

the MESSENGER

StJLC
BOERNE

St. John Lutheran Church

315 Rosewood Ave., Boerne TX 78006

Phone: 830-249-3651

Email: info@stjohnlutheran.com

www.stjohnlutheran.com



September 2023 • Volume 94-09

Stay Connected

Council Contacts:

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Kirby Wisian - 210-835-4691

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Gloria Baker - 830-431-0522

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Lil Rogers - 210-452-5583

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Geneva Sinclair - 830-446-6919

Outreach

Frank Bush - 210-602-6220

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Ann Peters - 210-639-8918

Property

Brandt Klutts - 830-305-4623

Mission

Jennifer Kuentz - 210-834-2811

Family³ Ministries

George Klein - 210-269-4620

Youth Representatives

Luke Christman, Logan Klein

Pastors can be reached at
830-249-3651

Pastor Eric Waters

Pastor Mariola Bergquist

From the Pastor's Pen

Hold onto this newsletter—you're going to need it, because there's a lot happening this month at StJLC. It begins with our annual Church Picnic on October 1. What a great event! If you've never been, I sure hope you can make it this year. When the Waters family moved here 8 years ago, the **Church Picnic** was one of times when StJLC began to feel like our new home. It's a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and fun. Hope to see you there!

And women, I hope you can make it to the annual **Women's Retreat** at Camp Chrysalis, October 20–22. Obviously, I've never been to it myself, but I know how much work Michelle and the rest of the team put into the weekend event. They pull out all the stops to create an experience that draws women closer to God through His Word. There'll be food, fellowship, fun...and no families to take care of for the weekend! If you've never gone, I encourage you to take that step of faith and go this year. Look for more information inside this newsletter.

Now, to husbands and kids left behind, and anyone else who can't make it, don't feel left out. We've got an event planned that weekend for you, too. The annual **Polka Service** will be held this year on October 22 at 11am. The Early and Praise Services will remain the same, but the Late service will be led by the Boerne Village Band with help from a guest song



leader—Pastor Bergquist! All the music—the prelude, the hymns, the offertory, even the liturgy—is set to polka. If you've never participated before, come and join us, and bring a friend. It'll be a barrel of fun!

Then join us the following week for **Reformation Sunday** on October 29. This is the 506th year of the Protestant Reformation, launched when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg. I'll preach a classic message from Romans 3 on Law and Gospel, faith and grace, sin and salvation—that we are saved by grace through faith because of what Christ has done. We follow it up with a **Trunk or Treat** for the kids after the Late Service. It's a great Sunday to invite family and friends to come to StJLC. Look for more information inside.

Looking ahead to next month, mark November 5th on your calendar now. That's **All Saints Sunday**, when we remember those who have passed away in the last year with faith in Christ. This year, we'll celebrate the heritage of the saints who have gone before us as we **rededicate the Historic Chapel**. After each service, we'll invite the congregation to come to the Chapel for a blessing, prayer, and open house. The Chapel looks fantastic. You don't want to miss it!

— Pastor Eric Waters

A NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

INCOME COMPARISON													
Monthly Operating Income	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average Thru Month
2023	\$152,340	\$106,982	\$105,872	\$121,481	\$96,133	\$117,134	\$118,348	\$115,725					\$116,752
2022	\$134,590	\$124,203	\$141,734	\$115,347	\$104,550	\$106,229	\$114,850	\$122,472	\$96,083	\$116,396	\$123,143	\$311,256	\$120,497
2021	\$149,464	\$92,893	\$119,933	\$110,256	\$120,505	\$92,056	\$89,873	\$123,896	\$86,919	\$118,393	\$104,987	\$213,041	\$112,360

ATTENDANCE COMPARISON													
Avg Weekly Worship	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Average for Month YTD
2023 ONLINE	101	79	77	90	93	95	107	88					86
2023 IN-PERSON	464	562	519	606	413	417	395	388					449
2023 TOTAL	565	641	596	696	506	512	502	476					535
2022 ONLINE	131	123	104	84	54	91	74	81	66	70	66	103	
2022 IN-PERSON	350	407	459	632	377	353	344	382	359	372	375	545	494
2022 TOTAL	481	530	563	716	431	444	418	463	425	442	441	648	
2021 TOTAL	410	471	522	488	415	420	370	471	459	451	428	676	447

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN SCHOOL



At St. John Lutheran School our mission is to Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known through Academic Excellence and Christian Character. We value the education of every child that walks through our doors. Your child will grow intellectually, morally, and spiritually with a solid Christian education, small classroom sizes, one-on-one attention, and excellent teachers.

October 5 • Bring Your Bible to School Day



October 24, 5pm - 7pm School Fundraiser at Fritze's BBQ

Take the family to eat ne dinner at Fritze's in Boerne on October 24 between 5pm and 7pm and make sure to tell them you are with St. John when checking out.

The restaurant will donate to our school!
Easy-peasy.





ADULT FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Ladies' Bible Studies

PRECEPT

Thursdays 9:15am-11am, Room 118

Precept Bible study will continue to study the Book of Jeremiah at 9:15am in Room 118. Questions? Contact Pastor Mariola: pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

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

Wednesdays 9am-10am

Women of the Word is studying the book of Ruth this Fall. We'll look at how things fall apart when a society isn't governed well and how we can choose to live a godly life in the midst of an ungodly culture. Join us on Wednesday mornings at 9am beginning September 6. Cost: \$5 materials fee. Contact Michelle Waters for more information at watersmichellejoy@gmail.com.

Happy Hearts October 9, 6pm



Happy Hearts will meet on Monday, October 9 at 6 pm in the Family Life Center for potluck (please bring food to share) and for BUNCO. Join us for an evening of food, fun and fellowship.

For more info, please email pastormariola@stjohnlutheran.com

Mens' Bible Studies

Mens' Breakfast

Every other Tuesday 6:30am

"Master Builders Bible For Men" is the foundation for discussion topics. This group meets in Luther Hall. Upcoming dates: **Tuesdays, September 5 and September 19.**

Men's Bible Study

Feel welcome to jump into the book and discussion of The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis, happening most Tuesdays at 6:30pm in the Shepherd's Cave (Rm 117). Note: No gathering on October 17 due to BISD Fall Break and October 31 due to Halloween.

Adult Sunday School Classes

9:30am "God Talk"

Please join us for our continuing study of Paul as we turn our focus to his letter to the Romans beginning September 10. We will be using the book "Be Right: How to be Right With God, Yourself, and Others" by Warren Wiersbe. Meet in Room 128. Led by Peggy Hoppes.

9:30am "Seekers"

Seekers is studying a book written by Paul H Wright, PH.D. It is a compilation of different characters in the Bible and covers biblical backgrounds and cultures. Meet in Room 216. Led by Carol Postert.

9:30am "Logos"

This class is studying the book of Romans. Meet in Room 118. Led by Richard Wagner.

**Sundays, October 29 - November 20
9:30am and 10:45am**



The Sunday Women's Bible Study Class will be starting a new study that follows up from the Women's October Fall Retreat. Starting Sunday, October 29 at 9:30 and 10:45am we will be taking a journey through Priscilla Shirer's Discerning the Voice of God. Come join us as we learn how to develop a closer relationship with God so that we can know and trust when we hear Him give us direction for our lives. The 9:30am class will be led by Marissa Klein and will be in the "Family Room" off the Family Life Center. Becky Garza will lead the 10:45am class and will be in the Parlor. Please RSVP to Marissa 210-393-4653 if you want to attend either class to make sure we have enough study guides.



**Sundays, through
December 10
at 9:30am and
10:45am**

**Equipping for Parents,
Grandparents,
and Young Adults**



Grandparents and Young Adults. We are continuing our study of the God design of Family, The Family Project, DVD and discussion series. (Note: No class on October 15 due to BISD Fall Break)

Theology on tap

October 15 6pm

Join us at the home of Russell and Robin Phillips (148 Outlook Point, Boerne). Bring your favorite drink and an item to share. We will be discussing the sermon series: Minor Prophets, Major Problems.

Men's Basketball

The gym opens from 6:30-8:30pm MOST Monday Nights. For more info, talk to Mark or Matt. September schedule is Mondays, October 2, 16, 23, 30.



Young Adults Gatherings (18-20 somethings) October 22

Join us for a ZOOM call at 8pm Central Time (contact Matt for Zoom link)



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
Mark Lynn, Director of Youth Ministries, Email: mark.lynn@stjohnlutheran.com, Cell: 630-596-7312
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 MORNINGS

**Sunday School classes at 9:30am
for all ages (preschool-high school)**

Reminder: 3rd-5th graders meet in the music room for bells and chimes with T.J. before going to the classroom.

NO Sunday School, October 15 due to BISD Fall break



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Wednesdays Activities

- 4pm** **K-5th** - Special Events (see next page)
 6th-12th - Volunteer with F3 Kids
5:30pm Meal for all ages in Luther Hall
6:30pm Study and Fellowship Activities for
 5th grade-Adults
7:30pm Classes and activities conclude



Wednesdays Topics:

- October 4** - Lesson Night #5
October 11 - Lesson Night #6
October 18 - Service / Project Night Operation Christmas Child
October 25 - Lesson Night #7

*October 18 will be the service day for Operation Christmas Child
(see next page for more information)*

FAITH MILE MARKER

3rd Graders: Bibles • October 29, 11am

3rd graders will receive a Bible from the congregation as we seek to support and encourage them and their parents in faith building practices. The students and parents will have Sunday School get together time to prepare

Sunday, October 1, 9:45am: The Importance of God's Word

Sunday, October 8, 9:45am: How the Scriptures Came to Be

Sunday, October 22, 9:45am: How to Use Your Bible for Study and Quiet Times

Sunday, October 29, 11am Worship Service: Blessing at the Altar

Upcoming Information:

NO Sunday School, October 15 due to BISD Fall break

Christmas Program Rehearsal begins for PreK - 8th grade
on Sunday, November 19.

Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 10
at the 11am Worship Service.

Parents' Night Out

Friday, October 20 • 6pm-10pm

\$15/child \$45 max/family * Dinner included! Nursery-Age 10

CONTACT: tiffany@stjohnlutheran.com

Sign up online: www.stjohnlutheran.com

NURSERY CARE IS AVAILABLE ON SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS

We will have a nursery care provider present during
Sunday morning worship and **Wednesday** Bible Study
times for children ages 3 and under.



FAMILY³ MINISTRIES

Know Jesus and Make Jesus Known.

FAMILY³

Together, in our Home,
Church and World
Families

youth PACKING party

October 18, 6:30pm

Families are welcome!

Operation Christmas Child will have a youth packing party on October 18 at 6:30pm for the youth to gather and fill shoe boxes to send the message of Jesus around the world.

By packing a shoebox, you will bring joy to a child in need by sending a gift-filled shoebox to be delivered along with the Good News of Jesus Christ.

All materials will be provided!



Elementary Kids Events



Wednesdays, 4pm

All elementary age students are invited to F3 Kids every Wednesday from 4pm-5:30pm. We will learn new skills while having fun with friends and memorizing Bible verses! Come after school, we will have a snack waiting for you! **Please register on our website under 'Events'.**

October 4: Board Games

October 11: Yarn Pumpkins and Spiders

October 18: Ambulance Visit, First Aid

October 25: Popcorn Balls

**Sunday, October 8
for Parents and
Grandparents
Special Event:**

**"The Birds and the Bees:
How to talk with your
children about sex."**

Presented by the Hill Country
Pregnancy Care Center.

October 8, 12pm - 3pm

Lunch will be served.

Sign-up on our website
under 'Events' or scan the
barcode below.



FAMILY CAMP • October 13-15

at Kerrville-Schreiner Park

Registration Closes October 8

St. John invites you to join us for a Family Camp at Kerrville-Schreiner Park in Kerrville. Join us to experience the partial eclipse together with your church family as we also explore some Biblical Imagery of God's Love: A Burning Ring of Fire!

**Find Details and Register today at
www.stjohnlutheran.com under 'Events'**



Ski Pilgrimage 2024 • Winter Park, Colorado March 10-16, 2024

This Ski Trip registration is open now for High School students. Registration will open on October 15 to all youth and their families on a first come, first serve basis. All middle school students will need to have a parent join them.

**Visit St. John's website under 'Events' for additional details and
for the link to register.**

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out to Mark Lynn
at 630-596-7312 or Mark.Lynn@stjohnlutheran.com.



CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration Closes October 8

Women's Retreat October 20-22

Join us for a weekend of learning and fellowship, fun, and worship at Camp Chrysalis in Kerrville. Cost is \$110 for the weekend, with a Saturday only option for \$30.

This year's theme is John 10:27 NIV "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Register by scanning the QR code (on the right) or on our website under 'Events'.



Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is a project of Samaritan's Purse that delivers shoeboxes filled with toys, hygiene items, and school supplies to children around the world as a tangible expression of God's love through the hands of local partners to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, God's Greatest Gift. Samaritan's Purse is bringing shoebox gifts and the message of the Gospel to more than 100 unreached people groups each year.

Starting in October, a table will be set up in the Gathering Place to share more information about OCC, provide volunteer opportunities, and to distribute empty shoeboxes to be filled by individuals and families.

StJLC is the shoebox collection site for the Hill Country Area. Many volunteers are needed to help during the November Collection Week.

If you don't wish to shop for items to fill a shoebox, you can scan the QR code (on the right) and fill a shoebox online.

Key Dates: **November 13-20: OCC Collection Week - Shoebox Drop-Off at StJLC.**

November 20: Load cartons of shoeboxes onto a trailer.

Volunteer and Donation Opportunities are available!

For more info or to volunteer: Contact Gloria Baker at 830-431-0522 or dgbaker@gvtc.com, take a card from the Serving Wall, or visit our website under 'Serve'.



FAMILY connections

A Friends in Faith Group
Connecting Families and Young Adults

Upcoming Events:

October 13-15:

Family Camp (stay overnight or come out for the day) on Friday, October 13-Sunday, October 15. You can register on our website under the 'Events' tab and look for Family Camp. RV/tent sites and cabins are available. (See Page 5 for more info.)

October 29:

We will gather for the **Fall Festival and Trunk or Treat** after the late service.

There will not be a November event as we gear up for the Boerne Weihnacht's Parade, on Saturday December 2nd. As always, you can reach out to Tiffany: 830-328-3744 or Marissa: 210-393-4653 for more information or to host an event.

Hill Country Daily Bread Donations Needed!



Hill Country Daily Bread is requesting donations of Canned Green Beans for their Thanksgiving distribution boxes. There is a box in the Gathering Place where you can drop off your donation. **Donations are due by October 29.**

FALL FESTIVAL and Trunk or Treat OCTOBER 29

12:15pm - 1:30 pm

Join us for lunch following the 11am service. There will be a bouncy pirate ship, yard games, hayride, food and fun for the whole family, and **YES! THERE WILL BE TRUNK OR TREAT!** Activities will take place in the Family Life Center, south playground and southeast parking lot.

**THIS IS A
COMMUNITY EVENT!**

*Invite your family, friends,
and neighbors! All are
welcome.*

Save the Date

Women's One Day Retreat
January 27, 9am-3pm
at St. John

"Take Heart!" Based on Matthew 9:22
"Jesus turned and saw her. 'Take heart, daughter,' he said, 'your faith has healed you.'" *Details to come soon!*

CHURCH NEWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Birthday!

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

Judy Clark (10-06)	Gary Rice (10-04)
Pat King (10/31)	Fred Starbuck (10-20)
Kjell Oliversen (10-06)	Joyce Urban (10-14)
Russell Phillips (10-04)	Jan Walter (10-19)

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

NALC Continental Youth Gathering



HOST HOMES NEEDED
June 30-July 5, 2024

On July 1-4, 2024 St. John will be hosting the FIRST ever NALC Youth Gathering.

We are expecting 500 students and adult leaders from all over the USA and Canada. We need more host homes! Please prayerfully consider and sign-up as plans are being made! Thanks for supporting your "World Family".

Sign up on our website under 'SERVE/SIGN UP TO SERVE'

Congregational Work Day November 4, 10:30am-2:30pm

We'll have a variety of projects that we'll be tackling both inside and outside. We have chores for the little folks as well, so bring the kids. We will provide drinks and snacks. We have a great time working together and we hope to see you there. Questions? Email Brandt Klutts: tesoro@gvvc.com



Property Committee Volunteers Wanted

The Property Committee oversees the general care, maintenance and repair of the church buildings and grounds. Serving on the Property Committee is a great way to get involved without a huge time commitment and the skills you possess can be put to good use.

We also have Congregational Work Days each year. The whole family is welcome - we have things everyone can do! If your schedule won't allow you to attend meetings, you can still make a contribution by helping out at these Congregational Work Days. We'll take whatever help you're comfortable giving and be glad to serve with you.

For more info, contact Brandt Klutts at: tesoro@gvvc.com

Domino Games Group



The Domino Games Group meets each Sunday at 4:45pm in Luther Hall EXCEPT FOR the 2nd Sunday of each month. We play Dominos and Canasta. Please bring a covered dish to share (dessert, casserole, veggie tray, fruit, chips/dip, etc). RSVP via text to Jean and Howard Sheffy at 210-845-2849. Feel free to show up even if you didn't contact Jeanie or you can't bring a dish - you are always welcome!

REMINDER

October Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Scott Kramer Team
9:30am services:	The Putnam and Fox Teams, 4th Grade Sunday School
11am services:	The Pearson Team

November Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	The Evans Team
9:30am services:	The Mikulencak Team
11am services:	The Hardin Team

December Usher Schedule:

8 am services:	Richard Wahl Team
9:30am services:	The Hitch Team
11am services:	Jim Peters Team

*Please remember to arrive early
for your scheduled service!*

**Would you like to be an Usher?
We need your help!**

To volunteer, please contact the church office at 830-249-3651 or see Johnny Moldenhauer.



The Christian-oriented GriefShare bereavement program, under the guidance of Pastor Bergquist, continues and is available to both StJLC members and non-members. Anyone aged 17 and older mourning the death of a loved one is invited to come at any point during the 14-week cycle, as each class is a stand-alone unit. There is no charge for this ministry.

Meeting options are:
Tuesdays, 10am to noon through November 14 and Wednesdays, 6pm to 8pm through November 15. Childcare is available with prior notice. Both groups meet in the Education Wing, first floor.

More information is available online at www.griefshare.org where registration is available and encouraged, or by calling Connie at 512-779-5508, Barbara at 210-373-9070, or the church office at 830-249-3651.

Attendees find welcome, support, and respite in the company of others who are struggling with grief.



Did you know that Pastor Eric and Michelle have a podcast?

Find and listen to the podcast on Apple Podcasts or at www.michellejoywaters.com/podcast. If you would like the episodes delivered to your email inbox on Mondays, email Michelle at michelle@michellejoywaters.com.

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 5 • 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!

Connie: 512-779-5508, Barbara: 210-373-9070, St. John office: 830-249-3651.



Grieving?

Know someone who is?

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OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
8am Traditional Service 1 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 2pm Church Picnic 5pm Dominoes, Canasta, Potluck	9am St. John Quilters 2 6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Ala-Teen	6:30am Men's Breakfast 3 10am GriefShare 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies 6:30pm Worship Committee	9am WOW Bible Study 4 3pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship 6:30pm Choir 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	9am Precept 5 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 7pm Al-Anon	6	7
8am Traditional Service 8 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 2pm Presentation: Birds and Bees	9am St. John Quilters 9 6pm Happy Hearts 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Ala-Teen	10am GriefShare 10 6:30pm Congregational Life 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 11 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship 6:30pm Choir 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	9am Precept 12 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 12pm Lunch Bunch 7pm Al-Anon	Family Camp in Kerrville 13	Family Camp in Kerrville 14
8am Traditional Service 15 9:30am Adult Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 5pm Canasta, Potluck	12pm Lit N Lunch 16 6:30pm Men's Basketball 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Ala-Teen	6:30am Men's Breakfast 17 10am GriefShare 11:30am Men's Lunch at Mamacita's 6:15pm American Heritage Girls 6:30pm Council Meeting 6:30pm Men's Group Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 18 3pm Growing Hope Distribution 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship 6:30pm Choir 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	8am EMAW I 19 9am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 11:30am Quilting Around the Bend 5:30pm Friends of Faith Dinner 7pm Al-Anon	6pm Parents' Night Out 20 Women's Retreat	Women's Retreat 21
8am Traditional Service 22 9am EMAW 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service, Boerne Village Band 5pm Canasta, Potluck	6:30pm Men's Basketball 23 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Ala-Teen	10am GriefShare 24 6pm Wild Game Dinner Meeting 6:30pm Men's Bible Studies	9am WOW Bible Study 25 3pm Growing Hope Distribution 4pm F3 Kids Event 5:30pm Bells 5:30pm F3 Dinner, Fellowship 6:30pm Choir 6pm GriefShare 6:30pm Crossways	8am EMAW I 26 9am Precept 9:30am Music Together® with Wendy Valentic 7pm Al-Anon	27	28
Reformation Sunday 29 8am Traditional Service 9am EMAW III 9:30am Adult and Youth Classes 9:30am Praise Service 11am Traditional Service 12pm Trunk or Treat 5pm Canasta, Potluck 8pm Young Adult Zoom	6:30pm Men's Basketball 30 7pm Al-Anon 7pm Ala-Teen	6:30am Men's Breakfast 31 10am GriefShare 6:30pm Men's Bible Studies				