

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church
Of the Good Shepherd
501 Fairfield Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601*

April 26, 2015

Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
**A congregation of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

*"We are a caring family of God nourished by the Word, guided by the Holy Spirit to share
the love of Jesus Christ."*

The Rev. Frank S. Podolinski, Jr., Pastor
Pastor's Cell Phone -- 724-858-7816
Pastor's e-mail -- preacherpod@comcast.net
Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday: 9:30 am. – 2:30 pm.
Tuesday: 11:30 am. – 1:30 pm.
Church Phone -- 724-834-1940

Church's e-mail -- Shepherd501@yahoo.com
Church website – www.goodshepherdgbg.org

Rocking Horse Preschool – www.rockinghorsepreschool.com
Parish Secretary -- Jenny Luffy

Office Hours:

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 am. to 2:00 pm.

Music Director
Organist

Nancy Flinner
Jean Brunot

We welcome all visitors with us and ask that you sign our guest register. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to consider the Good Shepherd family.

ALL BAPTIZED CHRISTIANS are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Children may come forward for a blessing. During communion, we offer wine and grape juice, if you would like to receive grape juice do not bring a cup, it will be provided by the Worship Assistant.

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips gifted lay people to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian Care to individuals in our congregation who are experiencing difficulties in their lives and extends the care that Pastor Frank continues to provide.

If you could benefit from the confidential, one-to-one care and support of a Stephen Minister, please speak to Pastor Frank. Or you may refer to the Stephen Ministry flyers and cards available in the pew racks.

Please take a moment to fill out a yellow RCR card located in the pews. Please place completed cards in the offering plate.

When you see the following symbol "+", please stand.

Service of the Word and Sacrament
April 26, 2015
“Fourth Sunday of Easter”
8:30 am. & 10:30 am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “SOFTLY AND TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING” W. THOMPSON

+ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who call us beloved children, who gathers us into one flock, who guides us into all truth.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will forgive us and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Faithful and just God,

We confess that we are captive to doubt and fear, bound by the ways that lead to death. We have not loved our sisters and brothers as you have first loved us. Forgive us, God of mercy. Let your Holy Spirit work in us to change our lives and make us new, that we may know the abundant life given in Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen

In this love,
not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent the Son to atone for our sins. In the name of +Jesus Christ, I announce to you that your sins are forgiven. Let the perfect love of God cast out fear, fill you with joy, and inspire you to live for others. **Amen.**

+ GATHERING HYMN

“SOFTLY & TENDERLY JESUS IS CALLING” ELW 608

+ APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

+ HYMN OF PRAISE (WOMEN VERSES 1 & 3, MEN VERSES 2 & 4)

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

“KUM BA YA”

SENIOR BELLS

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5–12

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is

'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders;
it has become the cornerstone.'

¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23

¹The LORD ¹is my shepherd;
I shall not ¹be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down ¹in green pastures
and leads me be- ¹side still waters.

³You restore my ¹soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways ¹for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall ¹fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they ¹comfort me. **R**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence ¹of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is ¹running over.

**⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days ¹of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the ¹LORD forever. **R****

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us — and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

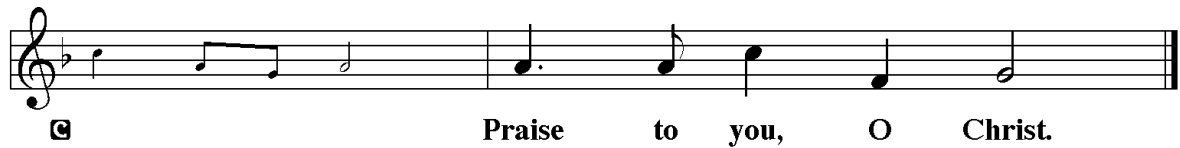
GOSPEL: JOHN 10:11-18

The holy gospel according to St. _____, the _____ chapter.



¹¹I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away — and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK"

ELW 764

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Confident that the resurrection of Christ has defeated sin and death, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

For the leaders of the church: bishops, pastors, lay professionals; for those who teach the gospel in our seminaries, colleges, and universities; that salvation be preached to all in word and deed, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the beauty of creation, for those who care for the land and all creatures, and for those who find recreation in natural resources, that all see God's goodness revealed there, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the rulers of nations, local and national leaders, and those who provide counsel to them, that they be guided by the command to love one another, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For the sick (*especially*), the imprisoned, those living with HIV/AIDS, and those who feel themselves living without hope, that they know the comfort of the Lord surrounding them, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

For families and friends, for those absent from worship, and for those celebrating significant events in their lives, that the Holy Spirit guide all God's people in their work and their journeys, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

In thanksgiving for those who have died and by whose lives we have been nourished (*especially*), that we be bold in believing God's promise to be with us always, let us pray.

Have mercy, O God.

Holy God, by the death and resurrection of your Son, you have granted new life, abundant renewal, and salvation. Hear our prayers for the sake of the one who has set us free, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY (8:30)

“ST. COLUMBIA”

H. WILLAN

ANTHEM

“THE KING OF LOVE MY SHEPHERD IS” SENIOR CHOIR

OFFERTORY

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

+ OFFERTORY PRAYER

- A Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth.
C Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

+ GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.
Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood.
Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.
Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness
to the land of milk and honey.
Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.
Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.
Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life:
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast.
Grace our table with your presence.
Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.
Breathe new life into us.
Send us forth,
burning with justice, peace, and love.
Come, Holy Spirit.
With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places,

with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

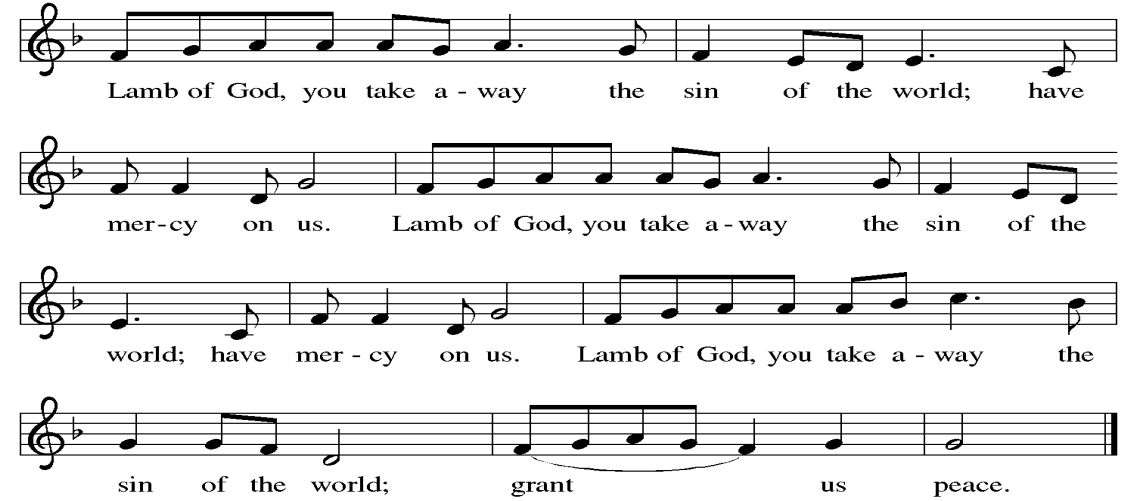
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus said, "I am the true vine, Abide in me as I abide in you."

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

*During the distribution the congregation and choir shall join in singing **Lamb of God***

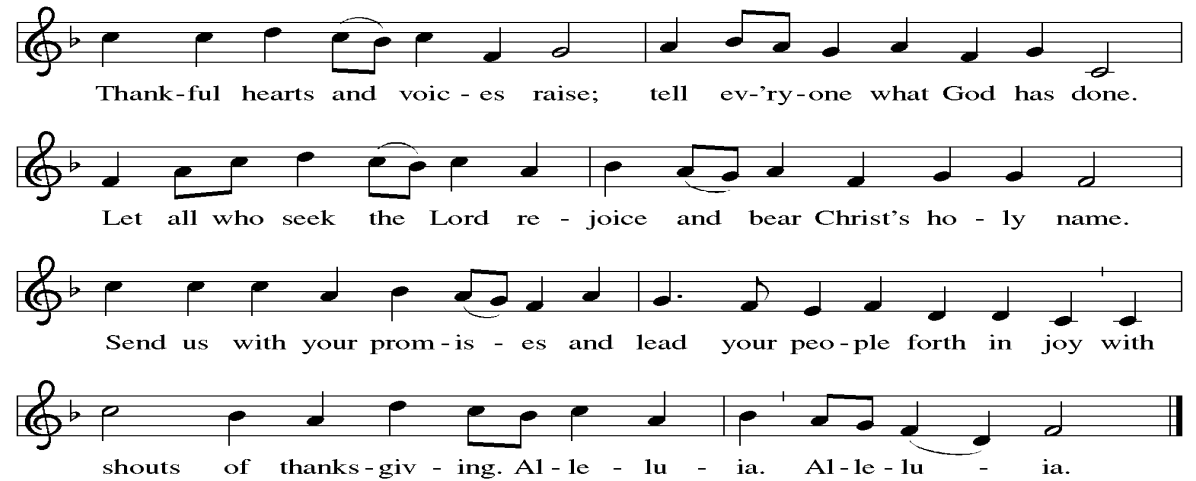


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please continue singing during distribution of communion the following hymns: ELW 836, 502, 789.

+ POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.
Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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+ POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

Whose glory is revealed in the crucified and risen Lord, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with our sisters and brothers who are sick/homebound/imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this communion in the body and blood of your Son, that we may all feast upon your abundant love made known in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

+ BENEDICTION

Almighty God, who raised our Lord from death, lift you up and restore you to wholeness.

Amen.

Jesus Christ, the Word of life, bless you and send you to be his witnesses.

Amen.

God the Holy Spirit, who renews the whole earth, refresh you in the gift of baptism this day and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN *“GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS REJOICE & SING”* **ELW 385**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“ODE TO JOY”

H. HOPSON

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ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the honor and glory of God by Eleanor Besser.

LIVING GIFTS have been designated by:

Bonnie Altman to the Handyman Ministry in loving memory of her husband, Gerry.

| SERVING TODAY: | 8:30 | 10:30 |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Worship Assistant | Open | Open |
| Lector | Madison Ryan | Janet Ambrose |
| Acolyte | Taylor Dunn | Zach Petrozza |
| Crucifer | XXX | Abigail Fox |
| Torchbearers | XXX | XXX |
| Greeters | Open | Howard & Mary Ann McMurtrie |
| Ushers | Open | Rob & Josh Lipko |
| Altar Guild | Mina Rutter | Rachel King |
| Counters | Eleanor Besser & Isabelle Bruggeman | |

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please be considerate to those around you and observe silence during the prelude and service. This time is designed for personal meditation.

Thank you to the Meyers family who have agreed to take care of the Good Shepherd sign. Thank you to Jack & Mina who have maintained it for years and those who helped change it out during Holy Week.

Synod Assembly is quickly approaching (June 11, 12 & 13). We are able to send Pastor Frank and two delegates. If you are interested in attending, please contact Pastor Frank or the church office.

BLANKET SUNDAY - MAY 10, 2015

Mothers' Day weekend this year is May 9th and May 10th, and once again Good Shepherd Church members are invited to share our blessings with our less fortunate brothers and sisters who are suffering from disasters. You can help victims of earthquakes, storms, fires, or the ravages of war by your gift of blankets. These simple pieces of cloth that we take for granted in the comfort of our homes can serve as protection from the hot sun or from wind-blown dust and sand in arid climates, and also provide warmth during cold weather. Families forced to evacuate their home areas can wrap their belongings in a blanket to more easily carry them as they seek refuge. For the small sum of \$5.00 you can make a gift of comfort to God's children who need assistance. In honor of our mothers, who have given generously of themselves to make our lives better, let us also give generously to help our brothers and sisters across the nation and around the world. Please use the Blanket Sunday envelopes provided with your weekly bulletin or in the commons area to make your donation in honor of or in memory of a mother, grandmother or other special woman this Mothers' Day.

We love singers! Women of all ages are invited to join us for "Guest Night" on Thursday, April 30th at 7:30-9:30 pm. at Trinity United Church of Christ, 139 N. Main Street, Greensburg, PA 15601. If you love to sing, we have place for you. Come and see what we are all about. Bring a friend! LAUREL HARMONY CHORUS. Questions or for information, call Sandy at 724-610-5766.

Important Dates

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| May 3 | Dryridge Plant Sale |
| May 12 | WELCA May Women's Dinner |
| June 6 | Chicken BBQ |
| June 10 | Blood Drive |
| June 15 – 19 | Vacation Bible School |



EVERYTHING OLD IS NEW AGAIN **MAY WOMEN'S DINNER**

May 12, 2015

\$15.00

Tickets will be on sale at services for two weekends **ONLY!**

April 25 & 26

May 2 & 3

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mary Ann Smith is celebrating her 90th birthday and would like to invite the Good Shepherd members to a small celebration on Saturday, May 9th from 6:30 – 8:00 in the Social Room. Please call the office to RSVP by Thursday, May 7th.



June 10

1:00 pm. – 6:30 pm.

Watch for posters and sign up sheets.

CALENDAR FOR WEEK OF April 26 – May 3, 2015

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------|--|
| Sunday | 8:30 am. | Holy Communion |
| | 9:30 am. | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 am. | Fellowship Coffee |
| | 10:30 am. | Holy Communion |
| | 6:30 pm. | 6 th – 12 th Youth Group |
| Monday | 1:00 pm. | New Neighbors |
| | 6:30 pm. | Webelos II |
| | 6:00 pm. | VBS Chair Meeting |
| Tuesday | 9:00 am. | Brunot - Sanctuary |
| | 10:00 am. – 1:30 pm. | Chat-n-Sew |
| | 1:00 pm. | Eastwood Garden Club |
| | 3:00 pm. | Kindermusik |
| Wednesday | 9:30 am. | Newsletter Folding |
| | 9:30 am. | Kindermusik |
| | 6:45 pm. | Troop 416 |
| | 7:00 pm. | Bible Study |
| Thursday | 4:00 pm. | Dryridge |
| Friday | | NO Bridge Club |
| | | Dryridge All Day |
| Saturday | | Dryridge Plant Sale |
| | 5:30 pm. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday | 8:30 am. | Holy Communion |
| | 9:30 am. | Sunday School |
| | 9:30 am. | Fellowship Coffee |
| | 10:30 am. | Holy Communion |
| | 5:30 pm. | 6 th Grade Pre-Confirmation |
| | 5:30 pm. | Troop 416 Patrol |
| | 6:00 pm. | Pack 416 Committee |
| | 6:30 pm. | 7 th & 8 th Grade Confirmation |
| | 7:00 pm. | Troop 416 Committee |