

# The Messenger

Lifting Up Jesus In The Heart Of Jacksonville



## Bicentennial Celebration observed

Centenary United Methodist Church celebrated a milestone on Sunday, October 17. The congregation gathered to witness its 200th birthday. Special moments highlighted the worship service held at 10:00 a.m.

*More photos inside*



There is an old saying, the comes from a Thomas Wolfe novel, that states, “*You Can Never Go Home Again.*” The saying refers to human beings relationship with nostalgia which makes us look at the past in an overly-positive way, and how we tend to recall people and places from our childhood without considering they may have changed.

Throughout my adult life, I have mentioned this adage to my kids among others as if it were a fact. I was speaking from an emotional point of view rather than a technical one. Things we experience as children are childhood memories.

Meaning those memories can only be interpreted by ourselves as children. When we return to our childhood home, it often seems to be smaller than we remembered, because we were small when we lived there. When we watch a television program that we enjoyed in childhood may seem silly or even insensitive to our adult senses.

When Jesus tells us a prophet has no honor in his home country, (Mark 6:4). The Lord was referring to this human memory problem. People who knew the Lord, remembered him from his childhood and they judged him by his parents. How can someone who is nothing be called something; is in essence what they were asking. It was difficult for Jesus to go home again, not because the people round him changed, but because Jesus did.

Perhaps people were angry because Jesus was calling them out on certain parts of their faith. Maybe they didn’t want this lowly carpenter’s son to tell them how they must live. In their case, they didn’t want to move to a new place of understanding, in short, they wanted to stay home. They wanted things to remain as they were. People are no different today, many long to return to the ‘Good Ol’ Days’ when life was easy and simple. It was easy and simple because we were children and others took care of the hard stuff.

Our savior took care of the hard stuff for us so we neither need to long for the old days, nor do we need to fear the future and changes that tomorrow may bring. We have been called to live in this moment. We have been called to share in this moment. We have been called to extend grace in this moment.

Today is the day that is worth living in. On Sunday, October 11, I was able to go home again and preach in the sanctuary where I was birthed into the Christian faith.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 9**

**WEEKLY WORSHIP**

Traditional Service .....8:15 am  
 Sunday School for all ages .....9:30 am  
 Fellowship Hour .....Coffee and tea available  
 Contemporary Service .....10:45 am

**SPECIAL SUNDAY EVENTS**

Holy Communion .....Sunday, Nov. 7  
 Pennies For Hunger .....Sunday, Nov. 28

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Donate Blood .....1st and 2nd Mondays, 11 - 6

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Messenger Deadline .....Thurs., Nov. 23, 9 am

**LEADERSHIP**

Trustees .....Tues., Nov. 2, 6 pm  
 Education .....Wed., Nov. 3, 5:30 pm  
 Missions .....Wed., Nov. 10, 4:00 pm  
 Ad Council .....Wed., Nov. 10, 6:30 pm

**BIBLE STUDIES**

Tuesday Morning  
 Bible Study .....Nov. 9 & 23, 9:30 am  
*In the Fellowship Hall*  
 Monday Night Bible Study .....Monday Nights, 5:30  
*In the Parlor*

**SMALL GROUPS**

AlAnon Meeting .....Wednesdays, 7 pm  
 Ladies Book Club .....Tues., Nov. 9, 6:30 pm  
*In the Parlor*  
 Prayer Meeting .....Mondays 8:15 am  
*In the Small Chapel*

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN**

FHS Circle .....Wed, Nov. 10, 6:30 pm  
 Hope Circle .....Thur, Nov. 11, 1:30 pm  
 Spirit Circle .....Thur., Nov. 18, 6:00 pm

**Centenary Staff**

Pastor

**Mel Nielsen**

Director of Outreach  
 and Growth

**Kevin Hinkle**

Secretary

**Christi Kennedy**

Music Director

**Terri Benz**

Contemporary Worship Leader

**Rachel Hinkle**

Parish Visitor

**TBD**

Custodian

**Patty Adcock**

Nursery Attendants

**Kayleigh Dirden**

**How to contact us**

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Email: [office@jaxcentenary.org](mailto:office@jaxcentenary.org)

Website: [www.jaxcentenary.org](http://www.jaxcentenary.org)

**Centenary's Missionaries**

Mark and Rebecca Smallwood

Teachers at Redbird Mission

in Kentucky

# Children's Ministry News

## OCTOBER ACOLYTES

November 7 - Jackson Six

November 14 - Matthew Hinkle

November 21 - Annabelle Hardy

November 28 - Jayden Batty

## TEACHING SCHEDULE

### **Toddler/Pre-K classroom**

Teacher: Diana Phillips

Assistant: Kayleigh Dirden

### **Elementary Classroom**

Teachers: Rusti Cummings and Nancy Hardy

Assistants:

1st Sunday - Jack Borgman

2nd Sunday - Peggy Jordan

3rd Sunday - Ashley Westenberger

4th Sunday - Amy Stidham

### **Middle School**

Rachael Borgman, Mary Tomlin and Linda Tribble.

### **High School**

Pastor Mel Nielsen

## *Our Conference, Our Kids*

The 4th Annual Trunk or Treat was held on Sunday, October 31. Thank you to everyone who participated wither by decorating a trunk, serving food or with a donation.

## *Birthday kits assembled*

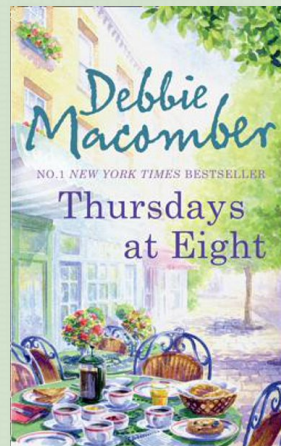
The second 5th Sunday service Project was donating items and assembling Birthday Party Kits for the Jacksonville Area Food Bank and the Murrayville-Woodson Food Pantry. The additional Sunday School class donated cake mixes, frosting, sprinkles and candles. The children's Sunday School donated such things as plates, napkins, table cloths, centerpieces, etc. Thank you to all who donated and assembled the kits to help brighten birthdays for children in our communities.

## *Financial Report*

As of September 30, 2021

General Expenses .....	\$222,218.89
General Giving .....	\$204,901.24
	-\$17,317.65

## *Ladies Book Club*



The November Ladies Book Club will meet on Tues., Nov. 9 at 6:30 in the church parlor.

The featured book will be "*Thursdays at Eight*" by Debbie Macomber.

Please contact Debbie Nielsen if you would like to participate.



## November Birthdays

2	Peggy Jordan Pastor Mel Nielsen
3	Drew Cooley Chub Patterson
5	Roberta Randorf
6	Madison Hinkle
7	Ruth Ann Donovan Joe Buchanan
9	Mark Grounds
11	Bill Conklin Bob Stidham
12	Ann Large Stephany Dirksmeyer
13	Barbara Fernandes Gabriel Hrynewych
15	Marilyn Kimmons Taylor Lashmett John Isaacs
16	John Gotschall
18	Norma Neff Cara Heller Eriana Hope Refuerzo
19	Mark Sorrill
20	Joshua Sorrill
21	Amelia Pennell
22	Bridget McDade
23	Ethan Pennell
24	Sally Stock
25	Brenda Adkins
26	Joyce Ginder Bev Rhine
27	Patricia Meyer Cathy Meado
28	Rev. Jean Hembrough
29	Alice Spradlin Hannah Tomlin
30	Roger Houston Nicholaus Warmowski

## November Anniversaries

6	Tom and Peggy Jordon
11	Tom and Tamara Newby
23	Louis and Martha Vache

## Upcoming Worship Schedule

The following is a tentative schedule for November 2021 Worship.

**Readings & Message are subject to change.**

### November 7

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - White

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

*"Jesus the Redeemer"*

NT: Hebrews 9:11-14

Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

### November 14

25th Sunday after Pentecost

Altar Color - Green

Sermon Series: *Jesus in Hebrews*

*"Jesus and the Covenant"*

NT: Hebrews 10:11-25

Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

### November 21

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

Altar Color - Green

Pastor on Vacation

*Guest Pastor: The Rev. John Eisfelder*

OT: Jeremiah 29:11

NT: Galatians 3:13

### November 28

1st Sunday in Advent

Altar Color - Purple

Sermon Series: *Advent*

*"Hope"*

NT: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

### December 5

2nd Sunday of Advent

Altar Color - Purple

Sermon Series: *Advent*

*"Peace"*

NT: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6



## Missions



### *Chaddock's Santa Express rolling into Centenary again*

Each year, Centenary helps provide new Christmas gifts for Chaddock boys and girls. Needed are gifts of new clothing, school supplies and crafts, hair products, personal care products, and gift items. A complete list of items is available in the narthex or church office. Unwrapped gifts should be brought to Centenary by Sunday, December 4. Put them in the Santa Express Train box in the Narthex.

If you prefer to shop online have your donations shipped to Shawna Bunnell, Chaddock, 205 S 24th St., Quincy, IL 62301. Select "this is a gift option" on the website. Gift cards and monetary donations for the purchase of gifts can be sent to Chaddock Children's Foundation, care of Shawna Bunnell (at the above address). Note that they are for the Santa Express.



### *Food Baskets to be delivered*

Our Centenary family will once again prepare Christmas food baskets for local families. These will be delivered on Saturday morning, December 18. If you know someone who would benefit from receiving food, contact Christi in the church office. Let Martha Vaché know if you can help deliver the food.

### *Fox Trust Deadline*

The deadline to submit requests to the Fox Trust is Wednesday, December 1. Donations can be given to charitable organization in the United States. Applications are available in the church office or on the Centenary website.



**Pastor Mel Nielsen and Pastor Kevin Hinkle attend Chaddock Pastor Connect.**

### *Pastors tour Chaddock*

Pastor Mel and Pastor Kevin toured Chaddock House in Quincy on Thursday, October 14. They were invited to join with other clergy for 'Chaddock Pastor Connect', which allows clergy from all denominations to tour the facility and gain insight as to how local churches can be of aid to the children of Chaddock.

They heard from three main speakers who detailed the areas of focus at Chaddock. Those three main areas are the Chaddock School, the DTAP (Developmental Trauma and Attachment Program) and the Foster & Adoption Service.

They found out there are currently 100 students in the school, 38 in the DTAP program and nearly 400 in Foster Care. Some of the children at Chaddock are residents who live full time on the 30 acre campus and others and transported by bus or family.

The DTAP program specializes in younger children who have suffered severe abuse and neglect. This type of childhood leaves them unable to develop properly or make lasting, healthy relationships.

The school is fully accredited and is considered the same as any other school when students graduate. The credits they earn at Chaddock can be

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## Missions

### *UM Student Day*

On Sunday, November 28, Centenary will celebrate United Methodist Student Day. The special offering that day will support students like Ricky Blue. The son of two addicted parents, Ricky had grown up without much hope for a future. But when Ricky's church family—Louisiana's Luling UMC—raised \$4000 for Ricky to begin college, hope was born. Then, the Gift of Hope Scholarship, made possible by generous giving to United Methodist Student Day, allowed Ricky to continue his studies. Today Ricky is a certified candidate for ministry in the Illinois Great Rivers Annual Conference.

What no one person can do, we're doing together. Together we're raising up gifted Christian leaders.



### *Salvation Army Angel Tree*

Tags containing the child's name, age, and gift suggestions will be available on a small Christmas tree in the narthex. Attach your Angel Tree tag to a large sack with your unwrapped gifts and placed under one of the small Christmas trees next to the entrance to the sanctuary.

### *Bell Ringers needed*

Centenary is scheduled to ring bells for the Jacksonville Salvation Army at Midland Farm and Home on Thursday, December 2 and Saturday, December 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you can help ring, sign the sheet in the Narthex or call the church office. If you are available to ring on other dates/times you may sign up individually online at "Registertoring.com".

### *MMDC volunteer info*

Chandel Corrie, Executive Director of Midwest Mission Distribution Center gave the message at Centenary on October 10. She told how MMDC collects and distributes supplies to those in need both in the United States and all over the world.

Except for a small staff all the work at MMDC is done by volunteer missionaries. In addition to needing donations for many different kits, MMDC also accepts donations of sewing machines and bicycles.

MMDC recycles everything possible including used wooden bleachers donated by schools that are installing new bleachers. The lumber in the bleachers is used to make simple teacher and/or student desks. The desks, sewing machines, and bicycles are made or repaired by volunteers and shipped to countries with a high poverty level.

MMDC is located east of Chatham, so it is an easy to volunteer for half a day or all day. If you are interested in volunteering at MMDC, let Martha Vache know so we can schedule a date for a group from Centenary. There is wide variety of volunteer jobs at different skill levels. Advance registration is required.

Chandel Corrie sent a note of thanks for the \$296 in donations the MMDC received on the day that she spoke at Centenary. Donations MMDC can be made by a check to Centenary or by going to the MMDC website: <http://www.midwestmission.org/>.

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### **CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5**

transferred to other schools if students do not remain until the completion of high school.

Foster & Adoption Services was highlighted as the greatest current need; many host families are sought to foster children. Please see either men if you have interest in becoming a foster family. Any church group, large or small, is free to call a schedule a tour of the Chaddock facilities.

## United Methodist Women

### *LaMoine UMW Retreat*

Centenary hosted the LaMoine River District UMW Retreat on October 12 in our pavilion. Barbara Wooldridge led the retreat on the topic “Top Ten List: Priorities for Faithful Living”. It was a wonderful day of fellowship. The ladies loved our new pavilion. See attached photos.



### *Saladless Salad Luncheon*

The United Methodist Women held a Saladless Salad Luncheon during October. Thank you to everyone who donated. It will help us pay our district pledge and support our UMW missions. If you forgot to donate, it's not too late. Make checks to “Centenary UMW” and put in the offering plate, turn into the church office, or give to Martha Vaché, UMW treasurer.

### *Circle News*

UMW circles have been creative in meeting safely during this pandemic.

#### HOPE CIRCLE

Hope Circle met in the pavilion for lunch in September. In October Jarice Crenshaw hosted a wiener roast at Lake Jacksonville. Instead of the usual October visits to some of our Centenary friends, the group sent greeting cards this year. Hope Circle's November meeting will be in the parlor on Thursday, November 11, at 1:30 p.m. The program will be the annual Thank Offering. The group will also make plans for 2022.

#### FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE CIRCLE

LuAnne Woodrum hosted a wiener roast for FHS Circle in October. They have been busy planning and raising money for the bell project in celebration of Centenary's 200th Birthday.

Pat Manker will host FHS Circle on Wednesday, November 10 at 6:30 p.m. They have decided not to hold their annual Cookie Walk this year.

#### RUTH CIRCLE

Members have not been able to hold regular meetings this year, but they keep in touch with each other.

#### SPIRIT CIRCLE

Spirit Circle will meet Thursday, November 18 with location to be determined.



## United Methodist Women

### *Remembering Mary-Martha Fellowship Group*

With the passing of Helen Hammond recently, Margaret Little is the only surviving member of the Mary-Martha Fellowship Group formerly known as Mary-Martha Circle. Mary-Martha Circle was part of Centenary's WSCS (Women's Society of Christian Service). It was organized in the 1968 with Josephine Smith as their leader.

In recent years, the group has not been able to get together, but they have kept in touch with one another as much as possible. Over the years these ladies were dedicated UMW and Mary-Martha Circle. They helped with many church activities including the bi-annual UMW Salad Luncheons. As of 2018 the group had six members including: Helen Hammond, Margaret Little, Marge Meyer, Harriett Pearson, Jan Shelburn, and Martha Simmons.

Former members included Dorothy Alcorn, Eula Allee, Mrs. Chalmer Babb, Mrs. Donald Batz, Edna Barton, Mary Benedict, Bernita Benner, Mable Bolton, Clara Mae Bradshaw, Jane Button, Nettie Brockhouse, Dorothy Buchanan, Dorothy Chumley, Helen Cole, Winnie Colleps, Shirley Cook, Vera Craft, Margaret Craig, Ferne Crain, Mrs. Zed Crow, Gertrude Darr, Arstella Doolin, Betty Fisher, Norma Friend, Waive Gillis, Ruth Ginder, Leona Griffin, Beverly Hiatt, Frances Jackson, Phyllis Massey, Betty May, Mrs. William McCurley, Charlotte McDanniel, Arlene Miller, Laura O'Neal, Esther Newby, Frieda Patterson, Leora Rawlings, Mary Riffey, Jean Robertson, Vivian Schildman, Marie Servoss, Blanche Simmons, Josephine Smith, Marjorie Stewart, Shirley Suhling, Louise Thompson, Betty Ward, Pauling Watt, and Marjorie Workman.

### *UMW Business meeting*

The United Methodist Women will hold a business meeting in the church parlor on Tuesday, November 2 at 6:30 p.m. to plan for 2022 and elect new officers. All UMW members are welcome to attend.

### *Why I like being a UMW member*

I have had the special opportunity of being a member of many UMW groups over the past 15 years. Although each group has been unique in some ways, there is one central theme, and that is commitment to mission and to their churches. As we have been appointed to many different United Methodist Churches, the UMW has been a cornerstone of each church.

These are women dedicated to service and mission. They donate hours of service to church projects, fundraising, mission projects, and responding to immediate needs of their church and community members. These women I have had the opportunity to serve with, are some of the most dedicated, loving, devoted, service minded people I know. They are living the mission every day.

Often, we get bogged down with meetings and the "business" of such groups, but that is just a small part of the heart and joy of serving with United Methodist Women.

Blessings, Debbie Nielsen

### *Old UMW program books needed*

For historical purposes the UMW has tried to keep copies of our program books for each year. However, we are missing copies for several years. Please let the church office or any of the UMW officer know, if you have a copy of the program book for any of the following years:  
before 1958; 1967 and 1968; 1970 to 1973; 1996 to 2007; 2010 and 2011; and 2014.



## Welcome Christmas

Calling All Volunteers!  
Hanging of the Greens  
Monday, November 22, 5 p.m.

Advent Dates  
November 28  
December 5  
December 12  
December 19

Blue Christmas  
Tuesday, December 21  
7:00 p.m.

One Service!  
The Centenary Worship  
Committee has decided to  
hold one service on  
December 26 and January 2  
10:00 a.m. Both Dates

## PASTOR

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I did not go back for nostalgic reasons, I went back to share the Word of God with people who once shared it with me. I suppose, on that Sunday, we all looked back a little, but God was there to make the present the most important thing.

They had changed a little and I had changed a little, but the God who put us together all those years ago hadn't changed one bit. God is the reason why any of us can remember yesterday and look forward to tomorrow and still be alive in the moment we are in right now.

No matter how much we try we cannot really go home again, maybe for a moment, maybe for a few memories, but the Lord is always going to call us back to living the moment we are in right now. Jesus was unable to do much in his hometown due to the lack of faith and belief in the people. They were still living in the past so much that the moment to understand the Jesus who stood before them passed and they missed out.

We cannot afford to let any more moments of our 'right now' life pass before us because we are too focused on another day. Psalm 118 tells us . . .

22 The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;

23 the Lord has done this,  
and it is marvelous in our eyes.

24 The Lord has done it this very day;  
let us rejoice today and be glad.

I do not know what God has in store for you today, but if God is doing it, it is probably worth not missing. Go forth and embrace this moment and live as if Christ is alive inside of you.

God Bless  
– Pastor Mel



## *Bell is installed at north entrance*

On Saturday, October 16, Doug Birdsell and his crew, raised the old church bell to its new permanent home.

It now hangs from a beautiful iron arch at the State Street entrance.

This arch and bell are one part of the whole Bell Project.

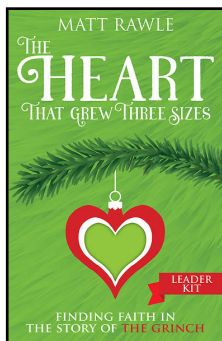






## Centenary represented in Illinois College Homecoming Parade

Members and friends of Centenary participated in the Illinois College Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 10.



## Advent Bible Study

### *The Heart that Grew Three Sizes*

by Matt Rawle

*Wednesday Nights during Advent*

**December 1, 8, 15 & 22**

7:00 p.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom

Order your own paperback book or kindle version

through [www.Cokesbury.com](http://www.Cokesbury.com)

If you want the church to order your book, the cost is \$17.00

Please register with the church office on or before Monday, November 8. Zoom participants must provide an email address when registering.

## Christmas Open House at the Parsonage

339 E. State Street  
**SUNDAY**  
December 5th  
2-5 p.m.

Finger food and Seasonal drinks.  
Home tours.

This event is tentative and will only be held if the Governor lifts the indoor face mask mandate.





Special Worship Service recognizes 200 years







## 200th souvenir items for sale in office

Keep your Bicentennial spirit alive this year by purchasing some souvenir items that commemorate the 200th celebration. Magnets are \$5; Mugs are \$10; and Christmas Tree Ornaments are \$20. Please make checks payable to For Heaven's Sake Circle. There are also a few bulletins remaining in the office from the special Sunday service

## Bicentennial Displays

Pictured at right is a time line of major events in the 200 year history of Centenary. Below right is a display showing the many Parish Visitors and below left is a table displaying the Missions and Missionaries.





# NOVEMBER 2021

	<b>MON., NOV. 1</b>	<b>TUES., NOV. 2</b>	<b>WED., NOV. 3</b>	<b>THURS., NOV. 4</b>	<b>FRI., NOV. 5</b>	<b>SAT., NOV. 6</b>
S - Sunday school room N - Narthex F - Fellowship Hall P - Parlor O - Pavilion C - Chapel X - Online	8:15 am - Prayer Group (C) 10 am - Office Staff Mtg 5:30 pm - Monday Night Bible Study	6:00 pm - Trustees @ 6:30 pm - UMW Business Mtg.	5:30 pm - Education (P) 7 pm - AIAnon (F)	11:00 am - Grief Group (P)		
<b>SUN., NOV. 7</b>	<b>MON., NOV. 8</b>	<b>TUES., NOV. 9</b>	<b>WED., NOV. 10</b>	<b>THURS., NOV. 11</b>	<b>FRI., NOV. 12</b>	<b>SAT., NOV. 13</b>
Holy Communion	8:15 am - Prayer Group (C) 10 am - Office Staff Mtg 5:30 pm - Monday Night Bible Study	9:30 am - Tuesday Morn Bible Study (F) 6:30 pm - Ladies Book Club @ 9-12 LaMoine Dist. UMW Leadership	4:00 pm - Missions (P) 6:30 pm - Ad Council (N) 6:30 pm - FHS Circle (P) 7 pm - AIAnon (F)	1:30 pm - Hope Circle (P)		
<b>SUN., NOV. 14</b>	<b>MON., NOV. 15</b>	<b>TUES., NOV. 16</b>	<b>WED., NOV. 17</b>	<b>THURS., NOV. 18</b>	<b>FRI., NOV. 19</b>	<b>SAT., NOV. 20</b>
	8:15 am - Prayer Group (C) 10 am - Office Staff Mtg 5:30 pm - Monday Night Bible Study		7 pm - AIAnon (F)	6:00 pm - Spirit Circle Location: TBD		
<b>SUN., NOV. 21</b>	<b>MON., NOV. 22</b>	<b>TUES., NOV. 23</b>	<b>WED., NOV. 24</b>	<b>THURS., NOV. 25</b>	<b>FRI., NOV. 26</b>	<b>SAT., NOV. 27</b>
	8:15 am - Prayer Group (C) 5 pm - Hanging of the Greens in Narthex and Sanctuary 5:30 pm - Monday Night Bible Study	9:30 am - Tuesday Morn Bible Study (F)	7 pm - AIAnon (F) MESSENGER DEADLINE	HAPPY THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED TODAY		
<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>	<b>PASTOR ON VACATION</b>
<b>SUN., NOV. 28</b>	<b>MON., NOV. 29</b>	<b>TUES., NOV. 30</b>				
Pennies for Hunger	8:15 am - Prayer Group (C) 10 am - Office Staff Mtg 5:30 pm - Monday Night Bible Study					