

St. Luke's Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2021



**"If God
is for us,
who can be
against us?"**

Romans 8:31b

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Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

One of my previous colleagues in ministry, Rev. Jan Edmiston, recently wrote that she remembered reading one of General Colin Powell's books wherein he wrote about knowing the parking lot attendants' names in the garage where he parked each morning. Jan rightly assessed that Colin Powell lived the truth that, "... one of the essential characteristics for successful leadership is having the emotional intelligence to notice the people around us. Relational leadership makes the difference between connecting with the community and serving in a closed system." I would suggest that Colin Powell, the son of Jamaican Christian immigrants, not only embodied the definition of relational leadership, but also Jesus' command that to follow him means to be a servant leader to all.

As we move into November, we have MANY opportunities to get to know the names and stories of the people we are called to serve and journey with in our daily lives. We also will have opportunities to serve our community as we pack food for our neighbors at the Hummingbird Pantry (Nov. 5 and 19 from 1-3 pm) and deliver Thanksgiving Day lunch prepared by NVHS to homeless veterans in our community (details to come).

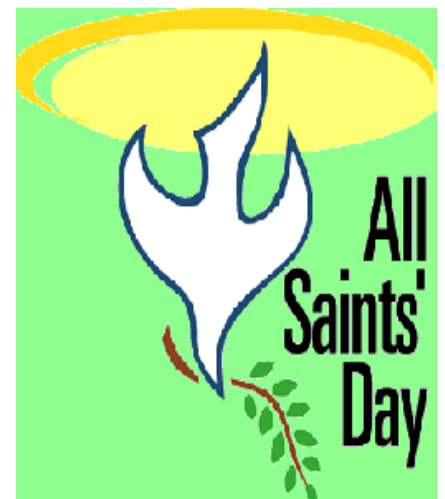
May we all, like General Colin Powell, serve our Lord, country, and families with the best that we have to offer as servant leaders.

In God's Love,
Pastor Jody

All Saints' Sunday

As we observe All Saints' Sunday on October 31st, we remember St. Luke's congregants who have gone home to be with Jesus in the past 12 months:

- * Bob Bradley - November 15, 2020
- * Dave Henderson - December 5, 2020
- * June Duff - December 15, 2020
- * Jim Stiles - December 21, 2020
- * Martin Pearah - January 19, 2021 and
- * Wilma "Billie" Erickson - June 17, 2021 and
- * Gladys Amick - July 18, 2021



Operation Christmas Child

For the 9th year in a row, St. Luke's is taking part in Operation Christmas Child and we hope you will participate by filling a shoebox! Each and every shoebox gift given in Jesus' name opens doors for boys and girls, and their families, to hear the *Good News* of our Lord Jesus Christ. As a result, churches are growing and communities are being transformed.

Empty shoeboxes may be picked up in the Narthex before Sunday worship services and in the church office during the week. All filled shoeboxes should be returned to the church on or before Sunday, Nov. 14th so we can bless them as part of the worship service.

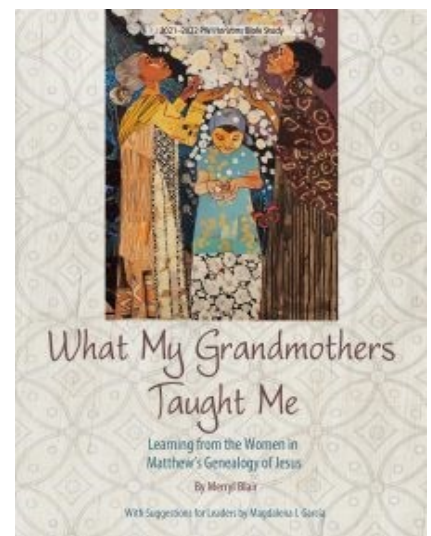
Dorothy Peters and Kerry McClesky
Your 2021 Shoebox Coordinators



Presbyterian Women

It's official: PW "First Wednesday" Breakfasts are back beginning Wednesday, November 2nd at 9:00 a.m. at IHOP. Everyone pays their own bill and it's a great time to get to know the women in PW.

Our third Circle meeting of the program year will be on Tuesday, November 9th at 9:30 a.m. in Rm. 6. We will spend time visiting and cover the Bible Study Ch. 2 with Barbara Benzinger as the study teacher. Bible study books are still available for \$10 each and will be available to pick up at our November 9th meeting or in the church office hours. This year's study is titled: *"What My Grandmothers Taught Me: Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus."*



Fall For St. Luke's

Pastor Jody is collecting stories of how you fell for St. Luke's and came to be a part of our congregation. Your story will connect you to our 55 years of ministry in our Titusville community and Pastor Jody may share your story to encourage others to fall in love with our congregation, just like you did.

And, for those of you who have fallen for St. Luke's and would like to make it official, **the next New Member class** will join the church on Sunday, November 21st. Let Pastor Jody know if you would like to be part of the class, which will include Julie Chiello and Kerry McClesky.



At the Special Congregational Meeting held on Sunday, October 17th following the 10 a.m. worship service, the following wonderful people were elected as new Church Officers:

Class of 2024 Elders

Kathy Nichols
Tom Nichols
Bill Rushing

Class of 2024 Deacons

Donna Bianchini
Kassie Mudrak
Carolyn Henderson

These new officers will begin serving in mid-January 2022 after they are ordained and/or installed. They will join continuing Church Officers:

Class of 2022 Elders

Jose' Amador
Jeff Lake
Gail McMahon

Class of 2022 Deacons

Karen Amador

Class of 2023 Elders

Joni Ishmael
M.E. Kelly
Ann Reitz

Class of 2023 Deacons

Crystal Hedden
Brandilyn Hoftzyer
Mike Noble

We also say a big **THANK YOU** to **Ruling Elders Susan Beverly and Willie Wendorff** for completing your service in January, and to **Bill Rushing and Kassie Mudrak** for saying YES to the invitation to continue to serve as an Elder and Deacon, respectively.

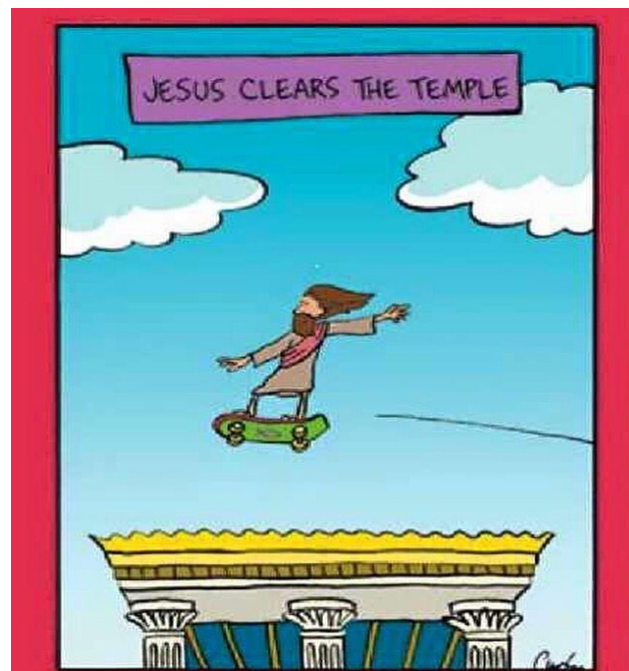
Christmas Cards 4 Our Military



Eight of our congregant's sons, daughters, and grandsons are currently serving in the United States military. **The Deacons invite you to write a Christmas card to each of our military members and to put the cards in the collection box in the Narthex on or before Sunday, November 7th.**

Andy Amador
 Adrian Amador
 Bekky Cook
 Jake Cook
 Bob Hall
 Caleb Guest
 Chris Burcham
 Logan Evans

Need A Laugh?



Thanksgiving Lunch

*You Are Cordially Invited To
Thanksgiving Lunch
Thursday, November 25th
@ St. Luke's in Fellowship Hall*

*1:00 p.m. until you want to go home
We will provide turkey, ham, drinks and tableware,
and you bring a dish and/or dessert to share.
Let's have a meal together in the Lord's house!
We will give thanks to our Lord for the blessings he has given us,
the people we carry in our hearts, and
the heart family we journey with in these days!
RSVP to Ann Reitz or Diane Kay*



December 6th - 11th

What do a golden bell, a red kettle, Publix on Cheney Highway, the Salvation Army, and December have in common? You guessed correctly if your answer is St. Luke's Team Ding-A-Ling! We have an amazing tradition of ringing for the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign and we need YOU as part of our team.

Dates: Monday, December 6th - Saturday, December 11th Times: 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Shifts are two hours each and all shifts need to be filled by two (or more) people. You can bring a chair to sit in if your legs get tired, wearing festive clothes is absolutely encouraged, and did we mention that our Team Ding-A-Ling is in a five church challenge to see who can raise the most money during their six days of ringing?

Watch for the sign up board in the Narthex on Sunday mornings in November to sign up and be an official Ding-A-Ling.



Dear St. Luke's family ...and Jody & Mike – pet sitters “extraordinaire”,

Thank you ... for what you did, what you said, and who you are. Knowing you're there to cheer me on is making things so much easier. It's a comfort to know we can count on each other through whatever life brings. Your cards, thoughts, prayers and kindness touched my heart. You are a gift to my life and I'll always be grateful to you for your thoughtfulness and consideration. Thank you! Sheila King

* Youth Group News *

Sunday, November 7th: No Youth Group. We will enjoy the Pot Luck Lunch in honor of our Veterans after worship.

Sunday, November 14th: 12:00-2:00 p.m. We will leave church at 12 noon and head to Sandpoint Park for a picnic lunch, cleaning up the park, and playground time.

Sunday, November 21st: 12:00-2:00 p.m. We will leave church at 12 noon and head to Fox Lake Park for a picnic lunch, cleaning up the park, and playground time.

Sunday, November 28th: 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. We will have lunch in Fellowship Hall and then head to the Youth Group Room for a special Escape Room hosted by Gail McMahon.

Looking Ahead

Homework Club every Wednesday and Thursday 2:30-5:00 p.m.

Jeff Moody and our amazing group of tutors are available every Wednesday and Thursday afternoons to help youth with math, reading, and other subjects as needed.

Church Work Morning 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 13th

Come help clean up the grounds and classrooms with our church family.

**Saturday, November 27th Hanging of the Greens
8:00-11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall**
Help decorate the church for our Advent/Christmas journey!

**Are You Ready To
Make More
Great Memories
Together?**



Worship In November

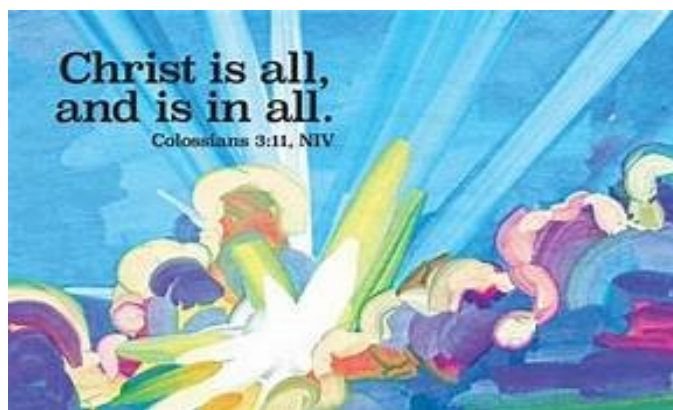
The four Sundays in November provide us with wonderful opportunities for worship, sharing the sacrament of Communion, celebrating Veterans' Sunday, the completion of both our Stewardship Campaign and Operation Christmas Child shoebox collection, and the first Sunday of Advent. The Session has decided that we will continue with our current Covid-19 safety protocols throughout November.

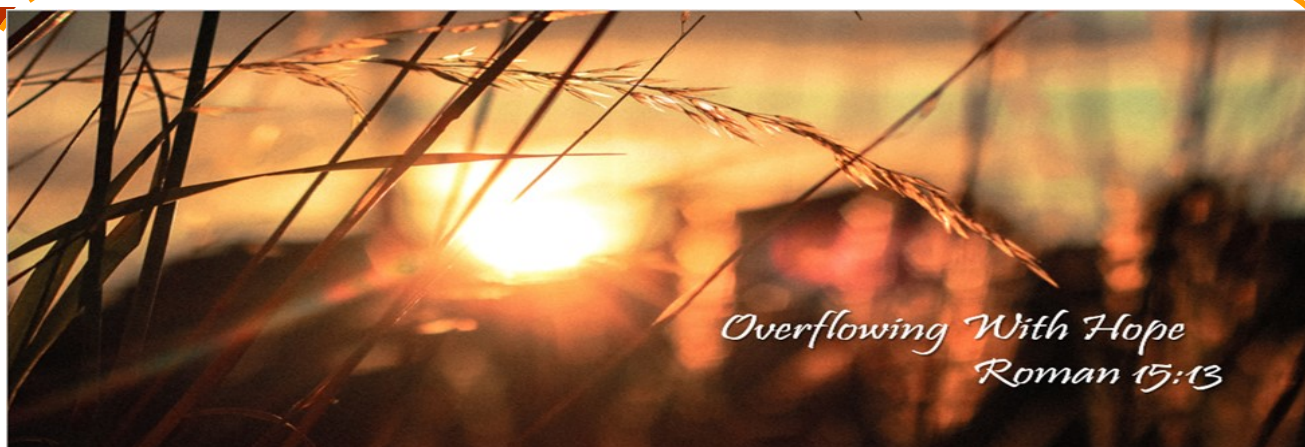
On **Veterans' Sunday, November 7th** our Veterans will provide a Color Guard, we will recognize and honor our veterans for their service to our country, and we will worship and share in the sacrament of Communion. Pastor Jody will co-lead worship and preside for Communion with Ruling Elder Bill Rushing. The Old Testament scripture reading will be Psalm 121, the Gospel reading will be Mark 12:38-44, and the sermon title is "A Penny." We will have a **POT LUCK LUNCH** (bring a dish to share) and then we will take Church on the Road to Royal Oaks Assisted Living at 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 14th Pastor Jody will co-lead worship with Ruling Elder Bill Rushing. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 16, the Gospel Reading is Mark 13:1-8, and the sermon title is "Don't Be Alarmed." As part of our worship service, we will bless both the pledges we have received for the "Overflowing Hope" Stewardship Campaign and Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.

On **Christ The King & New Member Sunday, November 21st** Pastor Jody will co-lead with Ruling Elder Bill Rushing. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 93, the New Testament reading is Revelation 1:4-8, and the Gospel reading is John 18:33-38. The sermon title is "My Kingdom" and the worship service hymns will include "Christ, The Eternal Lord," "Give Thanks," and "Rejoice, The Lord Is King."

And on **Sunday, November 28th** we will celebrate the 1st Sunday of Advent and Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor! Pastor Jody will co-lead worship with Ruling Elder Bill Rushing, Advent Wreath candle lighters, and several of our Youth Group members. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 25:1-10, the Gospel reading is Luke 1:1-25, and the sermon title is "How Will I Know?"





Dear Partners in God's Mission,

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. - Romans 15:13

2021 has definitely been memorable. The challenges, the changes, the crises. We pray that as you remember this year and all of the things that have happened, you will first remember who gave you the ability to move in it all. Our Lord blessed us over and over again as he filled us with his joy and peace so we could truly “overflow with hope.” This was certainly reflected in the way so many gave faithfully and generously to God’s mission through St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church. And God has been on the move!

God led us to new and innovative ministry. Not only have our Children, Youth, Adult, Outreach, and Worship Ministries been redesigned to effectively and faithfully minister in our changing world, but we have also been able to grow practical faith in both our members and many more through our online ministry. From reaching new people to providing strength and connection to others, God has used you in big ways!

God also used us to help fill the gap for our partner ministries! While our partner ministries are always so grateful for our support, this year in particular our increased giving has made such a difference when needs increased and other sources of income decreased. Here are a few notes of gratitude for your generosity:

- *In Brevard County there are an estimated 4,400 veterans living at or below the poverty line. With support from St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church, National Veterans Homeless Support (NVHS) is able to prevent low-income veterans from experiencing homelessness. ~ Dana Blickley*
- *Community support and dollars are so important to our mission. The money contributed by St. Luke’s Presbyterian Church gives The Women’s Center the ability to provide more services in Titusville including victim advocacy, transitional housing, safe house, counseling services and sexual assault services. ~ Lori Sutherland*
- *Words cannot express how much Hummingbird Pantry appreciates your dedication and financial support. Having you volunteer at the pantry on distribution days has been a blessing to the pantry and the entire Brevard County community. Thankfully, your church has been there to bag and distribute over 80,000 pounds of food to over 2,700 people every distribution. ~ Gina Stanford*

Overflowing Hope

Know that none of this would happen without everyone participating, praying, and giving. Thank you so much for multiplying practical faith in thousands of lives through your investment in St. Luke's Presbyterian Church.

As we begin a new year, please prayerfully consider how God is calling you to "overflow with hope" in your financial giving. Exciting ventures are on the horizon as we launch new outreach initiatives, invest in our children and youth, equip missional leaders, and continue to journey with God wherever he wants us to go!

We invite you to read God's Word, listen in prayer, and then respond in faith with your pledge/estimate of giving, knowing that God will use what you contribute for his glory.

Visit stlukespresbyterian.org/give for more information.

Thank you again and may God continue to fill you with his overflowing peace and joy!

Jody Noble
Pastor

Bill Rushing
Elder

Jeff Lake
Elder

Gail McMahon
Elder

Jose' Amador
Elder

Susan Beverly
Elder

Willie Wendorff
Elder

Joni Ishmael
Elder

M.E. Kelly
Elder

Ann Reitz
Elder

Jerry Beverly
Clerk of Session

How Your Pledge Helps

Why do we come to the congregation for annual pledges? Like any well run organization, the Elders need to know what we can count on as income from our congregation to help cover the operating and mission expenses of our church next year.

We have included a pledge card and estimated giving slip in the Stewardship Packets and ask that you fill one of them out and return it in the self-addressed envelope on or before November 14th's "Overflowing With Hope" Sunday. Please know that your pledge card/estimated giving slip does not lock you into an amount and if you cannot accomplish your pledge due to emergency or financial challenges this next year, we certainly understand. If you did not receive a Stewardship Packet, please contact the office at 321-269-3260 and we will get one to you.



Meals For Moms

The Food Pantry will be open throughout the month of November on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm and by appointment.** If you or someone you know needs food help, our church food pantry is always available to help. And, if you're not able to get to the food pantry on Wednesday or Thursday, please call one of the Elders and they can arrange for someone to meet you at church to get you into Room 4 where the food pantry items are stored. Food items needed for our November "Meals for Moms" include:

- * 8 turkey frozen turkey breasts
- * 8 boxes Stove Top turkey dressing mix
- * 8 boxes Idahoan potatoes
- * 8 Heinz turkey gravy
- * 24 yellow squash
- * 8 dozen eggs
- * 2 boxes of saltines
- * 8 - 8 oz. packages of shredded cheddar cheese
- * 8 quarts of milk
- * 8 onions
- * 4 pounds of butter
- * 8 oranges
- * 8 bags of fresh green beans



Church Work Mornings

The Buildings and Grounds committee invites you to mark your calendars now for two important Church Work Mornings in November:

Saturday, November 13th
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Clean the Sanctuary & FHall

Saturday, November 27th
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Hanging of the Greens/
 Deck the Halls



OPPORTUNITIES

The Elders and Deacons have been hard at work to provide you with LOTS of exciting opportunities for worship, Bible study, fellowship, and volunteering for mission activities in the remaining two months of 2021 (wow, this year has flown by!):

- November 7th Veterans Sunday worship, Scout Troop 488 Color Guard, and Pot Luck Lunch following worship in Fellowship Hall.
- November 14th Stewardship Sunday and Operation Christmas Child shoebox blessing during the worship service at 10:00 a.m.
- November 18th Session Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (last one of 2021)
- November 21st Christ the King Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m.
- November 25th Thanksgiving Lunch in Fellowship Hall at 1:00 p.m.**
- November 27th Deck The Halls/Hanging of the Greens 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall as we decorate for Advent.
- November 28th The First Sunday in Advent and Candle Lighting 10:00 am
- December 5th The Second Sunday in Advent and Communion 10:00 a.m.
- December 6-11th Bell Ringing for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign each day from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. at the Publix on Cheney Highway.**
- December 14th Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering at 10:00 a.m. in FHall
- December 15/16 A very special Meals for Moms (pick up or delivery)
- December 24th Christmas Eve Worship Service and Communion 6:30 p.m.

SLPC Pastors

Did you know that St. Luke's has been blessed to have six installed pastors to journey with since our chartering in 1966?

Rev. Hugh Hamilton	5/1/66 - 4/30/70
Rev. Bill Barron	1/3/71 - 4/14/77
Rev. Jim Reaves	3/5/78 - 2/15/84
Rev. Keith Curran	3/3/85 - 8/22/93
Rev. Jay Seabrook	9/10/95 - 1/31/12
Rev. Jody Noble	6/14/14 - Present



Rev. Hugh Hamilton and his wife, Josephine, were the founding ministry couple for St. Luke's.

**I will give you shepherds after my own heart,
who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.
~ Jeremiah 3:15**

The More You Know ...

The Session continues to work to provide good answers to your questions each month about our church life together. Recent questions we have been asked include:

1. Will the heavy Fellowship Hall doors be replaced soon? The Session is happy to share that an anonymous donor has given our church just over \$26,000 to pay for two new handicap accessible doors to be installed in Fellowship Hall. Due to supply chain challenges, the doors should be installed in 8-10 weeks. We are so grateful for this incredible donation and the opportunity to make Fellowship Hall fully accessible to people of all ages and abilities!
2. Can I donate stock to St. Luke's? The Session is in the process of opening a brokerage account and hopes to be able to receive your donations of stock by November 15th. All stock donations will be sold on the day they are received and donations will either be added to your St. Luke's annual giving statement or acknowledged with a donation letter from the Pastor if the donor is not a member of St. Luke's.
3. How much did the "Raise The Roof" Campaign for the Fellowship Hall and Narthex Breezeway roofs raise? With everyone's help, we were able to raise \$21,050 in just over three weeks! This amount was an amazing \$6,050 more than the Session had set as the fundraising goal, which allowed the Building and Grounds committee to keep some of the money they had committed for the project from their budget to still use for needs in the remaining months of 2021.

**Thank you to
everyone for
your help!**





Year To Date Financial Information

As of September 30th, 2021

2021 Operating Income Year to Date: \$141,009.74
2021 Operating Expenses Year to Date: \$136,440.90
Year to Date: \$ 4,568.84

"Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor." — Proverbs 22:9

Worship Attendance

October 3rd World Communion Sunday Worship & Livestream

59 in worship and 156 livestream views as of 10/28/21

October 10th Sunday Worship and Livestream

44 in worship and 308 livestream views as of 10/28/21

October 17th Sunday Worship and Livestream

43 in worship and 124 livestream views as of 10/28/21

October 24th Sunday Worship and Livestream

46 in worship and 117 livestream views as of 10/28/21

October 31st All Saints' & Reformation Sunday Worship & Livestream TBD



Special Occasions

Anniversaries

Spencer & Deb Woodward	Nov. 2
Tom & Kathy Nichols	Nov. 19

Birthdays

Linwood Jackson	Nov. 4
Aby Gibson	Nov. 6
Aubrey Schultz	Nov. 7
Carolyn Henderson	Nov. 8
Charlye Massey	Nov. 10
Derek Moody	Nov. 10
Janice Massey	Nov. 11
Ean DeVoe	Nov. 13
Sam Woodward	Nov. 13

Birthdays (continued)

Victoria Eldredge	Nov. 17
Karen Amador	Nov. 17
Abbie DeVoe	Nov. 18
John Herzog	Nov. 22
Luis Huapaya	Nov. 25
Kari Stiles	Nov. 25
Cherry Moore	Nov. 29
Carl Talmadge	Nov. 29
Spencer Woodward	Nov. 30

*We thank God for blessing each of you
with the gift of time and pray that
your next year will be filled with
God's continued blessings!*

November 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 9:00 a.m. PW IHOP Breakfast 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club	4 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8	5 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	6
7 Veterans' Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Pot Luck Lunch in FHall 1:30 p.m. Church @ Royal Oaks	8	9 9:30 - 11:00 am PW Circle and Bible Study Meeting in FHall 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	10 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club	11 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. ADK in FHall 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8	12 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	13 Church Work Morning 8-11 a.m. 10:00-11:30 am Girl Scouts in Rm. 8
14 Stewardship/Shoebox Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time in FHall 11:20a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group/Picnic at Sandpoint Pk & Clean	15	16 Meals for Moms 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	17 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel Meals for Moms 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club	18 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8	19 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6 <i>November newsletter article deadline</i>	20
21 Christ The King Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time in FHall 11:20a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group/Picnic at Chain of Lakes & Clean	22	23 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	24 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 2:30-5:00 p.m. Homework Club	25 Thanksgiving Day 1:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Lunch in Fellowship Hall Bring a side dish or dessert to share	26 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	27 Hanging of the Greens 8-11 a.m. 10:00-11:30 am Girl Scouts in Rm. 8
28 Advent 1 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time 11:20a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group in FHall Christmas projects for our church shut ins	29	30 7:00 p.m. Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall				