



The Messenger

November 2021

We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ!

Memorial United Methodist Church, 1920 Lake Shore Drive, Gladstone, Michigan 49837

Office: (906) 428-9311

www.gladstonechurch.org

mumc@gladstonechurch.org

Mon. – Thur., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Pastor Cathy Rafferty

(734) 646-6922

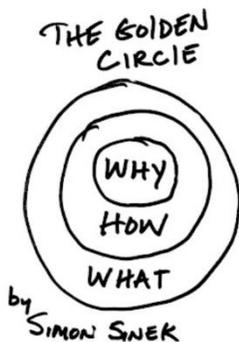
pastor@gladstonechurch.org

Mon., Wed., Thur., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

“*We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ!*” That’s what it says at the top of this newsletter. That’s our mission statement at Memorial United Methodist Church. Why do we raise funds? Why do we maintain a building? Why do we pay my salary and provide housing and benefits? Why do we have Lisa in the office and Lorraine keeping our books? Why do we pay our Ministry Shares to the Michigan United Methodist Conference? Why do we worship on Sundays and do all the other things we do during the week? Why do we ask members to serve in leadership positions and on committees? Why do we publish a monthly newsletter? “*We live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ.*”

Everything we do as a church is rooted in our mission, the “why” at the core of who we are at Memorial UMC. Our congregational leadership has been working for the past couple of months preparing for our annual church conference, to be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31. We’re filling out reports, working on budgets, reviewing our membership statistics, nominating leaders and setting ministry goals for the coming year. In all our work, we’ve been focusing on this “why” of what we do.

In his book *Start with Why*, Simon Sinek explains why knowing our why is so important for us personally and as an organization. It keeps us focused, motivated and energized. As Christians, knowing that our why is rooted in proclaiming the love of Jesus Christ provides the strength, endurance, and faithfulness we need to thrive. Starting with the why at our central core leads us to the how and what. You can watch a 3.39 minute animated youtube video of why this works: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb8KpHqU5tg>



With our “why” in mind, Memorial UMC’s leadership has committed to five goals for 2022. This is “how” our congregation will be working together to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ in the year ahead:

- Offering congregational care and connection by personally being in touch.
- Developing our next generation of leaders
- Engaging in mission outreach through hands-on opportunities to serve
- Learning and practicing the skills we need to share our faith with others
- Building community partnerships to make full use of our facilities

So what about the “what”? I’m asking each of you to consider what commitments you are willing to make to work with us as *we live to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ*. Take time in this season of thanksgiving to reflect on all we have to be grateful for and to listen for the ways in which God may be calling you to offer your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness to participate in the ministries of Memorial United Methodist Church. And then join right in, *living to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ!*

Grace and peace, *Pastor Cathy*

Worship for November

Nov. 7 – All Saints Sunday with Communion

Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 67; Matthew 27:50-56

Celebrating the lives of members and loved ones who have joined that “great cloud of witnesses” during this past year with the sacrament of Holy Communion, tolling bells, reading names, lighting candles, and offering our praise and prayers.

Nov. 14 – Flannel Day for GCCP

Deut. 24:10-15; Luke 3:7-14

Encouraging everyone to wear flannel and bring a gently used or new flannel shirt for God’s Country Cooperative Parish as we consider God’s preferential option for the poor. (Plenty of time to worship before you head off to deer camp.)

Nov. 21 – Christ the King Sunday/Thanksgiving

Deut. 10:12-22; Psalm 146; John 18:33-38

Celebrating Christ our King as we look at who all belongs to God’s kingdom. Music at 10:30 from the Glory Ringers and a special vocal ensemble. It’s also “noisy offering” Sunday for Heifer Project.

Nov. 28 – First Sunday of Advent

Advent Theme—Come and See the Savior:

Heaven’s Invitation

Week 1: “Hope of All Creation”

Luke 21:25-28; Romans 8:19-25

Beginning the season of Advent as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus and anticipate his presence in our lives today. Music at 10:30 from our Band and a new praise song to carry us to Christmas:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WknSe403j0>

The **8:30 a.m.** service lasts under 30 minutes. Participants are asked wear face masks and maintain social distancing, and there won’t be singing. This is intended as our *healthiest option* for concerned worshippers, and we ask that everyone attending respect that. The **10:30 a.m.** service has a variety of music, congregational singing, optional face coverings, and livestreaming.

Links to worship

You can find an up-to-date schedule for activities and links to on-line worship resources and current prayer list on the church website: www.gladstonechurch.org. You’re welcome to call the office with questions: 428-9311, or email: mumc@gladstonechurch.org.

Worship information, links, livestreaming, and videos are also on YouTube and Facebook:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBY-ZTh99gQBtHG3n2kbyuQ>

<https://www.facebook.com/Memorial-United-Methodist-Church-of-Gladstone-MI-117593394926699/>

All Saints Sunday -- Nov. 7

You are invited to submit names of special people in your life who have gone home to God in the past 12 months. Please submit these names **by Wednesday, Nov. 3** to be mentioned in the All Saints Service. We will, of course, be remembering the following members: Jim Boydston, David Hagen, and Pam Blixt.

Memorials

Supplies for Quilters:

Mikki Petersen

Luella Maskart

Salvation Army:

Ray Young

Hope At the Inn

Ray Young

Dave Hagen

Outdoor Sign- (Money designated and will be used when we get the needed amount)

Dave Hagen

Jim Boydston

Ray Young

Gerry Hampton

Dave Nemacheck

George and Millie Young

Patricia Rudenberg

Colored Printer in Office

Jim Boydston

Prayer Ministry

The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve. (James 5:16)

Mondays at noon we gather in the sanctuary for 30-minutes of prayer. We pray for those on our congregation's prayer list, for our congregation, and for whatever other concerns we bring that day. Anyone is welcome to join us and, if you are unable to be here in person, you're invited to make time wherever you are at noon on Mondays to pray with us in spirit. I truly believe that as we pray together as a congregation, God's Spirit will be moving through us. You can find the congregation's most up-to-date prayer list on our website: www.gladstonechurch.org.

Prayer List

Family of Jean Young	Lois Boydston
Family of John LaPorte	Pat and Al Waeghe
Family of Bob Hemmila	Ted Moffett
Family of Dan LaCosse	Donna Wilken
Rebecca Benson Moffett	Karl Soderman
Julie and Mark Bishop	Laurie Talbert
Gene & Judy Smith	Betsy Anderson
Bud Baltic	Sarah Benson
Lorna Benson	MaryAnn Brayak
Tom Butch	Nancy Campbell
Ginger Clairmont	Bud & Pat Clark
Eileen Collins	Sharon Davis
Debbie Dew	Bernie Erickson
Chris and Kim Diamond	John Fisher
Justin Gaarnat	Caroline Hart
Barb Ingram	Al Jensen
Alice Jensen	Jeff Lancour
Jon Lohrbach	Marcy Makosky
Rebecca Marchak	Tammy Martin
Chad Mileski	Zach Nardi
Josiah and David Pryor	Lincoln Noel
Bev Regts	Debbie Renkin
Margaret Richard	Marvin Sodermark
Julie Springer	Todd
Marianne Watson Milkowski	Jerry Wery

Thank You! I'm so grateful to all of you who have expressed appreciation for your pastor in the month of October with your cards, gifts, encouraging words, and generous response to my pastoral presence at Memorial United Methodist Church. It is a blessing to answer God's call to ministry in this place.

Thanks!
Pastor Cathy

Pasty Sale – Nov. 5-6

Please sign up in the narthex for a shift or two or three so Pat knows that she can count on you. You can also sign up to purchase pasties for \$5 each.

For our church family:

I have tried to write to as many people as I could, knowing what wonderful grace in Jesus Christ you have poured out over me in Dave's memory. I still feel uneasy about many of you whose names didn't happen to get on my lists. And many who have continued to keep on praying for my family and me.

How do I say thank you for being the love of Christ? All of you have been living out the image of Christ Jesus, even though you may be feeling a loss yourselves.

David was his happiest in this family, working in God's gift of music. Thank you for letting him experience such joy. His soul blossomed in its desire to glorify God.

I thank you with all my heart for your wondrous and beautiful spirits that have reached out to help. I love you all and pray God's healing peace to rest upon you.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning." Lamentations 3:22-23

~ Mary Hagen

All men, women, and children are invited to the **Men's Breakfast** on **Nov. 7** right after the second service. This breakfast is prepared by the men of Memorial UMC. The freewill offering supports projects that the men are working on. Past projects funded by the Men's Breakfast include re-wiring the kitchen and purchasing kitchen equipment

Hike and a Hallelujah, which is on the first and third Sundays of the month, will now begin an hour earlier, so we will **meet at the church at 3**. With Daylight Savings Time ending and the days shortening, we want to be sure to complete our hike before dark.

On Nov. 7, we will hike in Ludington Park, starting at the Sandpoint Lighthouse at 3:20.

Youth Group Activities

Check out the youth tab on our church webpage:
www.gladstonechurch.org.

Friday, Nov. 5 Surprise activity 5pm - 7pm

Meet in the Youth Room at 5pm. We may go outside for part of the time.

Friday, Nov. 19 Service Project

Meet at church at 5pm. Return at 7pm.
Do homeless shelter laundry at the laundromat.

Friday, Dec. 3 Sports Day in church gym

Dodgeball, frisbee basket, etc. 5pm-7pm

Tuesday, Dec. 28 Taco Tuesday Lock-In

8pm - 8am the next morning

Friendship Guild at Parsonage

At its August meeting, the Service Guild, with its long and cherished place in the life of Memorial UMC, voted to change its name to the "Friendship Guild," to better reflect its current ministry of care and fellowship. Friendship Guild is meeting the second Tuesday each month at 1 p.m., Sept. – Dec. for devotions, fellowship and refreshments. All ladies are warmly invited to attend.

The next meeting is Nov. 9 at 1pm at the parsonage: unit R in the blue-gray condos next to the church. Please RSVP to the church office if you plan to attend so Pastor Cathy sets up enough chairs.

Flannel Shirt Collection for GCCP/Dunlap Ministry

"Take this flannel shirt, may it always keep you warm. Take this old flannel shirt that I leave you for winter, old flannel shirt that I give to you my friend." These are lyrics that come from a song written by WC Jameson.



For the month of November, the Mission's Committee is asking that you bring to church a "gently used" flannel shirt or new flannel shirt and place it on the "tree" located at the entrance to the sanctuary. On November 14th, we are asking you to wear a flannel shirt in support of this ministry. We will be sending all donated flannel shirts to God's Country Cooperative Parish for the Dunlap Ministry. There is a great need for flannel shirts during this time of the year so if you are able, please bring in a flannel shirt to keep someone warm during the winter and wear yours on November 14.

Hope at the Inn at Memorial Nov. 7-14

Help is needed to staff the 3 nightly shifts and cook supper. Please sign up in the narthex or online at www.hopeattheinn.org. You can also sign up by talking to Susan Lagina or Lisa Myers.

November Food Drive

In the spirit of thankfulness for the many ways God provides for us, Memorial United Methodist has set November as a month of sharing God's bounty with our neighbors. Each week of the month we are asking you to bring non-perishables to church. At the end of the month our donations will be divided between food pantries at St. Vincent DePaul (Gladstone) and The Salvation Army (Escanaba). In order to insure a variety of items, the Missions Committee suggests the following guidelines.

Week 1: October 31 – November 6: Breakfast items such as cereal, pancake/waffle mix, syrup, breakfast drinks, etc.

Week 2: November 7-13: Lunch foods such as soups, canned chili, baked beans, peanut butter/jelly, crackers, etc.

Week 3: November 14-20: Dinner foods such as pasta, rice, spaghetti sauce, mac'n'cheese, canned vegetables & fruits, canned meats, etc.

Week 4: November 21-27: Household supplies such as paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, cleaning supplies & soaps, personal hygiene items, etc.

Week 5: November 28-30: Miscellaneous food items such as potatoes, carrots, onions, winter squash, etc.

Venison Project

Hunters interested in donating their deer to help feed hungry people can take their field dressed deer to Steve Soderman's on Days River Road, Viau's in Escanaba, or the Garden Mini Mart. All three of these will process the meat for free, although if you are taking the deer to Garden Mini Mart, you must first skin the deer.

Pies Needed for Thanksgiving

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner organizers are asking each church to donate 8-12 pies. Pies would have to be at Memorial Church by Nov. 24, Wednesday morning. Please sign up on the list on the bulletin board, or call the church office.

The Community Thanksgiving Dinner will be at the Escanaba High School over the lunch hour. It will be dine-in only. No carry-outs.

Knowing the “Why” of Our Finances

At our October Finance Committee meeting, we looked at a pie-chart view of our operational expenditures for the first 9 months of 2021, totaling \$143,127.69. The largest portion, 62%, covers payroll and related expenses such as pensions, health insurance, and taxes. Another 7% takes care of parsonage-related expenses. We pay 13% for our Ministry Shares commitment to the Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church and 10% to maintain our building and cover utilities. That leaves a small slice of just 5% of our expenditures for program expenses. But that only tells part of the story. Members of the Finance Committee took time to think about why we spend what we do to provide a full-time pastor, office and janitorial staff, a treasurer and music accompanist. Why we spend what we do to maintain and operate our building. Why we contribute our portion of Ministry Shares to our Michigan Conference. Here are a few of their responses:

- We have a full-time pastor who meets our spiritual needs, counsels, visits, and reaches out in the community. We have well-planned, Christ-centered worship with meaningful messages every week. We have someone in the office to handle day-to-day operations, to answer the phone and email, and attend to whatever needs arise; we have someone to carefully account for our finances and to keep our facilities clean and ready for use. We have a dependable organist and accompanist every week, and a bell choir director.
- We have a people-friendly building kept in good condition; a safe place to meet and a beautiful, welcoming place to worship. We have a place to prepare meals to feed ourselves and others, a certified kitchen with electricity and clean running water. We have room to host Hope at the Inn, providing a refuge for homeless people. Our gym offers opportunities for exercise, to develop discipline of body and mind and is inviting to youth and children.
- Our Ministry Shares keep us connected to the larger United Methodist Church, providing the administration that makes sure qualified clergy are trained and available for congregations, mission giving gets where it is intended, and resources are available to help us stay up-to-date and effective in our ministries. Our congregation can act on our

faith locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally.

This is only a small sampling of the responses. Numbers give us facts about how and what the money received is spent on at MUMC. We have to take the responsibility of why we support the money received. It isn't just black and white numbers on a page but much more with the time, talent, energy, and enthusiasm that is spent to help our congregation continue to thrive. As is typical, we come into the last months of the year having expended more than we've received, counting on strong giving in November and December. As you look over the “why” of our finances, we're hoping you'll give generously to help us finish 2021 strong and be prepared to move securely into 2022. Thank you.
~ Finance Committee

Planned Giving

If you are 72 or older this year and you own a traditional IRA, you will need to take a Required Minimum distribution (RMD) before the end of the year. Please consider making an IRA charitable rollover gift. You can make a gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Memorial UMC this year. Your gift will:

- Satisfy some or all of your RMD for the year
- Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions
- Not be subject to the 60% limitation on charitable gifts
- Help Memorial fulfill its mission to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ

A charitable rollover from your IRA to the church needs to be made before any direct IRA distribution to yourself. Thus, now is a good time to make a charitable rollover if you haven't yet taken your RMD for 2021. It is also a good time to decide how you wish to use your RMD for 2022. We recommend that you do this in consultation with tax and financial professionals.

Thank you for your continuing interest in and support of Memorial United Methodist Church.

Financial Reports are available each month from the church office.

UMC North Central Jurisdiction Asks for Prayer Support

The North Central Jurisdiction of the UMC will hold a virtual conference Nov. 10-11, 2021. The Michigan Conference to which Memorial UMC belongs is part of this jurisdiction. The focus at this session will be: the work of dismantling racism, the future United Methodist Church, and the role and deployment of episcopal leadership [bishops] within the jurisdiction.

Note: This is NOT the denomination's General Conference, currently scheduled for August 2022. The North Central Jurisdiction does not make denomination-wide decisions or change The Book of Discipline. Jurisdictions typically handle issues within their geographic area like setting conference boundaries, electing and appointing bishops, and supporting mission and ministry within their areas.

The Mission Council of the North Central Jurisdiction is calling on all of us United Methodists within the jurisdiction to support the Nov. 10-11 virtual conference with our prayers beginning on Monday, Nov. 1, 2021, at 10:11 a.m., and continuing each day at that time through Nov. 11.

Please join in prayer daily at 10:11 a.m., Nov. 1-11:
Psalm 22:21 ~ *For all to get along well with God and be at peace; that something good will come to your people, Almighty God; we pray for the guidance and fire of your Holy Spirit to be with everyone at the 2021 Special North Central Jurisdictional Conference. May the Holy Spirit fill the hearts and minds of leaders and delegates with wisdom and peace that work towards all that you want to be carried out at this time. Let us remember to give all glory and honor to our Savior Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.*

Find more info about the NCJ virtual conference at: <https://michiganumc.org/plan-for-ncj-virtual-session-changes/>

**newsletter deadline:
Friday, Nov. 26**



11/2 Shepard Gaudino	11/18 Sylvia Nault
11/3 Katherine Juhola	11/19 Reese Buckley
11/5 Jax de la Garza	11/23 Stashia Wery
Terry Hampton	11/24 Larry Kirschner
11/6 Lisa Lancour	Dennis Stanek
11/9 Meredith Marlett	11/26 Al Jensen
11/13 Gary LaMarche	Ethan Juhola
11/14 Valerie Johnson	Virginia Petersen
Ryan Oshe	Angela Stone
Laura Webber	Grace Taylor
11/15 Joanne Hill	11/29 Mike Esler
11/16 Nancy Campbell	Sandra Keeker
	Marlene Maulding
	11/30 William Morrow

We're kicking the habit! Memorial UMC will no longer be posting announcements on Facebook, updating our page, or monitoring comments or messages, other than to livestream Sunday morning worship. Sunday worship is also available on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBY-ZTh99gQBtHG3n2kbyuQ>

Pastor Cathy encourages you all to take stock of Facebook's addictive triggers and questionable business practices as you consider your own use of social media. She has discontinued her personal account and will be focusing her energy on making real-life connections. You can find up-to-date church information on our website: www.gladstonechurch.org and in our weekly worship bulletin and monthly newsletter. You can call Pastor Cathy at (906) 428-9311, text her cell (734) 646-6922 or send email pastor@gladstonechurch.org.

Puzzles and Books to Borrow

The cold weather seems to be settling in, so why not borrow a book and a puzzle or two from the church library?

Moment in Missions

The Missions Committee would like to share the celebrations of our congregation's giving of time, talent, and offerings for October.

- Special Offering Update from September: one offering divided equally for three education ministries (MI Conf. Christian Ed, United Methodist Student Scholarships, Africa University Fund): \$908
- With a money match from generous donors at Heifer International, MUMC was able to purchase 4 cows by using \$300 from the Noisy offering collections and \$200 from undesignated money in the Mission committee's budget.
- World Communion Sunday: \$190
- Golden Cross: Amount not available yet
- School supplies along with hats, mittens, and gloves were sent to Mid Peninsula School with Willy Mannisto.

We have several opportunities to support our community, state, nation, and world during November:

- Ongoing collection for school supplies and supplies for the Great Start Readiness Program at Mid Peninsula School. Items that are needed can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/MPSWolverines> and [https://p11cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_8273746/File/supply%20list%2021-22%20\(1\).pdf](https://p11cdn4static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_8273746/File/supply%20list%2021-22%20(1).pdf)
- Nov. (all month): Food drive for local food pantries. Please see the article in the newsletter about this service.
- Nov. (all month): Venison Project-Teresa Myers and Kole Desotelle are coordinating this event. Watch for more information in the newsletter, newspaper, radio, and posters throughout the community.
- Nov. 5-6: Pasty Sale
- Nov. 7-14: Hope at the Inn: Please volunteer by signing up to help
- Nov. 8: Bay College Campus Meal preparation (Laurie Kaufman, Sue Lagina, JoAnn Gudwer, Jeanne Wescott)
- Nov. 14: Wear Flannel-collecting flannel shirts for the month for Dunlap ministries (GCCP)-See article in newsletter
- Nov. 21: Noisy Offering supports Heifer International
- Elmer's Community Cares Program: Donate points to MUMC and we can use it towards getting a \$100 gift card. This can be used to help offset grocery costs for projects like Bay Area Campus Ministry meals and Hope at the Inn meals. A gift card was recently used to purchase supplies to feed 40 students through Bay Area Campus Ministry Meals on November 9. We currently have 47,824 points.
- Volunteer in Mission trip to Puerto Rico: Jody Pratt, Conference Volunteer in Mission coordinator, is looking for two more members for a mission trip to Puerto Rico. Scholarships may be available. She may be contacted at prattgji09@gmail.com or 616.292.4908 if interested. The mission committee discussed assisting with a scholarship also if there is an interest.



Check out the Mission bulletin board located at the entrance to the education wing. As 2021 draws to an end, we have reflected on the many areas our congregation has been active in and continues to be active in missions. We are promoting a community of caring in our experience to learn, give, and act for needs locally, statewide, nationally, and internationally.

Our church is alive and active in our community, our state, our nation, and our world. If God is speaking to you about learning more about missions at MUMC and you would like to be an active member of the mission committee, please contact the church office.

November 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Prayer in the sanctuary 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Simon Peter	2 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.	3 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Making Sense of the Bible 6:00 Bells	4 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	5 Pasty prep cook 5:00 Youth 6:00 Pasty Dough	6 District Conference Pasty Sale
7 All Saints Sunday 8:30 Worship 9:30 Simon Peter 10:30 Worship 11:30 Breakfast 11:30 Praise Team 2:00 Bishop Noa 3:00 Hike/Hallelu Hope at the Inn	8 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Prayer 4:00 Girl Scouts BACM meal 5:30 Simon Peter Hope at the Inn	9 9:00 Pickleball 1:00 Friendship Guild at parsonage 6:00 TKD 6:30 Finance 8:00 N.A. Hope at the Inn	10 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Making Sense of the Bible 6:00 Bells 7:00 Worship Committee Hope at the Inn	11 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band Hope at the Inn	12 Hope at the Inn	13 Hope at the Inn
14 8:30 Worship 9:30 Simon Peter 10:30 Worship 11:30 Praise Team	15 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Prayer in the sanctuary 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Simon Peter	16 9:00 Pickleball 9:30 MembCare 2:00 Missions 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.	17 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball 6:00 Making Sense of the Bible 6:00 Bells	18 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 7:00 Band	19 5:00 Youth go to laundromat to wash HATI sheets and towels	20
21 <i>Noisy Offering and Youth Sunday</i> 8:30 Worship 9:30 Simon Peter 10:30 Worship 11:30 Praise Team 3:00 Hike/Hallelu	22 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Prayer in the sanctuary 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Simon Peter	23 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.	24 9:00 Knit & Quilt 10:00 Pickleball	25	26 6:00 Wedding rehearsal	27 3:00 Wedding
28 8:30 Worship 9:30 Simon Peter 10:30 Worship 11:30 Praise Team	29 10:00 Pickleball 12:00 Prayer in the sanctuary 4:00 Girl Scouts 5:30 Simon Peter	30 9:00 Pickleball 6:00 TKD 8:00 N.A.				