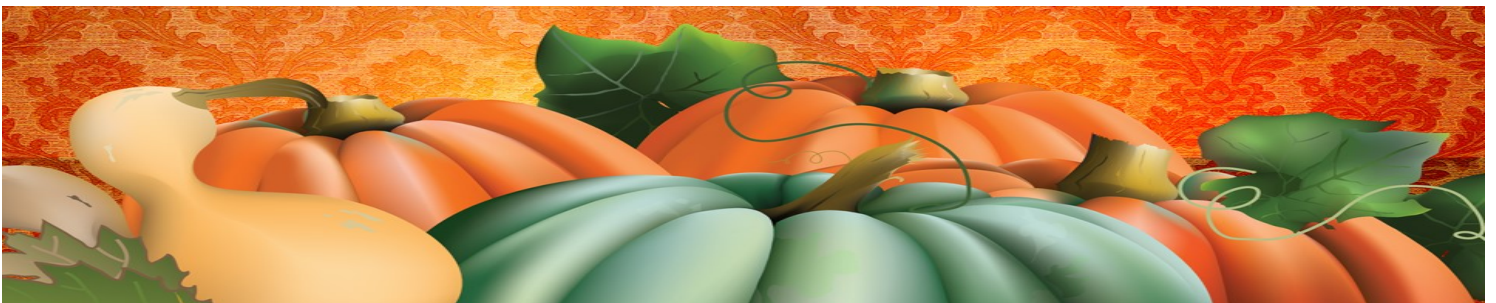


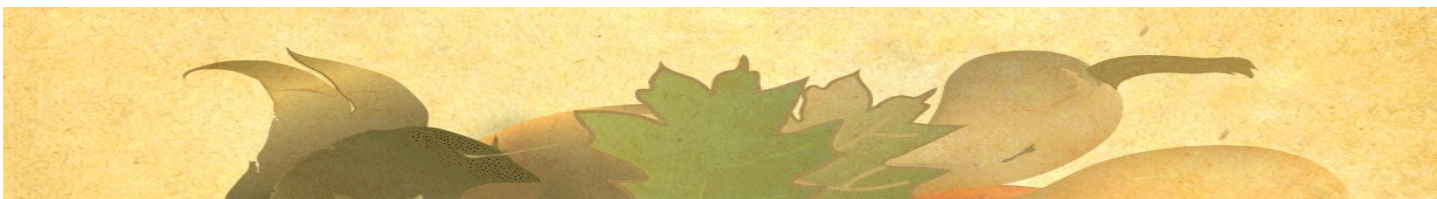
Pastor's Paragraphs

During the first weekend in October, HopeFest welcomes to our campus not only friends and neighbors but also the community surrounding our campus, all for the charitable purpose of sharing with local, selected charities and meeting special needs here at Hope. Such a deal! But maybe just as important, those who not part of our congregation discover Hope Lutheran and our practice of hospitality, a Biblical characteristic of the people of God. We get to plant, through that hospitality, the seeds that in the future can sprout and grow as folks return for more. It is my prayer that we not only practice Christian hospitality the day of HopeFest, but also offer the hand of fellowship to those who will visit later. If you meet a stranger, welcome him in the name of Jesus, introduce him to the folks around you and invite him to come and sit with you in worship, especially at the 10:00 a.m. service on HopeFest Sunday with Dr. Benke playing the organ! As that act of self-giving welcome happens, the purpose of HopeFest comes into focus.

The Reformation of AD1517/1530 turned the existing structure of the Roman Catholic Church and the German state upside down. The understanding and declaration of the freedom of justification by faith in Jesus Christ unleashed a new energy in Western civilization. The individual mattered in the here and now because he mattered to an Almighty God who sent his Son to save him. The ripples of that truth changed history beginning with one monk some five hundred years ago. They continue today as we celebrate our Reformation heritage of *sola gratia, sola fide, sola scriptura* (*grace alone, faith alone, Scriptures alone*). The truth has set us free, not just from sin and death, but free to live lives of service as Jesus did. With our eternity secure, we live fearless lives today in the community of the church and in the world. We will celebrate this historic, Luther inspired turn of events the last Sunday of this month. Of course, this celebration will be follow directly by the Feast of All Saints. We will be rejoicing! By the way, there are members of Hope who will be in Germany later this month to relive those 500 years of history. Please keep us in your prayers. We will have stories to tell upon our return!

Thank you for allowing me to serve as First Vice President of the Texas District. It does involve some time a way from Hope and I appreciate your understanding. As part of my office I have the joy of officiating at ordinations and installations of pastors and teachers of Area D (read: greater Houston area). Three weeks ago I had the privilege of installing Dr. Don Christian as President of Concordia University Texas. How fun was that. But there is another side to the office as you might imagine. In a few weeks I have been asked to officiate at the disbanding of a congregation. My heart is always heavy at such occasions. Bethany Lutheran Church in north Houston will be no more. BUT they are deeding their property to a new mission start, Oikos Lutheran Church, which will be highly beneficial for both! Our God continues to further the mission of the proclamation of Jesus Christ, Lord and Savior of the world!





“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.” Romans 3:23-24

I love October! The weather is in the sweet spot. It isn't so hot anymore. It's not too cold yet. The long summer is over and we can get outdoors without sweating buckets or passing out from dehydration. I also love October because of two great holidays: Halloween (it's just a lot of fun for our family), and Reformation Day. On Reformation Day, we celebrate the work of Dr. Martin Luther — the theologian and reformer. On October 31, 1517, Luther questioned the Roman Catholic practice of indulgences (purchasing forgiveness of sins with money) when he nailed his 95 theses to the Castle Church at Wittenberg. In his study of the Bible, Luther rediscovered the good news of the Gospel that was forgotten in Medieval Church of Rome: the fact that we are declared righteous by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ and not through our own effort.

Luther called the Church to return to the Scriptures — return to the Word of God as the sole source and norm for faith and life. On this 498th anniversary of the Reformation, we pause to thank God for Luther and the Reformation that began with his actions. How do we celebrate? Be reformed by the Scriptures. Get back into the Word of God. Look to Jesus Christ for your salvation. The good news? It's already a done deal accomplished on the cross and out of the tomb. You are free! Go in peace.

COMMUNITY GARDEN:

The garden has been tilled and reformed. Thank you to Jason Henry and his boys for helping out! Seed has been sown: peas, beans, broccoli, carrots, a couple kinds of squash, spinach, kale, and Swiss chard. God willing, we will have a rich harvest to share with others. If you want to help out in any capacity (weeding, laying mulch, harvesting when the time comes, etc.), let me know!

CONFIRMATION:

Classes are underway. We have a final enrollment of 52 — 5 of which are from families who are not yet members of Hope Lutheran Church. Our service focus for our students in October is Hopefest. Look for the students to be helping out in Children's Games and many other areas.

Have a great October! His Peace Be With You, Pastor Jon

Notes from Pastor Jon



It is time for the Music Ministry to begin thinking about Christmas! If you have ever thought about being a member of the choir, now is the time. Our Service of Lessons and Carols will be held on December 13th at the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Come and join us as we prepare to celebrate the season of Christmas!

Children will also have an opportunity to celebrate Christmas in our annual Sunday School Christmas Musical, *The First Leon*. All children will learn the songs during the opening time of Sunday School. This year's Sunday School Christmas musical will be held on Sunday, December 6th at 3:30 p.m. Children in grades 3rd — 5th may audition for speaking parts on Sunday, October 25th from 3:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m. in Room 104. Rehearsals will be on Sunday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Since and Make Music in Your Heart to the Lord!

Stephanie Poyner

Director of Music



HOPEFEST HYMNFEST 2015

Sunday, October 4, 2015
10:00 a.m.

Featuring Dr. John Behnke,
Guest Organist and the Festival
Orchestra, Sanctuary Choir and
Jubilate Bells of Hope Lutheran
Church.

Calling all 3rd—5th Grade Actors and Actresses!

WHAT: Christmas Musical Auditions
WHEN: Sunday, October 25th
WHERE: Room 104
TIME: 3:00 p.m. — 4:00 p.m.
WHAT: Come and read parts from the
script and sing “Happy Birthday”
to get a part in the 2015
Christmas Musical! **Rehearsals
will be on Sunday afternoons
from 3:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.**

National LCMS Youth Gathering 2016!!

October is registration for the National LCMS Youth Gathering. This summer event draws more than 20,000 teens from across the national and around the world to one central spot to explore, celebrate, discover and affirm their Christian beliefs with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. In a time when the media is shouting that Christianity is on the decline, it is an incredible experience to join together with thousands and defy the statistics. The five day event offers a wide array of sectional topics, opportunities to serve in big and small ways from construction to polishing used glasses for the blind. Worship is on a grand scale and utilizes the best of both contemporary and traditional formats. Great speakers and crowded walkways are part of the occasion as well.

Youth currently in **grades 8-12** are encouraged to register for the event. It may feel early to our eighth grade students and parents but before you know it, Confirmation will be in your review mirror and the transition to senior high youth Bible study, fellowship and friendships is made much easier through participation in our summer events.

The National LCMS Youth Gathering will be held in New Orleans, July 16-20, 2016. To learn more about the event, registration, fund raising and more, please contact Robin Groeper. Registration will be finalized in mid-October, call soon! 281-482-7943 ext. 117 or rginchrist@hotmail.com.

BUILD for junior high (grades 6-8) meets Sunday mornings in the gym, 9:15 a.m. — 9:40 a.m. It's a fun opportunity to get to know peers and play! You never know what will be on the agenda (girls may want to wear shorts under their skirts) but it's always a plan with YOU in mind. Come see what is happening!

BASIC for senior high (grades 9-12) is treading new ground with games, activities and Gathering for a devotional time. It is an oasis in your week of busyness, homework and stress — come take a breather, Wednesday nights, 7:00 p.m. — 8:30 p.m.

Don't forget to sign
up to serve!!
Hopefest is looking
for YOU, October 3-4
— see you there!!





Children's Ministries

“When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” *John 8:12*

October brings to mind cooler temperatures, leaves changing colors, and pumpkins for sale – all things Fall, including Halloween. This year, if you choose to participate in pumpkin carving and trick or treating with your children, why not light the night to show God’s love. As I was preparing for our recent Faith Builders III session, I came across the following poem – author unknown:

A Christian Pumpkin

I am a Jack O’ Lantern
My lights will shine so bright
For I’m a Christian pumpkin
My symbols tell what’s right

The story starts at Christmas
My eyes are like the stars
That shone on Baby Jesus
And Wise Men from afar

My nose is like the cross
On which our Savior died
To set us free from sin
We need no longer hide

My mouth is like a fish
The whole wide world to show
That Christians live within this
house
And love their Savior so

My color, it is orange
Just like the big bright sun
That rose on Easter Day,
Along with God’s own Son

And so on Halloween
Let’s set our pumpkins out
And tell all the trick or treaters
What God’s love is all about

Upcoming Children’s Ministry Events:

Upward Basketball & Cheerleading: Registration for PreK—6th grade children online at: <https://login.upward.org/?route=registration&id=UPW59794>. October 10th is the last day for early registration pricing, and October 21st is the last day to register. More details about Upward can be found on the Hope Lutheran website in the Children’s Ministry area — <http://www.hope-lutheran.org/ministries/children>.

Auditions for Children’s Christmas Program: Sunday, October 25th, 3:00 p.m.

Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 25th, 4:00 p.m.

Faith Builders II: Sunday, November 1st, 5:00 p.m. — for 3 year olds & their parents

Let your light shine!
Krista Beken, Director of Children’s Ministries

Ladies Guild

The ladies of Ladies Guild at Hope Lutheran Church are excited to focus on LWML on Sunday, October 11th. The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world. We praise the Lord for his blessings and dedicate ourselves to his work.

Ladies Guild members and guests participate in many inspirational, fun, and service-centered activities throughout the year. Join us for a Bible study, craft/game night, Ladies Night Out, or service projects that benefit LWR, Hope, or others in and around our community. Perhaps printing Braille, quilting, or attending a rally with other women from our zone will peek your interest in LWML.

You are invited to join us the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Great Room. Please contact Terri Wenzel (281-648-9885 or terriwenzel@hotmail.com) for more information.

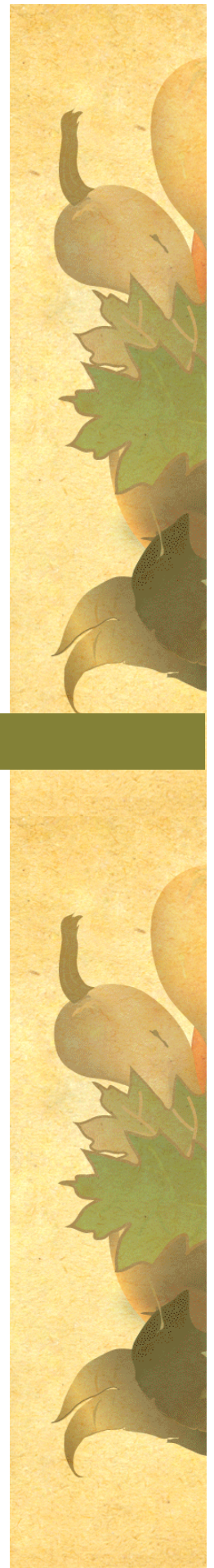
That Inner & Outer Glow

Women, check your face. Is that a frown, a scowl, a worried brow, or a radiant glow emanating from your facial features? Since the preferred answer is "glowing" we want to provide something more special than a deep cleanser and rich cream. How about instead, a journey-changing event? We have one for you!

Save February 6, 2016 for an event that will lift years off your face, and will possibly give you a change of heart as well.

"Joy for the Journey!" is an all-day at-home event planned for you on February 6, 2016. It includes funny and serious Tammy Whitehurst (check her website tammywhitehurst.com) as our keynote speaker. We'll have a wonderful catered lunch and impactful break out sessions, all intended to load up your make-up case for Joy for the Journey.

Registration is \$50.00 and begins Hopefest weekend (October 3-4). Talk to your friends and bring a group. We've got the JOY!!





Why Stephen Ministry?

Because the Bible says so

When Jesus calls us to be His Disciples, He also makes us members of His Body, the Church. As arms and hands of God, we are called to do the work of God in the world (1 Corinthians 12).

By the Holy Spirit, God gives each of us special gifts to be used in the work of loving service (1 Peter 4:10). Peter emphasizes the “priesthood of believers” (1 Peter 2:9-10) and the value of each Christian in proclaiming the gracious deeds of God in Christ.

Among many words of Christian service, our Lord has placed high priority on tangible deeds of love to those in need (Matthew 2:19-20) and Jesus impressed a new commandment upon His disciples to “love one another even as I have loved you” (John 13:35). St. Paul urges Christians to fulfill this law by “bearing one another’s burdens” (Galatians 6:2).

Stephen Ministry both helps those in need and is a witness to the world that the love and care given and received in Jesus’ name is a vital way our congregation fulfills our Lord’s Great Commission “to make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19-20).

Because the congregation needs it

Christians are searching for ways to:

- Serve the ongoing and ever-increasing needs of members
- Be ministry-centered equipping God’s people to cope better with life situations
- Improve the ability to provide nurturing, healing and caring environment for members to live and share God’s love in an increasingly complex and impersonal society
- Reach out in tangible ways to people in their community

Because Pastors need it

Pastors and other church staff are looking for ways to

- Provide quality care to more members
- Mobilize members to be partners in this caring ministry
- Fulfill their role as “equippers of God’s people”
- Build healthy and healing relationships among members
- Extend care to the community for those who look to this congregation for pastoral care

Support, Utilize and Pray for Hope’s Stephen Ministry



Hopefest Volunteers are Great!!

As we gear up for Hopefest, October 3-4, we want to give a heartfelt “Thank You” to all the volunteers that are making this year’s Hopefest a grand success. Without all those that give their time and talents, Hopefest would not be able to serve our community and Hope Lutheran with the proceeds.

A well deserved pat on the back to you all! We are truly blessed.

Guide Book & Directory Advertising Opportunity

We are in the process of updating our annual Guide Book & Directory for the church. This book will contain everything pertinent to our church: the various ministries, organizations, committees, activities, functions and events plus a complete directory of all members. This book is being provided and direct-mailed to each family at no cost, and it is again being subsidized by local businesses that advertise. If you own or manage a business and would like to find out about advertising in our book, please contact Pastor Jon.

Recent survey results by Guide Book Publishing show that 92.1% of families would rather patronize a Guide Book & Directory advertiser over a non-advertiser. It “will pay” to advertise in our new Guide Book & Directory.

Did you order a T-shirt or Nametag?

On September 27th the t-shirts and nametags were placed in the mailboxes. If you have order 2 or more shirts, you were able to pick them up on that date. If you missing getting yours (2 or more) at that time, please contact Rita Henderson at 281-482-7943 or rhenderson@hope-lutheran.org and we will make arrangements to get them to you.

Financial Data


Fiscal Year (04/01/15 - 03/31/16)
As of August 2015

	ANNUAL PLAN	Y-T-D PLAN	Y-T-D ACTUAL	% OF PLAN
Operating Receipts	\$1,089,012.00	\$423,404.59	\$372,943.56	88.08%
Early Childhood Tithe	\$45,000.00	\$16,125.00	\$16,125.00	100.00%
Total Receipts	\$1,134,012.00	\$439,529.59	\$389,068.56	88.52%
Outreach	\$74,405.00	\$31,131.50	\$24,227.78	77.82%
Education	\$9,250.00	\$4,275.54	\$2,180.12	50.99%
Children	\$2,350.00	\$146.33	\$96.41	65.89%
Youth	\$15,200.00	\$4,026.12	\$2,244.86	55.76%
Music	\$5,500.00	\$1,816.36	\$1,149.53	63.29%
Assimilation	\$2,600.00	\$116.48	\$29.35	25.20%
Misc. Ministries	\$11,600.00	\$4,953.71	\$1,727.89	34.88%
Personnel	\$633,157.00	\$266,984.32	\$259,269.68	97.11%
Finance	\$101,950.00	\$39,049.48	\$31,373.97	80.34%
Facilities	\$225,750.00	\$91,816.73	\$70,739.13	77.04%
Office & Worship	\$42,750.00	\$14,975.26	\$13,450.22	89.82%
Omnibus	\$9,500.00	\$3,158.32	\$1,933.85	61.23%
Total Expenditures	\$1,134,012.00	\$462,450.15	\$408,422.79	88.32%
Income Less Expenses		(\$22,920.56)	(\$19,354.23)	

Debt: \$1,403,064.98





Andrew Horak	10/1	Harry Havard	10/18	John & Katie Kueck	10/2
Emily Watlington	10/1	Michael Jensen	10/18	Paul & Gay Currie	10/3
Charlotte Aalund	10/2	Steven Scheer	10/18	Michael & Patricia Jensen	10/3
Christine Birch	10/4	Larry Davis	10/19	Terry & Rene Gebhardt	10/4
Harvey Braswell	10/4	Dina Connor	10/20	Marvin & Miriam Knighton Sr.	10/4
Vicki Hartzell	10/4	Christine Peterson	10/20	Kevin & Karen Klein	10/5
Michael Krause	10/4	Isabella Reyes	10/20	Kevin & Audra Rhodes	10/7
Merlot Wagner	10/5	Evana Wagner	10/20	Joshua & Karen Kerch	10/13
Slater Sauer	10/7	Karl Mertens	10/21	Mike & Sallie Rouse	10/13
Krista Beken	10/8	Don Schneider	10/21	Martin & Stacy Schnell	10/13
Melissa Brown	10/8	Abigail Petering	10/22	Bruce & Wendy Hunter	10/14
Claire Eaves	10/9	Emma Petering	10/22	Leo & Courtney Lampinen	10/14
Evelyn Gahring	10/9	Drake Akins	10/23	Paul & Karen Walls	10/15
Brandon Ott	10/9	Ulva Burkhardt	10/24	Frank & Lisa Muniz	10/20
Donna Price	10/10	Sarah Chew	10/24	Brian & Dorrie Tomayko	10/20
Al Reyes	10/10	Norma Kaderka	10/24	Jimmie & Ida Atchley	10/24
Jonathan Scheer	10/10	Kimberly Koch	10/24	Keith & Lindsay Monk	10/29
Emmersyn Utsey	10/10	Kathy Olson	10/24	Scott & Evangelina White	10/29
Richard Hahn	10/11	George Harpole	10/25		
Paula Wiley	10/11	Marvin Knighton Jr.	10/25		
Sherry Fox	10/12	Avery Pfleeger	10/25		
James Prince	10/12	Evan Guzman	10/26		
Mackenzie Beall	10/13	John Loessin	10/26		
Juliella Kerch	10/13	Matt Mankowski	10/26		
Elise Riley	10/13	Richard Weaver	10/26		
Ethan Riley	10/13	Terry Hamre	10/27		
Jakob Cox	10/14	Barsa Harclerode	10/27		
Gay Currie	10/14	Will Hibbs	10/27		
Allen Hawkins	10/14	Tolbert Childress	10/29		
Heidi Riggs	10/14	Jennifer Steakley	10/29		
Emily Cox	10/15	Forrest Williams	10/29		
Ed Korth	10/17	Alexandra Lake	10/30		
Andrew Lemire	10/17	Kevin Chew	10/31		
August Lemire	10/17	Jerry Pfleeger	10/31		



Birthdays and Anniversaries

This Month at Hope

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div><div>OCTOBER 2015</div><div></div></div>						
10/11/2015 Hopefest Sunday Eucharist 8:00 AM Hopefest Craft Show 9:00 AM Hopefest Bake Sale 9:30 AM Hopefest Tea Room 9:00 AM Hopefest Silent Auction 10:00 AM Hopefest Homagefest 10:00 AM Hopefest BBQ 11:00 AM Hopefest Smoothies 11:00 AM Hopefest Children's Games 11:00 AM Small Group (Butler) 5:00 PM	10/12/2015 Braille 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:00 AM Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Genderson) 10:00 AM Small Group (Huning) 7:30 PM	10/13/2015 Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Hope Woodwinds 6:00 PM Hope Brass 7:00 PM Jubilate Bells 8:00 PM	10/14/2015 Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Erickson) 10:00 AM Children's Chorus 5:00 PM Celebration Bells 6:00 PM SWAT 6:30 PM BASIC 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:30 PM	10/15/2015 Study Series 9:00 AM Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Hinga) 7:00 PM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM	10/16/2015 Small Group (Peterson) 6:30 PM	10/17/2015 Hopefest Craft Show 9:00 AM Hopefest Bake Sale 9:00 AM Hopefest Hymnfest Dress 9:00 AM Hopefest Tea Room 11:00 AM Hopefest Shrimp Boil 5:00 PM Hopefest Live Auction 6:30 PM
10/18/2015 LWML Sunday Eucharist 8:00 AM 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Raising a Modern Day Knight 12:30 PM Renewal 12:30 PM SEA Group 12:30 PM	10/19/2015 Columbus Day -Office Closed					
<div><div></div><div><div>Germany Trip</div><div>Germany Trip</div></div></div>						
Eucharist 8:00 AM 9:45 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Eucharist 11:00 AM Renewal 12:30 PM Small Group (Butler) 5:00 PM	Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Henderson) 10:00 AM Small Group (Huning) 7:30 PM	Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Hope Woodwinds 6:00 PM Hope Brass 7:00 PM Jubilate Bells 8:00 PM	Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Erickson) 10:00 AM Children's Chorus 5:00 PM Celebration Bells 6:00 PM SWAT 6:30 PM BASIC 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:30 PM	Study Series 9:00 AM Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Board of Directors' Meeting 7:00 PM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM	Small Group (Peterson) 6:30 PM	10/24/2015 Mens Retreat
10/25/2015 Germany Trip Mens Retreat Worship 8:00 AM Adult Bible Study 9:45 AM Confirmation 9:45 AM High School Sunday School 9:45 AM History of Christianity 9:45 AM Men's Ministry 9:45 AM Parent Study Group 9:45 AM Sunday School 9:45 AM Together with Jesus 9:45 AM Video & Discussion Group 9:45 AM Women's Study Group 9:45 AM Worship 11:00 AM Renewal 12:30 PM SEA Group 12:30 PM Trunk or Treat 4:00 PM	10/26/2015 Quilting 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 9:00 AM Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Stephen Ministry 7:00 PM	10/27/2015 Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Hope Woodwinds 6:00 PM Hope Brass 7:00 PM Jubilate Bells 8:00 PM	10/28/2015 Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Children's Chorus 5:00 PM Celebration Bells 6:00 PM SWAT 6:30 PM BASIC 7:00 PM Sanctuary Choir 7:30 PM	10/29/2015 Study Series 9:00 AM Preschool / MDO 9:30 AM Small Group (Women's) 7:00 PM	10/30/2015	10/31/2015 Happy Halloween



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Anchor Chain

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Ralph W. Hobratschk, Senior Pastor
Jonathan E. Petering, Associate Pastor