

THE ADVENTURE - 2020



ADVENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION – FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To *gather* as God's people and nurture one another
- + To *know* the Word of God
- + To *grow* in faith, love, and service
- + To *go* into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



Rev. Josephine Wright, Interim Pastor
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Worship Services Continue at 9:00 a.m. each Sunday

Advent will continue to hold one Sunday worship service at 9:00 a.m. until further notice. This schedule is a midpoint between our former 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. services, prior to the pandemic.

Since we resumed in-person worship services, we have followed all the precautions necessary to provide a safe environment: temperature checks, social distancing in the pews, the required wearing of face masks*, etc. Worshippers are invited to celebrate communion using an individual pre-packaged communion wafer and grape juice or may request a blessing. (* Face masks must cover nose and mouth.)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020

ALL SAINTS DAY

9:00 AM Worship Service-Pastor
 Josephine Wright
 Social Distancing and masks.
 Communion will be offered -
 no touch distribution.

Social Distancing and masks.
Communion will be offered -
no touch distribution.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020

PENTECOST XXIII

9:00 AM Worship Service-Pastor
 Josephine Wright
 Social Distancing and masks.
 Communion will be offered -
 no touch distribution.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

9:00 A.M. Worship Service
 Social Distancing and masks.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020

PENTECOST XXIV

PASTOR JO FAREWELL

9:00 A.M. Worship Service-Pastor
 Josephine Wright

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2020

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 A.M. Worship Service
 Social Distancing and masks.

We invite you to follow these lessons with your Bible

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2020
PENTECOST XXII

Introduction

Micah declares God's condemnation of those who abhor justice. Jesus warns against hypocrisy. Paul urges the Thessalonians to lead a life worthy of God. Called to be humble servants, we gather for worship, seeking justice and welcoming all people to share the banquet of life.

Prayer of the Day

O God, generous and supreme, your loving Son lived among us, instructing us in the ways of humility and justice. Continue to ease our burdens, and lead us to serve alongside of him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Reading and Psalm

Micah 3:5-12

Judgment upon corrupt rulers

Psalm 43

Send out your light and truth, that they may lead me. (Ps. 43:3)

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

The apostle's teaching accepted as God's word

Matthew 23:1-12

All who humble themselves will be exalted

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020
PENTECOST XXIII

Introduction

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

Prayer of the Day

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.

Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm

Amos 5:18-24

Let justice roll down like waters

Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 (alternate)

Wisdom Wisdom makes herself known

Psalm 70

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. (Ps. 70:5)

Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 (alternate)

The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction. (Ws. 6:17)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The promise of the resurrection

Matthew 25:1-13

The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2020
PENTECOST XXIV

Introduction

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalm

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

The day of the Lord

Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Be alert for the day of the Lord.

Matthew 25:14-30

The story of the slaves entrusted with talents.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CHRIST THE KING

Introduction

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Prayer of the Day

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

God will shepherd Israel.

Psalm 95:1-7a

We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)

Ephesians 1:15-23

The reign of Christ

Matthew 25:31-46

The coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2020

ALL SAINTS DAY

Introduction

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 64:1-9

Prayer that God would come with power and compassion

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved. (Ps. 80:7)

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end

Mark 13:24-37

The sudden coming of the Son of Man

Bible Lesson for Kids



Each November, we look forward to celebrating Thanksgiving. Kids and adults alike enjoy making plans for a special gathering of family and friends. But this year, our plans may need to be more simple than usual, which could take away some of the fun we are used to having with loved ones. Though we wish that our plans could remain the same, we know that we still have many blessings to count!

Of course, in addition to Thanksgiving Day, EVERY day is a good time to for us to be grateful for God's blessings. He has provided us with loving family members and friends. We thank him for our food, our homes and our meaningful moments and everyday needs. This year, we can make an extra effort to recognize these constant gifts that God has given us, as we appreciate them each day.

In the Bible, God tells us not to worry about changes in our plans. Though we prefer to make our own choices, God asks each of us to trust in **his** plan for our life. He wants us to think less about the details and more about how we can follow **him** and be part of his plan.

"But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow: for tomorrow will worry about itself. . . ."

Matthew 6:33-34

We trust in God to give us purpose and to lead us. Our faith in God comforts us, for we know that **he** is our guide and we are secure in His care.

"What I have said, that will I bring about; what I have planned, that I will do."

Isaiah 46:11

We will be sure to thank God in this Thanksgiving season, as we thank Him each day in prayer for all of our blessings.

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever!"

1 Chronicles 16:34

Happy Thanksgiving !

(There is a Thanksgiving Craft on page 10. Enjoy!)

The Pastor Donders

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This will be my final message to you and hopefully you will have a permanent spiritual leader very soon. When I was asked to come to Advent last fall as a bridge pastor we all expected it to be a temporary assignment since you had already had an interim for nearly a year and were prepared to seek a permanent pastor.

We got through Christmas, began confirmation classes and scheduled Lenten services and other events, but God had other plans for us all. Who would have thought we would still be here after eleven months. So, my last Sunday with you will be November 15th.

It is not often that a pastor is able to return to help out at the church in which she was ordained. I feel very privileged in that and want to thank all those faithful servants of Christ who stood by and each week were there to record the service in order to bring worship to those at home.

It was a privilege also to meet those four young men who were in confirmation class. They will be a blessing to this congregation. I pray they will continue to grow in their love of God and in service to His church.

God works in mysterious ways continually. Because of my health problems I was going to be leaving and finally you had a candidate! Praise God, you will not be without. Advent will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers. I will look forward to receiving the newsletter and hearing from friends.

May God bless and guide you in your decision making.

Your servant in Christ, our Lord,

Pastor Jo

THANK YOU, PASTOR JO!

We are so grateful to have had Pastor Josephine Wright serve as our bridge pastor since December 2019. Pastor Jo has supported the congregation in many ways, especially during the pandemic! She has lead us as our spiritual leader during the transition to a full-time pastor through worship services, officiating at funerals, visiting the sick, and providing counseling and prayer, among other things. She's been a valuable part of our Christian walk and we hope members and friends will be able to join us for a retirement send-off at her final service at Advent on **Sunday, November 15**.

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace."



IMPORTANT PASTORAL CALL UPDATE

On October 18, Church Council met with the pastoral candidate whom the Call Committee has recommended for our full-time pastor position. After an interview was completed, the Church Council recommended that the candidate continue with us in the call process, and the candidate has agreed to move forward with us at Advent. The next step requires the participation of our congregation.

We are now in the process of setting up a date when our candidate will conduct a Sunday worship service and preach a sermon for us here at Advent. On that Sunday, the congregation will be asked to remain after the service and participate in a discussion lead by a representative of the Synod, culminating in a vote by church members as to whether to hire the candidate as our full-time pastor.

We hope many of you will be able to attend. You will be informed ASAP by e-mail and regular mail about the date of this important worship service. We ask you to keep our candidate and our congregation in your prayers throughout this process.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

This month think of the word "restore". It is defined by Merriam-Webster as "to bring back to or put back something to a former or original state". The promise of restoration "I will restore you to health and heal your wounds, declares the Lord" (Jeremiah 30:17). This shows us that God will restore our church as well as our nation to the way it was.

As people are returning to worship Sunday morning, as the numbers are increasing each week, we are beginning to see that restoration. The Evangelism Committee is working with others to help create gift bags to give to visitors to Advent. We want to show visitors that we want to restore relationships between people and God.

We want to also have humility, turning our hearts to God, knowing we are not perfect. We ask God to restore our Hope. Give us a vision for the future You are calling us to.

Karen Matlack
kmatl22349@verizon.net

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FOOD CONTRIBUTIONS

Just a reminder that we are collecting food for the Warminster Food Bank to be distributed in early November for Thanksgiving. This is usually our largest donation of the year. Food may brought to church on Sunday or deposited in our storage bench in front of our main entrance.

Nancy Slight, Social Ministry Committee

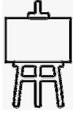


STITCH CLUB SALE - NOVEMBER 1 & 8

Advent's Stitch Club will have handmade articles for sale in the narthex on the next two Sundays, November 1 and November 8. (also for a while on Election Day) Beautiful gifts and practical warm accessories will be featured. Thank you for supporting the Stitch Club. Their talent supports various good works at Advent and in the community.

MEN'S BREAKFAST NOVEMBER 14

Since we had no reports of virus infection after the last breakfast, we plan to venture forth again on Saturday, November 14. Menu will not be turkey although we may try it sometime.



FREE MEDICARE SEMINAR -NOVEMBER 17

Are you turning 65 soon or are you in need of modifying your current Medicare coverage? Advent will be hosting a no obligation, informational meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 17, from 5:30-6:30 pm. Local Medicare agent, Chris Vedral, will be on hand to answer many of your questions and discuss changes in Medicare. Find the best Medicare plan for you and determine if there are extra benefits that may be available to you, such as Rx drug coverage. The open enrollment period ends on Dec. 7. See the flyers in the church narthex.

PLANS FOR CHRISTMAS PROJECT



I have been unable to contact the Salvation Army concerning our annual Christmas project. Instead we have decided to ask members to purchase gift cards to be given to our Food Pantry clients during the month of December. More information about this project will be forthcoming. Thanks for your continued support for our neighbors in need. - Nancy Slight

TO CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE

You may leave a message at the church office at 215-355-2529, with Church Council President, George Henry, at 215-970-8523, or with Finance Committee Chairperson, Tony Gryska, at 267-408- 3255.

CHURCH COUNCIL POSITIONS OPEN

Recently, our Church Council Financial Secretary, Karen Becker, as well as our Youth Committee Coordinator, Katie Dettra, both resigned to devote more time to their respective families. We thank Karen and Katie for serving the Lord on Church Council.

The Financial Secretary duties are temporarily being handled by Cindy Frey, who is Church Council Secretary. Cindy is willing to continue as the Financial Secretary next year if someone is able to volunteer for her Secretary of Church Council position. We also have a need for Christian Education Chairperson.

Here are brief summaries of the responsibilities of each of these positions on Church Council:

The ***Financial Secretary*** works closely with the Finance Committee and records revenue on a monthly basis, has experience with Excel spreadsheets, confidentially documents envelope offerings, prepares quarterly individual financial statements, attends monthly Church Council meetings, and provides input and votes on church matters.

The ***Secretary of Church Council*** records the meeting minutes from Church Council monthly meetings, as well as from the two annual congregational meetings as well as provides input and votes on church council matters.

The ***Youth Coordinator*** works with the Church Council in identifying and coordinating group activities for our youth, attends monthly Church Council meetings and provides input and votes on church matters. When there is also a youth leader, the youth leader would report to this council member.

The ***Christian Education Chairperson*** works as an administrator with the Pastor, Sunday School and VBS leaders to coordinate activities and to report the findings for discussion at Church Council monthly meetings, in addition to voting on church matters.

We ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering to fill one of these positions starting in January 2021. These positions will be discussed more in detail at the congregational meeting on Nov. 22. Please contact Church Council President, George Henry, if you have any questions.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 10:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 22

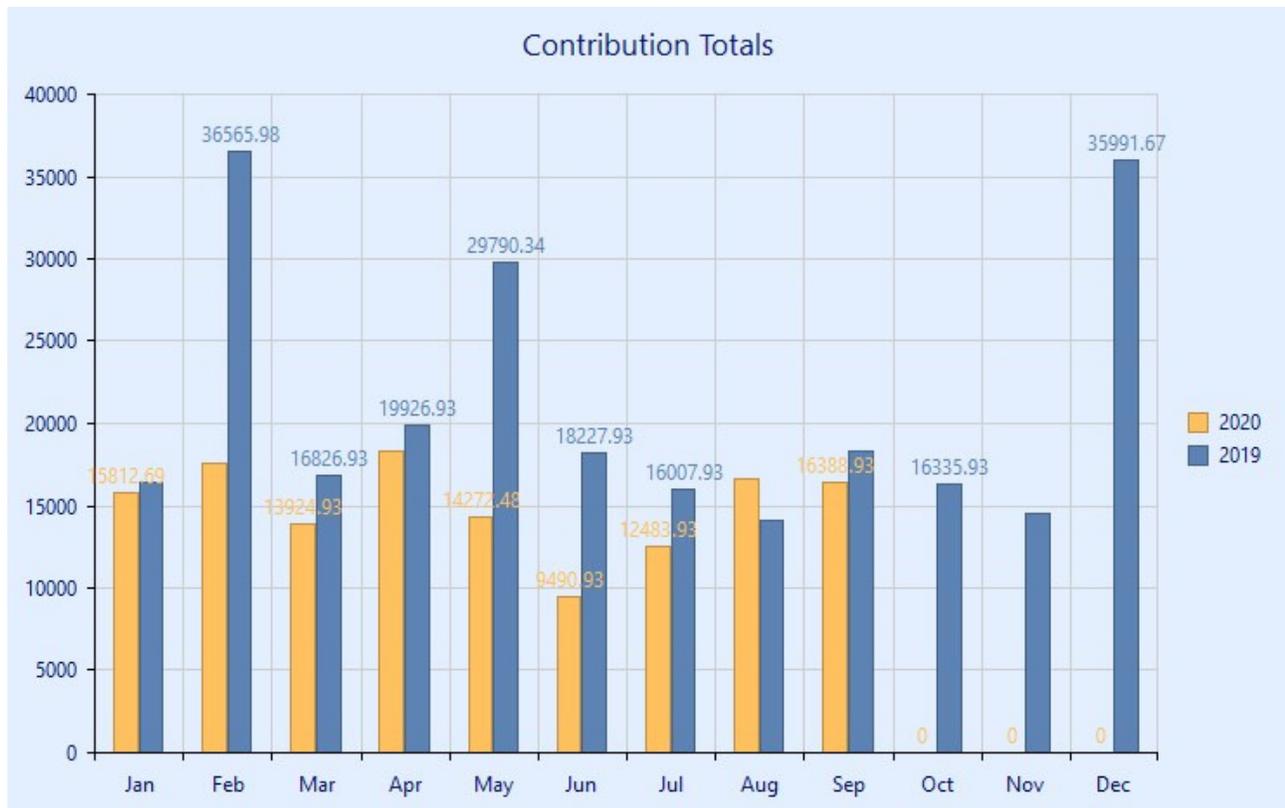
The annual congregational meeting to approve a budget for year 2021 and to nominate and elect members to our Church Council will be held on Sunday, November 22 immediately after the 9:00 a.m. worship service. We hope you will be able to attend. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to fill one of these positions, which are effective January 1, 2021. Your Church Council will provide support and direction throughout the year.

FINANCIAL UPDATE



Your financial offerings are much appreciated and we are good stewards of your generosity. Please let us know of any concerns or needs you may have. It is part of our calling to take care of one another and those around us. Offerings may be made at Sunday church worship services, online through our website,

www.adventrichboro.org, or by mail at P.O. Box 840, Richboro, PA 18954-0840. Contact Finance Committee Chairperson, Tony Gryska, at 267-408-3255 for additional information.



Income for September 2020

Benevolence (LWR, Mission Support, etc.)	\$ 257.00
General Fund	\$11,590.93
Mortgage Fund	\$ 4,531.00



THE ARMED FORCES

Please keep in your prayers all our service men and women and especially those related to our congregation:

US Air Force Lt Col Andrew Frey is a student at Air War College, stationed at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

US Air Force Major Fred Gouse is a pilot and instructor stationed at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

US Army Colonel (Ret.) Jeff Williams is serving in Dubai, UAE as a military advisor.

If there are any errors or omissions, please notify the church office.
Thank you.



NUEVA CREACION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Please keep Pastor Lyzette Rios Sanchez and our mission congregation Nueva Creación Lutheran Church in your prayers. Your mission support gifts help them to minister in an impoverished area of Philadelphia.



ADVENT'S BIRTHDAY CORNER **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



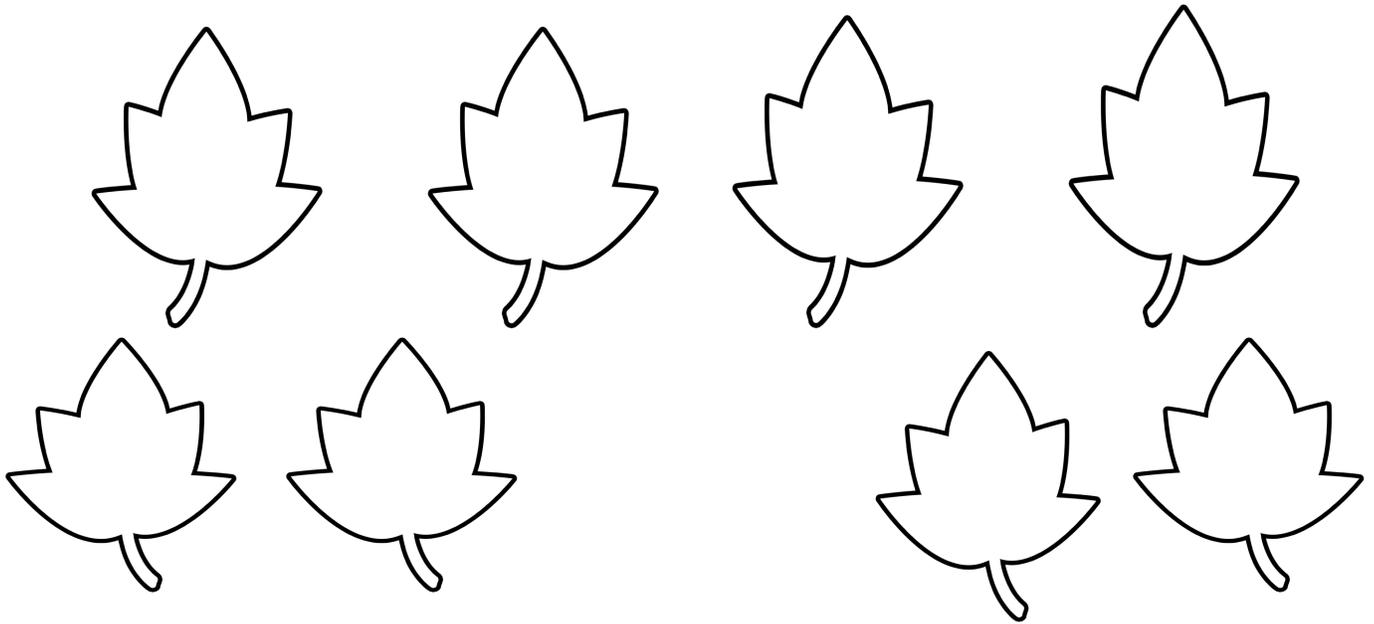
NOVEMBER

- | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|----|--------------------|----|-----------------------|
| 1 | Linda Brownlee | 18 | Audrey Savchuck | 27 | Tyler Creighton |
| | Sarah Pearson McMahon | 21 | Jayne Manco Messer | | Mark Rilling |
| | Bonnie Morrison Sykes | 22 | Nicole Wills | 28 | Matthew Hollingsworth |
| 2 | Timothy Hanlon | 23 | Chris Lenox | | |
| 3 | Rick Buttil | 24 | Heather Jafar | | |
| | Christopher Sanderlin | | Becky Rilling | | |
| 6 | Michael Savchuck | 26 | Nicole Jafar | | |
| | Jeanne Wagner | | Matt Sitler | | |

Please contact the church office if you or someone you know has been omitted from the list.
Thank you.

We Give Thanks to God for His Blessings

Write or Draw on each leaf = One thing you are thankful for
Decorate and cut out the leaves, or design your own, then add them to the tree!



November



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship Service Social Distancing and masks. Communion will be offered - no touch distribution STITCH CLUB SALE	2 NO A.A. Meeting	3 ELECTION DAY 7 AM - 8 PM	4	5 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	6 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	7
8 23RD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 AM Worship Service Social Distancing and masks. Communion will be offered - no touch distribution STITCH CLUB SALE	9 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	10	11	12 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	13 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	14 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast
15 24TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 AM Worship Service Social Distancing and masks. Communion will be offered - no touch distribution FAREWELL TO PASTOR JO	7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	17 5:30-6:30 Free Medicare Seminar	18	19 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group	20 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	21
22 CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY 9:00 AM Worship Service Social Distancing and masks.	23 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting	24	25	26 7:30 PM A.A. Topic Group 	27 7:30 PM A.A. Step Mtg.	28
29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9:00 AM Worship Service Social Distancing and masks.	30 7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting					