

St. Luke's Newsletter

OCTOBER 2021



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

Romans 8:31b

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OCC Shoeboxes	2
TRUNK or TREAT	3
Worship In October	5
The St. Luke's Story	6-7
Upcoming Opportunities	9
RAISE THE ROOF	10
Calendar	12

Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, October 3rd, we will celebrate both World Communion Sunday and our 55th Anniversary as a congregation of the Presbyterian Church/USA. In the Book of Jeremiah chapter 29 verse 11 God says, “For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” As we celebrate our 55th anniversary as a church, it is exciting to see what God is doing at St. Luke's and in our midst. We have our overflowing hope and future in God, and I cannot wait to experience it with you all!

I would encourage you all to read the story of God's faithfulness to St. Luke's in the early 1970s, which you will find in this newsletter on pages 6 and 7. There are so many parallels to our current situation with the congregation at St. Luke's in the early 1970s, and there is wisdom to be learned in how they prayed, listened, discerned and made decisions that we can apply as we approach the opportunities God is giving us today.

If I could invite you to do one thing in October, it would be to ask yourself the question that Rev. Bill Barron asked the Elders of the St. Luke's Session in 1972 ... “What can we dream together and agree that we will pray about together each day that would be not for our own glory, but for the glory of God?” I would love to hear what your dreams are for our church and ministries, and I promise that I will share your dreams with the Session so we can consider where God would have us go with the dreams, all for his glory!

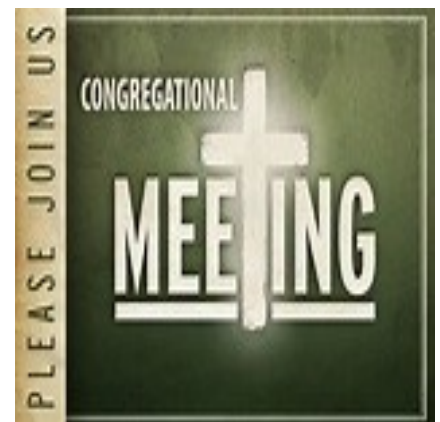
*In God's Love,
Pastor Jody*

Congregational Mtg.

You're Invited

When: Sunday, October 17th
Immediately following the
10:00 a.m. worship service.

Agenda Items: Election of the
Class of 2024 Elders and Deacons,
and the approval of Pastor Jody's
2022 Terms of Call



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 beginning Sunday, October 10th and 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

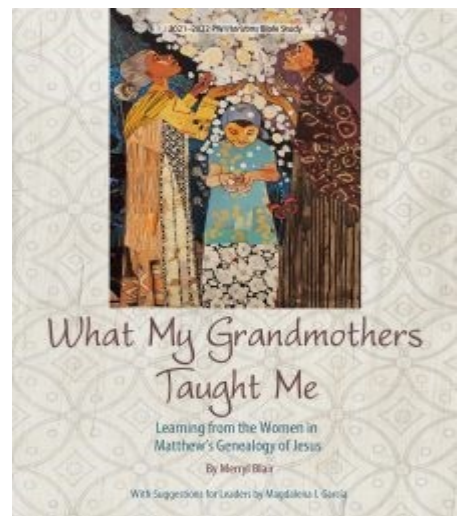


Ladies of the Church ... Mark Your Calendars!

Our second Circle meeting of the new program year will be on Tuesday, October 12th at 9:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. We will spend time visiting and start our Bible Study (Chapter 1).

Due to Covid 19, we will not be able to hold our monthly first Wednesday breakfast at IHOP.

Bible study books are available for \$10 each and will be available to pick up at our October 12th 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."*



What is Trunk or Treat?

IT IS A SAFE PLACE FOR THE COMMUNITY TO COME AND TRICK OR TREAT. IT IS ALSO AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU TO HAVE FUN AND GET TO KNOW THE CONGREGATION IN A FUN ENVIRONMENT FULL OF CREATIVITY, COSTUMES, AND CANDY!



THIS COULD BE YOU!

Tips and Tricks

1. SIGN UP WITH A FRIEND!

2. DO YOU COLLECT ANYTHING LIKE SPORTS MEMORABILIA? USE THAT AND YOUR TRUNK IS DONE!

3. GO TO THE DOLLAR STORE! GET SPOOKY DECOR FOR CHEAP!

4. BUY PREMADE TRUNKS ON ORIENTALTRADING.COM

5. HAVE FUN WITH IT, DECORATE YOUR TRUNK TO REFLECT WHAT YOU LOVE, SPOOKY OR NOT!

Youth Group News

Sunday, October 3rd: 11:15 - 1:00 p.m. We will join in the fun of celebrating our church's 55th anniversary ... lunch, games, and more.

Sunday, October 10th: 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch, small group Bible study, games, and catching up on each other's lives in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, October 17th: 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Lunch, small group Bible study, games, and catching up on each other's lives in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, October 24th: 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. We will join in celebrating our congregant Bob Bradley's life at the funeral/luncheon and then help with clean up.

Sunday, October 31st: 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. It's Escape Room time!

Looking Ahead

Homework Club every Wednesday and Thursday

Jeff Moody is the lead Tutor on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and is available to help youth with math, science, and other subjects as needed.

Church Work Morning 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2nd

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

Saturday, October 30th Trunk Or Treat at St. Luke's 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wear your mask and costume, special treats, and music.

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



Worship In October

The five Sundays in October provide us with wonderful opportunities for worship, sharing the sacrament of Communion, celebrating World Communion Sunday, the awesome kick offs of both our Stewardship Campaign and Operation Christmas Child, and much more!

On **World Communion Sunday, October 3rd** the church will be filled with the joy of celebrating both Communion with Christians around the world AND our church's 55th anniversary as a congregation.

Pastor Jody will co-lead worship and preside for Communion with Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly. The Old Testament scripture reading will be Psalm 26, the Gospel reading will be Mark 10:1-16, and the sermon title is "Hardness of Heart." After worship, we will have a BIG party in Fellowship Hall with amazing food from around the world, a super creative 10 minute presentation on our church's 55 amazing years of history, and games/prizes.

Sunday, October 10th Pastor Jody will co-lead worship with Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly and our fabulous Guest Musician Betty Parks. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 90, the Gospel Reading is Mark 10:17-31, and the sermon title is "The Who Can Be Saved?" Hymns will include "This Is The Day," "Thy Word," and "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee."

On **Stewardship Kick Off Sunday, October 17th** Pastor Jody will co-lead with Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 104, the Gospel reading is Mark 10:35-45, and the sermon title is "Reserved Seating." Hymns will include "Lord, I Want To Be A Christian," "I Surrender All," and "Praise To The Lord, The Almighty."

Sunday, October 24th Pastor Jody will co-lead worship with Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly and several of our Youth Group members. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 34, the Gospel reading is Mark 10:46-52, and the sermon title is "Refusing To Be Quiet." Hymns will include "Shout To The Lord," "O Jesus, I Have Promised," and "Every Time I Feel The Spirit."

On **All Saints' and Reformation Sunday, October 31st** Pastor Jody, Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly, and several members of our congregation will co-lead worship together. Church members who have gone home to be with Jesus in the past year will be remembered at the beginning of the worship service with the tolling of the memorial bell. We will also highlight the confessions of the church and process the banners that correspond with each confession. You are invited to come be a part of this very special service as we praise our Lord that in life and in death, we belong to him!

*"All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, Lord;
they will bring glory to your name. For you are great and do marvelous deeds;
you alone are God." Psalm 86:9-10*

To The Glory Of God

The following is an abridged version of the account of the T. K. Lee Story written by Rev. Bill Barron, who served St. Luke's from 1970-1977, and the T.K. Lee Planning Committee:

When I (Bill Barron) came to St. Luke's, the Apollo space program had succeeded in achieving the goals of that decade and there had been a dramatic reduction in the work force at the Space Center. We were a very depressed community. At that time, St. Luke's had a budget of \$26,000, we were generating \$9,000/year in income, and we were receiving \$17,000 in aid from St. John's Presbytery. There were a lot of people in our church who really wondered if we would survive in spite of the magnificent start the church had had under Rev. Hugh Hamilton.

I remember I went to a meeting of the Synod of FL where Rev. Lloyd Ogilvie of Bethlehem, PA spoke about something that happened in his church. He had asked the elders to come together and "dream dreams" to try to think of what could happen to the glory of God without any limitation if we would trust God for that. He told about the magnificent things that happened in that church. I was very, very inspired by his presentation, came back, and met with our nine elders. I said, "What can we dream together and agree that we will pray about together each day that would be not for our own glory, but for the glory of God?" After we had discussed several possibilities like someone to work with the young people (the standard kinds of requests that were being raised all the time) LeRoy Sherrer, the Superintendent of Sunday School, said, "I hope there will be so many people to come to church here that we can't seat them in this Fellowship Hall and we'll have to build a Sanctuary right out there; and we'll do it in eighteen months." The rest of us kind of looked at each other and cleared our throats. "Now LeRoy, there you go, foolin' around, be serious now, what would you really like to pray about?" He insisted that we pray about a Sanctuary together.

In the meantime, as God often works without our being aware of it, He had already started his processes for answering our prayers. There was a realtor, Mr. Moss, who was a dedicated congregation member of First Presbyterian Church of Orlando, and his pastor, Dr. Howard Chadwick, who were both involved in working with our St. John's Presbytery in new church development. Mr. Moss was aware of a very wealthy Chinese business syndicate that had approached our presbytery about giving land in North Brevard for the purpose of organizing a new Presbyterian Church. Note: The money was from a woman involved in that business syndicate who had been married to a Nationalist Chinese who was not a Christian and who had been led to Christ by a Presbyterian missionary. She wanted to express her thanks to the Presbyterian Church for having sent a missionary who was able to communicate the Good News of Christ to her husband.

Mr. T.K. Lee of New York, on behalf of the Chinese business syndicate, made a one time gift of Xerox stock to St. John's Presbytery that was sold for \$104,562.78 for the purpose of developing a Presbyterian Church in the N. Brevard area. All surveys indicated that no new congregation would be started in this area in the near future (8-10 years).

**** (SEE NEXT PAGE FOR THE REST OF THE STORY) ****

St. Luke's Story (continued)

Since St. Luke's was, at the time of the gift, a small mission church and a relatively new congregation, our church was presented as the logical recipient of this gift. Through the indispensable help of Mr. Moss and Dr. Chadwick, Mr. Lee directed that his gift be given to St. Luke's of Titusville. The donor gave very few restrictions; however, he did require that the entire gift be applied to buildings, including indebtedness of present buildings, repairs and remodeling, and new construction.

Over the next 9 months, the T.K. Lee Planning Committee (Ken Wall - Chair, Lee Ayres, Betty Camp, Gene Flynn, Julian Mountain, Larry Respass, David Rosine, and LeRoy Sherrer) met nine times and each member spent at least 40 hours in research, prayer, discussion, and decision making. While the Planning Committee's technical charge concerned the T.K. Lee gift only, there were several other considerations that they addressed in their work with the congregation:

1. The officers of St. Luke's were keenly aware of the danger of being "spoiled" by such a large gift, which they felt could result in a relaxed commitment by the congregation. However, Praise the Lord, the results of the Every Member Canvas showed that that did not happen.
2. Another danger was that the congregation would not feel a part of the resulting program if it was totally the result of Mr. Lee's gift. With that in mind, the Planning Committee asked the question, "What part should the congregation play in what we do?" The congregation overwhelmingly responded through the Every Member Canvas that they desired to deepen their commitment to God in Jesus Christ in time, money and ability.

As Rev. Barron wrote, "... on that Easter Sunday (in 1972) all the chairs in Fellowship Hall were filled. Wall to wall all around people were standing. The kitchen was packed both with chairs and with people. There were folks standing outside in the corridor. And on that Sunday, we got the message that our prayers had been answered and we proceeded then with another series of miraculous things that happened in the filling of that space. I'm sure you've heard that stories before ... the way we were able to secure the architect, Nils Schweitzer.* He was a fantastic man and the only reason he took our project was that he had had a stroke and he wanted something small by his standards that he could become personally involved in as he began to work back into the routine of a daily practice. There were people, contractors who wanted to get on his bid list, so they underbid our job just to get on Mr. Schweitzer's list to do the work, which resulted in us getting the Sanctuary for about \$35,000 below cost.

There were a lot of ways in which God has his hand in this so that when we dedicated the Sanctuary in 1975, all of you who are aware of it know that there wasn't any person there with any sense of honesty who could say, 'Look what we have done.' We were all absolutely bowled over with the fact that God had been about some magnificent business, and we had been privileged to be a part of it. I am sure that God's work is continuing here and it's just part of the continuing exciting story of being alive in Jesus Christ with the fellowship of this church."

***Note: Nils Schweitzer (1925-1988)** was called The Dean of Orlando Architecture. He was greatly influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, with whom he studied architecture in the prestigious Taliesin Fellowship program. Schweitzer came to Central Florida in 1953 from Baltimore to work as the South-eastern representative for Frank Lloyd Wright's firm and to oversee the design of Florida Southern College in Lakeland. He helped design the Orlando International Airport, Epcot Center's Mexican pavilion, Loch Haven Park and St. Luke Episcopal Cathedral in downtown Orlando. In 1964 he helped build the Loch Haven Art Center, and in 1985 his firm designed the addition to the Orlando Public Library. Source: <https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/os-xpm-1988-02-21-0020110135-story.html>

Meals For Moms

The Food Pantry will be open throughout the month of October on **Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm and by appointment.** By expanding the hours when food is available to be picked up, we hope to be able to help more of our neighbors. 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 October "Meals for Moms" include:

- 9 pkgs of salad kits
- 12 lbs ground beef
- 9 large onions
- 18 cans (14 1/2 oz) Italian diced tomatoes
- 9 cans (8 ounce) tomato sauce
- 9 boxes rigatoni pasta
- 9 8 oz packages of mozzarella cheese
- 9 8 oz packages shredded provolone cheese
- 9 boxes of garlic knots
- 9 Marie Callender frozen pies (defrost and serve)



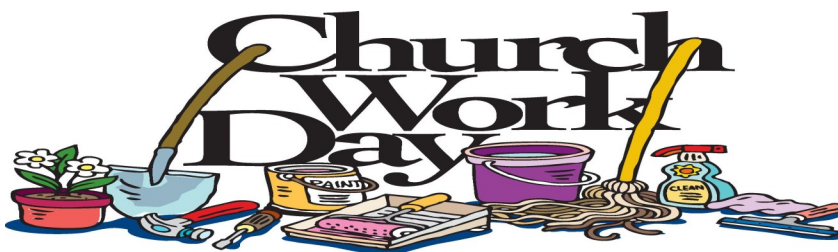
Church Work Mornings

The Buildings and Grounds committee invites you to mark your calendars now for our three upcoming Church Work Mornings this Fall:

Saturday, October 2nd from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. as we get ready for World Communion Sunday & our 55th Anniversary celebration.

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

Saturday, November 27th from 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. as we decorate the church for the Advent Season with the Hanging of the Greens.



Upcoming Opportunities

The next three months of 2021 offer many wonderful opportunities for you to participate in worship, fellowship and mission at church:

Oct. 1st & 15th	Volunteering at the Hummingbird Food Pantry (1-3 pm on Oct. 1st)
October 2nd	Church Work Morning 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
October 3rd	World Communion Sunday worship service at 10:00 am and St. Luke's 55th Anniversary Celebration
October 6th	Make Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes at 9:00 a.m. in FHall
October 10th	Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Kick Off during worship
October 12th	Presbyterian Women Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Fellowship Hall
October 17th	Worship at 10 a.m. and Stewardship Campaign Kick Off
October 24th	Bob Bradley's Memorial Service and Reception beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary & FHall (everyone is invited)
October 28th	Session Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
October 30th	Trunk or Treat in the west parking lot from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
October 31st	All Saints' & Reformation Sunday worship at 10:00 a.m.
November 7th	Veterans Sunday worship and Scout Troop 488 Color Guard
November 14th	Stewardship Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m.
November 18th	Session Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
November 21st	Christ the King Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m.
November 27th	Deck The Halls/Hanging of the Greens 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.
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 14th	Presbyterian Women's Christmas Gathering at 10:00 a.m. in FHall
December 22/23	A very special Meals for Moms (pick up or delivery)
December 24th	Christmas Eve Worship Service and Communion 6:30 p.m.

The SLPC Bags Are Here!

The top 5 reasons to pick up your new free St. Luke's Presbyterian re-useable bag:

5. It's Presbyterian blue.
4. You never have to search for the church phone number, just look at the bag.
3. It's one less plastic bag for the planet.
2. It holds stuff and has sturdy handles.
1. It is a great way for you to help us get our name and contact information out into the community.

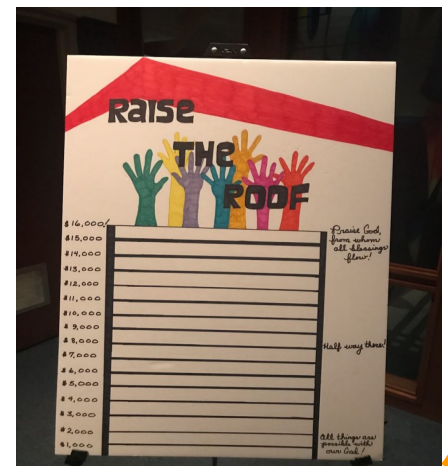


The More You Know ...

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. What is the Session's plan for in-person worship in the month of October? Due to the continuing large case numbers for Covid-19, we will continue to worship wearing masks, using hand sanitizer as everyone enters the Narthex, the collection of the offering in the Narthex, share the Passing of the Peace in place, and the Elder of the Month will dismiss everyone by pew at the conclusion of the worship service so large groups of people do not get crowded together in the Narthex.
2. When will the new Fellowship Hall Roof Project get underway? At the August meeting of the Session, a bid from Ti-Con Roofing in the amount of just over \$37,500 was approved to add a new layer of special polymer roofing to cover the 55 year old flat roof section over Fellowship Hall that had developed several leaks AND the flat roof section over the Narthex breezeway that was leaking where it joined the Sanctuary Narthex. We expected the contractor to be able to complete the roofing project by the end of the year but ... SURPRISE! God had other plans. In a world where supplies can be difficult to procure and the rainy season makes roofing projects challenging to schedule, the Lord blessed us with the gift of the completion of our Fellowship Hall and Narthex Breezeway roofing project by mid-September.

We have now launched the "Raise The Roof" Fundraising campaign (\$16,000 goal) to complete the funding of the roofing project. If you would like to contribute to "Raise The Roof," please send your donations online, via the mail, or place them in the offering plate in the Narthex and please make sure to note on the donation the word ROOF.





Year To Date Financial Information

Financial Report as of August 31st, 2021

2021 Operating Income Year to Date: \$126,300.22
2021 Operating Expenses Year to Date: \$114,902.69
Year to Date: \$ 11,397.53

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

Worship Attendance

September 5th Communion Sunday Livestream

37 in worship and 200 livestream views as of 9/24/21

September 12th Sunday Worship and Livestream

37 in worship and 209 livestream views as of 9/24/21

September 19th Sunday Worship and Livestream

47 in worship and 185 livestream views as of 9/24/21

September 26th Sunday Worship and Livestream

TBD

Sept. 26th Prayer for Healing Service and Livestream

TBD



Special Occasions

Wedding Anniversaries

Ben & Lisa Treinen 10/6

Birthdays

Richard Crum 10/1
 Jerry Beverly 10/2
 Sandy Voisin 10/7
 Adrian Amador 10/8
 Lily Guarrine 10/10
 Micah DeVoe 10/11
 Warren LeValley 10/11
 Aubrianna Shufelt 10/12

Birthdays (continued)

Joany Threlkeld 10/12
 Jeanene Ellinghouse 10/14
 Sarah Williams 10/17
 Jeff Lake 10/18
 Lorraine Barber 10/20
 Jim Moore 10/24
 Sheree Ernst 10/24
 Loretta Mudrak 10/28
 Brittany Wilson 10/29
 Bert Forbush 10/31

October 2021

PAGE 12

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	2 <i>Church Work Morning 8-11 a.m.</i>
3 <i>World Communion Sunday</i> 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Our BIG party in FHall to celebrate World Communion Sunday AND our 55th Anniversary as a church	4 7:00-8:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting on Zoom	5 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	6 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 9:00 a.m. Assemble OCC Shoeboxes in FHall 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club	7 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8	8 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	9 10:00-11:30 am Girl Scouts in Rm. 8
10 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time in FHall 11:30a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group in FHall	11 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 488, Committee Meeting	12 9:30 - 11:00 am PW Circle and Bible Study Meeting in FHall 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	13 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club	14 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8 6:00-7:30 p.m. ADK Mtg. in FHall	15 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6 <i>November newsletter article deadline</i>	16
17 <i>Stewardship Kick Off</i> 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time in FHall 11:30a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group in FHall	18	19 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	20 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club	21 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-6:30 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8	22 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	23 10:00-11:30 am Girl Scouts in Rm. 8
24 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:30 a.m. Memorial service for Bob Bradley in the Sanctuary and then a celebration luncheon in Fellowship Hall (everyone invited)	25	26 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall	27 7:00 a.m. Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club	28 1:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study in FHall 2:30-6:00 p.m. Homework Club 6:00-7:30 p.m. Girl Scouts in Rm. 8 6:30 p.m. Session Meeting in FHall	29 7:30-11:30 a.m. TOPS in FHall and Room 6	30 5:00-7:00 pm Trunk Or Treat West Pkg. Lot @ Church
31 <i>All Saint's/ Reformation Sunday</i> 10:00 a.m. Worship service 11:00 a.m. Treat Time 11:30a - 12:00p Sunday School in Rm 6 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. Youth Group in FHall						