

Zion Lutheran Monthly

June 2022

Pastor's Corner

The Former Things Have Passed Away

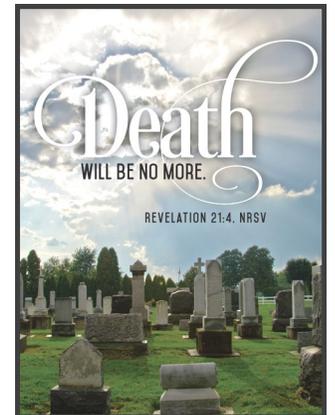
Usually when we think of someone “passing away” that is a sad occasion. We may have a friend pass away, or a spouse. Even when a beloved pet passes away, a child can be devastated. There is probably nothing greater at striking our hearts than when someone we love passes away. But the resurrection of Jesus has changed all of this. And I don't just mean that now we have a hope of the resurrection of the dead (which is true and is a precious hope). But Jesus' resurrection has changed everything because now Jesus has turned the tables on our great enemies in this world. In the end, Jesus will be the victor, because our great enemies are the ones that will now pass away. Consider this passage from Revelation:

*And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for **the former things have passed away.**”* -- Revelation 21:3-4

On the day Jesus returns, everything will be changed. Of course, there will be a new heaven and a new earth, but even more so, the old rules of this world will be changed. Tears, which rule our hearts sometimes, will be wiped away forever. Death will be “no more.” This means that literally death will die. In fact, there will be no more mourning, or crying or pain; they will be gone, and Revelation says why: “the former things have passed away.”

Everything that seems to “rule” this world right now like death, and disease, and sadness, and crying, and pain will all one day die. They will be buried in the ground six feet under and, unlike us, they will not have a resurrection! These enemies will stay dead while you and all the saints in Christ will live again. But this time you will live a life free from all of these things and for one very good reason; the former things have passed away.

-- Pastor Grimenstein



President's Report

Helping and our Helper

Here we are yet again at the beginning of summer. We like to say summer begins on Memorial Day weekend but the summer solstice happens a bit later in June, on the 21st when the sun is as far north from the perspective of the earth's latitude as it will get before beginning the journey back toward the southern hemisphere. The seasons God created continue unabated.

One thing that we celebrate this month is a "holiday" called Pentecost Sunday when we give thanks to God that the Holy Spirit, our Helper, was sent to the world to comfort and stand with us throughout our lives. We're so very blessed to be baptized Christians in the true faith and worship according to a doctrine that holds fast the foundations of Christianity in such a bold, pure and steadfast manner! The Holy Spirit is a beautiful gift that makes us temples. How can we not be thankful and humbled by such a gift!?

Later this month on Sunday June 26th, we're having the Special Voter's Meeting to adopt the new Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget. Please attend this meeting. We're having it between the services. The people working to keep the ministries vibrant at Zion would appreciate your attendance. We need you to consider dedicating your time and talents to your church. The organization has grown and is becoming more sophisticated as the years go by which requires a continual renewal of people to become familiar with the nuances of how things are done. Your church needs you. God owns us. Christ bought us and the Holy Spirit has been breathed into us. Let your heart be moved.

Several months ago, I said the "testing" would most likely continue and the Christian church on earth will face more trials, etc. At Zion we're certainly facing more testing and trials these days. We absolutely must stand together and face the foe armed with the Word. God has called ALL of us, so please answer His call and let's all live as one body of Christ at Zion! You're chosen and you're saved. We're Christians and the Helper is with us! He is in us. Stand fast and believe.

Pray for all Christians on earth, the LCMS and our ministries around the world, and for Zion Bridgeville as we adopt our next budget and work our ministries for the glory of the kingdom of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

-- Paul Klemash



Mission Moment:
Promoting Zion's Internal, local, and international missionary efforts
Pastor Philip & Deaconess Rachel Jaseph

Sharing Christ's love and raising up church workers

Pastor Phil conducted his first Divine Service in Spanish (with everything but the sermon!) at Iglesia Luterana Cordero de Dios (Lamb of God Lutheran Church) in Licey al Medio (Santiago), and he has had additional opportunities since then to give God's gifts to His people. During a recent intensive class with Dominican deaconess students, he provided a devotion as well as private confession/absolution for the ladies who chose to participate.



Most Lutherans here have never taken advantage of this gift, in which we have the opportunity to hear the pastor declare God's forgiveness personally to us.

One woman told Pastor Phil after, *"I feel like I lost all this weight from my shoulders,"* and another said, *"So that's it? My sins are forgiven, they stay here?"* He had the joyful opportunity to tell her, *"Yes, that's it. They don't leave this room. God has taken them away!"* *"Amen! Thanks be to God for this, Pastor!"* she said.

Deaconess Rachel was invited to write a portion of the course and to teach part of the class that same weekend on the topic of diaconal care and professional ethics. Women from Santo Domingo as well as all the churches around Santiago dedicated time to study God's Word and related practical ministry topics together at Concordia the Reformer Lutheran Seminary here in Palmar Arriba, Santiago.



At the end of March she was also invited to teach part of the class on the Creeds and the Augsburg Confession, along with Pastor Schumann and Deaconesses Danelle and Caitlin. This course was part of a retreat that was held on the north coast of the country. The time away provided an opportunity for wonderful fellowship among sisters in Christ. We praise God for the 12 Dominican women who will graduate soon, and for the already-consecrated

deaconesses who participated in these courses simply because they love to learn from the Word of God! In our May newsletter, there will be more exciting news to share about new church-workers all around the Latin America region, and Rachel's participation in theology courses and graduation ceremonies in Mexico and Guatemala.



Lutherans
For Life

www.lutheransforlife.org
888.364.LIFE

Lutherans for Life witnesses to the sanctity of human life through education based on the Word of God. It serves through individuals who volunteer at pregnancy care centers, with hospice, through prayer, and in a wide variety of caring activities. It educates and encourages through conferences and workshops, printed resources and newsletters, Life Sunday materials and Bible studies, curricula, video, and through the website www.lutheransforlife.org

I Only Know Human Beings

By Pastor Paul Clark, President, Lutherans for Life of Michigan

One of the many heroic stories that came out of World War II was that of Pastor Andre Trocme and his wife, Magda. They encouraged the residents of their little town in Le Chambon, France, to defy the Gestapo's orders to turn in any Jews who could be found in the town or the surrounding area.

Instead, under the leadership of Pastor Trocme, the residents of those villages were responsible for saving up to 5,000 Jews from being taken to the death camps. They formed an underground network to help the Jews safely travel across the Swiss border and out of harm's way.

Pastor Trocme told the members of his congregation, "We shall resist whenever our adversaries demand of us obedience contrary to the word of the Gospel." When the Germans could not find any Jews in the town, they confronted Pastor Trocme, telling him to immediately cease his activities and turn in the names of the townspeople who had helped hide the Jews. Pastor Trocme answered, "I am their shepherd. A shepherd does not forsake his flock. I do not know what a Jew is ...

... I only know human beings."

The powers that back the death-dealing abortion culture try to find ways to make us keep silent. They try to censure us, cancel us, and ridicule us. They attack pro-life people verbally, and sadly, in some instances even physically. They paint us as far-right radical lunatics who care only about the so-called "fetus," and not about those who are already born. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth.

The truth is that abortion hurts women, one way or another. *Every time.* And abortion kills a baby—a little girl, a little boy. *Every time.* And abortion continues to poison the culture in so many ways. *Every time.*

The science is conclusive: Human life starts at fertilization. The Bible is conclusive: Life is from God, it begins at fertilization, and God's commandment of "You shall not murder" (Exodus 20:13) certainly applies to the slaying of an innocent child in the womb. Because that little baby in the womb is a human being. Whether Jew or Gentile, boy or girl, black or white, healthy or infirm, they are human, with human rights, most especially the right to life. Like Pastor Trocme asserted, **we only know human beings!**



As Lutherans who treasure God's Word as holy and without error, we have so much to offer. God sent His own Son into the world to unravel the twisted fabric of death. When Jesus said, "It is finished" (John 19:30) on the cross, it was true. It is finished. The stain and guilt of your sins, and mine, and the person struggling with the guilt of an abortion—all of this has been blotted out by the cleansing blood of Christ. **EVERY SIN. EVERY TIME.** Here—in Jesus and His Gospel—is healing for the hurting, peace for the troubled, reconciliation for the estranged, rescue for the fallen, and comfort for the grief-stricken. Here—in Jesus and His Gospel—is forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.



This summer Zion will periodically host food trucks in the parking lot from 11:30-1:30pm. Stick around after second service to grab lunch and enjoy fellowship!

Questions?
secretary@zlc.org

Join us at Zion for...
FOOD TRUCK SUMMER!
BAIRES ARGENTINIAN FOOD
SUNDAY JUNE 12TH 11:30-1:30

Baires Menu

ENTREES:

Empanada de Carne \$4 each (2 for \$7)
(Meat pie)

Empanada de Espinaca y Queso \$4 each (2 for \$7)
(spinach and cheese pie)

Sandwich de Milanesa con Lechuga y Tomate \$11
(Fried breaded steak with lettuce, tomato, Chimi-mayo and French bread)

Sandwich "Gaucho" \$11
(Steak sandwich with lettuce, tomato, chimichurri sauce and French bread)

Sandwich de Pollo \$11
(Chicken breast with lettuce, tomato, Chimi-mayo and French bread)

SIDE ORDERS:

Papas Fritas "Baires" \$5
(French fries with chimichurri sauce and parmesan cheese)

Chimichurri sauce \$0.50

DESSERT:

Flan casero con dulce de leche \$5
(Vanilla custard with caramel)

WITH
Gratitude

To Pastor and all my dear church family at Zion, I'd like to thank you for all the beautiful, thoughtful birthday cards sent to me for my 98th birthday. I was beyond surprised and thankful for the outpouring of love that I never imagined possible. I received almost 200 cards! I also thank you for the get well cards and prayers throughout my stay in the hospital and Concordia. I am thankful to be home and back in church with all of you that I love.

*Thank you again,
Millie Thielet*



DURING THE SUMMER MONTHS there will be one mid-week service held at 2:00 on Wednesdays ... PLEASE NOTE, the 7:00 pm service on Wednesdays will be discontinued during June, July and August. We may revisit adding the evening service back in the fall.

Bridgeville Area Food Bank



The June collection for the Bridgeville Area Food Bank is Sunday, June 12th. The "items of the month" are PAPER PRODUCTS. Items may be placed in the wicker receptacle in the narthex near the coat rack.

DID YOU KNOW ... thanks to the generosity of the local community, in May the Food Bank served 135 local families in need?



SS NEWS

A heart-felt THANK YOU!

to all Sunday School teachers and substitutes. We appreciate all of your hard work and hope to have you all back in the fall! If anyone else feels moved by the Holy Spirit to teach a class -- 3 weeks on, 6 weeks off -- please contact us, Jon and Connie Canale, at jscanale@jscmail.net or text (586) 604-7247. The end of the year party will be on June 12th and will consist of a short story, a craft, Bible Bingo, and a snack.

* **CPH READS** is a summer reading program offered by Concordia Publishing House, our Lutheran publisher. Zion is participating as a way to keep our kids reading -- and growing their faith -- over the summer. We currently have a variety of books for families to borrow, including 78 Arch Books from CPH. Look for the red book cart in the preschool lobby and start reading today!



Parents register their kids on the cph.org/reads web site. Parents/kids log the books read online with CPH, plus there are cards to take home to log reading progress -- see the table in the back of the sanctuary for book logging cards and information sheets. Any book will count 50 points, but faith-focused CPH books earn 100 points!

PRIZES: CPH is entering readers who reach 1000 points into a prize giveaway ... plus, Zion Sunday School will be awarding super cool prizes as well! Kids who reach 1000 points will receive a \$20 Sarris gift card (one per family) and be entered into a grand prize drawing to receive an Annual Family Membership to the Pittsburgh Zoo!



* **SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL** will be held from June 19 -- August 28 as a combined class, ages 3-12. We will be using "H₂O! God Keeps His Promises" published by CPH.



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NO OTHER NAME

– 175 YEARS –

lcms.org/175

Shout Out to Students



Highlighting the academic awards, scholarships, and extra-curricular achievements of Zion's students in Kindergarten through College.



Faith Wallace graduates June 2nd from Canon McMillian High School. In the fall she will attend the University of Pittsburgh in Bradford to study forensic science biology. Congratulations Faith!



Sydney Harris graduated in May from The Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor's in criminology specializing in legal studies, minoring in Sociology. She will continue at Penn State to get her Masters in Policy Analysis with a concentration in Criminal Justice. God's blessings, Sydney!



Anna Grimenstein graduated from Westminster College with Honors on May 14th, earning her Bachelors of Science in Biology with Minors in Mathematics and Music (Magna Cum Laude). Anna was a four year member of the Westminster Swim & Dive Team, the Associate Principal Cello in the Westminster Orchestra, and a four year member of the Westminster Honors College. She was hired as a Seasonal Educator this summer at the National Aviary in Pittsburgh. This fall she heads to Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, IL, where she will pursue her Masters of Science in Biology with a concentration in Entomology. Congratulations and Godspeed, Anna!



Concordia of the South Hills to Host Outdoor Concert Series

Concordia of the South Hills will host a free Summer Concert Series located in the Harmony Room at 1300 Bower Hill Rd, Mt Lebanon. **Tours will be available for one hour before each of the performances.**



Friday, June 17 at 3:30 p.m. – John Patrick Heisermann

First influenced by the music of the 1960s, Heisermann now performs music from many genres, from the Classical Era to the 1920s to today. He plays guitar, sings and tells stories during his show and is sure to entertain.

Friday, July 8 at 2 p.m. – the Merrymakers Jazz Trio

For the last 20 years, The Merrymakers have been playing traditional jazz (Dixieland and Benny Goodman genre) to more current styles. Their lively music is enjoyed by audiences of all ages, and their stage presence is first class.

Friday, August 19 at 3:30 p.m. – Renewed Memories

A lively duet featuring “Music for Grown Ups,” their repertoire is inspired by “Your Hit Parade” of the 50s and 60s, including doo wop, country, soft pop and the Great American Songbook. It’s toe-tapping stuff suitable for sing-along audiences of all ages.

Friday, September 16 at 3:30 p.m. – Mikey Dee

Mikey began his musical career at age 4, learning guitar, bass and tamburitza from his grandfather. To date, he has recorded and produced 19 albums and numerous singles. Currently he performs more than 200 shows a year, playing everything from oldies to ballroom, polkas to tamburitza.

Walk-ins are welcome – but registration is strongly encouraged. To reserve your seat at South Hills, call Director of Marketing Christie Wahlen at 412-294-1351. Learn more at www.Concordia-SouthHills.org



What About...

The Ordination of Women to the Pastoral Office

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Many denominations ordain women to the pastoral office, even some Lutheran churches. It is important that Missouri Synod Lutherans be able to give a kindly response and explanation to those who may question our position on this issue. We have an opportunity to speak the truth in love.

What does God say about women serving in the pastoral office?

The Lord teaches us through His Word that women are not given the responsibility of serving the church as pastors. We read the following statements:

“As in all the churches of the saints, the women should keep silence in the churches. For they are not permitted to speak, but should be subordinate, as even the law says ... what I am writing to you is a command of the Lord” (1 Cor.14:33–34,37).

“Let a woman learn in silence with all submissiveness. I permit no woman to teach or to have authority over men; she is to keep silent” (1 Tim.2:11–12).

“The saying is sure: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. Now an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife...” (1 Tim.3:1–2).

“This is why I left you in Crete ...that you might appoint elders in every town as I directed you, if any man is blameless, the husband of one wife...” (Titus 1:5–6).

God has given His church many gifts. Among them is the gift of the office of the public, pastoral ministry. We receive what God gives, in the way He has given it, and in the form He has given it. We do not tell God that His gift is not good enough for us, or that we don't like the form in which He has given the gift. We receive God's gifts as He gives them, with thanks and praise. We rejoice in the opportunities God has given us, as His redeemed people, to serve Him in the church, and in our daily lives.

The church which wishes to remain faithful to the Word of God cannot permit the ordination of women to the pastoral office.

The Bible says that we are all one in Christ. Don't these words imply that women may serve as pastors?

There are those churches which believe that St. Paul's words in Gal.3:28 mandate the service of women as pastors:

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

But this verse does not teach that there is no distinction between these various groups; rather, it teaches the equality of salvation that all Christians have in Christ Jesus our Lord. Paul wants us to know that all individuals are equally sinful and equally saved by the work of God through Jesus Christ. Gal. 3:28 does not contradict or overturn St. Paul's comments elsewhere. This passage does not speak to the issue of the ordination of women; instead it is speaking of the equality of our salvation in Christ, for which we praise the Triune God, but it certainly does not mean that all may serve as pastors.

If men and women have equal rights, why can't women be pastors?

The issue of the ordination of women is not a matter of “human rights” or “church traditions” or various human opinions and customs. Nor is it a matter of “discrimination against women.” Various social reformers in our culture would have us believe that men and women are totally interchangeable and that their God-given differences simply have no bearing on life in this world. Not only does this run contrary to the clear testimony of nature, it also contradicts the Bible.

The Bible teaches us that both men and women were created in the image of God, but are two distinct and special creations. We praise God for His wisdom in creating human beings as man and woman.

We believe that God has gifted men and women with different responsibilities and duties. For example, men are gifted by God to be husbands and fathers; women are gifted by God to be wives and mothers. So also in the church, God has gifted men and women with different, though complementary, opportunities and responsibilities for service.

What are the roles of men and women in the church?

Together, men and women serve their Lord and



What About...

The Ordination of Women ...

Cont'd.

Savior Jesus Christ. Men have the divine obligation to be the leaders of the church. Women are called to be of assistance to men in this capacity. An attitude of service guides what we do in the church, not a demand for “rights” or an attitude of “lording it over” one another. We have one Lord and one Master, Jesus Christ. We serve Him in the ways He desires.

God has given the responsibility to serve as pastors only to certain qualified men. The church calls these men to serve as representatives of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in the pastoral office. Women are not called to serve in this way because God has not given this responsibility to women. Why didn't Jesus call a woman to serve as an apostle? Why, through the Apostle Paul, does He prohibit women from serving as pastors in the church? We must leave the answers to these questions to God. We honor and respect God's will in these matters and praise Him for the many gifts He has given us all, including the marvelous opportunities He provides to both men and women to serve Him.

Why then do some churches ordain women?

Here again, as with so many issues, the reason for differences we have with other church bodies is based on their differing attitude toward the Scriptures.

Our Synod affirms the truth that the Holy Scriptures are God's perfect and errorless revelation to us. We receive what God has given to us in His Word. We are not free to overlook that Word, ignore it, explain it away, or otherwise disregard what the Lord has revealed through the Apostle Paul.

Churches that ordain women have chosen to regard St. Paul's writings as his own personal opinions. This is a difficult position to maintain in light of the fact that St. Paul goes out of his way, on more than one occasion, to repeat his position on this matter, and explicitly declares that this is not merely his personal opinion, but a command of the Lord.

How can faithful Lutherans respond to the ordination of women?

First, we never should become defensive or antagonistic about this issue. Instead, we need simply

to speak the truth in love, witnessing to our beliefs and recognizing this as yet another opportunity to say, “This we believe, teach, confess and practice.”

Second, we need to be loving and gentle with people who belong to church bodies that ordain women. In many instances, they are simply unaware of why this has been done. They have been given incorrect information and have no clear foundation in Scripture to understand why the ordination of women is contrary to the Word of God. We need to explain these issues in love, with gentleness and compassion.

Third, it is important for us to explain how women may serve their Lord in the church in a fulfilling manner. There are many ways for women to serve as full-time church workers in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, including service as teachers, directors of Christian education, directors of Christian outreach, deaconesses and parish nurses. Laywomen have many opportunities for service through various church societies, guilds and leagues, along with the service they provide as volunteer teachers. They have additional opportunities to serve in their local congregations as members of various boards and committees.

We need to emphasize the opportunities that God has provided to all of us, both men and women, to serve Him in His kingdom. How unfortunate it would be if we permitted ourselves to become ensnared in self-centered demands for “rights,” and thus take our eyes off of our Lord's call to service. Demanding from God what He has not given is contrary to what it means to be a child of God. When our focus is on love and service to one another, we realize that there is more than enough for all of us to do.

We serve each other in love, conforming our service to the Word of God. Nobody in the church is called to be the “master” over anyone else. Pastors are Christ's servants who care for the people of God with Christ's Word and Sacraments. Thus, through these gifts, our Lord graciously gives Himself to us for our salvation, in humble sacrificial service, according to His Father's will.

-- Dr. A.L Barry
Past President

The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

June Service Participants

	Time	Elders	Acolytes
June 5	8:00 10:30	Jim Neill & Bill Bishop Bob Schmidt & Bill Bishop	Lindsey Liberatore Elder
June 12	8:00 10:30	Bob Schmidt & Bill Bishop Roger Diederich & Bill Bishop	Daniel Grimenstein Michael Dyczewski
June 19	8:00 10:30	Bob Schmidt & Bill Bishop Jim Neill & Bill Bishop	Elder Christian Bonacci
June 26	8:00 10:30	Roger Diederich & Bill Bishop Jim Neill & Bill Bishop	Lindsey Liberatore Jeremy Dyczewski

Altar Guild Members Needed



Can you join us? Our altar guild prepares the elements of the Lord's Supper prior to each Worship service in the sacristy (behind our altar), and takes care of communion linens and vessels. This is wonderful way to demonstrate love and respect for the Sacrament while serving the members of Zion. Guild members serve on a monthly basis in teams of 3 or 4 members, and the schedule is very flexible! Please contact Marian or Janet Oelschlager at 412-221-3093 to learn more.

	Altar Guild	8:00 am Ushers	10:30 am Ushers
June	Janet & Marian Oelschlager	Gene Koop, Ron Meier, Noah Wallace, Larry Zreliak	Sam Bishop, Dan & Tracey Harris, Luke Lemonovich
July	Janet & Marian Oelschlager	Megan & Ava Pasquini, Wayne & Barb Oechslein	John & Kari Gresh, Dwight & Andy Weldon



June BIRTHDAYS

2nd – Elsie Dalla Piazza

2nd – Carrie Lemonovich

5th -- Katie Hajduk

6th – Jim Oelschlager

7th – Josh Gielarowski

8th – Janet Oelschlager

11th – Rachel Grimenstein

12th – Harry Davis

12th – Mason Glasser

14th – Maura Goodge

15th – Janet Zreliak

18th – Jean Ma

18th – Ben Meyer

18th – Lucas Meyer

19th – Mary Lou Rilee

24th – Claire Lemonovich

24th – Elizabeth Lemonovich

24th – John Lemonovich

24th – Kate Lemonovich

25th – Sarah Ali

25th – Megan Richards

26th – Nadene Hartman

27th – Lois Dittmer

28th – Kim Erbrecht

28th – Faith Wallace

29th – Gladys Cimarolli



June ANNIVERSARIES

6th – Jim & Rose Oelschlager

11th – Rich & Ruth Trudel

19th – Ken & Carol Wuerthele

21st – Pastor & Tevia Grimenstein

23rd – Bill & Nancy Koester

23rd – Brent & Marianne Miller

25th – Mike & Linda Kroeger

29th -- Ted & Marian Siek



June 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 2:00 pm Worship & Bible Study	2 7:00 Elder's Mtg.	3	4
			5 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/Teen Bible Study & SS 10:30 am Worship & Confirmation PENTECOST	6 7:00 pm Trustees Mtg. 7:30 pm Choir & Quartet	7 7:00 pm Board of Ed. Mtg.	8 2:00 pm Worship & Bible Study
12 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/Teen Bible Study & SS 10:30 am Worship FOOD BANK COLLECTION	13 7:30 pm Choir & Quartet	14	15 2:00 pm Worship & Bible Study	16	17	18
19 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am Adult/Teen Bible Study & SS 10:30 am Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 8:00 am Worship 9:15 am -- All- Church Voters' Mtg./Budget presentation & SS 10:30 am Worship	27	28	29			