

Memorial Messenger

Memorial Presbyterian Church
601 24th Ave. S.W.
Norman, OK 73069
(405) 329-3640
www.memorialpres.org

October 2012



Latest News

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for October is canned fruit. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Kids' Club resumes on the 3rd day of October, from 3:30 to 6:00 P.M. Rev. Melinda Clements will coordinate activities with the help of volunteers. Our own Kirk Forthman will rehearse the Children's Choir from 5:30-6:00, and Terry Cast will offer Children's Hand-Chime Choir at 5:00.

Fall Clean-Up Day will be October 6th starting at 8:00 A.M. Come and go as you are able: we hope to have a good turn-out as we spruce up the church both inside and out.

Potluck Luncheon on October 7

The Choir and the Deacons will jointly host a potluck luncheon on October 7 immediately following worship. October 7 is World Communion Sunday, and we are following that theme by asking you to bring your favorite international dishes. We will also have games and entertainment.

This year's **CROP Walk** will be Sunday, October 7, from 1:30 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. The three-mile, 45-minute walk begins and ends at Norman's Food and Shelter, at 104 W. Comanche. One fourth of the proceeds benefit this facility. The remaining proceeds benefit hunger programs in America and 80 countries through Church World Service. Peanut butter and tuna will be collected on the day of the walk for Cleveland County food pantries. Donations for walkers will be accepted after the services on September 30 and October 7: seed packets of lettuce will be given for donations of \$1 or more. If you are considering attending, please text or call Holly Van Auken at 326-1999 for more info.

This event will combine beautifully with our international World Communion pot luck after church on October 7. Folks can head over to the walk after our luncheon. The walk starts at 2 P.M., and during registration at 1:30 there will be face-painting as well as music by the Pride of Oklahoma and a World Music children's choir. There will be treats for pets, and water and restrooms along the way. The walk ends around 3 P.M. with dance music by a DJ and free hot dogs. Praise the Lord for our great town! — Holly Van Auken

The **Tapestry** group will hold an "out for lunch" prayer shawl and blanket blessing, and idea sharing meeting on Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 12 noon. We will gather at the church office and head to lunch at a location TBA. Lunch will be followed by a prayer shawl and blanket blessing and sharing of ideas. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Being "crafty" is not required to be part of the Tapestry fellowship. In Christ, Loreen Upton (447-8923)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Young, old and anywhere in between.

Are you ready for some fun? Some laughs? Some good times? If so, *you* are who I need to help me plan a church-wide event. If you are interested in being a part of this team, please call Joan Cole at 329-4325 or e-mail me: jlcmac20@cox.net. I can't wait to hear from you!



Building and Grounds October Update

The Building and Grounds Committee is planning a fall clean up day for October 6th beginning at 8:00 A.M., with breakfast and lunch served. We would like anyone and everyone to come help us spruce up the church — both inside and outside. People may come for an hour or stay all day; regardless, we are just happy for the fun and fellowship.

The painting on the outside of the church will continue as the weather cools and hopefully we will be able to do some painting on our fall clean up day.

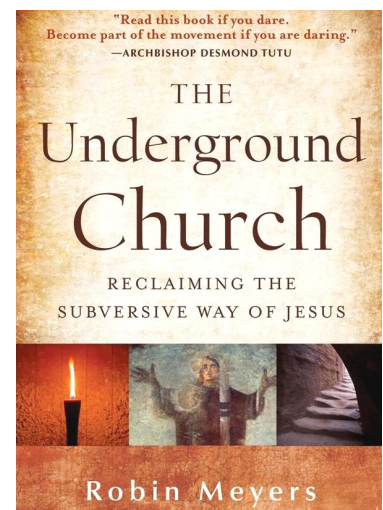
Also, the committee has been working on getting the right people together to repair the south side faceted-glass window in the sanctuary, as well as the framing of the window. This has all been made possible by generous donations from our beloved Rose Kuntz and others who have donated to both the Capital Improvement fund and the Faceted-Glass Window Repair fund.

We appreciate all of you who have donated your time and money to keep our church looking beautiful!

Karen Girdner
Chair, Building and Grounds

Book of the Month

The book of the month for October is *The Underground Church* by Robin Myers. Rev. Myers is the pastor of Mayflower United Church of Christ in Oklahoma City. Put simply, this book proposes the idea that we need to recapture the spirit of the early church, which had an emphasis on what Christians do, especially in terms of how we live the great commandment. Myers affirms that the Christian community needs to affirm compassion for all people, and show a love for justice. He raises tough questions for us to ponder: for example, is going to church about looking decent, or about being undone by a radical gospel? This book provides challenging options for a world saturated with separation and indignity. — Harry Wright



This book will be displayed in the Library throughout the month of October, and will be available to borrow.



Dear Friends,

Recently, I was corresponding with a friend who asked me how I was doing in Norman. I replied that even though I've been here eight months, I will be glad when the church, the town and my house all feel like home. I'm comfortable, yes, but I still have to look at maps, ask questions about the background of something and get referrals for professionals I need.

I don't know when it will feel like home. It's probably something that will happen over time instead of that one day when I say, "Oh. Today's the day that this finally feels comfortable."

I look forward to that time, and part of me wants it sooner, rather than later.

This is all true, of course, but I'm also aware of the danger that comes with feeling "at home." Home is the place where we are comfortable, where we loosen up and things are familiar. This literal "home turf" gives us the ability to be in the pro-active position. We're not at the mercy of any map, or another person recommending where the best place for sock-buying might be.

And yet, we need to be cautious that feeling at home does not equate with feeling in charge. When we start to believe we are in charge, we are the king or queen of our domain (be it home, work or church), we start to believe that we are our own god, too. We lose our need for others and in the process we begin to rely on our own self-sufficiency.

What does it mean that the church feels like home to you? Does it even feel that way? What might be the good news about that? What might be the pitfall?

Some questions for you to ponder on these beautiful fall days!

Grace and peace,

Tracy

I'm excited for all the events of October! Kids' Club begins again on October 3rd. We have a new director for Wednesday night, the Rev. Dr. Melinda Clements (you may know her as Judy Burns' sister!). She has extensive background in Christian Education and will bring her many gifts to our program as we continue in the nurture and growth of our young disciples!

Our own Kirk Forthman will lead the Children's Choir as part of Wednesday. We know the gifts he brings, and we look forward to continuing the excellent tradition of music programs at Memorial. Terry Cast is making plans to lead the children in a Hand Chime choir in the near future, too.

TRUNK OR TREAT

Memorial Presbyterian Church will be hosting Trunk or Treat on Wednesday, October 31 from 6:00 pm to 7:00pm in the front parking lot.

You may ask . . .

What is Trunk or Treat? Trunk or Treat is when a group of people or an organization decorate the trunks of their cars and pass out candy to young trick-or-treaters; it provides a safe environment for kids to trick or treat for goodies.

How do I decorate my trunk? Be as creative, silly, or scary as you would like — for ideas you can search for “creative trunk or treat car decorating idea”; there are some really cute, scary and awesome ideas. Do as much or as little as you would like: Remember, it’s all in fun! One good website is trunkortreat.homestead.com.



Trunk or Treat is open to friends, family and the community. Anyone is welcome to enter a car trunk or just come to trick or treat. There will be a trunk registration to sign up your car so that we will have an idea on how many awards to present. Awards will be given to the trunk participants and there will be an overall award of “Best Trunk Display” to be presented as well. Memorial will be providing **FREE** popcorn and hot dogs! It would be wonderful to show the community Memorial’s support with a full parking lot of members — and a little competition for best trunk display is fun, too. If you have any questions about Trunk or Treat you may contact either Lisa Upton or Carolyn Montgomery.



Photos from trunkortreat.homestead.com

Worship & Music Committee Report

September, 2012

On September 15, several members of the Worship & Music Committee (Joan Cole, Lucy Lanning, Charlotte Lovett, Vince Leseney & Terry Cast), along with Rev. Tracy Evans, participated in a workshop at Covenant Presbyterian Church to explore the new Presbyterian Hymnal scheduled for publication in Fall 2013. There were approximately 25 people in attendance from various Presbyterian Churches in the metro and surrounding areas.

The blue hymnal we currently use was published in 1990. Memorial purchased these hymnals in 1997-1998. The Presbyterian Church USA has published 2 supplemental books since 1990 – *Lift Up your Hearts* and *Sing the Faith*. It has been a little over 20 years since PC(USA) has published a new hymnal. The new hymnal is entitled *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*.

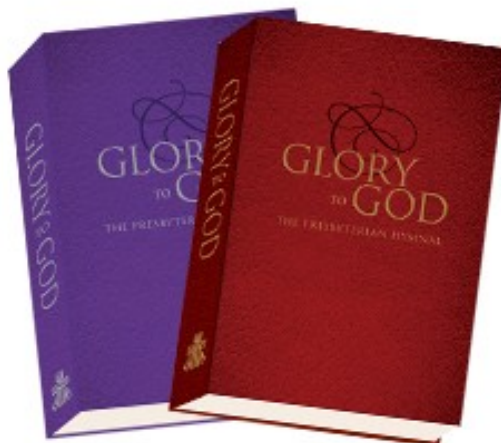
The new hymnal contains about 380 of the 605 hymns found in our current hymnal, and most of those that are omitted are hymns we rarely sing at Memorial. The new hymnal also contains several dozen songs from *Lift up Your Hearts* or *Sing the Faith* as well as many hymns (new and old), praise songs, folk-like songs and Taizé-style chants that will be new to most Presbyterians. Some hymns from previous Presbyterian hymnals that that were omitted from the 1990 hymnal have been restored to the new hymnal in one form or another. Many will be especially glad to see more gospel-style hymns included.

The questions this committee discussed following the workshop were: Does our current hymnal meet our congregational needs? How often do we use music from other sources or insert music in the bulletin? How has worship changed over the last 20 years? After our discussion, we all agreed that purchasing the new hymnal, along with pew Bibles in a modern translation, is something we want to pursue in the very near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cole & Charlotte Lovett
Co-Chairs of Worship & Music Committee

GLORY TO GOD: THE PRESBYTERIAN HYMNAL



From the Stewardship Committee

Dear Memorial Members and Friends,

This year Memorial will focus on “Percentage Living” during its Fall Stewardship Campaign. We have all heard the term, “Percentage Giving”. Simply applied, percentage giving is giving based on a set percent of one’s income. “Percentage Living” is an exciting new concept that goes well beyond the idea of “Percentage Giving”. “Percentage Living” recognizes the fact that every moment of our lives, every thought, every belief, every action all contribute to the person, the Christian Saint that God is molding and shaping through the power of the Holy Spirit. Percentage living therefore recognizes that all of God’s children have much more that monetary recourses to share. During the four Sundays of our Stewardship campaign we will explore together what it means to practice Percentage Living. We will learn how to give our day, our worship, our spiritual gifts and our money to God.

Please look up and read 2 Corinthians 8:1-7. We believe these words from Paul will help you to understand the concept of “Percentage Living.” They will help you to know that there is Abundant, Overflowing Joy in giving generously of ourselves to and for the work of the Lord. Let “Percentage Living” add new meaning and excitement to your participation and fellowship at Memorial Presbyterian Church.

Jim Rodriguez

Chairman, Budget and Stewardship Committee

Stewardship Update:

January 1 to September 27, 2012

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	2012 Budget
Pledges	\$110,835.00	\$116,249.94	\$155,000
Other Income	\$22,784.18	\$34,954.38	\$46,606
Total Income	\$133,619.18	\$151,204.32	\$201,606
Total Expenses	\$134,616.17	\$151,192.48	\$201,606

Fall Break Camps Available

The Norman Parks & Recreation Department is proud to offer Fall Break Camps for kids ages 5-11, which will take place October 10th-12th. Daily activities will consist of sports & recreational games, arts & crafts, movies and more! Fall Break Camps will be held at Irving Recreation Center and 12th Avenue Recreation Center. Camp hours are 7:00 A.M. – 6:00 P.M. and the cost is only \$25 per day, per child. You must pack your child a lunch each day. Space is limited at each of these sites so you must pre-register in advance!

For more information, please call Harold at Irving Recreation Center (292-9774) or Steve at 12th Avenue Recreation Center (292-9764).





Fall Series: Voices of Family Recovery

All meetings 7-9 PM at
Norman Regional Hospital, Education Center
901 North Porter
For additional information call 278-1221

Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 7 PM: **Young People in Recovery Share Their Experience, Strength, and Hope**

Join us for an evening of inspiration as Oklahoma Outreach's Executive Director Mike Boss moderates a panel of amazing young people in recovery who will share their journeys of hope and healing. Teens accompanied by parents are welcome to listen and learn. Oklahoma Outreach provides counseling services for adolescents struggling with substance abuse and for their families.

Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 7 PM: **Addiction Recovery: Finding Serenity**

Our guest speaker Bill Hanks is in recovery and has written a book entitled, *Serenity: It's a God Deal*. You will leave the meeting with a much better knowledge of why addicts do the things they do. Bill takes you through the evolution of addiction—from recreational use, to abuse, then to a mental and physical dependence, which, in the end, spirals into full-blown addiction—all the while using his own life story as an example. This will be an ideal talk for parents and grandparents who are dealing with addiction issues.

Bill Hanks is a recently retired 25-year veteran of Wall Street, having spent the last 11 years as co-founder/co-manager of an investment advisory firm in Tulsa. In 1996, Bill recognized his problem with drugs and alcohol, and checked himself into a treatment center. It was a decision that led him to teaching, in a volunteer capacity, weekly classes on recovery at the rehab center that helped him to help himself 16 years ago. Today, he has personally provided Twelve-Step based support and teachings to more than 11,000 patients and individuals in recovery. He also brings his "awareness programs" to churches and schools to help educate our susceptible youth and young adults as to the dangers of drug and alcohol use. His motto: "I would rather deploy 'prevention factors' now versus 'damage control' later."

Thursday, December 13, 2012 at 7 PM: **The Family Component of Recovery**

Rob's Ranch Program Director Brent Katigan will be our guest speaker. His inpatient facility for men located in Purcell recognizes that addiction is very much a family disease that affects the alcoholic/drug addict's loved ones. Rob's Ranch emphasizes family recovery where all who are impacted are encouraged to work together to reconcile and heal. Our meeting's discussion will center on the critical role family dynamics plays in recovery as well as prevention. Stemming from his own personal experience as well as a professional background that spans nearly three decades, Mr. Katigan will share strategies for identifying and treating unhealthy family systems in support of a loved one's recovery.

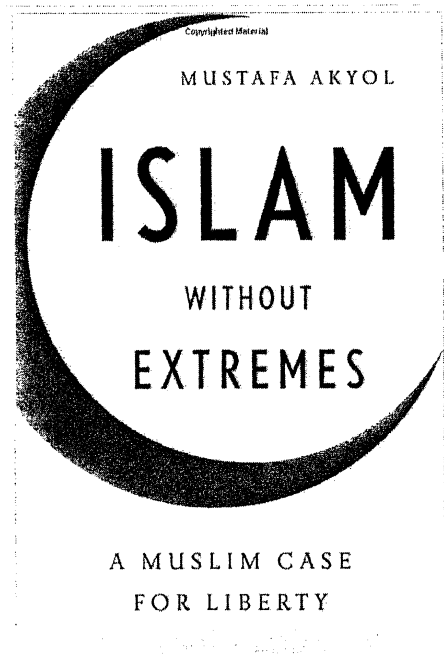
Parents Helping Parents is a network of parents and others concerned about alcohol/substance abuse among our young people (both adolescents and adult children). The group offers hope through shared experience, resources, and education. They promote prevention and intervention, collaborative efforts and increased access to information/services, and support. For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: ParentsHelpingParents.info

A PRESENTATION BY MUSTAFA AKYOL

Author of *Islam Without Extremes: A Muslim Case for Liberty*

followed by Q & A

OCTOBER 21 at 4:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church (Norman)
555 S. University Blvd.



A provocative manifesto for an interpretation of Islam that synthesizes liberal ideas and respect for the Islamic tradition.

From furious reactions to the cartoons of Prophet Muhammad to the suppression of women, news from the Muslim world begs the question: is Islam incompatible with freedom? With an eye sympathetic to Western liberalism and Islamic theology, Mustafa Akyol traces the ideological and historical roots of political Islam. The years following Muhammad's passing in 632 AD saw an intellectual "war of ideas" rage between rationalist, flexible schools of Islam and the more dogmatic, rigid ones. The traditionalist school won out, fostering perceptions of Islam as antithetical to modernity. However, through his careful reexamination of the currents of Muslim thought, Akyol discovers a flourishing of liberalism in the nineteenth-century Ottoman Empire and the unique "Islam-liberal synthesis" of present-day Turkey. Only by accepting a secular state, he powerfully asserts, can Islamic societies thrive. Persuasive and inspiring, *Islam without Extremes* offers a desperately needed intellectual basis for the reconcilability of Islam and religious, political, economic, and social freedoms.

"Akyol clarifies the complexities and contradictions of Islam in this indispensable book. He demonstrates how the harsh tribal cultures of the Arabian desert shaped Islam for centuries often at odds with the Qur'an... This even-handed scholarly work... makes Islam accessible to Western readers." -- *Publishers Weekly*

Known Joys and Concerns

Those who seek healing

Jim Eckel has cancer and emphysema.

Doug Forsyth will have surgery on October 4 to remove colon cancer.

Bob Goodner's knees continue to heal.

Dave Iske

Vince Leseney had surgeries to remove melanoma and looks forward to treatment in a clinical trial of new vaccines.

Jayelle Martin continues to recover from surgery.

Peggy Strunk is recovering from colon cancer.

John Beall, Jr., (brother of Thiessen family friend) is recovering from brain trauma after being thrown from a horse.

Rhonda Beard (Trudy & Mike's daughter-in-law)

Brandy Bond (Kirk Forthman's co-worker) is recovering from a small stroke.

Kenny and Danielle Comer (Mike Girdner's niece and her husband): Kenny is battling cancer for the fourth time, and requires chemotherapy.

Cody Derryberry (son of Carl Forthman's co-worker Renee) is recovering from injuries sustained in the line of duty in Afghanistan.

David Drennan (friend of Charlotte Lovett) was on a ventilator and requires a defibrillator and pace-maker.

Nathan Ice (Lucy Lanning's cousin's husband) continues to face life-threatening illness.

Sue Jergensen (Christy Fisher's father's wife) has breast cancer and will require four months of chemotherapy.

Phyllis Johnston, mother of Sandy Johnston, has two bad discs in her neck, as well as vision loss due to Giant Cell Arteritis.

Kate Yost (Dave & Tamara Iske's niece) will need additional surgery.

October Birthdays

Oct. 1	Adrien (AJ) Roesel
Oct. 9	Kevin Eckel
Oct. 10	Bob Clarke
Oct. 11	Christy Fisher
Oct. 12	Trudy Beard Amanda Bliss
Oct. 13	Joe Garlett
Oct. 15	Holly Forsyth Jimmy Rambur
Oct. 16	Tracy Evans Aidyn Pennington
Oct. 17	Bill Taylor Dave Iske
Oct. 18	Tim Thiessen
Oct. 19	Leilund Autry
Oct. 22	Erica Phelps
Oct. 23	Caitlin Stensrud
Oct. 28	Harry Wright

October Wedding Anniversaries

Oct. 3	Ross & Barbara Robinson
Oct. 10	Mike & Trudy Beard
Oct. 11	Daniel & Michele Schaub

Those who grieve

Family of Helen Blackstone

Family of Winnie McEndree (Molly Rambur's grandmother)

Family of Sandra Burtis (Charlotte Lovett's aunt)

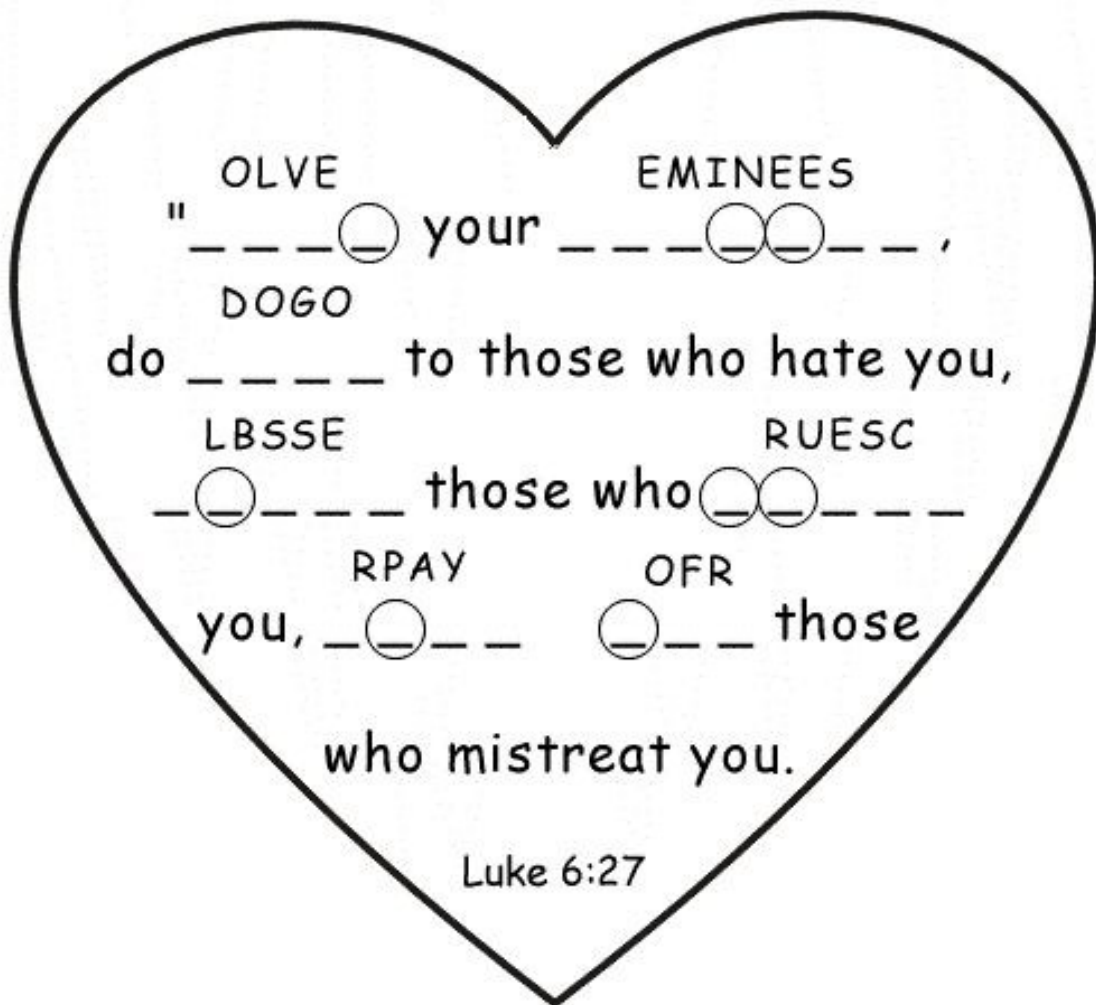
Family of Jan Carpenter (Eileen Burke's friend)

Love Your Enemies

Luke 6:27-36 (NIV)

One of the important things Jesus told the people was that they should love others, just as God loved them. Not only should they love their friends, but they should also love their enemies.

Unscramble the words below and fill in the blanks
to see what Jesus said about this in Luke 6:27



Unscramble the letters in the circles to find the word that fits both blanks below.

"Be _____ just as your
Father (God) is _____. (vs36)



All seasons provide reasons for doing good to others.

at a do doing give good become for harvest if in we
Let not proper not reap the time us up weary we will

G A L A T I A N S 6 : 9 , N I V

11

Memorial Presbyterian Church

October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Listening for God 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts 7 P.M.	2	3 League of Women Voters 11:15 A.M.—1:30 P.M. Kids' Club resumes under new leadership! 3:30-6:00 P.M.	4 Serve at Food and Shelter 10 AM	5	6 Fall Clean-Up Day 8:00 A.M. to noon. Come and go as you are able.
7 World Communion Sunday: Celeb- ration of the Lord's Supper Potluck luncheon after the service	8 Listening for God 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts 7 P.M.	9	10	11 Christian Edu- cation 6:30 P.M. Building & Grounds 7:00 P.M.	12	13
14	15 Listening for God 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts 7 P.M. Worship & Music 7:30 P.M.	16 Mission & Evan- gelism 6:00 P.M.	17	18	19	20
21 Deacons 12 P.M. Stewardship 5:30 P.M.	22 Listening for God 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts 7 P.M.	23 Session meeting 7:00 P.M.	24 November Messenger Articles Due Today	25	26	27
28	29 Listening for God 6:30 P.M. Boy Scouts 7 P.M.	30	31  Trunk or Treat 6:00-7:00 P.M.	Editor's note: for more information about many of our events & meetings, as well as outside groups who meet here, see our new web-calendar at memorialpres.org/calendar1.htm .		

SUNDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.
Fellowship and Refreshments 10:30 A.M.
Worship Service 10:55 A.M.

WEDNESDAY REGULAR SCHEDULE

Kids' Club 3:30-6:00 P.M.
Hand-Chime Choir 5:00 P.M.
Children's Choir 5:30 P.M.
Chancel Ringers 6:00 P.M. (as needed)
Chancel Choir 7:00 P.M.