

the MESSENGER

give thanks

S⁺JLC
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

Phone: 830-249-3651

Email: info@stjohnlutheran.com

www.stjohnlutheran.com



November 2020 • Volume 91-11

Stay Connected

Council Contacts:

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Shaun Danney - 210-213-8758

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Teri Folkerts - 210-273-7245

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Stewardship
Mark Danney - 210-610-2090

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Mission
Janet Blackburn - 830-446-9258

Family³ Ministries
George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives
Bradley Morrison, Claire Murley

Pastors can be reached at
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters
Pastor Mariola Bergquist

From the Pastor's Pen

November begins with **All Saints Sunday**, the day of the church year when we remember those who have fallen asleep in the faith and now rest with the Lord. November ends with the first Sunday of **Advent**, when we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Lord who was born for us on Christmas Day. In between, I want to focus our church's attention on two ministries.

The one is an outreach opportunity. **Operation Christmas Child** collects shoeboxes filled with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items, to deliver to children in need around the world and demonstrate God's love in a tangible way. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 178 million shoebox gifts to children in more than 160 countries and territories. This year, Operation Christmas Child hopes to collect enough shoebox gifts to reach another 11 million children. The national organization has asked our church to serve a leading role here in Texas as the central drop off for the Hill Country. Churches from all over the surrounding area will drop off their shoeboxes at St. John, and we'll load them up on a semi to take them to a regional distribution center in Dallas. It's a big commitment for our church, and we're looking for your help. Please sign up to serve in the Gathering Place or online. You'll also find more information in this newsletter.

The other ministry I want to focus our church on this month is stewardship. Giving has been very strong at the church, in part because every November brings a stewardship sermon or series. This November, I want to focus on giving not just our money, but also ourselves and our church to the Lord. The highlight will be an overnight vigil called **24 Hours of Prayer**. It will start Saturday, November 14th at twelve noon, and end Sunday, November 15th at twelve noon. The goal is to have people praying around-the-clock for our church. To make that happen, I'm asking people to sign up for a one-hour slot. We want at least two people for each hour, though more are certainly welcome, and I fully expect that many of the daytime slots will have a half-dozen or more people praying at the same time. I've written a prayer guide to help you pray for our church, our community, our nation, your family, and yourself. My vision is to have people from our church praying for our church for a whole day, intentionally and uninterrupted. This is something God put upon my heart back in July. My dream is that God will answer the prayers of His people and move powerfully in our church in the months to come. Please join me and sign up online or in the Gathering Place.

- Pastor Eric Waters

Want to keep up with all St. John happenings?

Find us on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, and **YouTube**, check out our **website**, and subscribe to our **weekly email** 'Week-at-a-Glance' here: <http://eepurl.com/X4f4X>



MESSAGE from the CONGREGATION PRESIDENT

We have a bit of church business to conduct at our special congregational meeting on November 8. We will gather after the late service, in the sanctuary, with one item on our agenda.

Our denomination, the North American Lutheran Church (NALC), has a process for amending its constitution. The NALC Executive Council proposes amendments, which the Convocation debates and must approve by a two-thirds majority of delegates. Then a two-thirds majority of

the congregations must ratify the proposed amendment(s) at their own congregational meeting.

At the NALC Convocation in August, two proposed amendments were approved; both involve the Convocation. Now St. John membership, along with all NALC congregations, will decide whether to ratify those proposed amendments.

Details were sent in a mailing to the St. John membership. At our congregational

meeting, we will give a short summary of the proposed amendments and answer questions before we vote as a membership. I recommend a Yes vote to ratify the proposed amendments.

Please join us for this short meeting, and thanks in advance for helping us attain a quorum to conduct St. John business.

St. John Congregation President,
Scott Kramer

A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

Our Duty and Delight Rests Upon Joy

None of us remembers the first joy we felt in our lives. But our parent remembers. During our first few weeks of life, after a brief period of suffering, we found ourselves with a clean diaper and our hunger gone in the warm arms of our mother or father looking at their face. Our joy caused us to smile for the first time. Joy and delight also filled our parent's heart.

Along with faith, hope, and love, joy becomes the fourth cornerstone of stewardship. As we worship our God, walk with our Savior Jesus Christ, connect with one another, and serve our Lord, God's joy is in us and it is full.

On Consecration Sunday, November 22, we are asked to pledge a portion of our time,

"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full"
John 15:11

talents, and treasures to our Lord. Let us pray, as we are held in the arms of our God with his steadfast love, mercy, and grace, that we smile onto him with "portions of seven, yes to eight..." (Ecclesiastics 11:2)

Your brother in Christ, Mark Danney,
Chairman- Stewardship Committee

INCOME COMPARISON

Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Through Month
2020	\$122,065	\$96,801	\$122,637	\$98,491	\$99,604	\$97,070	97,859	116,881	101,328				\$953,031
2019	\$138,052	\$97,576	\$108,348	\$110,696	\$81,251	\$101,281	\$91,042	\$91,777	\$98,904	\$103,879	\$94,205	\$278,321	\$938,957
2018	\$98,403	\$105,044	\$92,291	\$137,611	\$90,598	\$83,467	\$104,972	\$91,490	\$105,934	\$88,848	\$148,672	\$170,212	\$902,679

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON

Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average YTD
2020 ONLINE				705	513	220	220	241	233				355
IN-PERSON	449	408	331*		142	219	148	210	243				269
2019	416	410	384	512	434	347	377	391	385	421	382	574	419
2018	380	358	385	454	365	357	364	375	377	405	375	556	396

*Online attendance information for March 22 and March 29, 2020 was not available.

Create a Memorial... to honor parent, child, friend and God!

Contact Legacy Deo for a no-cost consultation. Gary Juhl, CFP® at 800-880-3733 or garyj@legacydeo.org



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³
Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Ladies' Bible Study

PRECEPT

Thursday 9:15am-11:15am Precept class will finish the study of Philippians on November 12 and recess for the holidays. Led by Pastor Mariola Bergquist.

Women of the Word (W.O.W.)

Wednesdays 9am-10am

October 7 - November 11

Women of the Word is studying the book of Philippians in a session which started on October 7.. Join us if you're looking for a little more JOY on the journey! \$5 materials fee. Email Michelle Waters with any questions:
watersmichellejoy@gmail.com.
Led by Michelle Waters

NEW! Bible Study on the Book of Ruth

Mondays, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

The Book of Ruth is a story of God's faithfulness and presence in midst of suffering and transition. **Join Vicar Alliyah for this 4-week study on the book of Ruth beginning November 2.**

The study is open to all, be sure to bring your Bibles! Led by Vicar Alliyah Greaver.



HAPPY HEARTS
potluck and fellowship is on hold for now due to COVID 19. We will resume when it's safe and possible.

Mens' Bible Study

Mens' Breakfast

Every other Tuesday 6:30am

"Master Builders Bible For Men" is the foundation for discussion topics.

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

Studying the Psalms. Led by Peggy Hoppes.

9:30am "Seekers" Room 216. Led by Lanne Brehmer.



Parents/Grandparents/Adults The Truth Project

In person and on Zoom at all three classes. Meet in the Shepherd's Cave (room #117) at 8am, 9:30am or *10:40am or be involved online via Zoom (see recent Week at a Glance email for connecting).

8am Topics:

Sunday, November 1 Labor: Created to Create (Part II) Contrary to a great deal of contemporary popular opinion, work is not a "curse." God Himself is active and creative, and He calls man to share in the joy of His activity and creativity. Labor, economics, media, and the creative arts all have a role to play in magnifying the glory of the Creator.

Sunday, November 8 & 15 Community and Involvement: God Cares, do I? The ethical law and the meaning of the Christian life are summed up in the commandment to love God and one's neighbor. This command is the source of the believer's motivation for self-sacrificial service to the needy and their personal involvement in our culture. (This will conclude the 8am series.)

9:30am Full Hour Episodes (In the class room and on-line.)

Sunday, November 1 Anthropology: Who is Man?

Sunday, November 8 Theology: Who is God?

Sunday, November 15 Science: What is True? (Part I)

Sunday, November 22 Science: What is True? (Part II)

10:40am Topics:

Sunday, November 1 Theology: Who is God? (Part II) Eternal life, according to Jesus, is knowing God in an intimate, personal, and relational way. Such knowledge, which is possible only because of divine revelation, transforms us from the inside out as we begin to see ourselves in the light of His majesty and holiness.

Sunday, November 8 & 15 Science: What is True? ("A" Part I & "A" Part II) Part "A": Science, the "systematic study of the natural world," brings to light innumerable evidences of Intelligent Design. But Darwinian Theory transforms science from the honest investigation of nature into a vehicle for propagating a godless philosophy.

Sunday, November 22 Science: What is True? ("B" Part I) Part "B": A careful examination of molecular biology and the fossil record demonstrates that evolution is not a "proven fact." Meanwhile, history shows that ideas, including Darwinism as a social philosophy, have definite consequences - consequences that can turn ugly when God is left out of the picture.

Sunday, November 29 No class due to Thanksgiving Break



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³

Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

Our Family³ Ministries Team:

Matt Olson, Director of Family³ Ministries, Email: matt@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 830-388-1550

Tiffany Jurezcki, Nursery and Children's Ministry Coordinator, Email: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 830-328-3744

Amy Townsend, Hospitality Coordinator, Email: amy@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 713-480-8113

Sunday Morning and Wednesday Activities for All Ages are IN SESSION!



Due to Covid-19, we are still on PAUSE with Parents' Night Out.

Please watch for further information as we would like to provide this opportunity for both students and parents as soon as is safely possible

NURSERY NEWS

Nursery care is available!
We will have a nursery care provider present during **Sunday** morning worship and education times, as well as on **Wednesday** evenings from 7pm - 8pm.

It would be appreciated if parents / guardians would **register your pre-school child** online on St. John's website. This will help us to determine the number of care providers needed. Thank you.

Wednesdays this Month

November 4:

Popcorn & Movie (K-4th) - The Nativity Movie (part I)
First Communion (5th) - The Meaning of Repentance
Confirmation (6th - 8th) - Dependence: What it means to wait on the Lord
Servant-Leadership (9th-10th) Equipping
11th and older - Help with other ministries or End Times Study

November 11:

Popcorn & Movie (K-4th) - The Nativity Movie (part II)
First Communion (5th) - The Meaning of Forgiveness
Confirmation (6th - 8th) - Trespasses: Crossing the Line
Servant-Leadership (9th-10th) Equipping
11th and older - Help with other ministries or End Times Study

November 18: Service Night (see next page)

November 25: NO GATHERING - a Blessed THANKSGIVING to your Family!



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³

Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

S³HEEP:
students, seeking
and serving HIM
everywhere, everyday,
passionately



YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION



LAMBs³:
learning and
memorizing Bible
stories, songs,
and service

Be the hands and feet
of Christ!

SERVICE NIGHT

**Wednesday,
November 18**

A variety of Projects to be done by
various small groups: Operation
Christmas Child, Luminary preparation,
Church Christmas Decoration
preparation, Cantata / Christmas
Program needs, etc.

The Christmas Cantata STUDENT CHRISTMAS PROGRAM and UNITE!



**This year, Choir Ensembles, the Praise Band, and the
Children and Youth of St. John will all lead the
Sunday, December 13th 9:30am and 11:00am worship services.**

Under the theme, "Peace on Earth," through song, readings, art,
pantomimes and even liturgical movement we will seek to prepare our
hearts as we remember He who is the Prince of Peace.

The following will be the students practice schedule:

Sunday, November 15, 9:30am

parts determined within classroom groups.

Sunday, November 22, 9:30am

Costume & Prop preparations and practice

Wednesday, December 2, 7pm

OLDER Student Rehearsal - Run through in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 6, 9:30am

Group rehearsals in Historic Chapel (Social Distancing being followed.)

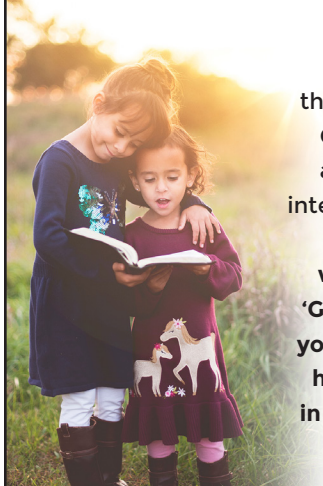
Wednesday, December 9, 7pm

ALL Participants Dress Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 13, 9:30am and 11am

Leading of Worship Services.

Getting To Know Your Bible Workshop November 1 and November 8



3rd Graders,
their Parents and
Grandparents
as well as any
interested persons:

**The final two
workshops on
'Getting to know
your Bible' will be
held at 9:30am
in the Family Life
Center.**

Sunday, November 1

How the Scriptures
Came to Be

Sunday, November 8

How to Use Your Bible for Study and for
Quiet Times

CHURCH NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

All Saints Sunday: November 1

November 1st is All Saints Sunday this year. Join us as we honor loved ones that have recently passed by offering a white flower in their memory.

Congregational Meeting: November 8

Join us after the late service for a Congregational Meeting to discuss amendments to the NALC's Constitution.

Consecration Sunday: November 22

Consecration Sunday is November 22nd. On this day, we will present our tithe pledges for 2021. Please begin to consider and pray about your faithful contribution to God through the mission of St. John.

Christmas Decorating Volunteers Needed! December 1 at 9:30am

Come help decorate our church for the Christmas season. Volunteers of all ages are needed. Youth will gather the boxes on Sunday, November 29th after the late service. Decorating will take place on Tuesday, December 1st at 9:30am - meet in the Narthex. Please call or text Shay Knippa if you can help: 830-522-1884.

Annual Turkey Project: Wednesday, November 25



It's that time of year again, the men of St John will be participating in the Turkey Project along with eight other area churches to feed the needy in Boerne again this year. 2020 has been an extremely challenging year for everyone, but there are still a tremendous number of people in need here in Boerne. St John has committed to provide 40 meals this year and we are going to be collecting money to purchase turkeys, boxed goods, canned goods, rolls, and pies for the Turkey Day Project on Wednesday November 25th at the Kendall County Fair Grounds. We are looking to get a donation of \$25.00/meal to purchase the needed supplies. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this project to provide these meals to people in need in Boerne. For more information on how to donate or get involved, visit our website under 'Events' or contact Bart Graves.

Please note, after all expenses have been paid, any remaining money will go to the Tuesday Men's Breakfast group for a project that they see fit.

24 Hours of Prayer: Overnight Prayer Vigil • November 14-15



This November at St. John, we want to focus on giving ourselves and our church to the Lord. The highlight will be an **overnight vigil called 24 Hours of Prayer**. It will start Saturday, November 14 at twelve noon, and end Sunday, November 15 at twelve noon. The goal is to have people praying around-the-clock for our church.

We are asking people to sign up for a one-hour time slot to come pray! We want at least two people for each hour, though more are certainly welcome. We will supply a prayer guide to help you pray for our church, our community, our nation, your family, and yourself. The vision is to have people from our church praying for our church for a whole day, intentionally and uninterrupted.

Sign up on our website under 'Events' or in the Gathering Place on Sunday.

Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Fulfilling the Great Commission to spread the Gospel to the ends of the earth!

The Shoebox Project opens doors for presenting the Good News of Jesus Christ by working in and through local churches. Shoeboxes are delivered to more than 150 countries and territories. In addition to giving children a shoebox and sharing the Gospel, the children receive a colorful booklet that shares important biblical stories such as creation, sin, the birth of Jesus, teaching of Jesus, His death, and His resurrection.



November 16-23: OCC Christmas Box Drop-Off at StJLC
November 23: Pack boxes into cartons and load them on a truck

Volunteer and Donation Opportunities:

- Pack a box and drop off at SJLC during Drop-off week
- Donate money! Donations go to collecting, processing, shipping, etc.
- November 16-23 - Help at the church during the Box Drop-Off times
- November 23 - Help pack the OCC boxes into cartons and load into a truck

For more information or to sign up: Contact Gloria Baker: phone: 830-431-0522, email: dgbaker@gvtc.com, or visit our website under 'Serve' to sign up online!

Dickens on Main
Saturday, November 28
and Saturday, December 5

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

On Saturday, November 28 and Saturday, December 5 people are needed to set out and turn on luminaries that will be on St. John sidewalks during Dickens on Main, as well as invite people to our Christmas Eve Services via flyers on their cars. This is a way for your family to bless numerous other families this holiday season through invitation and hospitality.

See the "service wall" to get more info on the "what" and the "how" to reserve your spot to help light people's way.

CHURCH NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Thank You! for another fun-filled Church Picnic

The St. John annual picnic was held on Sunday, October 4 at the Balous and Julie Miller ranch. Thanks to our hosts for generously opening up their property for a fun-filled event. A special thank you also to Don and Gloria Baker and all the volunteers that worked hard to make this event possible. You are all appreciated!



Happy Birthday!

Honoring our Senior Members (80+)
With Birthdays In November

Don Barnes (11/16)	Gladys Kuebel (11/03)
Helen Clouse (11/18)	Erik Lunde (11/28)
Nancy Felps (11/14)	Frankeen Price (11/01)
Clara Knoll (11/01)	Joyce Rust (11/22)

If you are turning 80 or are already 80+ and not listed, contact the church office.

The Fall 2020 Women's Retreat was a huge success!

Thank you to all who helped to plan this wonderful retreat at Ebert Ranch Camp. There was an excellent turn out and the women enjoyed growing closer to God and spending time in fellowship with each other.



Grace Place is For Sale

St. John is accepting bids for Grace Place located at 211 Rosewood Avenue. Grace Place is a house that is approximately 1021 sq. ft. Once purchased, this building/house is to be moved off the St. John campus at the buyer's expense within 90 days of purchase. Sealed bids can be submitted to Claudia in the St. John Lutheran Church office, or mailed to 315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne, TX 78006 no later than November 30, 2020.

SAVE THE DATE! Women's Retreat

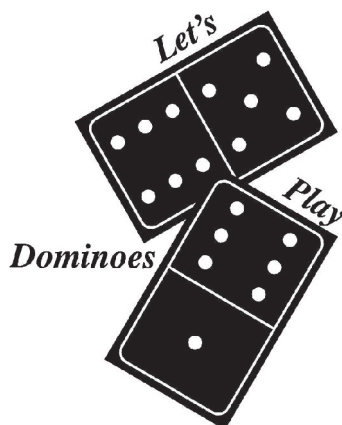
St. John invites you to
A One-Day Women's Retreat

**GAME
CHANGER**

"See, I'm doing a new thing!"
Isaiah 43:19

**Saturday, January 30, 2021
9am-3pm**

More information about the retreat and registration will be coming soon!



**Friends in Faith Domino Games Group
will start up again on Sunday,
November 1.**

We will meet in Luther Hall at 6pm for dinner and start the games following the meal. We will play 42 and Chicken Foot, but are open to other domino games. We hope you will join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Mission Committee Update

The Mission Committee acts as stewards of the congregation to distribute offering funds to ministries focused on meeting spiritual needs and sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. **We have a new process in place to review requests for funding.** Organizations/Individuals can access the form through the St John website by going to resources, then forms, then Missions Funding Request Form. Applications may be submitted at any time and will be reviewed twice yearly, in the fall and spring.

In addition to financial support our Christian service ministries throughout the world need prayer. The impact of the pandemic and economic instability have made it even more challenging to bring the gospel to places that do not enjoy the privilege of religious freedom. Please pray for their safety, strong faith, and encouragement.

Grieving? Know someone who is?



SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS

When you are grieving a loved one's death, the holiday season can be especially painful. Our Surviving the Holidays seminar helps participants prepare for the holidays and even discover hope for the future.



www.griefshare.org/holidays

November 8, 2020 • 2pm-4pm

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Avenue, Boerne TX 78006
830-249-3651



**If you or some one you know is in need
of support, please contact us!**

www.griefshare.org

Connie: 512-779-5508,

Barbara: 210-373-9070,

St. John office: 830-249-3651.

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NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
All Saints Sunday 1 8am Traditional Service 8, 9:30, 10:40 Truth Project 9am Coffee and Pastries 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 6pm Dominoes	9am Quilters 2 6pm Property Meeting 6pm EMAW Groups 6:30pm Ruth Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon	8am Robert Buckles Painting 3 11:30am Growing Hope Bible Study 6:30pm Congregational Care	9am Women of the Word 4 4:30pm Growing Hope Distribution 7pm Family3 Classes 7pm Living in the End Times Bible Study	9:15am Precept 5 5pm Intern Committee Mtg. 6:30pm Finance Committee 7pm Al-Anon	6	7
8am Traditional Service 8 8, 9:30, 10:40 Truth Project 9am Coffee and Pastries 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm Congregational Meeting 2pm GriefShare Surviving Holidays	9am Quilters 9 6pm EMAW Groups 6:30pm Ruth Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon	8am Robert Buckles Painting 10 11:30am Al-Anon Book Club 11:30am Growing Hope Bible Study 6pm American Heritage Girls 6:30 Congregational Life 6:30pm Outreach Committee 6:30pm Mission Committee	9am Women of the Word 11 7pm Family3 Classes 7pm Living in the End Times Bible Study	9:15am Precept 12 7pm Al-Anon	13	24 Hours of Prayer: 14 Overnight Vigil
24 Hours of Prayer 15 8am Traditional Service 8, 9:30, 10:40 Truth Project 9am Coffee and Pastries 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta Operation Christmas Child DropOff	11:30am Men's Lunch at Mamacitas 16 12pm Lit N Lunch 6pm EMAW Groups 6:30pm Ruth Bible Study 7pm Al-Anon	8am Robert Buckles Painting 17 11:30am Growing Hope Bible Study 6pm American Heritage Girls 7pm Council Meeting	7pm Family3 Classes 18 7pm Living in the End Times Bible Study	6pm Friend N Faith Eat Out 19 Group 7pm Al-Anon	20	4:30pm 21 Growing Hope Distribution
Consecration Sunday 22 8am Traditional Service 8:30, 10:40 Truth Project 9am Coffee and Pastries 9:30am Sunday School 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta Operation Christmas Child DropOff	6:30pm Ruth Bible Study 23 6pm EMAW Groups 7pm Al-Anon	11:30am Al-Anon Book Club 24 6pm Wild Game Dinner Committee	Turkey Project-Trash Can 25 Turkeys	THANKSGIVING DAY 26 Office Closed Office Closed 7pm Al-Anon	Office Closed 27	28
8am Traditional Service 22 9am Coffee and Pastries 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 6pm Canasta	6pm EMAW Groups 30 7pm Al-Anon					