

2018 September & October Newsletter

MT. CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

17100 Chalmers Avenue (At Seymour)

Detroit, Michigan 48205

Phone (313) 527-3366

Email: mtcalvrydet@sbcglobal.net

Website: mtcalvarydetroit.org

John Carrier, Pastor

(810) 887-0363

pastorjcarrier@gmail.com

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Mount Calvary Family & Friends,

From the Pastor's Desk...

It was an exciting adventure for those of us who were able to make the journey to the Creation Research Society's "Creation Museum" and "Ark Adventure". Standing outside the modern replica of Noah's Ark, it was astounding to grasp just how large it really was! No wonder it took Noah over 50 years to build it! Even at that he must have had help. I suspect that Noah was a wealthy man in his day, but he probably "blew it all" in the eccentricities that led him to construct the monstrosity . . . At least that's the way it must have looked to community members who were probably more than happy to relieve him of any resources he wanted to spend to build the thing . . . But for Noah, what did it matter? He had God's Word of warning and that was enough for him. What good would wealth be in a post-Flood world anyway?

It is not unusual to see depictions of the Ark as a fun children's story about Noah and the animals who survived the Great Flood. But the dark side of the Flood with its devastation that shook our world to its foundations, that side of the story we try to overlook. For God, that's what the Flood was really all about, holding humanity accountable for sin and making a new beginning for His creation. In Genesis 6 we read, "And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, 'I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.'" We don't know just how many people there were spread across the face of the pre-Flood earth, but we do know that of them all, only 8 survived . . . Noah and his wife, their sons Shem, Ham and Japheth, and their wives . . . every other living soul died. It was such a devastating experience that God set the rainbow in the sky as the sign of His promise that never again will God carry out His judgment in such a devastating world-wide flood.

It all makes me wonder whether atheists and agnostics really understand what they are asking for when they challenge people of faith with the question, "If there is a God, why doesn't He end all suffering?" People often scoff at the idea of a God who cannot handle the issue. They don't see that God has already done so once. Fortunately, He has promised not to do it again till the end of the age when Jesus returns in all

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His glory! The answer to their question is reflected in the judgment of God upon the earth we see in the Great Flood. For God to “reboot” our world and make a new beginning without sin, God would have to get rid of the sinners . . . that includes you and me. After all, God only left 8 people to populate the world the last time He “pushed he reset button” (and those folks were as “righteous” as people come) and see what their descendants have done to the world? The time will come when the last soul to be saved has come to experience God’s grace, but till then God is patiently waiting to give each one of us and everyone around us, plenty of opportunity to come to HIM. If you read quickly through Revelation, you should recognize that the world will again sink deeper and deeper into sin (just as it did in Noah’s day) before God’s judgment falls on the world once again. That day will once again be an awesome and fearful experience for the unbelieving world, but for those who know and trust in Christ Jesus it will be that new beginning so longed for by many.

Till that day comes, the Christian Church is charged with the responsibility to witness to the work of God’s grace in our lives. We are called to be “Noahs” to our world, building an “Ark,” not one of gopher wood to save a sampling of animals and a remnant of humanity. We are called to build an “Ark” of God’s loving care extended to all who will hear and trust in His promises. We are called to carry the warning of God’s judgment and with it the offer of life through the Gospel message of God’s love and forgiveness in Christ Jesus. God’s Word and His Church are our “Ark” sharing safe harbor with us and caring us forward in faith toward His Kingdom. Our “Ark” is big enough for everyone! We are called to share His Word of Promise, God’s Word of hope and life, with anyone who will hear. That’s what our Camp Restore Detroit ministry is really all about. That’s the real purpose of everything we do as a congregation. The efforts we make to work on restoring our City are all about sharing with others around us that God cares and is acting in our neighbors’ lives through us, and in our lives through our neighbors, as we bear witness to one another of God’s grace and love in Christ Jesus! Together, by the power of God and the Spirit working in and through us, we are working to build a future that will endure forever in the lives of others we touch with the Gospel . . . That’s a worthy purpose for our lives and ministry!

May God bless you as you serve Jesus in all you do!

Pastor Carrier

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WORSHIP NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

"Lift High the Cross" is one of the Church's most beloved hymns from the early 20th century. Originally, it was written as a twelve-stanza processional hymn for a mission conference held at the Winchester Cathedral in England. It underwent several modifications, reducing the stanza count between five and eight. The remarkable message is that Christians of all ages are exhorted to "Lift high the cross and proclaim the love of Jesus." This means adults, newborn baptized children, and people from all nations and languages. I've used it in Vacation Bible School programs, teaching young children sign prompts. Let us continue to carry the love of Christ to all people, including our neighborhood.

Daryl Witte

15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 2

We are encouraged to follow God's commands, as Moses reminded the Israelites when they entered the promised land. God wanted His people to be a positive witness to the nearby nations, so that they would see how great He is. Similarly, Paul encourages us to put on the whole armor of God so that we can withstand the devil's attacks. This is helpful in that others can see and hear that God gives us the strength to fight the devil. Hymns that teach us to follow Him include:

Fight the Good Fight
By Grace I'm Saved
May We, Thy Precepts, Lord Fulfill
Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

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16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 9

We begin a two-week series of lessons about Jesus and His ministry of healing. This week we see that Jesus healed a man who was deaf and couldn't speak. Jesus asked the people not to tell about this miracle, but the crowd spread the story of the healing. The Epistle Reading warns us about the sin of partiality (playing favorites does not present a good picture to others). We also are reminded that faith without works is dead. Let us rejoice in Jesus' love as we sing the following hymns which describe Jesus' great desire to help those in need:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service
How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 16

In the Gospel Reading, we hear about Jesus healing a boy with an unclean spirit. After Jesus cast out the demon, the boy was able to live a normal life. When asked why the disciples were unable to cure the boy, Jesus responded that this deliverance could only happen with prayer. In his Epistle, James wrote that we need to control our tongues because they can cause great harm. In summary, we know that God will sustain us and give the power to keep us from falling. Hymns that point us to God as our source of help include:

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness
Evening and Morning
O God, My Faithful God
"Away from Us," the Demons Cried
Lift High the Cross

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18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 23

This Sunday focuses on Jesus as a suffering servant, portraying Him as a gentle lamb and telling His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem to die. Furthermore, Jesus wants us to be like little children and come to Him. In addition, we are encouraged to seek the wisdom from above. Hymns for this Sunday include:

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us
Children of the Heavenly Father
O Word of God Incarnate
Son of God, Eternal Savior

19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 30

The proverb "Patience is a virtue" could be the theme for this Sunday (see the Epistle Reading), but most of the time our complaining leads to some type of improvement. Consider the Israelites, who complained that a constant diet of manna, was not enough. God sent quail on a weekly basis. When Moses complained about being exhausted, God told him to select 70 elders to take care of the people's complaints. Both instances resulted in something better for the Israelites. Hymns for this Sunday include:

There Is a Balm in Gilead
Jesus, Lead Thou On
Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay
Where Charity and Love Prevail

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LWML SUNDAY

October 7

This is the Sunday that Mt. Calvary has chosen to recognize the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) as an official auxilliary of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. The League's mission is to support our Church's efforts to bring the Gospel locally, statewide, and throughout the world. Hymns that encourage us to promote the Gospel include:

How Firm a Foundation
My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Serve the Lord with Gladness

21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 14

Staying close to Jesus is a challenge for people of all ages. The Old Testament is filled with stories about relapses into idol worship and abandonment from God. The encouragement from Amos tells us to seek the Lord now. In the Epistle Reading, the author of Hebrews warns us that the unbelieving heart leads us away from God. In the Gospel Reading, Jesus tells the rich young man to sell everything and give the money to the poor, because his love of money kept him from following God. Hymns for this Sunday include:

Today Your Mercy Calls Us
Blest Are They
Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower
Lift High the Cross

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22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 21

Reaching heaven after death is mankind's deepest objective. Unfortunately, mankind on his own effort fails miserably short and must therefore depend on God who can do the impossible (Gospel Reading). In the Epistle Reading, the author of Hebrews exhorts the readers to hear and follow the Word of God, lest they miss the eternal rest (heaven). Hymns that encourage us to find the eternal rest include:

I'm Not a Stranger Here
Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure
Hope of the World
O Day of Rest and Gladness

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 28

Today, we celebrate the great news that God has saved His people through the Gospel. We believe that Jesus' suffering and death paid the price for our sins. This is the eternal gospel as proclaimed by the angel in Revelation 14. The Law shows us our sins, and we cannot keep it perfectly as God requires (Epistle Reading). Finally, in the Gospel of John, we hear that this truth will set us free. Hymns that proclaim this Good News include:

A Mighty Fortree Is Our God
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word
O Lord, We Praise You
By Grace I'm Saved

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CHURCH



LUTHERAN SENIORS CONNECTION

Senior Walkers: The Lutheran Senior Connection invites you to join them for weekly walks in the Detroit Zoo on Tuesday mornings, beginning on Sept. 4. Meet near the benches outside the Wildlife Interpretative Center near the front of the Zoo at 10 am. Look for seniors with walking shoes and smiling faces!

VOTERS MEETING

The next Voters Meeting will be held on Sunday, September 16, following the Worship service. Please plan to attend this meeting.

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Greater Detroit Zone LWML Fall Rally will take place at Historic Trinity Lutheran Church, 1345 Gratiot Ave., Detroit on Sunday, Sept. 9. Opening Worship will begin at 3 p.m., followed by the business meeting and election of officers at 3:30 p.m. The speakers will be missionaries Tim & Beth Heiney. After their presentation on their work in Guinea, West Africa, dinner will be served in the upper level auditorium at approximately 5 p.m. In place of the usual In-gathering, the Heineys request checks so they can best move forward in ministry without adding "things" to their travels. Please make

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checks payable to "Global Lutheran Outreach". You can find their photo and more information at [Global Lutheran Outreach.com/blog/heiney/](http://GlobalLutheranOutreach.com/blog/heiney/).

CAMP RESTORE MEETING

The next Camp Restore Detroit Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the Altar Guild Room.

CHOIR REHEARSAL

Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 13 at 7:00 in the Choir Room. As we begin a new season of Mt. Calvary's ministry to our community and to our members, let us remember that God has richly blessed us. We welcome those who have voices to sing praises to our wonderful God.

LUTHERAN SENIORS CONNECTION

Join the LUTHERAN SENIORS CONNECTION at the Holocaust Memorial Center located at 28123 Orchard Lake Rd. in Farmington Hills on Friday, September 14. Plan to arrive by 10:15 a.m. for welcome and orientation. This will be followed by a docent-guided tour from 10:30-12 noon. There will be a discussion with a holocaust survivor from 12:15-1:15 p.m. After this you may explore the museum, including the research library, on your own. The Center is open until 5 p.m. or you may opt to have lunch at a nearby restaurant. The cost of admission for seniors is \$6. The museum asks that we make one payment for our entire group. Therefore, we will collect \$6 from each participant when we gather in the lobby. If you plan to attend, please RSVP to Sue Boyle no later than Friday, September 10 at 248.320.3414 or smvboyle@gmail.com.

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BOARD OF ELDERS MEETINGS

The Board of Elders meetings will be held on Tuesdays, September 11 and October 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Jerry Roy.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Church Council meetings will be held on Tuesdays, September 25 and October 30, at 10:00 a.m. in the Altar Guild Room.

THE COUNCIL OF LUTHERAN WOMEN

The Council of Lutheran Women Fall Meeting will take place on Monday, September 24 at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, 2225 E. 14 Mile Road in Birmingham. Registration begins at 9:15 a.m., followed by devotions at 9:45 a.m. The business meeting will include updates on all upcoming events and also opportunities for participation with the many inter-congregational ministries that are supported by members of the CLW. Lunch will be served by the ladies of Our Shepherd and an RSVP is requested so the ladies can adequately prepare the meal. Please either call/email Marlene Gunnell at 586.778.4852 or marlene1@wowway.com by Wed., Sept. 19. The afternoon speakers will be missionaries Tim and Beth Heiney. Please visit the "Opportunities for Participation" flyer that is posted on the bulletin board in the Altar Guild Room for listings of items for donation at the meeting. The Heineys also request checks so they can best move forward in ministry without adding "things" to their travel. A container for checks will be available on their display table. Please make checks payable to "Global Lutheran Outreach". You can find their photo and more information at [Global Lutheran Outreach.com/blog/heiney/](http://GlobalLutheranOutreach.com/blog/heiney/).

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LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) will be celebrating LWML Sunday on October 7. Lucie will be collecting MITE boxes or distributing new ones on that day. A list of the newly adopted mission grants from the Michigan District LWML is posted on the bulletin board in the Altar Guild room. Seventy-five (75%) percent of our MITES support these mission grants and the remaining 25% goes to support the mission grants adopted by the national LWML. Those collected coins do great things all around the world!

CAMP RESTORE DETROIT FUNDRAISER

Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 14th from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.** for our first annual fundraiser for Camp Restore Detroit. St. Thomas Lutheran on Kelly in Eastpointe has offered to host this event which will include dinner and entertainment. There will also be a Silent Auction with many items that we hope will be of interest to you. Tickets are \$25 (\$10 for the meal and \$15 donation) and reservations are due by October 1. A reservation form is included in this newsletter - a letter with more information and an additional reservation form will be in your boxes soon (or mailed to those who aren't able to check boxes). The information will also be on Mt. Calvary's website soon. Please "spread the word" and extend an invitation to your family and friends! Please see Sue Riske if you have any questions or have any items you might like to donate for the silent auction.

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NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Your newsletter articles for the November and December Newsletter are due by Monday, October 15.

SCRIP NEWS

Great Lakes SCRIP has recently simplified the process for shoppers to enroll in online payments (PrestoPay) to conveniently pay for orders, receive eGift cards and add funds to reloadable cards. Plus you'll have access to ordering on-the-go with ShopWithScrip's mobile website, MyScripWallet. Lucie has a flyer available that describes the enrollment process to link your bank account for electronic debit. Please contact Lucie if you'd like more information about this process. There is a small \$0.15 convenience fee that applies to each order. You can not link a credit card to your PrestoPay account, as the credit card fees would take away from your rebate earnings. Orders will still be linked to the Mt. Calvary account, but provides the convenience of shopping at home and not having to drop off checks for order payment.

FOOD BANK

Upcoming dates for the Food Bank are September 12 and 26 and October 10 and 24. We continue to receive food from Historic Trinity's food pantry. Men's clothing and plastic grocery bags are always welcome!

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KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

The Kroger Community Rewards program has also made a recent change by assigning a new identification number for Mt. Calvary as they were updating their system. We are now # PW 169. Family or friends who wish to link their Kroger Plus Card to benefit Mt. Calvary will need to either type in this new identifier or the name Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church & School. Enrollment into the Community Rewards Program can be done at any time of year, so don't hesitate to mention it to friends or former members when you see them.



We met with Head Start in July and their lease has been renewed for the 2018-2019 school year. The renewal includes a two percent increase in their monthly payment. The staff will be returning on Tuesday, September 4 and begin recruiting additional students for this school year. Some students registered during the summer months at the main office. The children will be returning on Monday, September 10. We look forward to having the staff and students back in the building!

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AN UPDATE ON CAMP RESTORE DETROIT

Camp Restore Detroit's busy season has come to a close. We may have some groups in this Fall and Spring, but the number of campers will be so much less. The biggest celebration is - - WE MADE IT!! With God's help, our small congregation successfully put together an organization to serve the community – our community. We celebrate everyone in the congregation that helped in so many ways. Some members were preparing and assisting with camp on a fulltime basis, while others contributed on a smaller scale. Even if you weren't able to physically or financially help, your prayers for the success of 2018 were answered. Amy Fanta, Elizabeth Parrish, and Christ Trewella, our paid staff, worked diligently to keep everything together.

Why do we consider Summer of 2018 to be a success?

- One success was the number of campers we housed. Nights are counted like a hotel: one bed used for one night counts as one night. Camp Restore Detroit had over 2100 nights so far this year. We are getting to know many people who want to Restore Hope to our community.
- Another success was the amount of service completed by these campers in the community. Demolition and boarding up the houses around our church, blight cleanup of many, many community lots making neighborhoods safer, tutoring, helping with various Vacation Bible School programs, working on our lots, and many other tasks. See Elizabeth's article for more details.

Connecting with community leaders is another success. Various block leaders, neighborhood police officers, and other nonprofit organizations worked with us.

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CREATION MUSEUM AND ARK ENCOUNTER TRIP

Our confirmation students, their family, and several members of our congregation journeyed to Kentucky to visit the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter! It was a great place to grow in relationship with one another, but also in the knowledge of creation and the flood. After visiting these museums, we are in awe of the incredible God that we serve. Now, we are looking forward to digging deeper into the Word this year in our confirmation classes and applying all that we have learned.

CAMP RESTORE

This summer has been amazing! God did incredible things through all of the volunteers that came. We had over 2,000 Camper nights just this summer- that is something to celebrate! Those campers worked hard to clear 68 lots, a 40 lot field, two of our neighbor's alleys, clean up five parks, and clean up two churches. We served at the Matrix Food Pantry almost weekly, as well as odd jobs they needed help with. We worked with the Heilmann Center's community programming and kids programming. Our volunteers also visited the local nursing home playing games, making crafts and listening to the stories of the residents. Some groups hung out at the Second Mile Center, playing games and building relationships with the kids. Many volunteers worked with East Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church to support them in their Vacation Bible School programming, as well as our own Vacation Bible School here at Mt. Calvary Lutheran. We made strides on getting our white house and our red house ready to be used as Outreach Centers, as well as the community garden and reflection garden! This only begins to highlight what God did in our neighborhood this summer. Many lives were touched and connections were made. We are so excited about what God has for us next!

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- Also, people of the community have joined CRD in serving their community.
- The summer cookouts have drawn community residents and leaders, campers and other volunteers, and church members together. New relationships are forming. Mt. Calvary is welcoming new faces at worship. CRD is becoming known in the community, and our building is seen as a safe place. The community knows Mt. Calvary is an open, welcoming place!
- CRD and Mt. Calvary is also building many relationships with partner churches. We never imagined CRD would receive the out-pouring of love that we have experienced.
- If you talk to others involved with CRD, you would discover many more successes as we all have had different experiences.

Add all these successes together. One can see that we have so much for which to praise God! With God our seemingly impossible task of running camp was made possible. It was a crazy, busy summer, and we expect it to be busier and crazier in 2019. With God's help, we will continue to serve HIS people.

Lori Carrier

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Karolyn Swad
- 16 Lucie Witte
- 17 Erv Beyersdorf
- 17 Luke Gammerath
- 25 Sue Riske
- 25 Philonese Walker

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 8 Jeff Kurtz
- 11 Karen Roemer
- 14 Joshua Yee
- 17 Jacob Yee

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SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 15th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time	3 Labor Day Church office closed	4 Head Start Staff returns	5	6	7	1 8
9 16th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Baptisms of Isaac Kapel and Isaiah Mensor 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	10 Head Start children return to classes	11 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting at the home of Jerry Roy	12 7:00 p.m. Camp Restore Board meeting 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Food Bank	13	14	15
16 17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Voters Meeting	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	24	25 10:00 a.m. Church Council meeting	26 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Food Bank	27	28	29
30 19th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study						

OCTOBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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7 LWMLSUNDAY 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	8	9	10 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Food Bank	11	12	13
14 21st SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Baptism of Charlotte Cafrey 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 2 – 4 Tours of CRD Dorms 4:00 p.m. Camp Restore Fundraiser Dinner	15 November / December Newsletter Articles due	16 7:00 p.m. Board of Elders meeting at the home of Jerry Roy	17	18	19	20
21 22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 9:00 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	22	23	24 11:15 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. Food Bank	25	26	27
28 REFORMATION SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:00 a.m. Fellowship Time 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	29	30 10:00 a.m. Church Council Meeting	31			