



# Tidings of Joy

"Joyfully Reaching Out to Others in Christian Love and Service"  
Joy Lutheran Church, ELCA



**Volume 36, Issue 8**

**3174 Jupiter Blvd. SE – Palm Bay, FL 32909**

**August 2020**

## **Staff**

The Rev. John David Bryant - Pastor  
Steven K. Weiss – Organist  
Brenda Godson – Church Secretary

## **Worship Times:**

### **Sunday**

10:00a.m. Worship Service

8:45a.m. Adult Sunday School

Children's Education Time  
(During the Sermon)

### **Saturday August 29th**

5:30p.m. Pilgrim Journey Band  
(Prayer and Praise)

**Church Office Phone:**  
321-951-0166

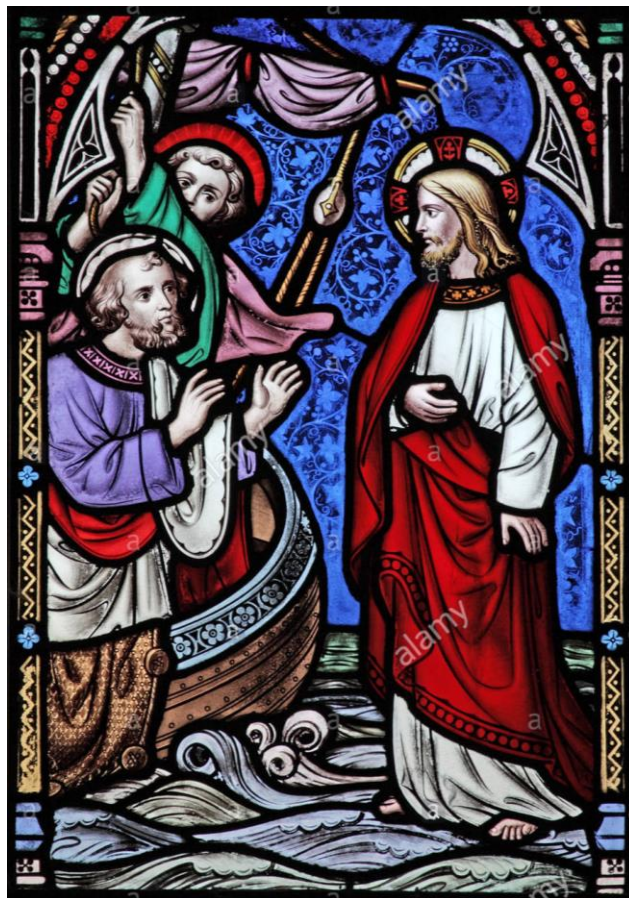
**Pastor's Email Address:**  
[prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com)

**Church Email Address:**  
[joylutheranpb@gmail.com](mailto:joylutheranpb@gmail.com)

**Church Web Site:**  
[www.joylutheranelca.com](http://www.joylutheranelca.com)

***NOTE: All services, meetings, events, & activities are still suspended as of this newsletter, until further notice, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.***

**Watch for updates from Pr. Bryant.**



*"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."*  
Matthew 14:27

**"Office Hours:** Weds and Thurs 9am-2pm and by appointment. It is strongly suggested to call ahead before dropping by. Pastor is off Mondays except for 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, when Friday is day off. Best means to contact pastor is 321-312-7339 or [prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com](mailto:prjdbryant4tide@gmail.com)."

## Pastor's Corner

Pr. J. David Bryant

Friends,

The Lord be with you.

For months now, we've been processing a collective trauma: coronavirus and the changes it has created. This means that we grieve. And, when we grieve, we discover how part of our grief is anger. Anger is neither good nor bad. It is just an emotion. And, like every emotion, if properly managed, it comes to good ends. Yet, if improperly managed, it goes to bad ends.

The Epistle of James tell us:

"You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness." (James 1:19-20)

Note the emphasis in the verses that suggests how anger and speech are to be managed by taking it "slow." Also, note how taking it "slow" comes with an encouragement to "be quick to listen." Maybe taking the time to do faithful listening is the path that makes us "slow to anger" and "slow to speak."

A few days ago, I found myself feeling edgy and angry. Grief had tried its best to seize me through anger associated with the loss of time spent time with friends. Many months ago, childhood friends had planned for our families to meet in Atlanta/Orlando to attend a Def Leppard concert. I was so excited to reconnect, to meet spouses, and to head-bang to heavy metal tunes in a civic center. Of course, that was all before coronavirus became the supreme killjoy.

Can't you relate to what I am sharing here? Haven't we missed time spent with friends? Haven't we missed "Young at Heart?" What about missing our WELCA "Pancake Breakfasts?" And, then there is the obvious one, together we miss "Sunday Worship" and "Rockin' Praise."

We feel a range of emotions surrounding such loss. Sometimes I have felt sad, at other times, "blah," and, on occasion, angry. How about you? What emotions are you feeling? Know that whatever you feel is neither good nor bad yet realize that how your emotions are managed is an altogether different matter.

In these grieving days, let's "be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness." This listening-and-taking-it-slow way is our way. We know this to be true. Now, that we are reminded of it, let's redouble our efforts to live it.

Even in the face of loss, we are to live it, for it is who we are called to be. And, even if we fail to live into it perfectly, we still aspire to mature into its fullness. I say this with a heart that is now both sad and glad from the reality that again we are postponing the resumption of in-person gathering for worship. I am glad that this increases our chance of not becoming a vector for COVID-19, yet sad that our time spent with one another is the price we are required to pay.

**Until further notice, church council has voted that the in-person gathering suspension of services is extended until September 6<sup>th</sup>**, and this is subject to change if conditions become favorable for us to gather earlier. Please receive this with an attitude of loving patience. Be a listener, rather than a hothead. Yet, if you do become a hothead, manage it well by taking it slow. I realize that this news is a killjoy.

We will get together again, just not yet. Until that time, know that God loves you. You are not alone. And, if you should find yourself feeling isolated, reach out. JOY is a loving family and we will find a way to be physically distanced yet socially close.

In Christ's love---  
JDB+

# Turner School Supplies back to School



Our Turner School Supply Drive is in full-swing. The need is far greater this year than it has been in previous years. The state of the economy, courtesy of COVID-19, has many unemployed. This means that school supplies are beyond the purchasing power of some families. Churches, schools, and civic organizations make up the difference.

This year's goal is \$1,500. We are making progress towards that goal, but still have far to go. If you are able to give, then please do so. If you are not able to give cash, give a prayer.

How do we give? Place donation in an envelope marked as "School Supplies". Then, put the envelope in the JOY drop-box on the east side of the church building.

If you have questions, reach out to Marjorie Maenpaa, 321-327-8400.

God bless---  
JDB+

## BLOOD DRIVE



Sixteen blood donations. That's what we received at the July 16<sup>th</sup> "One Blood", blood drive. Does the number sound small? It is not. Sixteen units of whole blood means that 48 people have a chance at life. It also means that COVID-19 antibodies might be found.

Thanks so very much for supporting this event. You make all the difference in the world. The gift of a blood donation is quite literally the gift of liquid grace.

Our next scheduled drive is September 11<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars.

## Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is meeting weekly to complete the audit by the end of the month. The audits for WELCA, Memorial Fund, Men's Group and the Cub Scouts have been completed. The General Fund will be completed in the next two weeks. The Committee will prepare its report during the first week in August, and present the report to the Church Council.

*Erik Maenpaa*

## Joy Reopening Task Force

During this pandemic, love of neighbor requires careful planning. Because we love God, we want to offer worship that brings our very best. Because we love our neighbors, we want to do everything we can to make sure we bring no harm to anyone when we gather.

During pandemic, gathering requires a delicate balance as we Christians weigh our need for being together as people of all ages, infant through older adult. Alongside our commitments not to harm our neighbors through accidental spread of disease. We affirm that Christians may find different faithful solutions to this dilemma so long as we do not endanger ourselves or others. (Resuming Care-Filled Worship and Sacramental Life During A Pandemic, The ecumenical Consultation for Protocols for Worship, Fellowship, and Sacraments)

The Task Force has researched and reviewed best practices, guidelines from the CDC, State of Florida Department of Health, ELCA, Florida-Bahamas Synod, local Brevard County officials, local and regional church leaders. We have also had the opportunity to hear from local chaplains working in the area hospitals who are administering to those who are hospitalized and currently struggling with Covid-19.

The parting comment from a local chaplain to our committee was; "I would hope not to see a member of JOY congregation in the hospital they are serving with Covid-19".

At this point in time, all indications are that we have not reached a point for safe return to in person services and the Task Force has recommended to the Church Council that the tentative opening date of August 2<sup>nd</sup>. be moved to a **tentative date of September 6<sup>th</sup>**. All activities on JOY property to remain closed until the opening date.

The task Force has set the next meeting date as August 20<sup>th</sup>, but the Committee will continue to monitor the situation and as new information and guidelines become available, the Committee will adjust the date as situation warrants.

Respectfully,

*Erik Maenpaa*

## Suggested Face Mask Usage

Soon we will begin to worship in person and using face masks. Here is some information on the proper use and reuse of face masks. The following is from an Infection Control RN from Sarasota Florida, and the Infection control RN for RAMC. Both following CDC guidelines.

*Face masks are only effective for protection if they are handled, worn, stored and disposed of properly. Used improperly, and the masks actually become vehicles for spreading germs.*

### Face Mask Do's & Don'ts

- Before and after handling the mask (to put it on, adjust or take it off), do practice proper hand hygiene. Either wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before and after you touch the mask — EVERY TIME — to reduce cross-contamination risk. The outside of the mask is considered dirty.
- Do mark the outside of the mask in some way so you can easily identify which side is the outside of the mask, and handle it accordingly. You can use permanent ink
- Do keep a paper bag handy for storing the mask every time you take it off; a plastic Ziploc-style baggie is an alternative if a paper bag is not available. Always store a mask in a clean place. Never store it in a purse or pocket.
- Do not touch the outside of your mask while it is on your face. Do not pull your mask below your chin while you're wearing it. Leaving the mask dangling or improperly fitted to your face creates opportunities for cross-contamination.

### Mask Use & Re-use How-to

- Clean your hands using proper hand hygiene.
- Loop elastic over your ears. Pull it down so that it's covering under your chin; secure it to your face by pinching over your nose. Be sure it's on nice and secure. It must cover your nose and mouth.
- Before removing the mask, clean your hands.
- Remove the mask using the ear loops.
- Inspect it to be sure it can be reused. Has it been compromised? Is it wet? Visibly soiled? If it is, go ahead and throw it away, then perform hand hygiene. If the mask is OK to reuse, prepare it for storage. (Next step.)
- Fold the mask in half (lengthwise or widthwise), so the outside surfaces are touching each other. Place it carefully into your clean storage area/bag. Seal the bag, if you're using a paper one; if using a plastic baggie, leave it open.

### Face Mask Rotation and Storage for (surgical masks and N-95)

- Get 5 masks and 5 paper bags
- Label each bag with consecutive numbers 1,2,3,4 and 5.
- Label the mask(s) and paper bags with the user's name.
- Depending on the type of surgical mask, the front side can be folded together before storing.
- Store the mask(s) in a breathable container, such as a paper bag, in a dry location.
- The surgical masks (N-95) should be rotated daily, for example using mask 1 on Monday, 2 on Tuesday and so on, returning to mask #1 on day 6. This can be done for one month, 4 rotations, and then discard masks and bags.
- If the mask is wet or soiled, then throw it away. If you are using cloth masks, follow the same steps for putting on and taking off but wash them at the end of the day.

*The Parish Nurses*





The Gather Bible Study for July was the second in a series of "Just Love" as in love with justice. The text is Luke 19:1-10 about Zacchaeus. First Zacchaeus is trying to see who Jesus is; and then Jesus invites himself to this tax collector's house. We too are trying to see Jesus and He does invite himself to our house and hearts. Others say Zacchaeus is a sinner and so are we. Zacchaeus then moves to restorative justice; giving to the poor, paying back anyone he defrauded four times as much. We too are called to restorative justice even if it is not personal injustice but societal injustice. With the call to "Black Lives Matter" what can we do. Do not feel justified because we are an integrated congregation. Where are the poor and black, brown, immigrants, the unemployed in our community? They are our neighbors. They are across the street with children in Turner Elementary. We can give to the Joy School Supplies. We can give to the Joy Back Pack program. Other activities may be supporting Daily Bread, the Sharing Center.

You can read the entire three part-study for free at <https://www.gathermagazine.org/summer-2020just-love-by-gladys-moore-and-christa-compton/>

*Elaine Heine*

**All "In-Church" Meetings Are Currently Cancelled Due To COVID-19.**

## Shepherd Center

The Shepherd Center of South Brevard Board will decide in August about the six week Fall Session from Oct 8 to Nov 23. Currently the board is looking at classes with social distancing and participants wearing masks. Class size may be limited or popular classes may have two class sessions. The scheduled place is Peace Lutheran where there are several large spaces. Those who have given their email to Shepherd Center will receive registration and schedule of classes by email. Everyone on the only mail list should have received a letter during May. We will have some registration forms at Joy in September. Check the website as time approaches for information at [www.shepherdcenterofsb.org](http://www.shepherdcenterofsb.org) , or contact Elaine Heine.

## Property Committee

The Property Committee is in the process of completing the clearing of the brush. As the brush has been cleared, the mowing crew has been able to mow the grass around the palms and pines at the West and North end of the property.

New spotlight has been installed at the base of the flag pole replacing the original light at the top of the flag pole which was destroyed by high winds.

The aging locks and door knobs around the building are starting wear out and it is time to start replacing the exterior door locks as well as rekeying the locks. This will be completed in the next several weeks.

The IT Committee has suggested that a whole building surge protector be considered to safeguard against damage to electrical and electronic equipment from voltage spikes. The Property Committee is exploring the cost and feasibility of installing a unit in the building. The Property Committee is in the process of exploring suitable solutions.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Erik Maenpaa*

## NEW DOOR LOCKS AND KNOBS



A number of the locks and knobs on the doors around the church have started to reach their end of useful life. Despite the heroic efforts of the Property Group members, the time has come to call in the professionals and have the locks serviced and replaced as needed. As the project was discussed, it was decided to rekey locks and limit the number of keys on the basis of need by individuals and committees/groups.

As this change takes place over the next few weeks, you may find your old key no longer works on the doors. Please reach out to the chairman of the Property Committee Erik Maenpaa. Keys will be issued at the discretion of the Church Council, and members will need to sign for the keys. A log of keys signed out will be kept in the church office.

*Erik U. Mäenpää*



## JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN



### Turner Elementary School and Lutheran World Relief.

This year, more so than before, we will need to purchase more supplies. Many families are in greater need than before with the impact of COVID-19. Families are in need of help. Many are still out of work. Last year WELCA collected \$1,106.00. This year's goal is \$1,500.00 because we feel the need is much greater. When making your donation please put it in an envelope and mark it "school supplies."



**SILENT AUCTION:** Time to start thinking of making a basket for our Silent Auction in November. The deadline for baskets is October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Thank all of you for participating in "Good Gifts/Farm Animals" project. We collected \$967.95.

**ALL WELCA ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
**(Watch for WELCA Activities to resume)**

### Message from Council President

Good day JOY members and friends, I am going to keep this update short and sweet. Council voted on a few things for the Church at the last Council Meeting. One of those items is already mentioned in this newsletter, we are having the Church locks replaced and will be re-keying the Church. Council also voted to approve the wish list that the IT Committee presented. The wish list items will help Pastor and the Church on the mission to record and stream the services even after we are able to meet in person. Unfortunately, under the advisement of the re-opening committee, it was voted on that we will once again prolong the opening of the Church, due to the increased cases of COVID-19. The new very tentative date is set for September 6<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Bryant will continue to hold the drive thru communion on Sundays from 11:00 am till 11:45am. We hope you are enjoying those.

On a more personal note I would like to thank those who have sent me messages, cards, emails, and those praying for my mom. For those who do not know she has been diagnosed with stage 3 Lung Cancer, and just started treatment. Continued prayers are much appreciated.

Be safe and God Bless,  
Melody Shaffer  
JOY Council President



## A Stewardship Moment on Pledging

The story is told of a wise pastor who went to get a haircut. The barber, who happened to be a member of the congregation, took the opportunity to tell the pastor all the reasons why the barber was not going to complete his stewardship pledge card.

*"I don't think we should have to promise to give money to God. We should give what our heart tells us at the time. I like to be able to just put in the collection whatever I have that week."*

The pastor listened carefully and after his haircut he handed the barber \$1 for the \$10 haircut, saying, *"I like to give what my heart tells me – just whatever I have in my pocket at the time."*

*"Pastor," the barber protested, "I can't pay my rent, take care of my expenses and run my business successfully if everyone would do that."*

*"Neither can God," the pastor replied.*

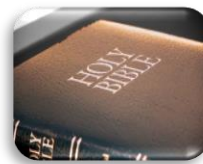
### Online giving is an option for us, and also for others visiting our website.

A link to our online giving portal is found on the JOY website. Here is the secure link to that portal: <https://www.joylutheranelca.com> Scroll down to the purple box that says "online giving." Feel free to check it out, even if you do not elect to use it. What can it hurt to learn about something new, right?

Again, this is an option, not just for ourselves but for others beyond JOY. Participate if you feel so led. Don't participate if you are not so led. Give in whatever way works best to suit you.



### Lectionary "A" for August 2020



#### Gospel Readings

<b>August 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Matthew 14:13-21
<b>August 9<sup>th</sup></b>	Matthew 14:22-33
<b>August 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Matthew 15:(10-20), 21-28
<b>August 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	Matthew 16:13-20
<b>August 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Matthew 16:21-28

What does it mean when the pastor takes off his/her watch and places it on the pulpit, while preaching the sermon?

*Absolutely Nothing.*

The 2020-2021 School Year will soon begin. Please remember this important outreach program.



### **BACKPACK PROGRAM "BREAD OF LIFE" BACKPACK PROGRAM**

The "Bread of Life" backpack program for Turner Elementary School is a wonderful outreach to our community. So, please be generous in your monetary donations, as we provide food for as many as seven families each weekend. The cost is approximately \$175 per week.

Thank you everyone for your donations and helping with the packing and delivery of the backpacks.

Contact Charlotte Abrahams for any further details concerning this great outreach program.

## **Newsletter**

Tidings of Joy is only as good as the input received from Church Council, WELCA, Men's Group, Various Committees, Circles, etc. Please provide David Steinhorst with your news, thankyou's, updates, etc. for the **September Tidings no later than August 25th.**

Email David Steinhorst  
[dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com](mailto:dsteinhorst@cfl.rr.com) or provide a printed copy.

## **PENDING**

### **Young at Heart** ❤️

Young at Heart will be meeting on **Thursday August 20th at noon**. All are welcome. Invite your friends, relatives, and neighbors. It will be a potluck luncheon. So please bring a dish to share (your choice of meat, vegetable, salad, or dessert). The fellowship is always wonderful.

For additional information contact:  
Majorie Mäenpää (321) 327-8400

## **PENDING**

### Saturday Night Pilgrim Journey Service August 29<sup>th</sup> @ 5:30pm

The Saturday evening Pilgrim Journey service format is a more informal worship service of prayer and praise. It will also be followed by a **PIZZA FELLOWSHIP**.

#### **Prayer - Praise - Pizza**

When you arrive for the service at 5:30 pm there will be a sign up for pizza. There is no charge, but we ask that you think about a donation of just \$1 a slice. There will be a choice of toppings. Just let us know how many slices you want and what kind, and we will place the order and it will be ready after the service.

Tea and lemonade will be provided, or else bring your own beverage.

## **We care about you!**



If you so desire, please let us know when you or your family is in the hospital. If you want to have information about your hospitalization and basic condition released to Joy Lutheran Church, you need to inform the hospital. Also, please have someone call the church at 321-951-0166 and let us know you have been hospitalized.

Please contact the church office, if you would like to have a visit from Pastor Bryant, a Stephen Minister, or would like to be listed for prayer support.



*<sup>18</sup>The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit. <sup>19</sup>Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all. Psalm 34:18-19(NRSV)*

### **We especially pray for:**

Norm Barmen	Tina Breeden
Donald Christensen	Steve Christensen
Emilio Cruz	April Dean
Brenda Godsen & Family	Dan Giardiello
Winnie Hall	Gunner Heim
Family of Bob Lengel	Judy Marciano
Julio Melendez	Jackie Mertens
Pat Muth	Carol Nichols
Cheryl Nelson-Suttles	Elizabeth Planding
Joyce Powell	Rebecca Reynolds
Joy Sorensen	Patsy Steger
Jackie Tolley	Thelma Tucker
Sherry Weldon	Damon Williams
Family of Novella Lengel	
All frontline personnel dealing with COVID-19	

## **JOY CORE VALUES**

**Worship:** Joyfully experiencing Christ through word, music, sacrament and prayer

**Property:** Providing the physical means to fulfill the spiritual needs of church and community

**Outreach:** Extending Christ's compassion and care to others

**Fellowship:** Enjoying each other's company

**Welcoming:** There is a place at Joy for everyone

**Education:** Getting to know the Word

**Relationships:** Everyone is worthy of care and respect

## **2020 Church Council**

**Pastor** - Rev. John David Bryant

**President** – Melody Shaffer

**Vice President** – Majorie Mäenpää

**Secretary** - Kelly Arner

**Treasurer** - Kim Tolley

**Financial Secretary** - Renee Harper

### **Council Members at Large:**

Dudley Bowling

Bob Getter

Gary Krause

Peggy Marion

Mary Sherman

Barbara Sparks



### August Birthday Blessings

08/14	Charlotte Abrahams
08/18	Marion Bauman
08/21	John Burdick
08/22	Peggy Marion
08/22	Jim Parker
08/22	Robert Runk
08/23	Terry Embrey
08/23	Gary Krause
08/23	Elaine Heine
08/23	Emily Walton
08/29	Ruth Laumer

Notify the church office, if corrections need to be made to the Birthday List.



The Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. If you would like to have flowers in honor of or in memory of someone please choose the Sunday and sign up. You may put your check for \$20.00 in your offering envelope and indicate that you are paying for flowers. There may be some dates blocked out by Worship and Music, for the Festival Sundays. If someone has already signed up for the date you wanted, please choose a date close to the one you want, or let the church office know you have signed up, so two vases of flowers can be ordered. Flowers are provided by “**Emma’s Flowers.**”



### Eternal Candle

If you would like to provide the **Eternal Candle** you may also sign up on the Flower Chart for the month you wish. The cost is \$5.00 weekly.

### January thru June 2020 Stewardship

General Fund	(Please see Sunday bulletin for current information.)		
Needed each Month	\$13,863	Needed YTD	\$83,178
Received in June	\$8,355	Received YTD	\$76,430
Capital Improvement Fund			
Budgeted each Month	\$1,662	Budgeted YTD	\$9,972
Received in June	\$1,450	Received YTD	\$8,940

*Remember the church with your regular offerings. Though we have been worshiping in a different way the last several months, the work of the church goes on and needs your support. Thank you in advance for your understanding and generosity!*

**AUGUST 2020****All Services, Meetings, & Activities Pending**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
Check website & messages from Pastor Bryant for changes in schedule.						9:00am "Men of Joy" Bible Study & Business Mtg
2	3	4	5	Transfiguration 6	7	8
8:45am Adult Bible Study  10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:45am Adult Bible Study  10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle  11am Fellowship Meeting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:45am Adult Bible Study  10am Worship	7pm Council Mtg	10am Dorcas Circle Quilting  11:30pm Eve Circle Bible Study	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting	12pm Young at Heart	8:30am Property Work Day	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
8:45am Adult Bible Study  10am Worship		10am Dorcas Circle Quilting	10am Rachel Circle Knitting/Crocheting		8:30am Property Work Day  11am-1:30pm Daily Bread	5:30pm Prayer & Praise Worship Pilgrim Journey
30	31					
8:45am Adult Bible Study  10am Worship						