



St. James Visitor



Easter 2016

“Just as the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly.”

As a child, I was often kept up at night thinking about questions that likely had no *real* answers, such as:

“Why do we eat whole pickles but cut the ends off cucumbers?”

“What was the best thing *before* sliced bread?”

“How did they know what time it was to set the first clock?”

I’d like to think that I was a bright child with a sharp and problem-solving mind. Realistically, I probably just had too much time on my hands.

There was one question that bothered me most of all—it absolutely drove me nuts: “Why aren’t butterflies called *flutter-bys*?” After all, that’s exactly what they do, right?

Butterflies are beautiful, aren’t they? They are a delight to the eyes. They somehow, effortlessly, add a touch of magic or grace or mystery to a moment by entering it. They cause us to pause, however briefly, to take them in. They symbolize many different things to different people— growth, change, creation, renewal, transformation, new life, resurrection...

This year at St. James, we have our first **Celebration Butterflies** fundraiser. We will be celebrating the empty tomb of Easter morning and the joy of the resurrection by filling our sanctuary with butterflies! We are inviting and encouraging everyone to

sponsor a butterfly to celebrate the memory of a loved one, in gratitude for a milestone or birth in the family, in honour of someone you admire and respect... any reason that is special to you! Our church will remain a “butterfly sanctuary” for the Easter season.

Let us celebrate together this Easter season... we, after all, are an Easter people!

Many blessings to you all,

Rev. Terrie Jackson



Life Lessons from a Butterfly

- Let go of the past*
- Trust the future*
- Embrace change*
- Come out of the cocoon*
- Unfurl your wings*
- Dare to get off the ground*
- Ride the breezes*
- Savour the flowers*
- Put on your brightest colors*
- Let your beauty show*

REMINDER: Please join us for one of the following educational and sharing circle-sessions to prepare for a decision on same sex marriages and becoming an Affirming Congregation:

Sunday, April 3, following the 11 am Worship Service

Tuesday, April 5, at 7 pm

The same information will be presented at each session.

The congregational meeting concerning the decision will be held on Sunday, April 10, at noon.



Easter Greetings from Rev. Pamela

Life itself is full of beginnings and endings, of pilgrim moments. Many Christian people intentionally create a Lenten pilgrimage for themselves, whether it is to follow a dedicated prayer time during Lent, reflect on small ways they can spiritually create better lives for themselves or commit to some form of daily positive action during Lent. These are all pilgrimages. For others, the journey to the Cross and the Hallelujahs on Easter Morning begin a pilgrimage of New Life in Christ. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Easter message is filled with hope and unconditional love.

How does the word **pilgrimage** resonate with you and your life's journey? Have you ever been on an intentional **pilgrimage**? Would you like to begin a **pilgrimage** this Easter Season, or maybe during Holy Week? All you need is commitment, physical time and the beginnings of a relationship with Jesus, our Savior and Friend.

Below is a small excerpt from a book I bought many years ago at an International Chaplaincy Conference at Yale University. I frequently use it in my personal and professional life. It is overflowing with wisdom. Here is the excerpt about **Pilgrimage**. May it give you a little nudge or push to start your own pilgrimage this Easter Season.

"Pilgrimage is traditionally a journey to a holy place—a place where saints have walked, a place where God has met people and blessed them.

People through the ages have journeyed with God on pilgrimage--to perform a penance, to ask for healing, to pray for places where there is war or national disaster, to pray for friends.

Pilgrimage is an opportunity to travel lightly, to walk free of daily routines, to meet people, to make friends, to enjoy and celebrate God's creation."

Here is a prayer before setting out on a pilgrimage:

**God of the guiding star, the bush that blazes
SHOW US YOUR WAY**

**God of the stormy seas, the bread that nourishes
TEACH US YOUR TRUTH**

**God the still, small voice, the wind that blows where
it chooses**

FILL US WITH LIFE

**God of the elements, of our inward and outward
journeys**

SET OUR FEET ON YOUR ROAD TODAY

May God bless us with a safe journey

May the angels and saints travel with us

May we live this day in justice and joy,

Amen.

-This is the Day, readings and meditations from the Iona Community.

And whatever your journey or pilgrimage, may it always bring you closer to the Holy One.

Rev. Pamela



EARTH HOUR

Saturday, March 19th
8:30 pm- 9:30 pm



As Canadians, we choose a future where climate change is no longer a threat. Participating in World Wildlife Fund's Earth Hour is a simple way to show that you want to be a part of the solution, and it sends a powerful message that together we can make a difference.

LENTEN AND EASTER SERVICES

Holy Week Services (Monday – Thursday) begin at 7:30 p.m.
Good Friday's Service is from noon to 3 p.m.

Monday, March 21First United Mount Pearl

Tuesday, March 22Cowan Heights United

Wednesday, March 23George Street United

Maundy Thursday, March 24Pouch Cove United

Good Friday, March 25Wesley United

Offerings for these services will go to Stella's Circle



EASTER GREETINGS FROM AOTS

The St. James Men's Club extends Easter greetings to members and friends of our congregation. We continue to play an active role in the life and work of our congregation through stewardship, worship, and outreach. Our next fish dinner will be held on Friday, April 29, and tickets will be available through David Hapgood and Albert Styles.



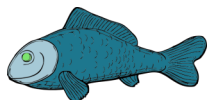
The Butterfly: A Symbol of Easter

The butterfly is one of the significant symbols of Easter. Its whole life is meant to symbolize the life of Jesus Christ. The first stage is the caterpillar, which stands for His life on the Earth. The second phase begins from the cocoon stage, portraying the crucifixion and burial of Christ. The third and final stage is the butterfly, representing His raising from the dead in a glorified body and peace.

-An internet posting

An Irish Easter Blessing

May God bless you at Easter
and keep you all year through.
May God give you all the faith you need
to make your dreams come through.
May His love and wisdom always help
to guide you on your way.
May His light shine down upon you now
to bless your Easter day.



AOTS Fish Dinner

Friday, April 29, 2016

Time: 6 pm Cost: \$20.00

Contact David Hapgood or Albert Styles

WIRED THAT WAY – Susan Sheppard

While scrolling through Facebook a few days ago I came across an article by Dave Csinos whom Rebecca Pike and I know from a youth ministry event that he hosts each year called *Faith Forward*. I decided to read the article because I knew the author and by the end of the first sentence knew that our youth group was part of the paper. You see Dave had been here for a Youth Event last year, and the first part of his paper was about his experience. Dave has generously allowed us to share part of his paper in The Visitor. The article was originally published in Advocate: Association of Presbyterian Church Educators, Inc.

If you would like to read the whole article, please go to www.advocateblog.apcenet.org/category/spiritual-practices/

WIRED THAT WAY

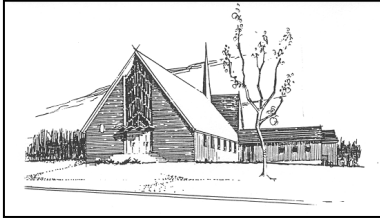
David M. Csinos February 29, 2016

Several months ago, I traveled to St. John's, Newfoundland, to speak at a weekend youth retreat. As is typically the case with youth retreats, the final evening was slated to be a social time, and the leaders had planned a coffee house in a room at their church building.

Before the coffee house time, however, the schedule read "spiritual practices." I asked one of the leaders what this hour-long component of the program would consist of, and she told me that they had transformed their church hall into a space filled with stations where the youth could independently engage in spiritual practices.

I was running a bit late that evening, so when I arrived at the hall, the group was already ten minutes into the spiritual practices session. I peeked inside and noticed that the hall was lit with candles and lamps, and all over the room the teens were quietly moving from station to station. Some were experimenting with prayer postures. Others were listening to music through earbuds. There were teens lighting candles and teens writing prayers.

I was amazed at how these young people—who were gabbing and giggling with each other all weekend—were suddenly immersed in deep spiritual practices. They weren't talking with each other. They weren't even looking around the room at what their peers were doing. Each one of them was focused on the practices they chose to engage in. It was indeed a holy moment, one that was so special to these teens that they decided to forgo the coffee house in order to spend more time in this spiritually-infused space.



MEMORIAL HYMN SING
“Songs of Faith and Hope”
 Sunday, April 17, 2016

A congregational Memorial Hymn Sing will be held at St. James United Church on April 17 at 11 a.m. This event will be a service of thanksgiving and celebration.

Once again members of the congregation are provided an opportunity to join with the church choirs to remember and offer songs of praise, celebration and thanksgiving for those who, though they are no longer with us physically, were and remain an important part of our lives. We affirm our own faith and trust in God and in God’s infinite love which surrounds us all, both in our living and in our dying. In this service you are invited to celebrate the life of a family member, a relative, a friend or someone who has touched your life in a special way, by sponsoring a hymn to be dedicated in his/her memory. You may do so simply by indicating on the request form the individual’s name, your hymn choice and the amount which you wish to contribute.

It should be clearly understood that the amount you give is strictly personal and discretionary. What is important is that you be a part of this special service of remembrance and celebration by attending and also by sharing in a church family social hour to be held in the auditorium after the service. You may wish to invite others to participate, particularly former members of the St. James congregation who will not have received this church announcement. Their names may be added to your request form, or additional forms may be acquired from the church office or at our website, www.stjamesuc.org. All dedication requests will be acknowledged publicly. Please note that the amount of individual contributions **will not** be publicized but receipts **will be** issued. Memorial gifts will be used to support the continuing work and programs of St James United Church.

To ensure your request is included in our special bulletin, please return your request form to the church office or place it on the collection plate not later than **Monday, April 11**. All cheques should be made payable to St. James United Church.

Hymn Selections

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. What a Friend We Have in Jesus | 6. Church in the Wildwood |
| 2. Tell Me the Stories of Jesus | 7. His Eye is on the Sparrow |
| 3. Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore | 8. I Feel the Winds of God |
| 4. Precious Lord, Take My Hand | 9. How Great Thou Art |
| 5. I Danced in the Morning (Lord of the Dance) | |

Name of Contributor: _____

Address of Contributor: _____

Donation: \$ _____ Envelope No. _____ Hymn Choice No. _____

In loving memory of _____

Other Contributors	In Memory of	Hymn No.	Amount

Would you like to share your email address with us? Yes No My email address is _____



EASTER THOUGHTS by SuAn Randall, Office Administrator

I recently had the good fortune to be gifted a trip to New Zealand by my brother; I flew to visit him in Auckland for two weeks in February. The flora and fauna there are of the Southern Hemisphere, and the climate most benign – all a welcome environment for my curiosity and winter blahs. These factors, however, were not what I enjoyed the most. Wherever I went, whomever I encountered, I found that people went to work on a Monday morning, they walked with their friends, they enjoyed a good laugh, they savoured their weekends with family, they spoke of human achievements and disappointments and they celebrated successes and grieved losses. In other words, they lived their lives as the rest of us do. And the underlying current of energy giving sense and purpose to these lives is that of love, expressed through a wide spectrum of avenues, from a stranger's smile to the birth of a child, from a sunrise to a bountiful harvest – this basic essence of life is impossible to ignore. A sparrow feeding its young in Auckland is not much different from the one seen in my backyard here – both an attestation to the universal power of love.

I find this truth enormously comforting, and relish the coming Easter time and spring when it becomes remarkably clear.

*"Sitting quietly, doing nothing, spring comes,
and the grass grows by itself" (Matsuo Bashō)*

Annual General Meeting Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre Saturday, March 19

The Board of Directors of Burry Heights Camp and Retreat Centre invite you to attend their AGM Saturday, March 19, 10 – 11 am at the camp site - Salmonier Line – (exit 35 off the TCH – Route 90 South – 1 km on Salmonier Line).

Would you like to get to know John Dominic Crossan's writing **before** 'Crossan on the Rock' takes place in May? Join Susan for a four-week book study of

Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography

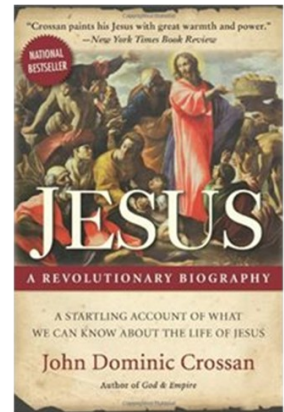
Mondays at 11 am starting April 4th

or

Wednesdays at 7 pm starting April 6th

To sign up or for further information, contact Susan at susan@stjamesuc.org or 722-1881 ext 204.

This book can be ordered through the United Church Book Store at the Conference Office or from Amazon.ca or Chapters.Indigo.ca for approximately \$15.



WE NEED YOUR RECYCLABLES

An account has been set up at the Recycling Depot on O'Leary Avenue for the 'GO Project.'

If you have any refundable cans or bottles for recycling that you wish to donate, please bring them along to the O'Leary Avenue location and let them know they are for the St. James 'GO Project.'

ST. JOHN'S	O'LEARY AVENUE GREEN DEPOT 30 O'Leary Avenue Back of Car Quest Auto Supplies building	726-3515	Mon - Fri: 9:00 A.M. - 4:45 P.M. Sat: 8:45 A.M. - 4:45 P.M.
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A MESSAGE FROM OUR UCW by Barbara Adams - Co-President

As I sit to write this spring message from the UCW, it really feels like spring, though it is only the first of March! There is a clear blue sky, all the snow is gone and the air even has the feel of spring. What a beautiful day! It feels good to be alive. It is very symbolic with the coming of the risen Christ and the legacy and hope He brings to the world. When the *Visitor* arrives at your homes, we may be experiencing a winter storm, but while the good weather is here, we'll take it. It lifts our spirits and makes it easy to get around, which is very important for our older UCW Members.

On Sunday, February 28, the UCW Executive Members for 2016, were installed into their offices during the church service. This was a change in protocol, as for many years installation was done at a UCW meeting. Rev. Terrie conducted a beautiful service of Dedication and Installation. All UCW Members were in the front pews as part of the service. We were very pleased and will undoubtedly do things again this way in the future. It helps the congregation get to know who the UCW members are and, in particular, makes them aware of the Executive Members.

Over the years, the UCW has made significant contributions to the operation of the church. This spring the big fundraiser is the Annual Spring Tea and Sale. As Easter is early this year, it is scheduled for Saturday, March 19. Hopefully, we will still be getting spring-like weather at that time. It is a very popular event, and generates funds that can be contributed to the church or other needy causes. All the UCW women, with help from many church members, work diligently together to make the event successful.

Although it's hard to believe, our UCW year is winding down. Our closing dinner will be held in May, catered by Pat Burton & Friends, with entertainment by the St. James Guitar Group.

We extend a warm welcome to women of any age to come and be a part of the UCW. You will find friends and warm hospitality. The meetings are held on the **second Monday of every month, from September to May at 7:30 p.m. in the church auditorium.** Each meeting involves a short worship followed by a program, one developed by our members or presented by a guest speaker. This is followed by a social time where everyone has an opportunity to meet and have a chat.

May all the choicest blessings of the world be showered upon you and fill your life with delight.

Happy Easter!

If you have not received your special givings envelope this year, please use a blank envelope and include the information outlined below or ask your usher at church for this one.

St. James United Church

St. John's, Newfoundland

Easter

Offering

NAME _____

AMOUNT _____

ENV. # _____



Go Project Easter Egg Breakfast

Easter Sunday, March 27
following the 8:30 am service
Cost: a donation to the Go Project.

Everyone welcome!





Easter Thoughts by Michael Ralph

“Lord, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”

We all know the story behind this plea in Luke— a crucified and dying Christ has endured the taunts of the crowd and now has the dialogue with the two thieves. While one thief is derisive, the second knows that something beyond the ordinary is happening at that time. That second thief has a level of insight into himself and an awareness of mystery which resonates deeply with us today.

What does he succinctly say? We have been justly condemned. That man has done no wrong. I want to enter the Kingdom of God.

Prayers come in different styles. Blessings, petitions, intercessions, thanksgivings, and praises are most common. Here, we have an individual at society’s fringes reaching out with essentially a prayer of petition— Lord, remember me and keep me with you.

The 1992 catechism of the Roman Catholic church speaks well to this concept. “We are creatures who are not our own beginning, not the masters of adversity, and not our own last end. We are sinners who as Christians know that we have turned away from the Father. Our petition is already back to him.”

Asking for remembrance is also an entirely human gesture. We all want to be remembered by someone or for something. It gives us a feeling that we have mattered, essentially that what we did in our present will be of value to someone’s future. We remember our mistakes and our successes. We watch people grow and change as we ourselves do.

We meet diverse people. Some we know for a lifetime, some for years in certain circles, some for months, and some for even less. Life is fluid. But, when we have connected positively, and as our paths later diverge, we part with good memories and we say “remember me”.

Sometimes we remember for those who can’t. We remember for children too young to have known their grandparents and for parents slowly slipping into the living death of Alzheimer’s Disease and are unable to recall their spouses, children, and grandchildren. Because they cannot say it we say “remember me” for them. Wanting to be remembered is an entirely human reaction.

In the thief on the cross with that plea- “Lord, remember me when you come into Your Kingdom”- we hear ourselves. In that brief prayer of petition we hear a longing for personal forgiveness and a desire to be closer to God in this life and the next.

Simultaneously, we hear that human plea— we are now together and we are parting and I hope I mattered to you during that time together. Most importantly, as the narrative continues, we hear the response and the assurance of pardon- “verily I say unto you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

We are human. We will be remembered. We can be forgiven. We will have mattered. Can that be our Easter message?

BRIDGES TO HOPE

Please bring along a non-perishable food item for our Food Chest when you come along to service so we can help others in need. Any gift is welcomed and variety is encouraged.

Food Drive





OUR 2016 CHURCH COUNCIL

Trevor Bartlett, Chair, is pleased to introduce our Church Council.

Chair of Council:	Trevor Bartlett	AOTS:	Les Dean
Secretary:	Sharon Seaward	UCW:	Betty Pilgrim and Barbara Adams
Christian Education:	Gloria Le Feuvre	East District Reps:	Ruth Baker Rosemary White
Ministry and Personnel:	Clyde Flight		
Stewardship:	V A C A N T		
Admin and Communications:	Janice Winsor	Full-time Minister:	Rev. Terrie Jackson
Finance Committee:	Gerry Mayo	Minister of Visitation:	Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Worship and Sacraments:	V A C A N T	Minister of Youth and	
Building Maintenance:	Anthony Paul	Christian Education:	Susan Sheppard
Youth Representatives:	Olivia Sharpe	Treasurer:	Jean Thompson

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue

Spring Tea & Variety Stalls

Sponsored by the UCW
St. James Auditorium

Saturday, March 19, 2016
Time: 2 – 4 pm Cost: \$7.00

St. James Young Adults are holding a free movie night on Friday, April 1, starting at 7 p.m.

The movie is the 2014 biography, comedy-drama **"Pride"** starring Bill Nighy, Imelda Staunton, and Dominic West. It is the story of U.K. gay activists' work to help miners during their lengthy strike of the National Union of Mineworkers in the summer of 1984. It will make you laugh and cry, SO GOOD!



Maundy Thursday, March 24th,

Join us for our annual showing of *Jesus Christ Superstar* followed by a short discussion and an Agape meal.

Movie starts at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room. All welcome!



Singing along optional.

Join us Good Friday morning at 10 for our annual Good Friday Neighbourhood prayer walk.

(If the weather does not cooperate, the walk will take place inside the building)

Hot Chocolate and Hot Cross buns served afterwards in the auditorium.

TO CONTACT US:

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue
St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
709-722-1881

info@stjamesuc.org

www.stjamesuc.org

Facebook: St. James United Church

Twitter: StJamesUnited

OUR MINISTERIAL STAFF:

Full-time: Rev. Terrie Jackson

Visitation: Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald

Youth Ministry: Susan Sheppard

Crossan On the Rock

Friday, May 13, to Sunday, May 15

St. James United Church
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL



1. Join us for the whole Crossan event live at St. James.
2. Join us for one, two or three Crossan lectures.
3. You can't come to St. John's for the weekend?
No problem! Join us for Crossan's lectures from the comfort of your home via live internet broadcast.
Better yet, get a group together around the computer.

Seminar Rates:

Regular \$100 Student/Senior \$80
Per Session \$25
Webinar \$100 **Group Rates Available**

Sunday, May 15, 11 a.m.
Worship at St. James **FREE**

Deadline for registration May 1, 2016

Please make cheques payable to:

United Church of Canada NL Conference
Registrar: Susan Sheppard
330 Elizabeth Avenue, St. John's, NL A1B 1T9
email: scsheppard2016@gmail.com
(709) 722-1881 ext 204

For event updates, sneak previews and general announcements, join our FaceBook page 'Crossan on the Rock'.

Theme:
Jesus and Paul: Continuity or Discontinuity?

Friday, 7 pm	Lecture 1: The Unity of Jesus and Paul
Saturday, 10 am	Lecture 2: Jesus and the Kingdom of God
Saturday, 2 pm	Lecture 3: Paul and the Challenge of Equality
Saturday, 7 pm	Lecture 4: God and the Justice of Resurrection

PAR AUTHORIZATION CARD

I hereby request and authorize The United Church of Canada:



_____ Name and Address of Local Church

To issue a cheque each month on my account in the amount of \$ _____ as a contribution by me to the above local church.

Contributor's Name _____
Bank A/C # _____ Type of Account _____

Distribution: Local _____ M&S _____ Other _____

Name and Address of Bank or Trust Co. _____

TO ENSURE ACCURACY, A SAMPLE CHEQUE MARKED "VOID" MUST ACCOMPANY THIS CARD

_____ Date

_____ Signature of Contributor



WORSHIP SCHEDULE APRIL TO OCTOBER

Date	Time	Details	Music
March 25	7:00 pm	Good Friday	Senior
March 27	8:30 am 11:00 am	Communion Easter Celebration	Senior Senior
April 3	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 nd Sunday of Easter (Baptism)	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
April 10	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 3 rd Sunday of Easter	Senior
April 17	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 4 th Sunday of Easter MEMORIAL HYMN SING Coffee - UCW	Sight Restored AOTS/UCW/Youth
April 24	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 5 th Sunday of Easter Confirmation (Communion)	Senior
May 1	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 6 th Sunday of Easter (Baptism)	Sight Restored Senior
May 8	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Ascension Sunday/7 th Sunday of Easter (Communion)	AOTS/UCW/Youth
May 15	9:30 am 11 :00 am	Contemporary Worship Pentecost Sunday Coffee— Worship & Sacraments Guest Preacher: John Dominic Crossan	Sight Restored Sight Restored
May 22	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Trinity Sunday	AOTS/UCW/Youth
May 29	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	Sight Restored Senior
June 5	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	Summer music schedule begins
June 12	11:00 am	4 th Sunday after Pentecost (Communion)	
June 19	11:00 am	5 th Sunday after Pentecost Coffee— Congregation	
June 26	11 :00 am	6 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 3	11:00 am	7 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	
July 10	11:00 am	8 th Sunday after Pentecost GO Project	
July 17	11:00 am	9 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 24	11:00 am	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	
July 31	11 :00 am	11 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 7	11:00 am	12 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	
August 14	11:00 am	13 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 21	11:00am	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	
August 28	11:00 am	15 th Sunday after Pentecost	
September 4	11:00 am	16 th Sunday after Pentecost (Baptism)	Summer Music Schedule Ends
September 11	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 17 th Sunday after Pentecost (Communion) (Sunday School resumes)	Sight Restored Senior
September 18	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 18 th Sunday after Pentecost Coffee - Admin/Stewardship	AOTS/UCW/Youth
September 25	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship 19 th Sunday after Pentecost	Sight Restored Senior
October 1	noon	Blessing of the Animals	
October 2	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship World Wide Communion Sunday (Communion)	AOTS/UCW/Youth
October 9	9:30 am 11:00 am	Contemporary Worship Thanksgiving Sunday Coffee - AOTS (Baptism)	Sight Restored Senior