheldon
May 3 Melissa Dykstra Pierrette Thelander	May 20 Pat Pryor
May 5 Jessica Bade	May 26 Clare Scheurer
	May 30 Donna Whitford
	May 31 Adela Isham



Join the newly formed Prayer Group every Thursday at 10 am.

We hope you will find this time of sharing and connecting before our Heavenly Father will help you to grow spiritually as you witness the power of prayer.

Thank You



Lake Huron Woods

Every Sunday beginning at 2pm, one of our pastors conducts worship services at Lake Huron Woods. Our worship service has steadily increased in attendance. The seniors enjoy the worship services and the fellowship.



Everyone is welcome to join the service!

Finance Snapshot

For the Month Ending 03/31/23

Operating Income:	\$ 11,007.30
Operating Expenses:	\$ 6,755.87

Investments @03/31/23

Thrivent:	\$39,959.88
	\$18,861.27
Stifel	\$34,648.85
New Covenant:	\$35,978.26
Presbyterian Fndn:	\$19,866.56

We Apologize

If in the past you tried to join our worship service via GOOGLE.MEET, and you were not able to get onto the live stream or you found poor quality sound or video: SORRY! In March we seemed to have one problem after another with our Sunday morning streaming. We spent over \$500 to get our cameras and sound fixed to their highest quality.

Do you receive via email a weekly invitation to join our worship service via GOOGLE.MEET from Bev, our office manager? If you don't now get this weekly email from Bev, please call Bev or me. Bev's number at church is: 810-385-4531. My cell phone # is: 810-294-1235. If you would like to join us on your smart phone or computer on Sunday morning, but you are not quite sure how to do that, please call me and we can get on the website during the week, as a kind of dry run. We are growing in our Sunday morning worship attendance in the sanctuary, and I would love to see us grow in our online worship attendance. See you in church - in person or online!



**May 13
6-8pm
FAMILY GAME NIGHT**

**Bring your favorite game and a
munchie to share**

MOTHERS DAY LUNCH

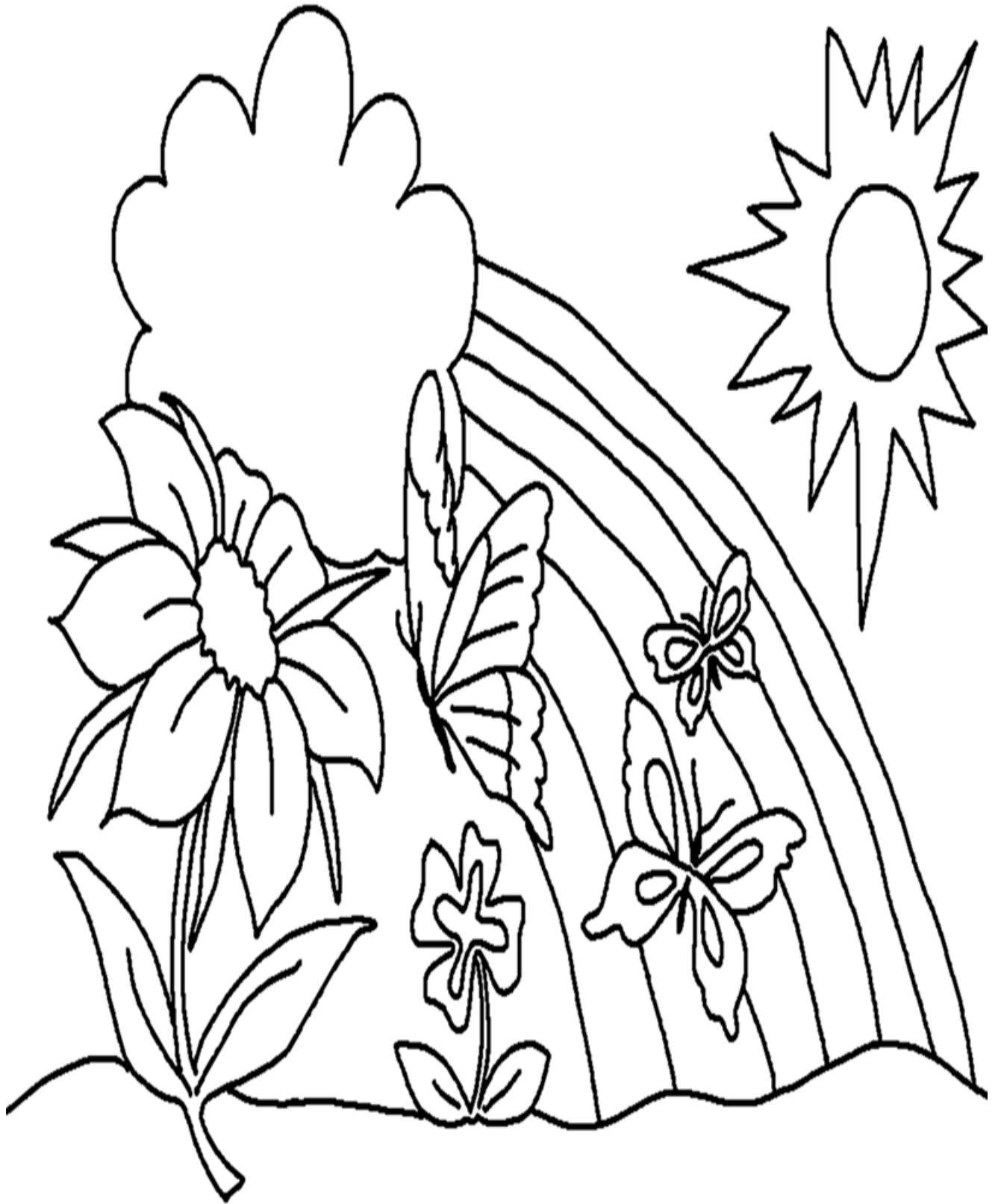
**May 14
11 am**

**Join us following Worship to
celebrate and honor
all mothers**



**May 17
6pm
Bring a dish to share or
just come and enjoy a dinner with
friends old and new**

Children's Zone



May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 1:30 pm Stewardship & Mgt	3 10 am Rug Hookers	4 4pm Deacons	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 12:30 pm Worship 1:30 pm Session	12	13 6pm Family Games Night
14 11:15 am Mother's Day Lunch	15	16	17 10 am Rug Hookers 6 pm Potluck	18	19	20
21 11:15 am VBS Planning	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 11:15 am E&O	29	30	31			

-----WEEKLY-----

SUNDAY

9 am Bible Study

10 am Worship

11:15 am Fellowship

2 pm Worship Lake Huron Woods

7 pm AA

MONDAY

10 am RESA play group

FRIDAY

7 pm AA