

Acton in action

Newsletter of Acton UMC

Love - Learn - Share - Serve with eternal purpose through faith in Jesus

JULY 2024

Volunteer 3

Can you help serve at our local food pantry this month? Time slots are about 2. Signup on our website.

End of Summer 5

Can you help get ready for our end of summer celebration, Summer Spectacular, on July 26th. Lots of jobs available.

Loose Change 9

Learn how the coins and dollar bills collected on Sunday mornings are used in our local community.

Scouting Events 14

Troop 219 and 104 are putting on a few fundraising events this summer and fall. Make sure to mark your calendar.

5650 Senour Road
Indianapolis, IN 46239
317-862-2588
www.actonumc.com

From the pastor's desk



Christian Freedom

BY PASTOR MATTHEW STULTZ

For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5:13-14

July 4th is an amazing holiday. The weather is typically good, albeit hot and humid in Indiana with an ever-present threat of a thunderstorm. We typically gather with others and enjoy some summer cookout food. We also give thanks for our nation and the freedom that provides our privilege to move about and celebrate as we wish.

As Americans, freedom is always the bedrock we cling to to determine or defend any of our ideals. Our problem today, however, is that we have focused more and more on individual or smaller group freedoms than we have any sense of a "greater good." When we say the pledge of allegiance, we do so promising to live as Americans for that greater good, with liberty and justice for all. All. Whether we like them or not, whether we agree with them or not, we want all our fellow Americans to have equality and freedom.

Paul writes in Galatians that to be free as Christians we need to limit our worldly freedom and exchange it for a greater good helping others. Our freedom, for the Christian, is never to enjoy individual life more and more while others have less and less. The Christian strives for the hungry to have food, not just leftover scraps, but a full table.

I hope your holiday celebrations are safe and fulfilling. And I pray that as you reflect on freedom, you do so with the Spirit of Christ, to love your neighbor as yourself.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pastor Matthew

Pastor Matthew is available via email at matthewstultz@me.com
or you can call the office at 317-862-2588 to schedule an appointment.

July AT A GLANCE



JULY EVENTS

- 11th..... God's Bounty
- 13th..... Lunch at the Lake
- 17th..... Fellowship Dinner
- 26th..... Summer Spectacular
- 28th..... Graduate Reception

AUGUST EVENTS

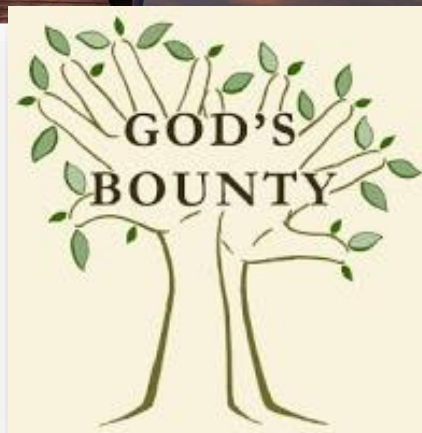
- 8th..... God's Bounty
- 21st..... Fellowship Dinner
- 25th..... Bake Sale

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

- 12th..... God's Bounty
- 18th..... Fellowship Dinner

TEAM MEETINGS

- Staff ParishJuly 2nd
- Strategy CouncilSept 12th
- TrusteesJuly 16th
- Missions.....Sept 25th
- UMW Board.....July 29th



GOD'S BOUNTY

July 10th
6-7:00pm

July 11th
8:00am & 1-6:30pm

Scan to
volunteer or
signup on our
website.



FELLOWSHIP DINNER

July 17th @6:00pm

It's Italian!

Hosted by the women of Acton.

This free-will offering meal collection is for The Lucille Raines Residence.



July 28
10:30m
Fellowship Hall

Graduate Reception



PICK UP YOUR KINDNESS SLIP



Clever Church Signs

TOO HOT TO KEEP CHANGING SIGN
SIN BAD JESUS GOOD DETAILS INSIDE



August 19th
Barb Wiley's

Someone Else's Shoes
by Jojo Moyes



WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP

The Tuesday evening women's study group will be starting a study on Revelation in July. Please see Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel if you are interested.

Mark Your Calendar

July - Kids Klub

October 3 - Blood Drive

July 13 - Lunch at the Lake

October 19 - Craft Fair

July 26 - Summer Spectacular

October 31 - Trick-or-Treat

July 28 - Graduate Reception

December 8 - Advent Tea

Fellowship Dinners - Third Wednesday Every Month



See Sam Warner, Christy Smith, or Diane Crane if you help prepare, set up, work the event, or cleanup.




SUMMER
spectacular

**FREE EVENT
ALL ARE INVITED**

FRIDAY
JULY 26
6-8:00PM

ADMIT ONE



**JULY
BIRTHDAYS**

Will Tope 1st
Sally Grau 5th
Christy Smith 10th
Ed Puckett 11th
Mariann Meyer 14th
Steve Meyer 17th
John Wiley 18th
Marilyn Hixon 20th
Tom Kerns 22nd

THURSDAYS AT 6:00PM

Prayer Service



JOIN US AS WE
COVER OUR
WORLD, OUR
COMMUNITY, OUR
CHURCH, AND OUR
FAMILY AND
FRIENDS IN PRAYER




As of May 31, 2024

Income.....	\$140,059 50% of budget
Expenses	\$112,906 40% of budget

WEAR YELLOW - JULY 14th

July is Self-Care Awareness Month. Self-care is about empowering people to be active agents in their own healthcare. Things you can do to take of yourself include getting regular physical activity, eating a healthy diet, looking after your mental health, and quitting or cutting down on alcohol and tobacco use.

Learn more at www.who.int/health-topics/self-care.



PRAYER REQUESTS

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE CAN ADD YOU TO OUR PRAYER LIST. PRAYERS CAN BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL WITH THE PASTOR OR SHARED ON OUR AGAPENET.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER



HEALING AND STRENGTH: Family of Jan Prendergast (Mary Jo Ensich's sister), family of Mike Finnigan (Stephenson's son-in-law), Sally Grau, Kathy Phillips, Braydon Hohlt, Bruce Selke, Braden Collins (Margie Townsend's friend), Lurana Babcock, Joanne Jennings, Mary Wright, David Phillips, Carol Cain, Stan Ensich, Shawna Harrison, Cheryl Herron, Chris Osbourn (Grubb's daughter), Linda Hicks, Greg McConaughy, Paula McIntosh

OUR COLLEGE STUDENTS: Nick Crane, Olivia Woodrow, Cherilynn Spicer, Madison Hulskotter, Ethan Warner

MILITARY PERSONNEL: Adam Walters, Lucas Lamkin, Nick Crane, Travis Beasley

If you have a prayer request, please call the office, or fill out a prayer request card during Sunday worship so that the pastor may pray for you and your loved ones. A request for prayer can also be sent out to other members on email and added to the prayer list online and in the Sunday bulletin. We know that details of prayer requests can be private so information and updates will only be shared if requested.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY

SHARE THE BLESSINGS YOU HAVE RECEIVED

LOOSE CHANGE & \$1

This month, any loose coin and loose one-dollar bills in the collection plate will go to Shepherd Community Center. So far in 2024, we have sent \$331.01 to Shepherd Community Center.

This community center is located just east of Sherman Drive on East Washington Street. Shepherd uses a relationship-based model focusing on ten key assets that are essential for breaking the cycle of generational poverty. Bring in your loose change and any extra one-dollar bills and help those in our community. You can give on-line as well. Learn more at shepherdcommunity.org

GOD'S BOUNTY HELP

WEDNESDAY, July 10th
6-7:00pm

THURSDAY, July 11th
8:00am & 1-6:30pm

If you can volunteer, please sign up on-line. You can contact the office for help.



July Loose Change and \$1
Shepherd Community Center



DONATE TO GOD'S BOUNTY

Grab a bag and fill it up! Missions will take your donations to God's Bounty food pantry. Bags are available in the Missions Nook.

PASSIONATE WORSHIP

FROM THE PULPIT

7 th	Rest.....	Exodus 20:8-11
14 th	Ask for Anything You Want	Mark 6:14-29
21 st	All Were Fed, All Were Healed	Mark 6:30-34, 53-56
28 th	A Big Meal and a Walk	John 6:1-21

CAN'T MAKE IT SUNDAY MORNING THIS SUMMER?

If you are not able to make it to Sunday morning worship, join us live on-line through our YouTube channel. You can find the link on our website under sermons. You can also watch the worship service in it's entirety at your convenience. At the first of the week, the sermon portion of the service is shared on Facebook so make sure you follow the church Facebook page (actonchurch).



GREETERS

JULY

- 7th Dan & Becky R.
- 14th Dick & Josette R.
- 21st Eric & Lynne N.
- 28th Mark & Aimee H.

AUGUST

- 4th Floyd & Linda S.
- 11th Gary & Karen F.
- 18th Earlene C & Sandy S.
- 25th Rich & Betty Lou R.

Hospitality Myths

In the Crossway's article on *5 Myths About Hospitality*, it has listed these five myths:

1. Only people with the "gift" of hospitality are expected to practice it.
2. Hospitality is woman's work.
3. Only married, well-off people with large homes can practice hospitality.
4. Hospitality should never be extended to known sinners, for the Bible tells me so. If you dine with sinners, other will think you approve of their "lifestyle."
5. Hospitality and fellowship are forms of entertainment.

Do you believe these myths? The article states that hospitality is rooted in our love for God and our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our desire to see all of our neighbors know the salvation of Jesus. Hospitality isn't a gift, but a means through which our spiritual gifts are displayed. All believers can practice hospitality. It doesn't rely on any one demographic, personality, or income and there are no biblical commands against extending hospitality to unbelievers. Hospitality seeks the salvation of the stranger, and fellowship seeks the building up in faith of the brother and sister. Neither are a form or entertainment.

Read the full article at www.crossway.org/articles/5-myths-about-hospitality/

RISK TAKING MISSION AND SERVICE

SERVING OTHERS IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



Mission Giving

AMAZING MISSION FUND GIVING

Thru May 31st

Balance: \$7,160.64

RIP Medical Debt: \$1,500

Robert's Park Meal: \$252.30

Kairos Prison Ministry: \$500

Peace with Justice: \$500

Impact Ministries: \$500

Indy Ten Point Coalition: \$500

UMCOR Sunday Match: \$1,540

Pack Away Hunger Event: \$3,565

Meijer Simply Give: \$3,500

CONGREGATION DIRECT GIVING

Thru May 31st

Loose Change:

Shepherds Community: \$346.01

Fletcher Place: \$339.90

Brightwood Community: \$237.35

UMCOR US: \$200

UMCOR Sunday: \$1,540.56

WAYS TO GIVE & SERVE

Monthly Food Pantry Collection

Amazing Mission Fund

Kroger Gift Card Program

God's Bounty – 2nd Thursdays

Missions Team

Our Missions Team will not be meeting during the summer and will be handling business via email. If you are interested in joining the Mission Team when they start meeting in the fall or have ideas you would like to share, please see Barb Wiley or any Mission Team member.

God's Bounty

If you get a chance, grab a bag from the God's Bounty display by the coat rack and fill it up with food staples. Creamy peanut butter, chunky soups, canned veggies and fruit, and meal prep kits (i.e. Hamburger Helper) are always in high demand. Just leave your bag at the display and missions will take it to the pantry.

What is a connectional church?

You may have heard Pastor Matthew mention that Acton UMC is a connectional church. This is unique to United Methodists and means that all United Methodist leaders and congregations are connected in our loyalty and commitment, and we join together in ministry with each other. As part of this connection, each congregation tithes a portion of their giving that goes to support local, national, and global ministries.

Our congregation also becomes an important piece of a global effort to "be the hands and feet of Jesus" through the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries. This is the worldwide mission, relief, and development agency of The United Methodist Church. Its purpose is to connect the church in mission and equip and transform people and places for God's mission around the world.

Their priorities are missionaries that connect the church with communities, evangelism and church revitalization by helping plant churches across the word, global health through promotion of physical, emotional and spiritual well-being, and providing hope and healing to people in need through humanitarian relief and recovery (UMCOR).

Learn more at <https://umcmmission.org>

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY FURTHER ENRICHING OTHER LIVES

Each Sunday coins and one-dollar bills are put into the offering plate. Ever wonder what happens to them? Our Missions team has set up a rotation between three local community centers that are supported by the Methodist church - Brightwood, Fletcher Place, and Shepherd. Each month the loose coins and one-dollar bills are sent to one of these centers. A total of \$2,542.37 was collected and distributed to these three community centers in 2023. Though May of this year, we have collected and sent \$923.26. You can give on Sunday mornings or on-line through our website.



The **Brightwood Community Center** is a nonprofit organization compassionately dedicated to building strong families and vibrant communities. The center is located at 2140 N. Arsenal Avenue in Indianapolis. They have a food pantry, healing circles for a variety of topics, youth summer camps, parent retreats, youth basketball leagues, workforce development services, and legal assistance. They have been helping the community for over 50 years. Learn more at www.brightwoodcc.org.

With roots in the United Methodist Church, in 1872, **Fletcher Place Community Center** was started as a small outreach on the South side of downtown Indianapolis. They continue today to provide programs to ease the burden of low to moderate income individuals. They are located at 1637 Prospect Street. Their Ease the Burden program on South Shelby Street includes a free thrift store, hot meals, and a food pantry. They have a monthly golden age luncheon, and a Christmas outreach program. Learn more at <https://fletcherplacecc.org>.



Shepherd Community Center is located just east of Sherman Drive on East Washington Street. Shepherd uses a relationship-based model focusing on ten key assets that are essential for breaking the cycle of generational poverty. Learn more at shepherdcommunity.org.

INTENTIONAL FAITH DEVELOPMENT

LEARN AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH – ALL ARE WELCOME



ADULT CURRENT EVENTS

The Wired Word

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am
Kitchen
Sandy G. & Charlie W.

YOUTH

Sundays, 10:35-11:15am
Youth Room
Denise Gaunt

BIBLE GAMES (PreK-5th)

1st Sundays, 10:35-11:15am
Children's Chapel upstairs

KID'S OWN WORSHIP (PreK-5th)

After children's message
9:45-11:15am
Children's Chapel upstairs

YOUTH GROUP

Join us for dinner, games, fun, fellowship, and faith building lessons.

SUNDAYS – SUMMERTIME CHANGE

5:00-7:00pm, at the Crane's
See Andy or Diane Crane for info
Bring your friends!



THROUGH OUT THE WEEK

WOMEN'S MONDAY EVENINGS

In the Eye of the Storm, a Day in the Life of Jesus

Mondays, 6:00pm, Phyllis Taylor's
see Gayle Kerns

WOMEN'S TUESDAY EVENINGS

Book of James

Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Diane Crane's
see Diane Crane or Felicia Crowel

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY MORNINGS

Women Who Followed Jesus

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Church
see Becky Repass

WOMEN'S FRIDAY MORNINGS

Living the Psalms

Fridays, 9:30-11:00am, Church Kitchen
see Connie Walters

MEN'S SATURDAY MORNINGS

Book of Revelation

Saturdays, 8:00am, Church Kitchen
see Dan Repass



All are welcome to drop in a class at any time. If you don't see anything that interests you, reach out to the church office or Pastor Matthew.

WOMEN OF ACTON

TOGETHER IN MISSION AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH

United Women in Faith?

The United Women in Faith is the largest denominational faith organization for women in the world. We are focused on mission and providing opportunities for women to grow spiritually.

If you attend a United Methodist church, you are a member of the United Women of Faith.

At Acton there are opportunities for all women including helping with dinners, a reading circle, our blanket ministry and Acts of Kindness teams, fellowship events, our Craft Fair, and the annual Advent Tea.

Please, think how you may enjoy becoming a part of the Acton United Women of Faith.

If you have questions, please talk to one of the board members.

2024 Officers

President: Margie Townsend
 Vice President: Barb Thompson
 Secretary: Renee Knight
 Treasurer: Connie Walters
 Nominations: Becky Repass
 At Large: Lynn Newlon and Diana Baker



United
Women
in Faith



The Lucille Raines Residence is one of the primary mission projects of the United Women of Faith of Indiana and of the Acton Women of Faith. The Lucille Raines Residence is located on Pennsylvania Street in downtown Indianapolis and offers Hoosiers in addiction recovery help towards independent living.

Learn more at lucillerainesresidence.org.

MINISTRIES

Prayer Blanket Ministry

- ~Make quilts for those needing comfort
- ~See Mary Ann Puckett to help
- ~Call the office for a blanket

Acts of Kindness

- ~Sweet & Savory sale – August 25th
- ~Six times throughout the year
- ~Call Barb Thompson to help

Reading Circle

- ~August 19th, 6:30pm at Barb Wiley's
- ~*Someone Else's Shoes*, by Jojo Moyes
- ~See Audrey Roberts for more information

Hosting Fellowship Dinners

- ~July 17th
- ~See Cheryl Herron if you can help

Craft Fair

- ~October 19th
- ~Our main mission fundraiser

Advent Tea

- ~December 8th, 4:00pm
- ~See Margie T. to help in the planning

BIBLE STUDIES

- ~Monday evenings at 6:00pm
- ~Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm
- ~Wednesday mornings at 10:00am
- ~Friday mornings at 9:30am

**FELLOWSHIP
DINNER**
July 17th
 Women of Acton
 are hosting
 Serving Italian
 Free-will
 offering meal
 Money collected
 goes to Lucille
 Raines Residence

KIDS KORNER

WELCOME TO KIDS KORNER, a page just for kids and their families. Learn about what the children are studying on Sunday and see what fun events are upcoming for the kids and families. There’s also a Bible story to help you dig into God’s word. Enjoy!



CHILDREN’S SUNDAY WORSHIP & FUN

Our Kid’s Own Worship includes kids PreK through 5th grade. They come upstairs to the Children’s Chapel for fun and learning after the children’s message. The kids have their own worship followed by snacks, games, crafts, science experiments and mission projects.

The first Sunday, kids stay in worship with their families so they can share the Lord’s Supper with us – make sure to come to the Children’s Chapel upstairs after worship for Bible Games. All ages welcome!

If your kids need to leave after worship, make sure to pick them up from the Children’s Chapel at the top of the stairs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MISSIONS IN JULY

Coins for Shepherd Community
Food for God’s Bounty

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

July 17th, 6:00pm

SUMMER SPECTACULAR

July 26th, 6-8:00PM

July Lessons

Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord! Psalm 27:14

July 7 Bible Games

July 14 Levi.....Luke 5:27-32.....Diane Crane

July 21 The Fiery FurnaceDaniel 3:1-30.....Shelia Sexton

July 28 Daniel and the LionsDaniel 6:1-28.....The Crowels

BIBLE STORY



Daniel 1

What king took over Judah?

What three men of Judah came to serve in the king’s palace?

What were their new names?

What did they choose to eat?

What did God give them?





Youth in action

SAVE THE DATE

YOUTH GROUP

~July 7th
~5:00-7:00pm, Crane's

NO YOUTH GROUP

~July 14th
~Enjoy your weekend!

FELLOWSHIP DINNER

~July 17th, 6:00pm
~6:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

~July 21st
~5:00-7:00pm, Crane's

SUMMER SPECTACULAR

~July 26th
~6:00-8:00pm, AUMC

YOUTH GROUP

~July 28th
~5:00-7:00pm, Crane's



SUMMER SPECTACULAR

July 26th
6-8:00pm



If you can help with prep, setup, serving during the event, or cleanup, please see Diane Crane, Sam Warner, or Christy Smith. Thanks!

SUMMER YOUTH GROUP

Youth 6th-12th grade
Sunday evenings, 5:00-7:00pm

During the summer we will be meeting at the Crane's. Dinner is provided as well as a lesson, games, and fellowship. Friends are always welcome. Please wear your swimsuit and bring a towel. If you have questions, please speak with Andy or Diane Crane, our youth leaders.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:30am
Youth Room
The Case of Christ
See Denise Gaunt
with any questions.


GRADUATES

There will be a simple reception for our graduates on July 28th after worship.

Supporting our Scouts

Upcoming Fundraisers

Troop 104 and Troop 219 are putting together a few different fundraising events including a car wash, a piano recital, and a car show. Mark your calendars! Details will be provided as each event draws closer.



CAR WASH | JULY 22
ACTON UMC

a fundraiser for our Troop 219

The graphic features a blue car being washed by a hand with a sponge. There are bubbles, a green car wash sign, and a sponge with soap suds.



CAR SHOW
with AWESOME FOOD AND MUSIC
TO BENEFIT
SCOUTS BSA TROOP 219
OCTOBER 12, 2024
9AM - 2PM
ACTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
5650 SENOUR RD, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46239

SHOW PARTICIPANTS:
ALL MAKES AND MODELS WELCOME

ENTRY FEE: \$20
SCAN TO PRE-REGISTER AND SAVE \$5 OFF ENTRY FEE

AWARDS
DASH PLAQUES
SILENT AUCTIONS
50/50

<https://forms.gle/wRNqBXdc5acYcJBU6>
(Pre-registration closes Sept 30th, 2024)

RAIN OR SHINE EVENT - NO REFUNDS
FREE SPECTATOR ENTRY AND PARKING

The graphic features a red classic car, a hand holding a green sign, and a close-up of a car's headlight and grille.

Piano Concert by Vincent Rubio
for Nick Hulskotter's Eagle Scout Project
August 4th - 5-6:00pm - Acton UMC



Enjoying God's Goodness

Welcome

Make sure to welcome our newest members, Larry and Terri Smith.




Kids Klub Fun

What a wonderful start to Kids Klub.

Pictures are always appreciated! Send them to crowel862@gmail.com

JULY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 9:30 Worship 5:00 Youth Group	1 6:00 Womens Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	2 6:00 Staff Parish 7:00 Womens Study	3 10-12 Kids Klub 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Troop 219	4 7:00 AA	5 9:30 Women Study	6 8:00 Men Study
7 9:30 Communion 3:00 Troop 104 PLC 5:00 Youth Group	8 6:00 Women Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	9 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study	10 10-12 Kids Klub 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Troop 219	11 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA GODS BOUNTY 	12 9:30 Women Study	13 LUNCH AT THE LAKE
14 9:30 Worship 5:0 Youth Group	15 6:00 Womens Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	16 6:00 Trustees 7:00 Womens Study	17 10-12 Kids Klub 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Troop 219 FELLOWSHIP DINNER 6:00pm	18 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	19 9:30 Women Study	20 8:00 Men Study
21 9:30 Worship 1:00 Troop 200 5:00 Youth Group	22 6:00 Womens Study 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	23 5:30 GS Troop 1849 6:30 Pack 104 Dens 7:00 Womens Study	24 10-12 Kids Klub 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Troop 219	25 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	26 9:30 Women Study SUMMER SPECTACULAR 6-8:00PM	27 8:00 Men Study
28 9:30 Worship 1:00 GS Troop 200	29 6:00 Womens Study 7:00 UMW Board 7:00 Troop 104 7:00 Troop 219	30 7:00 Womens Study	31 10:00 Women Study 6:00 GS Brownies 7:00 Troop 219	1 6:00 Prayer Service 7:00 AA	2 9:30 Women Study	3 8:00 Men Study