



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 2015 VOL. 9, NO. 5

Ascended and Descending

Dear baptized Christians,

On Thursday, May 14, 2015, we will celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord with a special Divine Service at 6:00 p.m. For, forty days after His resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven. Luke describes it this way, “*And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, ‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven’*” (Acts 1:9–11).

Jesus ascended as victorious and risen Lord and now reigns over all creation with all things under His feet (Ephesians 1:22). He is the King of the universe. One day, He will return in glory to judge both the living and the dead, giving everlasting life in paradise to all who believe in Him.

These are wonderful truths, but they can be confusing. Jesus’ ascension might leave us wondering where to find Him today. It may leave us feeling alone and abandoned by Him. It may cause us to look for Him in all the wrong places. We may even begin to doubt that Jesus, hidden from our eyes, is actually reigning as Lord at all.

That is why we need to celebrate Ascension and hear the message that our ascended Lord promises to descend to us, not only on the Last Day, but daily through His Word. He descends to make Himself available to us. Listen to what Martin Luther wrote about this: “God has given us Baptism, the Sacrament of the Altar, and absolution to bring Christ very close to us, so that we can have Him not only in our heart but also on our tongue, so that we can feel Him, grasp Him, and touch Him.” In other words, we do not need to search for God or find Him now that He is ascended and reigning over everything. He finds us. He descends and comes to us. Luther went on, “[God] wants to come to you, plant Himself before your very eyes, press Himself into your hands, and say ‘Just listen to Me and take hold of Me, give Me eye and ear; there you have Baptism and the Sacrament of the Altar’” (*Luther’s Works* Vol. 22, pp. 421-422).

So, come and receive the ascended Lord Jesus Christ who descends to us in that Sacrament of the Altar on Ascension Day, Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. and every time He makes Himself available to us. Come to where He promises to be present for you. Come receive assurance that Jesus has not abandoned you, that He does forgive you, that He is King, that He is reigning over this world, that He is preparing a place for you in His Father’s house, and that He will descend one last time when He returns on the Last Day to take you to be where He is (John 14:1–3).

In Christ, the ascended Lord,

Pastor Rusnak

May 2015 Monthly Worksheet



THIS MONTH'S ELDER

Gaylord Ryg
320-692-4789



USHERS

Jerry Scherfenberg
Barb Scherfenberg



FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

03rd David & Elaine Draosh
10th Jerry & Barb Scherfenberg
17th Larry & Jessica Collison
24th Arleen Johnson
31st Ladies Aid



Thank you to *everyone* who continues to give generously of their time volunteering at our many functions. It is so appreciated! We depend on your participation! Volunteers are needed in the coming months to serve as greeters and/or fellowship servers. Please see the bulletin board if you are able to help. You can always trade with someone else if need be, but please inform the Church Office so that the correct information can be printed in the bulletin.



CHURCH OFFICERS

Pastor: Rev. Jonathan Rusnak
President: Ken Stokes
Recording Sec.: Elaine Draosh
Treasurer: John Kinzel
Financial Sec.: Barb Scherfenberg
Church Sec.: Sue Raddatz
Elders: Gaylord Ryg-Chair
Dennis Anderson
Steve Lawrence
Jerry Scherfenberg
Trustees: Larry Collison-Chair
David Draosh
Doug Feltmann
Randy Feltmann



This Month's Birthdays!

08th Mary Kinzel
09th John Kinzel
12th Pastor Rusnak
Jerry Scherfenberg
16th TJ Gustin
19th Verdean Franklin
25th Angela Raddatz
Dolores Whipps
30th Julie Rusnak



08th Dennis & Sheila Anderson
09th Rolland & Rose Mihalko
16th Mat & Roxanne Rasmussen
26th Nick & Patricia Garding



04th Isabella Morrow Ruesch
16th Isabel Spicer
18th Sofia Ruesch
19th Hannah Rasmussen
Kahli Rasmussen
29th John Raddatz

In an effort to support and build one another up to the glory of God (Romans 15:1-7), we include in our monthly newsletters birthday and anniversary dates for members and friends of the congregation. If you would like your birthday and/or anniversary date included, or if our information needs to be corrected, please contact our Church Secretary, Sue Raddatz. Thank you!



THIS MONTHS ALTAR GUILD:
Barb Scherfenberg



SOTL News for May 2015



BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Jesus promised: "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31). Join us as we study the Word of God together:

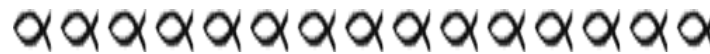
Sunday Morning Bible Study meets at 8:30a.m. each week. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Evening Study meets each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Bible Breakfast meets at 8:00 a.m. Wednesday mornings to read through the Bible. We are meeting at Spotlight Café in April. Beginning in May we will meet at Twin Pines.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study meets at 9:30 a.m. each week. All are invited to join us.

Please see the bulletin board for updated information on each Bible study.



Office Hours: Pastor is available throughout the week for pastoral care and counsel. The Church Secretary is in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30am to 1:30pm. The Church office will be closed on Fridays.



Prayer Requests: If you have someone or something that you would like Pastor Rusnak to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request card, located on the guest book stand, and place it in his box or contact him at the Church Office. It is



important that all of our members receive pastoral care when it is needed, especially during times of sickness or other difficulty. If you know of an individual, even if it is a non-member, who would appreciate and benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact the church office or Pastor Rusnak.

God Answers Prayers

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sunday, May 19th will be our last Sunday school class until next Fall. We want to thank the students and parents for making this a good year. We want to thank Marie Nelson for the teaching again this year, and to all who helped to keep our Sunday school classes going. We hope to see all of the children at our VBS week in June.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: If you have a child or know a child who is ready for Confirmation class, please contact Pastor Rusnak.



For Project 24
Received to date
(4/10/15):
\$97,404.72



Basic Goal \$1,350,000
For Lutheran Island Camp;
& International Projects
Pledges: \$651,391.40
Received to date: (4/10/15)
\$599,873.21



Vision Statement: Share the Gospel

Our Mission: We will share the GOSPEL as we

- Glorify God in all that we say and do
- Offer Him our time, talents, & treasures
- Share the good news of Jesus
- Pray without ceasing
- Engage the community
- Love one another



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE'S WEBSITE: We invite you to check out our website at shepherdofthelake.org. You can access sermons, pictures of church events, any announcements and more.



SHEPHERD'S LAMBS: All young families of Shepherd of the Lake and the community are welcome to join us as we gather each month at church for a Bible study, craft, and fellowship. We also enjoy fun outings such as swimming and mini-golfing, and seasonal activities like trunk or treat, an Easter egg hunt, passing out May baskets to the homebound, and a Christmas program and party. Please contact Julie Rusnak if you have any questions.

We will not be doing May baskets this year as there is really just one member in a nursing home now. The May event will be on May 17th at 4:00 p.m. We will be having a get together at Serpent Lake Park in Crosby. Hot dogs and brats will be provided. Please bring your own drinks and a dish to share. The June event is VBS and July is the Play Days float (those two are for a start, we may add another event).



RIDES FOR HEALTH: The Cancer Support Center, Inc. provides transportation to anyone of any age in the Aitkin County that does not have someone to take them to medical appointments. Please check the bulletin board for more information or call (218) 927-4077.

We have volunteer drivers around the county and we coordinate client location with the closest driver. The drivers receive some reimbursement for mileage, our other expenses are phone and office. Annually we hold an appreciation/training meeting for our volunteers. We rely on donations and grants to fund our service.

We try to assist people in order to help them maintain independent living. Any donations will aid us in continuing to give rides. We are also looking for board members and individuals who would be willing to be office volunteers or drivers.



and/or Onamia.

RUBY'S PANTRY: Everyone who eats qualifies: \$20 cash donation; bring your own boxes or basket for the food. This is a hand up not a hand out and is not income based. Please check out the bulletin board for information on when Ruby's Pantry is going in Brainerd



GARRISON COMMUNITY KIDS' NIGHT: We want to thank everyone who showed support for this Church Community Event. With busy summers we will not meet on Monday evening until next fall. Please watch for more updates in the fall.



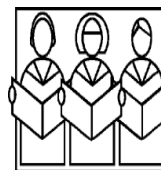
RECYCLING ALUMINUM CANS: We are accepting all donations of empty and recyclable aluminum cans to support our Sunday school program. Please bag the cans and bring the bags to the trailer beside the garage. Thanks!



COMMUNITY LADIES LUNCHEON: On Wednesday, May 20th, the Light of the Cross Ladies will host their annual Tea Luncheon. Please watch for more info in the Sunday bulletin, please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you wish to attend.



YEARLY SPRING CLEANING: Mark your calendars for our annual spring cleaning. We will meet at Shepherd of the Lake on Monday, May 4th at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be provided for all workers. Please note we will be cleaning both inside and outside the church. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated.



SUMMER CHOIR: Would you like to sing in a choir? Join us for a summer choir at Shepherd of the Lake! With your help, we will sing twice a month in June, July, and August under the direction of Mrs. Diane Saumer Guidi from Zion Lutheran Church in Brainerd. See the bulletin board for the sign-up sheet.



MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY I

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

CARE is looking for volunteer drivers to deliver nutritious, hot meals and a warm smile right to the doors of Aitkin seniors.

CALL Betty at 218-927-1383 or visit us at 503 Minnesota Ave N.





ASCENSION DAY SERVICE: We invite everyone to attend our Ascension Day service on Thursday, May 14th at 6:00 p.m. Bring along a friend, neighbor or family member to celebrate our Lord's ascension into heaven.



On Saturday, April 18th, our sister in Christ Avis Vessey, wife of General John W. Vessey, fell asleep in the Lord. Avis is a baptized child of God and a faithful Christian woman. We commend her to our Savior Jesus Christ, relying on His promises of the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting on account of His life, death, and resurrection for us. Avis was a long time member of Shepherd of the Lake and will be greatly missed. We extend our sympathy to Jack and his family at their loss and will keep them in our prayers.



CHURCH RECORDINGS DEDICATION: On Sunday, May 10, 2015 we will be dedicating a set of organ recordings for use in worship at our 10:00 a.m. service. These recordings were purchased with money given in memory of June Kobs. So, we will use the recordings for worship that morning, dedicate them during the service, and enjoy a time of fellowship afterward.



LABELS PROGRAM: Just a reminder that the Ladies Aid are collecting Campbell's soup labels, GM box tops for Education, milk bottle caps, cancelled stamps and pop can tops. They will collect these items and give them to the organizations that can use them like the VFW, Bethesda, & McDonald's House. The VFW will take the used stamps but ask that you keep a quarter inch of the envelope with them. You will find more information on the bulletin board. If you have any questions please contact Elaine Drahosh or Marge Berndt.



PORTALS OF PRAYERS: The new Portals are available and can be found on the table in the narthex. Please take one for yourself and one to someone you know that may like to have one.



SAMARITAN'S PURSE: Samaritan's Purse that sponsors "Operation Christmas Child" is now taking "The Greatest Journey" around the world. "The Greatest Journey" is a discipleship program that takes many of the children who received Samaritan's Purse shoe boxes through a 12 week course at local churches. They hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, memorize scripture, learn how to share their faith, and receive their very own New Testament. "The Greatest Journey" is taking place in over 100 countries and in 60 languages. For \$6, Samaritan's Purse can take one child on this journey, providing trained teachers and a New Testament in the child's own language.

If you would like to support this evangelism effort by giving \$6 or more, please write your check out to Shepherd of the Lake, making sure "The Greatest Journey" is in the memo line, between now and Sunday, May 31. In the meantime, please pray the Lord's blessings on this effort to reach the lost with the saving gospel of Jesus.

Thank you, The Evangelism Committee



FLOWER CHART: Everyone is welcome to bring flowers for worship services in memory of a loved one, an anniversary, a birthday, or for other occasions. You will find a FLOWER CHART on the bulletin board where you can sign your name to a date. Thank you!



BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY UPDATES: We would like to invite our members and guests to help us update our Birthday and Anniversary information for our monthly newsletter. If your Birthday or Anniversary dates are listed wrong or not listed at all please write the information down and place it in the Church Secretary's mailbox or email the information to sotllc@mlecmn.net so we can update are records, if you do not wish to have your dates in the newsletter please let us know and we will only use them for our records. Thank you very much in helping with this.



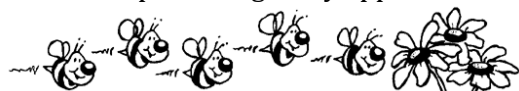
THRIVENT CHOICE: If you are a member of Thrivent Financial, you likely are aware of this easy and convenient way to help support our church. If you would like to participate or simply know more, visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice or contact Doug Collins at 218-927-3322.



LAKES AREA PREGNANCY SUPPORT CENTER (LAPS) FUNDRAISER: LAPS celebrates the mothers they serve and their precious babies. LAPS are solely funded by individuals, churches and fundraising-an occasional grant. All their services are free of charge. One of their fundraisers each year is their *Baby Bottle Campaign*. This gives our church members an opportunity to raise funds to save even more lives. The Bottle Campaign will start on Mother's Day and end of Father's Day again this year. We ask that each of you take a bottle home with you and fill it with loose change until Father's Day on which you will return the bottles.

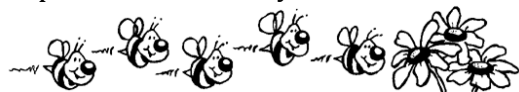


COMMUNITY ROADSIDE CLEANING: We will be doing the first roadside cleaning on Monday, May 11th, once again meet at the old Headquarters parking lot at 9:00 a.m. All help will be greatly appreciated.



LAWN MOWING: We are looking for volunteers to mow the lawn here at Shepherd of the Lake during the summer months. If you will and able to help with this project please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. If you have any

questions please contact Larry Collison.



MOTHER'S DAY: Let us remember our Mom's on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th and thank them for all that they do for us. Happy Mother's Day to all the moms, may you have a great day.



A Special
THANK YOU

THANK YOU to all who donated to the Orphan Grain Train and for the Garrison Food Shelf. Thank you to all who came to our Midweek Lenten services and shared at our potlucks, for those who donated food for the Easter Breakfast, the ones who helped in any way with the Easter Egg Hunt for the children, and for all who brought flowers to place on the altar on Easter Sunday. The generosity shown by the members of Shepherd of

the Lake and the friends of SOTL are greatly appreciated.



QUILTING FOR WORLD RELIEF: We will soon be starting with making quilts for World Relief. Last year the Ladies made around 100 quilts to give to Lutheran World Relief and we are hoping to meet or even beat that count this year. Shari Beck and Rose Mihalko will lead the quilting group again this year and they welcome all who would like to help in any way with this worthy cause. Please watch upcoming bulletins and newsletters for updated information. Please contact either Shari or Rose if you have any questions.



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
HELP WANTED**

This year's VBS program is set for the week of June 15-19 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. We need volunteers to serve as teachers and helpers. If you would be willing to serve in any areas listed below please fill in the form below and return it to the church office or contact Pastor Rusnak or Marge Berndt. Please watch for upcoming meetings and information.

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH VBS AS:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Assistant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Decorating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preparing Snacks | <input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Crafts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor Activities Helper |



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: We are planning this year's VBS program and are looking forward to seeing all the young children again this year. This year's theme will be *"CAMP DISCOVERY: Jesus at Work Through Us."* You will find a registration form in this month's newsletter and again next month. If you have children or know of children who would like to come and enjoy a week of VBS, please let us know so we have enough material for everyone.



50TH ANNIVERSARY BOARD: Please check out our 50th anniversary board in the Fellowship Hall. If you have celebrated your 50th and if your picture isn't on the board and you would like it to be. Please bring a picture of your wedding with the date or a picture from your 50th anniversary with the date information, place the picture and information into an envelope and place it in Elaine Drahosh's mailbox and she will get them on the board.



CHURCH PUBLISHING INFORMATION: If you have a congregational event you would like to see publicized in the local newspapers, our monthly newsletter, or our Sunday bulletin, please contact one of the people on our publicity team as soon as possible and they will get the information out there.



WELCOME BACK SNOWBIRDS: It has been a long winter here in Minnesota. We are finally seeing the snowbirds returning for another summer with us. We want to welcome back all of our members and summer guests as you all slowly return to Minnesota or back to our area and being a part of our church family once again.



WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES: We won't be having Wednesday evening or Saturday evening services this coming summer. We are offering a Sunday evening Bible study in which we will be studying that Sunday's readings. We welcome all to come and be a part of this study. We will meet at 7:00 p.m. each Sunday.



FELLOWSHIP HOUR DONATIONS: The donations that are placed in the coffee/fellowship basket is a free will offering basket on the counter on Sunday mornings during our fellowship hour. The purpose of this is to help defray the various kitchen expenses we have, such as coffee, creamers, sugar packets, kool aid, napkins, dessert plates, etc. This money is not used for the special donuts, cakes, cookies, etc. these items are provided by the host couples or persons serving fellowship. We invite all to come and enjoy good food & fellowship.



A recipe from...

RED POTATO SALAD

From the kitchen of: Sara Foreman Kynion

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2.5 lbs. Red Potatoes | 2 Scallions |
| 2 ribs Celery | 1 Green Bell Pepper |
| 1 medium Red Onion | |

Dressing:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| ½ c. Mayo | 1 Tbsp. Salt |
| 2 Tbsp. Sour Cream | Freshly ground Black Pepper |
| 1 Tbsp. Dijon Mustard | |

Cook potatoes until tender; let cool. Cut celery at an angle in 1/8 inch slices. Cut onion and bell pepper into thin slices. Cut green part of scallions into ½ inch pieces (discard white part).



APPLE COFFEE CAKE

From the kitchen of: unknown

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| ½ c. Butter | ½ tsp. Salt |
| 2 c. Flour | 2 Eggs, beaten |
| 1 c. Sugar | ½ c. Milk |
| 3 tsp. Baking Powder | 1 can Apple Pie Filling |

Mix butter, flour, sugar, baking powder and salt as for pie crust, reserve ½ cup for topping. Mix eggs and milk together and add to first mixture. Spread in 9X13 inch pan. Top with pie filling, sprinkle with cinnamon and sugar. Sprinkle remaining crumbs on for topping. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until golden brown.



MEATBALLS

From the kitchen of: Unknown

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3 slices Bread (1 day old) | 1 c. Milk |
| 2 Eggs, slightly beaten | 2 lbs. Ground Beef |
| ½ lb. Ground Pork Shoulder | 2 Tbsp. minced Onions |
| 1 Tbsp. Salt | 1 tsp. Sugar |
| ½ tsp. Pepper | 4 Tbsp. Butter |

Remove crust from bread. Soak bread in milk. Add slightly beaten eggs. Pour this mixture into meat and work with hands until well blended. Add onions, salt, pepper, and ground meat. Mix thoroughly. Shape into round balls about size of a walnut. Melt butter in a skillet and add meatballs and cook until browned. Cover skillet and allow to steam over low heat 20 to 25 minutes.

Gravy may be made by adding 2 Tbsp. flour to drippings in pan and thin to desired thickness with milk.

RECIPES WANTED: *If you have a favorite recipe you would like to share, please write it down and put it in Sue Raddatz' mailbox. Your help is greatly appreciated.*



Shepherd of the Lake – Garrison, MN

OUR 2015 VBS PROGRAM

THE WEEK OF JUNE 15TH THRU JUNE 19TH
9:00 AM TO 11:30 AM

On Friday, June 19th we invite all to come and see the Children's Program at 11:30 a.m. followed by a lunch

Vacation Bible School

Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church
 1 mile north of Garrison on 169



June 15th-19th at 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.
 Children: 3 years – 6th Grade



Name of Parent or Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____/Church Member: Yes/No

Person(s) to contact in case of emergency (name & Number): _____





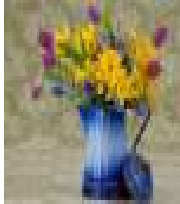


CHILDREN TO BE ENROLLED

Name	Age	Grade in School (Fall)
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____

If your child has any medical condition we should know about, Please list them here:

 Signature of parent/guardian

Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church
May 2015

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1	2
3 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr 7PM-Bible Study	4 9AM-Circuit Pastor's @ Pequot Lake 9AM-Spring Cleaning 7PM-Brd of Elders		6 No Bible Study		8	9
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service 11AM-Fellowship Hr 7PM-Bible Study	11 9AM - Community Roadside Cleaning	12 12:30PM-LWML Board Meeting 1PM-LWML/Ladies Aid Meeting	13 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Twin Pines 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study	14 10AM-Publicity Meeting 6PM-Ascension Divine Service	15	
17 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr 7PM-Bible Study		19 9AM-Brd Meetings 10AM-Church Council Printing May Newsletter	20 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Twin Pines 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study	21 Articles for June Newsletter Due	22	23
24 <i>Day of Pentecost</i> 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study 10AM-Divine Service 11AM-Fellowship Hr 7PM-Bible Study	25 <i>Memorial Day</i> OFFICE CLOSED	26 Printing June Newsletter	27 8AM-Bible Breakfast @ Twin Pines 9:30AM-Wed. Morning Bible Study		29	
31 8:30AM-Adult Bible Study 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr 7PM-Bible Study						

Vision Statement: "Share the GOSPEL"



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

P.O. Box 155
10583 US Highway 169
Garrison, MN 56450

To Those Loved by Christ:



MAY
2014



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

Email Addresses:

Pastor's e-mail: pastor.sotllc@mlecmn.net

Secretary's e-mail: sotllc@mlecmn.net

Phone Numbers:

Parsonage #: 320-692-4329

Church's #: 320-692-4581

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

(Memorial Weekend thru Labor Day Weekend)

Sunday Education Hour: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Divine Service: 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11:00 a.m.