THE HERALD

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| September 2024 |  | Volume 110, Issue 9 |

Dear fellow adorers of the Creator,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Maker of us all!

One of the questions I like to consider with Confirmation students and other seekers is: why did God choose the elements that we have for the Sacraments? What would you choose? Even though I would not want to change the elements--God makes perfect choices! Our choices highlight the reality that the Sacraments already are precisely and richly loaded with meaning. Our choices in this exercise can be comical. For example, what about honey, for a baptism? That would be sweet and sticky! Maybe then we would recognize that God sticks with us. It is very biblical and often represents the best parts of what God promises to the people, but that would make for a mess at minimum and immersion very expensive and dangerous! After this example, many of the other possibilities don’t seem much better (pop—the bubbles would tickle, but also messy; ranch dressing—you might love it, but do you really want it covering your head or whole body?!). Yes, water is the original cleaning substance and the number one part of life. Okay, let’s just stick with water and not stick with honey. What about for Holy Communion, what things do you eat everyday that are almost sacramental to your being? I remember more than a few students picking pop and a cheeseburger. What tastes like “a slice of heaven”? Sure we have lots of modern options for food. So much so that many families hate the question, “What do you want for supper?” Many of the Holy Communion “substitutes” in this silly exercise that we would pick have bread in them (sandwiches, cake, waffles, pizza). Most of the drinks that we would chose are similar to wine in that they would be a sweet drink.

The elements of the Elements that make them perfect are not just accessibility across the world, but also their comfort factor. They are basic comfort foods. Bread and wine are the base and juice for a good extended family and/or friends meal. “Let’s get together!” There is also that spiritual and community aspect of being together in a meal, it isn’t just nostalgic, but a living reality of togetherness. The bread and the wine are also a physical reality that connects us to the permanent God realm connection—we eat together with God and all that is with God, we take in God’s presence and realm into our being.

Thank God the Sacrament of Baptism is once and done—we only need to ever be baptized once. We are welcomed forever. Thank God the Sacrament of Holy Communion is repeatable—we need to be refed and renourished with the goodness of God on the regular! The building up of our body and the collective Body of Christ, yes, more of that. We need more forgiveness and help on repeat! It is also the things that we like and we value that we get again and again. We have our favorites for certain restaurants and from family cooks! This edible Word has us coming back again and again. “The food of Second Chances? Yes, I will come back for more of that!”

May you be filled with joy as you taste and see that the Lord is good!

In Christ,

Pastor Andrew

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

School has started, and that also means the beginning of faith formation classes (i.e., Sunday school) and several activities. There are articles discussing this in the newsletter, so read the newsletter! I will also return to teaching the class on the book “Believe” and leading our grief support group. And this year, I will be leading the confirmation class, although there will be a rotation of teachers like last year. I truly enjoyed my summer: 1) by going to the National Youth Gathering, as it was refreshing to see so many kids active in the Lutheran Church and 2) going to the preaching retreat in New Mexico; it was wonderful to meet pastors from different denominations and to hear about different ways to preach the gospel. And as noted in the following Old Testament verses from the prophets, we can start our new school year with the love of God: Jeramiah 29: 11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give youhope and a future. Isaiah 40: 31 but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary: they will walk and not be faint.

The pastors and staff are here for all of you, so let us know when you need something!

Blessings, Pr. Caroline

***Thank you!***

Thank you to everyone who helped send me to camp. I had an amazing time. We did lots of activities and made connections with everyone. I love going to camp and seeing all my friends from previous years and the church helps make all of that possible. Thank you! -Ella Kanouff

***Thank you!***

Thank you for your gift of $800 to ELCA World Hunger. Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God shines through you. Amanda White, Director, Congregational Generosity.

**HANNAH’S SOCKS**

**[](https://images.search.yahoo.com/images/view;_ylt=A0LEVzzeZxBU3hMAZOdXNyoA;_ylu=X3oDMTB0Mjk3b2U1BHNlYwNzYwRjb2xvA2JmMQR2dGlkA1NNRTI4OF8x?p=socks+clip+art+free&back=https%3A%2F%2Fsearch.yahoo.com%2Fsearch%3Fei%3DUTF-8%26p%3Dsocks%2Bclip%2Bart%2Bfree%26fr%3Dyfp-t-901%26fp%3D1&w=600&h=444&imgurl=www.clker.com%2Fcliparts%2Ff%2F3%2F6%2F7%2F12387031721539914609FunDraw_dot_com_Rainbow_Socks.svg.hi.png&size=28KB&name=12387031721539914609FunDraw_dot_com_Rainbow_Socks.svg.hi.png&rcurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.clker.com%2Fclipart-26506.html&rurl=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.clker.com%2Fclipart-26506.html&type=&no=6&tt=115&oid=a1900334a13b09ffd57b015d37a550ad&tit=clothing+rainbow+socks+clip+art&sigr=11748ohq4&sigi=12relu9v6&sign=11sq7tets&sigt=103ooeh2o&sigb=12g5gsnnv&fr=yfp-t-901)**God is Good all the time and the Congregation responds with All The time God is Good. He never forgets to meet our needs. We are preparing for our new holiday season. Christ is coming again in the form of a babe in the manger, the greatest gift we will ever receive. What gifts are we preparing to give back to God? Please join me once again for collecting socks for Hannahs socks campaign going forward through the Grace of God and all the generosity of the congregation. The socks need to be new and in all sizes. We will be collecting them from September 15 to the end of November. Remember these will be someone’s Christmas gift. Please help. I can never Thank You all enough. We have many neighbors in need. Yours in Christ, Donna

**NOMINEES FOR CHURCH COUNCIL NEEDED**

It’s that time again. We need faithful, deeply interested people to serve God through His Church to fill the upcoming vacancies for Church Council. It is a three-year term, starting in January, with one meeting per month plus any committee that you would want to be the liaison for. Prayerfully consider this service and if willing, contact the Church Office or John Millward at 724-635-0218

**REVELATION FOR EVERYONE – Four Sessions 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 10/7 at 10am (in Social Hall)**

**(and separate online postings)**

Is it possible to make sense of the puzzling and strange vision of the final book of the Bible? We will use the very helpful and insightful study by N.T. Wright, “Revelation for Everyone.”

*From the introduction:*

“’Many people today,’ Wright says, ‘regard Revelation as the hardest book in the New Testament.’ He continues, ‘This book in fact offers one of the clearest and sharpest visions of God’s ultimate purpose for the whole creation, and of the way in which the powerful forces of evil, at work in a thousand ways, but not least in idolatrous and tyrannous political systems, can be and are being overthrown through the victory of Jesus Christ the Messiah and the consequent costly victory of his followers.’

You do not need to purchase the commentary, but you may bring your study Bible. We will use Wright’s translation.

****Session 1 – 1:1—5:14 Letters to Real Churches & Introducing the Lion and the Lamb

Session 2 – 6:1—11:19 From the Four Horsemen to the Song of Triumph

Session 3 – 12:1—18:8 From the Woman and the Dragon to Babylon’s Plagues

Session 4 – 18:9—22:21 From Babylon’s Judgement to the New Creation

Any questions, contact Pastor Andrew.

**Open Forum -Budget Preparations- September 10 at 7pm**

If you are a committee or team leader and have questions about the steps and details in the budget process, you are invited to come to this open meeting and meet with our Treasurer Denny Ernette (and Pastor Andrew along with other leaders). There will be helpful handouts for your budget preparations. If you are unable to make it to this meeting, simply contact Denny and he can get the forms to you.

**Fall Book Class:** Pastor Caroline is offering a class this fall using the book, “Believe: Living the story of the Bible to become like Jesus,” edited by Randy Frazee. We will be doing the third 10 lessons of the book. You are welcome to attend even you could not attend the previous class. There is a book and a study guide. Please contact Pr. Caroline at [pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com) if you are interested or talk to Pr. Caroline at church. We are having the class on Tuesdays, 6:30 PM, here at the church. It will begin Tuesday, September 10th, and it will last 10 weeks. There may be conflicts that come up, but we’ll deal with that if needed.

**Grief Support Group:** We are going to begin another grief support group here at Harrold Zion for those who have lost loved ones. The group will begin on September 12th at 3 PM here at the church. The group will meet for the fall. We may have other groups after this group ends. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Pr. Caroline at [pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcarolinehzlc@gmail.com) or call the church office.

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**Sunday, September 15th**, from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Harrold Zion Community Youth Group. For kindergarten through 12th grade. We will be learning about The Good Samaritan. Use the QR code to pre register.

A group of people around a table

Description automatically generated**FIRST COMMUNION +++ SEPTEMBER 21st 2-4pm**

If you child is showing an interest in receiving the Sacrament, please check you schedule and consider attending this event, a future event, or contacting Pastor Andrew for a session. Jesus extends a radical welcome to all at the Table. We are still learning how radical in love Jesus is! Come learn together—“There is a Place for You.” We use this helpful book by Pastor Daniel Erlander to help us understand our place at the Table (the *source of this graphic)*.

Please sign up so that we can be sure there are enough materials for everyone.

***Sign up by sending an email or text message to Pastor Andrew that you are interested.***

**LOCAL PEACEMAKERS’ TOOLBOX - SEPTEMBER 25 at 1 pm**

***Let’s make peace right here and right now***

*Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me*

This introductory session will share some tools and tips to help to foster peace in difficult conversations. Like peace, this session is open to all.

To be clear, this is to empower us to find common ground, to appreciate others perspectives, and to listen respectfully. This is not one-sided and there is no agenda other than this – to work together for peace among our local communities.

If you are interested in future sessions to share these tools with community members, please let Pastor Andrew know.

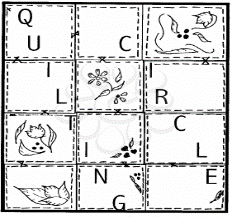
**BOOK STUDY: EVERYDAY SPIRITUALITY by James Hazelwood**

Are you interested in maturing as a Christian, but unsure about spirituality and practices? Perhaps you sometimes feel like spirituality writings are too detached or “pie in the sky”? This book is aimed at engaging in the sacred meaning of our everyday stories. James Hazelwood is a retired ELCA bishop with an inspirational perspective.

Our first session will be September 26th at 6:30pm

Advance preparation – read the Introduction and section one of the Book *Everyday Spirituality* by James Hazelwood. Get the book on Amazon [here](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1733388605) or Barnes and Noble [here](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/everyday-spirituality-james-hazelwood/1132843576?ean=9781733388603)

*Future sessions October 24 at 6:30 and November 21 at 6:30pm* See Pastor Andrew with any questions

**QUILTING MINISTRY**

On the weekend of August 24, 25 there was a blessing of 61 mission quilts and were displayed at the front pews as well as around the altar and choir loft. They were then packed to be delivered to New Windser, MD. On the 29th, John & Mary Lou Millward and Mel & Cindy Veverka drove them to New Windser

.

**The Men’s Prayer Group** meets in the Church’s social hall on the second Saturday

of each month at 8:00 AM. During these gatherings, a continental breakfast is served, providing a warm

and welcoming atmosphere. All men of the congregation are encouraged to join for a time of fellowship, prayer, and meaningful discussion. The group is deeply involved in the life of the church and actively participates in community outreach. Some of their notable efforts are supporting children in need

during the Christmas season, ensuring that these children experience the joy and love of the holiday. They also partner with the Union Mission for Men in providing needed items.

**Our Friends at The Church of the Advent** in Jeannette are starting a local non-profit community outreach program called The Bountiful Bowl Pet Food Pantry.  This program will provide assistance with the feeding and care of pets for families facing financial difficulties, keeping pets out of the shelter and families together.  The Bountiful Bowl Pet Food Pantry is looking for litter and pet food (bagged and canned) donations as well as monetary donations to help stock their shelves.  A box has been placed at the back of the church for donations.  Monetary donations can be sent to The Church of the Advent, 51 South First Street, Jeannette, PA 15644 with checks made out to The Church of the Advent and

notation in the memo section of either “Pet Food Pantry” or “Bountiful Bowl”.  Items may also be purchased from their Amazon wish list: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/KKXBEDARTQMN?ref_=wl_share>   Any questions can be directed to Beth Holsopple.

**Laugh with the Lutherans** - Comedy Night at Harrold Zion on Friday Nov. 22 nd

Do you love to laugh? Do you need a night out with friends and family enjoying good food, fellowship, and a riotous good time? On Friday Nov. 22 nd Slapstick Comedy Funny Fundraiser Productions will be entertaining guests of Harrold Zion with a Two Act Performance following a catered meal. There will be many details to come. We are estimating the tickets sales to be approximately $50 per person (This covers catered meal and entertainment) but the comedy club gives back a portion of the ticket sales as a fundraiser for the church general fund – estimate $1500-2000 for church. We are planning to have donated raffle baskets and council approved wine bar where up to two beverage tickets may be purchased per individual. Doors will open at 5:30, dinner served at 6:00, and entertainment to begin around 7:30. All proceeds will go towards the church general operating cost. Ticket will go on sale starting the weekend of Sept. 14th & 15th . Table seating is limited to approximately 126 seats or 16 tables of 8 seats. Friends and family may want to purchase a table of 8 so they are seated together. Individuals and couples will be assigned seats. Save the date and start rounding up your favorite friends & family members who love to laugh, cheer, and have a jolly good time at the Harrold Zion Comedy Night.

**A circle with text and cartoon children

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**Our Pre School News**

🦕We are in back to school mode. This will be year number 22 of All About Kids Preschool at Harrold Zion. I have been working to get things ready and organized in the room. Our theme this school year is Dinosaurs .

The staff will be helping me in the next few weeks as well. Orientation is September 3rd and 4th where the kids and families come and tour the room, meet the teachers and the other students. The church staff usually pops in and says Hi! To the families during orientation as well. Our first official days of regular classes are September 5th and 6th. The end of September we will be visiting Goodmans Pumpkin Farm.  
All of our preschool activities from September- December 2024 are listed on the church calendar. That is for church staff purposes as well as other groups that use the church. It usually is marked on the calendar if we will be anywhere else in the church besides the preschool room. Our Halloween parade and Christmas programs. -Lisa Zundel

A poster for a charity event

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**Sunday, September 8th 2024 9:15am – 10:15 am**

**Pre-K (4yr) through 6th Grade**

**Join us in the Social Hall for a rotation of activities.**

**7th and 8th Grade Confirmation**

**will meet in the Church with parents or guardians.**

**Parent’s Breakfast Group – September 8th during Faith Formation hour**

Parents can head to the Communications Center area for a time of fellowship and continental breakfast. We will continue to gather on the second Sunday of each month (usually downstairs in the Social Hall). We also hope to see you on October 13th.

**Regular Faith Formation Classes Resume:**

**September 15th, 2024,**

9:15 am to 10:15 am for pre-K through adult.

***All Participants must enter through the office door or the church entrance. No one will be admitted through the social hall doors. This is for the safety of our children and youth.***

Sunday school classes are as follows:

Adult Bible Study in the Meeting room (next to the elevator)

High school Studies Meeting in the Library

A person reading a book with children

Description automatically generatedConfirmation in the Social Hall (closest to the Boy Scout wall)

5th and 6th Grade in the Social Hall (near the double glass doors)

3rd and 4th Grade in the Social Hall (closest to the bathrooms)

2nd Grade in the Large Sunday School room

1st Grade in the Large Sunday School room

Kindergarten in the Large Sunday School room

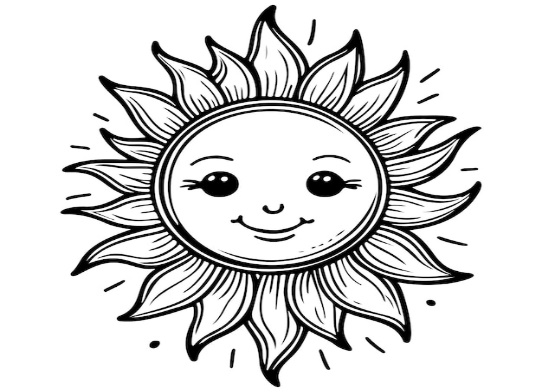
Preschool in the Large Sunday School room

A poster for a halloween party

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A poster with cartoon cats and dogs

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**SONSHINERS (Harrold Zion's over 55 group)**

The Sonshiner's Committee has planned 2 luncheons and Outreach Projects. The first will happen in October and the second in December. People over 55 are welcome to attend:

1. **Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 11:00am** - Outreach Project and lunch in the Social Hall. We have planned a “Church-tober Fest” luncheon entitled European Bar, which will be catered by Sheri Anderson from her Leap of Faith Catering menu. It will include Pierogies, Kielbassa, Pork and Sauerkraut, Mashed Potatoes, Haluski, Green Beans, Salad Greens, Rolls, water and Coffee, and Cupcakes. The committee is asking for a donation of $5 per person. Beginning at 11am, we will work on our Outreach Project which is assembling School Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Lunch will be served
2. **Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 11:00am** – Outreach Project and lunch in the Social Hall. We have planned a “Pot Luck” Christmas Luncheon. Sheri Anderson will provide 2 main dishes, one chicken and one pasta. All those attending are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Water and Coffee will be provided. Beginning at 11am, we will work on our Outreach Project which is assembling Christmas Gift Bags for our Homebound church members. If you have any questions, please see or contact Linda Boyer, 724-635-0339.

**Service Participants for the Month of September**

*Acolytes*

September 1 8:00 am Norah Siniawski

 10:30 am Nina Tyler

September 8 8:00 am Heidi Koehl

10:30 am Ben Hayes

September 15 8:00 am Cooper Anderson

10:30 am Isaac Kanouff

September 22 8:00 am Grace Dansak

10:30 am Maria Gacek

September 29 8:00 am Katelyn Holsopple

10:30 am Caleb Heasley

*Lectors*

September 1 8:00 am Krissy Korona

10:30 am Kelsey Coppetti

September 8 8:00 am Linda Boyer

10:30 am Jack Molnar

September 15 8:00 am Bernie Zundel

10:30 am Doris McAlister

September 22 8:00 am Beth Holsopple

10:30 am Kelly Perry

September 29 8:00 am Louise Henry

10:30 am Shawn Carolan

*Communion Assistants*

August 31/Sept 1 8:00 am Don Freeman, Kevin Torrance

10:30 am Mary Lou Millward, John Millward

September 14,15 8:00 am Glen Nickodemus, Bernard Zundel

10:30 am Sheri Anderson, Jack Molnar

*Ushers*

8:00 am Regis Bombach, Bonny Free

10:30 am Diane Ihlenfeld, Kevin Kurimsky, Stacye Winfield, Jason Barnhart

*Altar Guild* September 1, Susie Eicher, September 8-29 Missy Houston

***Please note:***

***The deadline for the newsletter will be Monday September 16th***.

Please email your articles to Robyn or leave it in the basket on her door. Thank you so much!

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| Music Notes Images - Free Download on Freepik  **YOUTH (AND ADULT) SINGERS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS NEEDED FOR UPCOMING**  **SPECIAL SERVICES!!** RALLY DAY: I am looking for youth singers and instrumentalists to present The Rally Day Song at Rally Day on September 8th! All instruments and skill levels are welcome! Don’t; sing or play an instrument? No problem! Grab a shaker or some rhythm sticks and join in the fun! Lets bring in the new Sunday School Season with spirit!  **REFORMATION**: Instrumentalists (all ages, skill levels and instruments) are needed for  Reformation Weekend (October 26/27)! You’re welcome to participate in whichever service you normally attend! Additional singers are always welcome to join in with the Adult Choir at the 10:30 service!  **CHRISTMAS EVE:** I will need youth and adult singers and instrumentalists for both the Christmas Eve 7:00 and 10:00 services! All skill levels, all instruments. \*There will be solo opportunities for youth singers in one of our anthems!\* Please contact Laurie at lracculia@yahoo.com if interested!  **WORSHIP NOTES:** We will be adding Setting 8 liturgical musical into our worship beginning in September. We will start celebrating Holy Communion on the 5th Sundays of the month (starting this month). September preaching emphases will be the ecumenical Season of Creation!  **September 2024** | | | | | | |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| **1**  08:00 AM-Communion | **2**  08:00 AM-Office Closed 08:00 AM-LABOR DAY | **3**  10:00 AM-PRE SCHOOL ORIENTATION | **4**  10:00 AM-PRE SCHOOL ORIENTATION 06:00 PM-BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL 07:00 PM-ADULT CHOIR | **5**  08:00 AM-PRESCHOOL 1ST DAY OF SCHO 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts | **6**  08:00 AM-PRESCHOOL 1ST DAY 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study | **7**  08:00 AM-Sanctuary Reserved 05:00 PM-Communion |
| **8**  08:00 AM-RALLY DAY 09:15 AM-Parent's Breakfast 11:45 AM-Fellowship Committee | **9**  10:00 AM-REVELATION S HALL 10:30 AM-QUILTING 01:00 PM-QUILTING 05:00 PM-THYME FOR HERBS 06:00 PM-JOYFUL NOISE 07:00 PM-WORSHIP MUSIC | **10**  10:00 AM-Prayer Shawl Ministry 01:00 PM-HYMN SING 06:30 PM-BOOK STUDY 07:00 PM-OPEN FORUM 07:30 PM-Compassionate Friends | **11**  06:00 PM-BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL 07:00 PM-ADULT CHOIR | **12**  03:00 PM-GRIEF SUPPORT 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts 07:00 PM-Council Meeting | **13**  10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study | **14**  08:00 AM-Men's Breakfast 08:00 AM-Sanctuary Reserved 09:00 AM-JOYFUL NOISE PRACTICE 05:00 PM-Communion |
| **15**  08:00 AM-Communion 08:00 AM-SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES 10:30 AM-Joyful Noise service 11:45 AM-Evangelism Committee 05:30 PM-YOUTH GROUP | **16**  10:00 AM-REVELATION Soc HALL | **17**  06:30 PM-BOOK STUDY | **18**  06:00 PM-BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL 07:00 PM-ADULT CHOIR | **19**  03:00 PM-GRIEF SUPPORT 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts | **20**  10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study | **21**  08:00 AM-Sanctuary Reserved 11:30 AM-Graveside Funeral Service 12:00 PM-SOCIAL HALL AND PAVILION 02:00 PM-1ST Communion EVENT 05:00 PM-Communion |
| **22** | **23**  10:00 AM-REVELATION Soc HALL 06:30 PM-Property Committee | **24**  10:00 AM-Prayer Shawl Ministry 06:30 PM-BOOK STUDY | **25**  10:00 AM-Newsletter mailing 01:00 PM-LOCAL PEACEMAKERS TOOLBOX 06:00 PM-BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL 07:00 PM-ADULT CHOIR | **26**  03:00 PM-GRIEF SUPPORT 06:30 PM-BOOK STUDY / PR ANDREW 07:00 PM-Boy Scouts | **27**  08:00 AM-PS GOODMAN PUMPKIN FARM 10:00 AM-Ladies Bible Study | **28**  08:00 AM-Sanctuary Reserved 05:00 PM-Communion |
| **29**  **Holy communion** | **30**  10:00 AM-REVELATION S HALL 10:30 AM-Quilting Ministry 01:00 PM-Quilting Ministry |  |  |  |  |  |

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OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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**Rev. Caroline Clifford**

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Assistant Pastor

**Robyn Henry**

Administrative Asst.

**Sheri Anderson**

Youth and Family Coordinator

**Laurie Racculia**

Music Director

**Joanne Gebhardt**

**Melanie Altman**

Organists

**Debby Schlegel**

Custodian

John 13:34-35 34“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”