

CLARION

OCTOBER 2022

FROM PASTOR'S DESK



OUR CALL; GOD'S CALL

"The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek" (Psalm 110:4).

On Sunday, October 16, we will gather for our Fall Voters' Assembly. The agenda will include all the usual things: we'll enjoy fellowship and a meal together, we'll talk about our financial standing, the various ministry teams will give updates, and we will rejoice in the myriad ways that God is working in and through us at Holy Trinity.

And then we will turn to the most important task of the day. We will review candidate profiles, the Call Committee will answer any questions, and then we, as a congregation, will listen to God's guiding and vote to extend a Divine Call to a candidate to serve as our Associate Pastor of Youth and Families...a *Divine Call*. But what does that mean, really?

Writing about Psalm 110:4, Martin Luther deals with the priesthood of Christ, which naturally leads him to talk about the Christian ministry. He writes:

"What is the ministry?" This is said of the priestly office, which is the common property of all Christians. However, we deal with a different matter when we speak of those who have an office in the Christian Church, such as minister, preacher, pastor, or curate. These are not priests in the sense that Scripture commonly speaks of priests. They became priests before they received their office, in fact, when they were baptized. Hence they are not priests because of their calling or office. The Scripture calls them 'servants' or 'bishops,' that is, overseers; the apostles speak of them as presbyters, that is, elders. The best, the most mature men, well-tried, learned, fit, and experienced were chosen for this office."

Luther's point in all of this is that calling a pastor is not about elevating someone into a role that is new to them. We are, all of us, priests by virtue of our baptism; we have been baptized and brought into the body of Christ and are therefore members of "a holy priesthood" (1 Peter 2:4-5). Rather, calling a pastor is about selecting one of our fellow priests to fulfill the office publicly. We are all called to preach the Gospel. We are all called to announce God's forgiveness to fellow Christians who fear God's wrath. We are all entrusted with the "Office of the Keys" (see John 20:20-21). But for the sake of good order, we place a man in the role of exercising all of these callings in a public way on behalf of the entire congregation.

(Continued on page 2)

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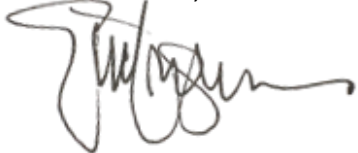
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In essence, we are asking the pastor that we call to be the guy who will stand up in worship each week and remind us of the grace of God; that for the sake of Jesus Christ and His death on the cross our sins are forgiven and we are reconciled to God. We are asking Him to preach God's Word to us each week, so that we don't forget what it says. We are asking Him to ensure that Baptisms and Holy Communion are handled rightly on behalf of the whole church. We are asking Him to be the public face of the things that we are all called to do. And we are doing all of this in response to God's guiding and direction (hence the term, "Divine Call").

Make no mistake: regardless of whom we call to serve as pastor, we will advance an unbroken streak of calling sinful men to the task. He will speak for God, and yet he will need to hear the Word just as much as you do. He will exercise the office, and yet he will need to receive the Sacraments just as much as you do. And he will rejoice in the opportunity to serve alongside you as we carry out the work that God has given us to do here in Northwest Arkansas.

Between now and October 16, please continue to pray for God's guidance and leading. Very soon you will have profiles of the candidates that the Call Committee has taken special note of so that you can have some specifics. Our vote is ours, but in the end, God will bring it to an appropriate decision. We are merely the instrument that God is using to place a new pastor in our midst, and I, for one, can't wait to meet him.

In HIS Service,

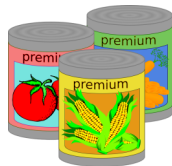


From the office...

FOOD PANTRY

Beginning **October 1st** the food pantry will be open

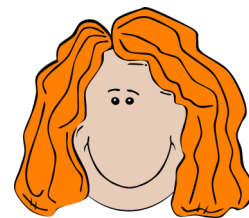
Tuesday—Friday
2 pm—4 pm.



I want to send my apologies to y'all! Leading up to this month, the monthly birthday reports I have been running have not included children 12 and under. Pastor has helped me fix the report so that it includes all of our members. I want to apologize for any trouble this may have caused.

In Christ,

Tabby



A Friendly Reminder

Any information you need put into our weekly **NEWS & NOTES** needs to be submitted to the office by **NOON** on **WEDNESDAY** of each week.

Any information you'd like put into the **CLARION** is due to the office by **NOON** on the **15th** of every month.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Good morning fellow members of Holy Trinity. I hope you enjoyed the first annual Picnic/Rally Day that we had this past month. Thank you to all the members who helped put this together. I understand there were quite a few people who got wet--on purpose no less. We hope to have an even bigger picnic next year, so if you have any suggestions on what we can do to improve, please let me or Pastor know.

This time of year tends to be pretty busy here at church. And with the Call Committee in full swing again, it is even busier than normal. We started the Fall off with the picnic, then the Council will meet 4 times before the end of the year, we have two Voters' Assemblies (October and November) and we will extend a Call for our new Associate Pastor. After all this comes Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Hold on to your hats!!

For the October Voters' Assembly, we hope to have the Call process completed so that the congregation can vote to extend a Call to a new Associate Pastor for Holy Trinity. The Call Committee has been meeting and will interview three candidates before the October Voters Assembly. We will then present the top candidates to the congregation for a vote. Should it happen that we cannot get the interviews done in time, we will schedule another meeting for the call.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE AT THE CALL MEETING!

At the November Voters' Assembly, we will have the election of new officers and the approval of the budget for 2023. I can tell you already that this will be a challenging budget. Our utilities are projected to double for next year, and our insurance premiums are up. (And they may double as well). However, I know our God is the giver of all good gifts, and I am sure he will prosper us enough to meet all our needs.

Regarding the elections, we have several elected positions and a number of volunteer positions that are available. First of all, **we will need a new President** to replace me. I have held this position for at least 12 of the 35 years I have been at Holy Trinity and it is time for a new President. **If you have any interest in serving in this way, please reach out to Pr. Longman to learn more.** Secondly, we have openings for our Education Ministry team, Fellowship Ministry, and Endowment Fund Committee. In addition to the elected positions mentioned above, we really need to give the teams support by having volunteers (or Associate Members) to help the teams with their responsibilities. For example, it is obvious that two people cannot handle all the responsibilities that the Trustees have for maintaining our beautiful church properties. The same goes for our Education, Youth, and Fellowship Ministry teams. So if you are willing to help but would prefer not be in an elected position for one of these teams, please let me or Pastor know.

One last thing about the Call Committee. They have worked very hard at trying to find a pastor to fill our need of Associate Pastor of Families and Youth. In the first round, we found Pastor Hopf and extended a Call to him. Sadly, he returned the call and did not accept our position. I can tell you that the new list we received contains several strong candidates for our new position, with some excellent possibilities. So I am excited to see which Pastor the Lord is preparing for us.

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SEE WHO THE LORD HAS IN MIND! God Bless you this Fall season. I can't wait for the cool weather! See you at church my friends.

Dave





PINOCHLE

Friday, October 7th will be our next date for playing cards. Hopefully you have your calendar marked and will be ready to help set up at 6:00 pm and get cards in your hand for play at 6:30. Don't forget to bring a little something to share for a snack. Looking forward to seeing everyone and perhaps a few new faces!



HOLY TRINITY VOLUNTEER DAY AT HELPING HANDS

Join us **Saturday, October 15th** at Helping Hands in Bentonville for our Saturday to Volunteer. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. For more information, contact Dave Ferguson.



BLESS THE YEARS DINNER

Saturday, October 29th 5:30—7:30 pm

Join us for great food, entertainment, and fun provided as a service project for our confirmands to honor the seniors in our congregation. Folks ages 60+ are invited! You may invite friends in the age category as well! Sign up sheet is in the narthex, deadline to sign up is Sunday, October 16th.



REFORMATION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 30th

Worship—8:00 am (Holy Communion)
Bible Study—9:30 pm
Worship—10:45 am (Holy Communion)





Welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

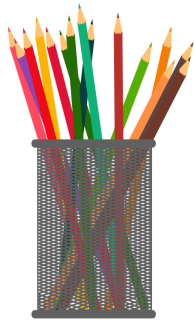
We were excited to welcome the following people to our Holy Trinity family on our new member Sunday, September 25th!

Jerry Ball
Daniel Ball
Joseph Burr
Amber Burr
Christa Jones
Derrick Varble
Tyler Williams



BAPTISM

We welcomed Mattilyn Nichole Jones, daughter of Matthew and Adrienne Jones, to God's holy family through baptism on Sunday, September 25th.



CRAFTY CREW

Enjoy some relaxing fellowship time **every Thursday** from **4-8 pm**. We have people who scrapbook, crochet, embroider, make ornaments, and other various crafty goodness. Come check us out!



CHURCH BUS

We offer rides to our Sunday services in the church van. The van does **NOT** have wheelchair access so riders will need to be able to get in and out with a hand from the driver. We are looking for drivers to help with this ministry as well. If you could help even one or two Sundays a year it would be greatly appreciated!

VOTERS' ASSEMBLY & HTY CAFÉ

We have an **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT** Voters' Assembly coming up on **Sunday, October 16th** in which you will be presented with the Call Committee's recommendations for the Associate Pastor position. This will also be a UNITY Sunday with the Youth Group hosting an HTY Café after service.

8:45 AM: Bible Study

10:00 AM: Worship with Holy Communion

11:30 AM: HTY CAFÉ

12:00 PM: Voters' Assembly



BACK TO SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Back to school is a good time to donate to our community kids! There are many kids that begin the year without underwear and socks, receiving hand me downs from siblings. While you are out shopping, please consider purchasing some new underwear and socks for kids. The Outreach Ministry team asks that you have them into the church by Sunday, October 9th so they can be distributed to local

THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS

Over the next two months, we have two Youth Cafes and Trunk or Treat. Historically members of the congregation have been generous with donating their Thrivent Action Teams for these events. We are looking for one for the October Café, and one for the November Café, and one for Trunk or Treat. If you are interested, contact Bonnie Gust.



CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE

We will once again have the Giving Tree in November and December. Please keep an eye out for the tree in the Narthex. Questions? Please contact Roger Gust.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

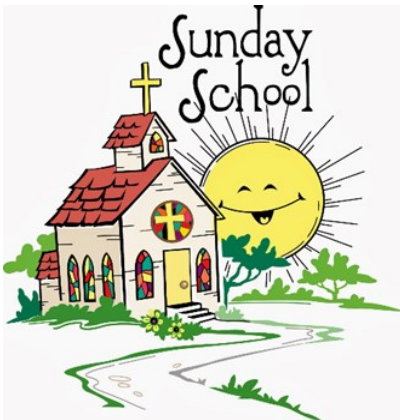
The Outreach Ministry team will partner with the Youth to fill boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Please consider donation goodies for children or donating money through the offering plate. There is information on the Outreach Ministry board related to what can be donated for the boxes. Items for boxes are due to the church by Sunday, October 30th. The youth will be packing and mailing the boxes after church on Sunday, November 6th.





PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

Please contact the church office and give us your college student's mailing address at their school. We would like to keep in touch with them and potentially send them care packages. Thanks!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6

Sunday school is off and running! We have 26 students enrolled & would love to have more! Sunday school begins at 9:30 with donuts :) and an opening message from one of our members. After the opening, our students break off into small groups based on grade level for further discussion into the lesson to help instill direction and God's guidance for challenges they may face. We are so excited for our students to be participating in the Red Letter Challenge with the congregation. Parents, please help the students keep track of their book and make sure they bring it to class each Sunday!

Here is a list of our small groups and wonderful teachers!

Kindergarten to 4th: Leah O'Ryan & Karen Kvamso

5th to 8th: Amy Wright, Heather Stottlemyer, & Sabrina Isbell

9th to 12th: Dean Eisma & Casey Bolte

If you have a pre-k child and would like to get them involved in Sunday School, please let me know and we will HAPPILY set up a pre-k class!

Want to quickly become a favorite among the kids?! :) Sign up to bring donuts! Please send me an email or text if interested!

Thank you all!

Kati Evans

kati.evans46@gmail.com

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Monday, October 31, 2022

6:00 pm



**Trunk
or Treat**



HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - ROGERS



Parents' Day Out

Faith-based education and care for children 0-5

Emergent play-based curriculum

Fun & engaging Biblical lessons

Experienced teaching staff

Art experiences

Songs & stories

Tuesdays & Thursdays

9 am - 2 pm

\$60 per week

For more information:

holytrin.org/pdo

pdo@holytrin.org





Church Trash, Cotton Candy, Spiritualism, and God's Ongoing Reformation

You might say the major Reformation, and all mini-reformations, happen for a long list of reasons.

People grow sick of the church's theological trash stinking to high heaven and decide to wheel it to the curb. They abhor the cancers of corruption worming their way through the soul of the ecclesial hierarchy. They are dismayed over closeted creeds mildewing, muscular singing atrophying into the blubber of emotionalism, and want to vomit every time they catch a whiff from a pulpit exhaling the halitosis of moralism or legalism or self-helpism.

All these may have a part to play.

But ultimately all reformations happen not because people react but because God acts. He reforms. He looks down from heaven, has mercy upon his starving children, and ends the famine of the Word by sending the rain of the Gospel. The good news, and that good news along, is the catalyst behind any true reforming work in the church.

Mere moral reform has the shelf life of a beach sandcastle right before high tide. Mere political reform is like vacuuming the house while the roof is on fire. But Gospel reform is God's lasting and liberating labor.

Only the Gospel will reform the church because only the Gospel is LIFE. And that life is Jesus. Not Jesus and your-pet-project, not Jesus and your-moral-crusade, not Jesus and your-plan-to-improve-society. "Jesus, Jesus, only Jesus," as the old hymn insists.

This life of God in Christ is for a dead world full of dead people mimicking life badly. The life of God in Christ seeping into every pore of the church and vivifying all it touches. The life of God in Christ which breathes vitality into the church's worship once more; raises up preachers who are electrified by a proclamation that determines to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified; gathers young people who are sick of cotton candy spiritualism and starving for the meat and drink of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

This life of God in Christ, this Gospel, will be the only reason a tiny rural parish, a whole denominational body, or vast swaths of the church are reformed. Because the church is once more nailed to the Godman who is nailed to the cross. United with Jesus in His death that we might share in His life. And, sharing in his life, become once more a bright and beaming light in this world instead of one more flickering neon bulb in the marketplace of helping institutions.

Oh, dear God, fill our lips, and fill your church, with this Gospel. Make it the blood in our veins, the breath of our lungs, the light of our eyes, the totality of our being. Make this Gospel gush from our pulpits and stream into the dead seas of shame and guilt to desalinate them and fill them with life and hope again. Have mercy upon us, O Lord, and make your church a temple of mercy, a sanctuary of grace, a spring of life that wets all sin-parched lips with the dew of heaven's love found solely and fully in Christ.

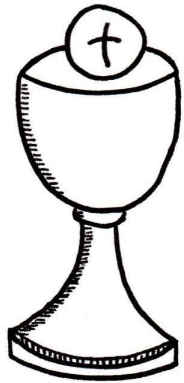


ABOUT THE CONTRIBUTOR

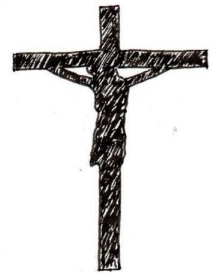
Chad Bird is a Scholar in Residence at 1517. He has served as a pastor, professor, and guest lecturer in Old Testament and Hebrew. He holds master's degrees from Concordia Theological Seminary and Hebrew Union College. He has contributed to articles to Christianity Today, The Gospel Coalition, Modern Reformation, The Federalist, Lutheran Forum, and other journals and websites. He is also the author of several books, including *Night Driving & Your God is Too Glorious*.

Church Trash, Cotton Candy Spiritualism, and God's Ongoing.... (n.d.). 1517. Retrieved August 31, 2022, from [https://www.1517.org/articles/church-trash-cotton-](https://www.1517.org/articles/church-trash-cotton-candy-spiritualism-and-gods-ongoing-reformation)

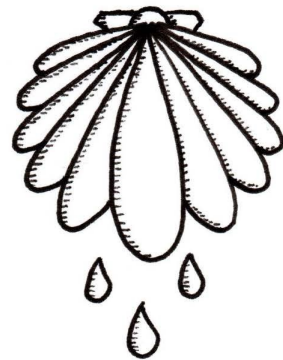
REFORMATION DAY ✚ OCTOBER 31ST



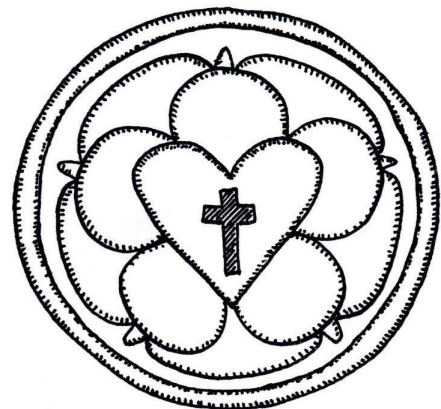
Scripture
ALONE



Grace
ALONE



faith
ALONE



Christ
ALONE





FEED MY SHEEP

August 2022

Food Pantry Statistics

Total Households = 42 (140 people total)

Adults (18-60) = 76

Children (0-17) = 46

Senior Citizens (61+) = 17

Other (*Unknown*) = 1



PASTOR'S CARE FUND

August 2022

These disbursements are from money designated for the Pastor's Care Fund. Your contributions bring a tremendous relief to your neighbors who are in difficult circumstances.

Total Households = 14

Bibles = 7

Utility Help = 3

Rent/Mortgage = 1

Motel = 1

Gift/Gas Card = 0

Clothing = 0

Other = 0



October

Birthdays

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1 Jay King
Amilda Sporleder | 11 Mary Frevert
Ron Sommers | 24 Lukas Haddock
James Williams |
| 2 Scott Holland | 12 Melissa Blaske | 25 Caitlynn Bublitz
Faye Carroll |
| 3 Lee Landauer
Paul Mayer
Donna Winters | 14 Joseph Burr
Rob Dickerson
Steve Jones | Kennedy Kirby
Mary Mayer
James Womack |
| 4 Dorothy Button
Miles Hartwig
Lana Moeller
Tammy Rodgers | 15 Kathy Welborn
Owen Winters | 26 Ken Grayson |
| 5 Zander Gregory | 16 Courtney Gutche | 27 Hannah Baker
Bill Walker |
| 6 Colby Isbell
Ethan Leech | 18 Emberly Girshner | 28 Evan Wright |
| 7 Kathleen Thompson
Wyatt Winters | 19 Noelle Carner
Deb Finley
Bill Gregesich | 31 Chrissy Dunlap
Lyla Grayson
Kenneth Meyer
Cole Ockinga
Terra Pullman |
| 8 Joyce Bauer | 20 Mac MacGowan | |
| 9 Leah O’Ryan | 21 LB Teeter | |
| | 23 Kristin Mayer
David Smith | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Mathew & Tabby Michaelson | 17 David & Wendie Ferguson |
| 2 Gene & Dawn Kiesel | 18 Myron “Bud” & Rose Hartwig |
| 4 Skip & Toni Shane | 19 Paul & Roberta Belviy |
| 5 Raphael & Wendy Uduhiri | 22 James & Jean Womack |
| 7 Craig & Mary Hanson | 26 Don & Nancy Budensiek |
| 9 Duane & Amy Wright | 27 Josh & Chrissy Dunlap |
| 14 Michael & Adriann Fanning | 29 Rich Rumpf & Marian Venenga |
| 16 Drew & Leslie Mayer | 31 Brian & Shelby Bulin |

SERVING IN OCTOBER 2022



October 2 (PENTECOST 17)	October 9 (PENTECOST 18)	October 16 (UNITY SUNDAY)	October 23 (PENTECOST 20)	October 30 (REFORMATION)
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READERS

8:00 AM	JOHN JENKINS	ELAINE LAUNDERVILLE	SABRINA ISBELL	JOHN AUGUSTINE	MARY FREVERT
10:45 AM	JEANNE MEYER	REV. JOHN LINDNER	PAM PICKETT	LEE LANDAUER	WALT HEYNE

GREETERS

8:00 AM	DAVID & WENDIE FERGUSON	RICH RUMPF & MARIAN VENENGA	DEAN & NANCY EISMA	RAY ESCHENBURG & KAREN LAUNDERVILLE	VERNON SCHMIEGELOW ELAINE LAUNDERVILLE
10:45 AM	PEGGY JONES & MAXINE REIHMAN	BRENT & LIBBY GARNER	MIKE & BETTYE PLATT	LEE & ELAINE LANDAUER	JOHN & KATHLEEN THOMPSON

MEDIA

8:00 AM	JENA EISMA	JOHN JENKINS	DONNA WINTERS	BETH KIKOEN	DAVID HEINTZ
10:45 AM	JEAN GREGESICH	TED REINKER	ZACHARY GUST	LEVI WRIGHT	JEAN GREGESICH

ACOLYTE

8:00 AM	WYATT WINTERS	MAKAELA MAYER	MASON MCCARTY	CADEN ADAMS	WYATT WINTERS
10:45 AM	MATTIE BOLTE	EMMA L'HOMMEDIEU	EVIE ROSE	ADALYN FANNING	MATTIE BOLTE

STREAMING

OWEN WINTERS	MAC MACGOWAN	OWEN WINTERS	MAC MACGOWAN	OWEN WINTERS
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LEAD COUNTERS

MAC MACGOWAN HT MEANS	DAVID & CONNIE HEINTZ	DAVID & CONNIE HEINTZ	DAVID & CONNIE HEINTZ	DAVID & CONNIE HEINTZ
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LAWN CARE

TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3	TEAM 4	TEAM 5
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ALTAR GUILD ELDERS

PAT COLLINS & TONI SHANE
8:00 AM – DAVE FERGUSON
10:45 AM – SKIP SHANE

USHERS

8:00 AM – TEAM B
(JAMES SIJ, RAY ESCHENBURG, BRUCE PILCHER, JOHN AUGUSTINE)
10:45 AM – TEAM D
(JIM WILLIAMS, DON BRACHT, BOB BAUER, PHIL GARLING, CHRIS PLAISANCE)



OCTOBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Pr. Longman will be on vacation and unavailable October 4—17. If you have need of pastoral counseling or assistance, please reach out to Pr. Bernthal or (if he is unavailable) Pr. Hass at Bella Vista Lutheran Church</p>						1
<p>2 PENTECOST 17 (FEED MY SHEEP) 8 AM—COMMUNION 9:30 AM—EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM—COMMUNION</p>	<p>3 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</p>	<p>4 6:30 PM—ELDERS</p>	<p>5 12 PM—NEWS & NOTES DUE 5:30 PM—CONFIRMATION</p>	<p>6 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY 4 PM CRAFTY CREW</p>	<p>7 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY 6 PM—CARDS</p>	8
<p>9 PENTECOST 18 8 AM—WORSHIP 9:30 AM—EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM—WORSHIP</p>	<p>10 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</p>	<p>11 6:30 PM—COUNCIL</p>	<p>12 12 PM—NEWS & NOTES DUE 5:30 PM—CONFIRMATION</p>	<p>13 12 PM—CLARION DUE 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY 4 PM CRAFTY CREW</p>	<p>14 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY</p>	<p>15 Helping Hands Day</p>
<p>16 PENTECOST 19 UNITY SUNDAY 8:45 AM—EDUCATION 10 AM—COMMUNION 11:30 AM—HTY CAFÉ 12 PM—VOTERS' ASSEMBLY</p>	<p>17 PASTOR'S DAY OFF</p>	18	<p>19 12 PM—NEWS & NOTES DUE 5:30 PM—CONFIRMATION</p>	<p>20 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY 4 PM CRAFTY CREW</p>	<p>21 2—4 PM FOOD PANTRY</p>	22
<p>23 PENTECOST 20 (NC) 30 REFORMATION (C) 8 AM—WORSHIP 9:30 AM—EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM—WORSHIP</p>	<p>24 31 PASTOR'S DAY OFF TRUNK OR TREAT 6 PM</p>	25	<p>26 12 PM—NEWS & NOTES DUE 5:30 PM—CONFIRMATION</p>	27	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Bless the Years Dinner 5:30—7:30 PM</p>