The TRUMPET

October 2019

A publication of the East Woodstock Congregational Church, 220 Woodstock Road, East Woodstock, CT 06244
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The Trumpet deadline is the 20th of every month!

Pastor's Corner

What can our church learn from our local farmers? Something new is happening on the farms and we ought to be paying attention. Here in the picturesque "Quiet Corner" of Connecticut dairy farms, vegetable fields, and orchards are no longer simply beautiful scenery to admire from afar. Visitors are invited to drive into farmyards and traipse through the growing fields to experience the farms first-hand. Farm-fresh eggs, freshly mixed yogurt, homegrown meat, milk (including chocolate!), apple cider, and a huge variety of fruits and vegetables are at our disposal. We can know – and see – where our food comes from.

It changes everything. Now we have the opportunity to chat with the hardworking folks who put food on our tables and we can ask questions of people who labor according to the seasons and whose lives are affected by the weather. We can see the cows, hear the roosters and sheep, stroll through blueberry patches, and wander through the apple trees

The farmers are evolving with the times. It is no longer profitable or practical to grow their products and ship them all to a distributor. In response to the strong interest in the "farm to table" movement, they are inviting people to realize what is required to produce fresh food. They are discovering that people are willing to pay a bit more and drive a bit out of their way in order to benefit from delicious, local food.

Some of these farms are over 200 years old, but "innovation" is their mantra. Their enthusiasm for their products and their way of life is leading them to discover new ways to engage their customers.

The Woodstock Orchard opened up a bakery. Customers are greeted by enticing aromas of apple cider doughnuts, freshly baked pies and crispy turnovers. Apples are still the primary product, but customers can also find apples dipped in caramel and apple cider as well as a variety of vegetables, pumpkins, and flowers. Weary parents can grab a healthy treat for hungry children while doing all of their shopping in one location

That same creative marketing can be found at the Creamery at Valleyside Farm. Inside the compact store visitors can view the workers in the backroom mixing up batches of yogurt and creamy dips. Don't have time to stop? They brilliantly offer a drive-through window. Parents who can't face another round of car-seat wrestling and teenagers in a hurry can glide up to the window and order milk, ice cream, and yogurt to go. Receipts are texted to their cell phones. This is not your grandfather's farm; they are embracing the 21st century.

Down another backroad is – amazingly – an ice cream stand. The cute Farm to Table Market gives visitors the chance to stock up on farm products before they wander outside to enjoy creamy dairy treats while communing with the cows in a nearby field.

Our church – and churches everywhere – can learn from the "can-do" spirit of the farmers. Society has changed and life is different than it was decades ago. Churches, like farms, need to adapt. The way it's "always" been done may not work anymore. These farms are demonstrating a simple truth – we must find new ways to offer the valuable products we have. For farmers that might mean farm stands and new products. For churches it might mean creative scheduling and a willingness to dream of new ways to share Good News that the world needs to hear.

Stop by a local farm and be inspired.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

The following are the scriptures for the month of September:

You are invited to read them as part of your daily devotions and as preparation for worship.

October 6
Lamentations 1:1-6; 3:19-26
Psalm 137
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4
Psalm 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14
Luke 17:5-10

October 13
Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7
Psalm 66:1-12
2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15
Luke 17:11-19

October 22
Jeremiah 31:27-34
Psalm 119:97-104
Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 121
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
Luke 18:1-8

October 29
Joel 2:23-32
Psalm 65
Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22
Psalm 84:1-7
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18
Luke 18:9-14

Worship News

We hope that you can join us every Sunday for worship and fellowship – and bring a friend!

October 6: World Communion Sunday

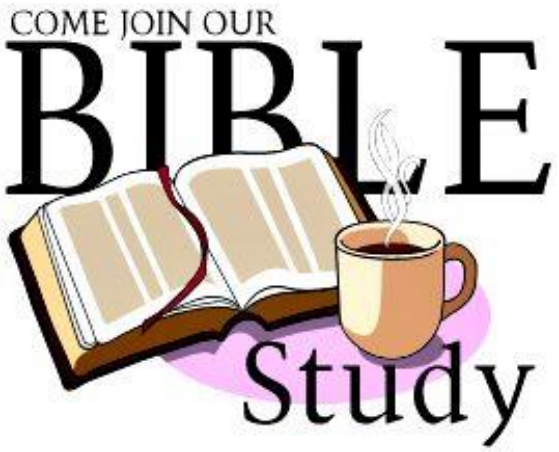
October 13:

October 20: Celebrating our First Responders AND all-church fire drill.

October 27: Bell choir ringing

World Communion Sunday

Please join us on Sunday, October 7th as we celebrate World Communion Sunday. This is an opportunity for us to celebrate God's welcoming Spirit as we gather around God's table. As we share breads from across the globe, we remember that we are invited to pass on God's gifts of forgiveness, healing, and new life.



Join us every Wednesday for Bible study, conversation, and fellowship.

This informal group meets to talk about the Scriptures that will be read on Sunday and explore how they relate to our lives.

Laughter and learning are promised – please come every Wednesday or whenever you can drop in!

Wednesday morning study group
10:00 a.m.

Everyone is welcome!

Use your Pledge envelope, Please!

Society is asking for your support with our collection each Sunday. Every Sunday we receive the offering as a way to express our thanks to God for our many blessings. We are returning to God a portion of the bounty that God has provided. These financial gifts are used to support our church and our many outreach programs.

Since there are now many ways to financially support the church – electronic funds transfer (EFT), GivePlus Mobile App, checks directly to the collector, etc. - members may not use the collection plate each Sunday to contribute. Not placing an envelope sends a message to folks not familiar with our church culture that our collection is not important.

To encourage all attendees at a service to contribute, Society is asking that members always place their pledge envelope, full or empty, in the plate each Sunday. All pledging members receive a set of envelopes for the year, our church orders the smallest print run, 100 sets, so we are not wasting resources or funds. Simply place your empty envelope (unsealed) in the collection plate as it is passed.

Please assist us in encouraging active financial support from all church attendees by participating in the offering process.

Thanks for your cooperation, check with any Society member if you have any questions or comments.

EWCC Garden Committee

Society would like to form a Garden Committee to assist Christine and Glen Lessig with the upkeep of our gardens. The committee would meet at agreed upon times (occasional Saturday mornings possibly) and perform basic gardening: de-head, trim, rake, move mulch, etc.

Whether you are an expert gardener or a beginner we are interested in your talents to help us maintain our gardens.

Please contact either Christine cjohnstonlessig@gmail.com or Glen glessig@gmail.com if you're interested.

Women! Save the Date!

April 3 – 4 : Women's retreat at Camp Wightman. A beautiful setting with good fellowship, delicious meals, and time for learning and relaxing.

It's time to think Holly Fair

The annual Holly Fair is on **Saturday, November 2, 2019**!

It's hard to believe summer is over and we are soon to be heading into the holiday season. With that in mind, Pat Ziemba and myself, Donna Baldyga, (aka Holly and Ivy), are sending out a shout to anyone and everyone who would like to help with this year's Holly Fair scheduled for November 2nd.

The basket social is our biggest draw, and we would love to see what great basket ideas you will come up with this year. New and like new items are always a hit; pick up some ideas for your Christmas décor.

If you sew, knit, crochet, paint, woodwork, etc… we need your talents for our craft table. You would be surprised at some of the crats that our elves create. They are amazing.

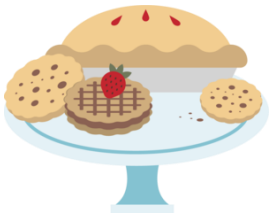
Lisa Gould will be accepting new and used jewelry for the jewelry counter. If you have anything for her, please leave it with Lisa or Ben Gould as early as possible so she can get them ready for the fair.

If you like to bake, we need cookies and baked goods as well as jams, jellies, salsa, pickles and any other goodies you can cook up. Diane Morin tells me that candy is really easy to make, so give it a try! There are many easy recipes on Pinterest. Check it out.

As always, any and all donations to defray the cost of supplies are greatly appreciated As this is an important fundraiser for our church. If you have any questions, ideas, or would like to help out, please call Pat or Donna or our wonderful chairpersons for each table below.

Co-Chairs -	Pat Ziemba	508-764-7052	pazpad@charter.net
	Donna Baldyga	508-665-8038	cdbinder@charter.net
Basket Social -	Kerstin Forrester	860-634-3635	keforrester@atlanticbb.net
Baked Goods -	Taryn Tomkins	860-928-2614	ttomkins@massedco.org
Candy -	Diane Morin	860-923-2624	fairholm_farm@charter.net
Crafts -	Amy Hiller-White	860-315-7816	amyhillerwhite@gmail.com
	Diane Billings	860-928-2932	dnbillings6@gmail.com
Jewelry -	Lisa Gould	860-634-7670	1solarday@charter.net
Luncheon -	Jill Sherman	860-928-0129	jillsherman10@yahoo.com

Thank you for your generosity and support. (More to follow)



More Holly Fair…

HOLLY FAIR BASKET SOCIAL

It's that time of year again, the great Holly Fair is right around the corner. This year I have once again committed to chair the Basket Social. The Basket Social is a big part of the Holly Fair fund-raising event. We need your help in continuing our success – **the goal this year is to have at least 70 themed baskets!**

Committee Chairpersons please ask your members to create a Themed Basket. Most of our church committees have provided fantastic baskets over the past few years and we're asking you to continue this wonderful tradition.

Individuals and teams you so graciously donated wonderful baskets the past few years. Big or small, they were all lovely! Can we count on you again this year – PLEASE!!

If you need ideas, there will be a list posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. I have some empty baskets for you to fill and will help to arrange the baskets if needed. We also accept cash donations and Dot and I will shop for you and put the basket together!!

To all your friends and neighbors, please pass the word to come to the Holly Fair on Saturday, November 2nd, bring a friend or two and enjoy lunch, buy candy, cookies, pies, crafts and gifts. Of course, you'll want to buy tickets for a chance to win a themed basket.

Contact Kerstin Forrester at 860-634-3635 (text or phone)
or email at keforrester@atlanticbb.net

THANK YOU!!!

Our church is blessed by the work of many volunteers. Every bit of effort and caring helps the church live out its calling to be the Body of Christ. This month we especially would like to thank . . .

Carol Cruttenden and **Diane Billings** for creating "busy bags" for our youngest members. These colorful cloth bags are filled with items to keep little hands and minds busy – crayons, notebooks, and a book to read. Thank you for your creativity!

News from the Pews

Share your news with your church family! Just email Heidi at ewccsec@yahoo.com ***or call the church office at 928-7449.***

Elliot Reid Billings was born on September 23rd to proud parents Angie and Greg. He joins his big brother Logan and Jack. May God bless this family!

Many of you will remember the **Rev. John Crowe** who served our church as pastor many years ago. We just got the sad news that John passed away. If you would like to send a card to his wife Shirley, I know she would enjoy hearing your memories of John and the impact that his ministry had on our congregation and community.

Her address is: Shirley Crowe,
12 Chase Place
Sweden ME 04040

The men of the congregation have been enjoying gathering for breakfast at the church for good food and fellowship. Our next gathering will be on Sunday, October 20th at 8:00 a.m. All men are invited – and please invite a friend along!

Helping some seniors

Our church is a partner of TEEG, which helps children, seniors, and families in northeastern CT. We just received this request from Theresa Horvath, a case manager at TEEG asking for occasional help for a couple of seniors in our area: "One is looking for a ride occasionally to the pharmacy and the other is a couple looking for some light housework and or yard work. I love working with the seniors in the TEEG community, but it can be very difficult for me to find any assistance for them that will not become a financial burden. If someone is willing to donate a couple of hours a month It would make a whole world of difference in their lives."
If you can help out, please contact Pastor Sue or email Theresa at theresah@teegonline.org

Show of hands! Do you take pride in your Church?
Of course you do!

As part of our Church family,
you ARE the Church!

Help show your pride at our
once-a-year opportunity.

Please join us on **November 17th:**

Jeans Sunday

Outreach Committee

Support Meals

A successful cooking day was held on August 20th.
Meals are labeled and put in the freezer. If any members know of people in need, please contact: Pastor Sue or Christine Lessig cjohnstonlessig@gmail.com

Outreach Committee sent donations to:

Heifer International
Hospice (Tree of Life Ceremony)
TVCCA (Veterans Coffeehouse Danielson (serves NE CT)
RoJeanne Doege (Emergency Travel & Transportation)
Gay-Straight Alliance Club at Woodstock Academy

WAIM
Windham Area Interfaith Ministry

"Uplifting and uniting our community by providing caring services and resources to meet our neighbors' needs with dignity and respect."

Thank you to Karen Ryker, Sarah Jo Burke, and Diane Billings for volunteering at our workday at the clothing sorting area.

Covenant to Care for Children

Covenant to Care - New Social Workers
Jeanne Murphy and Matt Gilbert – Thank you!

Covenant to Care for Children mobilized and channels the generosity of caring and faithful people to advocate for and provide direct assistance to CT's children who are neglected, abused, or impoverished.

Thank you for donations of Backpacks and School Supplies for TEEG

Thanks for your continued help for our local families.

(Outreach cont'd)

CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by religious groups, businesses, schools and others to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world.

Walk. Give. Change the world.

Date: Sunday, October 6, 2019

Location: Farmer's Market Riverfront, Putnam CT

Walk Time: 2 PM

Register online: https://www.crophungerwalk.org/danielsonct

Donation Envelopes and information are on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall

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Caring Families-Woodstock

Weekly food assistance program
Weekly serves 50 families in the Woodstock school system

EWCC provides Jelly & Tuna

Please pick up Jelly (in plastic bottles please!)
or Tuna when you shop
and leave in the Outreach basket!

Thank you for caring…

The next meeting of the Outreach Committee will be on Monday, October 21 at 7:00 pm.

LBS NEWS

(Ladies Benevolent Society)

Our Pot-Luck Luncheon on September 18 was a delicious success! We had 20 people in attendance and a wonderful variety of food. It was great to catch up. Our agenda for 2019-2020 is:

- 9/18/19: Potluck Luncheon
- 10/16/19: Karen McFarlin slide presentation
- 11/20/19: Tourtellotte Museum Tour
- 12/18/19: Christmas Party at Nancy Young's
- NO MEETINGS IN JANUARY AND FEBUARY
- 3/18/20: Linda Colangelo Northeast District Dept. of Health
- 4/15/20: Maura Robie, Conservation Tech at Eastern CT Conservation District
- 5/20/20: Pastor Sue – Micro Retreat
- 6/ ? /20: Annual Banquet – Susan Converse will coordinate

All are welcome to attend any or all of these events.

Planning for the Holly Fair, November 2, 2019, has already begun. Donna Baldyga and Pat Ziemba have contacted all table/booth chairs and we are asking everyone to help with donations. Requests and updates will be posted weekly. The funds we raise from the Holly Fair are used to upgrade the church facilities. Last year we contributed $5,000 towards the repair of the School House Roof and allocated $3,500 to purchase new chairs.

Respectfully submitted,
Kerstin Forrester, President LBS

7th Annual Holiday Art Show and Sale

Mark your calendar…

Saturday, December 7th 10 am- 3 pm

If you know of any crafters/artists who may be interested in setting up a table, please have them contact me as soon as possible. Space is limited!

I am also looking for help! We will be serving a light luncheon this year in addition to the penny social table. Each of the vendors contributed an item to the penny social and names were drawn. Please see me if you are able to help at either of these tables. I hope to find someone who can run each of the tables and find volunteers to help. And then there is always set up and clean up!!

Please mark the date on your calendar and pass this info on to your friends. Please call me if you have any questions or could help organize refreshments or the penny social. For the last six years, we have made a nice profit on this one-day show.

Let's do it again and make even more!! Thanks in advance.

Karen McFarlin kmcf3470@gmail.com or 860-933-8667.

For 5th- 8th Graders

Every Sunday Afternoon from 4:30-6:00 at our church in Fellowship Hall

It is not too late to join us. We always welcome new students and their friends.

Games, Music, Snacks, Reflection, and Fellowship!

For more information please contact

Anne Sorensen at 860-428-2198 or

Tom Converse at 850-603-5700

Sunday School News

It's hard to believe that Rally Sunday was just a few weeks ago. We had an excellent turn out and the weather was gorgeous. Thank you to the Noë family for the use of their bounce house.

There are a number of things that are in the works for the coming year. One thing I'd like everyone to put on their calendrers right now is December 15th. This will be the children's Christmas Pageant. Stay tuned for other dates as I firm up things throughout the year. If you have any suggestions, I'd love to hear about them.

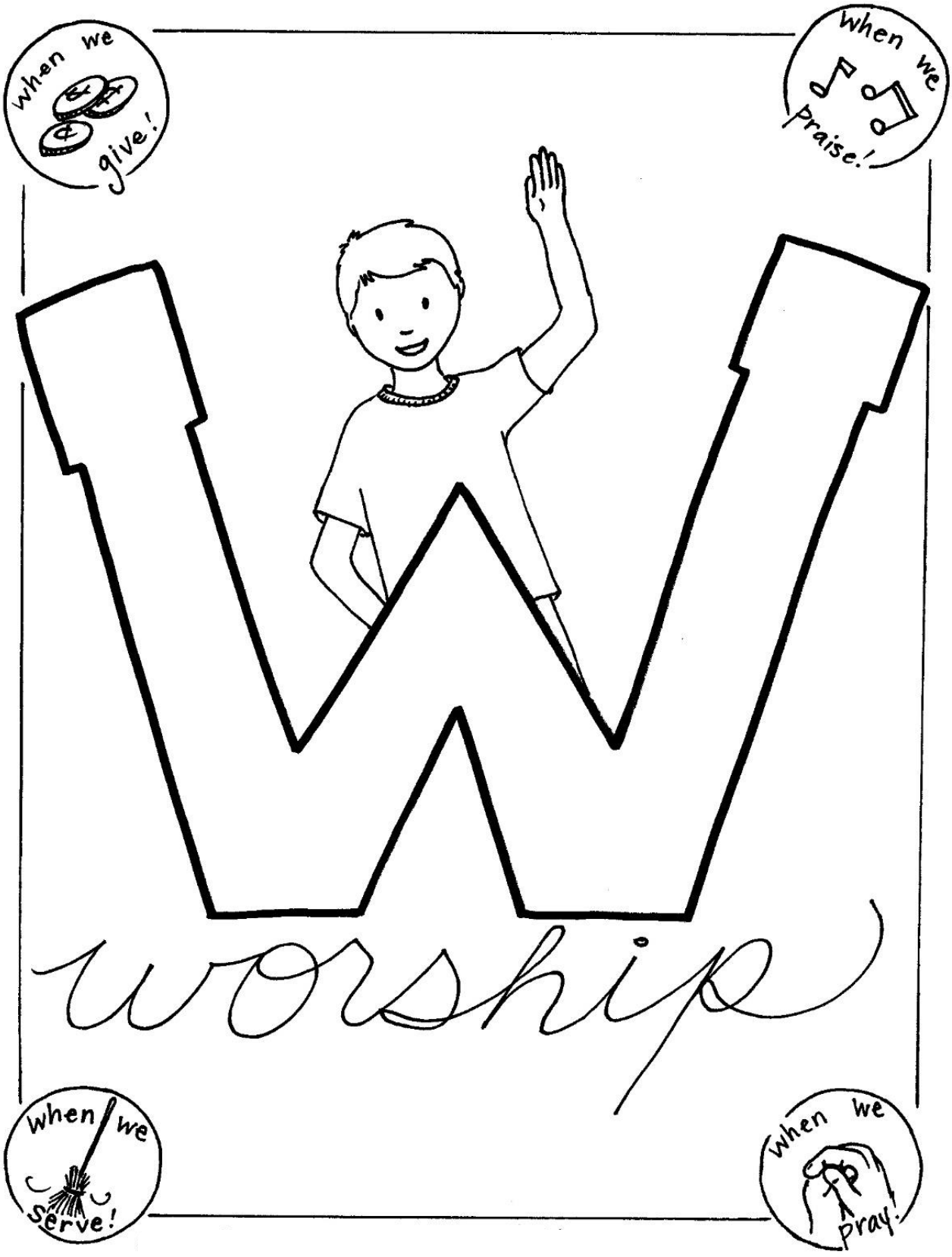
I mentioned last month that I spent a lot of time cleaning out and organizing our supplies. I truly appreciate your generosity in donating items. Right now, we have so many items that we really cannot accept any more at this time. That being said, I do have a wish list of items we either don't have or are in short supply. We could use: water colors (12), plastic paint trays (24), children's scissors (24), adult scissors for the older kids (15), wet wipes such as baby wipes, alphabet beads with LARGE holes in them, adult bible-based coloring books, and easy children's bible board games.

As always feel free to be in contact with me for any reason.

Louise cedirectorewcc@gmail.com

Church Chuckles

Children's Page



October 2019

Daily Bread request: Canned Fish and Meats

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 9:00 am Tai Chi 7 pm Sanctuary Singers	**2** 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	**3** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	**4**	**5**
6 World Communion Sunday 2:00 CROP Walk 4:30 Middle Youth	**7** 9 am Community Kitchen 9:30 am Music Class	**8** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7 pm Sanctuary Singers	**9** 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	**10** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells 7:00 pm Council	**11** 9:30 am MOMs Group	**12**
13 4:30 pm Middle Youth Group	**14** Columbus Day	**15** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7 pm Sanctuary Singers	**16** 10:00 Study Group 1:30 pm LBS 7:30 pm Al-anon	**17** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	**18** Trumpet Deadline!	**19**
20 8:00 am Men's Breakfast 3:00 pm MOMs Trunk or Treat 4:30 Middle Youth	**21** 9:30 am Music Class 7:00 pm Society 7:00 pm Outreach	**22** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7 pm Sanctuary Singers	**23** 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	**24** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	**25**	**26**
27 4:30 pm Middle Youth Group	**28** 9:30 am Music Class	**29** 9:00 am Tai Chi 7 pm Sanctuary Singers	**30** 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm Al-anon	**31** Happy Halloween! 9:00 am Tai Chi		

Looking Ahead:

November 2 – Holly Fair
November 17 – Men's Breakfast, Jeans Sunday
November 23 – Pops Concert
November 24 – Thanksgiving Sunday

COFFEE HOUR

The coffee hour in October will be served courtesy of: **Music & Choirs**

The coffee hour in November will be served courtesy of: **Pastoral Relatioins**

October Birthdays:

Amy Shinkiewicz	**Oct. 3**
Audrey Noë	**Oct. 12**
Tanner Blair	**Oct. 22**
Sawyer Stewart	**Oct. 24**
Dustin Chamberlin	**Oct. 28**

PRAYER PAGE

Today and every day let us be open to God, who promises always to be with us.

"No one finds time for prayer. You either take time for it or you don't get it."
- Joan Chittister, OSB

Dear God, in the Bible it says, "Do not let the sun go down on your anger," but I am about to do just that. I am angry. My anger seems to be outlasting the sun. I am not ready to let it go. This is a prayer that I am offering through clenched teeth. Help me to know what I am to do now. Have it out and seek resolution? Just let it go? Or, is this something I can entrust to you for the night in the hope that, when the morning comes, I will have calmed down a bit and the way will seem clearer? Help me know what I am supposed to do. And then give me the courage or compassion or whatever else it may take to move beyond anger to reconciliation. If I could do this without your help, I would have done it already. Amen.

- Martin B. Copenhaver

UCC Book of (Un)commom Prayer

An Autumn Prayer

Abba, Father, the trees are ablaze with your glory.
The seasons change, but you never do.
You are always beautiful,
in the green and freshness of spring
as in the golds and reds and chills of autumn.
Make me like you.
Let my life reflect your beauty,
season after season,
as the calendar of my life turns and turns and turns.

The trees are letting go of this year's foliage.
Help me let go of both blessings and burdens,
and surrender them both to your loving care.

Fallen leaves pattern the ground with variety.
So design my own fallings and failings
into whatever design will please you most.
In Jesus' name, I pray,

Amen.