Zoar Evangelical Lutheran Church

"Responding in Service to God's Love"



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, 2025

Welcome to Zoar Lutheran Church!

We're glad you're here to worship with us and pray that your spirit will be refreshed and transformed by the abundant grace of our God.

Zoar seeks to follow Jesus's example of inclusion by welcoming and affirming all, including all whom the world attempts to separate, divide, or isolate. We are committed to fostering social justice and racial equality.

The Zoar community is committed to the ongoing work of welcoming all ages, races and ethnicities, physical and mental abilities, marital, economic and legal statuses, sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, as well as all theological perspectives.

We celebrate Holy Communion in worship each week, and all who desire a deeper relationship with the God revealed in Jesus Christ are welcome to partake. This is Christ's table – not our table – and so, we follow Jesus in welcoming all people to the table.

The "Creative Corner" and children's worship bulletins are available for our younger friends.

We also offer Children's Time during worship.

If you have a special prayer request or would like to speak with our Pastor in private later this week, forms are available from an usher.

Hearing devices are available at the AV booth at the back of the sanctuary. Feel free to stand at the rail for Holy Communion if kneeling is uncomfortable, or let an usher know and we can bring Communion to you.

We invite you to join us in worship, community, fellowship, and ministry – all aspects of congregational life and leadership. Please join us after the worship service for fellowship.

May you find Zoar* to be your "little place of refuge." You are welcome here.

(* The name "Zoar" is found in Genesis 19. Zoar is the small town where Lot and his family take refuge when Sodom and Gomorrah are about to be destroyed. "Zoar" means "small" in Hebrew, and since Zoar was a place of refuge, our congregation aspires to be a "little place of refuge.")

Welcome / Announcements

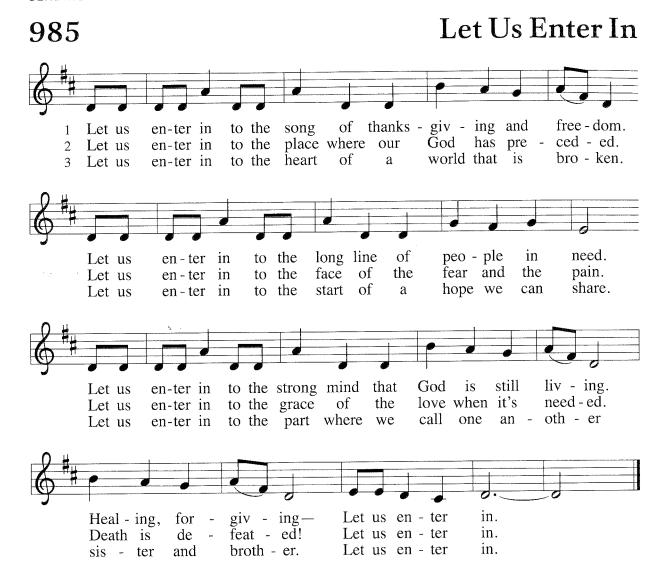
Ringing of the Bell

Prelude



Gathering Hymn

SENDING



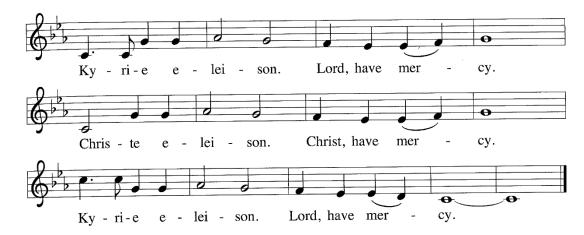
Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943 Music: Ray Makeever Text and music © 1983 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress

LET US ENTER IN 15 14 15 5 5

The Greeting

- P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C: And also with you.

Kyrie



Gloria



Salutation

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.



Please be seated.

First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

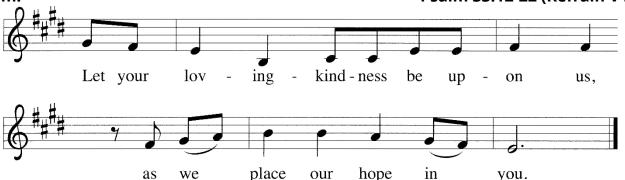
¹ After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm:

Psalm 33:12-22 (Refrain V 22)



- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God | is the Lord! Happy the people chosen to | be God's heritage!
- ¹³ The Lord looks | down from heaven, and sees all | humankind.
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly en- | throned and watches all who dwell | on the earth.
- ¹⁵ God fashions [|] all their hearts and observes [|] all their deeds. R
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size | of the army, nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.
- ¹⁷The horse gives vain | hope for victory; despite its great strength it | cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear [|] you, O Lord, upon those who wait for your [|] steadfast love,
- ¹⁹ to deliver their | lives from death, and to keep them alive in | time of famine. R
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for ¹ you, O Lord, our helper ¹ and our shield.
- ²¹ Surely, our heart rejoic- es in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, [|] be upon us, even as we place our [|] hope in you. R

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

Please stand, as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation



The Gospel Reading

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Children's Time

The Message

Pastor John Reutter-Harrah

Hymn of the Day

PRAISE, THANKSGIVING

Ten Thousand Reasons

1097

Bless the Lord, O My Soul





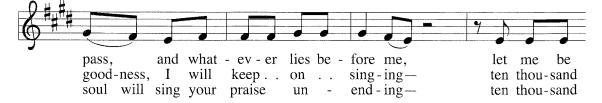




- 2 You're rich in love, and you're slow to an - ger. Your
- on that day when my strength is fail - ing, the And



name. . is . . . great, and your heart is kind. For all . . your near, and my time has come; end . . draws still,





Irregular

The Prayers of the People

(The petitioner will say, "God of grace"; the congregation will respond with "hear our prayer.")

Sharing the Peace of Christ

P: On the count of 3, let's all say together, "The peace of Christ be with you always!"



Please be seated.

The Offering

Please take a moment of silent prayer to consider the many needs and to give thanks for the blessings you've received from God. Ask God to guide you in discerning how you can share some of the gifts God has entrusted to you. (Perhaps you'll feel moved to call someone, to write a card, or to make an extra donation in support of ministries making a difference in our wider community, so that they can continue to bring light and life to our neighbors in need.)

The Offertory

The Offering Hymn

STEWARDSHIP We Plow the Fields and Scatter Aramos nuestros campos 680 ra - mos nues-tros cam-pos, y lue - go el sem - bra We plow the fields and scat-ter the good seed the land, on You on - ly are the mak-er of things near far. We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good, la enes - par - ce con a - mor. but it is fed and wa-tered by God's al - might - y hand, You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star. the seed - time and har-vest, our life, our health, our food. Mas de Dios la es ma - no la ha - ce que ger - mi - nar, who sends the snow in win-ter. the warmth to swell the grain, winds and waves o -The bey you, by you the birds are fed; gifts have we No of - fer your love im-parts to for all lor llucay via dan - do a to - dos por sun-shine, and soft re-fresh-ing rain. the breez - es and the much more to us, your chil-dren, you give our dai - ly bread. what you most would trea - sure— our hum-ble, thank-ful hearts.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740-1815; English tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817-1878, alt.; Spanish tr. Ernesto Barocio, 1866-1948

7676D

SAN FERNANDO

Music: Luis Olivieri, b. 1937

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The Offering Prayer

A: Creator God,

> in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor,

that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give God thanks and praise

The Proper Preface

P: It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit is worshiped and glorified, one God, Holy and Eternal. And so, with the church on earth, all creation, and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy



Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

- P. O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation,
- C. hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.
- P. When the world was a formless void,
- C. you formed order and beauty.
- P. When Abraham and Sarah were barren,
- C. you sent them a child.
- P. When the Israelites were enslaved.
- C. you led them to freedom.
- P. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmist cried out for healing,
- C. and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.
- P. You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city.
- C. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.
- P. In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying; Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying; This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

- P. Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.
- C. Amen.
- P. Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.
- C. Amen.
- P. Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.
- C. Amen.
- P. O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.
- C. O God, you are Bread; feed us with yourself.
- P. O God, you are Wine; warm our hearts and make us one.
- C. O God, you are Fire; transform us with hope.
- P. O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.
- C. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. Amen

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 New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

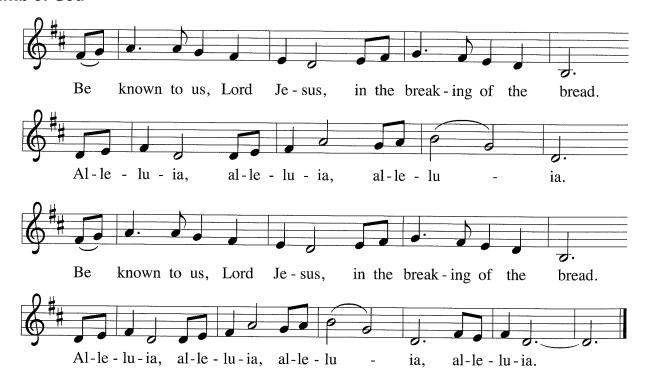
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

Invitation to Communion

P: The kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Lamb of God

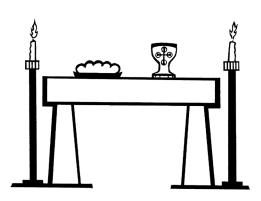


The Distribution

Instructions for those communing online/in their homes:

Please take a minute to wash your hands if you'll be touching the bread or cup and offering it to another person.

As you are offering bread to another, say these words: "The body of Christ, given for you." As you are offering the wine or grape juice, say these words: "The blood of Christ, shed for you."



Communion Hymns



3

Though

the



4. We are a - noint - ed, ser - vants of God; 5. There is a world that waits in the womb;







of

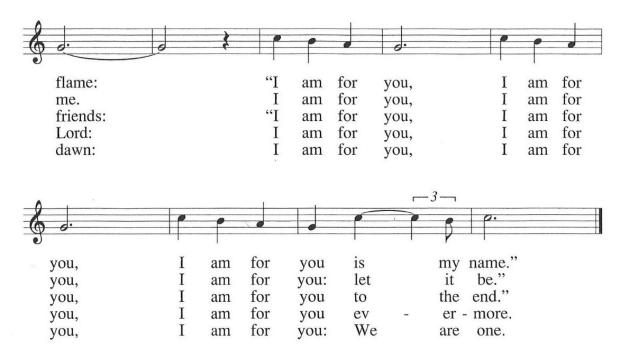
death

prowl the night,

powers



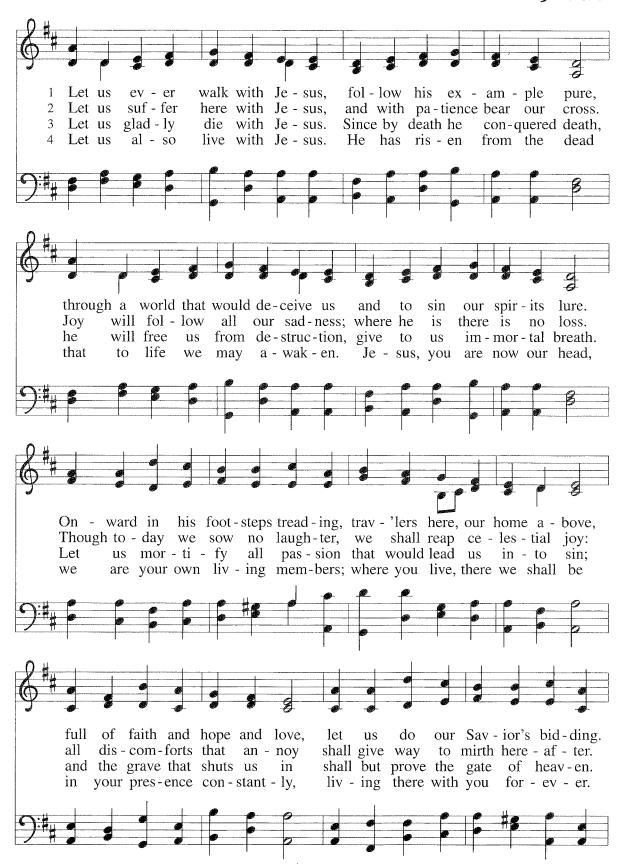




Text: Rory Cooney, b.1952 Tune: Rory Cooney, b.1952 © 1993, GIA Publications, Inc.



Let Us Ever Walk with Iesus





Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, alt. Music: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN 8787877877

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Please stand, as you are able.

The Post-Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.

C: Amen

Closing Prayer:

A: Mothering God,
you gathered us to your table
and we drank deeply of your grace.
Send us out by your Spirit
to love our neighbors as ourselves
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: Amen.

The Sending Blessing

P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit

+ bless you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

A Blessing from John Philip Newell

P: May the love of life fill our hearts.

May the love of earth bring joy to heaven.

May the love of self deepen our souls.

May the love of neighbor heal our world.

As nations, as peoples, as families this day May the love of life heal our world.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn



Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931 Music: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community Text and music $\mathfrak D$ Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus Tr. $\mathfrak D$ 1970 Stephen Somerville

LES PETITES SOEURS 12 14 12 12

The Dismissal

P: Go in peace. And go by faith on the journey.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Thank you, Pastor John, for being our bridge Pastor for the last nine weeks. Loved your leading our Thursday morning zoom Bible study and your knowledge of Celtic Christianity. I also loved the children's message on the small green chair. You have been a blessing (also your wife Susan) to Zoar, please come back to visit once in awhile.

Dave Wichman

Thank you, Pastor John, for being our Bridge Pastor these past nine weeks. We have all appreciated the wonderful leadership in Thursday morning Bible Study as well as our Sunday morning services. We all feel fortunate to get to know both Susan and you and we have all benefitted from your wonderful sense of humor and all the knowledge and insights you have shared with us. We look forward to staying in contact with you in the future and please consider coming back to spend more time with us. To quote John Philip Newell "Sacred wisdom is deep in our nature. The journey to wholeness is about awakening to this wisdom deep within and seeking it everywhere, in every culture and every religion" (as stated by Pelagius). There are so many more quotes I would like to share but time and space permit. God Bless you on your continuing journey through life.

Betty Lundsten



Paul and I felt Pastor John was a perfect fit for our congregation these past two months during Pastor Michelle's absence. He stepped right in, engaged the members and was an active participant in our activities---always making us aware how they fit in with Celtic worship. One of the nicest things about Pastor John's presence with us was that he truly seemed to enjoy being with us as much as we enjoyed having him. Marilyn Halvor



Thank you to our Worship Servers					
Assisting Minister	Di Bernklau				
Communion Assistant	Paul Rothi				
Pianist	Mel Kubik				
Lector	Dan Ogborn				
Song Leader	Worship Team				
Sunday School Teacher	off for the summer				
Greeter	Nancy Mohr				
Altar Care	Carolyn Shearer, Betty Lundsten				
Sound	Marlena Adams				
AV Technician	Anne Manicke				
Altar Flowers	ZLCW				

Last Week's Stats & Goals					
August 3, 2025	Attendance (Average)	Income	<u>Goal</u>	Over/Short	
This Week to Date	71	\$4,210	\$5,000	-\$790	
This Month to Date	71	\$4,210	\$21,767	-\$790	
This Year to Date	75	\$159,351	\$154,599	-\$248	
Restricted Building	Fund	\$286	Cumulative for 2025	\$11,035	
To support our building fundgiving must be designated "Building Fund."					
Thank you for your prayerfully considered gifts					

For those interested in giving electronically, you can scan the QR Codes below







General Fund



Building Fund

Looking Ahead

You Can Also Find The Calendar at https://zoarlutheran.org/calendar

Date	Time	Activity
Sunday: 8/10	10:30 – 11:30 am	Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service: Sanctuary
	11:30 – 12:30 pm	"Thank you Pastor John" Fellowship: Narthex
Monday: 8/11	Pastor's Day Off	
	7 – 8 pm	Property and Mamagement Leadership Team: Conference Room
Tuesday: 8/12	5 – 6:00 pm	Community Dinner: Narthex and Kitchen
	6:30 – 8 pm	Church Council: Zoom
	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room
Wednesday: 8/13	12 – 6 pm	Music Ministries: Sanctuary
	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room
Thursday: 8/14	9 – 2 pm	Music Ministries: Sanctuary
	7 – 8:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study: Zoom
Friday: 8/15	7 – 8 pm	Groupo La Frontera (Spanish language AA): Kindness Room
Saturday: 8/16		
Sunday: 8/17	10:30 – 11:30 am	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Worship Service: Sanctuary
	11:30 – 12:30 pm	"Welcome Home Pastor Michelle" Potluck Fellowship: Narthex

Pastor Michelle will be back with us on Sunday, August 17. There will be a special fellowship potluck following the service. *Everyone is encouraged to bring their favorite dish to share*!

Long-term Monthly Scheduled Activities:					
First Tuesday of every month	6:30 - 7:30 pm	Evangelism Team Mtg. – Zoom			
First Wednesday of every month	Noon – 1 pm	Youth & Education Mtg. – In person @ Zoar			
Monday prior to each Church Council Mtg.	7 - 8 pm	Property & Management - In person @ Zoar			
Second Tuesday of every month	7 - 8:30 pm	Church Council Mtg Zoom			
Third Wednesday of every month	7:30-8:30 pm	Technology Task Force: Zoom			
Fourth Tuesday of every month	7 - 8:30 pm	Executive Council Mtg Zoom			
Last Friday of every month	9 – 10:30 am	Breakfast Group: Jarboe's Grill in Canby			