

Our Savior's Lutheran Church Sharing the Ioy

Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m.—10:45 A.M. SundaySchool

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA
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Pastor Sean Koos
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Pastor's Report

May 2024

Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

As we wrap up another program year, we have much to give thinks for. Six of our youth will be getting confirmed including my own daughter, Sam. I was hesitant welcoming her to the class a couple years ago having never confirmed one of my own children. But she was a trooper, and we were able to distinguish "dad" from "teacher." I think the pandemic helped by forcing me to become a homeschooling parent. I'll be welcoming my other two children to the confirmation class in the next few yours and I suspect they won't be as receptive and easy going as Sam. But I'm proud of her and the other five students, Leighton, Katie, Thor, Mattson, and Wyatt. I think they all have the tools for fruitful lives of faith ahead.

Besides the confirming students, I think the partnership with our friends at Concordia these last 6 months has also been fruitful. There was a lot of anxiety and uncertainty at the start of the partnership, and I think we've stabilized the ministry. We made it through the two major celebrations of the year, Christmas and Easter, and our vision meetings have begun to offer direction and hope. I've been asked to continue leading the ministry of both congregations for another year and graciously accepted. I'm excited to be a part of God's work in both congregations and I'm very hopeful for what lies ahead. God has great things in store for both our congregations.

We'll be transitioning into the summer schedule this month as our youth ministries (Sunday school and confirmation) will end and our worship readings will consist of a 4-week series on Romans, a 6-week series on 1 John, and a 5-week series on Daniel. We'll continue with the weekly Bible studies through the summer. Megan wants us to take a break from choir rehearsals in June and July and will resume rehearsals in August. Our Savior's will host a community VBS in August (12-14) and invite participation from neighboring churches. Sunday school and confirmation classes will resume in September.

Sam and I will be heading to the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July (16-20). Be sure to show your support by getting lunch at our rummage sale (May 4), getting a coney dog outside Super One on Belknap/Tower (May 24), or getting a \$30 gift card to the Duluth Flower Farm on Hammond Ave. For every card sold, \$9 will go to support Sam's trip to New Orleans. God has blessed us with some amazing ministry this year and I'm confident He'll continue to bless us with rich ministry in the year ahead. Congratulations, confirmands! Hope to see you around.

Blessings,

Pastor Sean

Narrative Lectionaries May 2024

May 5, 2024 1 Corinthians 13:-3 Faith, Hope and Love

May 12, 2024 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57

Death Swallowed in Life

May 19, 2024 Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13
Gifts of the Spirit

May 26, 2024 Summer Lectionary Begins Romans Part One 1: 1-17

Summer Narrative Lectionaries 2024

Pastor Koos will again be using the Summer Narrative Lectionaries from May 26 –September 1, 2024. These will include 4 weeks on Romans, 6 weeks on 1 John and 5 weeks on Daniel.

From Our Congregation President:

We had a productive council meeting on Tuesday. Meeting was well attended even as there was a traffic delay on the Bong bridge. Please keep our board members and our church in your prayers.

God bless you, Leonard









Baptism of Anna Breitlow Parents Troy and Annalyn Bible Studies May 2024

Wednesdays, 10:30-11:30

(Zoom meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6627675381 or call 1-312-626-6799, passcode: 046800)

05-01-24 1 Corinthians 13:1-13

- 1. What makes speaking in tongues, faith, generosity, and even martyrdom worthless?
- 2. How could a person use spiritual gifts in a useless manner?
- 3. What do we gain if we don't have love? Why?
- 4. Why is love important?
- 5. What qualities does love have?
- 6. Why will prophecy, tongues, and knowledge pass away?
- 7. How do adults and children act and reason differently?
- 8. Why is love the greatest of the 3 gifts?
- 9. Why do you think Paul wrote about love to the Corinthians?
- 10. How did Jesus exemplify love?

05-08-24 1 Corinthians 15:1-26, 51-57

- 1. What is the central point of the gospel? What is left of the gospel without the resurrection?
- 2. Why do you think some people have a problem with the concept of Jesus' physical resurrection?
- 3. What type of proof is offered for the resurrection?
- 4. If Christ didn't rise from the dead, what would it mean? Implications?
- 5. What are some specific ways that the resurrection gives us hope?
- 6. Read Phil. 3:8-12. How is the power of the resurrection work in us today?
- 7. Read Col. 3:1. How should the resurrection impact your thoughts?
- 8. Theologian Wolfhart Pannenberg said, "The evidence for Jesus' resurrection is so strong that nobody would question it except for two things: First, it is a very unusual event. And second, if you believe it happened, you have to change the way you live." Agree or disagree? Why?
- 9. What did Jesus' resurrection accomplish for us?
- 10. Read Heb. 2:14-15. Though death is the most certain thing in life, why do you think people avoid talking about it?

5-15-24 Acts 2:1-4; 1 Corinthians 12:1-13

- How does the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost change the disciples #39; lives?
- 2. What are the various ways that we see the Holy Spirit manifested here?
- 3. How is Peter changed from the person he had been prior to this event?
- 4. Why did Paul write to the Corinthian church about spiritual gifts?
- 5. What are spiritual gifts? Are they special talents and skills?

- 6. Where do the gifts come from? Why is this fact so important?
- 7. What is the purpose of these gifts? What are we to use them for?
- 8. Is it important to try to find out your gift? Should we try to discover our gift?
- 9. What should you do to ensure that you are actually using your gift for the building up of the body?
- 10. What is the "faith"? Doesn't every believer have faith? What is the difference?

05-22-24 Romans 1:1-17

- 1. What does it mean to be "called"?
- 2. What doctrines of Christ does Paul share in verses 2-4?
- 3. What do we learn here about the gospel of God?
- 4. How would you describe Paul's attitude toward the Roman believers?
- 5. What does it mean that Paul would impart a spiritual gift to them?
- 6. Are we obligated to share the gospel today? Are we eager to?
- 7. If someone was ashamed of the gospel, what signs might there be of this?
- 8. Why was Paul not ashamed? Is this reason good enough for us to be bold today?
- 9. What does it mean "to the Jew first, and also to the Greek?"
- 10. What two things can we learn about the gospel from these two verses?

05-29-24 Romans 3:21-31

- 1. Why do people believe they are good without God?
- 2. What is a way you have dealt with trying to be "good" on your own?
- 3. What is the source of our righteousness? How can people be made righteous?
- 4. What happens so righteousness can occur in sinful people?
- 5. What justifies us in God's sight?
- 6. What is the cost or price of justification with God?
- 7. What did God do to provide a means of justification and forgiveness for every person?
- 8. How does providing Christ Jesus as a sacrifice demonstrate the justice of God?
- 9. What makes it difficult for many of us to believe that we can gain God's forgiveness by faith in Christ alone?
- 10. Why would God offer His righteousness free to every person?



Confirmation:

Confirmation meets at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. The last day of confirmation is May 15th. Several students helped with the Lent soup suppers. Samantha Koos will be going to a youth conference this summer and will be doing some fund raising, including the recent spaghetti supper. See elsewhere for information about a plant fundraiser.



Helping at Lenten suppers



Reading scripture lesson



Acolyte



Katie Westlund with her mentor Kandee Rosburg



Sunday School

The last day of Sunday School for this year is May 19th.

After children's sermon



Lesson Peter Heals



Lesson Many Members One Body



Sunday school singing the Hippo Song in church on April 28th during the church service. The children will sing again on Mother's Day.



Adult Education:

Bible studies continue on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. See elsewhere in this newsletter for this month's study questions Anyone is welcome. They are now joint studies with Concordia. Remember the second Thursday of the month, the bible study will be held at Concordia still at 10:30 a.m.. There will not be a bible study at OSLC that week.

Confirmation

6 second year students will be confirmed on May 19th.



Leighton Hanson



Samantha Koos



Thor Netland



Mattson Rue



Wyatt Wells



Kattie Westlund

Congratulations!

Vacation Bible School

Early planning is underway for a community VBS August 12-14. It will be held here at Our Savior's but include neighboring churches. Watch for more information.

DULUTH FLOWER



Confirmation Student Samantha Koos will be selling Gift Certificates to Duluth Flower Farm. They never expire & can be used on flowers, shrubs, plants, baskets, gift items, food, pumpkins,wreaths, Christmas trees or whatever else they sell. She & Pastor will be going to the ELCA Gathering in New Orleans. You can buy several for gifts for Mothers Day, Birthdays, Weddings & of course for all your plants. Thank you.

Rummage Sale (May 4th, 2024) We will need YOUR HELP

(Starting Sunday April 29th - Saturday May 4th and Monday May 6th)

The rummage sale is a week earlier this year, so that means it is about one month away. Please have your items for sale to church as early as you can. **Furniture** and **plants**, please wait until the week of sale if possible (deliver to Narthex, they will be sold from there.) We will be selling **plants** again this year. So, help us out by starting or breaking up some of your plants.

This is how you can help:

Sunday 4/28

After church services, we need help setting up **tables** and putting away chairs.

1 Person to take on the task of putting up the signs (*They are ready for putting up and will includes a map with instructions on where to put them.*) on Sunday afternoon and then pick them up again on Saturday May 4th any time after 3 pm.

Monday through Friday 4/29 to 5/3

Starting 9 am - 4 pm **Set-up**. Any help you can give us during this time would be great. Bring a bag lunch if you are there over the lunch hour!

Monday through Thursday 4/29 to 5/3

Between 9 am - 4 pm. Last chance to delivery your items for the rummage sale. Furniture items will be placed on the main floor (Narthex).

Friday 5/3

Bake items to sell at the bake sale. You can start delivering bake sale items. Rose Reijo and Dianne Tomczak need time to price items, before the 9 am start of the sale.

Saturday

Checkout workers needed from 8:45 am - 4 pm There will be a signup sheet for theses. You will be asked to work a 2-hour shifts. More people are needed in the first hour of the sale. You will be working in teams of two.

Between 9 am - 4 pm we need shoppers to purchase items

Between 11 am – 1:30 pm We need people to **eat lunch**. The confirmation students under the guidance of Linda Clark will be serving it.

The sales will start 1 pm with 25% off, 2 pm with 50% off, and 3 pm with 75% off. And 4 pm we are done selling

4 pm we will need people to help get the church back in order for Sunday church and Sunday school.

Sunday morning 5/5

Remaining things are on sale for a donation.

Monday

(5/6) 9 am - ? Packing up rummage sale items SIGNUP SHEET COMING OUT IN A COUPLE WEEKS

Offering

We are passing the plate for the offering. You still have the option to place your gift in the plate at the back of the sanctuary or to use the online or mail in options.



Sharing the Peace

With the increase again in CoVid and now RSV, we encourage congregants to do as they feel comfortable for shaing the peace. Masks are optional but are available along with hand sanitizer at the church entrance. You may hug, shake hands, touch elbows, wave or simply smile and say the words. Be aware of the other person's preferences.





Coney Dogs

The church is hosting a Coney Dog fundraiser sale at the Super One at Belknap parking lot. They will serve from noon until 6 p.m. Proceeds go to the youth. Stop by for your lunch or dinner to start off the holiday weekend.

OSLC COOKS

BROWNIES! YUM!



Hershey"s Brownies

Ingredients

Brownies: 1 cup sugar

1 stick margarine

4 eggs

1 can 16 ounces Hershey's syrup

1 cup flour

Frosting: 6 tablespoons margarine

6 tablespoons milk

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 pkg 6 ounce chocolate chips

Cream together sugar and margarine. Stir in eggs one at a time. Add syrup and flour. Pour in jelly roll or 9 x 13 pan. Bake 20 minutes at 375*. Combine first four frosting ingredients. Boil one minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and stir in chocolate chips until smooth. Frost.

Chocolate cherry brownies

Ingredients: 1 package fudge cake mix 1 teaspoon almond extract

1 can cherry pie filling, 21 ounce can 2 eggs beaten

Preheat oven to 350*. Grease (not oil) and flour 15 x 10" jelly roll pan or 9 x 13 pan. Combine. Stir by hand not electric beater until well beaten. Pour into pan. Bake jelly roll pan 20-30 minutes or 13 x 9 pan 25-30 minutes or until toothpick comes clean. Frost while warm.

Frosting Ingredients:

1/3 cup milk 1 cup sugar

1 6 ounce package chocolate chips 5 tablespoons butter or margarine

In small saucepan, combine sugar, butter and milk. Boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat and add chocolate chips. Stir in chocolate chips and beat until smooth. Pour over warm bars.

Caramel Brownies

Ingredients:

14 ounce bag caramels 1/3 cup evaporated milk

1 pkg chocolate cake mix 1 cup nuts

3/4 cup melted butter 1 6 ounce bag chocolate chips

Melt caramels with evaporated milk over low heat. Mix together cake mix, nuts and butter. Spread 2/3 of mixture in greased and floured 9x13 pan. Bake 6 minutes at 350*. Remove from oven and sprinkle with chocolate chips. Spread caramel on top. Crumble remaining cake mixture on top. Bake additional 15-18 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes. Refrigerate for 1 hour. Cut and remove from pan.

Buttermilk Brownies

Ingredients:

1 stick margarine 1/2 cup Crisco or oil

5 tablespoons cocoa 1 teaspoon salt

1 cup hot water 2 cups flour

2 cup sugar 1 teaspoon soda

21/2 cup buttermilk 1 teaspoon vanilla

2 eggs slightly beaten

Bring margarine, Crisco, cocoa. Salt and water to a boil. Pour over flour, sugar and soda. Beat until smooth. Add buttermilk, vanilla and eggs.

Mix well. Pour into jelly roll pan. Bake 25 minutes at 350*.

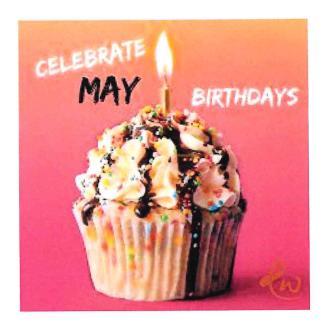
Frosting:

1 cup brown sugar 1/4 cup butter

1/4 cup milk 1/2 cup chocolate or butterscotch chips

Bring sugar, butter and milk to a boil 1-2 minutes. Take off stove and add chips. Beat well. Let stand until cool. Beat smooth..

May 1 Belinda Erickson Geraldine Sabin **Bradley Hanson** May 2 Adam Rasmussen Eric Rasmussen **David Oviatt** May 4 May 6 **Wyatt Wells** Jackson Mueller May 8 Jake Young May 10 May 11 Reid Haglin May 14 Jillian Gran **Beverly Donaldson** May 15 May 19 Audrey Larson Melissa Miller May 20 **Lindsey Netland** Rebecca Rivord **Larry Hoff** May 21 **Abby Barker** May 23 Katelyn Gralewski May 25 Jim Erickson May 26 Robbye Johnson Connie Morehouse Carter Skudstad Julianne Koski May 30 Linda Gran May 31



What's going on with Scrips?

Script Cards NEXT NEW CARD ORDER WILL go in 5/19/24 Cherie will update on specials as she gets them. Call church office @715-394-3472 if you have questions. Thank you. The total profit for the year -2024, for OSLC is \$509.85. This amount is from 10-15 customers purchasing everyday items from gas to groceries.

Remember Script cards make wonderful gift cards for those upcoming graduations and weddings

Mission Sunday

May 5th is the first Sunday of the month...which makes it Mission Sunday! Be generous with your Mission Sunday donations in the basket in the Narthex on Sunday. All the money collected stays right in our community !!!

"Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ" -ELCA Thank you for your generous contributions this month and all year long!

Mission & Outreach

Donations for May

Ronald McDonald House



5/5 Facial tissue, Toilet paper, Paper towels, Trash bags, Aluminum foil, Plastic wrap, Sandwich bags

5/12 Deodorant, Dental floss, Toothpaste, Soap, Shampoo/conditioner

5/19 Board Games, Books for various reading levels, Puzzles, activity books (word finds), Sudoku, crossword puzzle, coloring books & crayons/colored pencils

5/26 Canned goods, non-perishables, pop tarts, applesauce cups individual cereals fruit cups, juice boxes

Quilting

The quilters have been busy. The closet space was almost full and about 40 quilts were blessed on April 14th . I talked to Doc at Ruth House, he said their shelter could make use of about a dozen. I told him we have about 40 and he indicated they could give them to people in need.



This month we will be working on 9 quilts for our graduates; thanks to money from Thrivent Financial that covered the cost. The 6 graduates will have a good selection to pick their quilt from in June.

Anyone is welcome to join us, that includes knitters and crocheters. Monday mornings at 9 am to around 11:30 am

Mission and Outreach would like to share a Thank you received from a user of our Threads of Hope Clothes Closet:

"Hello. I want to thank you for your kindness and generosity through Threads of Hope. It has been such a blessing to our family. We are so grateful for your dedication and support. It's made such a difference in our lives."

Mission and Outreach would also like to thank the congregation for your continued support.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those serving in the military, those returning home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing home care and for those struggling with addiction.

Worship Support Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, Pat and Amanda Shaw, Roger Prescott, Lynne Hoff, Ralph Rolson, Russ & Jan Hendrickson, Tom Donaldson, Meri Will, Barb Danielson, Kim Gralewski

Family Member: Mike Klawitter, Jeanne David, Joel Dykema, Casey, Bill Mullens, Beth, Chuck Korn, Bob Ericson, Dave Kangas, Lois Ullmann, Dorothy Huffman, Jennifer Spring

Friend/neighbor: Vicki, Courtney Thompson, Sue Weber, Cindy Terhar, Mike Brinwall, Robert O'Dell, Janice Homstrom, Joyce Bowser, Sue

Family of: Brian Thompson

Call the church office (715-394-3472) to add (or remove) individuals to the prayer list.

Pastor Visitation Schedule for 2024-2025

2024 Visitation Schedule

01/28-02/03 Dale Nummi 02/04-02/10

Arlene Knase, Brad Nelson

02/11-02/17 Joyce Bowser 02/18-02/24 Craig Hanson 02/25-03/02 Russ Hendrickson 03/03-03/09

Eileen Gilbertson, Meri Will

03/10-03/16

Len Wicklund, Lynne Hoff

03/17-03/23 Dick Taber 03/24-03/30 Carol Roberts 03/31-04/06

Carina Barker, Matt Netland

04/07-04/13 Joni Westlund 04/14-04/20 Gene Rosburg 04/21-04/27

Jean Larkee, Jennifer Salo-Dahlberg

04/28-05/04 Gretchen Lisdahl 05/05-05/11 Julianne Koski 05/12-05/18

Linda Maki, Jennifer Farrell

05/19-05/25 Robbye Johnson 05/26-06/01 Kathy Nelson 06/02-06/08 Audrey Larson 06/09-06/15 Vivian Willoughby 06/16-06/22 Tom Donaldson 06/23-06/29 Ed Aamodt 06/30-07/06

George Bennis

07/07-07/13 Jack Arthur 07/14-07/20

Judy Hack, John Hendricks

07/21-07/27 Rick Gilbertson 07/28-08/03 Bonnie Wentzel 08/04-08/10 Sandy Steinberg 08/11-08/17

Helen Ardell, Megan Birk

08/18-08/24 Barb Danielson 08/25-08/31

Del Kangas, Jim Erickson

09/01-09/07 Jeff Liebaert 09/08-09/14 Rusty Carlson 09/15-09/21

Doris Roeber, Rose Reijo

09/22-09/28 Steve Shaw 09/29-10/05 Dawn Heinen 10/06-10/12

Linda Gran, Jodie Dahl

10/13-10/19 Dean Wilner 10/20-10/26 Tom Simon 10/27-11/02 Doris Maki 11/03-11/09

Dave Kringle, Dustin Puchalla

11/10-11/16 Linda Clark 11/17-11/23 Sharon Kotter 11/24-11/30 Dianne Tomczak 12/01-12/07 Jim Rigstad 12/08-12/14 Dustin Puchalla



OSLC Council Minutes April 16th, 2024

Present: Pastor Sean, Len Wicklund, Stephanie Shaw, Brooke Puchalla, Steve Shaw, Bonnie Wentzel, , Linda Clark, Diane Tomczak, Kandee Rosburg, Ben Gaard

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor Sean lead with a reading from Acts Ch. 4

Secretary Report: A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the March 2024 Council Minutes

Treasurers report: Income for March was \$12,929.35. Expenses were \$11,440.34. Gain of \$1,489.01 A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the Treasurers report

Board Reports:

- -Deacons: Acolyte responsibilities updated. Discussed renting out tables and chairs
- <u>Stewardship</u>: Revised job descriptions and usher instructions. Discussed moving envelopes and prayer cards from the pews to the back of the sanctuary. Discussed updating the kids activity bags and making them more noticeable.
- -Board of Education: Six kids are getting confirmed on May 19th. Sunday School kids will sing on 4/28 and Mother's Day. Celebrating graduation first Sunday in June.
- -Mission and Outreach: Ronald McDonald house will be recipient for donations in May. March donations were delivered to Ruth House and they were very appreciated. 146 items were given out from the clothes closet
- -<u>Trustees</u>: Applying for two new grants for parking lot lighting and copper piping for boiler. Looking into sump pump rebuild estimated to be approximately \$1000.

Pastors Report:

Pastors pay raise will go into effect next pay cycle

Synod Assembly is 6/7-6/8 in Eau Claire. Pastor needs at least one other person to attend with him Pastors contract with Concordia is up in 2 weeks. Concordia asked Pastor to stay on until May 2025. Pastor Sean is fine will the contract extension. Vote was taken and approved to have Pastor fulfill Concordia's contract extension

Community Vacation Bible School will take place 8/12-8/15. Many Churches in the community will participate and it will be held at OSLC

New Business:

Church received a call from a community member asking to rent tables and chairs from the church.

Council discussed and voted to not allow rental of tables and chairs to non-members

Additional fee of \$90/month added to the Church's SWLP bill for having a larger water main. The Church also owes two years worth of these fees totaling \$2100. Council voted to have the Church pay the \$2100 lump sum now rather than making monthly installments. \$90 fee will still be added to the monthly bill going forward

Rummage Sale is coming up May 4th - Helpers needed

Vision Victories:

- Great attendance at Easter Services
- Great Easter Breakfast

Motion was made to adjourn Meeting closed with Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted, Brooke Puchalla, Secretary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:00 a.m. NP service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. HI service 3:30 p.m. Confirmation 4:30 p.m. Chair 5:30 p.m. hymn committee	ા	<i>r</i> y	4 Rummage Sale 9:00-4:00
Cinco de Mayo 8:45 a.m. NO choir 9:30 a.m. Service (in house and online) 9:30 a.m. Sunday	6 NO quilting	2	8 9:00 a.m. NP service NO Bible Study 3:30 p.m. Confirmation 4:30 p.m. Choir	9 10:30 a.m. Bible study @ Concordia	10	11
Mother's Day Children sing 8:45 a.m. choir 9:30 a.m. Service (in house and online) 9:30 a.m. Sunday School	13 9:00 a.m. Quilting	14 5:15 p.m. All Boards	15 9:00 a.m. NP service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 3:30 p.m. last day of. Confirmation 4:30 p.m. Choir	16	17	18
Confirmation 8:45 a.m. choir-last day 9:30 a.m. Service (in house and online) 9:30 Lasr day Sunday Schoopl Scrip card orders due	20 9:00 a.m. Quilting	21 5:15 p.m. Council	22 9:00 a.m. NP service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study	23	24 Coney Dog fundraiser @ Super One on Belknap St. noon to 6 p.m.	n n
26 9:30 a.m. Service (in house and online)	27 Memorial Day NO quilting	58	29 9:00 a.m. NP service 10:30 a.m. Bible Study 1:30 p.m. HH service	30	31	