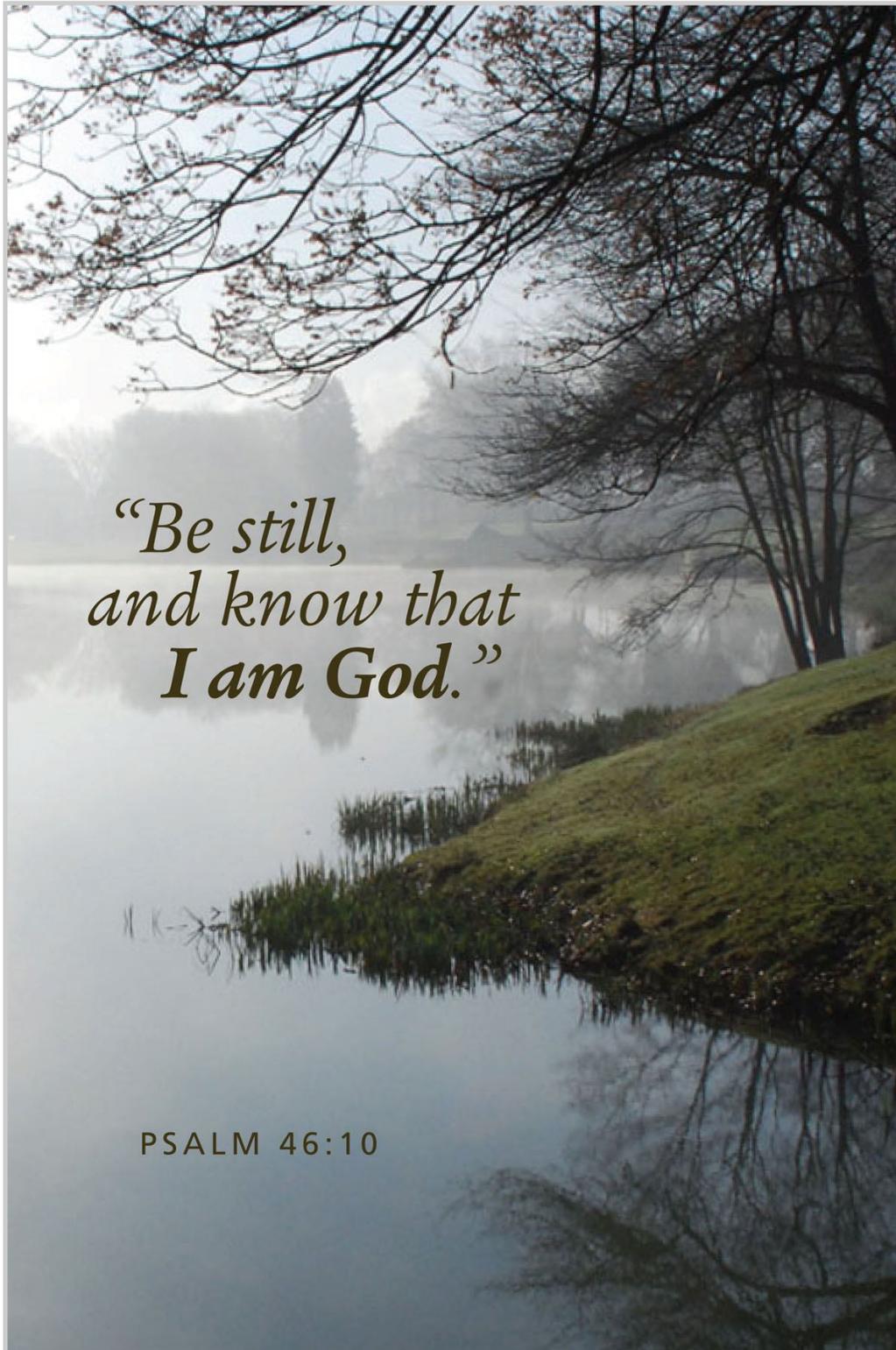


THE CALLING

NOVEMBER 2016

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 7



*“Be still,
and know that
I am God.”*

PSALM 46:10



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Pastor's Corner

Jesus said that we are known by the fruits of the Spirit, and our ministries make the Spirit known in our congregation and community.

We have made great gains during this past year, and we have accomplished most of our goals that we set before us at the congregational meeting last January. Many of our members have commented on the positive energy and spirit that has infused the church, and we can see it evidenced by the number of persons stepping forward to be part of the ministries here. The worship services remain faithful to the expressions of the Lutheran church, grounded in the gospel of Jesus Christ and in the sacramental practices we hold dear.

In the name of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, and through the Holy Spirit, we have accomplished many good things. Jesus said that we are known by the fruits of the Spirit, and our ministries make the Spirit known in our congregation and community. In God all things are possible!

Now we are coming to the end of our calendar year. We are looking forward to another exciting year, one that is full of possibilities and challenges. As we prepare for the next calendar year, let us always remember that God is the One for whom we do all things.

that is true. The small grain of faith that God has provided us has power beyond our own comprehension. It is God who puts the faith in us, and it is God who trusts us to carry out the work that He himself provides for us. God trusts us to do what is right, and He has given us



If you have faith
as small as a mustard seed,
you can say to this mountain,
"Move from here to there"
and it will move.

Matthew 17:20

We do these things not only because we have faith in God, who always provides, but because God has faith in us! God sacrificed himself on the cross because he loved us and because he has faith in us. Jesus said the if we have the faith the size of a mustard seed we could move mountains. And

the gifts and resources that we need to face and overcome any challenge that confronts us. That is why we are the church, called to be witnesses to the faith that God has entrusted us. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Brian

FROM offerings^{TO} ministry

Please join us as we celebrate our past year of ministry at Mt. Hope and make our financial commitments for next year! Here are the details:

- One church service – Sunday, November 20 at 9:30 am
- One choir open to all singers
- Offering to include “from Offerings to Ministry” commitment forms
- Brunch immediately following the service

Please RSVP to Donna at

donna@mounthope
lutheranchurch.org or
414-541-9500 for the
brunch.

Attention all who like to sing! Please join us and sing with a one-time all church choir at our “from Offerings to Ministry Celebration Service.” The service is on Sunday, November 20 at 9:30. All ages welcome! Here are the details: Singers will meet in the Assembly room at 8:45 am on November 20 to go over the anthem and communion anthem.

See Bonnie Jean before or after any service between now and then if you want copies of the music in advance. If one wishes to get familiar with the songs, here are the YouTube links to both songs:
O That I Had a Thousand Voices
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFH_IbL3tZ4
In Remembrance
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsXmxfbOOiE>

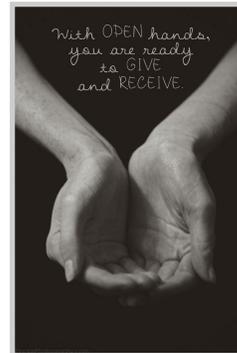
Romans 12: 6-8
We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry in ministering; the teacher in teaching; the exhorter in exhortation; the giver in generosity; the leader in diligence; the compassionate in cheerfulness.

The act of giving an offering of money at church represents an acknowledgement of God’s blessings in our lives, and a commitment to the ministry of the congregation as part of our worship.

Kind of like thinking about the song, “The Hokey Pokey.” The lyrics of the song tell us to put our right leg or left arm in a circle, shake it, then “turn yourself about.” While the song is a silly one, the last command is asking you to “Put your whole self in...” If we think of Christ’s worship, He asks that we offer our whole person to God. While all of us need some help with the thought and idea of offering ourselves, our time and talents to God, and how we can

each play a part in God’s worship, there are many examples of this at Mount Hope.

Weekly, the offering plate collects money envelopes dedicated to special ministries served at Mount Hope. Being a monetary donation, or a donation of self, time and talents, we encourage you to continue think about what more you could do to help worship at Mount



Hope, and reach out to help make a difference within our community.

If looking for ways in which you can help and volunteer and donate, please speak with family and friends, even Pastor Brian brian@mounthopelutheranchurch.org to find out ways in which your talents are needed!

Mission Partner: Hephatha Church

Oct. 25, 2016
Dear Mt. Hope,

Thank you for the inspiring lunch and worship visit with your excellent confirmands, who shared with us in worship and lunch and Sunday School with great spirit. How beautiful to see a whole group of teens serving in this way...and thank you to your committed adults!

God's peace to you,
Pastor Mary Martha & Hephatha

Celebrate!

Special November Birthdays

Celebrating 90+
Arnold Guenther - 90th
John Hoeting - 91st
Hazel Zacher - 90th

Special November Wedding Anniversaries

Celebrating 50+
Iward & Nancy Johnson - 56th

Youth: Confirmation Update

October was a very busy month for the Confirmation class: a lock in, serving at Hephatha, and Confirmation for the 8th graders.

The lock in was memorable with ghost stories and a trip to the ER for a broken finger. Hephatha was an

experience the students won't soon forget.

In November, the Confirmation service project will be the Veteran's Dinner on November 11th. This will be a great opportunity for the students to serve a meal to our veteran's as well as learn something about the veteran's in

our congregation.

The Confirmation students continue to learn about faith and how serving others is an important part of that faith and Mount Hope's mission.

Debbie Conklyn
Coordinator

Youth: Sunday School

In our current Bible story, the children are learning about Samuel being called by God. They are also learning that God is calling them too and that their little hands can do big things. Some of the ways our children are being called by God is through the following service projects they are participating in.

On September 11th, the personal care kits were completed and packaged for shipping thanks to the Conklyn, Norton, and Servi families.

On Sunday, October 30th, the children will be visiting the residents at Library Square Senior Community in their Halloween costumes to hand

treats out instead of receiving treats. We hope this small gesture will brighten the lives of the residents that live there.

In November we will be having a blanket making party to support an organization called Project Linus. This organization provides hand made blankets to children in local hospitals who are undergoing medical treatments. We will be making simple fleece blankets and need donations of fleece material in 2 yard increments. The material must come from a smoke free environment. Discounted fleece can be purchased through the website Yourfleece.com and if you enter the code word Linus you will re-

ceive an additional 15% off. All fleece donations can be brought to church and placed on the table in the Fireside room.

In addition to our Sunday School service work some fun events are also being planned. Our first two fun events will be a family movie night and our second annual parent shopping day which allows parents to get Christmas shopping or other errands done while their children spend the morning playing games, watching a movie, eating lunch, and having fun. Details will be coming soon.

In God's Love,
Colleen Hammerer
Sunday School Director

President's Pen

On October 8, I attended the Installation of our new Greater Milwaukee Synod Bishop, Paul Erickson, at St. Matthew's Church in Wauwatosa. Not only was it a beautiful celebration of this great event, attended by the Bishop of the ELCA and former GMS Bishops, but also the Lutheran Bishop of El Salvador spoke, and representatives of Catholic, Baptist, Moravian, and Latvian churches, and the local Muslim Imam attended. That gives great hope for working together. Some songs were sung with a choice of English or Spanish,

melded together. It was a service full of promise for creative and faithful ministry.

I hope you'll check our website regularly at mounthopelutheran-church.org. It has a lot to offer: general calendar information, youth offerings, service opportunities and more. It's fun to explore each of the headings. Under "offerings" you'll find a wonderful video of Jean Guenther exploring what worship means to her. There are "musings" from Pastor Brian, both written and short videos. See what else you can find!

Included is a reminder that November 20 will be a single worship service for all at 9:30, followed by brunch. If you enjoy singing, come at 8:45, and join the choir! On the website (and on page 3) there are links to the 2 songs that will be sung.

Our October 2 Harvest Festival was well attended by people of all ages. A few neighborhood folks were drawn in by the advertising, music and fun. Thanks to all those who planned this for us.

In your service,
Cathy Hinrichs
Congregation Council
President

November: Special Worship Services

Commitment Sunday
Sunday, November 20
at 9:30 a.m. (one service only) followed by brunch. See page 3 for more info.

Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Bible Classes

All are welcome to come to one of the weekly Bible classes led by Pastor Brian.

Wednesdays
at 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel

Thursdays
at 2:00 p.m.
in Room 202

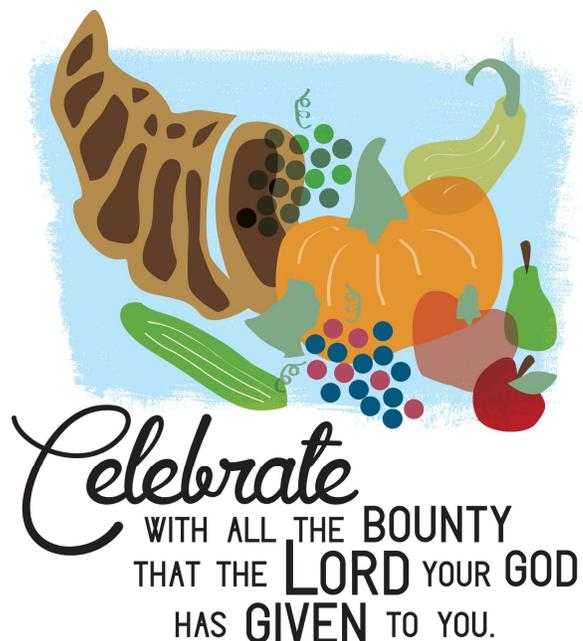
Third World Mission Store

We invite you to connect with talented artisans and farmers in 30 countries. Our partner SERRV, created long term connections with disadvantaged artisans and farmers. Together we build products that serve as a tool for change worldwide. Your purchases help these artisans and farmers lift themselves out of poverty. Communities are transformed. Successful businesses provide for families. What a gift.

During November when we pause to count our blessings may you find this prayer helpful...*Dear Lord, thank you for the gift of food you've placed upon our table, and help us do your work in any way we're able.*

Visit the Mission Store. It's down the hall and around the world. Thanksgiving cards are available for \$0.50.

Pat Morris
Coordinator



DEUTERONOMY 26:11, NRSV

Hope Closet

A ministry for students in transition in the West Allis-West Milwaukee School District

We are continuing to collect toys for our Hope Closet and Good Samaritan clients. Many children in our community do not even have enough food and clothing. While we try to supply some of these basic needs through our Hope Closet and the Good Samaritan Food Pantry, we would also like to bring a smile to those hopeful faces as they look forward to Christmas.

Please bring new toys to church any time from now through December 20th.

Please place your new toy donations under the Christmas tree near the office.

Thank you!
Donna Joansen

Mission Outreach

Investigation and introspection is on-going. We are working to **focus** our Missions at Mount Hope and trying to discern where God is leading us at Mount Hope Will forward any/all ideas to Council and congregation.

Remember always, donated food each month will go to Good Samaritan, our local food pantry in West Allis. This is so important as we near the colder months along with the holidays of Thanks-

What's Up

Here we are with fall in full swing and at the beginning of the holiday season.

Halloween is a fun holiday. For a short time you get to pretend to be someone you're not. Kids get candy. Houses become cemeteries with ghosts. We seem to enjoy this break from reality. This is interesting! Why would we do that? We have always heard that we are the very best just the way we are.

Halloween gives us time to have a break from the real world. If we use this

giving and Christmas. Listen to your heart, what is God asking us all to do in His name?

THANK YOU to all of Mount Hope for the quilt and Personal Care Kits given to Lutheran Social Services and Lutheran World Relief...to the Boy Scout Troop, their parents, Pastor Brian, Jerry Hertzfeld, Dave Jonasen, Dave Loosen and Dave Zingsheim for their muscles. Our Quilters are simply AWESOME!

temporary play time wisely it will move us into a better frame of mind. We will then be thankful for whom we really are.

Life can be overwhelming with all the running around we do for our families, friends and church. And then there is the guilt we carry around because we "should" have done something we didn't have time to do! Lets just enjoy the season for what it is. Put on a Minyon costume for an hour when we take the kids trick or treating, or go to a party. A fantasy is great for a while and can

All who donated items for Personal Care kits – YOU are unbelievable... Mount Hope...you have blessed many!

Coming up will be the gathering of Christmas gifts headed up by Mount Hope Youth, for Good Samaritan as well as the Hope Closet. Watch for more information to come.

Peace,
Mission Outreach Team

refresh our heart and soul.

Let's take a break from our hectic world so we can remember what's important in our lives and who we really are. Embrace our real world and be grateful for our blessings... church, families, jobs and even the challenges that blindside us occasionally. God is there to help us every day. Let's make it the best day ever! And keep an eye out for those ghosts and goblins!

With Blessings,
Judi Hertzfeldt

Mission Partner: Lutheran Social Services

A World of Adoption Opportunities

Any day is a wonderful day to adopt a child, but November 19, 2016, is an especially good day to form a forever family. It's National Adoption Day, a national effort to raise awareness of the children waiting to find permanent, loving homes. It's also the centerpiece of National Adoption Awareness Month.

Lutheran Social Services has a whole world of opportunities for families who want to grow through adoption. Programs include:

Domestic Adoption

This program recognizes and serves the needs of all the members of the adoption triad – birth parents, child and adoptive family – and the unique circumstances of each individual adoption. LSS has provided domestic adoption services for more than 100 years, and has created hundreds of forever families. The program encourages open adoptions, in which birth parents and adoptive families create healthy, continuing relationships as the child grows.

LSS also provides services for special needs adoptions that place children from the foster care system who can't return to their biological families into loving homes, as well as adoptions by step-parents and relatives.

International Adoption

LSS has accredited programs that unite adoptable children from several countries – including Bulgaria, China, Haiti, Kyrgyzstan, and the Philippines – with loving forever families in the U.S. International adoption has many steps, and the LSS staff guides adoptive families through each one. LSS also works with in-country guides who welcome and accompany families who travel to meet their son or daughter in their home countries.

The LSS adoption program for Kyrgyzstan recently expanded the family of Angie and Nathan Schlesner of Cashton, Wisconsin. A photo of a darling little girl named Sofia touched their hearts, and soon Angie and Nathan were on the first of three trips to Kyrgyzstan to meet Sofia

and arrange an adoption. Sofia, who has Down syndrome, has been welcomed by her new siblings – Emma, 13, Jack, 10 and Addie, 4 – and the entire Cashton community. "We couldn't be more blessed," said Angie.



Camping Under the Stars

Some of the boys in our treatment programs for troubled, traumatized youth recently enjoyed a new experience: camping under the stars. Staff from Homme Youth and Family Programs introduced them to simple outdoor pleasures like fishing, canoeing, hiking and s'mores. This is the type of growth experience made possible by congregations' support of LSS programs.

More About National Adoption Day and Adoptable Children

- ♥ National Adoption Day takes place the Saturday before Thanksgiving. This year, it's November 19.
- ♥ More than 100,000 children in the U.S. are in foster care and waiting for an adoptive family
- ♥ Children in foster care who are waiting for adoptive families have an average wait time of three years
- ♥ More than 23,000 children age out of the foster care system each year without a family or permanent home
- ♥ As a result of National Adoption Day in 2015, 4,000 children were adopted by their forever families
- ♥ By some estimates, there are more than 150 million children worldwide who don't have parents

December: Christmas Worship and Special Services

Christmas Concert

This year we are doing something new for our Christmas concert. On Sunday, December 18th, we will have one service that is entitled, "Carols and Traditions" in which we will sing our familiar Christmas carols but also to listen to the stories behind them. Having the concert during the one service on Sunday give us the opportunity to worship together in this festive season. This concert will take the place of the Candlelight Concert which has been a mainstay at Mt. Hope for many years. Now it is time to create a new Christmas tradition for the entire congregation.

Golden Member

Worship & Luncheon

Tuesday, December 13

Worship - 11:00 a.m.

Luncheon - 12:00 p.m.

This event is for all members age 75 years and older, as well as homebound members of all ages.

Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 24

Candlelight Service

10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Service

Sunday, December 25

10:00 a.m.

Carols & Traditions

Sunday, December 18

One service at 10:00 a.m.

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, January 1

One service at 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 24

Family Service

5:00 p.m.

***Please note:** No Saturday services on

Saturday, December 17

Saturday, December 31



Help us decorate our worship space this Christmas season with red poinsettias (from Mileager's). Plants are \$8 each. Complete the order form and make checks payable to Mt. Hope. Send or drop off form and payment to the church office, or drop it in the offering plate. Contact Donna in the church office (donna@mounthopelutheranchurch.org or 414.541.9500) with questions. **The deadline to order is Sunday, November 20.**

Name: _____

Number of plants _____ @ \$8.00/each = _____ Total Enclosed

Please note any special dedication you'd like included:

Given by: _____

In memory of _____

In honor/celebration of _____

In thanksgiving for _____



Mount Hope Lutheran Church
8633 West Becher Street, West Allis, WI 53227

How to Reach Us

Telephone: 414-541-9500
Fax: 414-541-9115



E-mail:
office@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Website:
www.mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Subscribe to our e-mail newsletter at
www.mounthopelutheranchurch.org or
call the church office.

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
(closed 12:00—1:00 p.m.)
Friday 8:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

Staff

Rev. Brian Halverson
Mobile: 630-880-4935
Office: 414-541-9500 ext. 103
e-mail: brian@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Donna Ihlenfeld
Administrative Assistant
414-541-9500 ext. 101
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Carla Stensberg
Bookkeeper & Accounts Payable
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e-mail:
carla@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Mary Felkner
Accounts Receivable
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e-mail: mary@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Colleen Hammerer

Sunday School Coordinator
414-541-9500 ext. 106
e-mail:
sundayschool
@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Tom Giesfeldt

Custodian
414-541-9500 ext. 109
e-mail: office
@mounthopelutheranchurch.org

Music Staff

Donna Jonasen
Worship Leader - 10:00 a.m.
Music Coordinator

Jan Heins

Organist

Bonnie Jean Barczak
Hope Choir Director
Handbell Choir Director

Jill Dahlgren

Hope Choir Accompanist

Pat Kaiser

Instrumental Ensemble Director

Congregation Council

Cathy Hinrichs, President
Lynne Loosen, Vice-President
Robyn Schuchardt, Secretary
Kathy Solberg, Treasurer
Mike Berkhahn
Paul Canestra
Glen Norton
Geoff Nurse
Keith Paukner

November



Tuesday, November 1

All Saints Day

- 7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast Group
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 580
- 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee Festival Chorus

Wednesday, November 2

- 9:00 a.m. Quilter's Group
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 5:30 p.m. WISH Support Group
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal
- 6:30 p.m. Youth Planning
- 7:00 p.m. Hope Choir

Thursday, November 3

- 2:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 3-7:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 6:30 p.m. Mission Outreach

Friday, November 4

- 9:30 a.m. Woman's Club of West Allis

Saturday, November 5

- 9-12:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 3:00 p.m. Mission Partner Appreciation Day at Hephatha

5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, November 6

Daylight savings time ends

All Saints Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 8:45 a.m. Instrumental Ensemble
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Monday, November 7

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day

- 7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast Group
- 9:00 a.m. Cleaning Crew
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 580
- 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee Festival Chorus

Wednesday, November 9

- 9:00 a.m. Quilter's Group
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 5:30 p.m. WISH Support Group
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Hope Choir

Thursday, November 10

- 2:00 p.m. Bible Study

- 3-7:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 6:00 p.m. Financial Mgmt. Cmte.
- 6:45 p.m. Bell Choir

Friday, November 11

Veteran's Day

- 5:30 p.m. Confirmation Youth: 'Honoring Our Veteran's' Dinner

Saturday, November 12

- 9-12:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 5:00 p.m. Blood Pressure Check
- 5:30 p.m. Worship
- 6:15 p.m. Blood Pressure Check

Sunday, November 13

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
- 9:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Check
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Blood Pressure Check
- 11:00 a.m. Confirmation Class

Monday, November 14

Tuesday, November 15

- 7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast Group
- 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Planning
- 6:00 p.m. Congregation Council
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 580
- 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee Festival Chorus

Wednesday, November 16

- 9:00 a.m. Quilter's Group
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 1:00 p.m. Book Group
- 5:30 p.m. WISH Support Group
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Hope Choir

Thursday, November 17

- 2:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 3-7:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 6:00 p.m. Facility Mgmt.
- 6:45 p.m. Bell Choir

Friday, November 18

Saturday, November 19

High School Youth: Trip to Mall of America

- 9-12:00 p.m. Hope Closet
- 9:00 a.m. Project Linus: Blanket Making Party

5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, November 20

Commitment Sunday

- 8:45 a.m. Instrumental Ensemble
- 9:00 a.m. Choir Practice
- 9:30 a.m. **Commitment Sunday Worship**
- 10:30 a.m. Brunch
- 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Dinner at Serenity Inn

Monday, November 21

Tuesday, November 22

- 7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast Group
- 9:00 a.m. Cleaning Crew
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 580
- 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee Festival Chorus

Wednesday, November 23

- 9:00 a.m. Quilter's Group
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 5:30 p.m. WISH Support Group
- 6:30 p.m. Hope Choir
- 7:00 p.m. **Thanksgiving Eve Worship**

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving

Church office closed

Friday, November 25

Church office closed

Saturday, November 26

5:30 p.m. Worship

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday in Advent

- 8:30 a.m. Worship
- 9:30 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School

Monday, November 28

Tuesday, November 29

- 7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast Group
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 580
- 7:30 p.m. Milwaukee Festival Chorus

Wednesday, November 30

- 9:00 a.m. Quilter's Group
- 9:30 a.m. Prayer Gathering
- 5:30 p.m. WISH Support Group
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
- 6:30 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal
- 7:00 p.m. Hope Choir