



The Circuit Rider



November 2020

SIGNS



Have you seen the signs? The signs are everywhere. Vote for this person! Vote for that one! Often, what we see represented in these political signs littering the landscape is division, anger and contention. We wonder if we will ever get along. We could look out at the landscape covered with political signs and only see what divides us, but recently I have been seeing a little deeper.

Some folks at Camp have been reading the *Anatomy of Peace* book together with me. I am thankful for this book and this class that have helped me to see more than the division represented in those signs. I am starting to imagine someone going out of their way with passion, strong beliefs and conviction to find the perfect spot on the side of the road to press metal legs of the political sign into the earth to lift up his hoped-for candidate. We think that it is this passion, these beliefs and personal needs that divide us. But someone else holding the sign of the opposing candidate does the same - goes out of his way with his own passion, strong belief and conviction to stand up their sign. There are more than just political sign that divide and separate us. What if we begin to see differently... not what divides, but actually what unites us. " If we have beliefs we cherish, then we know how important others' belief must be to them. And if we have needs, then our own experience equips us to notice the needs of others." (*Anatomy of Peace* p228) This is the beginning of hope: to see the reality of the other.

Christ, sees us fully as we are and invites us to see others like we see ourselves with the same hopes, dreams, cares and fears that are as real as our own. Jesus taught it this way by lifting up the ancient Jewish teaching of "love your neighbor as yourself."

Have you seen the signs? I am beginning to see the hope of Christ inviting us all to have a heart of peace by truly seeing the one who may even put up different signs.

Peace in Christ,
Steve

Camp United Methodist Church

4807 Main Street
Shallotte, NC 28459
(910) 754-4840
cumc.office@atmc.net

Sunday Services
8:30 AM Praise & Worship
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Traditional

Camp United Methodist Church is a community of faith whose mission is to seek and to serve God by praying, preaching and teaching the Gospel, making disciples and serving others.

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The Ordination Journey of Alex Parker

2020 has been and continues to be a very challenging time in our lives. Virtual schools, virtual meetings, virtual graduations, virtual birthday parties and other social events and even virtual doctor visits. In the life of the church it has been especially challenging to keep congregations connected while worshipping via YouTube, etc. and trying to engage with a new minister. For Alex Parker, Minister of Discipleship, it has been an even more challenging year as he walked his journey of Ordination in the United Methodist Church.

What is Ordination? It is a process of dedication and commissioning of ministers after following a path of study in which the pastoral candidates validate their call into ministry. The process begins when a potential candidate, under the guidance of an existing pastor, applies to his/her home church for validation of a calling. This means staying involved with that church for a minimum of a year.

A candidate has to be accepted on the local level, then the district level and then by the Board of Ordained Ministry. This process of review, writing of many papers and reflection can take 5 years. Any time during this process if the committee feels a delay is necessary, the candidate delays for 1 year and then goes through that process again. An important fact to note here is that the candidate is doing all of this work, in addition to the normal degree study of their college and their chosen major.

The Ordination Track is followed while obtaining a Master in Divinity. Briefly, this means going through 3 sets of study: Discernment, Commissioning and Ordination. Each set of studies require many papers to be written on specific subjects including academic readiness, knowledge of scripture, Methodist Methodology and history, just to name a few. The entire process from college graduation to Masters in Divinity graduation to Ordination can take 8-10 years.

The journey of Alex began when he was born in Kurgan, Russia and adopted from an orphanage in Siberia by an American couple, Bruce and Vickie Parker, during a time when International adoptions were not popular. He instantly had parents and an older brother & sister. At that time Alex's sister had a serious heart condition with a small hole in her heart. Then God gave his family a wink. His parents got a call that the hole in his sister's heart had closed on the SAME day they received a call their adoption of Alex was finalized. God is Great!

As he told us on his first Sunday at Camp, Alex did not have an epiphany regarding a calling, but he did feel a gentle nudge while in the 8th grade. He always attended Christian schools, so he had people surrounding him with prayer and directing him along the way.

When making a decision about what college to attend, Alex's brother was very influential in his selection. His advice was to choose a Big 12 school because of all of the sports & since Alex loved sports, even running Cross Country and playing tennis, it seemed like great advice for choosing a college! After a visit to the Baylor campus, Alex knew this was THE one!

While at Baylor Alex was very active in the Wesley Foundation and was sponsored by Central United Methodist Church in Waco when he started on his journey. His major while at Baylor was in Religion/New Testament Studies. Also at Baylor Alex had a good friend and later roommate, Evan. [Here comes another God wink.] Evan introduced Alex to a gal named Mallory at a birthday party and a special friendship began. Even though they both were in relationships at

that time, they realized after a year that this was more than just a friendship and they started dating. Alex proposed to Mallory after a scavenger hunt and you can ask him about that event! After graduation from Baylor Alex moved to Durham and began his Master of Divinity study at Duke University graduating in 2018.

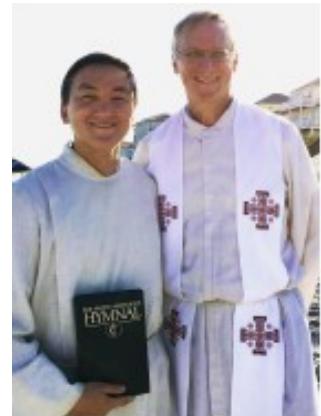
When Alex got the call that he had been approved as an Elder in Full Connection in the Methodist Church he was overcome with emotional relief. On September 17, 2020, due to the limitations of Covid, he was ordained in a virtual service. Not quite the Ordination he had planned, but quite the ending to quite the beginning & now his journey continues with us at Camp. Thanks be to God!



Alex with his new Mom,
Vickie Parker



High School track team



Alex with one of his
clergy mentors



High school graduation with family



Sic Em Bears



NCCUMC Commissioning



Wedding day

**Congratulations,
Pastor Alex!**

We are very proud of you!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Our morning service (*both online and in-person*) will not be an All Saints service. Morning worship that day will follow the normal rotational pattern, but we would like to invite folks to a special *All Saints Prayer Vigil at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary*. This will be a stand alone service to honor those who have finished their course. This service is open to everyone, but please give priority to family and close friends as we come together to celebrate those saints.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP

For the time being, we will continue with our services being on a rotation. We love seeing each of you for both our 8:30 and 11:00 services on Sunday mornings. Thank you for following the COVID protocols, for signing up, and to all those who are integral to helping facilitate worship during this extraordinary time. We look forward to a time when we can have both services on the same day. Until then, please continue to exhibit love and grace during these times.

REST AND BE THANKFUL

In November, we Americans celebrate a national day of thanksgiving. While this year has certainly been one of turmoil, isolation and uncertainty, we do have much for which to be thankful. We still live in a free country. While, for a time, there were shortages in the grocery stores, we are now able to find most of the items we need. We have gained a new appreciation for our families and our friends as so many of us have been unable to be with them for holidays, celebrations and times of sorrow. We have realized how important corporate worship is and rejoice in the chance to be together again.

Recently, while thinking about this year's Thanksgiving, I was reminded of a place in Scotland my mother told me about - "Rest and Be Thankful". It is situated on the A83 roadway where it separates Glen Kingless from Glen Croe. For centuries it was known as the Rest And Be Thankful. Travelers welcomed the chance to draw their breath and enjoy the view as they crossed the summit at 860 feet on the road that leads from Loch Long to Loch Awe via Glen Croe and past the picturesque Butterbridge into Glen Kinlas.



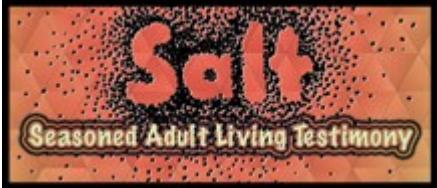
In the beginning, of course, there wasn't a road at all. There was just a track, a path made by generations of travelers, and beaten out by herds of black cattle being taken by drovers from Argyll to the Trysts and cattle markets of the Lowlands. After the Jacobite Uprisings in 1715 and 1719, General George Wade was sent to the Highlands to examine the military situation. One recommendation was to build forts as well as a series of roadways to connect them.

In the summer of 1743, the construction of 44 miles of military road from Dumbarton to Inveraray began. The outbreak of yet another Jacobite Uprising in 1745 interrupted the construction. After the uprising was squelched construction recommenced and by 1748 the road reached over the summit of Glen Croe. The troops who had built the road erected an enclosed stone seat with the legend "Rest and Be Thankful".

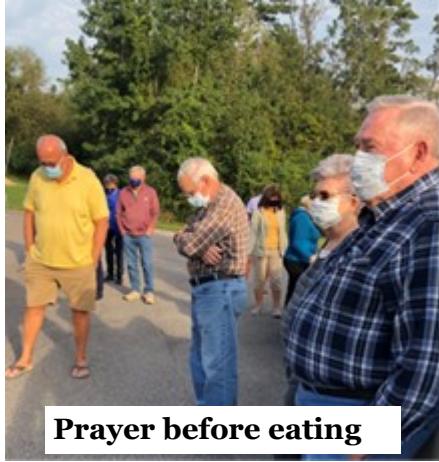
While in some ways, our lives have slowed down during this quarantine period, our minds have not. It might be well for our souls if we would all sit down in place with a beautiful view and just rest and be thankful.

jb

Historical information from an article by Brian D Osborne in Scots Magazine Oct 05



On October 5th, the SALT ministry team hosted a cookout serving hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, cole slaw, chili and a variety of delicious desserts. It was a wonderful time to gather with friends, enjoy good food and spend time “catching up”.



Prayer before eating



“Catching up”

MAKE PLANS NOW to attend the last SALT activity of the year. On Monday, November 16th @ 5:00 PM. We will have a barbecue dinner.

NURSERY

We welcomed a new nursery staff member, Kara Martin, in October. She will work with Marlene in our nursery on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings. Please welcome Kara!!



Camp still needs one Nursery Worker to provide care for babies and children under the age of 5. Now that we have Kara onboard, wouldn't you like to join the team? You can participate in leading the children through songs and a short lesson. Hours include Sundays from 8:15 AM-12:30 PM (*when we reopen fully*) and Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30 PM. This is a paid position under the direct supervision of the Head Nursery Worker. Experience is not required, but preferred. Pay is based on experience. If you are interested, contact Jill Bryant jillbry1@aol.com, Allison Hunter (217-935-8503) or Marlene Hall (910-470-0131) for a complete job description, an application and to set up an interview.



BANANA IS A HAPPY FRUIT. EATING JUST ONE CAN HELP YOU RELIEVE IRRITABLE EMOTIONS, ANGER OR DEPRESSION.

Talking to yourself is a **good way** to help maintain your **focus** while completing a task.



Prayer: Take five slow, deep, centering breaths acknowledging Christ's presence with you.

Opening Prayer: Almighty God, who gave your Son Jesus Christ a realm where all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; make us loyal followers of our living Lord, that we may always hear his word, follow his teachings, and live in his Spirit; and hasten the day when every knee shall bow And every tongue confess that he is Lord; to your eternal glory. Amen

Scripture Reading: Using this week's Lectionary reading spend a moment after reading the scripture reflecting listening to what God is saying. This would be a good time to journal your reflections.

Monday Old Testament Reading

Tuesday Epistle Reading

Wednesday Gospel Reading

Thursday Re-read the Gospel Reading

Friday Re-read a passage of your choosing

Prayer: Christ is Lord and we have hope that God is bringing all things to a glorious resolution. It is in this hope we pray. Each day you are encouraged to explore using the selected Psalm reading as a prayer as you pray through Camp UMC's weekly prayer list and pray for:

Your family and friends

The people of our Camp UMC Community

Our neighbors of Brunswick County

Those suffering and in trouble

The world, its peoples, and its leaders

The Church universal

Lord's Prayer

Closing Prayer: We believe in you, O God, For you have made the suffering of humanity your suffering. You have come to establish a kingdom of the poor and humble. Today we sing to you, because you are alive, you have saved us, you have made us free. Amen. *(Adapted from United Methodist Book of Worship 511)*

November 1	November 8	November 15	November 22
Rev. 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	Jos.24:1-3, 14-25 Psalm 78:1-7 1 Thes. 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13	Judges 4:1-7 Psalm 123 or 1 Thes. 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	Ez. 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 100 Eph. 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46

Women's Bible Study

The 5-week women's study on "The Faithful: Heroes of the Old Testament", ended on Nov. 2nd. During the study the lives of Gideon, Nehemiah, Esther, Hosea and Malachi were explored as they related to God choosing ordinary people to do extraordinary things.



Some of the participants channeling Queen Esther during one of the sessions.

A topic for a new study to begin after the first of the year is being considered. Watch for an announcement for the exact date and study.



The Budget and Finance Committee has kept a careful eye on Camp United Methodist Church financial position, especially during this Covid-19 shutdown. However, as you will see on the following Financial Snapshot page, our offerings and income are down substantially for the year 2020. We remain in a good cash position if we are able to have the PPP SBA loan/grant forgiven. [Payroll Protection Program-Small Business Association] This would give us an unrecognized income of \$62,100. In addition, we have received grants totaling \$15,800 from the United Methodist Conference and the SBA all of which are reflected on the report.

Our committee is preparing the 2021 budget to present to Church Council in October with final revisions to be presented in December.

The Journey to Freedom campaign is still ongoing and is set to conclude in April 2021. We still have a ways to go to retire the balance of the debt of \$179,500.

Tom Adams, Chairman
Finance Committee

Camp United Methodist Church
SNAPSHOT OF
Current FINANCIAL POSITION

Year to date (YTD) as of 09/30/2020		Budget Requirements through 09/30/20	Over (Under) Budget - YTD	Annual Budget Requirement
Offerings	\$ 475,238.00	\$ 548,651.00	(73,413)	\$ 731,535.00
Compared to 09/30/19				
Offerings	\$ 646,110.00	\$ 522,879.00	\$ 123,231.00	\$ 697,172.00
Difference in Revenue Year over Year	\$ (170,872.00)			

Camp United Methodist Church
Statement of Cash Position
As of September 30, 2020

	Operating Funds	9/30/2020
	Restricted Funds	
Checking/Savings		
First Bank		
Operating Acct xxx 3191		
1st Bank - Gen'l Fund	\$ 17,962	
1st Bank - Restricted Funds	<u>\$ 228,210</u>	
Total Operating Acct xxx 3191	<u>\$ 246,172</u>	
1st Bank Savings - MM xxx 2125		
1st Bank-Part of 2018 Overage	\$ 30,000	
1st Bank- Trustee -2018/19 Over	<u>\$ 16,750</u>	
1st Bank -Savings Reserve (Bldg Repairs)	<u>\$ 32,000</u>	
1st Bank Savings - MM xxx 2125 - Other	<u>\$ 35,268</u>	
Total 1st Bank Savings - MM xxx 2125	<u>\$ 114,018</u>	
1st Bank -12mo CD 90770023	\$ 250,000	
1st Bank - Columbarium MM 3077	\$ 35,333	
1st Bank - Early Response 3264	\$ 3,394	
1st Bank - JTF- MM - xxx 2400	\$ 254	
1st Bank - MMO - MM xxx 3205	\$ 16,508	
1st Bank - PPP Account (See Liability Below)	\$ 62,100	
1st Bank - Text to Give xx3086	<u>\$ 994</u>	
Total First Bank	\$ 728,773	
Liabilities		
PPP SBA Loan	\$ 62,100	
First Bank Note (Journey to Freedom)	<u>\$ 186,500</u>	
Total Liabilities	\$ 248,600	

CHILDREN

Trunk or Treat

On October 24, our church hosted a community wide Trunk or Treat event. We partnered with Embracing Christ Fellowship Church! We had over children participate in the event. Thank you to all of you who came out and supported this great event! I look forward to our next community event in the near future!! Check out some of the photos from the event.



Camp Kids is growing! We are excited to announce that we will be starting a 4th class on Wednesday nights! Please pray with us as we continue to grow as a ministry. God is blessing us beyond all measure, and we are so thankful to get to share the love of Jesus Christ with all of these young ones! This is a list of the classes::

Nursery (0-3ish)

Toddler (3ish-5)

K-2 Elementary Class

3-5 Elementary Class

If you are interested in supporting our ministry, we are still looking for more volunteers to join our team! Please reach out to me if you are interested!

The Nursery The nursery is now open on Sunday mornings for both worship services. You can drop your children off up to 15 minutes prior to the service. The nursery is currently open for kids 0-5. Activity packets for older children can be picked up in the narthex as you enter. the church.

Save the Dates!

Parents Night Out- first potential date is November 13, 2020. More details to come!

Christmas Play will take place on December 13! More details to come!

Acolyte training will begin in Jan 2021!

Weekly devotionals and updates are sent out each week to our Young Families! If you are interested in receiving this email, please reach out to me at ahunter.cumc@gmail.com.

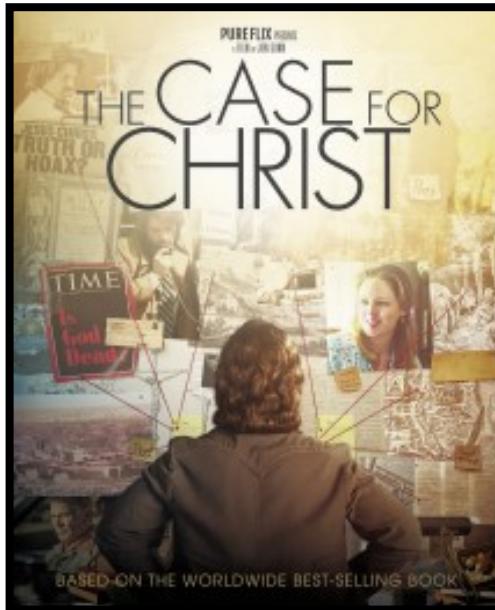
In Christ, Allison Hunter
Children's Director

YOUTH



We are continuing “The Maze” series. The remaining sessions will be: “Following God’s Will”, “Running From God’s Will” and lastly, “Living in God’s Will”.

CALLING ALL YOUTH!



Do not miss your opportunity to be a part of
The Case for Christ Lock In

Friday, Nov. 6th at 5:30 PM - Saturday, Nov. 7th at 1:00 PM
We will provide supper Friday evening, snacks, and

Breakfast and lunch on Saturday.

Cost is \$20/person to offset food costs

Contact Kelly Littlejohn with any questions.

Kelly Littlejohn,
Youth Director

LOCAL MISSIONS

UNION SCHOOL: In October we made and delivered bags of candy with scripture verses for the staff to show our support and love for them. We will do it again in December.



CROP WALK: Our committee made a donation to CROP Walk and we encourage others to do the same.

ANGEL TREE: Donna and Garry Phelps (StreetReach/Building Hope) are collecting \$25 gift cards for their "Angel Tree" kids (prisoners' children) for Christmas. Our committee made a donation and encourage others to help with money or gift cards. **The cut off date is December 15th.** The donations can be cash or checks. For Angel Tree make the check out to Building Hope. If you are giving cash please note where the money should go on the envelope - for checks, write Angel Tree on the memo line. The donations may be put in the offering basket.



THANKSGIVING DINNER BOXES

The Lord's Food Pantry, a ministry of the SBIC, is working to provide a complete Thanksgiving dinner box to 150 area families in need. For \$2 you can help give a family of 4-5 people a complete meal. Could you, your Sunday School class, your Journey Group or other group also contribute? Please make checks out to SBIC, with "Thanksgiving dinner box" written in the memo line, and mail it to:

SBIC

P.O. Box 1461

Shallotte, NC 28459.

EVANGELISM

The Evangelism team is continuing **Drive-Thru Prayer on Sunday mornings!** Hundreds of cars pass by our church on Sunday mornings. Imagine how many lives can be brought to Christ if just a small portion stop by! Come out and join this new and creative mission. It will be exciting to see where this new ministry leads! Contact Kim Fillman (910-443-1074) if you would like to participate in this ministry during COVID times.



Crop Hunger Walk 2020!

Camp UMC will be participating in the Crop Hunger Walk this year. We will walk 1 mile on Sunday, November 1st at 2:00 PM. We will meet in the church parking lot and then we will walk, socially distanced, to the Dollar Tree store and back. Families of all ages are welcome to join!

Let's fight hunger one step at a time! A portion of the money raised comes back to our local community, including the Lord's Food Pantry at our church.

Sponsor our church today through a donation, or register to walk with us. Tamy Munns and I are collaborating in organizing this annual event! If you would like to help us with our efforts or would like more information, contact Tamy or me.

(cumc.tmunns@gmail.com)
(ahunter.cumc@gmail.com)

In Christ,
Allison Hunter

A Prayer of Gratitude

Dear God,
Thank you for your amazing power and work in our lives, thank you for your goodness and for your blessings over us. Thank you that you are able to bring hope through even the toughest of times, strengthening us for your purposes. Forgive us for when we don't thank you enough, for who you are, for all that you do, for all that you've given. Help us to set our eyes and our hearts on you afresh. Renew our spirits, fill us with your peace and joy. We love you and we need you, this day and every day. Amen.

— Rachel Dawson

Bill and I want to thank our Camp UMC Family for your prayers of comfort, kind words, cards and prayers for our safe travel during this time of grief for my sister, Ginny Reeb. We all felt God's presence in our family time together.

Bill and Candy Minor

I wanted to express a big THANK YOU to all of those who have reached out to me or my mom during this past month. She has had several health concerns that have hopefully been resolved. Camp, you continue to amaze me with how you represent the church. The people are the church, and I am so thankful to work with each of you!

Allison Hunter

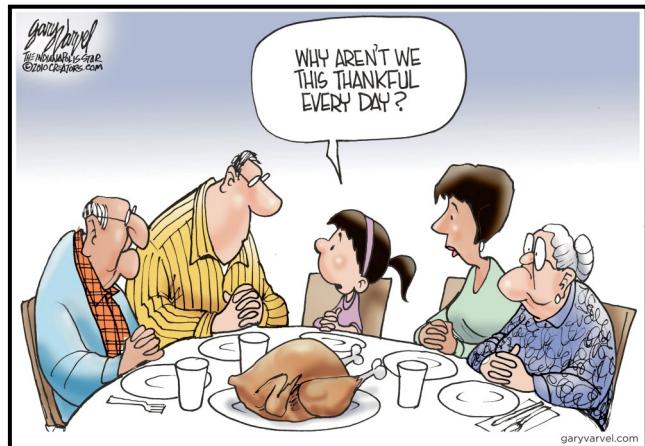


A special, one-time GriefShare seminar: **"Surviving the Holidays"** will be held on Saturday, Nov 14th from 2:00PM-4:00PM. We are limiting it to 10 participants and will follow all Covid safety guidelines.

This seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn:

- * How to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays
- * What to do about traditions and other coming changes
- * Helpful tips for surviving social events
- * How to discover hope for your future

Call the church office to register.



NOVEMBER MILESTONES



1	Tammy Hooks	11	Katie Mae Garner	19	Bauer Black
2	Bob Fatzinger	12	Peggy Hanson	20	Liz Boyer
3	Sylvia Able	12	Ralph Kendall	20	Chris Frazier
3	Kristin Dowdy	12	Chicky Wallace	21	Sibyl McLamb
4	Andrew Holcomb	13	Kimmie Durham	22	Deanna Ions
4	Cheryl Pinson	14	Eric Morris	24	Claire Yoder
7	Brenda Register	15	Debbie Campbell	27	Cherie Compton
8	Kevin Smith	15	Arlene Sterner	28	Maggie Holcomb
9	Doug Bergere	16	John Donoghue	29	Janice Jessee
9	Cindy Clugston	16	Rick Nelson	29	CJ Nelson
10	Barb Kosanke	16	Virginia Winfree	29	Rick Pinson
11	Matt Dowdy	18	Kasey McGougan		



Betsy & Bob Fatzinger	11 (20)
Tommi & Harnes Hendricks	18 (2)
Bobbie & John Steve	18 (29)
Geri & Joe Walker	18 (59)
Susanne & Tom Adams	19 (26)
Tamy & Greg Munns-Creelius	21 (22)
Carol & Steve McCready	26 (9)



DATES TO REMEMBER IN NOVEMBER

Nov. 1st	All Saint's Day	5:00PM Prayer Vigil in Sanctuary
	Daylight Savings ends.	
Nov. 3rd	Election Day	
Nov. 11th	Veteran's Day	
Nov. 16th	SALT Activity	5:00PM
Nov. 26th	Thanksgiving Day	





REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	10:00-11:30 Women's Study	Bulletin Deadline 5:30-7:30 Children and Youth			4:30-6:30 Soup Kitchen/FH	10:00 Food Pantry/ FH/BA

CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 All Saint's Day 11:30 Traditional 5:00 All Saint's Prayer Vigil	2	3 	4	5	6	7 10:00 Camp's Food Pantry Day
8 8:30 Praise & Worship	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 11:00 Traditional Service	16 Columbus Day	17	18	19	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22 8:30 Praise & Worship	23	24	25		27	28
29 11:00 Traditional Service	30					