THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

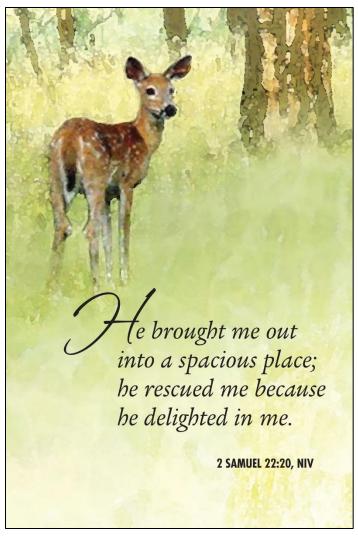
of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church 27 Lyons Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522 Ruth F. Doty, Pastor

E-mail: njelchurch@windstream.net

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Church Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00a.m.-12:00 noon



THE MISSION OF NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH:

We are a group of people who gather together in friendship and love to worship God, to spread God's Word, and to care for God's people.



"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."

This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37b-39

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS,

How would you define Christian stewardship? The booklet, *Stewards of God's Love* describes it as a way of life that calls us to integrate our faith and the way we live, as "everything we do after we say 'I believe." It is primarily about love: love from God which we are called to share with the rest of creation. Members of our Stewardship Committee and Council are currently studying this booklet. Many of the ideas presented below come from this resource.

The booklet begins with the image of what we think about when we make the sign of the cross: down, in, and out. When we make this sign, first traced on our foreheads at baptism, we start from our foreheads, move down toward our waists, back toward our hearts, out to each shoulder, and return to our hearts. This reminds us of how God has come **down** to us, how we bring **in** what God has abundantly given us, and how we then look **out** to understand what our neighbors need.

God has come **down** to us in many ways. Beginning with creation God has provided us with a beautiful place to live, and called us humans to be stewards of its abundance. (A steward is "someone who cares for someone else's property") We are often particularly aware of these gifts during the summer. God's love also comes down to us through Jesus, whom God sent to bring healing to our brokenness and restore us to the right relationship with God and one another. God continues to come down to us in love through God's Spirit, to claim us as God's children and to guide and empower us to carry God's love to all around.

God has blessed us with abundance, more than we can ever imagine: not just things, but our very selves and our time and our talents. "When we realize that everything belongs to God and not to us, we can't help but offer it back to God to be given away in thanksgiving for God's generosity to us." What we bring **in** to God may not seem like much, but when we put our gifts into God's hands, they can become so much more. Remember the boy who offered his lunch of a few loaves and fish to Jesus and Jesus used them to feed 5,000?

The third movement is **out**ward: looking around to see how God is calling us to use all the resources that God has given into our care to love God and our neighbors. "Stewardship transforms God's commandment to 'love our neighbors as ourselves' . . . into a way of life."

This month we celebrate **Pentecost** and remember how the Holy Spirit came **down** upon the disciples, setting their hearts on fire, eager to share the message of God's love through Jesus to all around. The Spirit used their words and deeds to draw others **into** God's love, birthing the community we know as the church. Members of that church continue to look **out**ward to learn how to share the abundance we have received. We also celebrate the festival of the **Holy Trinity**, when we consider how God acts in unity as community: Father, Son and Spirit, whom we also know as Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. We then continue to express our thankfulness and joy through celebrations of creation, thinking particularly of the gifts of Forest and Wilderness.

So now, as we move into summer, may you enjoy and become ever more aware of the abundance of what our loving God has given us and be renewed in your love for God, self and neighbor.

Pastor Ruth

Source: *Stewards of God's Love*. Copyright Evangelical Lutheran Church in America 2013. Used with permission. To read the entire document go to https://www.elca.org/en/Our-Work/Congregations-and-Synods/Stewardship/Growing-Stewards and look for *Stewards of God's Love*.



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at the May 8th meeting:

- Members' offering envelopes were ordered and should be arriving in your mailboxes the first or second week of June.
- A motion was made to accept a bid to replace the back door and do the repairs to the stairwell/office.
- Season of Creation services and worship in the park have been scheduled for the months of June, July and August.
- The Special Projects committee recommended that we reconsider how many and which fundraisers we do in the light of the people who are able to assist, and the time and effort involved in each as compared with the funds brought in.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY - June 2-3, 2017

The annual Northeastern PA Synod Assembly will be held on June 2-3, 2017 at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center in the Poconos. Ted and Betty Eshbach will be the representatives from New Jerusalem. As part of God's Playground, New Jerusalem's display will represent Cruise for a Cure. Bracelets will be handed out to pray for those who experience cancer, survivors, search for a cure, and care for patients and family members.

RELAY FOR LIFE – June 2-3, 2017

Relay for Life will be held Friday, June 2nd, starting at 3:00 p.m. to Saturday, June 3rd, to 3:00 p.m. at Kutztown University. The theme this year is "School Days." Our team has chosen "Library." We will be selling books. Hardcover books are \$2.00 and paperback books are \$1.00. Stop by and check out New Jerusalem's booth. Together, we'll be a part of making a difference in this important cause.

SHOO-FLY PIE BAKE SALE

New Jerusalem will be holding a shoo-fly pie bake sale on **Tuesday**, **June 6**th, **to Wednesday**, **June 7**th. If you would like to order any pies, please see one of the bakers or contact the church office. Pies are only \$5/each.

JUNE SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Children's Bulletin sponsor. Thank you to all who signed up.

FATHER'S DAY BREAKFAST

Thank your father and father-figures for all that they do with a delicious breakfast on Sunday, June 18th. Breakfast served from 8:30-9:15 a.m.

SEASON OF CREATION SERVICES

Throughout the months of June, July, and August we will be having special services for Season of Creation. These services will be June 11 – Forest, June 25 – Wilderness, July 30 – River, and August 27 – Land.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

An updated directory is available. You can pick up a copy on the table in the narthex.

JULY 2017 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by **Sunday**, **June 25**th.

CAMP NOAH-KOKOMO – July 8-15, 2017

Volunteers are invited to join a Camp Noah team going to Kokomo, Indiana, July 8-15, 2017. This area was hit by 7 tornadoes last August. Camp Noah is a day camp which serves children impacted by disaster using a curriculum specifically designed to help them process their experience through creative activities and play. Volunteers (adults and mature youth 16 and older) lead small groups, recreation, crafts and/or singing. This year's team is being organized by congregations in Berks County. Please see Pastor Ruth if interested in being a volunteer and spread the word.



SAVE THE DATE – VBS – July 17-21, 2017

Imagine a world where curious kids become hands-on inventors who discover they're lovingly crafted by God. The

theme for this year's VBS is "Maker Fun Factory: Created by God, Built for a Purpose." There will be lots of cool crafts, stories and lessons. VBS will be held at Hope Lutheran Church in Bowers. More details to come.

CHURCH PICNIC - July 23, 2017

Mark this date on your calendars! New Jerusalem will be holding their church picnic on **Sunday**, **July** 23rd, after the worship service. Join us for food, fun and fellowship.

WORSHIP IN THE PARK – August 6, 2017

Mark your calendars now for our Community Worship in the Park scheduled for **Sunday**, **August 6th**, in Bowers Park. Join with Hope Lutheran, New Jerusalem UCC, St. Peter's UCC, Christ DeLong UCC, and Christ Mertz Lutheran for worship and a fellowship picnic. There are picnic benches, but you are welcome to bring along lawn chairs.

BACKPACK SUNDAY - August 20th

HARVEST HOME - August 27th

NEWS & EVENTS in the community

OPERATION HEROES DUCK-A-THON
Help a Vet, Buy a Duck – Sunday, June 4, 2017,
1:00-4:00 p.m. at Cedar Beach Park, Allentown.
Racing starts at 2 p.m. Cash prizes, chicken BBQ dinner by Shears - \$10/meal + drink. For tickets, call Diane Yoder at 610.780.3500 or Gary Barraco at 732.241.6635. Sponsored by the Jarett Yoder Foundation.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL – June 11, 2017 Hope Lutheran Church, Bowers, will be holding their annual Strawberry Festival on Sunday, June 11th, from 4-7 p.m. The menu includes hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ, soup, baked goods and, of

CLASS FOR LAY PERSONS – June 17, 2017

course, strawberries and ice cream.

The class will take place at the Lutheran Center, 2354 Grove Road, Allentown from **9:00 a.m. until noon**. "The Gospel According to John: Piecing Together the Puzzle of the Fourth Gospel." Pastor David Strobel will lead this session on a whirlwind tour of John's Gospel. How can we make sense of this most spiritual and peculiar of the four Gospels? Any member or friend of one of our congregations is welcome to attend. The cost is \$10 and can be paid the morning of the event; but you must register by Wednesday, June 14th by calling Pastor Mary Gade at 610.266.5101. This is the final class for this academic year.

FOOD SAFETY COURSE – June 20th

A FREE state-certified non-profit food safety course will be held on **Tuesday**, **June 20**th, from **8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at St. Paul's Church, 2613 Old Route 22 in Hamburg. This course is for those churches who hold banquets, dinners, bakes, etc. After attending the course, participants receive PA non-profit Food Certification! We need to get as many people certified as possible. If you are able to attend, please contact Jill Robertson at jrobertson@readingberkschurches.org or 610.375.6108. Also let Cheryl Wiltrout or Gladys Kline know of your interest.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT FORUMS

The **Lutheran Home at Topton** runs Bereavement Support Forums the third Wednesday of each month from **6:30-8:00 p.m.** in Deibert Hall, first floor of D-wing. On **June 21**st, – *Reinvesting in Life: Relationships & Roles*. Crafts, refreshments and a time for sharing will follow each program or presentation.

GERMAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL – June 25th

Held at Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, 250 Church Lane Road, Reading. The schedule is as follows; 3 p.m. Reading Liederkranz Dancers,4 p.m. Pastor Grossman with a slide presentation of stories about the Reformers and games for children, 5 p.m. Authentic German food. Music provided by The Happy Dutchmen. Please purchase tickets in advance by calling 610.779.3480. Tickets are \$5/person (children 9 and under free).

FAITH FIVE

During worship on May 14 we talked about building networks that support us in our lives. Faith 5 is one way to help to do this.

What is Faith Five? It's a way to connect with family or friends in order to build relationships with God and with one another. Each day, or as often as possible, connect with your family or a family you create and;

- 1) SHARE highs and lows,
- 2) READ a Bible verse or story or hymn,
- 3) TALK about how what you read might relate to your highs and lows,
- 4) PRAY for one another's highs and lows, and
- 5) BLESS one another (e.g. "God loves you and so do I.")

For more information visit www.faith5.org.



For such a time as this PRAY. FAST. ACT.

Our ELCA bishop, Elizabeth Eaton and the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, The Most Reverend Michael Curry, have issued a joint invitation to a

season of prayer, fasting and advocacy. Out of concern for the proposed deep cuts to programs that are vital to hungry people struggling with poverty, they summon our churches to practices of spiritual devotion that undergird a discipline of public witness on behalf of the neighbor.

More people face famine today than at any time in modern history. More than 20 million are at the brink of starvation and millions more suffer shortages of water and food.

While the initial call was in anticipation of the May 21st Global Day of Prayer to End Famine, our bishops are also calling us to pray, fast and advocate on the 21st of every month throughout the 115th Congress, and to join others in highlighting for members of Congress the importance of foreign assistance and humanitarian relief.

We fast to fortify our advocacy in solidarity with families who are struggling with hunger. We fast to be in solidarity with neighbors who suffer famine, who have been displaced, and who are vulnerable to conflict and climate change. We fast with immigrants who are trying to make a better future for their families and now face the risk of deportation. We fast in solidarity with families on SNAP, who often run out of food the last week of the month. (A call to prayer from Bread for the World.)

Fasting is a spiritual discipline in which we humble ourselves and deprive ourselves of something for a predetermined period of time. It does not have to be refraining from food. It can be refraining from something else like the use of social media, not watching TV, etc.

Fasting is a choice for us, not an attempt to imitate the conditions of hunger for others. The purpose of the fast is for us to draw closer to God and allow God to use us for God's purpose. While refraining from something, consider adding something to the day such as a time of mediation, a walk in nature or a journaling exercise.

The story of Esther provides encouragement for our fasting, prayer and advocacy. Esther, a Jew, was the wife of the Persian king. When plans were made to slaughter all the Jews in the empire, Esther's cousin Mordechai pleaded with her to go to the king and use her voice to advocate for them, even though this might place her life in danger. He urged her not to remain silent, as she may have been sent "for such a time as this." Esther asked people to fast and pray with her for three days to fortify her advocacy before the king, resulting in saving the lives of her people.

For more about our bishop's call to prayer, fasting and advocacy go to www.elca.org/pray.fast.act. To learn about Lutheran Advocacy go to www.elca.org/Our-Work/Publicly-Engaged-Church/Advocacy.

Did You Know?

BEE

The bee symbolizes various traits across cultures and faiths, including community, industry and resurrection. Its sting may represent judgment, while its honey calls to mind the sweetness of divine riches.

Multiple times in the Old

Testament, the Promised Land is described as "flowing with milk and honey" (e.g., Exodus 3:8), and the Psalms declare God's words "sweeter than honey" (19:10; 119:103).



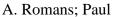
Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness. The cookies were very tasty and disappeared quickly. Thank you for thinking of us. – *George and Jeannette DeLong*

Congregation and Pastor Ruth, thank you for an enjoyable evening of fellowship and food at Ozgood's. The planter is beautiful and appreciated. The dependability and cooperative attitude of our bell choir enabled us to ring musically and seaonally appropriate music. I was always pleased and proud of our ringers. God bless all of you. – *Helen Schellenberger*

-Bible Quiz

The "Trinitarian formula" occurs only once in the

Bible. In which New Testament book do we read "in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and who said these words?



B. 1 Peter; Simon Peter

C. The Acts of the Apostles; Luke

D. Matthew; Jesus

Answer: D (See Matthew 28:19.)



An unknown father who began to consider the example he should set for his children penned the following poem:

A careful man I ought to be; A little fellow follows me; I do not dare to go astray For fear he'll go the self-same way.

I cannot once escape his eyes; Whate'er he sees me do, he tries – Like me, he says, he's going to be, The little chap who follows me.

He thinks that I am good and fine, Believes in every word of mine: The base in me he must not see, The little chap who follows me.

I must remember as I go, Through summer's sun and winter's snow, I'm building for the years to be, For a little fellow follows me.

Reprinted from The Newsletter Newsletter





- 1 Jessica Musser
- 2 Abigail Keller
- 2 Joseph Kepnach
- 2 Kristi Rahn
- 2 Todd Wagaman
- 9 Glenn Allen
- 11 Grace Miller
- 15 Julian Tich
- 16 Bradley Musser
- 17 Kimberly Kepnach
- 18 Charli Rissmiller

- 18 Brenda Wagaman
- 19 Diane Keller
- 19 Betty Musser
- 20 Jason Keller
- 21 Clifford Barlet
- 24 Betty Eshbach
- 26 Amanda Cleaver
- 27 Brendan Beshore
- 30 Verna Guinther
- 30 Nathan Keller



- 3 Glenn and Holly Allen (28 years)
- 26 Ted and Betty Eshbach (23 years)
- 26 Jason and Regina Kohl (13 years)
- 27 Elwood and Katie Ellen Cleaver (53 years)
- 27 Larry and Faye Dey (53 years)
- 27 Benton and Helen Fair (58 years)
- 28 Michael and Katie Hess (14 years)
- 29 Lloyd and Linda Moyer (49 years)

If your name or the name of someone you know didn't appear on this list, we apologize and hope you will let us know so we can make the necessary corrections. Thank you.

"Dark as my path may seem to others, I carry a magic light in my heart. Faith, the spiritual strong searchlight, illumines the way, and although sinister doubts lurk in the shadow, I walk unafraid toward the enchanted wood where the foliage is always green, where joy abides ... in the presence of the Lord."



PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE for Those Homebound or in Care Facilities: Anna Angstadt, Cliff Barlet, Samuel Behm, Bertha Bennecoff, Edna Conrad, Helen Fair, Dennis Guinther, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog,

Drena Kocher, Irene Noll, Warren Reinhart, and

Arlene Yob.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Members: Beth Angstadt, Myles Angstadt, Sara Jane Beshore, Lori Eck, Phyllis Fenstermacher, Erma Guinther, Anna Heffner, Amanda Herman, John Keck, Diane Keller, Paige Lambert, Sheila Long, Leon Moyer, Betty Musser, Joanne Pauley, Joyce Rothermel, and Jeff Wengert.

Friends of the congregation: Kathy Adams, Thelma Bright, Evelyn Collins, Dick Curtin, Verna Davis, Earl Derr, Mark Derr, Esther Dunkelberger, Alice Epler, Katie F., Olivia Fenstermacher, Eric Fox, Sonja Hernandez, Tara K., Lauren Kinney, Joe Klick, Ella Kline, Ethan Kunkel, Catherine Landis, Lillian Mengel, Nicki Nolte, Kyle Olinger, Alice Reist, Sandy Reitz, Tim and Carol Romig, Randy S., Sue S., Charles Sanders, Jack Stoudt, Jacki Wagner, Sallie Weil, and Kenneth Yenser.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: For our nation, for our president, for peace between citizens and those who serve them, for all our military personnel serving around the world, for areas of our nation and the world enduring drought, storms, flooding, and other disasters, for refugees and the countries to which they flee, and for peace in the world.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Sandy Burkhart, Erma Gajewski, Denise Haage, Corinne Hersh, Andrew S., Josh S., Olivia Schoenly, Donna

Schwoyer, and Marilyn Timm.



New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts April 30, 2017

Asset Accounts	Balance
Memorial	\$ 19,367.48
Thrivent	6,816.06
Checking	9,306.58
Youth	828.45
Fidelity	142,442.18
Cash Reserve	11,130.80
Mission Investment	11,274.14
Local Care	1,100.50

April 2017 - 'Actual' vs. 'Required' Income

Income

Income Required Actual

<u>Used For: Per Month Income Difference</u>

Operating \$8,519.17 \$11,347.02 * \$2,827.85

Expenses

Income Required per Month — Based on 2017 Budget
Passed by Congregation
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution

* Actual Income Includes: \$3,200.00 ESTIMATED INCOME from Shoo Fly Pie Sale and \$1,800.00 ESTIMATED INCOME from Pot Pie Dinner

Parking Lot – Funds received to offset expenses for Driveway/Parking Lot Repaving

\$ 37,140.00 Total Expenses for Project \$ 13,889.50 Funds Received to offset expenses



THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<u>June</u>	<u>e</u>	
4	10:00 AM	Day of Pentecost – Holy Communion (R)
* 11	10:00 AM	The Holy Trinity – Holy Communion (W)
◆ 1825	12:00-2:00 PM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM	 Season of Creation: Forest Confirmation Class Second Sunday after Pentecost (G) Father's Day breakfast (served at 8:30 a.m.) Third Sunday after Pentecost (G) Season of Creation: Wilderness
July		
* 2	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Communion (G)
9 * 10	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
* 16	10:00 AM	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost (G)
2 3	10:00 AM	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost (G) - Church Picnic after worship
30	10:00 AM	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost (G) Season of Creation: River
Aug • 6	<u>ust</u> 10:30 AM	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – Holy Communion (G)
ŭ	_0.007.	Community Worship and Picnic in Bowers Park
13	10:00 AM	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost (G)

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost (G)

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (G)

Season of Creation: LandHarvest Home Service

Backpack Sunday

FELLOWSHIP DATES:

* 20

27

(*) Fellowship after worship

10:00 AM

10:00 AM

- (♦) Breakfast before worship
- () Church Picnic after worship
- () Worship and Picnic in Bowers Park









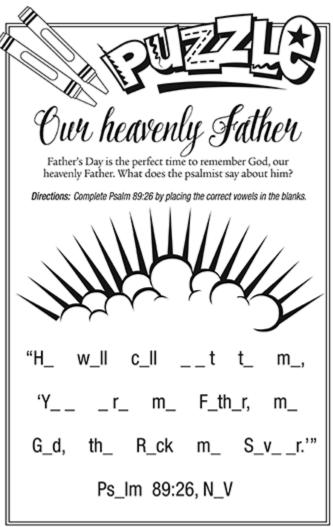
Make this heartwarming handprint gift to give your dad or another special man on Father's Day.

What you need:

- Tempura paint (any two colors besides white)
- · A paper plate
- · Two paintbrushes
- Your dad's hand
- · White cardstock
- Paper towels
- A pen

What you do:

- Place paint on the paper plate.
- Paint your dad's palm and the insides of his fingers with one color of paint. Set his hand in the center of the cardstock and press down. Let dry.
- Paint your palm and fingers with the other color. Place your hand in the center of your dad's. Let dry.
- Write a loving message to your dad on the blank sections of the cardstock.
- Give your dad the gift and a hug!



Answer: "He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Answer: "He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my

JUNE WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	ACOLYTE	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
6/4	Sue Schlenker	Cindy Rissmiller		Dale Schwoyer	Gladys Kline
6/11	Joshua Keck	Sarah Bailey		Don & Erma Gajewski	Dale Schwoyer
6/18	Jeannette DeLong	Roy Merkel	1	Dale Schwoyer	Dan & Joanne Pauley and Lucille Jones
6/25	Tara Basta	Ken Keck	1	Larry & Faye Dey	Lloyd & Linda Moyer

ALTAR GUILD: Tara Basta

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: (sponsor needed)

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Lloyd and Linda Moyer

COMMUNION BREAD: 6/4 – Faye Dey; 6/11 – Sara Jane Beshore

COMMUNION SET-UP: 6/4 – Faye Dey; 6/11 – Sara Jane Beshore

COUNCILPERSON: Sue Schlenker

COST: Flowers - \$35.00; Bulletins - \$7.00; Children's Bulletins - \$5.00; Sanctuary Candle - \$15.00

JUNE 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	Synod Assembly,► Poconos Relay for Life, Kutztown	3
Day of Pentecost - Holy Communion	5 Shoo-fly Pie Bake▶	6	7	8 1:30pm-Bible Study, Christ DeLong UCC, Bowers	9	10
The Holy Trinity Season of Creation: Forest Holy Communion Fellowship 12:00-2:00pm-Confirmation Class	7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm-Council Meeting	13 5:30pm-Worship and Music Committee Meeting	14 Flag Day	15	June 16-18, 2017 - Lutheran Youth Fellowship, Muhlenberg College	9:00-12:00pm-Class for Lay Persons, Lutheran Center, Allentown
18 Second Sunday after Pentecost 8:30am-Father's Day Breakfast	7:00pm-Mutual Ministry Meeting	20 8:00-12:00pm-Food Safety Course, St. Paul's Church, Hamburg	21 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Janelle's 6:30-8:30pm- Bereavement Support Forum, Lutheran Home Summer Begins	22	23	24
Third Sunday after Pentecost / • Season of Creation: Wilderness Newsletter DEADLINE	26	27	28	29	30	31