

TIDINGS

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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November 2025

Volume 65, Number 11

Monthly Newsletter

Regular Worship Schedule

Sunday School @ 9:30 am

Worship Service w/Communion @ 10:30 am



**Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
his love endures forever.**

1 Chronicles 16:34

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30 Days of Thankfulness

by Pastor Ed Backell

Here we are in November... in fact, I'm a bit late in getting my article to Tracy for November than was originally planned. And how do I feel about that? THANKFUL.

You see, there's an idea going around this month on social media. I don't know if I want to dignify it enough to call it a "movement", but there are a lot of people participating in something called 30 Days of Thankful. The idea is that for each day in November, one is to pause and reflect for what they are thankful.

Often, people post these daily reflections on social media internet sites like Facebook. A good number of my friends and family are participating at various levels in the 30 Days of Thankful.

I thought I'd take a moment and share some of my favorites:

"My turn for the thankful bandwagon...#1 - Thankful for an amazing and loving God, #2 - Thankful for my wonderful husband and family, #3 - Thankful for my friends that make life a little more lovely :) and #4 - my health" ~S.H.

"Thankful for those who are in my inner circle...they like to remind me that I am a great encouragement to those I interact with on a daily basis." ~M.W.

"I'm thankful to live in America! I am thankful for our Armed Forces and all of the folks who volunteer to keep us safe and protect our way of life!" ~Heidi (one of my sisters)

"Today: Thankful for family all over the country." ~Mike Flowers, a missionary

*"I'm thankful for dogs & cats. As I sit on my bed & type this I am surrounded by Leeah our chocolate lab & Parker the orange tabby. They are cuddled together & both snoring. No one in the house is even 1% as excited to see me every day as Leeah when I come home. She literally can't hold still until I have loved on her & said hello."
~Laurie, a friend from college*

*"Thankful for my in-laws. Very blessed to have such a loving, wonderful set of "other parents". Thank you, mom and dad for making our lives richer and sweeter."
~Gina, another friend from college*



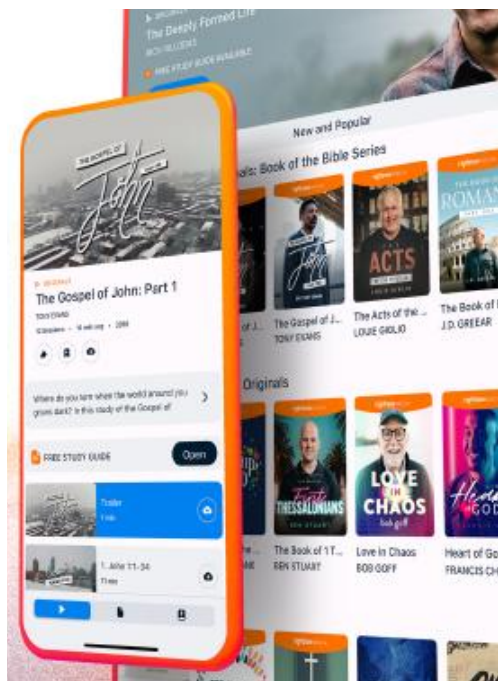
*"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him."
~Paul of Tarsus*

Do you get the point? As we move through life, we're made aware of the Kingdom work that God is doing all around us... and sometimes, we're even included in that work!

As we approach Thanksgiving, and then Advent, and then finally Christmas, let these times make you aware of what the Holy Spirit is prompting you to do...and in it all, be thankful and--

Keep Following Jesus—Pastor Ed

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Scan this QR code to sign up or click the link in the email to create your free account!



Video of the Month

November

“Gratitude Is Not Thanksgiving”

4 week video series by Jason Lawrence Turner

The only appropriate response to the faithfulness and goodness of God is
GRATITUDE.

In this study, Pastor Jason Turner will convey a biblical understanding of the necessity for authentic gratitude in the life of a faithful follower of Jesus. Jason will explore how we express it to God and communicate it to those through whom God works to bring about His good and perfect will for our lives.

Gratitude is a worshipful disposition toward a good and gracious God. Jason will explore four main characteristics of what gratitude is not in moving us to understanding that gratitude is something that Christ Followers should model in their everyday life.





November Birthdays

Arlene Bittrick	November 2
Gladys Evanson	November 4
Sandy Mattson	November 6
Jennifer Bomhard	November 13
Melanie Bennett	November 15
Larry Tyler	November 21
Diane Fried	November 26
Duane Scheele	November 27
Nancy Purcell	November 28
LaLita Tadena	November 28
Addi Taes	November 30

Daylight Saving Time Ends

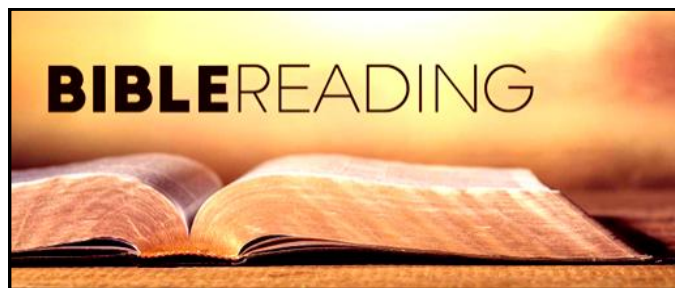
Sunday, November 2, at 2:00 am



Fall back

set your clocks back an hour

Don't forget to set your clocks back
one hour before going to bed on
Saturday night, November 2.



November 2

All Saints Sunday

- † Psalm 119:137-144
- † 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12
- † Luke 19:1-10

November 9

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

- † Job 19:23-27a
- † 2 Thessalonians 2:1;-5, 13-17
- † Luke 20:27-38

November 16

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

- † Malachi 4:1-2a
- † 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
- † Luke 21:5-19

November 23

Christ the King Sunday

- † Jeremiah 23:1-6
- † Colossians 1:11-20
- † Luke 23:33-43

November 30

1st Sunday of Advent

- † Isaiah 2:1-5
- † Romans 13:11-14
- † Matthew 24:36-44

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes: October 14, 2025 (Subject to approval)

Respectfully Submitted by Sandy Hoveskeland, Council Secretary

Present: George Simon, Vicki Egesdal, Pat Woods, Marcia Taes, Diane Fried, Denel Ingraham, LaLita Tadena, Pastor Ed Backell, Nancy Purcell and Sandy Hoveskeland. Charlie May was absent.

Call to Order: President George Simon called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Devotional: Denel gave the devotional on Psalms 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, Oh God; and renew a right spirit within me."

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Vicki and seconded by Diane to approve the September 9, 2025, minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was provided by Vicki Egesdal. Total Assets are down about \$23,000 from the prior year. Most of that difference is depreciation on the building. Cash assets are about the same this year as last year. Plate offerings to date are \$14,000 greater than at this time last year. Total expenses are \$150,037 compared to \$131,587 at this time last year, mainly due to having a full-time pastor this year. As a result, we have a greater net loss than at this time last year. Dan Olson donated \$840 to cover the cost of a one-year subscription to RightNow Media for the congregation.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Ed preached and taught every Sunday. He met weekly with the Wednesday Bible study group, Tuesday men's fellowship, and Friday morning breakfast group. Pastor Ed helped serve lunch at UGM, visited Arlene in the hospital and again when she moved to Sunshine Gardens for rehabilitation, visited Sarah in the hospital, and prayed with women who came to the church for food. He also accompanied Diane Fried to provide in-home communion with Al Marsh. Pastor Ed and Jami cooked for the Thank You Banquet at church on October 12, and he baptized Lester Boudewyns during the October 12 church service. Pastor Ed visited with Don Russell about a tract on Intercession Don has been working on.

Properties and Maintenance: See report submitted by Charlie May. Brent installed the completed Little Free Library on 26th Avenue. The library is filled with books from the School for Little People we previously had at the church. The fire department conducted an annual inspection. We had three EXIT lights that were not working properly. In fixing those, Tom Purcell found that a couple of smoke alarms should be replaced. The Fire Marshall indicated the need for an occupancy permit if more than 40 people are in a room. The permit is \$300 a year.

Worship and Music: See report submitted by Nancy Purcell. Lalita is filling in for Arlene Russell on Altar Guild. Reformation Sunday is October 26. The congregation will be encouraged to wear red. All Saints Sunday is November 2. Dan Winchester and Bill Nelson's names will be engraved on the memorial plaque at church. Relatives will receive a white rose in remembrance. We are also looking into having "homecoming" that day.

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COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from previous page)

Inactive members will receive an invitation to attend church on November 2. The poinsettia order needs to be placed by November 1. Order forms are in the Sunday bulletin. Decorating the church for the Christmas season will take place Saturday, December 6.

Congregational Ministries: See report submitted by LaLita Tadena. A Thank You Banquet was held in the Fellowship Hall Sunday, October 12. A taco bar was provided by Pastor Ed and Jami. Approximately 45 people attended. Thank you, Pastor Ed and Jami!

Christian Education: See report submitted by Pat Woods. We are on our winter schedule. Sunday School begins at 9:30am and church begins at 10:30am.

Social Cares and Concerns and Care Team: See report submitted by Diane Fried. Diane reported on visits the care team made with Cher Brown, Joyce Isakson, Al Marsh and Ken Stoop. Communion is provided during these visits if requested. Team members from Holy Trinity served lunch at the UGM Men's Shelter. Cherry tomatoes from Tom and Nancy Purcell were donated. Fruit snacks, biscotti and belVita cookies were donated for the Women's Shelter. Food bank donations from Holy Trinity so far this year total 388 lbs. November will be the beginning of our fourth year to serve lunch at the UGM men's shelter.

New Business:

1. Charles Schwab and STCU Changes: Appointment of new people to transact business on behalf of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.
 - a. Dan Olson has resigned as treasurer of HTLC and will be removed as authorized individual from our Schwab accounts.
 - b. Appoint Tracy (Tenney) Damiano, Office Manager, as an authorized individual so she can continue to conduct business with our Schwab accounts on behalf of HTLC.
 - c. Appoint Charlie May as an authorized individual.
 - d. Appoint George Simon as an authorized individual.

A motion was made by Nancy and seconded by Diane to approve the appointment of Tracy, Charlie, and George as authorized individuals on the Schwab account. Motion was unanimously approved. Charlie May's appointment as a signer on the STCU account was approved by the Council at the September 9, 2025, meeting.

2. Annual Three Days of Prayer and Food Drive: January 5-7, 2026, was designated as the annual Three Days of Prayer. A flyer will be attached to the food drive bags encouraging people to come to the church between 11am and 2pm on January 5-7, 2026, for prayer. The church will be staffed during this time. Marcia Taes provided the timeline for distribution of the food drive bags. Bags will be distributed on

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COUNCIL MINUTES

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December 7 after church and picked up December 14. Caroling will not be combined with the food drive this year. Caroling will take place on December 21 as a separate event. A motion was made by Diane and seconded by Pastor Ed to approve staffing the church from 11am to 2pm on January 5-7, 2026.

3. A Year in Review with Pastor Ed Backell: Marcia Taes led a review of Pastor Ed's performance his first year at Holy Trinity. The Council agreed that he has done an exceptional job! He brought enthusiasm and excitement into the church and suggested ideas for outreach and growing the congregation. He has a good knowledge of the Bible. Thank you, Pastor Ed!
4. UGM Events – Participation in Tree of Sharing: Rather than participating in the UGM Tree of Sharing this year, Pastor Ed suggested going to Pines Elementary and asking the staff for ten kids to bless. He also suggested blessing the teachers with a Christmas card. Jami may be able to have her kids choir come sing for us. UGM Connect was also mentioned. This includes a shower for the women at UGM. George suggested we discuss this in the spring. UGM is also having a food drive for their kitchen. The Council agreed to not participate and to continue Holy Trinity's donations to Spokane Valley Partners (Food Bank).
5. Little Free Library: Tracy will be asked to investigate the cost of licensing our book sharing box to get an official charter sign and be added to the Little Free Library world map. A suggestion was made to also contact Scholastic as they donate free books they are no longer selling. A category called Little Church Library for Christian based books can also be registered and added to the world map.
6. Formation of Budget Committee for 2026: The budget committee members are Dan Olson, Vicki Egesdal, George Simon and Charlie May.

Member Items:

1. New Member Class: Pastor Ed would like the New Member Class to be offered quarterly.
2. Tracy's Vacation: Tracy will be on vacation April 3-10, 2026. She provided a list of the Office Manager Duties for Council to review and manage in her absence. The main items are accounting duties (Vicki Egesdal), PowerPoint slides and Bulletin (George Simon), Sanctuary Set-up (Diane Fried), and USPS Mail (Sandy Hoveskeland).
3. Church Council President: George Simon's term ends in February 2026, and he has opted not to serve another term. The nominating committee will meet to discuss his replacement.

Next Month's Devotional: Vicki

November Counters: Diane and Denel

Adjournment: The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at 8:35 p.m.





30-Day Bible Scripture CHALLENGE

Day 1 Colossians 4:2 "Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving."	Day 2 2 Corinthians 9:15 "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"	Day 3 1 Thessalonians 5:18 "...in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."	Day 4 1 Chronicles 16:34 "Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."	Day 5 1 Corinthians 15:57 "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."	Day 6 Psalms 106:1 "Praise the Lord! Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever."
Day 7 Colossians 3:15 "In You, O Lord, I put my trust; Let me never be ashamed; Deliver me in Your righteousness."	Day 8 Psalms 100:4 "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."	Day 9 Psalms 107:21 "Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!"	Day 10 Colossians 1:12 "...giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light."	Day 11 Psalms 79:13 "So we, Your people and sheep of Your pasture, Will give You thanks forever; We will show forth Your praise to all generations."	Day 12 Luke 2:38 "And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem."
Day 13 Leviticus 22:29 "And when you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord, offer it of your own free will."	Day 14 Psalms 30:4 "Sing praise to the Lord, you saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name."	Day 15 Psalms 35:18 "I will give You thanks in the great assembly; I will praise You among many people."	Day 16 Psalms 69:30 "I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify Him with thanksgiving."	Day 17 Psalms 26:7 "That I may proclaim with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all Your wondrous works."	Day 18 Psalms 95:2 "Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms."
Day 19 1 Chronicles 16:8 "Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His name; Make known His deeds among the peoples!"	Day 20 Hebrews 13:15 "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."	Day 21 Psalms 140:13 "Surely the righteous shall give thanks to Your name; The upright shall dwell in Your presence."	Day 22 Mark 14:23 "Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it."	Day 23 Luke 17:16 "...and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan."	Day 24 Ephesians 5:20 "...giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,..."
Day 25 Philippians 4:6 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God."	Day 26 Matthew 15:36 "And He took the seven loaves and the fish and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples; and the disciples gave to the multitude."	Day 27 2 Corinthians 2:14 "Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."	Day 28 2 Corinthians 4:15 "For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God."	Day 29 Colossians 2:6-7 "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."	Day 30 2 Thessalonians 2:13 "But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth..."

NOVEMBER 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
						8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
All Saints Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 5:30 pm NA—MNM	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW Newsletter Articles Due	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 11:15 am—1:00 pm Serving Lunch @ Men's Shelter 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30 pm W&M Meeting 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
23	24	25	26	27-Thanksgiving	28	29
Christ the King Sunday 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 5:30 pm—6:30 pm NA Committee Mtg. 7:00 pm AA—SRG	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—B2B	Pastor Ed's Hours: 9:00 am—5:00 pm 10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30—3:30 pm Craft Club 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm NA—WNW	Church Office Closed Today 12:00 pm AA—VNG 4:00 pm Jr. Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm—7:00 pm NA Book Study	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
1st Sunday of Advent 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 7:00 pm AA—SRG						

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Return Service Requested

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Mission Statement:**

*“To proclaim the Good News of God’s
Saving Grace and to minister to our
community through our relationship with God.”*



Tidings is published monthly for the members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The material and content of this periodical is intended to be about church business, community outreach, theology, and spiritual inspiration.

If you no longer desire to receive this publication, please email office@holytrinitylcmc.org, or call (509) 926-7966.

November Events	
Daylight Saving Time Ends	Sunday, November 2 @ 2:00 am
Council Meeting	Tuesday, November 11 @ 6:30 pm
Serving Lunch at UGM Men’s Shelter	Thursday, November 13 11:15 am—1:00 pm
Newsletter Articles Due	Wednesday, November 15
Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Thursday, November 20 @ 1:30 pm
Mid-week Bible Study	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am
Craft Club	Wednesdays 1:30 pm—3:30 pm
Choir Practice	Thursdays @ 7:00 pm
Breakfast & Bible Study	Fridays @ 7:30 am
Regular Worship Schedule	
9:30 am Sunday School (for all ages)	
10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship (after)	