



Trinity Lutheran Church

Proclaiming, Teaching and Living the Gospel of Christ!

WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00pm

Sunday: 8:30am

*Holy Communion is
celebrated weekly on
Saturday & Sunday*

**Sunday School
will resume on Rally Day
September 13th at 9:30am**

Sat. Adult Bible Study 4:00pm

Sun. Adult Bible Study 9:45am

A Prayer for Sunday Schools

*Father, let our Sunday
School teachers and
students be blessed this
coming year as they pray,
learn, and give thanks for
growing in their knowledge
of Your salvation. Let the
Bible lessons and verses
shared in class put down
roots in their hearts so they
may recall them in times of
trouble, sickness, and
doubt and be sustained by
them throughout their lives.
Hear all classroom
prayers. In Jesus' holy
name. Amen.*



*Concordia Publishing House
Portals of Prayer
July-Sep., 2026
Page 115*

September 2026 - Newsletter

Confirmation Class 2026-2027

Confirmation Classes will begin again this fall after Labor Day. Remember that Pastor Brown does not put a specific year or age on Confirmation. Rather, if you think your child is mature enough to take their place with the adults of the congregation, then they are welcome to join the Confirmation Class. Also, parents are welcome to sit in (Pastor Brown tries to get at least one adult to sit in).

Classes will be held, Sundays immediately after Sunday School at 10:30am.

Labor Day Parade

The Trinity Float assembly/decorating will take place Sunday, September 6th at 10:30am in the church parking lot. Contact Jane Benjamin to volunteer! Monday, September 7th: Labor Day Parade Float line-up 9:00am; Walkers/Riders @ line-up 9:45am; Parade begins 10:30am.

Thank you Don & Joanne LaChappell for heading up Trinity's "cooling center", Jane Benjamin for designing the float, John Varvel for volunteering to drive, and to all that donated candy, helped decorate and those walking to pass out candy! Happy Labor Day!

Sunday School & SS Teacher Installation

Teacher installation will be held Sunday, September 13th during the 8:30am worship service. Regular season Sunday School resumes with Rally Day, Sunday, September 13th at 9:30am. Rally Day will begin with music, introductions to teachers, assisting Martha Circle to pack school bags for LWR, then games, fun & a snack. We welcome our students and staff and pray God's blessings on this new year of Sunday School.

Trini-Teens Game Night

Come join the Trini-Teens for a game night Friday, September 18th @ 6:00pm in the church basement. We'll be playing a brand new card game called "The Bible is Funny", a hilarious Apples-to-Apples-style game featuring out of context Bible passages!



255 E. Third Street, P.O. Box 414 Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2262

Web site: trinitylutheranherscher.org Email: trinityherl@comcast.net

Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/trinityherscher

Jesus: My Lord

The explanation to the Second Article of the Creed begins by answering the question of who Jesus is. The basic answer is simple - Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the Virgin Mary, is my Lord. This answer hits both of the major theological truths that we confess in the Church.



First, we confess that Jesus is actually God – True God. In the Nicene Creed we add other ways of describing this – God of God, Light of Light. When you are dealing with Jesus, you are dealing with God in the fullest sense of the word God. As Luther has us sing in A Mighty Fortress, “And there's none other God.” When you see Jesus at work in the Scriptures, you are seeing God.

However, Jesus is also true Man. Really, fully, actually man. Like us, but without sin. What we were created to be, and what by His salvation we will be again. When you see Jesus in the Gospels, you see an actual man. God doesn't skip steps – when He becomes man, He becomes a man. Jesus hungers, thirsts, laughs, sleeps, all the things that are part and parcel of who Jesus is.

Much of Church History, especially the first 500 years of Church History revolves around keeping both these ideas straight – that Jesus is God and Man. There's a lot of lousy reasons why people either attacked Christ's divinity (because Jesus comes to us and we sinful folk like to keep God safely away from us) or His humanity (because Jesus suffered, and we tend to like to keep our gods on pedestals, or think being faithful gets us out of suffering). Ultimately, the trouble that Jesus causes us sinful folks, and the wonder that we rejoice in by faith is this:

Jesus is my Lord. When God becomes man, when Jesus takes on human flesh and comes into the world, we are confronted by the fact that Jesus is not just Lord, but our Lord. That He will not be god from a distance, but He is Immanuel, God with us. He is the God who comes down to save us from sin and death, and in so doing He reestablishes His Lordship over us. Jesus is in charge – not us. And while our sinful flesh hates that, by faith we delight in this.

As we move through the Creed, we will see what Jesus does to be our Lord – and it's not what we often would expect. It's not how power is taken or wielded in the world, but it is for your good. (It's the Cross, but more on that next month... or every single service here at Church!)

Pastor Brown

Officer Nominations



Nominations were opened at the July 19th Voters' Meeting for the positions of 3 Elders and 1 Board of Education member. Please prayerfully consider serving if you were nominated. Nominations will remain open up to and including October 18th when voting will occur at the Quarterly Voters' meeting that day.

Christian Education Schedule

Sunday School resumes September 13th. Meet in the front of the church for the opening at 9:30am.

High School Bible Study resumes September 13th. Meet in the youth room in the basement.

Sunday Adult Bible Study is held Sundays at approximately 9:45am after Sunday worship and Sunday School opening. We are currently studying the *book of Galatians*.

Saturday Adult Bible Study is held Saturdays at 4:00pm before the worship service. We are currently studying the *book of James*.

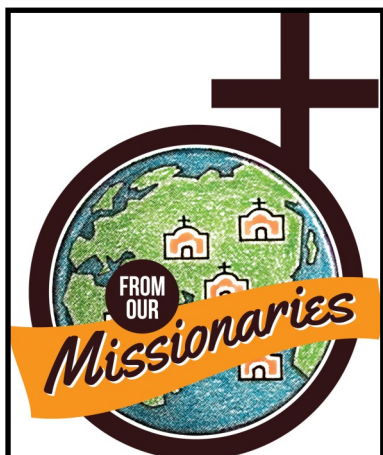
Facebook Live devotions are held online most weeks, Monday through Thursday at 8:00am.

Confirmation Class meets Sundays at 10:30am.

Be in the Word!
It's a great place to be!
All are welcome.

Missionaries

Please continue to pray for our missionaries Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and their family as they continue to share God's love and spread His Word in Africa.



Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office each **Wednesday by noon**. Thank you!

Monthly Newsletter Deadline

Articles, announcements and information for the October newsletter are due **Monday, September 21st by 9:00am**. Thank you!



Pastoral Care Contacts

Pastor Brown often roams around in his duties, but he will be happy to meet with you. Please call, text or email to set up a time.

Pastor's Email: pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net
Pastor's Cell phone (call or text): 815-953-9995
Pastor's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x102

Diane Hart will continue to be in the office as often as needed. Phone messages and email are checked multiple times daily.

Diane's Email: trinityherl@comcast.net
Diane's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x101
Diane's Cell phone (call or text): 708-307-2710

Parish Hall Rental/ Property Check-Out List

The Parish Hall may be rented to Trinity members for various functions. Please contact Diane in the office to schedule, remit rental fee, and obtain a copy of the guidelines. **Reminder, the kitchen, tables and chairs should be left clean and floors swept. Restrooms should be checked for tidiness.**

Also, any property borrowed (old tables, kitchen items, etc.) need to be signed out on the check-out sheet in the church office. Please note, per the Church Council, the white tables and chairs may not leave the church property. **Also, all items used are to be returned clean and stored appropriately.**

Villas at Herscher Services

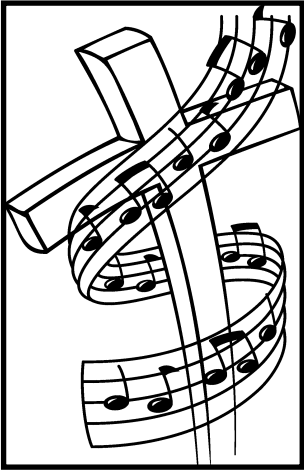
Worship services are planned for Villas at Herscher Mondays September 14th & 28th at 3:00pm.



Kantor's Korner

September Hymn Spotlight: Of the Father's Love Begotten

You may have noticed by now that I'm a big believer that hymns do so much more than just fill service time with pretty sounds. The hymns we sing have rich, deep history attached to them, and this month's spotlight is another great example! Of the Father's Love Begotten might be a Christmas hymn, sung only once or twice per church year, but what if I told you that in those 5 stanzas are found a connection to ancient church music and a full explanation of the Apostle's Creed we confess together as Christians?



Of the Father's Love Begotten started off as a literary poem written by Aurelius Prudentius Clemens sometime in the 4th century. Literary poems were not written to be easily set to music, so for much of church history, the hymn was a simple chant meant to be sung in unison with no harmony underneath. The beautiful setting and tune we know today is closely based on the original chant melody. Charles Winfred Douglas wound up composing the "Plainsong" tune DIVINUM MYSTERIUM setting that's in our hymnal, but wrote it to reflect many elements from the original chant.

At surface level, the hymn depicts the birth of Christ in the first 3 stanzas and the praises we join in the heavenly host celebrating the great Gift that God has given us through the birth of His Son in the final 2 stanzas. However, the first 2 stanzas alone are actually a fantastic confession of faith, mirroring the Apostle's Creed. The very first 2 lines of stanza one confess God as Father and creator of the world. The Father's "Love Begotten" is Christ Jesus, His Son. So right off the bat, we have Father and Son mentioned, and it isn't long after that we complete the Trinity in stanza 2, where the Holy Ghost is directly mentioned! It comes as no surprise the final stanza is Trinitarian, and it all comes together to close out the final "evermore and evermore".

It may be easy to gloss over this hymn when it comes up, especially with it labeled as a Christmas hymn. But, like many festival hymns, there is so much more to ponder and meditate on under the central message and beautiful music. With its deep history rooted in the melody of the ancient church and its Creed-like confession of the Trinity, Of the Father's Love Begotten could easily be used in several services throughout the church year!

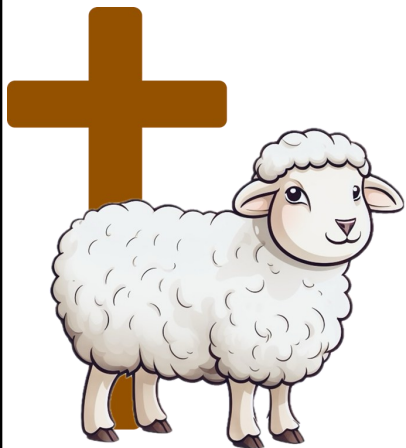
-- *Caleb Dehning*

Handbells and Choir Rehearsals Begin September 9th!

It's time for another season of ringing and singing! Rehearsals for both the Bells and Vocal Choir will re-start Wednesday, September 9th. Handbells will be at 6:00pm and Choir will be at 7:00pm. We're always open to new members joining! If you have any questions, see Kantor Dehning.



Little Lambs Preschool



September is here, and we're back to the beginning. Our lessons reflect this in a very literal sense; we talk about creation and how God made us and the world. Incidentally (or not), this is also the beginning of the Apostle's Creed and the explanation given in Luther's Small Catechism:

The First Article: Creation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean? I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them. He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life. He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

God made the world, and He made every child at Little Lambs. Everyone here was always meant to be and is loved. We teach the Pre-K 3 class to trace their name for the first time by giving them a sheet that says "God loves [student]" and helping them follow the dotted lines of their name with a marker. They will trace their name every day after this on a name tag, but in the beginning, it is done with acknowledgement of God's love and care. This first lesson is important.

Incidentally (or not), in the order of Bible lessons Pastor Brown made for chapel, it is also the last lesson: Jesus Loves You! Rather than teach a new Bible story on the last week of school, we remind our students that the entirety of the Bible points to the fact that Jesus loves them and died for their sins. From the beginning to the end, God provides for us. Then we begin again with His love. And so it is at Little Lambs, thanks be to God.

— Mrs. Brown

Raise Right Gift/Shopping Card Program

Trinity's Gift/Shopping Card Program through Raise Right—This program is available year-round.

All orders will be placed on Mondays, allowing for delivery usually by Thursday of the same week (online orders will be submitted with the paper orders). New customers please contact Diane Hart in the office for the enrollment code or with any questions. Go to raiseright.com for more information or ask for a printed list of vendors if you prefer.

Thank you for supporting Little Lambs Preschool simply by shopping!



RaiseRight

Simply the right way to fundraise

Trinity Sewing/Quilting Group

Trinity Sewers will meet Tuesday, September 1st from 10:30am to 3:00pm. Come when you can and stay as long as you are able. We have 180 completed quilts in the closet. We are close to our goal of 200. the ladies will decide if another tie date is needed. Quilts will be on display October 3rd and 4th, Pastor Brown will bless them that weekend.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet for breakfast Friday, September 4th at the Herscher Restaurant at 8:30am. Guests are welcome.

On Sunday, September 13th the Sunday School children will help fill LWR school bags with supplies. Sometime during that week Martha members will meet to complete and prepare the bags for shipping.

Church Council

The Church Council will meet Tuesday, September 8th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Board of Education

The September meeting will be held Sunday, September 13 at 10:30am. Please contact Lynne Noffke with any questions.

Hannah Circle

We will meet Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30pm at the home of Frosty Thomas (197 Jeanette St, Herscher). After a short business meeting, we will decorate 40 plastic shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. Stickers are needed **but no Santas please**. There will be no Bible study this month.

Along with Martha Circle, we are collecting items for Operation Christmas Child throughout the month of September. Lists of suggested items and a basket for placing them in are found in the parish hall. We thank Thrivent Financial for a grant which provided T-shirts, toys, and school supplies as well. These items will be used to fill the shoe boxes at the LWML Fall Rally on October 3rd at St. Paul's in Bourbonnais.

We welcome any new members to join us for Christian fellowship, Bible study, and outreach opportunities! For more information, please call or text Frosty Thomas at 815-263-9295.

September Card Care: Debbie Witheft

Herscher Council of Churches

Herscher Christian Church will distribute food boxes from the Illinois Food Bank on Tuesday, September 8th beginning at 10:00am.

LWML

LWML Northern Illinois District 78th Biennial Convention will be held

at Cross Lutheran Church & School Yorkville, IL Friday & Saturday, September 18th & 19th.



Zone 18 Fall Workshop will be held at St. Paul, Bourbonnais Saturday, October 3rd at 8:30am. A light breakfast then a short meeting will be held before packing the Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes.

Prairieview Fall Festival Friday & Saturday, September 11 & 12

Thank you! Special thanks to all that have donated and agreed to help with the Prairieview Fall Festival! Your help and generosity are greatly appreciated.



[This Photo](#) by

Books for Prairieview:

We are collecting books for the book sale at the Fall Festival. There is a box in the Parish Hall for your donations.

Pie/Dessert Donations for Prairieview:

There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall. Trinity has been asked to supply eight 9" pies and 4 other 9" x 13" pan desserts (Bars, cakes, cookies).

Thank you!



Member Birthdays



- 1 Nancy St. Pierre
- 2 Ryan Anderson
- 3 Jason Janssen
- 4 Donald Burke
- 5 Douglas Gray
- 7 Phillip Bruner, Michelle Fansler
- 8 Shanna Evans, Michelle Hinich, Lynne Noffke
- 10 Rev. Eric Brown, BreeLee Petry,
Hannah Wojnowski
- 10 Samantha Dehning, Heather Meredith
- 12 William (Beau) Doss Jr., Cameron Hanson,
Emmalyn Kruse, Janice Thomas, Dana Witheft
- 15 Kelly Janssen
- 16 Kevin Kruse, Adeline Peters
- 17 Jeanne Foltz, Bryan Ohrt,
Abbie Overacker, David Winterroth
- 18 Carter Puracchio
- 19 Maxson Keller, Carter Overacker
- 20 Brandt Nottke
- 21 Sophia Henson, Lauren Ruel
- 22 Pyper Johnston, Rachel Yeast
- 23 Lauren Hoffman
- 24 Easton Cox, Madysen Janssen,
Carson Overacker
- 25 Emma Henson, Chip Thurston
- 26 Sheila Kohl, Judy Sharper, Dana Shepard
- 27 Susan Mahoney, Jenny Rogers
- 28 Christina Nottke
- 29 Audrey Ferris
- 30 Norma Applegate; Elizabeth Cooper

Please notify Diane in the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you!

A Prayer on Your Birthday

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who gives us days to celebrate our birth. You have imparted Your breath that we might live before You. You call us to number our days and count the blessings we've received so that we are mindful of where we come from and where we are going. Bless this coming year, and strengthen me to serve You joyfully with all my heart. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*Concordia Publishing House
Portals of Prayer
July-Sep., 2026
pg. 111*

Trinity Lutheran Church

July 31, 2026

Financial Summary

General

Beg. Balance	\$28,514.61
Revenues	26,439.60
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>34,309.24</u>
Ending Balance	\$20,644.97

Mission Fund

Beg. Balance	\$ 4,515.00
Revenues	1,385.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 5,900.00

Little Lambs Preschool

Beg. Balance	\$ 1,943.90
Revenues	5,679.00
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>2,739.37</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 4,883.53

Complete financial reports are reported at Quarterly Voters' Meetings held usually on the third Sundays of January, April, July and October.

Please contact Diane in the church office if you need to pick up your offering envelopes, have them issued, or wish to be removed from the offering envelope list.



Treasurer's Report

Online Giving

There are numerous ways to access online giving.

Type in this secure link:

<https://onrealm.org/TrinityLutheran76917/give/now>

No login is required. The link is also found on our website at

trinitylutheranherscher.org and on the Universal Church Photo

Directory App. You may also scan this QR code, or text

"TRINITYHERSCHER" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

(This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP.

Standard text message and data rates may apply.

Privacy Policy - <https://help.acst.com/en/trust-center/policies/privacy-policy>

Terms of Service - <https://help.acst.com/en/trust-center/policies/terms-of-service>)

If you have questions relating to Online Giving for Trinity, please feel free to contact Diane in the church office.



LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship
Newsletter article – September 2026
Stewardship in the First Commandment

The greatest gift that Martin Luther gave to us was his Small Catechism. The word “enchiridion” is part of the original title of this work. This is the Greek word for “handbook.” The Small Catechism is a handbook of the Bible. All the basic knowledge that a Christian needs to understand the faith and live a godly life has been taken from the Bible and distilled into this beautiful little book of Christian piety.



Luther starts with the Ten Commandments.

The First Commandment:

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things. (SC I)

We have a God above us. He is the Lord God and we are not. He is Almighty and in control. He is righteous and good. And therefore, we should fear Him.

This God is also our heavenly Father. He wants us to be saved. He does not want us to suffer His just wrath. He has provided salvation for us in His Son, Jesus Christ. And therefore, we should love Him.

Our heavenly Father will never leave us nor forsake us. He has promised as much — and the Bible shows us that He always keeps His promises. So, we should trust Him.

In the Large Catechism, Luther explains how money and possessions form one of the greatest temptations against the First Commandment:

This I must unfold somewhat more plainly, that it may be understood and perceived by ordinary examples of the contrary. Many a one thinks that he has God and everything in abundance when he has money and possessions; he trusts in them and boasts of them with such firmness and assurance as to care for no one. Lo, such a man also has a god, Mammon by name, i.e., money and possessions, on which he sets all his heart, and which is also the most common idol on earth. He who has money and possessions feels secure, and is joyful and undismayed as though he were sitting in the midst of Paradise. On the other hand, he who has none doubts and is despondent, as though he knew of no God. For very few are to be found who are of good cheer, and who neither mourn nor complain if they have not Mammon. This [care and desire for money] sticks and clings to our nature, even to the grave. (LC I 5–9)

These words of Dr. Luther should call us to repentance; sometimes, we live and act like we don't have a Father in heaven. We seek our comfort and peace outside of His gracious promises. But we do have a Father in heaven. He does love us. All His promises are true. And the Lord will surely provide. If that is our belief, then our outward lives will reflect this belief in our acts of generosity and mercy. We will see money and possessions not as gods but rather as tools for doing God's work.

Serving Our Lord This Month — September 2026

Elder/Communion Assistant

September 05*	Dan Shute
September 06*	Jeremy Thurston
September 12*	<i>Available</i>
September 13*	John Varvel
September 19*	Jerry Brutlag
September 20*	Stan Schwark
September 26*	Chris Knobloch
September 27*	Mike Bruner

*Denotes Holy Communion Served

USHERS

THIS MONTH

Usher Captains

Karl Kruse (Sat.)

Mike Thomas (Sun.)

Usher Team

Larry Sharper

Victor Brown; Joe Hart; Brandt Nottke



Donnette Meyer
&
Donna Sharper

Altar Flowers

September 05/06	Jackie Morrical in memory of Bob
September 12/13	Joe & Diane Hart on the occasion of their 43rd anniversary
September 19/20	Jeremy & Heather Thurston on the occasion of their 23rd anniversary
September 26/27	Chip Thurston on the occasion of his 55th birthday and in memory of Helena Thurston on her birthday



Trinity— September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Quilt Tying/ Sewing Group 10:30am-3:00pm	2 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	3 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	4 Martha Circle 8:30am @ Herscher Restaurant	5 Communion Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
6 Communion Worship 8:30am Adult Bible Study 9:30am Float Decorating 10:30am	7 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Labor Day Parade 9:00am Staging 9:45am Walker/riders arrive 10:30am Parade begins	8 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Little Lambs Pre-K 3 class begins Council 7:00pm	9 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Little Lambs Pre-K 4 class begins Handbell Choir 6:00pm Vocal Choir 7:00pm	10 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	11 Prairieview Fall Festival	12 Prairieview Fall Festival Communion Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
13 Communion Rally Day SS Teacher Installation Worship 8:30am Sunday School & High School Bible Study 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:45am Confirmation 10:30am Board of Ed 10:30am	14 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Worship Service @ Villas 3:00pm	15 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Hannah Circle @ Frosty Thomas' home 6:30pm	16 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Handbell Choir 6:00pm Vocal Choir 7:00pm	17 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	18 LWML NID Convention At Cross Lutheran, Yorkville Trini-Teens Game Night 6:00pm	19 LWML NID Convention at Cross Lutheran, Yorkville Communion Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
20 Communion Worship 8:30am Sunday School & High School Bible Study 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:45am Confirmation 10:30am	21 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am October Newsletter Deadline 9:00am	22 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	23 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Handbell Choir 6:00pm Vocal Choir 7:00pm	24 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	25	26 Communion Adult Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
27 Communion Worship 8:30am Sunday School & High School Bible Study 9:30am Adult Bible Study 9:45am Confirmation 10:30am	28 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Worship Service @ Villas 3:00pm	29 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	30 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Handbell Choir 6:00pm Vocal Choir 7:00pm			
Deadlines for printing: Bulletin announcement deadline-Wednesdays 12:00pm October Newsletter deadline-Monday, September 21st by 9:00am						

Pastor's Conference 9/22-24