



# United Presbyterian Church

525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060 • 908-756-2666 • <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>

**Where God is exalted, Everyone matters, and You belong!**

11:00 a.m. Worship

September 2021 - Newsletter

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE Pastor Allegra Hoots



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I greet you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, our blessed Redeemer. Hopefully, you are in good health, have a happy heart, and are optimistic about the future. Moreover, I hope this letter aids you in your faith-walk by reminding you God loves you and is always with you.

Reading, studying, meditating on, and applying biblical principles to our lives strengthens our faith and inspires us to remain hopeful in situations that seem hopeless. Psalms like 121:2 gently remind us our help comes from the Lord maker of heaven and earth. That knowledge gives us the courage and strength to face every challenge life throws at us.

The Bible also bolsters self-worth in those with low self-esteem because it reveals they are created in God's image, which gives them inherent value (Genesis 1:26). Scripture further affirms their worth and importance in verse 31 by asserting God is pleased with his creation, including mortals!

For those needing a reminder that God cares for them, they should read 1 Peter 5:7, "Cast all your worries upon him because he cares for you," and chant it when they are feeling lonely or insignificant.

***"Cast all your worries upon him ....."***

Scripture is replete with narratives describing God helping ancient Israel. Details about Israel's armies conquering forces with stronger and more skilled warriors and strategic advantages boost our faith.

The stories testify to God's all-powerfulness and motivate us to believe God will do for us what He did for them – enable us to overcome every challenge life throws at us.

***God enables us to overcome every challenge life throws at us.***

As depicted in Scripture, the history of the Hebrew people, the New Testament accounts of Jesus' demonstrated compassion for the most vulnerable members of society, combined with our personal experiences with God, reinforce our faith and give us hope. Like the Apostle Paul, the understanding of God's great love for humanity motivates us to press toward the mark of our high calling in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:14).

God's people have many reasons for cheerfulness. Nehemiah 8:10 reminds us God gives us joy. That joy is empowering and encourages and strengthens because it is a supernatural force that comes from our relationship with the only all-powerful, all-wise, and eternal God, not from a social position, wealth, or human connections that are fragile, temporary, and con-

***"Joy is empowering & encourages & strengthens"***

ditional.

During uncertain and trying times, let us keep faith in God by reciting and embracing Scriptures that remind us of God's unchanging love and immutable nature. Such passages include those previously cited, and John 3:16, Psalm 23, and Psalm 120.

After all, who among us does not find encouragement in knowing and remembering God cares about them? What an incredibly reassuring thought: *"God loves you and me!"* And God's love is everlasting and unchanging.

Glory to God and peace and blessings to you.

***Pastor Allegra***

***"God loves you and me!"***

*Sunday Worship (Traditional)*

Pastor Allegra Hoots

11:00am

Live in the Sanctuary & on YouTube\*

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*Sunday Fellowship*

12:30 - 1:30pm

JOIN US

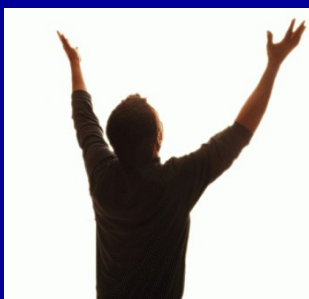
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*Contemporary Service (Midweek)*

Thursdays @ 7:00pm

Begins September 23rd

Via YouTube\*



**ALL  
ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND**

**Bible Study & Noon Day Prayers**

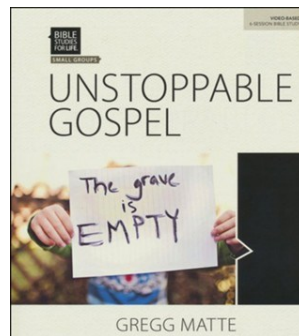
Resumes on September 22nd

Location: The Hansen Room & YouTube

Book: *Bible Studies for Life: Unstoppable Gospel, Bible Study Book*

Author: Greg Matte

The book is available through Christianbook.com for a cost of 9.99



*Thank you!*

A great big thank you to **SUE TERRY** who recently stepped down as our sexton. Sue is a long-time member and friend of UPC. She has assisted in vary-

ing capacity over the years and as usual, when the opportunity arose, she stepped up to the challenge.

Sue, we would like to express our sincere appreciation for your service to us. We know that you will continue to give of yourself but do hope that you will have the opportunity to explore other interests and to check off more items on your bucket list. We will continue to be here for you.. .

Let us also welcome Mr. Charles Rivers, our new custodian. Please take the opportunity to introduce yourselves to him. Mr. Rivers, we will assist and support you in your new position.

See calendars for more activities and events

Upcoming Events

**September**

Date	Time	Event
6		Labor Day
8		International Literacy Day
11	10:00am	Administrative Meeting
15	7:30pm	Session Meeting
21		International Day of Peace
22		Native American Day

**October**

Date	Time	Event
2	10:00am	Administrative Meeting
3		World Communion Sunday
9		Health Fair & Bazaar
10		Domestic Violence Awareness
11		Columbus Day
13	7:30pm	Session Meeting
16		World Food Day
31		Reformation Sunday

**FOR VIRTUAL EVENTS:  
TO CONNECT BY COMPUTER OR TELEPHONE, GO TO THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION: <http://www.upcplainfield.org/>**

## College Readiness Program

(Submitted by Patricia Dawson)



The College Readiness Workshop Series was presented by United Presbyterian Church of Plainfield on four consecutive Saturdays in August 2021, beginning with the first session on August 7 from 4:00 to 6:00pm. Christopher York came to Pastor Hoots with an idea and a plan for a college readiness workshop series. The series was the result of team effort between Christopher York and Davaughn Hoots who merged their talents to create and deliver a workshop to build “Dream”, “Explore” and “Succeed” in their pursuit of learning what college readiness is all about.

Ms. Rhonda Underwood, a financial aid advisor at Kean University, presented on Financial Aid providing information to the adult family members in attendance on utilizing all available financial resources.

The topics were Career & Educational Goals; Becoming the Best Choice for Your Dream School; The Best School For You; Financial Aid.

UPC will be doing the College Readiness Workshop in October. This workshop series will be a valuable resource for youth and their families as they “DREAM”, “EXPLORE”, and “SUCCEED” in their college readiness pursuits!!!

*Don't miss the next series!*

*Will Your Child be Ready Academically & Financially ???*



Left: Mr. York, Pastor Hoots and all participants

Pictures below: Pastor Hoots presents certificates of completion



Left to right: Abria Durham, Pastor Hoots



Left to right: Asim Emory, Pastor Hoots



## Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day?

Labor Day 2021 will occur on Monday, September 6. Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers

and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894. Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories, and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay.

<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/labor-day-1>



Young girl tends the spinning machine at a cotton mill

## *Cottage Meetings 2021*

Our summer 2021 cottage meetings (July 28 to August 11th) were well received by all attendees. Our topics on Haiti, Nutrition and Mental Health could not have been better timed based on our current social, mental and health conditions primarily resulting from the pandemic. On August 7th members and friends met at Duke Island Park in Bridgewater and had a lively discussion on UPC's overall efforts. This meeting was followed by another on August 21st.

Since the Haiti presentation, Haiti has suffered a powerful earthquake and hurricane resulting in even greater need. You can help by donating as follows:

- 1) **Fleur De Vie**—To donate to this organization for current relief and the school project programs click on <https://bit.ly/2WC4hB7>. For more information about the organization and project go to <https://www.fleurdevieonline.org/>.
- 2) **Clothing Donations:** Drop off your clean, new and slightly used clothing for children and adults at: Darius Grill Grill Grill restaurant, 267 US HWY 22 East, Green Brook Township, NJ 08812

***Thanks to all who attended and supported these efforts.***

*~ Email your suggested topics to [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com) ~*



### Native American Day September 22, 2021

Native American Day is celebrated in the Presbyterian Church, USA on September 22nd or 23rd (Fall Equinox). You may celebrate the day on the Sunday before or after or on another appropriate day.

Since 1994, Native American Day appears on the Presbyterian Calendar as the day to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Native Americans/American Indians to the life of the church and community. The date of September 22nd or 23rd was selected and established the date for Native American Day. Ironically, Fall Equinox is noted on one or the other date. The Fall Equinox has marked “harvest time” for many Native American tribes for centuries and is a time of celebration and preparation for winter.

<https://nevadapresbytery.org/events/native-american-day/>



### Feeding the Hungry during Covid-19 pandemic

#### STAR FISH IS OPEN

To provide food for the hungry - Call Plainfield Action Services at 908-753-3519 to get your name on the list for the next available food delivery.

For drive-up food, go to Parking Lot 7 at East 7 Street and Park Avenue on Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

#### TO DONATE:

Call 908-755-8888

[Administrator@starfishplainfield.org](mailto:Administrator@starfishplainfield.org)

**HELP SOMEONE IN NEED—GIVE!**

### City of Plainfield Upcoming Event

#### A Service of Reflection 9/11 Remembrance



September 11th  
8:30am  
Black Lives Matter  
Plaza  
Plainfield City Hall  
515 Watchung Ave.  
Plainfield, NJ 07060



**For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have.**  
**2 Corinthians 8:12**

To bless the Church with your tithes and offering you may:

1. Drop it off at the church office
2. Mail your check (not cash) to the church
3. Log in to <https://bit.ly/3oyj1J6> or
4. Go to the UPC website homepage and click on the “Give Now” button

~ Thank you ~

## International Literacy Day



Since 1967, International Literacy Day (ILD) celebrations have taken place annually around the world to remind the public of the importance of literacy as a matter of dignity and human rights, and to advance the literacy agenda towards a more literate and sustainable society. Despite progress made, literacy challenges persist with at least 773 million young people and adults lacking basic literacy skills today.

International Literacy Day (ILD) 2021 will be celebrated under the theme “**Literacy for a human-centered recovery: Narrowing the digital divide**”.

The COVID-19 crisis has disrupted the learning of children, young people and adults at an unprecedented scale. It has also magnified the pre-existing inequalities in access to meaningful literacy learning opportunities, disproportionately affecting 773 million non-literate young people and adults. Youth and adult literacy were absent in many initial national response plans, while numerous literacy programmes have been forced to halt their usual modes of operation.

Even in the times of global crisis, efforts have been made to find alternative ways to ensure the continuity of learning, including distance learning, often in combination with in-person learning. Access to literacy learning opportunities, however, has not been evenly distributed. The rapid shift to distance learning also highlighted the persistent digital divide in terms of connectivity, infrastructure, and the ability to engage with technology, as well as disparities in other services such as access to electricity, which has limited learning options.

The pandemic, however, was a reminder of the critical importance of literacy. Beyond its intrinsic importance as part of the right to education, literacy empowers individuals and improves their lives by expanding their capabilities to choose a kind of life they can value. It is also a driver for sustainable development. Literacy is an integral part of education and lifelong learning premised on humanism as defined by the Sustainable Development Goal 4. Literacy, therefore, is central to a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.



<https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/literacyday>

### EXERCISE PROGRAM—JOIN US!

A group of UPC's members and friends have started an exercise program. ARE YOU INTERESTED? Call The Church office or send a note to [upcnews@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews@gmail.com). The group is mixed, young, older, male and female. Dare to do something different for YOU!

### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly. Two decades later, in 2001, the General Assembly unanimously voted to designate the Day as a period of non-violence and cease-fire.

#### **2021 Theme: Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world**

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

In 2021, as we heal from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are inspired to think creatively and collectively about how to help everyone recover better, how to build resilience, and how to transform our world into one that is more equal, more just, equitable, inclusive, sustainable, and healthier.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/international-day-peace>



### Prayers for Healing

Remember our sisters and brothers listed below and call them if you are able to. Let us know if there are members who are not on this list.

#### Prayer Warriors

James 5:16 "Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (KJV)



- Emory Dawson
- Helen Foerster
- O'Harold Hoots
- BJ Klikus
- Frank Klikus
- Jack Perry

- Marianna Perry
- Pat Perry
- Gail Stokes
- Izaiyah Stokes
- Jamie Sweeney

Please send your Prayer requests to the Church Office—  
You will be placed on the prayer list

**Happy Birthday to Jack Perry on the celebration of his 89th birthday, August 30th!**



#### September

- 1 Jennel Darius
- 5 Thelma Fleming
- 6 Danielle Greene
- 11 Gwen Snyder
- 13 Joanne Edwards
- 15 Gail Stokes
- 21 Jahvon Moore
- 22 Helen Foerster
- 28 Barbara Snyder

#### October

- 1 Caitlin Snyder
- 4 Thelma Barnes
- 5 Yolanda Braswell
- 7 Jarius Rudolph
- 13 Ian Dawson
- 24 Charles Bishop
- Gregory Barnes
- 30 Chris Awobue, Jr.

### Flower Ministry

With your donation of \$25 or more to the Flower Fund, the Deacons will provide a beautiful floral arrangement for the Sanctuary on Sunday mornings. After worship, the arrangement will also brighten the day of a member or friend of UPC who is unable to join us for worship.

Flowers may be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Honoree names will be listed in the church bulletin.

*You may complete the form below or add your information to the flower chart in the Narthex.*

*Blessings,  
Zorina Bowers*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your generous support of  
UPC's Flower Ministry

*Board of Deacons*



**Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good. Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing. Instead, let us encourage one another all the more, since you see that the Day of the Lord is coming nearer.**

**Hebrews 10:24-25 GNB**

## CHILDREN'S CORNER

Parents, please read this to your younger child(ren)

### Playing Favorites

**Theme:** God tells us not to favor certain people over others.

**Object:** A large box of used crayons

**Scripture:** James 2:1-10

What kinds of things come to mind when you think of back-to-school time? (Pause.) One school supply that many of you need when you go back to school is a box of crayons. (Show the box of crayons.)

I have many crayons here, and they're all different sizes and colors. Some are sharp and some are dull. Some have strange-sounding names. Some are like-new and others have been used quite a bit. The wrappers are fresh on some, while others are torn and dirty.

We can learn a lot from these crayons. Even though they may have differences, they all fit very nicely in the same box. That's a good picture of the way the church should be. The people that make up the church come in all sizes and colors, and some may even have names that sound different from yours. Some are old and some are young. Some are dressed in very nice clothes, while others may wear clothing that is dirty and worn.

Have you ever noticed people being treated differently because they did not look or act like others? (Pause.)

James, the brother of Jesus, wrote in the Bible that the followers of Jesus should not show favoritism, or treat one person better than someone else. He said, "My friends, if you have faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, you won't treat some people better than others." James explained that if a rich person wearing fancy clothes and a gold ring comes to one of your meetings and a poor person dressed in worn-out clothes also comes, you must not give the best seat to the one in fancy clothes and tell the one who is poor to stand at the side or sit on the floor. That is the same as saying that some people are better than others, which the Bible says is wrong.

We must be careful not to show favoritism in our church or anywhere else. We're all God's children, whether we're rich or poor, or of any kind of race. As James said, "You will do all right if you obey the most important law in the Scriptures. It's the law that commands us to love others as much as we love ourselves."

*Dear God, please help us to love one another as You have loved us--showing us how every person is adored by You. We don't want to play favorites with Your people. In Jesus' name, amen.*



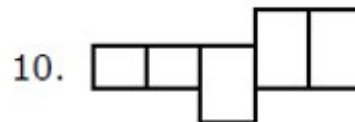
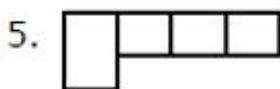
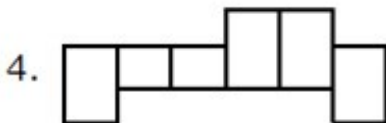
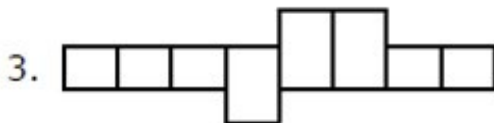
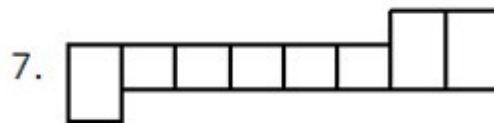
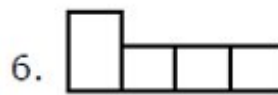
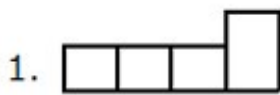
## CHILDREN'S CORNER

# Playing Favorites



My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. James 2:1 (NIV)

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



believers  
rich

clothes  
poor

shabby  
love

neighbor  
yourself

right  
guilty



**Love your neighbor as yourself.**

**Matthew 22:39**



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**United Presbyterian Church**

# **Health Fair & Bazaar**

## **ACCEPTING VENDORS**

**ARE YOU A CRAFTER, ARTIST, ANTIQUE COLLECTOR,  
BUSINESS OWNER? SELL YOUR ITEMS HERE!**



**DO YOU HAVE SLIGHTLY USED ITEMS FOR SALE?  
WE HAVE A SEPARATE AREA FOR YOU.**



**ARE YOU A HEALTHCARE PROVIDER? OUR COMMUNITIES  
COULD USE OR LEARN ABOUT YOUR SERVICES.  
JOIN US!**



**Saturday, October 9, 2021**

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**525 East Front Street • Plainfield, NJ**

**(Enter from the Parking Lot)**

**908-756-2666 or 732-742-8762**

**Registration forms are available at the church office  
or email [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com). Rain or Shine.**

**Spaces are \$30 (bring your own table) or  
\$35 for a table. \$60 for 1 table plus 1 space.**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ FREE ENTRY**

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**2021 PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT**  
**Never too Late!**

Your annual Per Capita is \$45.00 and is shared as follows: General Assembly \$8.98, The Synod of the Northeast \$4.10, The Presbytery of Elizabeth \$31.92. Per Capita is a member assessment used to fund the operating expenses of governing bodies. (Book of Order; G-9.0404 d).

**Consider paying more than your share to help cover the cost of others who are unable to pay**

**Important:**

Deadline is the 20th of each month for the Newsletter. Leave your news in the Church Office or email it to [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)

Church Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-3pm

**Schedule of Pastor's Office Hours**

Monday to Friday  
9:00am to 1:00pm

Please call the Church Office for an Appointment  
or to contact the Pastor

**Session Members**

Al Tate (Clerk)  
Emory Dawson  
Patricia Dawson  
Avril Lecky  
Marcia Marsh-Hinds

**Newsletter**

**Newsletter Editors**

Avril Lecky  
Bola Falowo  
George Hansen  
Hugh Lecky  
James Plummer

**Contributors**

Pastor Allegra Hoots  
Wanda Breitenbach  
Patricia Dawson  
Davaughn Hoots

**Church Administrators**

**Pastor Allegra Hoots**

**Director of Music:** Mr. Ronn Daniels  
**Administrative Assistant:** Ms. Pat Perry &  
Mr. DaVaughn Hoots (Temporary)  
**Custodian:** Mr. Charles Rivers

**Board of Deacons**

Helen Foerster - Moderator  
Daniel Bofah  
Thelma Fleming  
Virginia Hansen  
Desirae Hemans (in training)  
Tania Hemans (in training)  
Maggie Anglin (Volunteer)  
Zorina Bowers (Volunteer)

To contact the deacons for assistance  
Call the church office at 908-756-2666

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Church Email:** [upchurch@aol.com](mailto:upchurch@aol.com)  
**Newsletter:** [upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)  
**Church website:** <http://upcplainfield.org>  
**Telephone No.:** (908) 756-2666

**If you have information that you would like to  
share, send them to  
[upcnews525@gmail.com](mailto:upcnews525@gmail.com)**

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## September 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Communion Service						Administrative Mtg 10:00am
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Youth Sunday			7:30pm Session Mtg			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream			Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study	7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service		
26	27	28	29	30		
11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Dedication Sunday			Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study	7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service		

**NOTE:**

CALENDAR EVENTS MAY CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. THE CALENDAR REFLECTS REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. **CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.**

Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly

Youth Sunday—2nd Sunday monthly

Dedication Sunday—4th Sunday Monthly

**Committee Meetings** (unless stated otherwise):

2nd Saturday @ 10:00am: Administration Meeting

2nd Sunday following Worship: Deacons Meeting

3rd Wednesday @ 7:30pm: Session Meeting

*If you would like to be a member on any committee or help with any project, call the Church Office at 908-756-2666.*

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## October 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 10:00am Administrative Mtg
3 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Communion Service World Communion	4	5	6 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study	7 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	8	9 Health Fair & Bazaar
10 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Youth Sunday Domestic Violence Awareness	11 Columbus Day	12	13 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study  7:30pm Session Mtg	14 7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	15	16 World Food Day
17 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream	18	19	20 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study	21 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study  7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	22	23
24 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream Dedication Sunday	25	26	27 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study	28 Noon Day Prayer & Bible Study  7:00pm Contemporary Worship Service	29	30
31 11am Worship Service In-person & Livestream  Reformation Sunday						

CHANGE BASED ON THE STATES POLICY ON GROUP MEETING. THE CALENDAR REFLECTS REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES.

Communion & Deacon Sunday — 1st Sunday Monthly

Youth Sunday — 2nd Sunday monthly

Dedication Sunday — 4th Sunday Monthly

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2nd Sunday following Worship: Deacons Meeting

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