

August 23,2026

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH

MARCO LUTHERAN CHURCH FOUNDATION

www.marcolutheran.org/foundation

OFFICE HOURS: Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

office@marcolutheran.org

TO CONTACT CHURCH STAFF: PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE AT

(239) 394-0332

525 N. COLLIER BLVD.

MARCO ISLAND, FL 34145

www.marcolutheran.org

Our Mission Statement:

“At Marco Lutheran Church, we are followers of Jesus Christ who share His Good News by loving and serving all people.”

WORSHIP HOURS:

SUNDAY 9:30 a.m.



THE SHIP OF THE CHURCH For Christians, since the days of the apostles, *THE SHIP* has been a symbol for the Christian Church. The mast and yardarm form a simple *CROSS* (in wood) which stands for Jesus who saved us by giving Himself on a cross that we might be forgiven.

The *CHI RHO* ☿ (in metal) is a combination of the first two Greek letters of the name *Christ*, meaning "The Anointed One" or "The Messiah." *THE WAVES* symbolize the troubles and difficulties of life on earth. *THE SAILS* are filled with wind, a symbol of the Holy Spirit, which empowers the Church. Thus, the Christian Church, under the Cross of Christ carries the faithful safely across the troubled seas of life to heaven. As we come together for worship, the cross of Christ is before us. We choose, you and I, to worship with people for whom the cross is both the sign of salvation and the sign of Christ in our lives.

A special welcome to our guests today. May you find grace and blessing in the time we spend together. If you are looking for a church home, please speak to the Pastor, the Lay Minister for the day, or an Usher. We would be most pleased to share with you ways in which you might become a regular part of our Christian fellowship.

HOLY COMMUNION – WHAT WE BELIEVE



In this Sacrament, Jesus gives us Himself, His true Body and Blood as we receive the bread and wine. On the night He was betrayed and before He was put to death, Jesus celebrated this Meal with His disciples assuring us that each time we receive it, we are again remembering His death and receiving the full benefits of His grace, namely the forgiveness of sin.

In 1 Corinthians 11, St. Paul says that we should "examine ourselves" ahead of time. We can do so each time by asking ourselves these basic questions:

- † **Do I acknowledge the fact that I am indeed a sinner and that I am sorry for my sin?**
- † **Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from all sin?**
- † **Am I trusting in Jesus' promise that I receive full pardon and strength through this Holy Meal?**
- † **Do I believe that the body and blood of Jesus is truly present in, with and under the bread and the wine of Holy Communion?**
- † **Finally, with the Lord's help, will I seek to amend my life and live in conformity with His Holy Will?**

Jesus Himself invites baptized followers, who believe in Him as their Lord and Savior, who recognize their sinful condition and who seek His forgiveness, to come to His Table to receive His precious Body and Blood. May the Lord bless your personal reception as well as your daily living under His power and blessing. Should you have questions, please see a Pastor or a Lay minister prior to the worship service. If you prefer not to participate in the sacrament, please cross your arms when coming forward to receive a blessing.

For those who prefer, **white grape juice is in the center of the tray**. There are also **gluten free wafers** by informing a distributing Host. For those who may have **difficulty coming to the front**, please **inform an usher** so that the Sacrament may be brought to you.

AS WE GATHER

In Genesis, God speaks—and life begins. As we journey through these early chapters of Scripture, we see creation, the fall into sin, the flood, Babel, and the lives of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Through broken people and difficult moments, God remains faithful to His promises. As we gather, we are reminded that the God who created, called, and carried His people in Genesis is still at work today—bringing grace, hope, and new life to us.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

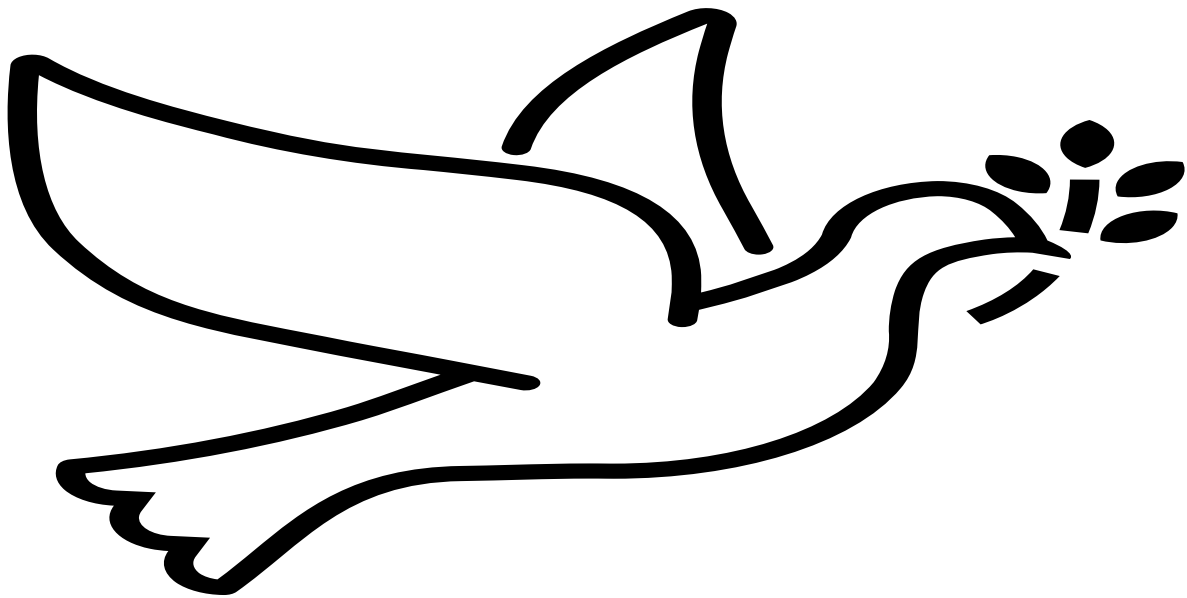
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND WELCOME

Please Stand and Face the Cross

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.



OPENING HYMN

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.

Please be Seated

PSALM 105:8-22

Leader: He always stands by his covenant the commitment he made to a thousand generations.

People: **This is the covenant he made with Abraham and the oath he swore to Isaac.**

Leader: He confirmed it to Jacob as a decree, and to the people of Israel as a never-ending covenant:

People: **"I will give you the land of Canaan as your special possession."**

Leader: He said this when they were few in number, a tiny group of strangers in Canaan.

People: **They wandered from nation to nation, from one kingdom to another.**

Leader: Yet he did not let anyone oppress them He warned kings on their behalf:

People: **“Do not touch my chosen people, and do not hurt my prophets.”**

Leader: He called for a famine on the land of Canaan, cutting off its food supply.

People: **Then he sent someone to Egypt ahead of them Joseph, who was sold as a slave.**

Leader: They bruised his feet with fetters and placed his neck in an iron collar.

People: **Until the time came to fulfill his dreams, the Lord tested Joseph’s character.**

Leader: Then Pharaoh sent for him and set him free; the ruler of the nation opened his prison door.

People: **Joseph was put in charge of all the king’s household; he became ruler over all the king’s possessions.**

Leader: He could instruct the king’s aides as he please and teach the king’s advisers.

FIRST READING

Genesis 37:17b-24a

Leader: “Yes,” the man told him. “They have moved on from here, but I heard them say, ‘Let’s go on to Dothan.’” So Joseph followed his brothers to Dothan and found them there.¹⁸ When Joseph’s brothers saw him coming, they recognized him in the distance. As he approached, they made plans to kill him. ¹⁹ “Here comes the dreamer!” they said. ²⁰ “Come on, let’s kill him and throw him into one of these cisterns. We can tell our father, ‘A wild animal has eaten him.’ Then we’ll see what becomes of his dreams!” ²¹ But when Reuben heard of their scheme, he came to Joseph’s rescue. “Let’s not kill him,” he said. ²² “Why should we shed any blood? Let’s just throw him into this empty cistern here in the wilderness. Then he’ll die without our laying a hand on him.” Reuben was secretly planning to rescue Joseph and return him to his father. ²³ So when Joseph arrived, his brothers ripped off the beautiful robe he was wearing. ²⁴ Then they grabbed him and threw him into the cistern. Now the cistern was empty; there was no water in it.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God**

HYMN

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure:
Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME

3. Nothing in my hand I bring;
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:33-46

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Pastor: ³³ “Now listen to another story. A certain landowner planted a vineyard, built a wall around it, dug a pit for pressing out the grape juice, and built a lookout tower. Then he leased the vineyard to tenant farmers and moved to another country. ³⁴ At the time of the grape harvest, he sent his servants to collect his share of the crop. ³⁵ But the farmers grabbed his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. ³⁶ So the landowner sent a larger group of his servants to collect for him, but the results were the same. ³⁷ “Finally, the owner sent his son, thinking, ‘Surely they will respect my son.’ ³⁸ “But when the tenant farmers saw his son coming, they said to one another, ‘Here comes the heir to this estate. Come on, let’s kill him and get the estate for ourselves!’ ³⁹ So they grabbed him, dragged him out of the vineyard, and murdered him. ⁴⁰ “When the owner of the vineyard returns,” Jesus asked, “what do you think he will do to those farmers?” ⁴¹ The religious leaders replied, “He will put the wicked men to a horrible death and lease the vineyard to others who will give him his share of the crop after each harvest.” ⁴² Then Jesus asked them, “Didn’t you ever read this in the Scriptures? ‘The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing, and it is wonderful to see.’ ⁴³ I tell you, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a nation that will produce the proper fruit. ⁴⁴ Anyone who stumbles over that stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone it falls on. ⁴⁵ When the leading priests and Pharisees heard this parable, they realized he was telling the story against them—they were the wicked farmers. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowds, who considered Jesus to be a prophet.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ**

After the cross is returned, please be Seated

HYMN

I WILL RISE

There's a peace I've come to know
Though my heart and flesh may fail
There's an anchor for my soul
I can say "It is well"
Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead

**Refrain: And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise... I will rise**

There's a day that's drawing near
When this darkness breaks to light
And the shadows disappear
And my faith shall be my eyes
Jesus has overcome
And the grave is overwhelmed
The victory is won
He is risen from the dead **Refrain**

And I hear the voice of many angels sing,
"Worthy is the Lamb"
And I hear the cry of every longing heart,
"Worthy is the Lamb" **Refrain**

Please be Seated

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Today Jesus Christ comes to you with an invitation, saying, "Repent" and "Follow Me." Let us prepare to receive His Word, leave our sin behind, and follow Him in the power of His forgiveness.

People: **Lord God, open our ears to hear Your call of salvation and life. Enable us to hear the voice of Your Son, Christ our Lord, that His Word may move us to turn from our ways and our walk without You, and follow Him in faith, that we may learn and live in the light of Your love.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

☩ SACRAMENT ☩

PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Lord of heaven and earth, we bless Your Holy Name! In Your mercy, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to take on our flesh, bear our sin, and be our Savior. With thankful and repentant hearts, we receive the salvation He won for us through His body and blood given on the cross. Gathered in Jesus' name, we ask You to forgive us, renew us, and strengthen us by Your Word and Spirit. Help us faithfully receive His body and blood as He has given us to do. Keep us in Your care, hear our prayers, and bring us at last to the eternal feast of the Lamb in Your kingdom. To You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, and praise, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20;
1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and after He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and after He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment.

PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Refrain

**All my life's a circle Sunrise and sundown
The moon rolls through the nighttime
'Til the daybreak comes around
All my life's a circle
But I can't tell you why
The seasons spinning round again
The years keep rolling by**

1. It seems like I've been here before
I can't remember when
But I got this funny feeling
That I'll be back once again
There's no straight lines make up my life
And all my roads have bends
There's no clear-cut beginnings
And so far no dead-ends **Refrain**

ALL MY LIFE'S A CIRCLE

2. I found you a thousand times
I guess you've done the same
But then we lose each other
It's just like a children's game
But as I see you here again
The thought runs through my mind
Our love is a circle
Let's go 'round one more time
Refrain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Chorus

J=92

I come ex-pect-ing Je - sus to meet me in this place;

7

I come ex-pect-ing to re-ceive His mer-cy and His grace; When I eat the

9

bread and drink the wine, it will be a ho-ly mo-ment in time; I come ex-pect-ing

13

Je - sus to meet me in this place.

1.-Be-

-fore us the ta - ble is spread; Here waits the wine, and

24

here waits the bread; This pass-age of hope, the bread and the cup;

30

Here where our souls are fed.

J=92

I come ex-pect-ing Je - sus to meet me in this place;

7

I come ex-pect-ing to re-ceive His mer-cy and His grace; When I eat the

9

bread and drink the wine, it will be a ho-ly mo-ment in time; I come ex-pect-ing

13

Je - sus to meet me in this place.

Please Stand

APOSTLES CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24–26

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

People: Amen

CLOSING HYMN

1. Onward, Christian soldiers
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before.
Christ, the royal master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle
See His banners go! **Refrain.**

Refrain

**Onward, Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you love and serve the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

ONWARD, CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS

2. Like a mighty army
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the saints have trod.
We are not divided,
All one body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity. **(REF)**
4. Onward, then, ye faithful,
Join our happy throng,
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song:
Glory, laud, and honor
Unto Christ, the king;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing. **(REF)**

Announcements

PRAYERS FOR MEMBERS: Joyce Maxfield, Kitty Argobright, Bob Kelley, Don Terry, Lana Davis, Al Wilke, Hal Heidtman, Marilyn Nervig, Donnie Rooksberry

PRAYERS FOR FRIENDS & FAMILY: Andrea Sager (Donnie & Norva Jeanne Rooksberry), Rene & Terry Maurer (Anne Rozite) Woody Barnette (Donnie & Norva Jeanne Rooksberry), John SchenckII (Lydia Krueger), Judy Resler, Charlie Pike (Dick and Vicki Ross), Don Clark Jr. (Betty Clark), Cecilia Popoff (Vicki Williams), Family Member (Judy Volker), Charlie Darr (Patti Naughton), Kevin Carr (Marie Mahr), Ruth Naughton (Patti Naughton), Jack & Connie Hawkins, Darlene Kent (Dave & Connie Wuellner), Shane Silver (Nancy Carrington), Jim Cookfair, John & John Brewitt Jr. (Doug & Sandy Alger), Fran Hall (Linda Harrison), Patricia Willey, Ryan Degen(David & Judy Karlin), Rosanda Olivia (Vicki Ross), Antonella (anonymous), Frank Alterio (Marge Alterio), Tracy Rusinyak (Patti Naughton), Shirley Rhodes (Sybil Fleming), Cathy Pruden, David Pagano(Mike B.), David Hill(Pamela Hill), Dave Stiffler, Pam Harger(Dave & Connie Wuellner), Dan Popoff Vicki Williams, Larry Sturzenegger(Vicki Williams), Denny Zent (Dave & Connie Wuellner) August Streit (Eric & Sara Peterson), Rick Maxfield (Joyce Maxfield), Sharon Grady (Laverne and Conrad Henry) and those we name in our hearts.

***PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE CAN REMOVE ANY NAMES
FROM OUR PRAYER LISTS!***

ANNIVERSARIES: Mearle and Rebecca (Becky) Ericson, David & Denise Long, Harry & Kim Rubash, Scott & Kathy Berner, Dave & Roxann Daggett, Jim & Linda Sawyer, Steve & Marge Spang

BIRTHDAYS: Robert Pieske, Joanne Touchette, Janice Loeb, Dwight Stiehl

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

IN PERSON -122	ONLINE -113	GATHERING -32	TOTAL – 267
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CONTRIBUTIONS:

Total August Target: \$47,500	Total August to-date (3 Sundays): \$36,825 (78%)
Year-to-date Target: \$643,800	Actual Year-to-date: \$645,122 (100%)

IN HOME VISITATIONS: If you, or someone you know, would like to have a visit from Pastor Jim, please call the office and we can make the arrangements. Thank you!
(239) 394-0332

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

WAYS TO GIVE:

1. **You can place your offerings in the offering boxes** on either side at the front of the chancel and in the back center aisle
2. **You can mail your offerings** to the church.
3. **Using the instructions on our website under the SHARING tab you can give ONLINE.** Either as a one-time donation or regular weekly/monthly donation. All transactions are secure and confidential.
4. **You can give using your phone via the Vanco APP.** You can also **text 8339401468** and enter the amount you wish to donate to the general fund. If you aren't registered, you will receive a link. If you have any difficulty or questions, please email **financialsec@marcolutheran.org**.

DISCOVER MARCO: If you are interested in becoming a member of Marco Lutheran Church or are already a member and just want to "refresh," we invite you to attend a one on-one session of the ***Discover Marco Lutheran Class*** with Pastor Jim. If you have any questions about "Discover Marco" please contact Amy at the church office **(239) 394-0332**

BECOME PART OF WHAT GOD IS DOING AT MARCO LUTHERAN

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Please join us for the following Bible Studies.

TUESDAYS:	8:30AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY
WEDNESDAYS:	10:00AM WOMEN OF THE WORD - Resumes October 14, 2026
THURSDAYS:	10:00AM ADULT BIBLE STUDY
SUNDAYS:	10:45AM IN THE "GREAT ROOM" FOR COFFEE AND CONVERSATION AFTER WORSHIP

Thank You to Our Helpful Servants For:

Sunday, August 23, 2026

Worship Leader: Dave Wuellner

Pastor Jim Thelen

Music: Craig Greusel

Keyboardist: John Davis

SUMMER SHOWING OF 'THE CHOSEN'

Please join us for dinner and a movie where we will be showing Season 3, 8 episodes of The Chosen this summer at 5:00 pm.in the Great Room.

Sign-up sheet is in the Narthex:

AUGUST 26

SEPTEMBER 9

SEPTEMBER 23

THE BOARD OF HUMAN CARE'S 3RD QUARTER MISSION –

A pallet drive for Our daily Bread Food Pantry. ODB has indicated the organization is able to provide more food for those in need when they are able to purchase full pallets at a discount. Last year's drive was greatly appreciated and successful. We accept monetary donations via **Vanco** on the **MLC website** under giving as well as **checks and cash** in envelopes and placed in the offering boxes or given to the church office.

Be sure to write **ODB in the memo** line on the check.

TOTAL AS OF AUGUST 23 \$11,690

CALENDAR AUGUST 23 – SEPTEMBER 12						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
AUGUST 23 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK	AUGUST 24 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 1:00P CHRISTMAS PARADE PLANNING 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	AUGUST 25	AUGUST 26 5:00P THE CHOSEN	AUGUST 27 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	AUGUST 28	AUGUST 29
AUGUST 30 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK 3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE	AUGUST 31 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	SEPTEMBER 1 10:00A WOMEN OF MARCO	SEPTEMBER 2	SEPTEMBER 3 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	SEPTEMBER 4	SEPTEMBER 5
SEPTEMBER 6 9:30A WORSHIP 10:45A COFFEE & CONVERSATION 1:00P GATHERING @ THE WATERMARK 3:00P GATHERING @ DISCOVERY VILLAGE	SEPTEMBER 7 OFFICE CLOSED LABOR DAY  NO YOGA	SEPTEMBER 8 10:00A CHRISTAIN OTREACH	SEPTEMBER 9 1:00P OUTREACH 5:00P THE CHOSEN	SEPTEMBER 10 10:00A SUMMER BIBLE STUDY 12:30P GENTLE YOGA 2:00P CHAIR YOGA	SEPTEMBER 11	SEPTEMBER 12