

OCTOBER 2026

FAITH CHRONICLE

The monthly newsletter of Faith Lutheran Church



**Faith Lutheran Church
6142 State Route 31
Cicero, NY 13039**

Pastor's Page

SISTERS AND BROTHERS OF FAITH CHURCH,

I started to notice the changing seasons in mid-August. The sun began to set earlier. Evenings felt a little more pleasant for folks who wilt on hot, humid days. Mornings dawned with a cooler temperature. There was still plenty of summer to experience, but I did not need a long range weather forecast to know trees would start to turn colors and drop their leaves.

Autumn is my favorite season. I agree that spring, with blossoming flowers and the return of song birds, is a beautiful season. I enjoy a winter walk in a new-fallen dusting of snow or cross country skiing across a rolling meadow. Summer's heat and humidity challenge me more than I like. Autumn brings out the philosopher and dreamer in me.

I remember weekly autumn trips from Oswego County to Northern New Jersey when I was finishing my seminary degree. The trip began in fog and cool weather that warmed as I headed south on the interstate. The red, tan, and golden leaves arrived in the hills around Cortland two to three weeks before they did in the Pocono and Watchung Mountains. A trip to New Jersey during the fall was like being in a time machine. It made fall travel a time of prayer and meditation. Put the right music on the radio and you could bask in God's creating power.

I share these musings as I share with you something I started this summer: reading Mary Oliver's poetry as part of my daily prayer time. Oliver sees more than beauty in the world surrounding her. She began one poem, "The Summer Day," with a quick barrage of questions:

Who made the world?
Who made the swan, and the black bear?
Who made the grasshopper?

She does not try to answer her questions. She keeps looking at the world around her, especially the amazing grasshopper in her hand, and realizes other people would say she wasted her time. There is always work to be done. Oliver writes of a summer day. Soon students would have books to read and reports to write. Farmers will have to tend their herds and bring in harvests. Like the weekly four-hour drives I made from Oswego County, the world expects better use of a person's time.

I join Mary Oliver in disagreeing with common wisdom. My weekly travel in the fall time machine forty years ago made me see this amazing world. Leaves turn from green to red, tan or gold. They fall and collect on the ground, a blanket that will lie beneath the snow and will become a fertilizer for the next spring's growth. Nature changes. Life changes. Or, as Mary Oliver questioned at the end of her poem:

Tell me, what else should I have done?
Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?
Tell me, what is it you plan to do
with your one wild and precious life?

What else should I have done—or you have done? Live and love this one wild and precious life God gives to be one with one another and the creation God trusts to our care.

In Christ's peace and life,
Pastor Allan



COMMUNITY LUNCH

We did it! We served a complete meal/ lunch to the community - totally FREE to them! It was wonderful to see our church members come together, work together, laugh together, and eat together.

I would personally would like to thank all of those who participated. It was a beautiful day, even though it rained in the later afternoon. We brought together many people from many walks of life. All those I spoke to enjoyed our meal, your friendliness, just what they seemed to all need.

They lingered for good conversation with each other too. It was in a word COMFORTABLE. Those who brought in food - as usual - brought in enough to serve an army! Even the leftovers went to many who needed to be fed.

Thanks for all you all did. If you served, brought in food, parked cars, set up, or cleaned up, or took the leftovers to the hungry, it all worked like clockwork, and although tired after the event was over, you can feel a great deal of satisfaction, knowing that OUR HANDS truly did GOD's WORK! I'm proud to be a member of Faith Lutheran Church.

Cassie Richmond as part of the M&M Committee



Our mission: As a Community of Faith in Christ, we Live in Grace and Share the Gospel of Salvation.

Adopted by the Congregation, October 28, 2008

In Our Prayers

OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES

Ayden (Diane Senzarino's grandson), Toni, Pat Green, Gary Schumacher, Arnold Hogan (Dawn Spink's father), Betty Craner, Ann Grim (Patty Carter's mother), Nick, Clara Long, Pamela Strohl (friend of Kathy Newcomb), Betty Winther, Jean Kelley, Joan and Lamont Hahn, Phyllis Harm, Phyllis and Francis Letizia, Ginny Gronozio, Doris Heath, Philomena and Garrett Bronner (Chuck Bronner's parents), Charlie Bullock, Alice, Lynda, Maria (Friends of Diane Monthie), Daniel Canastra and Quentin Canastra (Ri Ho's son and grandson), Danny Whitney (Friend of Lynn Werner), Joe Krywalski, Caleb Travers, Bernadette McGuire, Loretta and Ken Bowne, Kelly Brady and Lisa Vona



MILITARY & THEIR FAMILIES

Leah Bratt (Sarah Bratt's sister), Sam (Leah's husband), Zachary & Daniel Rosney (Pat Green's great nephews), Jackie, Kenny and Isaac Bowne (Betty Gay's grandchildren), Eric Currier (Dan Currier's son), Sam Yonkers (friend of Barb & John Snyder)



FLOWER CHART: The Altar Guild has placed this year's Flower Chart on the bulletin board in the Narthex. We all love having live flowers on the altar for Sunday morning worship. Please consider providing flowers for a memorial or special occasion. Sign up on the chart, then bring the flowers to church on Sunday morning or call Linda Keller or Diane Monthie for information or to make special arrangements. Also, you can request live flowers by placing a donation in an envelope with your name and information in the collection plate at least 2 weeks before your selected date. And, of course, we will be most grateful for any donation to the general flower fund.

Our Guiding Principles: Jesus is Lord; We are a Community of Faith; We Invite All People to Share in God's Grace; We pray First; We Act on the Holy Spirit's Guidance; We Give Generously of Ourselves as God has given to us.

Adopted by the Congregation, October 28, 2008

The Men's Breakfast Group is Back



After a summer break, the Men's Breakfast Group is excited to get together again this fall! Join us for good food, great conversation, and fellowship as we kick off another season of breakfasts together on October 10 at 9:00 a.m. The cost remains \$6 per person. We hope to see you there!

The Quilters are Back

The Quilters are meeting again on Tuesday mornings at 10 a.m. We're looking forward to creating projects together over the coming months to donate to worthy causes.

No experience is necessary and we're happy to teach! After quilting, we enjoy fellowship and lunch together at a local restaurant. Questions? Feel free to ask any of the quilters. We'd love to have you join us!



FOOD PANTRY



DISTRIBUTION

Sunday October 18: 11:30am - 1:00 pm

Monday October 19: 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



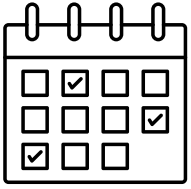
October is Turkey Sign Up Month

New federal SNAP (food stamp) rules, effective March 1, affect about 6,000 people in Onondaga County. Adults ages 18–64 without children under 14 must work, volunteer, or participate in job training for 80 hours per month to keep benefits.

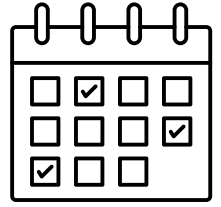
Some exceptions apply, including pregnancy and participation in treatment programs. Those affected should have received information from the county with next steps.

The food pantry always appreciates donations of nonperishable items.

If you can volunteer, please let Tracy know. If you might be interested in taking over this role of the Food Pantry coordinator, contact Tracy. She is willing to go over all that is involved with the Food Pantry.



Calendar at a Glance



- 10/5 Mutual Ministry Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10/10 Men's Breakfast 9:00 am
- 10/12 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10/18 Food Pantry Distribution 11:30 am - 1:00 pm
- 10/19 Food Pantry Distribution 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



I thank Andrew Hahn and Arnold Hansen for the faith and wisdom they shared during worship on September 6, our celebration of Christ in Creation Sunday. One parishioner told me that Sunday that the service was very inspiring. Never assume only pastors can share God's word of grace and hope!

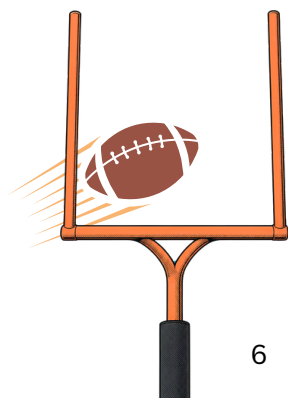


Another big thank you goes to everybody who cooked, served, advertised, and cajoled people to come to our community lunch on September 13. I hope our neighbors learn that there really can be such a thing as a free lunch—no charge to them, no sermon from the pastor, only a time to receive the thanks and care of Faith Lutheran Church.

Pastor Allan

Thank you to everyone who donated to our SU Football Raffle! Your generosity helped us score a big win, raising an amazing \$2,000 for our General Fund and Community Outreach. We're grateful for everyone who helped make this fundraiser a success!

Lauri Hoover



Central Crossroads Conference Fall Assembly

On October 3, Faith Lutheran will be happy to host the Central Crossroads Conference Fall Assembly! We look forward to welcoming our guests from around the conference and sharing our church with them.

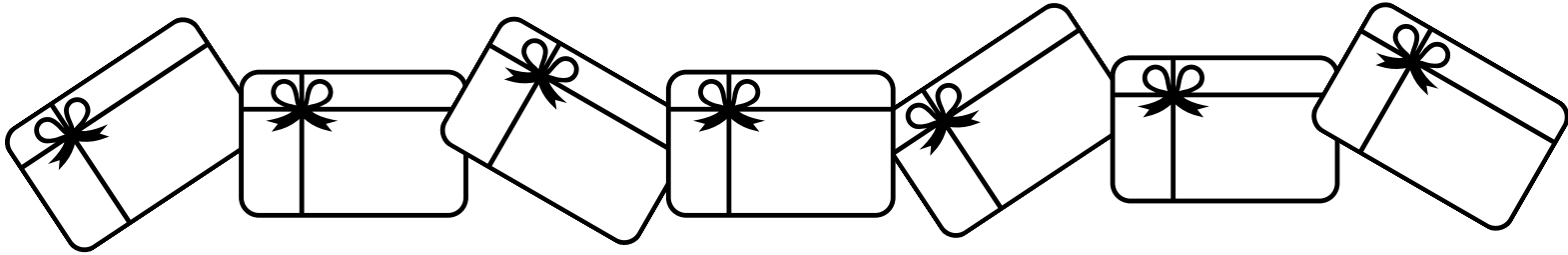
A special thank you to everyone who signed up to provide a light breakfast for our guests. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are greatly appreciated and help make our congregation a welcoming place for all who visit!



THE CANTEEN



Our collection for the Canteen is off to a great start! Thank you to everyone who has already donated and helped fill our collection with much needed items. There's still time to contribute! If you'd like to help, feel free to continue bringing in donations. Every item makes a difference, and we appreciate your generosity and support!



Our Great Gift Card Fundraiser is back, and we couldn't be more excited!

Get ready for another round of daily chances to win awesome gift cards while supporting our church.

Check out the calendar, get your tickets, and join the fun!

Thank you so much for your support of our church and this fundraiser!

Your participation means so much to us.

Let the fun begin!

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all of the local businesses and companies who generously donated gift cards to support our Great Gift Card Fundraiser.

Your generosity and support mean so much to our church and help make this fundraiser possible.

We are truly grateful for your kindness and for the way you give back to our community.

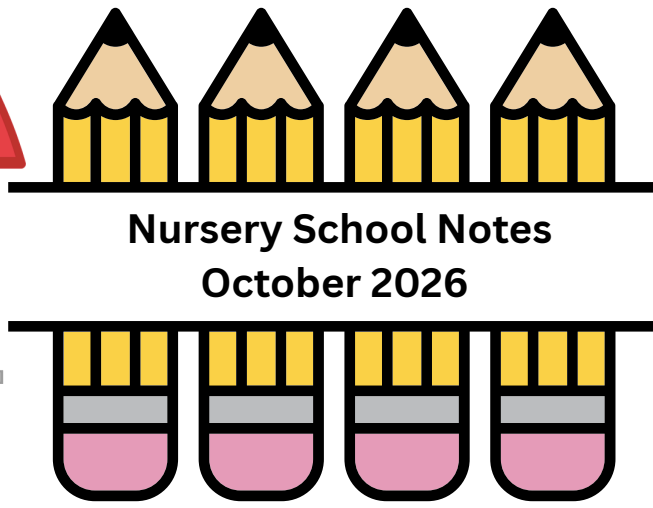
Please join us in supporting these wonderful businesses and thanking them for helping make our fundraiser a success!

Faith Lutheran Church Fundraiser November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Top This Pizza \$25 Gift Card Mi Rancho Alegre \$20 Gift Cert.	2 Home Team Pub \$25 Gift Card Price Chopper \$10 Gift Card	3 PB&J Lunchbox \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	4 Brewerton Ace Hardware \$20 Gift Card Coppertop \$25 Gift Card	5 Avicoli's Italian Restaurant \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	6 JRECK Subs \$25 Gift Card 1 Paladinos Large Cheese Pizza Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	7 Stewart's Shops \$50 Gift Card O'Reilly's Auto Parts \$25 Gift Card
8 Brooklyn Pickle \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	9 Cicero Crepes Delicious \$25 E-Gift Card Thee Diner \$10 Gift Card	10 Bianchi's Catering and Pizza \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	11 Running's \$50 Gift Card Mi Rancho Alegre 2-\$20 Gift Cert.	12 Brick & Brew \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	13 Tops \$25 Gift Card 1 Paladinos Large Cheese Pizza Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	14 Persimmons Restaurant \$50 Gift Card
15 Cicero Ace Hardware \$25 Gift Certificate	16 Greenies Golf Lounge \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 2 Drinks	17 Home Team Pub \$25 Gift Card Thee Diner \$10 Gift Card	18 Earthwise Pet Supply \$25 Gift Card Mi Rancho Alegre 2-\$20 Gift Cert.	19 Willow Rock Brewery \$25 Gift Card Chili's 2 - \$5 Gift Cards	20 Walmart \$25 Gift Card 1 Paladinos Large Cheese Pizza Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	21 Brewerton Ace Hardware \$20 Gift Card Brewerton Pharmacy \$25 Gift Cert. Mi Rancho Alegre \$20 Gift Cert.
22 Bianchi's Catering and Pizza \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 2 Drinks	23 Plank Road Ice Cream \$25 Gift Cert. 1 Paladinos Large Cheese Pizza	24 Sal's Birdland \$25 Gift Card Chili's 2 - \$5 Gift Cards	25 Utica Pizza \$25 Gift Card Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 2 Drinks	26 Hampton Inn Clay 1 Night Stay Mi Rancho Alegre 2-\$20 Gift Cert.	27 Buffalo Wild Wings To Go \$25 Gift Card 1 Paladinos Large Cheese Pizza Tropical Smoothie Cafe - 1 Drink	28 Go Car Wash \$50 Gift Card Crispi Co. \$25 Gift Card
29 Domino's Pizza \$25 Gift Card Mi Rancho Alegre 2-\$20 Gift Cert.	30 Spera's \$25 Gift Card Wildcat Pizza Pub \$25 Gift Card	Tickets are 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, or 8 for \$20 Daily Drawing: One Winner Per Day Winners will be notified by email weekly. Church Email: f1church31@gmail.com				
Payment Options: Cash, Checks (Make Payable to Faith Lutheran Church), Mail to 6142 State Route 31, Cicero, NY 13039 or Venmo (@ Faith-Lutheran-1. Please make sure we have your email!)						
						

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Nursery School Notes October 2026

We have been very busy here at school and were excited to see all the new and returning faces to our program! We also love our new carpet that has made our rooms so bright and fresh! As the weather begins to change this month we'll be learning all about fall. We have been reading books, singing songs and making crafts about apples, pumpkins and the changing colors all around us.

We weren't able to hold our SaveAround Book fundraiser this year. Unfortunately there was a problem with the printing and we could not get the coupon books to share in time. However, our "Boo Bags" Fundraiser is up and running this month! We will be creating fun treat bags to sell for Halloween and all the information will be placed on the table in the narthex for you to look at if you are interested.

Our School Spirit Days begin this month on October 7. Every student and teacher is encouraged to wear their Faith Lutheran T-shirt or anything red to show our school spirit!

We will be incorporating "Fire Safety Awareness Month" in October. We always look forward to our yearly visit from the Cicero Fire Department. It is fun to talk to the firefighters about their equipment and to see the fire truck. We also use this time to practice fire drills.

Pumpkin Day is October 14. We'll sing the "Pumpkin on the Vine" song and hear a story about a mouse who finds a piece of cheese that turns into a big Halloween surprise. Best of all we will pick pumpkins (provided by William's Farm) from our "Faith Lutheran Pumpkin Patch" and have a snack of pumpkin cookies and apple cider.

Halloween is still the most exciting part of October for our students. We will celebrate with classroom parties, complete with treats and costumes. We'll also have a costume parade and sing some songs for our parents before going home.

Two other special events coming up in October will be our school picture day on October 19 and Open House on October 21. We look forward to welcoming our families into our classrooms to see all the wonderful things we have been working on! Follow us on our Facebook page so you can see all the great things happening at the Nursery School too!

THOSE WHO SERVE

ALTAR GUILD

Kathy Newcomb and Lauri Hoover

MUSICIANS

Lindsay Brown, Barb Schwartz

TELLERS:

Week 1

Linda Keller and Rose McCarthy

Week 2

Maria Scheuer and Barb Stevenson

Week 3

Ralph and Cassie Richmond

Week 4

Barb Stevenson and Maria Scheuer

Financial Report for 2026

	August 2026	2026 YTD
Income	\$13,127.90	\$100,576.01
Expense	\$13,667.12	\$96,750.30
Totals	-\$539.22	\$3,825.71

A copy of the monthly financial report to the Church Council is available in the Church office.

10/4 Service

Worship Assistant	Bill Stevenson
Reader	Betty Winther
Cantor	Lauri Hoover
Greeter	Diane Monthie

10/11 Service

Worship Assistant	Arnold Hansen
Reader	Barb Snyder
Cantor	Betty Gay
Greeter	John and Barb Snyder

10/18 Service

Worship Assistant	Lorrie Monthie
Reader	Cassie Richmond
Cantor	Rose McCarthy
Greeter	Linda Keller

10/25 Service

Worship Assistant	Bill Stevenson
Reader	Rose McCarthy
Cantor	Cassie & Ralph Richmond
Greeter	Bill Azzoto

It's fall, which means it's time for apple picking!

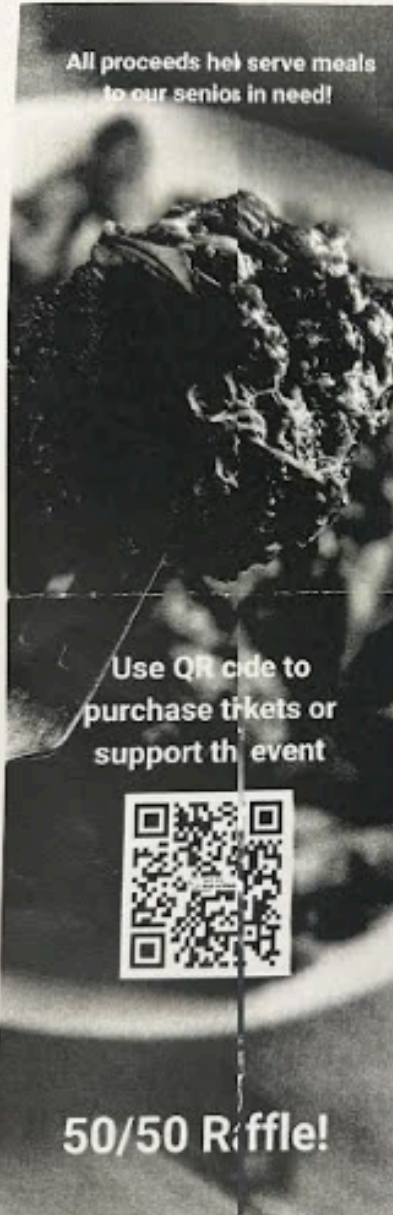
Join the Onondaga Food Rescue Network (OFRN) on Thursday, October 1st from 4-6pm at Salt City Harvest Farm (449 Fyler Rd, Kirkville, NY 13082) to pick apples to share with local nonprofits!

We're looking for volunteers to help harvest and sort apples. This volunteer opportunity is family-friendly. Volunteers under 16 must be accompanied by an adult 18 or over.

Come enjoy the change of the season with us! Follow this link to sign up today:

<https://forms.gle/wfAAirYpfPsckJLXA>

If you have questions, please email us at OFRN@bananaboxconsulting.com



All proceeds help serve meals to our seniors in need!

Use QR code to purchase tickets or support the event



50/50 Raffle!

 North Area
Meals on Wheels

Pasta Night Fundraiser!

Wednesday, October 7th 2026
3:30 - 6:00 pm
Take Out or Drive-Thru!

\$12 presale before Oct. 1st
\$15 at the event

- Pasta with Sauce
- Meatballs
- Chef's Salad
- Italian Bread
- Fudge Brownie

413 CHURCH STREET
NORTH SYRACUSE, NY 13212
315-452-1402
www.namow.org



Lillian Azzoto	10/02
Phyllis Harm	10/08
Rose McCarthy	10/08
Betty Gay	10/15
Kelly Forsyth	10/18
Rebecca Neider	10/19
Donna Brown	10/20
Christian Forsyth	10/20
Barb Stevenson	10/23
Bill Stevenson	10/25
Charlie Green	10/27
Nancy Chervinsky	10/27
Ralph Richmond	10/29

Faith Lutheran Church Council Directory

CHURCH PHONE: 315-699-5224 flchurch31@gmail.com

Church Secretary: Rebecca Neider

OFFICERS:

President Patty Carter

Vice President Bill Stevenson

Council Secretary Barb Snyder

Treasurer Kathy Newcomb

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL VOTING MEMBERS:

Pastor Allan Ferguson

Financial Secretary Barb Stevenson

Christian Education

Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Cassie Richmond

Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Chuck Bronner

Mutual Ministry, Co-Chair Bruce Hahn

Property Committee, Co-Chair John Snyder

Property Committee, Co-Chair Gary Winther

Property Committee, Co-Chair Bill Grace

Congregational Life Diane Monthie

Community Outreach/Evangelism Jeanne Bronner

STEWARDSHIP

COUNCIL NON-VOTING POSITIONS:

Superintendent of Sunday School

Co-Chair Diane Monthie

Co-Chair Lorrie Monthie

Bookkeeper Maria Scheuer

**If you need to reach any of the Council members, please contact
the church office for the person's contact information**

Please call or email the office when you or a member of your family is sick or in the hospital.

If you have given up your land line telephone and would like your cell phone indicated in the church records. Please notify the office.

Please call or email the office if your telephone # or email address has or is changed.

The Church number is 315-699-5224 – email address is flchurch31@gmail.com



If you are unable to make it to the Sunday morning service stream the service on the Church's Facebook account on your computer and phone.

Service starts at 10am.

Facebook: @FaithLutheranChurchCiceroNY

You can also follow Faith Lutheran Church on
Instagram: @FLC.Cicero



Do you have any news, updates, photos, or special announcements you would like to share with the congregation in the next issue of the Faith Chronicle? We would love to hear from you! Please send your submissions to the church office by October 19.



Is there something you would like to see included in the newsletter? Let us know! We're always happy to hear your ideas and will do our best to include them. Thank you!

If you would like to unsubscribe to Faith Lutheran's newsletter or bulletin distribution. Please notify the office at flchurch31@gmail.com and we can remove your name from the lists.

October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Faith Lutheran CHURCH</i>				1 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	2	3 CCC Fall Assembly 10:00 am Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
4 Sunday Service 10 am	5 M&M meeting 7pm	6 Choir 6:30-7:30	7	8 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	9	10 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8 Men's Breakfast 9:00 am
11 Sunday Service 10 am	12 Council Mtg 7pm	13 Choir 6:30-7:30	14	15 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	16	17 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
18 Sunday Service 10 am Food Pantry 11:30-1:00	19 Food Pantry 4:30-5:30	20 Choir 6:30-7:30	21	22 Lakeshore Heights Mtg 6:30-7:30 pm	23	24 Saturday Groups 11-3 7 - 8
25 Sunday Service 10 am	26	27 Choir 6:30-7:30	28	29	30	31