



The Disciple's Connection

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Painesville, OH 44077

September 2020

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:30am
Sunday School 10:30am
Sunday Adult Bible Study 10:30am

Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor
Marlyss Sekki, Director of Music
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Church Website

www.splcpainesville.org

Church Office

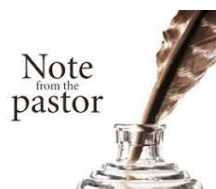
(440)354-3000
Hours: Mon—Fri 9:00am—12:00pm
office@splcpainesville.org

St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director
preschool@splcpainesville.org

St. Paul's Preschool Website

www.stpaulspainesville.com



BACK TO LEARNING

It is back to school time. But going back to school in 2020 is anything but normal. Parents have a mixed bag of thoughts and emotions. Some are worried about the health and safety of their child. Others are ready for their child to return to something normal-like. Others are still not sure how to handle it. All very real responses to current circumstances. Learning, it seems, will go on, just in ways that we haven't ever considered before. Here at St. Paul's, we are still praying and planning for a Preschool year to begin on the 14th. We are also praying and planning on resuming in-person Bible Study and Sunday School on the 13th. If you are comfortable and ready to dig into God's Word with brothers & sister, then we will have opportunities for all ages. Erin Cardina and Eric West will be our primary Sunday School teachers, leading children & teens through the truths of the Bible. For adults, we will gather in the Sanctuary to allow for proper distancing. I will be leading a 12 session look at some of the Miracles of Jesus. Education is not found on Sunday only. Our Women will continue their look at Bible Studies out of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. I pray that soon we will be able to resume our Thursday Mid-week Study

When things around us seem to be changing daily, it is good to have an anchor like God's Word. There is only good that comes out of opening God's Word and opening our heart & mind to a deeper understanding. Maybe I'm a bit naïve, but can anyone tell me something more important than teaching our children the love and will of God? Is there another class more valuable than a good Bible Study so adults, too, are taught the Word of God? Solomon had these wise words on Proverbs, "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Paul writes in 2 Timothy, "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work." Parents, I hope you realize the importance of teaching your children God's Word. Adults of all ages, I hope you see the importance of regular study of God's Word. There's no more sure anchor for life than God's Word.

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR *continued*

Again, if you are comfortable and ready to engage with others in studying God's Word, then I invite you to come and study together. You will learn about Jesus, the value of a strong relationship with him. You will see how your faith is used in all situations of life. You will be strengthened by talking about these biblical truths with other believers of all walks of life. It's never too late to start. Let the beginning of this new school year be a new beginning for you as well. Stay for a while after worship service. Create a little time during the week. You might just find Sunday School and Bible study become an important part of life.

In Christ

Pastor Sundborn

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." 2 Tim 3:16-17

One Thing is Necessary



Sitting at the feet of Jesus with Mary means listening to God's Word.

Anxious and worried

"Tell her to help me," Martha commanded Jesus (**LUKE 10:40**). Her anxiety and troublesome cares drove her demand of Jesus. Household concerns consumed her as she sought to serve her Lord. "Martha was distracted with much serving" (**LUKE 10:40**). "Distracted" makes it sound as though Martha was simply lost in notifications on her phone. The burdens of the day

had, in fact, overwhelmed her, consumed her. She had become so anxious and burdened that she neglected to sit at her Lord's feet — as Mary was doing — and receive His Word.

Jesus taught his disciples not to worry or be anxious about their lives, what they would eat or drink (**LUKE 12:2**). God clothes the flowers of the fields and feeds the birds of the air; He will certainly provide for His beloved children (**MATT. 6:26-30**).

When Jesus teaches on anxiety and worry, He is not simply expressing pious platitudes. You are not to worry about what you will eat or drink; you are not to worry about what you will wear.

And yet, a number of problems drive our anxieties and fears. Perhaps we fear that we will not like what God provides. God promises to provide for us, but instead of a feast of steak and well-aged wine, He might provide beans and rice. We fear that we will miss out on the good life. This *fear of missing out*, or FOMO, explains our eagerness to check our electronic devices every time they buzz, ding, chime, or squawk.

The real problem, however, is the ultimate one:

ONE THING IS NECESSARY *continued*

We suffer with anxiety and troubles because we trust in something other than God to provide for our well-being and happiness. “One thing is necessary”, Jesus told Martha. “Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken from her” (LUKE 10:42).

Anxiety in 2020

Pictures of pandemics, riots and looting, political chaos — and who knows what else is coming — have not reduced stress and anxiety rates around the world. Our desire to be informed drives us to read every notification, article and social media post plastered all over our chiming digital devices. This makes us even more anxious.

What effect will the upcoming election have on the economy, on Medicare, on an already polarized and angry nation? When will COVID-19 go away? Ever? Will the question of racism ever be solved? Am I a racist? You know the list of fears that haunt you.

The answers to these questions, we are told, rest with the experts, the journalists, the news anchors and more. These days, even our Facebook friends have become experts on everything from health care to constitutional law.

We could spend our entire day scrolling through our newsfeeds, reading articles and catching up on the latest expert news. And we would become more anxious and troubled.

One necessary thing

While it is not wrong to watch the news or read articles about the election, as the people of God we do not begin with the news or let the experts direct how we see the world.

We listen to the voice of Jesus (JOHN 10:14-17). He knows everything about us. He knows the color our hair — even their number. He knows how much pigment He put into our skin.

Jesus knows how we look at others and how others see us. He knows the fears and anxieties with

which we struggle, and the idols to which we cling for comfort. He knows when we trust in political leaders and the news for comfort instead of His steadfast and eternal Word.

And for all this, He came to lay down His life for us. He came to earth, suffered and died that we might have one necessary thing: Him.

Lutheran perspective

God’s Word does not promise to satisfy your craving for an answer to every problem. The Word of God is not a manual for solving the political, social or medical chaos swirling around us. That does not mean, however, that we ought to forgo hearing and receiving God’s Word.

The Lutheran Witness seeks to help you interpret the world from a Lutheran perspective. There are at least two ways to think of perspective here. You might think of your Lutheran perspective as a set of spectacles you can take on and off as you look at the world.

If the Lutheran perspective, however, is just a lens that tints your vision, it can be removed and replaced with a different perspective. Or, perhaps, be stacked with other perspectives like Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative. And, if your Lutheran perspective is simply a set of lenses you look through, then you are not looking at the one thing needful. You are still watching, reading and consuming the same anxiety-inducing, idolatry-feeding content — simply with a Lutheran tint.

Rather, your Lutheran perspective is like a vista. You have doubtless seen them as you drive down the road; you pull over, hike up a small hill and watch the countryside open up before you. You get a better perspective in the situation. You are not looking *through* something; you are looking *at* something. Lutherans look at Jesus. Do not look at the news and chaos through Jesus. Rather, look at Jesus only (MATT. 17:8). Look and listen to the one thing necessary — Jesus Christ. Let us sit with Mary and the feet of Jesus, not

ONE THING IS NECESSARY *continued*

worrying and fearful, anxious over the trials and tribulations of days yet to come, but confident and certain in the One who has already come and given His life for us.

At the feet of Jesus

Sitting at the feet of Jesus and hearing His Word has become a frightening and confusing prospect for many Christians. “Am I reading the right devotions? I need a study book to guide me through God’s Word.” How often have we chosen to spend time in the words of the latest and greatest celebrity theologian rather than the Words of God?

Sitting at the feet of Jesus does not require a flurry of books or—dare I say it—even *The Lutheran Witness*. Sitting at the feet of Jesus with Mary means listening to God’s Word. Read your Bible, silently or out loud. Read it for family devotions. Read it before or after dinner, or both. Read it with your children and your spouse. Sit at the feet of Jesus every Sunday morning as the Word is proclaimed and the pastor preaches it. Hear the Word.

You may not understand most of it. You will not understand all of it. Few pastors claim to understand every passage of Scripture, and fewer still do. As you read, write down your questions. Take them to your pastor. Maybe you will get an answer; maybe you won’t. Not all of your questions must be answered on this side of the grave. Nevertheless, hear the word. Listen to it.

There are many things you could be anxious and worried about— race relations, politics, pandemics and so much more. Only when we sit at the feet of Jesus, focus on Him and hear His Word can we get the right perspective. We only learn to love our neighbor because Christ loved us (1 JOHN 4:13-21). We trust not in the legs of man (PSALM 147:10) or the power of princes (PSALM 118:9, 146:3) because we fear, love and trust in God above all things.

With ours eyes thus focused on Jesus and our ears tuned to His Word, we can live in true peace, free from anxiety and trouble, regardless of the chaos around us. Jesus is the good portion, and He will not be taken from you.

The Rev. Roy S. Askins is managing editor for *The Lutheran Witness*.

Askins, Roy S., “One Thing is Necessary.” *The Lutheran Witness*. Concordia Publishing House August 2020.

*Look "at" Jesus
not "through" Jesus*



Life Quotes for

September 6 "On earth, there will be no shortage of burdens to bear as we care for those in need. But one day, these burdens will be lifted from our shoulders in Heaven, where the Lord will see us through the lens of Christ's perfect sacrifice and will say, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! ... Enter into the joy of your master' (Matthew 25:21). Rest in His unfailing love." *Marie K. MacPherson, author – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

September 13 "When discipline and correction are called for in the Christian family, it is always administered in love, given for the express purpose of benefitting the family as a whole—the household as a whole. By this the family is strengthened to better witness to the life they share by faith in Jesus. For by the grace of God and in the power of His Holy Spirit, the Christian family at work, worship, prayer, or play bears witness to the faith that is in them through their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." *Ron Schlegel, The Lutheran Laymen – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

September 20 "The Adoption Creed: 'Not flesh of my flesh, nor bone of my bone, but still miraculously my own; never forget for a single minute, you didn't grow under my heart, but in it.'" – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

September 27 "As Christians, we understand better than most that life is weighted with profound suffering and buoyed by eternal hope. As such, it's time to raise our children to appreciate what a big, beautiful struggle parenthood is and that it simply cannot happen without offering compassion, love, and grace to children still in the womb and to the mothers and fathers who view the scales more filled with suffering than hope." *Tawnia Hoehne, Frazee, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

Announcements



2021 LWML CONVENTION

Be a Volunteer! Runners of a race need organizers (the Host Convention Committee) to plan the details, select the location, set the event date, and register the runners. Coaches train the runners and encouragers cheer the runners on. Volunteers assist along the way where needed. There is also the need for spiritual refreshing with worship, prayer, and devotional time. Your LWML (name of district) needs your help at the 2021 LWML Convention in Lexington, Kentucky, June 24-27, 2021. The

host districts, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, are looking for workers to assist with the many tasks involved to host this convention. Check the Call for Workers form at the LWML Indiana District website, www.lwmlindiana.org, to see where your gifts and talents can be used. Examples are: decorating, ushering, the Prayer Chapel, or maybe as a hostess, a driver, to name a few. Make plans to attend the convention. Make a commitment to the convention objectives as we: Focus on Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament; Joyfully celebrate our salvation with song and prayer; and Serve our neighbors through witness and mission.

Additional information is also available at <http://lwmlohio.org>. If you have other questions you can contact Billie Lelle at 440-867-2747.



Noisy Mite Weekend

The LWML Noisy Mite Weekend is coming October 17 & 18, 2020. The pandemic has brought a huge decrease in mite giving though the important mission work of the LWML continues. Your mite offerings are always welcome (not just on noisy mite weekends). Please deposit your mites (either in a mite box or a ziploc bag) into the large wooden mite box found at the friendship table. Coins, currency and checks (**payable to St. Paul's**

Friendship Circle) are all accepted. Information about the LWML Ohio District and its mission grants can be found at <http://lwmlohio.org>

NEW AIR CONDITIONERS

An air conditioner fund has been started to raise \$50,000 over the next three years to replace all the air conditioner at St' Paul's. The air-conditioner in the choir loft needs to be replaced immediately. The reason? The coolant, Freon, has been banned and without it the air-conditioners will not work. Please prayerfully consider donating to help keep St. Paul's cool during the warm months of the year.



Women's Bible Study



All women of the congregation are invited to join together on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month for Bible Study. We meet from 6:30-8:00 pm at the church starting September 23. We will maintain social distancing and masks are to be worn. The Bible Studies come from the LWML Quarterly (copies are available). Bring a Bible and join in fellowship with your sisters in Christ. A full listing of meeting dates can be found on the Friendship Circle board. Any questions, contact Billie Lelle at blelle@roadrunner.com or 440-867-2747 (landline).



Sunday School Reopens Join Us For Rally Day!!

We are delighted to have our Sunday School reopening this fall! So please, come join us!! We welcome back the following teachers:

Eric West and Rich Szoradi - High School Class (meets in the kitchen)
Erin Cardina - Middle and Early Childhood Class (meets in classroom 8)
Starshine Graziadei - Director Sunday School Office.

Rally Day will begin on Sunday, September 13th. The session will run from 10:30am-11:30am until further notice. Masks are strongly recommended. We will also maintain safe distancing during class time.

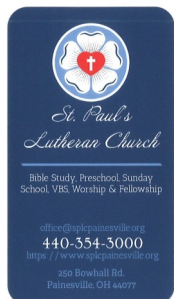
Our theme this year Matthew 11:28 - "Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." From all of the Sunday School teachers, we are looking forward to a wonderful year! See you soon!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Have you missed digging into God's word with your fellow disciples? Join us as St. Paul's resumes their in-person adult bible study. The bible study will be led by Pastor Sundbom and held in the Sanctuary to allow for proper distancing. Pastor will begin with a 12 session look at some of the Miracles of Jesus.



For those of you who want to join a weekday bible study the virtual bible study will continue to meet (virtually) on Thursdays at 7:00pm. Beginning on the 17th, this class will be going through the book of Romans



RESTAURANT MINISTRY

If you have begun to venture back out to local eateries, please help St. Paul's reach out to members of our community. Grab a supply of St. Paul's business cards from the basket on the Welcome Center Table near the nursery door. When eating out, write a note of thanks to your waiter/waitress on the back of the card and leave it with their tip. Help us plant the seed ... and let the Holy Spirit do the rest!

Prayer Quilts

Don't forget to let JoEllen Graziadei or Kristi McConnell know when you have a friend, neighbor or family member that is in need of encouragement and prayers. We can send a prayer quilt to them with a card and an invitation to church. In these troubled times, it's more important than ever to tell people God loves them and we are here for them.



Greeting Cards for Sale

Don't forget to support our greeting card fundraiser by purchasing a card for friends or family members having special events such as a Birthday or Anniversary. There are also uplifting Christian cards for those in need of encouragement and prayers. As a reminder, they are only 50 cents apiece.

Place your payment in an offering envelope supplied on the greeting card rack and add it in the Offering plate during church service. Proceeds will go toward building an Outreach budget for future Outreach event expenses.



Updated Congregation Members Directory

If you have not done so please fill out the Updated Congregation Member Directory form that was placed in your mailbox and put it in the basket at the back of the church by August 30th. We are planning on distributing the directory by mid-September.

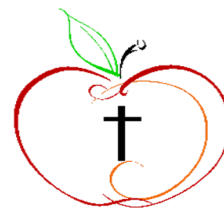




August Meeting Notes

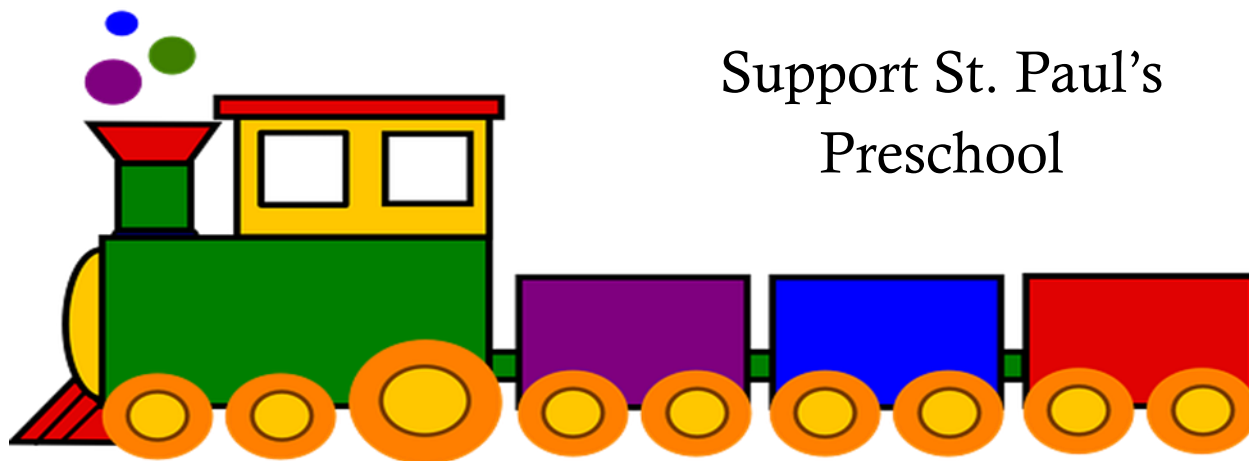
- Both the Pastor's and President's report stressed the need for better communication and cooperation between Pastor, Council, and the congregation on a three-way basis and will work towards that.
- Treasurer: We're still in fair financial shape, though contributions have dropped during the summer.
- Education: Preschool will begin as scheduled on Sept. 14. Waiting for Elders to set Sunday school and Adult Bible study Schedules.
- Preschool: Preschool will begin on Sept. 14 and there are 36 students enrolled. There will be a 3yr old class with 14, 4yr old class with 8, and a pre-K class with 14. They may need 1 more teacher. Are awaiting any possible last minutes guidelines from the state.
- Elders: Will meet Aug. 12 to set schedules. At their meeting, the elders have decided to continue the summer schedule times for services. Rally Sunday will be Sept. 13 with Pastor leading adult class in sanctuary, Sunday school in tiered classroom to minimize exposure with Preschool--time will be 10:40-11:40 after the 9:30 service.
- Stewardship: working with Pastor to set programs.
- Outreach: Boxes of books(total of 5600) for Pastor May have been sent to Houston. A couple of ideas are being Discussed: new logo for outreach and other church mailings, door-hanging tags to let people in area know we're here and what we have to offer.
- Building & Grounds: Scraping, priming and painting has begun on garage & church front. refrigerator has been repaired. Looking into replacing stonework at front entry.
- Membership Secretary: Contributions are down 5.2% from last year.
- New Business:
 - * 1) installation of officers will be during services Aug. 15/16
 - * 2)Need or a more defined plan & response to future viruses, disasters, or major disruptions to services and other church functions--will look into.
- Next meeting: Sept. 2 @ 6:30pm.

Preschool News



St. Paul's Preschool Job Opportunity

St. Paul's Preschool is accepting resumes for anyone interested in working in our preschool program. We are interviewing candidate for both a teaching position and an assistant teaching position. The opportunity is part time and preschool experience is preferred but not required. If you or someone you know is interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact our Preschool Director, Amy Marizek at preschool@splcpainesville.org or (440)354-3000.



Support St. Paul's Preschool

St. Paul's Preschool would like to thank the congregation for their continuous support of our program. We have again created a donation board for this year. Due to COVID-19 we are asking for **monetary donations** only for the items we need. You will find items on each envelope with the amount for that item. Please select the item or items you would like to donate and place the money or a check made out to St. Paul's Preschool in the envelope. The donations can then be placed in the collection plate or turned into the Preschool Tuition Box in the Church Office. If you have any questions please contact our Preschool Director, Amy Marizek or ask Pastor Sundbom for assistance. Again we thank you for your support!

Hospice Volunteer Opportunities

NEW: Hospice of the Western Reserve Virtual Volunteer Training

Are you looking for a way to help individuals in your community? Are you willing to engage with homebound patients and families by phone or by mail? Consider becoming a Hospice of the Western Reserve Volunteer. We are excited to announce virtual volunteer training for new volunteers. We also look forward to the day that in-person visits can resume safely. For more information, contact us at 216.255.9090 or fill out an online application hospicewr.org/volunteers. Volunteers who complete virtual training will be able to provide in-person visits when it is deemed safe.

Warehouse Sale Fund Raiser

Hospice Warehouse Sale Fund Raiser

Please consider supporting Hospice of the Western Reserve, a non-profit Hospice serving Northern Ohio, by attending one of our warehouse sales. Sale proceeds benefit the patients and families we serve. We sell home furnishings, housewares, domestics, collectables, framed artwork, fine and costume jewelry, and seasonal item. Call 216-255-9090 or visit hospicewr.org/warehouse for more information. The next two sales will be held at Hospice of the Western Reserve, 17876 St. Clair Ave., Cleveland 44110 on Saturday, September 12 from 8 am – 4 pm, Sunday, September 13 from 12 pm – 4 pm, and Saturday, December 5 from 8 am – 4 pm, Sunday, December 6 from 12 pm – 4 pm.



HOSPICE
OF THE
**WESTERN
RESERVE**

Joan Ibbett | Resource Nurse

17876 St. Clair Avenue | Cleveland, OH 44110 | P 216.255.9059 | 800.707.8922

hospicewr.org



September Birthdays

Kelly Tuttle	1st	Judy Ladany	10th	Karen Johnson	17th
Leigh Wojkowski	1st	Anna McVan	11th	Peggy McDonnell	17th
Kelly Hines	3rd	Kirsten Salminen	13th	Jeff Troutman	17th
Eric Davis	10th	Ryan Tuttle	13th	Kristi McConnell	21st



September Anniversaries

Jerry and Judy Ladany	64 years on September 4
Rich and Michelle Szoradi	26 years on September 10
James and Carol Cannonie	55 years on September 11



Altar Flowers



Is there someone special, a special date, or a special event you would like to honor. A great way to do that is with Altar Flowers. The Altar Flower Chart is posted on the wall next to the double doors leading out of the sanctuary. All you have to do is sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Be sure to print clearly what occasion is being honored and who the flowers are given by. Altar flowers are \$30.00. This can be placed in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" and the date of the weekend, then place in the collection plate.

Those Who Serve: September 2020

ELDERS:

6:00 P	Saturday	Aaron Lindrose
9:30 A	Sunday	Craig McConnell/Eric West

LECTORS:

09-05-20	6:00 P	Saturday	Frank McVan
09-06-20	9:30 A	Sunday	Eric West
09-12-20	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
09-13-20	9:30 A	Sunday	Sandy Heckler
09-19-20	6:00 P	Saturday	Frank McVan
09-20-20	9:30 A	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
09-26-20	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
09-27-20	9:30 A	Sunday	Dale Kerver

COUNTERS:

Jenn Drake, Roxanne Walton

GREETERS:

6:00 P	Saturday
9:30 A	Sunday

SIGN UP IN SEPTEMBER TO WAVE
YOUR GREETING TO YOUR FELLOW
DISCIPLES.

Sign-up sheet located on the double
doors at the back of the Sanctuary

September 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays</div> <p>September Flower Aster</p>	<div>Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm</div> <p>September Stone Sapphire</p>	<p>1 National School Success Month</p>	<p>2 Council Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>3 Preschool Parent Orientation 7:00pm Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <div>  <p>Labor Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p> </div>	<p>8 Choir Practice 7:00pm</p>	<p>9 Elders Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>10 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm</p>	<p>11 <i>Patriots Day</i></p>	<p>12</p> <div>  </div>
<p>13</p> <div>  <p>Installation of Pre-school Staff 9:30am Grandparents Day</p> </div>	<p>14 Preschool Orientation 9:00am</p>	<p>15</p> <div>  <p>First day of PRESCHOOL</p> <p>Preschool Orientation 9:00am Choir Practice 7:00pm</p> </div>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm Citizenship Day</p>	<p>18</p> <div>  <p>October Newsletter Articles Due</p> </div>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21 Outreach Meeting 7:00pm</p>	<p>22</p> <div>  <p>First Day of Autumn</p> <p>Choir Practice 7:00pm</p> </div>	<p>23 Women's Bible Study 6:30pm</p>	<p>24 Virtual Bible Study 7:00pm</p>	<p>25 National Comic Book Day</p>	<p>26</p> <div>  </div>
<p>27</p> <div>  <p>National Chocolate Milk Day</p> </div>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 Choir Practice 7:00pm National Coffee Day</p>	<p>30</p>	<div>  <p>COMMUNION SERVICE</p> <div> <p>WORSHIP SCHEDULE Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:30am Sunday Adult Bible Study - 10:30am</p> </div> </div>		