The Parish Visitor October 2020



Visit us at myaledoumc.com



There's Treasure in the Book

One of the many things I unpacked this summer is an old Bible which was given to me perhaps thirty years ago when we lived in Geneseo. Our friend Jeff had gone to an auction where he had successfully bid on a box of books which included the Bible. His winning bid was \$1. It's not that Jeff wanted the Bible; rather, he was afraid that if he didn't buy the box, the Bible would be thrown away, and Jeff felt that would've

been sacrilegious. So he decided to rescue the books and pass the Bible on to me.

The Bible was published in 1889 in Rockford by Giffin Brothers. I've never read it because it's in German, and despite my German surname, I don't speak the language. But it is a large, heavy Bible with beautiful illustrations by famed artist Gustave Doré.

Some years ago, Barbara Roberts went to a garage sale and found another 19th Century Bible; it was published in 1852 and weighed 20 lbs. It was selling for \$5. Like Jeff, she decided to buy it lest it be thrown away after the garage sale.

When she got the Bible home, she thumbed through it carefully and found an old newspaper in it: a copy of the Ulster County, New York, *Gazette* dated January 4, 1800, containing the obituary for George Washington. Moreover, the obituary was set with boldface rules, the first time any newspaper had used boldface rules for this purpose.

Only two copes of this historic edition had previously been found: the Smithsonian had one, and the Massachusetts Historical Society had the other. If Barbara Roberts had found an original, it would be worth \$25,000!

There are treasures to be found in a Bible. Some people keep treasured bulletins or emergency money or other keepsakes in the pages of their Bibles. But the real treasures to be found in scripture are not between the pages, but on the pages of scripture. However, to unlock those treasures, you must read the Bible, and let its truth sink deeply into your spirit. David wrote in Psalm 118, "Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law" (vs. 18). David only had the five books of Moses to inspire him; we have the full canon of scripture which can impart life to

If you were to go to Yerevan, Armenia in the former Soviet Union, you can find on display a priceless hand-copied

(continued on page 2)

SPECIAL DATES:

- October 4 Communion & Food Pantry Sunday
- October 4 Operation Christmas Child Kickoff
- October 8 Caring Hearts Food Prep 9AM
- October 12 Office Closed for Columbus Day
- October 13 Loving Hands Food Prep 1:30PM
- October 15 UMW Exec Meeting 4:15PM
- October 18 Safety Meeting 5:15PM
- October 18 Trustees Meeting 6PM
- October 18 Finance Meeting 6:45PM
- October 18 Ad Council Meeting 7:30PM
- October 19 UM Men Dinner/Mtg 6PM
- October 20 Work at Food Pantry 5:30-7PM
- October 22 Parish Visitor Deadline 8AM
- October 22 Charge Conference 6:30PM
- October 22 Caring Hearts Food Prep 1PM
- October 22 Women's Bible Study 6PM
- October 23 Work at Food Pantry 8AM-noon
- October 26 Relay for Life Meeting 6:30PM
- October 27 Loving Hands Food Prep 6:30PM

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(continued from page 1)

Bible which had once been used and cherished by monks of the early church. However, one day they hid their cherished Bible in a cave in order to protect it from invading pagans. For centuries, that Bible sat there, unused and unopened. Eventually it turned to stone from disuse. Today is it little more than a petrified Bible. It can no longer impart life.

I hope your Bible isn't turning to stone from disuse. Why don't you bring it with you to church this month and together we'll find life within its pages.

Yours for the Mission, Pastor Dave

Coffee With the Pastor

Coffee with the Pastor continues this October but with a twist. Pastor Dave will be serving communion at 9AM Monday through Thursday, October 5-8. This is especially designed for those who may have been reluctant to participate in a Sunday morning worship service. Please call the church office to let us know you are coming so we can make appropriate safe plans.

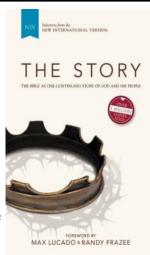


DID YOU KEEP THAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Remember that resolution you made back in January? You know, the one in which you resolved to read the entire Bible through in 2020. Genesis was pretty exciting, and Exodus started out that way, but then you got to Leviticus and, well, 2020 happened.

Why not try reading The Story? It condenses the Bible while staying true to the New International Version. The Story summarizes the entire Bible to read like a novel in just 31 chapters. If you read a chapter a day, you can read the entire "Story" of salvation in just a month!

Pastor Dave has several copies of The Story for anyone who would like one on a first-come, first-served basis.



UMW Sunday

UMW Sunday is October 25th this year at Aledo UMC. While we will be unable to honor award recipients, Golden Agers, and all United Methodist Women like we always do, we will still be recognizing those ladies who have died since last November and a few of our Legend Servant winners.

You will be able to celebrate UMW Sunday either in person at one of our three services OR watch Facebook Live at 9:15 OR listen to the WRMJ broadcast at 10:30.

The ladies of AUMC are an awe-inspiring, faithful, caring, and loving Christian group. Please join us October 25th as we recognize them.

THE BEATITUDES: A STUDY FOR ALL AGES

"When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." -- Matthew 5:1-3

"In Jesus' time, to be blessed meant to be happy to the fullest and greatly honored." – Illustrated Ministry

Join us in the sanctuary or on Facebook Live on Wednesdays, in conjunction with our Community Connections church service. We will experience the meaning of The Beatitudes as we gain a deeper understanding and practice of this beautiful teaching of Christ from his Sermon on the Mount as told in the Gospel of Matthew. All are welcome to be a part of this study for all ages, child through adult. Please join us for this mid-week connection with Jesus Christ and one another.



Connecting with the Word

As a United Methodist Church, our worship is shaped by the Word of God. To that end, we often follow the Revised Common Lectionary which suggests four scripture lessons for each week. Here are the scriptures which are suggested for each Sunday this month. Please read them as part of your devotions in order to prepare your hearts for worship, whether in-person, on the radio, or on Facebook.

Over the course of this month, Pastor Dave will continue his series of messages from the Book of Exodus. His tentative sermon titles are listed below, along with scriptures for each week. Most weeks, Kathleen's Children's Moments will be drawn from Matthew's Gospel.

Sunday, October 4

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Philippians 3:4b-14; and Matthew 21:33-46. Pastor Dave's sermon will be based on Exodus 17:1-7, "When Rock Quenches." Holy Communion will be served.

Sunday, October 11

Psalm 19; Acts 6;1-7; and Matthew 22:1-14. Pastor Dave's sermon, "Something Happened on the Way to Heaven," will be drawn from Exodus 18:9-26.

Sunday, October 18

Psalm 119:1-8, 33-40; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; and Matthew 22:15-22. Pastor Dave will be preaching from Exodus 20:1-20, "The Ten Gifts."

Sunday, October 25

Psalm 90; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; and Matthew 22:34-46. Pastor Dave's will draw his sermon, "God Who Is Jealous," from Exodus 20:4-6; 34:10-14.



Aledo United Methodist Church

CONNECTIONS

Join Us on Wednesdays

- 5:15 PM Free Meal Safely Individually Served
- 6:00 PM Casual Community Church Service and The Beatitudes: A Study for All Ages

Walk-ins Welcome!

Our 9th Annual Trunk or Treat

We will be hosting our annual Trunk-or-Treat again this year on the south side of the church. This event will be held on Saturday, October 31, from 5 to 7 pm. However, it will look different as we enact safe practices during this pandemic.

You are invited to decorate your car and line it up socially distanced from other cars. Also, please bring a table to assist with candy distribution while maintaining social distancing from trick-or-treaters as we offer no-contact distribution of both candy and hot dogs.

Please let the office know if you will participate. Also, if you do not have a table, we will provide one for you. We are accepting donations of both money and candy in support of this event. Please drop them of at the office. Also, if you have questions, feel free to call the office for more information.



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NEW/CURRENT BIBLE STUDIES

Beloved Disciple: "The Life and Ministry of John" by Beth Moore

WHAT: Wednesday morning MEN'S Bible Study with Gary Heard

WHEN: Wednesdays @ 6:30AM (Bring your own Breakfast/Snacks. Social distancing will be practiced.)

WHERE: In the Fellowship Café, next to the Sanctuary

WHY: John's legacy was love. Perhaps like no other disciple, John understood that relationship is the point. Every command of Christ and call to obedience is to enhance relationship and place the recipient in a posture the Giver can bless.

WHAT ELSE: Books are \$16

KNIT, CROCHET, PRAY

The Knit, Crochet, Pray ministry continues, with the stitching done at home and the finished blankets brought to the church. Approximately 40 baby/car seat and youth blankets have been knitted and crocheted and donated to the Mercer County Crisis Center.

We invite all who would like to knit and crochet blankets at home for donation to join this wonderful mission. All size blankets are welcome, from car seat blanket size to twin bed afghan size. All the clients at the Mercer County Crisis Center are gifted with a blanket at Christmastime, so we welcome your donations!

Stitch on and be blessed!

UMCOR Disaster Response

UMCOR is responding to storms in the Gulf and wildfires in the West - Join us in giving our neighbors relief and helping them recover.



To donate, you may bring your donations to the office, marked for UMCOR. We will send all donations to the proper address with an advance number, so be assured it will go to fire and storm relief.

Dear Church Family,

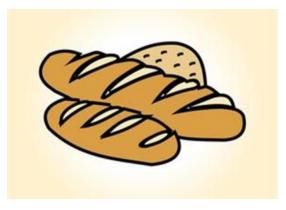
Our church has been asked to cover the Mercer County High School staff and students this school year with our prayers. Each church is being given a different building to pray over. Here are some ideas for prayer as you lift up our school and staff and students this year. Thank you for praying for them to be safe this school year. Please cut this out and keep it where you will see it and pray each time you see the list.

- 1. Safety for bus drivers, monitors, and students riding the buses.
- 2. Prayers for superintendent and school board as they make decisions about school and safety.
- 3. Staff as they do the best they can to teach, cook, clean the building and keep students and themselves safe.
- 4. That students will adapt to wearing the masks, and feel safe and cared for each day.
- 5. That everyone involved at each position would feel heard, respected, and encouraged to do their best.
- 6. That the community would respect, encourage and support everyone in the district.
- 7. That everyone is assured that whatever decisions they make are the best for them and their families.
- 8. That home-schooling families will have clear plans and priorities, few distractions, patience and minimal conflict.

Thanks everyone,

Susie Kenney

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HyVee Baked Products New Schedule

Our HyVee bread and many other goodies are now delivered on Wednesday morning. They are available for you to pick up when you come to Community Connections at 5:15 PM for the meal and also during the casual church service followed by the fun interactive Bible study at 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM.

And....

The bread is in the lobby outside the church office on Thursday morning 8:00 AM until Noon for you to select bread products for your neighbors and yourself.

Add this to your weekly routine to come to the church for HyVee baked goods during these hours:

Wednesday 5 PM - 7 PM and/or Thursday 8 AM - Noon.



Please continue to utilize the Caring Hearts frozen meals and food packs that you can prepare at home. These items are in the freezer and on a shelf in the basement by the

elevator. We prepare these for you when you need a meal or take them to someone who needs some cheer. Help yourself Monday through Friday 8 AM – Noon.

Ruth Dulaney, Volunteer Coordinator

United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men will meet Monday, October 19th at 6PM. There will be a short business meeting, a meal, and lots of fellowship! If you have not joined us before, come and see what we are all about. It will be fun!

AT-HOME SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School packets for at-home study are available. These packets are for children/students pre-school aged through 12th grade. Please email Kathleen at <u>kathleen@myaledoumc.com</u> to get your At-Home Sunday School packets.

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OCTOBER

10/04/2003 – Paul & Kendra Crede 10/06/2017 – Gary & Renae Brown 10/09/2010 – Trevon & Sara Dunn 10/12/1974 – Bill & Molly Joseph 10/23/1976 – Lewis & Wava Minteer 10/25/1974 – Doyce & Sue Hiscocks



UM Women Golden Age Birthdays

10/01– Barbara Etheridge 10/09– Connie Midkiff 10/15– Barbara Runyon



The deadline for the next Parish Visitor is

Thursday, October 22nd 8am.

Please have all articles submitted by this date!

THOSE WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Marcia/cancer

Betty Allan family Alicia/cancer Amelia/breast cancer Grant Anderson/healing Jason Andress/healing Kara B/health Phyllis Batson Bishop Beard/eyesight Daryl Bewley Doug Bewley Genniene Billiet/cancer Bob Bocox/cancer Julia Cirks/cancer Hurley Crossman/cancer Dick & Bev/Lange's friends Adam Douglas/surgery Jimmy Dutton/kidney donor Lauren Eggen/cancer Rich & Sonjia Fell/health Don Franks Carol Freeman/cancer CJ Friedel Paul Allen Fuchs Gail/chemo & radiation Amy Glenn Gloria/cancer

Terry Grim/cancer

Scott Guvton/health Jim Hanson/cancer Gerri Harmon/healing Gary Heard/surgery/healing Matthew Heard Pam Heath Rebecca Heick/Covid Parker Hopkins/2yrs/cancer Jackson/CP Janet Jenson/cancer Gary Heard/surgery Kara Hess Jones/surgery Terry Jones/cancer Bob Judge/heart John Karwath/cancer Lisa Kash Missy Kernan family Everett Kerres/3 yrs/health Chad King/brain tumor Pat Lafferty/heart Sandra Lanteau Jon Lee/cancer Henry Leichty/9 yrs /health Nadine Liby Lisa/cancer Maddie/3yrs old/cancer Eric Matich/6yrs/leukemia

Baby Wes McEwen Gaynor Meredith Connie Midkiff/healing Linda Morrow Tony N/cancer Jody Newton/cancer Joel Noe/health Perry/cancer Sharon Peterson Bob Rillie family Barb & Jim Runyon Roger S/cancer Carole & Ron Schmidt Sharon/stem cell transplant Lucas Smith/blood disorder Amy Studer/healing Sydney/healing Bob Swank/broken foot Joe Thibedoux/lymphoma George Unsworth/health Rebecca Weihler/brain tumor Marsha Whitman/cancer Brandy Young/cancer Brookstone residents Shut-ins/Nursing Home residents Military & families

All ill/in hospitals
Our world leaders
Our Church/congregation
Those suffering from depression
Marriages
Coronavirus patients
Our denomination/peace
Our country/world
Equality for all persons
Safety for our police officers
Victims of fires & storms



Mercer County Schools
Administration, Teachers, Students
and Staff
National and Local Governmental
Leaders

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Youth & Children's Page

SECOND SUNDAY SPECIAL

At this time the Forge is not meeting on Sunday nights. In order to keep connected with our Forge members, we are planning to have a monthly fun activity. We are calling this program Second Sunday Special as we will meet on the second Sunday of the month. The first two months' activities have been planned:

Sunday, October 11 - Tye Dye in the Green Space

1:00 pm, Grades 6-8

2:30 pm, Grades 8-12

Reservations are needed to insure number and sizes of tshirts and supplies for participants.

Sunday, November 8 - Movie in the Sanctuary

Movie(s) and time TBD

Please encourage our youth to attend and bring a friend!

MISSION TRIP 2021

The site for the 2021 YouthWorks mission trip has been decided. We are planning to go to Indianapolis, Indiana the week of July 25-30, 2021. This trip is open to youth who have completed grades 6-12 by July. Early bird registration is ongoing and has been extended by YouthWorks into October. The new early bird deadline is October 16. Please see Kathleen or Pastor Dave for details. Both YouthWorks and the AUMC Mission Committee are making this early bird special possible. Thank you, Missions!

Fundraising: A very generous offer has been made to those taking the mission trip. Concession revenue from making and selling hot chocolate mix at the Follow the Star Mini Bazaars will be given to participants in the sale to go toward mission trip expenses. The date for missioners to make the hot chocolate mix is October 18, time TBD. Thank you, Ruth and the Bazaar Committee, for helping our youth get to Indianapolis.

CHILDREN'S HAND BELL CHOIR - BEGINNING BELLS

Melodie Bells are color coded hand bells in a single octave that make it easy for kids to learn the basics of bell playing and music reading. By playing the bells in combination, children use teamwork to produce beautiful melodies.

Nicole Taylor, new hand bell choir director, is looking forward to establishing a Children's Hand Bell Choir to sing and make some joyful noise! Once we are able to meet in larger groups, Nicole will be establishing a beginning bell choir that will be open to EVERYONE in the 5th grade and older who is interested in learning how to play bells. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to learn!

Keep your ears open for the start of this new opportunity at AUMC!

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Our new Wednesday Night programming has begun!

The first two weeks of The Beatitudes: A Study for All Ages have gone very well. We have had good attendance and great participation from those attending. This Bible study is right after the 6 pm Wednesday night service

Meet us on Wednesday and join in the fun!



Follow The Star Holiday Bazaar 2020 **Mini Bazaars this Year!**

At our August 31st Holiday Bazaar meeting good decisions were made by those in attendance. We all recognize that this year's Bazaar cannot have the same format as other years due to the pandemic. The 2020 Holiday Bazaar will be a series of Mini Bazaars with limited booths and safely spaced in the Fellowship Room next to the sanctuary. Non-perishable items will be displayed all weeks and three different foods items will be available each week.

The booths on display all weeks are: Creative Hands (Hand-sewn items), The Cutting Edge (Rada Cutlery), Homemade with Love (handcrafted paper and wooden items, soaps, jewelry). The Youth will make and sell hot chocolate mix with the profits going to the individuals' 2021 Mission Trips.

Unbaked frozen rhubarb, strawberry-rhubarb, and apple pies will be sold Week 1; Sweet breads – Week 2; Prepackaged cookies and candy- Week 3. All food items will be made at the church in our certified kitchen.

The Mini Bazaars times are Sundays 7:30 – Noon primarily for our congregation and Wednesdays for the public at 9-11 AM and 3-5 PM. The dates are as follows:

Sundays: November 1st, November 8th, November 15th.

Wednesdays: November 4th; November 11th, November 18th.

[The previous planned dates of the Follow The Star Holiday Bazaar November 20th and 21st will not be held this year.]

Our profits will be distributed to the Food Pantry, Crisis Center and the 2021 Youth Mission Trip!

We need your help to make this event a success!

Of course, we want your participation in any way that you can help through planning, donating monetary gifts, providing craft items, and helping prepare food items. Please contact the following to assist in specific areas:

Creative Hands: Nancy Robinson
The Cutting Edge: Mary Anderson
Homemade with Love: Pam Truman

Hot Chocolate Mix: Christy Bender (Need clean glass jars with lids – do not need to be Mason Jars)

Pie making: Ruth Dulaney (Pie making dates: October 1^{st} @ 9 AM and October 15^{th} @9AM – more later)

Sweet Breads: Shelly Reusch and Sara Blaser (Probable dates for making breads – Nov. 5th at 5PM & Nov.6th at 5PM ov.6th at 5PM ov.6th

5PM)

Cookies: Kathy Jenkins (Probable dates for making cookies November 13th & 14th at 9 AM)

Candy: Elene Waters (Probable dates for making candy November 12th and 13th at 9 AM)

Helping at the Mini Bazaars: Ruth Dulanev

Next Bazaar Planning meeting Thursday, October 1st at 6:30 PM



Aledo United Methodist Church 301 N. College Ave

Connections

October Meal Menus for our Community

(Safely Individually Served while Social Distancing)

- October 7th: Grilled pork chop, cole slaw, baked beans
- October 14th: Pizza boats, lettuce salad, dessert
- October 21st: Chicken & noodles, mashed potatoes, carrots
- October 28th: Spaghetti, garlic bread, toss salad

Community Meals at 5:15 PM
Church Services at 6:00 PM
Bible Study for all ages at 6:30PM

CONNECTION COINS FOR OCTOBER

The Connection Coins (the "thinly-veiled Pringles cans") are doing great things in the life of the Aledo UMC! On the 2nd Sunday of each month, during the Children's Moment, the ushers pass around those cans. You are encouraged to drop your change in- although we WILL accept "folding money"! And that change goes toward helping fund a ministry within the church. This month (October 11th), the Connection Coin offering will go toward another important ministry. The HyVee Bread Ministry touches so many in our congregation and beyond. Jerry, our bread delivery man, does this as a mission, asking for nothing in return. We help with the fuel expenses of this valuable ministry, giving him \$10 a week for gas. 100% of the money that is collected in the cans on the 11th of October will be used to help fund this valuable Ministry. What a GREAT way to help connect people to Jesus Christ. So, remember to bring your change on Sunday, October 11th.



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Operation Christmas Child....the shoebox is only the beginning

Many of you reading this article are very familiar with Operation Christmas Child. After all, the Aledo UMC has been involved in this mission since 2008 and over the years, we have lovingly filled and shipped 2098 shoeboxes. That is an amazing total, but the number of boxes is not the whole story...not even close.

In a typical first week of November (and 2020 has been anything but "typical"), the last thing we see in our church is a room packed with red and green boxes that are full of toys, games, clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items just waiting to be carted off to the local collection site. What we do not see are the Christian education items placed in these boxes before they leave

DON'T FORGET:

\$9 Postage Required/Box Start Date: October 4th End Date: November 1st

the regional packaging facilities. We are also unaware of the often-treacherous journey on which these boxes, and their handlers, embark to spread the good news. We can, and often do, view the Samaritan's Purse website to see the bright shining faces of those children who receive our gifts, but we do not see the countless hours spent by thousands of volunteers teaching these same children about a loving God who sent his son to save us all. Moreover, we don't often get to see or hear how these gifts change the lives of so many children around the world but, in the hands of God, they do just that.

So, when you're packing your boxes this year, do not look at it as merely making sure that a child

REMEMBER:

NO Candy NO Gum NO Toothpaste/Liquids somewhere in the world has a Christmas gift. While that may make us feel good for the moment, it does not really capture the intent of this mission. We are here to be the hands and feet of God and these boxes are excellent evangelical tools that both show and spread the love of Christ. Children, in every corner of the world, deserve to know there is a God who loves them....especially in a world ravaged by a pandemic. Please help us to make that a reality.

Thank you for your continued support,

The Aledo United Methodist OCC Team

Church Website

Have you looked at your church's website? If not, go to www.myaledoumc.com and see what's going on! Not only can you see the "basics" about the Aledo United Methodist Church, you can find the most current church calendar. Also, the monthly newsletter can be found on our website. Stop by and check it out!

PRAYER WALK THROUGH THE CHURCH EVERY SUNDAY MORNING AT 7AM.

Need a ride to church?

Bus service has been suspended until the Care facilities reopen. Contact Greg Cobert at 309-737-5621, or the office at 309-582-2169 to make arrangements



WORSHIP
TIMES:
Sundays 8AM,
9:15AM,
10:30AM
Sunday School
9:15AM

Aledo UMW,

Thank you so much for your service, not just in the Aledo United Methodist Church, but in our entire community. You rock!

Onward to NIV!
Go Huskies!
Hunter Allen



Dear Methodist Women, Thank you for my new study Bible. *Isaiah Earl*

Dear Methodist Women, Thank you for thinking of Isaiah. We appreciate your thoughtfulness. Sincerely, Sabrina Earl

Dear Fellow Members of Aledo United Methodist Church,

I appreciate the cards and prayers so much.

Jim Runyon

DID YOU MISS SUNDAY'S SERMON?

If you miss church on Sunday, you can STILL experience the sermon. You can go to the church website, myaledoumc.com, to see a transcript of any of Pastor Dave's sermons that you missed. Please share this link with your friends and family.

Thank you so very much for the gift of food during the time before Missy's passing. That unexpected delivery was so appreciated. It sure came in handy while we had family here and we didn't want to spend our time fixing meals. What a wonderful ministry you have! It is definitely putting the hands and feet of Jesus in action! Thank you, Gary, for thinking of us; please pass along our thanks to your congregation.

The family of Deanna "Missy" Kernan

FINANCIAL MATTERS

(WEEKLY NEED \$6,993.29)

Date	09/06/2020	09/13/2020	09/20/2020	09/27/2020
Attendance	75	108	75	82
Receipts				
(Toward				
Budget)	\$8,233.00	\$3,894.00	\$3,365.00	\$2,944.00

