

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
408 9TH STREET NW
MANDAN, ND 58554

Building Faith and Transforming Lives in Christ

November 15, 2026 8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *"O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (v. 1-5)* *ELW #632 or Page 8*

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY Pastor: Let us pray….

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD, for the day of the LORD is at hand! The LORD has prepared a
sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I
will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will
not do good, nor will he do harm." 13 Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not
drink wine from them. 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of
the day of the LORD is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day
of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds
and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against
the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust and their flesh
like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's
wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will
make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord. **RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**
from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
and like a watch in the night;
5 you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
6 **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
7 For we are consumed by your anger;

we are afraid because of your wrath.
8 **Our iniquities you have set before you,**
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[9 When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
11 Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
] 12 **So teach us to number our days**
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything
written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief
in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come
upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you,
brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all
children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us
not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night,
and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and
put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has
destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for
us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one
another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord. **RESPONSE: Thanks be to God.**



The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **"Glory to you, O Lord."**

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and
entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each
according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents
went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had
the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and
dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves
came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came
forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I
have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the
joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you
handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well
done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the
one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where
you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your
talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy
slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?
27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have
received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with
the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance,
but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless
slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The gospel of the Lord. **"Praise to you, O Christ."**

SERMON *Pastor Phil*

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"* *ELW #693 or Page 9*

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Leader: "God, in your mercy," Congregation: "hear our prayer."

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943
Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema
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PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

Please greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

OFFERING

Thank you for your financial offerings to First Lutheran. Your generosity enables us to carry out the mission of Christ through our life together here in this congregation and through our loving service to our neighbors beyond our walls. We now have resumed the traditional offering practice of "passing the plates." For those who contribute to First Lutheran's ministry in ways other than weekly in-church offerings and would still like to be included in the in-worship gathering of the offering, laminated "Offering Cards" are now included in the pew racks for you to place in the offering plates.

OFFERTORY *"We Are an Offering" ELW #692 or Page 10*

OFFERING PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

MEAL

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER

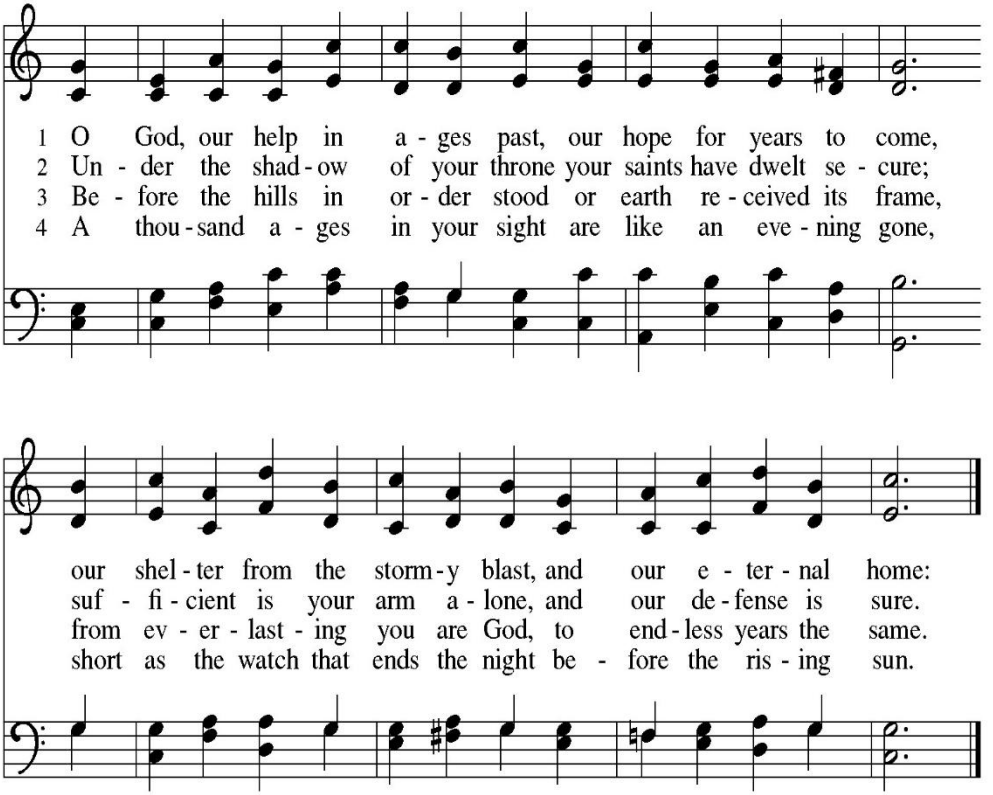
BENEDICTION

*Sunday School children and parents are welcome to dismiss during the sending hymn.

SENDING HYMN *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me" ELW #623 or Page 11*

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Cong: Thanks be to God.**

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

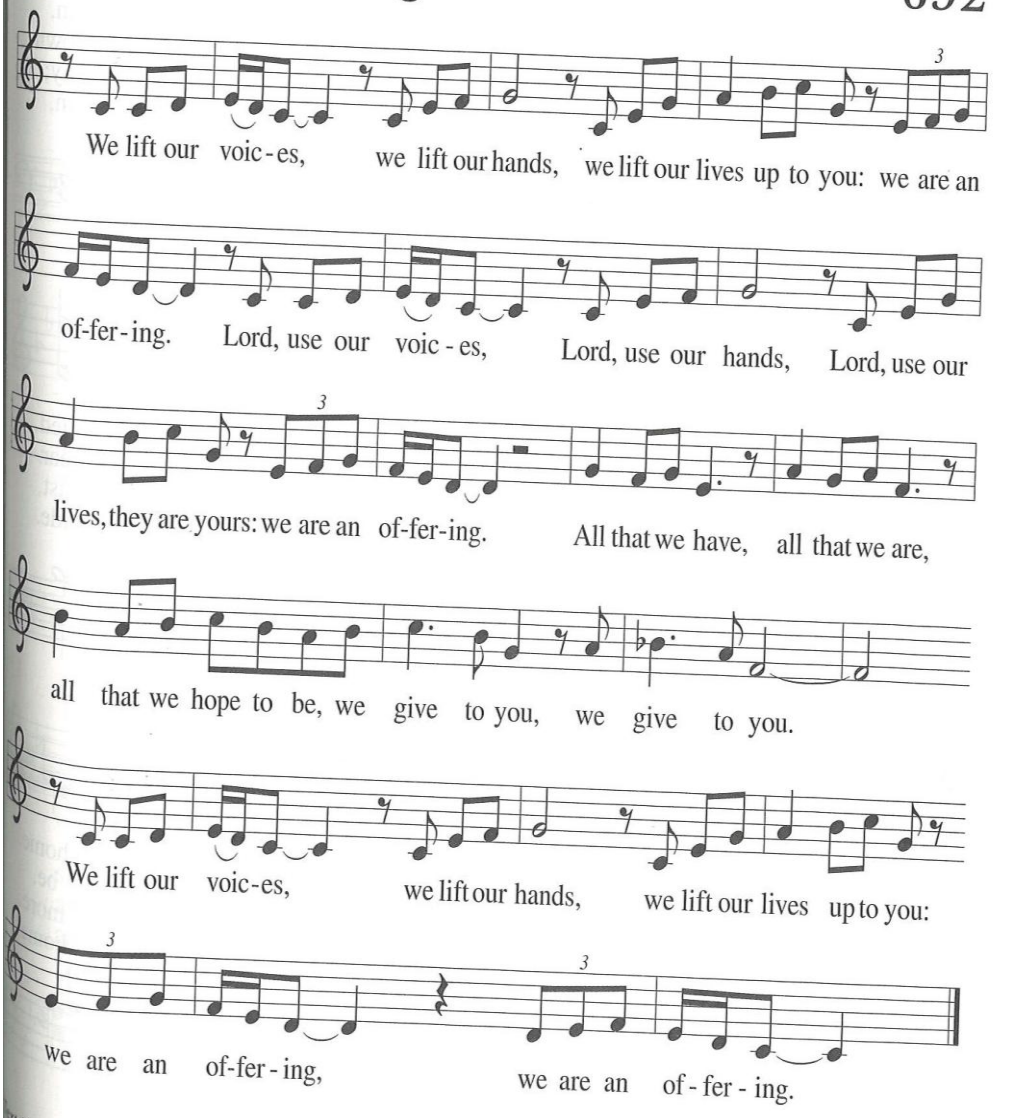
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

We Are an Offering

692



T: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
sic: Dwight Liles
and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778
Music: TOPLADY, Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872

Attendance last Week: ***Sunday 8:30*** - 83 ***10:30*** - 98
Wednesday 6:30 - 83

ON-GOING PRAYER CONCERNS:

Noel Albrecht, Brad Schmidt, Joan Hanson, Debbie Martineson, Hal Lang, Patrick Lang, Jason Bjorgen, Ken Charvat, Dave Thomas, Joann Meyer, Preston Joyce, Susan Voigt, Toby Kienzle, Pam Weng, Lois Smith, Barb Carl, Jeff MacIver, Darin Hinsz, Jerome Bauer, Wendel Mongeon, Brenda Hersch, Ray Stenmoen, Connor Hertz, Teresa Seeman, Linda Stastny, Rachael Hankin, Opal Renken, David Jung, Dina Walker, Kay Link, Tammy Krein, Terry Tanaka, Wanda House, Tom Burau, Judy Walters, Monte Olmsted, Pat Kincaid, Victor Saeman, Lualice Stockert, Katy Anseth, Sarah Weishaar, Anna Anderson, Brenna Blankenship, Ted (Theodore) Delfs, Allen Janz, Justin Hankin, Judy Anderson, Rori Messer, Jayar Kindsvogel, Kristen Rasmussen, Jason Klipfel. Lois Helmer, Pius Johner, Cori Musolf, Eunice Wolf, Adam Walker, Mary Hogan, Corey Palmer, Sandy Hertz, Jacee Huber, Laurie Ronholdt, Naida Feland, Larry Harm, Toby Croteau, Samantha Grube, Becki Barnhart, Saxon Russell, LeAnn Olson

First Lutheran Church will be updating the prayer list periodically. If a name is not listed and you would like it re-listed please call the church office at 663-3594. We will re-list names for prayers.

PLEASE KEEP THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SERVICE FOR OUR COUNTRY IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Todd Bauer, Alex Dove, Jacob Selzler

If you know of anyone who has ties to our congregation and is called to active duty, please contact the church office.

Pastor Phil Leer's phone number: 701-341-7784
Pastor Adam Barden's phone number: 701-595-3180
(If you need to reach them please give them a call)

Ushers:

Reader:
Corby Rachel

Communion Servers:
Jeanne House
Lori Meyers

Communion Set-Up:
Corby Rachel

Musician:
8:30 Organ - Loretta White



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We are looking for ushers, communion servers, readers & communion set up for all worship services. Since we have gone back to passing the offering plate we need at least 2 ushers for every service. If you could help out please sign your name on the sheets provided, by the bulletins, in the narthex.

Mission of the Month - Weekend Meals For Mandan Kids

Items needed are Chap Stick, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Canned Ham, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Fruit Cups, Canned Fruit, Granola Bars, Cereal, Pudding Cups, Applesauce, Chef Boyardee', Mac & Cheese, Soups, Hamburger Helper, Spaghetti Noodles, Spaghetti Sauce, Pop Tarts, Instant Mashed Potatoes, Rice A Roni, Pasta Roni, Pork and Beans, Baked Beans, Pancake Mix-no eggs required such as Krusteaz Brand, Syrup.

NO GLASS JARS PLEASE!

You may put your items in the boxes in the Narthex. Thank you!

"Thankfulness" Baskets

First Lutheran is collecting fall/winter/early spring items and personal care items for our homebound, assisted living, and nursing home residents. Please consider being a blessing to these precious members by donating items, assisting in the assembly of baskets, and/or delivering them.

There are boxes in the narthex for donation items.

Questions? – please call Lori 701-471-9436.

"Thankfulness Baskets"
will be assembled & delivered on Sunday, November 22nd, 2026.



If you would like to help with assembly and/or delivery, please come to the First Lutheran Church chapel after the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, November 22nd, 2026.



Youth Group & Bible Study –
Starting this month, we will be switching things up a bit with our youth groups. Before each youth group session, we will be offering a time for Bible Study from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. From 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm, we will have food and fellowship. Youth group will start at 6:30 pm and end at 8:30 pm.

We are also going to try something a little different with Youth Group this month. 8th graders will be welcome to attend the high school youth group session instead of the middle school session. So, for this month's youth group, C-Squad students will meet on November 22nd.

Local Mission Event Meeting –
There will be an initial planning meeting for the Local Mission Event this summer tonight at 7:00pm. We will select dates for the event as well as discuss what the event will be like. Anyone that is in 8th grade or older is welcome to attend this and future meetings and help with the planning of the event.

Area Mock in –
The next mock-in will be held on November 20th from 6:00 to 10:00 at Lord of Life Lutheran Church. You can sign up for the event using the following weblink: https://form.jotform.com/262644641082153.

If you have any questions regarding any of the upcoming youth activities, please contact Pastor Adam

Deck the Halls… Literally!

We're gathering a joyful crew to decorate the inside of our church for Christmas!

Saturday, November 28th starting at 10am

Why You Should Join:

- Free coffee and donuts
- Christmas tunes to enhance your holiday mood
- Step ladders, laughter, and lightbulbs galore
- Limited time commitment (we're usually done by lunch)
- **No experience needed. All ages welcome.** If you're willing to help, we can find a job for you. Bring the whole family and start a tradition! (Kids are good at running the extension cords.)

Bring your holiday cheer, a warm heart, and maybe an extra step ladder if you have a sturdy one.

Call or text Sarah Bradford at 471-9801 with any questions.

We also will need help after the Christmas season to take the decorations down again. That will happen on Saturday, January 9 at 10am. You can help with either one or both.

Hotcakes for Heroes

A fundraiser benefiting Veterans in hospice care will be held today from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Eagles Club in Bismarck. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

Christmas Poinsettias

The youth are selling poinsettias, which will be used to decorate the sanctuary for the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The flowers can be picked up after the last Christmas Eve service. The price for each plant is $17.00. Please place orders by today. We cannot accept late orders. Order forms are available in the narthex and can be turned in with your offering, to the church office, or dropped in the mail.

DOWNLOAD THE "VANCO MOBILE" APP TODAY!

OR TEXT 8449340609 TO DONATE

If you would like to give electronically, visit our website or contact the church office.

We have to stay financially strong. The ongoing ministry of our church is dependent on the tithes and offerings of our people. Electronic giving is the best way to do this. Many of you are already on our giving platform. If you are not giving electronically, this would be a good time to do that. You can sign up here https://firstlutheranofmandan.com/. Simply click on the button on the right hand side that says "Give Online". If you prefer to make your gifts by check, you can drop it off at the church or mail it to 408 9th St NW Mandan, ND 58554. Staying strong in worship, caring ministries, and finances are important as we work to love and serve hurting people during this tumultuous time.

If you provide your financial offerings to First Lutheran through other ways besides the weekly worship gathering of gifts (e.g.: Vanco, automatic bank withdrawal), you are welcome to place one of the laminated "offering cards" in the pew rack in the offering plate during the Offering.

Notes on Holy Communion:

Practice: *We practice Open Communion, which means if you are here, you are welcome at the table of Christ. If you do not take Communion, or you do not take Communion yet, you are still welcome to come forward for a blessing. We can also bring Communion to you in your pew if you are unable to come forward. Please notify one of the ushers.*

Procedure: *You will receive a wafer of bread and a small cup of communion wine (juice and gluten free wafers are also available; please let your server know). Please place the empty cup in the waste basket by the communion assistant as you return to your pew.*

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

408 9TH Street NW, Mandan, ND Phone: 663-3594
email: jackie@firstlutheranofmandan.org www.firstlutheranofmandan.com

WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday 15	7:00 Community Access Channel 12 or 612
	8:30 Worship/Live Stream Worship
	9:30 Coffee
	9:30 Sunday School
	10:30 Worship
	7:00 Mission Trip Meeting
Monday 16	
Tuesday 17	8:30 Homeschoolers
	9:00 Staff
	1:00 Deborah Circle
Wednesday 18	5:15 Choir Practice
	5:45 Church School
	6:30 Worship
	7:15 Bell Choir
	7:30 Confirmation
Thursday 19	11:00 LAF ~ Pulled Pork
	6:30 Team Meetings
	7:00 Church Council
Friday 20	6:00 Mock-In @ Lord of Life
Saturday 21	
Sunday 22	7:00 Community Access Channel 12 or 612
	8:30 Worship/Live Stream Worship
	9:30 Coffee
	9:30 Sunday School
	10:30 Worship
	5:00 6-7 Grade Bible Study
	6:30 6-7 Grade Youth Group