

# St. Luke's Newsletter

## AUGUST 2022



**“Let all you  
do be done  
in love.”**

**1st Corinthians  
16:14**

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## Pastor's Note

Dear Friends,

A dear friend recently gave me a bracelet that reads in bubbles along the bracelet chain:  
I AM strong I AM cherished I AM loved I AM blessed I AM protected I AM brave

My friend struggles sometimes and wears the same bracelet to remind them that, because of the great I AM (God), they are strong, cherished, loved, blessed, protected and able to be brave. Do you struggle sometimes and need to be reminded of these core truths about God?

I have been struggling a lot lately. I always say I'm up for an adventure but really what I mean is I am up for an adventure as long as I have a good idea of where I am going and feel like I have some significant control over how the journey will unfold. These past four months have been a huge lesson in learning how to trust God to lead me when I had no idea where Mike and I would be going or how we would get there. God gave me lots of signs to let me know I would be ok in the journey, but I wasted a lot of time and energy letting fear and doubt crowd into my mind and spirit because I struggled to fully trust God in my unknowns.

Now, four months later, I can see clearly what before I could only see dimly: God provided a beautiful way for Mike and I to be in Ohio with our family and a clear call to journey with a next congregation. God also provided a beautiful way for you all to keep going with a new amazing Interim Pastor who will journey with you as you live into your call in Titusville. Every step of the way, God was equipping us all so that, through him, we were/are/will be strong, cherished, loved, blessed, protected, and brave.

As Mike and I say our goodbyes for now with you in August, I pray that we will all store up in our hearts the things we have learned together about God and look for the new ways he will keep helping us be strong, cherished, loved, blessed, protected and brave as we live into our tomorrows. To God Be The Glory! In God's Love, Pastor Jody

## A Good Goodbye

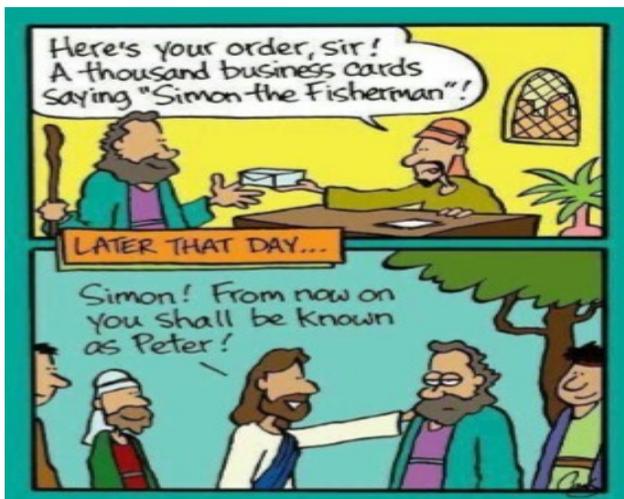
**Come and help celebrate Pastor Jody and Mike's new adventure! As painful as it is to see them go, we wish them well. There will be a potluck luncheon in their honor on Sunday, August 14th after service. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a dish to share. The theme is "picnic" Contact Ann Reitz for more info.**



# Transition Update from the Session

- Jose' Amador, M.E. Kelly, and Bill Rushing (the Interim Pastor Nominating Committee) worked together, listened for the guiding of the Holy Spirit, and as a team were unanimous in presenting an exceptional Interim Pastor candidate to the current and incoming Elders for a Meet and Greet/second interview on Thursday, July 14th. Then, at the Session meeting on Thursday, July 21st the Elders unanimously voted to hire the candidate as our Interim Pastor to begin Monday, September 5th if the way be made clear by the Committee on Ministry of our Central FL Presbytery at their August meeting. More information on the process and candidate will be presented by Jose', Kelly and Bill at a Q & A during Treat Time on Sunday, July 31st, where we will also celebrate God's blessing of bringing us five new members who will join the church that day during the 10:00 a.m. worship service.
- Ann Reitz, Gail McMahon Kathy Nichols, and M.E. Kelly have worked with Pastor Jody and Mike over the past four months to go over the list of things they do and have been inviting congregants to step up to help with particular tasks/ministries that need coverage. The list is now COMPLETELY covered and we thank everyone who has offered to help!
- The Elders each have a group (flocks) of congregants of the church (both members and regularly attending worshipers in-person and online). The Elders will be communicating with their flocks about future conversation meeting times this Fall or early Winter. If you are unsure who your Elder is, please talk to any of the Elders and they will help you get connected with your Elder flock leader.
- Pastor Jody and Mike's last Sunday with us will be August 14th. The Session will host a Pot Luck Lunch (Session will provide Publix fried chicken and everyone provides a side or dessert) during Treat Time after worship on Sunday, August 14th. We hope you will mark your calendars now to come and be part of this time of laughter, tears, and praising God for our journeying time together.

## Need a Laugh?





# August Worship Plans



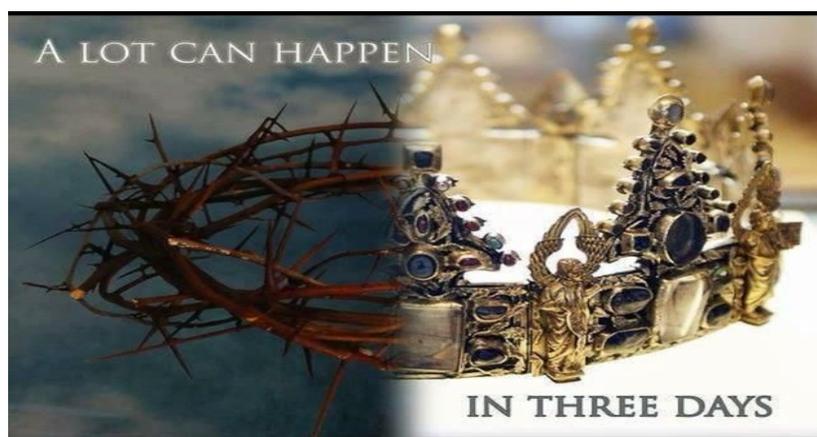
The four Sundays in August provide us with wonderful opportunities for worship, sharing the sacrament of Communion, and doing a good goodbye with Pastor Jody and Mike.

**Youth Sunday, August 7th** The youth of the church will co-lead worship with Pastor Jody, Ruling Elder Jeff Lake, and Director of Music Sheila King. We will share in the sacrament of Communion together as part of the 10 a.m. worship service. The Old Testament reading is Isaiah 1:1, 10-20, the Gospel reading is Luke 12:35-40, and the sermon title is “Be Ready.” Hymns will include “O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing,” “I Have Decided To Follow Jesus,” and “Great Is Thy Faithfulness.”

On **Sunday, August 14th** worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and via the livestream on the church’s Facebook page. Pastor Jody and Mike will co-lead worship with Director of Music Sheila King. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 80:1-2 and 8-19, the Gospel reading is Luke 12:22-34, and the sermon title is “Do Not Worry.” Hymns will include “Blessed Assurance,” “Here I Am, Lord,” and “Lord of the Dance.” Special music will be provided by The Bells of St. Luke’s.

On **Sunday, August 21st** Executive Presbyter Rev. Dr. Dan Williams will serve as the Preacher of the Day and co-lead worship with Ruling Elder Jeff Lake. Worship will begin at 10:00 a.m. in-person and via the livestream on the church’s Facebook page. The Old Testament reading is Jerimiah 1:4-10, the Gospel Reading is Luke 13:10-17, and the sermon title is “Part of the Team.” Hymns will include “The Church’s One Foundation,” “Jesus Loves Me,” and “Trust and Obey.”

And, on **Sunday, August 28th** Ruling Elder M.E. Kelly will serve as Preacher of the Day and co-lead worship with Ruling Elder Jeff Lake and Director of Music Sheila King. The Old Testament reading is Psalm 81:1 and 10-16, the Gospel reading is Luke 14:7-24, and the sermon title is “Food for Thought.” Hymns will include “O Worship the King,” “Amazing Grace,” and “When We All Get To Heaven.”



# \* Youth Group News \*

Youth Group is about growing deeper in our faith,  
participating in mission projects,  
making friends, and having fun.

Here's our line up of Youth Group activities coming soon:

- Sunday, August 7th: Lunch and Games in room 8 from 12-2p.m.
- Sunday, August 14th: Pastor Jody and Mike's Goodbye Party from 12-2 p.m.
- Sunday, August 21st: Lunch, Conversation, and Games in room 8 from 12-2p.m.
- Sunday, August 28th: Lunch, Conversation, and Games in room 8 from 12-2p.m.

## Youth Group Mini Lock-In

The Youth Group Chaperones will host a Mini Lock-In on Friday, August 5th from 6:00-11:00 p.m. for all youth entering grades 4-12. Dinner is included, wear dark clothes for Hide-N-Go Seek in the dark, and we will finish the night with make your own sundaes and a huge game of 8-Square.

**Homework Club:** Conversation is happening for plans for Homework Club in the coming school year. Watch your church emails for additional details.

## Are You Ready To Make Some Great Memories Together?



# Introducing Rev. Emily Wasser

My name is Rev. Emily Wasser and I'm your new Interim Pastor. I know we are going to get to know each other a lot in the next few months, but I also know as Jody prepares to take her exit you probably have a lot of questions about the individual (me) preparing to come and meet you. I was invited to write a short bio so you could get to know me and as you'll soon learn, I rarely turn down writing assignments! So, here we go!

My full name is Emily Grace Wasser, I was born in Pittsburgh, PA and named for my paternal and maternal great grandmothers. Though I was born in Pittsburgh, I was raised on the other side of the state in Allentown, Pennsylvania. From a very early age I knew that I wanted to be a pastor and was very active in my hometown church, participating in Youth Group, Youth Council, assisting in the direction of both children's choirs, participating in two handbell choirs, and three vocal choirs. I was a busy bee!

On my very first Montreat Youth Conference I felt a calling to attend Montreat College in Montreat, North Carolina, and spent four very happy years there getting my Bachelor of Arts in Bible and Religion with a concentration in Ministerial Studies.

During my summer months in college I worked at Camp Brainerd in the Poconos. I served there every summer for six years, slowly working my way up through the staffing positions, from L.I.T., to Cabin Leader, then finally Summer Program Director. Today, I still count some of those months as the most influential to my ministry. Not only did I learn valuable lessons about Christian Education, teaching, leading, and programming, but I also learned hours of fun games, crafts, and songs that I feel are essential to any church program.

After college ended, I felt a calling to attend Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. For three years I worked toward a Master of Divinity and engaged with several different types of congregations and ministries.

San Gabriel Presbyterian Church in Georgetown, TX and Westlake Hills Presbyterian Church in Westlake Hills, TX allowed me to take what I'd learned in a camp setting and apply it to a more traditional church setting. It also gave me the experience necessary to work, plan, and develop church programs.

Following graduation from Seminary I became the Director for Children's Ministry at First Presbyterian Church of Copperas Cove in Copperas Cove, TX. Not long after this I took my first call as Associate Pastor in Winter Park Presbyterian Church where I have been for the last seven years working, living, and studying with people of all ages. In that time, I've cultivated a love for church leadership, a greater respect for the PC(USA), and joy for sharing God's word with others. It seemed impossible, but through thick and thin my love for God and my love for the work I do in God's name has only grown.

Since my move to Orlando, I've been able to enjoy a great many things. I've taken up running and on the day of writing this I'm at 818 consecutive days of yoga. I am a part of the Orlando Community Handbell Group "Magic of Bronze", because my love of music has never faltered. I serve as their script writer, as writing is a great passion of mine. And on the evenings that I'm not moderating a committee or session meeting, ringing handbells, or preparing for my first 10K, you'll most likely find me with my friends down in Disney World.

Though this doesn't answer every question I'm sure you have, I hope that it removes some of the mystery and gives you an idea of what to expect. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you. I'm looking forward to working with you and walking this journey into the next chapter by your side. God has seen fit to draw our paths together, I can't wait to see what we can accomplish!



# A Summer Of Serving

Calling volunteers of all ages! Mark your calendars now for opportunities in August to serve our community neighbors and also help our church.

We will be packing fruits and vegetables at the **Hummingbird Food Pantry** (held at Riverview Elementary, 3000 Jolly Street) for our neighbors in need of food help on:

- Fridays, August 12th and 26th from 1-3 p.m.

The Buildings and Grounds Team has also asked for everyone's help at the upcoming **Church Work Mornings** on:

- Saturday, August 13th from 8:00-11:00 a.m.
- Saturday September 10th from 8:00 a.m-11:00 a.m.

Special "Weed Team" ministry need in August: Because Bettyanne Short is in Ohio for the summer and Cal Campbell will be on vacation with her family in August, there will be lots of weeds in the flower beds at church that are going to need help getting pulled. Would you be willing to come to church at a time that works for you and pull weeds for just 10 minutes? If 10 people would do that each month, we would have nearly weed free landscaping!



## New Elders & Deacons



Congratulations to the following people who were elected at the Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 17th to serve as new Elders and Deacons:

**Elders:** Julie Chiello, Gail McMahon, and Willie Wendorff (all Class of 2025), and Mike Hogue (Class of 2024).

**Deacons:** Rebecca Gunness, Kerry McCleskey, and Dorothy Peters (all Class of 2025), and Bert Forbush (Class of 2023).



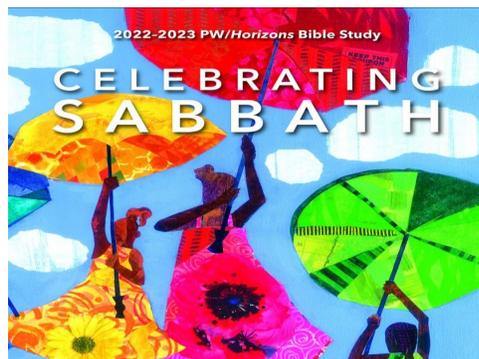
THANK YOU to the 2022 Nominating Committee members: Ann Reitz (Elder, Chair), Jose' Amador, (Elder, Vice Chair), members Rebecca Gunness, Layne Hamilton, Bill Rushing, and Pastor Jody (Ex Officio).

# Coming up...



**Saturday, August 27th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Fresh Ideas Start Here (FISH) is an annual free training offered by our Central FL Presbytery  
**In-Person workshops at Grace Covenant Presbyterian in Orlando.**  
**Hybrid (In-Person and Zoom) Workshops and Lunch & Learn Also Available.**  
**The Registration Packet and link is available on the Central FL Presbytery's Connect tab of their web page at [www.cfpresbytery.org](http://www.cfpresbytery.org)**



The Presbyterian Women will resume meeting in September. Join us on September 7th at 9 a.m. for breakfast at the IHOP on State Rd 50. Our regular monthly meeting will be on September 13th at 10:00 a.m. in Rm 6. We will be studying the book Celebrating Sabbath, the cost of which is \$10.00. Please contact Sharon White for more information, and for ordering the book.

In the nine lessons of the Celebrating Sabbath: Accepting God's Gift of Rest and Delight Bible study — with passages from Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Matthew, Luke, and Acts — we'll consider Sabbath

- as a celebration, not a day of dreary formality
- as God's intent for all of creation that includes busy women too
- as one day of the week, perhaps a Sunday
- as a time to surrender unhealthy striving and frantic busyness, and instead trust that God will provide
- as a reminder that life is precious and working too much is against God's plans for our precious lives
- as a day devoted to community and justice and not exclusively to self-care.

Ultimately, Sabbath reminds us to honor God, who honors us by giving us a day each week to reset our pace, our priorities, and our lives.

# “Meals For Moms & Dads”

The Church Food Pantry will be open throughout the month of August on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm and by appointment.

If you or someone you know needs food help, our church food pantry is always available to help. And, if you're not able to get to the food pantry on Wednesday or Thursday, please call one of the Elders and they can arrange for someone to meet you at church to get you into Room 4 where the food pantry items are stored. Food items needed for our August 24th and 25th “Meals for Moms” include:

- 8 (26 oz) jars of chunky tomato sauce
- 8 large onions
- 8 pkgs frozen garlic rolls
- 8 salad kits
- 8 cans of apple pie filling

The August meal for our moms will be:  
Speedy Ravioli Bake, Salad,  
Garlic Rolls, and Apple Crisp.



## Speedy Ravioli Bake

- 2 pkgs (9 oz. each) cheese-filled ravioli
- 1 jar (25-26 oz.) chunky tomato sauce
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1 onion, diced
- 1 tsp. basil leaves
- 2 tsps. Italian seasoning
- 1 tsp. garlic powder



Heat oven to 400

Cook ravioli as directed on the package; drain and set aside

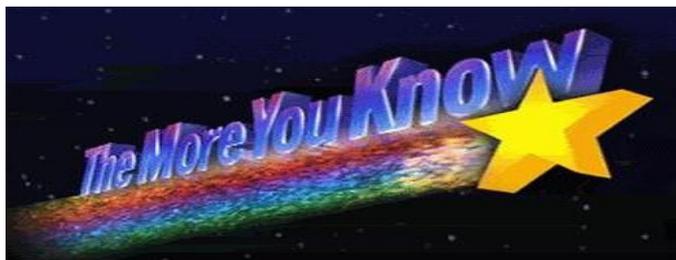
Brown hamburger meat and onion; add pasta sauce, basil, Italian seasoning and garlic powder. Heat for 5 minutes. Stir in ravioli. Pour into a 13 x 9 pan. Sprinkle cheese over top.

Bake, uncovered, 10 minutes or until sauce is bubbly and cheese is melted.

# The More You Know

The Session continues to work to provide good answers to your questions each month on our church life together. Recent questions we have been asked include:

1. When will our new Interim Pastor Emily Wasser begin journeying with St. Luke's and what will be her work schedule? Monday, September 5th will be Emily's first official day on the job. She will be working a 3-2-2 work schedule like Pastor Jody was hired to do originally. Emily's regular days in the church office will be Wednesdays and Thursdays, plus Sundays for worship and other church programming, and she will also be available to be on campus for church events. She will work from home two days a week and is reachable by phone call, text, email and Zoom. Emily will also have two days off each week as her Sabbath and personal time.
2. Where will Pastor Jody be living and serving in Ohio? Pastor Jody and Mike's new address is 9702 Heron Way, Belle Center, OH 43310 will they will begin serving Covenant Presbyterian Church in late August.
3. What happens to all of the school supplies contributed by our congregation? Kids who are part of our Youth Group will be able to choose the things they need for school. Remaining supplies will be delivered to both Apollo Elementary and Jackson Middle School to be put in their Teacher Lounges so teachers may choose any of the supplies for their classroom and students.
4. When is the next Church Work Morning? Everyone's help is needed for our Saturday, August 13th work morning from 8-11 a.m. as we prepare the Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and grounds for the August 14th Sunday Worship Service and Pastor Jody and Mike's Good Goodbye Party.
5. When is Team St. Luke's volunteering at The Hummingbird Food Pantry? Our volunteer opportunities in August are the 12th and 26th (both Fridays) from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Wear closed-toed shoes and enjoy helping to bag fresh fruit and vegetables that will be given to hundreds of our neighbors that same day.



# Vacation Bible School

Thanks to everyone's help, we were able to host this year's VBS. A record 33 kids were registered to participate and our week with them was incredible as they grew in their understanding of how God feeds and nurtures us all. A big THANK YOU to Susan Crum for volunteering to coordinate this year's VBS and to all of the adults and middle/high school age youth who volunteered to help make the 5-night VBS happen!





## Year To Date Financial Information

### Financial Report as of June 30th:

**2022 Operating Income Year to Date \$110,610.51**

**2022 Operating Expenses Year to Date \$ 85,387.19**

**Net Income Year to Date: \$ 25,223.32**

## Worship Attendance

### July 3rd Independence Day and Communion Service

49 in worship and 151 livestream views as of 7/29/22

### July 10th Sunday Worship Service

39 in worship and 142 livestream views as of 7/29/22

### July 17th Sunday Worship Service/Congregational Meeting

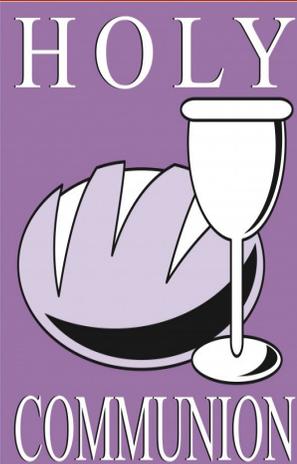
59 in worship and 194 livestream views as of 7/29/22

### July 24th Sunday Worship Service

71 in worship and 134 livestream views as of 7/29/22

### July 31st VBS/New Member Sunday Worship Service

TBD



## Special Occasions

### Anniversaries

Mike & Jody Noble	Aug 14
Vernon & Frankie Weekley	Aug 16
Fred Hammer & Vivian Hamilton	Aug 20

### Birthdays

Glen Hedden	August 4
Ann Reitz #60	August 8
Susan Crum	August 10
Carol McCracken	August 11
Carey McCleskey	August 15
Pastor Jody	August 17
Rebecca Guarrine	August 19
M.E. Kelly	August 22

### Birthdays (continued)

Ben Treinen	August 22
Julie Bolognese	August 22
Sheila King	August 23
Sue Stinett	August 23
Shelley Gibson	August 24
Anna Schnadelbach	August 26
Les Short	August 26
Mary Wilson	August 28
Bettyanne Short	August 28
Mike McBee	August 28
Julie Chiello	August 28
Sarah Ethredge	August 29
Renee Vanlaningham	August 30



# August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>New Carpet Installation in Rooms 3, 5, 6, Choir Room, the Office, and Pastor's Office</b></p> <p><b>7:00 p.m.</b> Deacon Meeting via Zoom</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>New Carpet Installation in Rooms 3, 5, 6, Choir Room, the Office, and Pastor's Office</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>7:00 a.m.</b> Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel</p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p> <p><b>1:00 p.m.</b> Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p> <p><b>1:00-2:15 p.m.</b> Women's Bible Study Room 6</p> <p><b>1:00 p.m.</b> Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>7:30-11:30 a.m.</b> TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6</p> <p><b>6-11 p.m.</b> Youth Group Mini Lock-In, FHall</p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.</b> Celebration of Life Service for Larry Peters with luncheon to follow in Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>7 Youth Sunday/ Communion</b></p> <p><b>8:30-9:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School in Rm 6</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship service</p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.</b> Treat Time in FHall</p> <p><b>12:00-2:00 p.m.</b> Youth Group in Rm. 8</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>9:00 a.m.</b> Piano tuning in the Santuary and Choir Rm.</p> <p><b>7:00 p.m.</b> Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>7:00 a.m.</b> Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel</p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p> <p><b>1:00 p.m.</b> Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p> <p><b>1:00-2:15 p.m.</b> Women's Bible Study Room 6</p> <p><b>1:00 p.m.</b> Bell Rehearsal in the Sanctuary</p> <p><b>7:00-8:00 p.m.</b> Girl Scouts, Rm 6</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>7:30-11:30 a.m.</b> TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6</p> <p><b>1:00-3:00 p.m.</b> Hummingbird</p>	<p><b>13</b></p> <p><b>8:00-11:00 a.m. Church Work Morning ...</b> everyone's help is needed</p>
<p><b>14</b></p> <p><b>8:30-9:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School in Rm 6</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship service</p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.</b> <b>Goodbye Party for Pastor Jody &amp; Mike in Fellowship Hall</b></p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>7:00 p.m.</b> Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>7:00 a.m.</b> Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel</p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p> <p><b>1:00-2:15 p.m.</b> Women's Bible Study Room 6</p> <p><b>7:00-8:00 p.m.</b> Girl Scouts, Rm 6</p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>7:30-11:30 a.m.</b> TOPS meeting in FHall and Rm 6</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
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<p><b>28</b></p> <p><b>8:30-9:00 a.m.</b> Sunday School in Rm 6</p> <p><b>10:00 a.m.</b> Worship service</p> <p><b>11:00 a.m.</b> Treat Time in FHall</p> <p><b>12:00-2:00 p.m.</b> Youth Group in Rm. 8</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>7:00 p.m.</b> Scout Troop 488, Fellowship Hall</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>7:00 a.m.</b> Men's Study @ Cracker Barrel</p> <p><b>9:00a-2:00p</b> Office Open</p>			