

As We Gather

O blessed mystery! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, is also the Good Shepherd who gives His life for the sheep. The risen Lord Jesus is alive and present among His people as the Good Shepherd using His Word and Sacraments to care for us. Through His continuing presence and ministry, Jesus leads His people to our eternal home in His nearer presence, where the Lamb, who is our Shepherd, will guide us to streams of living water and wipe away every tear from our eyes.

Holy Communion

Holy Communion is being celebrated today. It is the belief of the Lutheran Church, based on Jesus' own words, that in this Sacrament His body and blood are really present and that forgiveness of sins and the assurance of salvation are offered to all who come confessing their sins and believing in Him. Communion is therefore offered to those who share this confession of faith. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing. Guests who may have questions about Communion at Mt. Calvary are encouraged to talk to Pastor Brighton.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

OPENING HYMN: *"The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want"* **Hymn #710**

THE INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

(Please kneel)

O Lord, our Shepherd,

You call us by name as one of Your own dear sheep. You are teaching us to recognize Jesus' voice and follow Him. Yet, because our sinful nature is alienated from You since birth, we often do not listen to You. We often think, say, and do things that are hurtful both to ourselves and the people around us. Forgive and help us so that we may stand before Your throne on the Last Day in union with all Your people from every nation, tribe, and language. Amen.

Beloved ones, Jesus has given you eternal life, and you will never perish, and no one will snatch you out of His hand. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Jesus and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my
Great Redeemers Praise,
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace!**

**See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an offering made
For ev'ry soul of man.**

**To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above.
The Church in earth and heav'n.**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You are seated on the throne with the risen Lamb at Your right hand. Grant that as John beheld a vision of Your glory with the multitudes from all nations, we Your sheep might walk by faith, guided always by the Good Shepherd; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated.)

THE FIRST READING: Acts 20:17–35 *(Paul with the Ephesian elders)*

¹⁷ Now from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him.

¹⁸ And when they came to him, he said to them:

¹⁹ serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰ how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹ testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²² And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³ except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴ But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

²⁵ And now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶ Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸ Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹ I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. ³² And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. ³³ I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴ You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM:

"Christ Has Risen"

THE SECOND READING: Revelation 7:9–17 (*John sees standing before God's throne, "sheep" from every nation, tribe, people, and language*)

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹ And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹² saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³ Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴ I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵ "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶ They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷ For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA VERSE:

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.

THE HOLY GOSPEL IS ANNOUNCED:

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the tenth chapter.

Glo-ry to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: John 10:22–30 (*Jesus and the Father are one.*)

²² At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³ and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴ So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵ Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶ but you do not believe because you are not among my sheep. ²⁷ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸ I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹ My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰ I and the Father are one."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

Tim Jacobsmeier
Director of Music

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

"Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Hymn #711

THE MESSAGE:

"Danielle, Marcus and the Good Shepherd"

Vicar Tim Staffeld

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS: After each petition, the Worship Leader will say, "*Lord in Your mercy,*" and the congregation will respond, "*Hear our prayer.*"

THE GATHERING OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

++ The Stewardship Thought ++

"Death has been swallowed up in victory! Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (I Corinthians:54-57) What do these words of the Apostle Paul mean to you personally?

OFFERTORY HYMN:

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, created good:
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**Father, providing food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding teach us to share
One with another, so that, rejoicing
With us, all others may know Your care.**

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 Him thanks and praise.

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is risen to stand as the Lamb in the presence of God, and who shepherds His people from every nation, tribe and language. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

C 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.

THE 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.

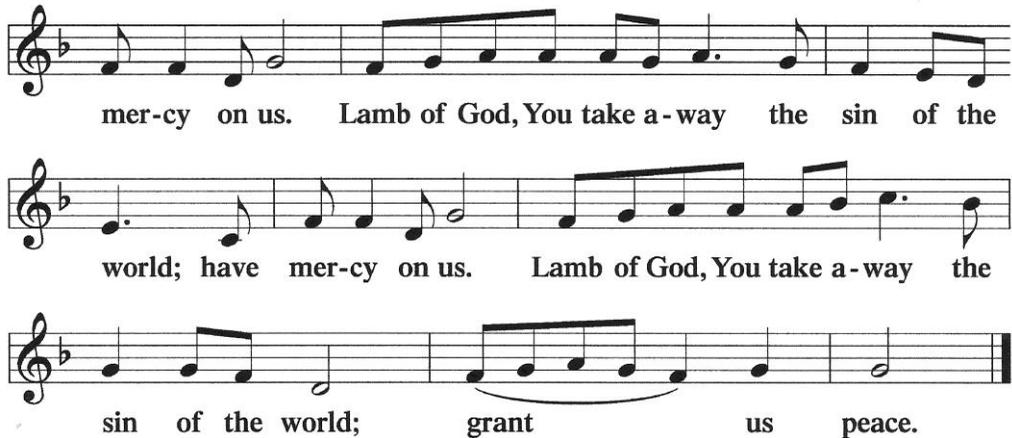
THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



THE DISTRIBUTION *(The center cup in each tray is white grape juice for pregnant moms or those allergic to alcohol.)*

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: *"At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing"* Hymn # 633, st. 1-5
"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray" Hymn #623
"Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious" Hymn #548

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Thank You, Lamb of God, for feeding us with Your own body and blood in this Sacrament and for using this meal as part of Your holding on to us throughout our lives. Continue to lead us, Good Shepherd, by the sound of Your voice to the green pastureland of God's kingdom, where the nations will gather around Your throne; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

THE CLOSING HYMN: *"At The Lamb's High Feast We Sing"* Hymn # 633, st. 6-8

A MOMENT FOR SILENT PRAYER

THE POSTLUDE

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Altar Flowers were provided this week by Marjorie Hogan in loving memory of her husband John, and by Linda Phillips, in memory of Florence L. Brady.

Members of the Week: Tyson Van Lannen, the daughter of Gary & Lexie Hadley, grew up in Nebraska. Four years were in Omaha and then in Plattsmouth until she graduated from High School. She spent a year in Hastings studying Hotel Management but decided it was not the career path she wanted to pursue, so she moved back home. In 1993, Tyson's younger brother tragically died in a boating accident. Shortly after that, her father was transferred to Indiana and Tyson decided to move with her parents. She was married in 1996 and took a position at the Industrial Real Estate Division at Duke Realty where she worked until 2002, when she and her spouse decided to move to Georgia to live close to her newly retired parents. She continued working in the real estate arena for Fickling & Co. In 2003 they joined Mt. Calvary and in 2004 Sara was born and was baptized at Mt. Calvary. Her family was always interested in firearms, so in 2007 she and her parents opened Oakridge Custom Finishing, LLC. Later in 2007 Tyson took a job with a small mail order company in Ft. Valley, where she worked for about 1 ½ years until the company went out of business. During this time, Tyson went through a divorce. Excited to try a new career path, she began working for SAIC on a program called ICE2 at Robins AFB. She worked on that until it ended in 2012. Then she took a position with ISHPI Information Technologies on the FPED program at Robins, and is currently working there. She says she enjoys spoiling Sara, working at the gun store, spending time with family and knitting. She and Sara both participate in Sunday School and occasionally help in the nursery. They feel happy and blessed to be members of Mt. Calvary.

Thanks to all who sent me birthday cards. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness.
– Ralph Wenrick

Rebuilding Together Workday – As we have for many years, Mt Calvary will again be helping *Rebuilding Together Warner Robins* by working on improving two local homes. The National Workday is scheduled for **Saturday, April 23, 2016** (weather permitting) beginning @ **7 AM @ the Warner Robins Rec Center**. We will be starting on one of the projects before the workday but do not expect to finish the total job. On the workday, we will need help with landscaping, and general clean-up and possibly some painting. If interested, please sign the list on the information table. Call Roger Moeller, House Captain (478)320-2696, if you have any questions.

Mount Calvary has received a gift in memory of Ken Reilly from Dwight & Marlene Miller.

The Lutheran Village Committee will meet on the April 26th at Christ Lutheran at 2 pm. all interested are invited for updates to the progress on the Senior Living Retirement initiative.

You won't have to go south of the border for this fiesta! Join us for an afternoon of fellowship and fun on the lawn between the church and the Annex on Saturday, April 30th. This Mexican-themed event will provide fun and games for the whole family including an egg toss, tug-o-war, horseshoes, water balloon toss, cornhole tournament, water games, and more! Come to watch, play, fellowship, and enjoy good food. Bring a Mexican (or any) side dish to share! Hope to see you there!

Cornhole begins at 10:00 am - Games begin at 11:00 am - Eating to begin at 12:00 pm

The Ladies Guild is again collecting empty inkjet printer cartridges and toner cartridges, used cell phones, laptops (include power cords), digital cameras, e-readers, tablets, GPS systems and scientific calculators. Money from this recycling will be used for the 2019 LWML convention in Birmingham. Drop-off box is in the hall in front of the church office. *These items are needed by April 22nd to take to the LWML Zone Rally.*

I want to thank everyone for the support I got while visiting my sister for the last 3 months from your church members, the visits, many cards and meals to help the stress off Nancy. I'll be going back to my home in Indiana this week end and further treatment to a specialist in Indianapolis or Vanderbilt. - Hazel Stockelman

Come out and support the church softball team! This week's games: 1) SSBC Soul'd Out - 7:30 on Monday at Peavy 2; and 2) SSBC Crusaders - 6:30 on Friday at Peavy 2.

The Lutheran Village Board needs your opinion to continue with plans for the Senior Retirement Living Community. Please complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FS3LTZB> or pick up a copy at the Information Desk in the Narthex. The online form is to be printed. It is complete after your entries are calculated. We need this done by April 19th and you can leave the survey in the "Van Gorder" mailbox in the entryway.

Newsletter Deadline: Please have all items for the May Newsletter in to the office by Monday, April 25th.

Mount Calvary has received gifts in memory of Belle Wright from Dwight & Marlene Miller, Richard & Pat Stetzler and Vivian Stilley.

Senior Fellowship - Come join us for Senior Fellowship **Thursday, April 21st, at 11:00 am**, in the Fellowship Hall. There will be a brief Bible study, a game or two, recognition of birthdays and anniversaries, a great time, and a delicious pot luck lunch. If, for some reason you cannot make a dish, bring yourself, there is always plenty of really delicious food.

Craft & Chat – Please join us for a morning of crafting of your choice and fellowship. We meet the third Wednesday of the month (this Wednesday) at 9:30 am in the annex. Please join us if you would like to learn how to knit or crochet or if you just want to sit and chat.

Donations From The Heart Needed - Did you ever purchase something that you hope you'd never have to use? Well . . . Altar Guild did, and we're hoping to get some donations to cover the cost. Three items were purchased for funerals - A pall for an infant casket, a pall for a child's casket, and pall to cover an urn for those cremated. Each item is between \$200-\$300. Thankfully, one very generous family covered the cost of one of these items, but we'd be thrilled if we could find donations towards the other two. If you would like to donate, make your check out to Mt. Calvary, and put "Funeral Pall" on the memo line. Thank you! Ruthie Radcliff, Altar Guild Chairman

Annual Golf-Tournament Fund-Raiser: Our annual Youth Ministry Golf Tournament fund-raiser will be on Sunday, April 24th, at The Waterford Country Club. The cost is \$45/golfer for an 18 hole scramble tournament, cart, & lunch. Golfers can buy additional "scoring aids" at the tournament: Mulligans (3/\$5), Red Bomb (\$5), & Free Throw (\$10). All proceeds to help support the Youth Ministry at Mount Calvary. You can sign up your team or as individuals at the information desk.

National Youth Gathering Meeting: Youth planning to attend this summer's National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA July 16-21 should plan on attending the information meeting this Sunday, April 17th, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Annex. All parents are also encouraged to attend as we discuss trip details such as housing, finances, meals, transportation, and work on developing our group covenant.

High School Outreach Party: The last outreach party of the school year will be next Friday, April 29th, from 7-10 pm in the Annex. The cost is \$5/person to cover snacks, pop, & pizza but you can pick up an invitation/"Party Pass" for your friends to use as a coupon. Games, drawing, and a basic devotion on our Christian Faith will make it a great event to bring your friends and introduce them to TAG.

8th Grade Confirmation Exam: 8th Grade youth planning on being confirmed next month should be preparing for their exam with the study guide and memory passages. The exam will be during class on Wednesday, April 17th. A rough draft of their final project is also due by this time as well as parents selecting their confirmation verse (optional). Confirmation will be Sunday, May 15th, at the 8:00 service this year (since 5 of the 6 students attend that service).

PRAYER CONCERNS

Pastor Mark Bowditch, safe travel to Chicago for a training event with 300 USAF Chaplain Corps members.

Monika Reynolds, who is at Pruitt Health on Peake Road in Macon.

Dwight Miller, who is home, but still very weak.

Keep In Your Prayers

Michael Longbine, Charleen Beahm, John Harmon, Hiltraud Culpepper, Pat Aldredge, Peggy Rodriguez, Carol LeBorious (Pete's mother), Mike Finnegan (Barbara Jernigan's brother), Kurt Rover, Sallie Brinkley, Sandi Jacobsmeyer, Jeanene Crawford, Norman Thompson, Louise May (Jimmy Martin's mother), Courage Trasmer, Joyce Boone, Chet Branscom, Gerald Eschke, Betsy Luppino, Josie Kong (Evy Keyes' mom), Deloris Denzine and Karen Johnson.

(NOTE: Those listed under "Keep in your prayers" are removed from the list after eight weeks. If there is someone you would like to keep on the list for another eight weeks, please contact the church office.)

Those Battling Cancer

Those battling cancer: Margaret Frazier, Mary Jahnke (Joe's sister), Barry Rice (Becky McVay's brother), Norma Young (Melinda Hopf's aunt), Paula Babcock, Kathy Grube, Mary Schwope (Michele Durbin's aunt), Jeannette Poniske (Fred Tamer's mom), Bruce Oswald (Krystal Ferguson's father), Gary Jennings (Margaret Jennings' son) and Elaine Mead (Jeannie Hawkins' aunt).

Those Serving our Country in Dangerous Areas

Benjamin Brighton, Emily Whaley, Rodney Hood, Matthew Forehand, Darrin Landis, Denver Yarbrough, Michael Welch, Jonathan Fetchik and Christian Corbitt, for safety and good health as they serve our country in dangerous areas.

SERVING US TODAY

PREACHER: Vicar Tim Staffeld. **LITURGIST:** Pastor David Brighton. **ELDERS:** Bob Yeager (8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Garrett Counselman (8 am) and Carlee Toler (10:45 am). **USHERS:** Early - Brian Harper, David Rossman, Bob Yeager & Richard Uitto. Late – Mike Hopf, Bruce Bauman, Dave Harter, Ed Bodony & Earl Bogardus. **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Judy Van Gorder (8 am) and Julie Dimes (10:45 am). **SLIDE PREPARER:** Gary Webb. **PROJECTIONISTS:** Early – Nick Jenkins. Late – Caleb & D J Nelson.

SERVING US NEXT WEEK

ELDERS: Tony McVay (Sat 6 pm), Eric Gossman (Sun 8 am) and Bob Gerstenberger (Sun 10:45 am). **ACOLYTES:** Sara Van Lannen (Sat 6 pm), Nathan LeBorious (Sun 8 am) and Tyler Longbine (Sun 10:45 am). **ALTAR GUILD:** Lois Harter, Melinda Hopf, Ruth Miller, Suzanne O'Daniel & Maureen Young. **LAY READERS:** Debi Cole (Sat 6 pm), Linna Nielsen (Sun 8 am) and Cindy Schafer (Sun 10:45 am). **GREETERS:** Bob & Cindy Reynolds (Sun 8 am) and Betty Cummings & Nancy Hoar (Sun 10:45 am).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Acts 11:1-18 and Revelation 21:1-7

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK

Saturday – 41 Early – 89 Late – 143 Total - 273

THIS WEEK AT MOUNT CALVARY

Today	6:30 pm	National Youth Gathering Meeting
Monday	6:20 pm	Evangelism Callers
	6:30 pm	Women's Small Group
	7:30 pm	Softball
Tuesday	4 – 7 pm	RG@MC
Wednesday	9:30 am	Craft & Chat
	5:30 pm	Dinner
	6:00 pm	Adult Bible Classes
	6:15 pm	Children/Youth Classes
	7:00 pm	Sanctuary Choir
Thursday	10:00 am	Ladies Bible Study
	11:00 am	Senior Fellowship
Friday	6:30 pm	Softball
Saturday	5:00 pm	Adult Bible Study
	5:00 pm	Praise Team Rehearsal
Next Sunday	1:00 pm	TAG Golf Tournament Fundraiser
	6:30 pm	SLDT Meeting