

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

(see calendar for complete list)

November 2-4
Pre-Teen Spring Hill Retreat

November 3, 9:30am
Fall Clean Up

November 11, 12pm
2nd Grade Bible Presentation

November 12
December Newsletter Deadline

November 16, 7pm
Family Movie Night

November 20, 7pm
Executive Board Meeting

November 21, 7pm
Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 22
Happy Thanksgiving!

CONNECTIONS

A publication of:
St. Michael Lutheran Church
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- St. Michael *Connections* is published monthly.
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- Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.
- Please submit articles to the church office or email to the editor prior to 2nd Monday deadline.

For weekly updates, visit our website at:

smlucanton.org/happenings

LIVE GENEROUSLY

The Bible is the greatest love story ever told. God loves us so much, and we are called to live and serve Him and our fellow man in response to that prodigal love that He has first shown us. As Christians, our hearts have been touched and transformed for now and for eternity by His love, grace, and provision. As complicated and as busy as life can get at times, we are to seek Jesus first in all that we do. It's ultimately all about Jesus, a matter of the heart.

You are invited to participate in our 2019 Stewardship Campaign. Our November stewardship sermon series is titled "Live Generously". We will examine the joys and challenges of living the generous life as we seek to acknowledge, manage, and share the blessings that God has entrusted to us, all by His grace. God desires us to live our lives joyfully and in service to Him and to our community and world.

We are prayerfully asking each member over the next few weeks to consider their financial commitment for 2019. By faith, we encourage you to reflect upon the blessings that God has graced your life with and boldly

and prayerfully accept the challenge to consider increasing your financial support for the mission and ministry that we share here at St. Michael Lutheran Church of Canton for 2019, for a time such as this.

In addition, this year in keeping with our church mission statement, we are asking you to prayerfully consider strengthening your connection to the Living God by praying about areas in your life where you can acknowledge, manage and share God's blessings in specific and new ways. This can be noted on the Faith Giving Card.

In a separate mailing, you will receive your 2019 Faith Giving Card. Since a Faith Giving Statement is an individual commitment between you and the Lord, it will not be recorded, but dedicated at the altar during the November 17-18 worship services as a faith based gesture and sealing the individual faith commitment.

The Lord's blessings as you seek to Live Generously in His grace!

In Jesus,
Pastor Tim



THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 21st at 7pm

Join us for a service of worship and thanksgiving as we gather to praise God for His generous outpouring of love and blessings!

New Sermon Series

Gadgets, clothes, vacations, retirement, kids, college and the list goes on. We have a wealth of things, but how often do we think of where these blessings come from? How do we acknowledge, share and manage these blessings that the Lord has entrusted to us in the generous and joyful life of service that He has called us to in response to His love and grace? Let's explore this and more together the first three weeks of November in our Stewardship sermon series, "Live Generously."

Max Lucado Study

A 12-week study by Max Lucado entitled, *Unshakable Hope; Building Our Lives on the Promises of God* is underway on Sunday mornings at 9:30am in the Chapel. In a trembling, unsteady world, how do we gain stability, find peace, and learn to trust God? Drop in any week and let's explore the answer together. No preparation or prior Bible study experience is necessary. Call Greg Anderson 734-968-4463 for more information.

Senior Bible Study

Everyone from ages 50+ are welcome to the Senior Bible Study on Thursday mornings from 11am-12:15pm in the Chapel. This study, led by Pr. Tim, is a time of prayer, fellowship, and deep study of God's Word with strong application for our lives today.



SEND

Stocking Stuffers

It's that time of year again! Beginning November 3 & 4, bags with stocking stuffer ideas for residents of SKLD of Plymouth (formerly Heartland of Plymouth) will be handed out after all services. There will be a large red container across from the nursery for your contributions. Items are due back by December 5. On December 6 we will be sorting and filling the stockings in the Abraham room from 9am to 1pm. Anyone interested in helping please contact Shannon DeWall at 734-771-6001. Prayerfully consider this important ministry. Blessings and thank you for your support.

Christmas for Medilodge

As in past years, St. Michael will provide gifts to be distributed to the residents of Medilodge Health Care in Plymouth.

As of December 1, the tree will be in the corner of the lobby near the office main entrance. Please take a tag and **BE SURE TO SIGN YOUR NAME AND PHONE # ON THE NOTEBOOK SHEET BY THE TREE.**

Purchase either a sweat shirt and socks or a t-shirt and socks. Please put the items in a holiday bag and attach the tag to the bag. No boxes, please.

Gifts are due back on Sunday, December 16 at 11am.

Some of the tags request large sizes. Consider shopping online for these. Also when the gifts are opened by the residents, we put their name on the clothing with permanent marker. If you have a color choice, please select the lighter colored item.

Thank you in advance for your participation in this ministry. Call Bonnie at 734-358-2050 with questions.



Brown Ministry

Help this multifaceted ministry in Midtown Detroit. Work typically includes food-sorting and packing, odd jobs, and outside and inside cleaning. Meet at church on November 17 at 8am to ride together in the van. We will return at 1pm. Please contact Paul Ingram to sign up: 734-502-3951 (text or voice).

Thanksgiving Baskets and Ingathering

There is a Thanksgiving Turkey Board in the lobby with "leaves" that you may take listing specific foods or monetary amounts that we need to put together a complete Thanksgiving meal for those in need. Simply take a "leaf" and purchase the food and

return it to St. Michael on Sunday, November 11. You may bring the food forward and place it behind the altar during the first hymn.

May the Lord bless you for your giving spirit!

What a blessing that in Christ, we can approach God's throne in confidence and find grace.

The Genius of Generosity

Kansas pastor Jack Wellman has been credited with the insight that “there is a certain genius in generosity.” He explains that when we open our hands — figuratively speaking — to allow something to pass through our fingers, rather than holding it with tightly clenched fists, God can give us new blessings.



“God cannot pour more into hands that are already clinging tightly to what they hold,” says Wellman. Whether material goods or time, ideas or talents, money or energy, the gifts God has given us so generously are to be shared just as freely with others. With our hands continually open to receive, give and receive again, God’s genius cycle of generosity goes on and on.

“CONNECT 4” WHAT?

No, it’s not a game. Find out what it means to be a Connector for someone joining our church. Come to a Connector Information session between worship services on Sunday, December 9 from 10:30 to 10:59am in the Matthew/Mark room. No, there aren’t four things to connect; there are three. Do you know what they are? Questions: dougtomayko@gmail.com.

Church Fall Clean Up

Date: November 3, 2018
 Rain or shine
 Time: 9:30am
 Location: Start by door 2 and work around the building
 Types of tasks will include pruning, annuals removal, flower bed clean up, perennial trimming, window cleaning, mulching, and small repairs/projects as needed.

What to bring: appropriate clothing, gloves, your own rakes, pruners, shovels, brooms, blowers and such.

We will supply food, drinks, trash bags, and other assorted supplies. We will probably have a small fire to help dispose of dead limbs.



Heartfelt Thanks

Mom (Connie Woodrich) passed away October 10th peacefully in her sleep. She was 92 and 3/4 old. She had been a member of St. Michael for over 30 years.

I want to give many thanks to the pastors and congregation for the thoughtful prayers for my Mother over the years. She truly enjoyed the beautiful cards sent to her, giving her a smile and comfort.

Power in prayer contributed to her longevity.

Thank you and God Bless, Cindy Wilkerson and family

GriefShare

GriefShare registration is underway. We will be offering a new 13-week GriefShare support group beginning Thursday, January 10 from 6:30-8:15pm in the Portable classroom, facilitated by Pr. Tim.

GriefShare is a Christ-centered, Biblically-based video and discussion group that takes place in a confidential, safe and nurturing environment. This experience is open to members and non-members. The cost is \$20 for materials, and help is available if cost is a concern. GriefShare is ideal for anyone working through the grief process (loss of a child, spouse, parent, sibling, or friend) regardless of when the loss occurred. It is a transformative experience by the power of God’s Word and the group support.

Registration is now open, and the class size is limited. Contact Pastor Tim at timewell@smlucanton.org or 734-459-3333 to register or with any questions.

Special Elderversity Seminar

On Thursday, November 8 at 1:30pm, there will be a special seminar about phone, mail, and email scams in the Chapel. For those attending the Senior Bible study, there will also be a light lunch served immediately following the study at 12:15pm. Please sign up in the office if you plan to attend the lunch so we can order food accordingly.

Please contact Lois Beerbaum at 734-259-8287 with any questions.

On Thanksgiving and every day, Lord, help us see you at work in all situations and give thanks.

Women's Book Club

Book club meetings are generally held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7pm in the Sarah room. New readers are always welcome, even if you didn't quite finish the book. You don't have to be a member of St. Michael to join us, so feel free to bring a friend, neighbor, or family member.



On November 19, we will discuss *Seeker of Stars* by Susan Fish. If you have any questions or would like to be added to the email list, please contact Amy Bruhn at amy.bruhn@gmail.com.



Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 4 at 2am. Don't forget to set your clocks back!

Altar Flowers

Look for the sign-up sheet for altar flowers to commemorate your special day - birthdays, anniversaries, memorials for loved ones, or to the glory of God. This will be posted on the Pastor's Board toward the end of November.

The cost of the flowers is \$20. You can pay at any time throughout the year by placing the money in a pew envelope or in your offering envelope and marking "Flowers" on the memo line. Once you sign up and pay for these flowers, you may take them home after the 11am worship service, or you may return on Monday to pick up your flowers.

Thank you for helping to beautify the altar each week!



Discovering St. Michael

Discovering St. Michael is a 45-minute informal session that provides details about our church, Christian community, and what we believe. It's a great way to see if you want to explore membership. The next session is November 11 at 10:15am in the Dorcas room. Please contact the church office for more information 734-459-3333.

Save the Date

The annual Advent by Candlelight is on Tuesday, December 4 at 7pm. Watch for sign up sheets on the Women's Ministry Board for hostesses and attendees.

This year's event includes a special presentation, Parables II, by Magic Carpet Theatre. This will inspire you to be an active, holy witness to the love of Christ. It will call each of us to deepen our faith, believe in the Gospel message, and go forth to proclaim the Gospel.



Detroit Lutheran Singers

Christmas 2018 concerts
A Ceremony of Carols!

Sunday, December 2 at 3pm
Historic Trinity Lutheran Church
1345 Gratiot Ave, Detroit, MI 48207

Sunday, December 2 at 7pm
St. Mary Catholic Church
1955 E Commerce St, Milford, MI 48381

Friday, December 7 at 7:30pm
Emmanuel Lutheran Church
34567 W Seven Mile Rd, Livonia, MI 48152

Saturday, December 8 at 7pm
Redeemer Lutheran Church
1800 W Maple Rd, Birmingham, MI 48009

General admission tickets are \$15 for students and \$10 for seniors.



Days grow shorter, but God's love never decreases.
Nights lengthen, but God's light outshines all the world's darkness.

The Children's Message

There are many considerations that go into making the worship services we provide at St. Michael. Much thought is put into how the service can best be structured. As we plan, we want to respect people's time as well as their worship experience. Recently we have made a small change after a lot of discussion and prayer regarding this subject. During those Sundays when there is an extra element in the service (like Bible presentations to children, Confirmation celebrations, special guest preachers, Music Sundays in December, faith-giving dedications, etc.), there will not be a children's message. We want to be able to focus on the specialness of these annual milestones and not have to rush in order to get the service finished in a timely way. There is also something called 'flow' in a worship service. This element provides an atmosphere in which you can feel a spiritual climax during the wor-

ship time. For this element we have decided that when the children's choirs are singing or the leaping lambs are performing, there will not be an additional children's message. As usual, we will have the children up close during baptisms which serves as a 'milestone' children's message, too.

So if you notice a few less children's messages at St Michael, do not worry. We are not eliminating anything. The children are precious to us and the children's message is a valued feature of our worship service. We do want to take time to focus on children for a couple minutes. We all enjoy the purity of their perspective towards God, reminding us of Jesus' words... Matthew 18:3-4 *"Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."*

Children's Church

During the 11am worship service, there is an opportunity for kids to exit and go to a younger version of church for 30 minutes. It's called Children's Church.

During the summer, Children's Church is for 5th graders and under, and it is called Summer Sunday School. There is so much traveling during the summer that our kids' attendance dips so we have no formal Sunday School for different age levels. Instead, we combine all age levels into one group to provide a child-friendly time for these kids that will spark their imaginations and deepen their faith in an age-appropriate way.

During the school year, however, we change the age level of Children's

Church since there is an age level Sunday School provided at the 9am hour. Children's Church during the school year is for 3rd grade and under. The 4th and 5th graders are at a maturity level where they can really comprehend the content of the sermon and learn to participate in the worship service. This then flows into the 5th graders becoming communicant members of the church. As 5th graders, there is the milestone of Communion class led by Pastor Dave in the Spring. If the child has already been attending the worship service, it is easier for them to appreciate the sacrament of communion when it is their time to learn and take this step of faith.

Elementary and Family Events

- ⇒ Pre-Teen Spring Hill Retreat, Friday, November 2 through Sunday, November 4
- ⇒ Family Service Project, Saturday, November 3 at 9:30am
- ⇒ 2nd Grade Bible Presentation, Sunday, November 11 at 12pm
- ⇒ Unstoppable, Friday, November 16 at 6pm
- ⇒ Family Movie Night, Friday, November 16 at 7pm

Please contact Brenda Stillely with questions about these and other children and family events at 734-255-3131.

High School and Middle School Events

- ⇒ Youth Worship Night, Sunday, November 4 at 6pm
- ⇒ High School Hangout, Tuesday, November 6 at 12pm
- ⇒ Middle School Bowling, Friday, November 16 at 6:30pm

Please contact Shawn Jennings or Connor Boyer with questions about these and other youth events at shawnjennings@smlucanton.org, connorboyer@smlucanton.org, or 734-459-3333.

Bible Quiz

After Cain killed Abel, their parents, Adam and Eve, had another son. What did they name the baby?

- A. Seth
- B. Enoch
- C. Shem
- D. Lamech



Answer: A (See Genesis 4:25.)

"A single grateful thought toward heaven is the most complete prayer."
—Gotthold Lessing

2nd Grade Bible Presentation

The 2nd Grade Bible Presentation is a milestone in a child’s life, and we are so excited to be a part of it! This will take place on Sunday, November 11 during the 11am service. Feel free to invite family and friends to celebrate this special day in your child’s life.

There will be a cake reception immediately following the service in the gym for all Bible recipients and family. Any questions, contact Brenda Stilley at brendastilley@smlucanton.org.

Family Service Project

On Saturday, November 3, the church is having a Clean Up Day. This is a chance for families to work together helping to clean up the grounds around the church. It’ll be a fun family time! The clean up begins at 9:30am, but any time you are able to give will be greatly appreciated. All ages welcome.

MOPS

We have a wonderful MOPS program for mothers of preschoolers which meets at St. Michael twice a month, generally the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 9am. Anyone with preschoolers is welcome. Enjoy a meal, encouragement, inspiration, crafting, and sharing baby wisdom while the kids are being cared for in a separate class. For more information, please contact Angela at 586-419-0623 or amdimag@mtu.edu.



Wednesday ReCharge Teachers Needed!

Teachers are needed in January for Wednesday night Recharge. Please contact Brenda Stilley for more details at 734-255-3131.

Pre-Teen Spring Hill Retreat

Please pray for the kids and their chaperones who are going to the Spring Hill Retreat. May this be a time to strengthen their faith and their friendships!



Free Babysitting!

Free babysitting at St. Michael on Friday evening, November 9. Text Brenda Stilley at 734-255-3131 to reserve a spot for your kids of all ages. Enjoy a night out with your husband, go home and nap, clean, shop, or anything else you may want to do. The goal is to be a blessing to parents by giving them free time. Sign up sheet on the Parish Life board.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- ♦ **Thanksgiving Eve service**, November 21 at 7pm
- ♦ **Advent begins** Sunday, December 2
- ♦ **Advent services**, Wednesdays, December 5, 12, and 19 at 7pm
- ♦ **Music Sunday**, December 16 at 9 and 11am
- ♦ **Christmas Eve services**, Monday, December 24 at 5, 7, and 11pm
- ♦ **Christmas Day service**, Tuesday, December 25 at 10am

On Thanksgiving and every day, Lord, help us see you at work in all situations and give thanks.

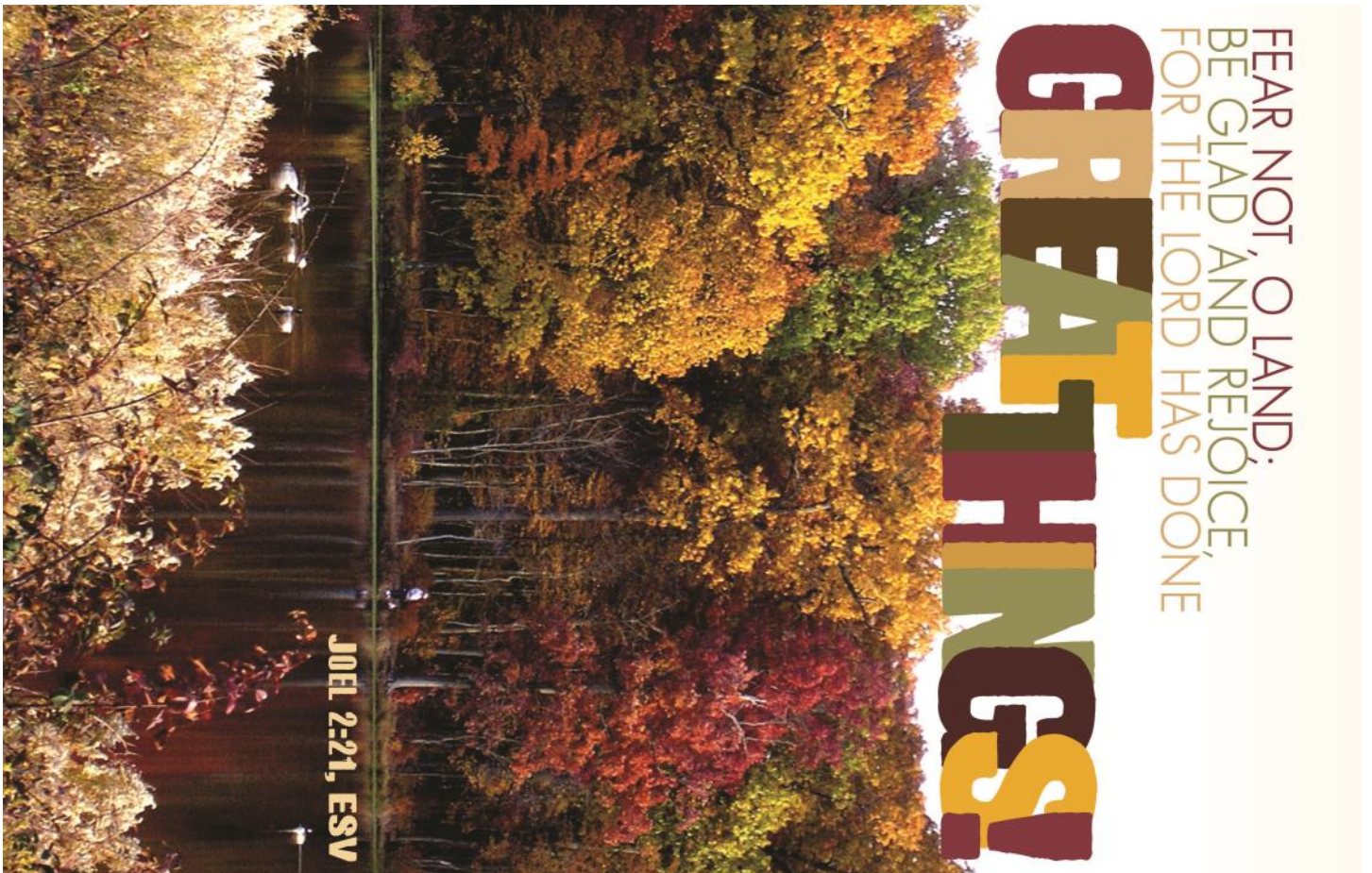
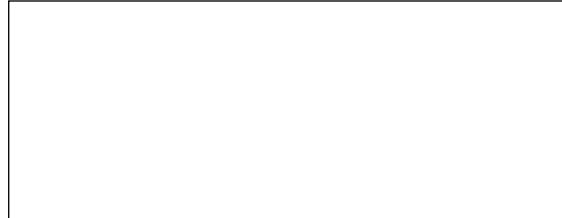


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Rev. Dr. Dave Denzer, Lead Pastor
Rev. Tim Ewell, Associate Pastor
Shawn Jennings, Youth Director
Brenda Stilley, Children & Family Ministries
Sue Lukasik, Director of Music

Worship Saturday 5:30 PM
Sunday 9:00 and 11:00 AM



NOVEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4. ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</p> <p>9:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School—all ages 10:00 Breakfast with the Pastor 10:30 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship/Communion 11:30 Children's Church 12:30 Parish Life 5:00 DivorceCare 6:00 Youth Worship Night PRE-TEEN SRING HILL RETREAT</p>	<p>5</p> <p>5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 MOPS Steering</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00 High School Hangout 6:00 Property</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St 9:00 Open Door Ministry 9:30 Crossways 5:15 Midweek Recharge 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>See individual leaders for choirs and dance schedules</p>	<p>1</p> <p>11:00 Senior Bible Study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 HS Youth Group 7:00 Adult Choir</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St PRE-TEEN SRING HILL RETREAT</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:00 Fall Clean Up 5:30 Worship PRE-TEEN SRING HILL RETREAT</p>
<p>11</p> <p>9:00 Worship/Communion 9:30 Sunday School—all ages 10:15 Discovering St. Michael 10:30 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship 11:30 Children's Church 12:00 2nd Grade Bible Presentation 5:00 DivorceCare</p>	<p>12 NEWS DEADLINE</p> <p>5:30 Evening Prayer</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:00 MOPS 9:30 LWR Quilters 11:00 Plymouth Ct 7:00 Mission & Outreach</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St 9:30 Crossways 5:15 Midweek Recharge 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>See individual leaders for choirs and dance schedules</p>	<p>15</p> <p>11:00 Senior Bible Study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 HS Youth Group 7:00 Adult Choir</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St 6:00 Unstoppable 6:30 Middle School Bowling 7:00 Family Movie Night</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 Brown Ministry 5:30 Worship</p>
<p>18</p> <p>9:00 Worship 9:30 Sunday School—all ages 10:30 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship/Communion 11:30 Children's Church 5:00 DivorceCare</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:30 Evening Prayer 7:00 Book Club</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:00 MOPS 7:00 Church Board</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St 9:30 Crossways 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve Service</p>	<p>22 OFFICES CLOSED HAPPY THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>23 OFFICES CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St</p>	<p>24</p> <p>5:30 Worship/Communion</p>
<p>25 CHRIST THE KING</p> <p>9:00 Worship/Communion 9:30 Sunday School—all ages 10:30 Adult Bible Study 11:00 Worship 11:30 Children's Church 5:00 DivorceCare</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30 Evening Prayer</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 LWR Quilters 9:30 Newsletter Staff 11:00 Plymouth Ct</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St 9:30 Crossways 5:15 Midweek Recharge 6:30 Confirmation 6:30 Adult Bible Study</p> <p>See individual leaders for choirs and dance schedules</p>	<p>29</p> <p>11:00 Senior Bible Study 6:30 GriefShare 7:00 HS Youth Group 7:00 Adult Choir</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:30 Mens Bkfst/Bible St</p>	