NORTH STAR

August 2025 - Making Disciples... Making a Difference

WORSHIP IN THE PARK



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August, 2025 A Letter from Pastor Hansen

As I write this, it has been five years since we moved to Elmira and into the manse. The landscaping around the manse has changed a lot in the last five years. When we moved in, the only landscaping around the manse was two amazing peony beds, a crabapple bush, two rhododendrons, a beautiful dogwood tree, and a struggling dogwood tree. Unfortunately, the struggling dogwood tree did not make it through the winter a couple of years ago. In its place is a growing maple tree.

The amazing peony beds are still there but have been joined by a multitude of perennials. There are now four large, raised beds in which we grow vegetables. We have added plants native to New York, and this year, we found our first monarch butterfly caterpillar on some of the milkweed we had planted. If it survives to become a butterfly and beyond, it will begin its migration southward in late summer or early fall. What once was a patch of lawn is now a place for monarch butterflies to lay their eggs and for their larvae to eat and to grow and to become butterflies themselves.

When the St. John's Wort we planted are in full bloom with their little yellow flowers, they are a favorite of honeybees, bumblebees, and other pollinators. The two plants hum from all the pollinators gathered there with their legs covered in fresh pollen as they move from bloom to bloom. It is mesmerizing to watch and to listen to them.

I marvel at the life that seems to spring forth once the grass is replaced with other plants. In place of uniformity, there are birds, butterflies, pollinators, the occasional rabbit, and plants that do not care whether I think that they should stay within the bounds of the flower bed or not. The change was and is not instantaneous but all the same happened and happens faster than one thinks. All I had to do was let go and let the plants do their thing.

Creation is full of diversity and variety. It is full of life that we can and cannot see. It is full of surprises, and it is constantly in movement, constantly changing. And we are no different. Why should we be different? We are part of creation. We were and are made by the same God. We were and are made to be in movement and to change.

And so, just as much as I have enjoyed the last five years, I am looking forward to the years to come. I am curious and excited to see what the Holy Spirit has in store for us and how the Holy Spirit will surprise us, move us, and transform us. After all, the God who created caterpillars that turn into butterflies created us as well.

Warmly in Christ,

Pastor Evan





https://www.facebook.com/North-Presbyterian-Church



https://www.northpres.church/



Chancel Flower Orders

If you would like to donate Chancel flowers (suggested donation of \$45), please contact Lori Lee at 607-739-3176.

Available Sundays for August and September 2025 are:

August 17 & 24 and September 7 & 14.

Please take the flowers home to enjoy after the service.

If you are not in the sanctuary on your chosen date, we will be in touch with you to make a plan.



August Worship Volunteers

Tech Booth		Counters	
August 3	Bill Furnas	August 3	Janice Williams, Dolores Cummings
August 10	Bill Furnas	August 10	Annette Stevens, Joe Rolls
August 17	Steve Allison	August 17	Steve Allison, Wendy Swatling
August 24	Steve Allison	August 24	Phil Carpentier, Jeff Richards
August 31	Bill Furnas	August 31	Kurt & Cindy Kalweit
Ushers		Wee Worship	
August 3	Nancy Isaacs, Kate Hansen	August 3	Liz Wilson, Wally Ferriter
August 10	Kurt & Cindy Kalweit	August 10	Allie & Scott Sevey
August 17	Pat & Jeff Richards	August 17	Amanda Reese, Becky Kowulich
August 24	Wendy Swatling, Barb Duryea	August 24	Karen Wilson, Barb Duryea
August 31	Amanda Korfmann, Joe Rolls	August 31	Liz Wilson, Wally Ferriter
Greeters		Coffee Hour	
August 3	Janice Williams .	August 3	Barb Duryea, Cheryl Allison
August 10	Linda Palmer	August 10	Worship in the Park
August 17	Gerry Harding	August 17	Bobbi Furnas, Cindy Kalweit
August 24	Tim Allison	August 24	Pat Richards, Annette Stevens
August 31	Nancy Isaacs	August 31	Melanie Fitzpatrick, Wendy Swatling
Communion		Worship Assistant	
August 3	Lori Lee, Vicki Balon, Cherie Michalko,	August 3	Liz Wilson
. 0	Joel Robinson, Wendy Swatling	August 10	Worship in the Park
August 17	Tim Allison, Cindy Kalweit, Kurt Kalweit	August 17	Wendy Swatling
	Lori Lee, Vicki Balon	August 24	TBD
		August 31	TBD



August 3
Pat & Jeff Richards

August 10:

Missy & Corey Ripley Kailey, Kyler

August 17:

Joel & Linda Robinson

August 24:

Geoffry Rolls

August 31: Joe Rolls

Jesus tells us to pray without ceasing for the good of God's people.

Our Homebound Friends

August 3:

Bob & Barb Russell 259 Rogers Rd. Wellsburg, NY 14894

August 10:

Glen Bolt 105 Morrow St. Elmira, NY 14901

August 17:

Hope Dubois 8 Aspen Ridge Apts. Elmira, NY 14904

August 24:

Wilma Padgett 3015 Lake St. Elmira Heights, NY 14903

August 31:

Margery Schornstheimer 758 Silver Pine Drive St. Augustine, FL 32092 Please send a card to our Homebound Friends





We would like to remind everyone that they are welcome to attend Session Meetings.

If you are interested in attending one, please contact the church office.



Weekly Prayer Chain Email

Did you know that you can pray or be prayed for? You are invited to let the church office know how you would like to be involved.

We are stronger together.



Children and Youth Ministry August 2025

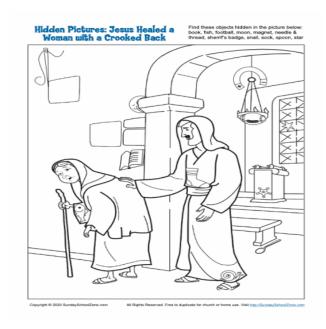
This summer has certainly flown by fast this year; but the heat has made up for it! We had fairly good weather for VBS with only one night spent inside for recreation. This year, we again joined with First Pres. of W. Elmira and a wonderful time was had by all! In total there were forty kids that attended, ten of them being teens. All the younger kids got along so well with the older kids, who were so willing to help out the little ones. I can't thank all the many volunteers enough for all the hard work they put in: from cooking, to decorating the church, to all the many craft ideas for each day. A special thank you to Lori Eastwood for loaning us the use of all those wonderful giant games for the last day's party!! And a very special thank you to everyone who donated food or money for the kiddos' dinners each night. It always amazes me and warms my heart to see how generous our congregation is towards our children's programs.

As we enter into August, we'll begin planning for the start of the new Sunday school season. Rally Day will be on September 7th this year and we are looking forward to planning lots of fun and educational activities for the kids. We would also like to continue getting the kids involved with Sunday service: from reading scripture, to ushering, to performing. If your child is interested in participating, please contact me, Allie Sevey or Liz Wilson. Our congregation enjoys the children's participation so much and so do the kiddos!!! Enjoy this last month of summer as we look forward to Fall and cooler weather!

Blessings,

Deb Stamp

Dir. of Children and Youth Ministry



In the Potter's Hand

Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand. Isaiah 64:8
The puzzle is based on Psalm 100



C	W	Н	Ν	5	Н	Z	W	5	А	v	Ε	D	U	Ε
м	0	F	0	5	N	P	1	K	G	v	P	А	В	R
Q	K	м	т	н	v	Υ	0	s	C	Υ	0	W	т	Ε
K	F)	Ε	K	G	٧	В	т	Д	Α	В	v	В	U
P	X	т	F	н	G	s	N	P	Т	1	L	E	C	F
×	х	F	D	1	Α	I	A	L	L	Е	А	L	C	D
В	5	E	0	D	0	Ε	М	P	C)	R	н	5	K
C	М	L	W	D	Υ	W	Е	Ν	U	Υ	F	D	W	z
N	Z	0	N	E	N	Q	0	A	R	D	s	А	Υ	М
G	н	R	V	N	Е	н	т	G	R	C	0	G	C	R
×	В	D	C	L	Α	Υ	Ν	K	N	v	В	Ν	W	Ε
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1	н	Y	м	Д	т	Д	L	V	5	Q	1	G	0	н
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CLAY	POTTER	NAME	CALLS	WORK
SIN	LORD	DOWN	FACE	SAVED
CLAY SIN ANGRY	HIDDEN	HAND	COME	ISAIAH



- If you would like to be prayed for or know someone who would like to be prayed for, please contact the church office. A prayer request will be sent to our prayer partners. If you would like someone to pray with you, a request can be sent to one of our prayer partners or Pastor Evan and someone will connect with you.
- Remember to check our bulletin board for NPC and Community Announcements/Information.
- Lost something? Be sure to check the lost-and-found bin in the church office.



Parking Lot Worship:

- Please use only the North Entrance (towards Roe Ave.)
- Please tune your radio to 1700AM.
- Please exit through the South Entrance (towards the college).



Weekly sermons are available on our website at https://www.northpres.church/sermon-details/



Sanctuary Worship: Please join us for Worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am.

Check out our facebook page or church website for special services throughout the year, including Monthly Wednesday evening services and weekly Lent and Advent services.



 Zoom service link will be emailed each week for those who would like to participate via Zoom.







SHOPPING LIST

August Food Pantry

Shopping List:

The following items are needed this month for the Food Pantry:

Cereal

Canned Pineapple Condiments in plastic jars Reusable Shopping Bags

In addition, if your dentist gives you toothbrushes, floss, or toothpaste, and you don't need it, the pantry does! Monetary donations are also welcome.

Committee/Coordinator	Email Address				
Audit	office@northpres.church				
Buildings & Grounds	campus@northpres.church				
Building Use	campus@northpres.church				
Clerk of Session	session@northpres.church				
Deacons	office@northpres.church				
Education	office@northpres.church				
Fellowship	office@northpres.church				
Finance	office@northpres.church				
Mission & Outreach	office@northpres.church				
Nominating	nominating@northpres.church				
Staff Relations	staff_relations@northpres.church				
Tech & Communications	office@northpres.church				
Treasurer	Financial_sec@northpres.church				
Worship & Music	office@northpres.church				
Staff	Email Address				
Church Administrator	office@northpres.church				
Director of Youth Ministries	youth@northpres.church				
Pianist	elmirarandyman@gmail.com				
Music Director	office@northpres.church				
Organist	office@northpres.church				
Pastor	pastor@northpres.church				



Special Offering for August: Memorial Fund



Meet the Staff

Pastor Evan Hansen Pastor

Open Door Office Hours: T & W 1:30-4pm

Paul Holland Music Director

Sharon Reynolds Organist

Randy Cornell Pianist

Deb Stamp Director of Children & Youth Ministry

Gretchen Duffy Office Administrator



- **Important Reminders:**
- The church office needs your contact information. Please let us know if anything has changed.
- If you need to contact the church office for any reason, please feel free to email office@northpres.church or call (607) 734-2977, Mon-Fri 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.



Men's Bible Study will resume in September. If you would like more info, please contact Kurt Kalweit, Steve Allison or the church office.



Wednesday Noon Bible Study will resume in September. If you would like more information or study materials, please contact Wendy Swatling or the church office.







Sunday School for all ages will resume in September.



Praise Band rehearsals will resume in September.

Chancel Choir rehearsals will resume in September.

The Good News Singers' practices will resume in September.



Bell Choir rehearsals will resume in September.







We will not have a Saturday breakfast or workday in August.





The August Fellowship get-together will be our Annual Worship and Picnic in the Park at Grove Park on Sunday, August 10 at 10:30 am.





August donation Request:

TOILET PAPER





2ce

Here's the scoop:

To celebrate our friends from First Pres., Elmira and First Pres., Horseheads joining us in worship.

Ice cream in
Cones or dishes
Pick your toppings!
Sprinkles
Chocolate syrup
Cherries
Whipped cream



PMUN welcomes Presbyterian Young Adult Delegation to UN high-level gathering

Forum focuses on the progress and challenges of reaching the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals



LOUISVILLE — The Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations (PMUN) is hosting nearly a dozen young people this week for a high-level UN gathering in New York focused on Sustainable Devel-

opment Goals that were adopted in 2015 to spur global progress toward ending poverty, protecting the planet, achieving peace and ensuring prosperity and partnership worldwide.

The first Presbyterian Young Adult Delegation to the <u>UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)</u> is comprised of participants nominated by their churches and presbyteries to observe the UN discussions and to take part in events organized by PMUN and its partners. "We have a strong delegation from all across the country," said Sue Rheem, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) representative to the UN and manager of the PMUN office. "We are grateful to the mid council and church leaders for their support in getting the word out and to the <u>Church of</u>



Young adult delegates participate in a prayer walk through United Nations-related sites during the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. (Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

the Covenant in New York City for providing housing accommodations with generous support from the Presbytery of New York City."

The forum, which began Monday and concludes next week, brings together ministerial and highlevel representatives of governments, as well as other experts and stakeholders, to discuss

Sue Rheem is the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) representative to the United Nations (Photo by Randy Hobson)

the <u>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</u> adopted at the UN Sustainable Development Summit a decade ago.

Members of the Presbyterian delegation hail from churches and presbyteries spanning from Newark, New Jersey to Southern California.

"The forum is an opportunity for young people to come to the UN to learn about sustainable development, to meet others from around the world who are working for change to live more sustainably, and be part of the solution to create a world that is more just and equitable," Rheem said.

The theme of this year's forum is "Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the

2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind."

The goals being reviewed in-depth are Good Health and Well-Being, Gender Equality, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Life Below Water, and Partnerships for the Goals, Rheem said. With the deadline to reach the goals just five years away, the UN released <u>a report</u> on Monday that indicates that the SDGs have improved millions of lives, but change isn't occurring fast enough to fully achieve every goal by 2030.

Despite gains such as increased access to education, electricity and the internet, "we are not where we need to be," UN Secretary-General António Guterres said <u>during a press conference</u>. "Only 35% of SDG targets are on track or making moderate progress. Nearly half are moving too slowly, and 18% are going in reverse. We are in a global development emergency — an emergency measured in the over 800 million people still living in extreme poverty, in intensifying climate impacts, and in relentless debt service, draining the resources that countries need to invest in their people."

He also stressed the importance of peace, acknowledging the deep links between underdevelopment and conflicts and stressing the importance of continuing to work for peace in places like Sudan, Ukraine and the Middle East.

"We need an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the immediate release of all hostages and unimpeded humanitarian access as a first step to achieve the two-state solution," he said. Also, "from the DRC to Somalia, from the Sahel to Myanmar, we know that sustainable peace requires sustainable development."

Delegates following this week's discussions include Rae Brock, a member of <u>First Presbyterian</u> Church of Hickory in the Presbytery of Western North Carolina.

"Last year, I served as a YAAD (Young Adult Advisory Delegate) on the International Engage-

ment Committee at the 226th GA (General Assembly), and at HLPF I am learning more about how our PC(USA) policy and the resolutions we worked on last year are part of a greater global mission to create a more just and sustainable world," said Brock, 20. "Although the UN Sustainable Development Goals are rooted in universal, secular values, I see them as a reflection of how I as a Christian believe we are called to live, love and serve as Christ did."

PMUN Advocacy Associate Clare Balsan and Rheem are excited to walk alongside the delegates.

"We are so thrilled to welcome our inaugural Young Adult Delegation to the UN's High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development," Balsan said. "Our young people are bright, enthusias-



Rae Brock is part of the Presbyterian Young Adult Delegation to the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. (Photo by Kristen Gaydos)

tic and committed to justice, and we couldn't wait to ... introduce them to the work of our office and the UN, while also learning from them and their experiences being advocates in their home churches and communities."







ITALIAN

DINNER FUNDRAISER

CAMP () WHITMAN

NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

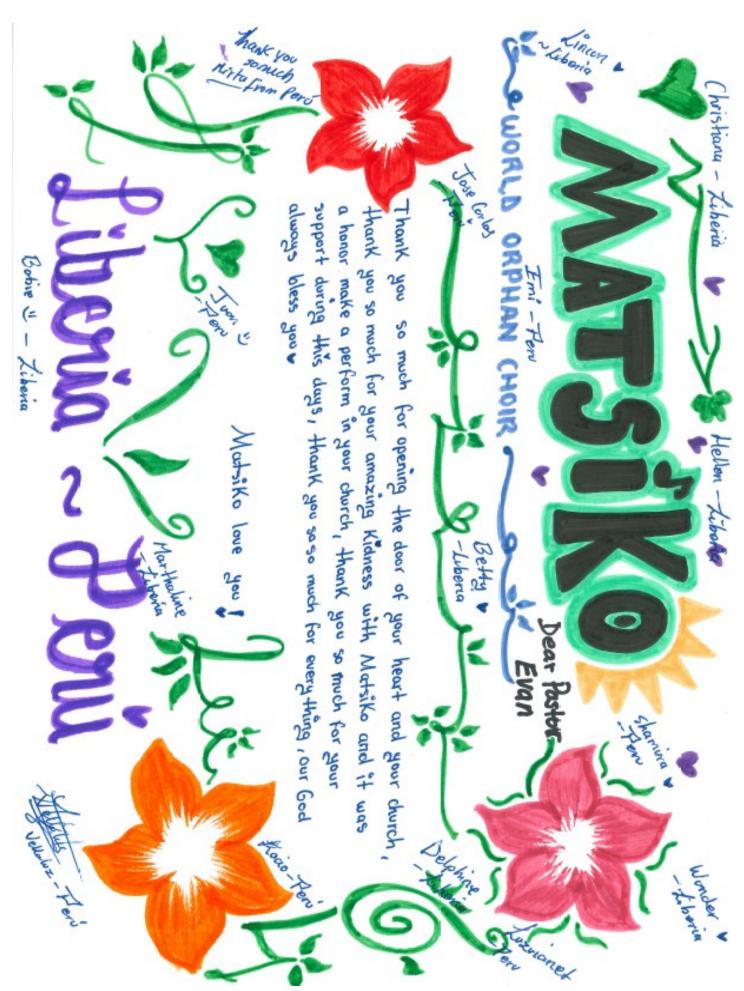
921 College Ave., Elmira, NY 14901 Saturday, September 13, 2025 5:00-8:00 pm

\$20 per plate
Or sponsor a
table of 6 for \$200

Choice of: Stuffed shells in marinara Baked Chicken, Vegetable Lasagna Tossed Salad Garlicbread Vegan/Gluten free Lasagna option

To reserve and pay for your dinner, click here or scan the QR code by September 8.







Staff Relations will not meet in August.





Buildings & Grounds Comm will not meet in August.



Finance Committee Meeting August 13 at 9:15 am.



Communications & Technology Committee Meeting August 6 at 6:45 pm



Information to be included in the September North Star Newsletter is due to the Church Office by Monday, August 25.



Christian Ed Comm Mtg August 19 at 5:45 pm.









Wednesday, August 13 Set up at 3:00 pm Dinner at 5:00 pm



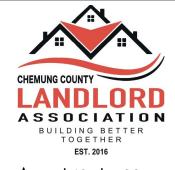




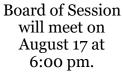
Mission & Outreach Meeting August 12 at 12:00 pm.



Deacons will not meet in August.



August 12 at 5:30 pm.







Yoga meets Tuesday and
Thursday mornings at 8:45 in
Willits Hall. If you're interested,
please contact the church office
for more information.

There will be no Saturday work day in August.





Joint Worshp Service with First Pres., Elmira, First Pres., Horseheads and First Pres., Big Flats Sunday, August 31 at 9:30 am



Our local chapter of TOPS meets on Mondays at 5:30 in Willits Hall. If you're interested, please call the church office for information.



Music & Worship Committee Meeting for August TBD.



Kindermusik meets on Tuesdays at 3 pm and Thursdays at 10 am and 5:15 pm. For information on how your child can participate, please contact the church office.

NPC Board of Session

Session Summary

July 20, 2025

The meeting was opened with prayer and devotions by Wendy Swatling.

The agenda was approved.

The minutes of the June 22, 2025 stated Session meeting were approved as submitted.

The Treasurer's report, including Statement of Assets and Profit & Loss budget were reviewed and approved.

The Session approved the following actions:

To move the celebration of All Saints recognition to Sunday, October 26, 2025.

Pastor Hansen taking vacation October 29th thru November 2nd, 2025.

The disbursement of the Panosian Foundation Grant of \$2000, earmarked for supporting our community, to the following community organizations:

AIR Chemung Youth Clubhouse

The Neighborhood Transformation Center

North Presbyterian Church Food Pantry

Grace Episcopal Community Meal Program

Mosaic of the Southern Tier

To invite 3 Presbyterian churches (First of Elmira, First of Horseheads & Big Flats) on August 31, 2025 for a joint Sunday service.

To invite Renovation House to join us for worship (date to be determined) as well as allowing them to sell handcrafted items and take a free will offering to help raise funds to support that ministry.

Accepted the invitation from First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads to join them at their location on Sunday, October 5, 2025 to celebrate World Communion Sunday.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Swatling, Clerk of Session







New admin. office hours:

Mon: 8:00 am – noon

Tues-Fri: 8:00 am - 5:30 pm



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm - AA	2
3	4	5	6 Bulletin Info Due	7	8	9
9:30am -Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30am-Coffee Hour	10:00 am - Food Pantry 5:30 pm - TOPS	8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik	10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 6:45 pm- Comm & Tech Mtg	8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	
10 10:30 am -Worship in the Park 11:30 am - Picnic	11 10:00 am - Food Pantry 5:30 pm - TOPS	12 8:45 am -Yoga 12:00 pm - Mission & Outreach Mtg 1:15 pm - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 5:30 pm - Chem Cty Land-lord Assoc.	13 Bulletin Info Due 9:15 am - Fin. Comm. Mtg. 10:00 am - Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm - Pastor's Office Hours	14 8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	15 10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	16
17	18	19	20 Bulletin Info Due	21	22	23
9:30 am -Worship Service 9:30 am - Communion 10:30 am - Coffee Hour 6:00 pm - Board of Session	10:00 am - Food Pantry 5:30 pm - TOPS	8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 5:45 pm - CE Mtg	10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours	8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik 6:00 pm - Landlord/Tenant Coalition	10:00am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm - AA	
24	25 Newsletter Info Due	26	27 Bulletin Info Due	28	29	30
9:30 am -Worship Service 10:30am-Coffee Hour	10:00 am - Food Pantry 5:30 pm - TOPS	8:45 am -Yoga 1:15 pm - Staff Meeting 1:30 pm -Pastor's Office Hours 3:00 pm - Kindermusik 3:30 pm - Woodbrook Service	10:00 am -Food Pantry 1:30-4:00 pm -Pastor's Office Hours	8:45 am -Yoga 10:00 am - Kindermusik 5:15 pm - Kindermusik	10:00 am -Food Pantry 5:15 pm -AA	
31 9:30 am - Joint Worship Service 10:30 am - Ice Cream Social						