

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Luke 11: 1-13

As we gather every Sunday to worship, we come before God in prayer joining in "The Lord's Prayer". But, what can we learn about prayer through "The Lord Prayer"? First, prayer is the means Jesus used to open himself to God, to anchor himself to his Father and to work the earth of his heart. Jesus prayed often and taught his disciples to pray. Prayer was as necessary to him as the air he breathed. I believe it was prayer that gave Jesus his powerful sense of awareness and insight into people and the world. It connected him to God, the source of life, and he began to see things so much from the divine perspective that he had no doubt that his work was God's work. The practice of prayer gave Jesus an intuitive grasp of the truths of life as well as the political and religious realities around him. He could, figuratively speaking, see into another person's heart because he knew both his own heart and the heart of God. He could read the pulse of the culture with as much authority as a doctor can read someone's blood pressure.

In my opinion Jesus' ability to have a "sense" of things, to grasp the truths of life and of society, is available to us as well. It was not as if Jesus switched on a 'divine power pack' and was suddenly able to see things, like Superman using his X-ray vision. I believe Jesus' ability was a human awareness cultivated through his constant practice of prayer. We should not simply read about Jesus and say, "What a rare and tremendous gift that *he* had!" That would be analogous to being awestruck "fans." We should, rather, yearn to imitate him and develop a similar commitment to prayer for ourselves. We should look at Jesus' life as testimony to the benefits of developing a life of prayer. Jesus invites us, through prayer, to experience new, fresh, deep, true and permanent insights into the nature of God, the world and the culture in which we live.

Second, prayer is the door or threshold to the spiritual world where God dwells in unapproachable light. It is the door to the inner world of the heart, whose contours have never fully been mapped. Prayer is the means to a "cartography of the soul," to a process of spiritual mapmaking. When we pray, we pursue Jesus into the deep things of life, where light and darkness dwell together and neither fully extinguishes the other. Prayer is the door into understanding the heavenly realms as well as the inky abyss. It opens new realms to us.

Prayer is, finally, a process of working the earth of the hearth, as the ancient monastic writers might say. In her book "The Closter Walk", Protestant author Kathleen Norris writes about the ways that the Catholic monastic tradition provides a rhythm and depth for spirituality that many Protestants have never explored. When she says that the life of prayer works "the earth of the heart," she means that prayer is like the act of cultivation. In order to work the soil, one must break up the hardened dirt clods, water the ground, free it from weeds and then plant a crop. Prayer is the way to "loosen up" the heart. During the natural course of our lives the "earth of our hearts" becomes parched, weed-infested and hard as flint. Unless we take care to break it up to run our fingers again through the rich soil that we know is there, our lives become as destitute and as desiccated as a desert. May God help us as we continue to pray "The Lord's Prayer" to fully experience the power of prayer.

LECTIONARY FOR SEPTEMBER

September 2

Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Psalm 45:1-2,6-9
James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-28

September 9

Proverbs 22:1-2,8-9;22-23; Psalm 125
James 2:1-10(11-13); Mark 24:37

September 16

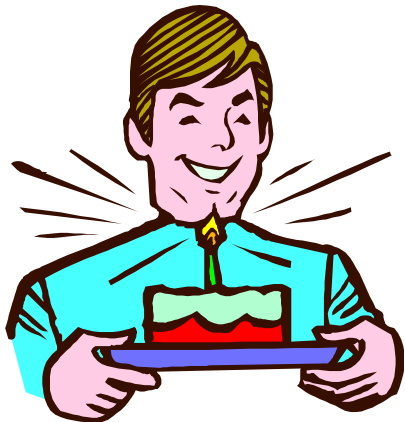
Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19
James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 23

Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1;
James 3:13-4:3,7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

September 30

Esther 7:1-6,9-10,9:20-22; Psalm 124
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50



HAPPY SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY TO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----|
| <i>Bob Schickel, Jr.</i> | 5 |
| <i>Wanda Martinson</i> | 7 |
| <i>Diane Scott Vietiello</i> | 10 |
| <i>Mickey Kiely</i> | 11 |
| <i>Michael Modrak</i> | 12 |
| <i>Robert Carhart</i> | 14 |
| <i>Christopher Martinson</i> | 26 |
| <i>Barbara Cofone</i> | 26 |

.....and many, many more!!!

CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR THE FALL

SEPTEMBER 2 - *We will still be meeting in Aldersgate Hall at 9:30 a.m.*

LABOR DAY – *Monday, September 3rd.*

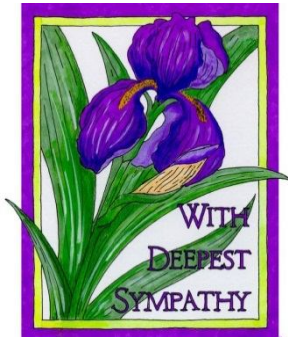
SEPTEMBER 9 – *We will return to the sanctuary, meeting at 10:30 a.m. as we did all last winter. The Choir will meet in the Choir Room every Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*

We look forward to seeing our church members and friends who might have been away part of the summer. We care for each one of you and hope you will make every effort to join us on Sunday mornings. You are all important to us!!



LORI AND JACK VALDEZ AND THEIR DAUGHTER INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 146TH YEAR OF THE INCORPORATION OF OUR CHURCH HERE IN THE CITY OF LINDEN ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2012. THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN AT ONE OF OUR PREVIOUS ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS.

PEOPLE WANT THE FRONT OF THE BUS, BACK OF THE CHURCH, AND THE CENTER OF ATTENTION!



EXTENDED SYMPATHY TO:

The family of Larry Diaz, age 85, who died Sunday, May 20, 2012 at the Arbor Care Center, Toms River, N. J.

Graveside services were held at the Brig. General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery Chapel, Arneytown, N. J. on Thursday, May 24th at 2:00 p.m. Arrangements were made by the Leonard-Lee Funeral Home, Linden.

Larry was born and raised in Elizabeth, N. J. and lived many years in Linden before he and his wife, Dorothy, moved to Manchester, N. J. in 1985.

He was a navy veteran of World War 11, a member of Post 7166 in Avenel and an active member of the United Methodist Church of Linden, serving as a Trustee, member of various committees, co-president with his wife, of the Kum Double Club and a member of the Inter-Church Bowling League in Linden.

Larry was the beloved husband of the late Dorothy Rundle Diaz, who died on March 31, 2012, and brother of the late Joseph Diaz.

He is survived by his brother, Ronald (wife, JoAnn) and his sister-in-law Lorraine Diaz.

He was also the uncle of Ronald and Kevin Diaz and Jennifer Schloesser.

Dottie and Larry will long be remembered for their dedication and commitment to our church and the joy they brought to many of our members. We will always remember them!

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A REAL FRIEND IS ONE WHO WALKS IN WHEN THE REST OF THE WORLD WALKS OUT.

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The first meeting of the Administrative Council meeting in the Fall will be Wednesday, September 12th at 10:00 a.m. in Aldersgate Hall.

A reminder – all chairpersons and members of all church committees are automatically members of the Administrative Council. Please make every effort to attend as plans are made for the balance of the year. Your voices and wishes are important to us and we want to hear from you.



(In order to have this Messenger ready to go out the last week of August with information about the Fall, it is necessary to type various articles during the spring and summer as they occur. Some items may seem old, but they have never been in a Messenger, and it is important to keep everyone up to date about the happenings in our church.)



United Methodist Women prepare for another Rummage Sale

BITS AND PIECES

On Saturday, June 2nd, Jeanne and Rob Moore entertained their families (including Jayne Cocco and her father, Charles Lamont) in celebration of their son, Zachary's, graduation from Edinboro University in Pennsylvania on May 12, 2012. He earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Applied Media Arts-Cinema, Traditional Animation. He and his girlfriend left soon after the party for California to try and locate a position in his field of study. Good luck, Zach!

We understand that Jayne and Otts Schnellenberger have sold their house in Kentucky. Although, they loved their home and location, it is a lot of work to keep it the way they want it. They also miss their family in this area, and will be moving to Maryland, closer to New Jersey. Jayne has always felt she needed to live near the ocean which is very important to her. We would all love to see them more often!

We are all very happy about Joy Hinko's announcement of an additional part-time job and the small apartment she and her son now have. Good luck with both, Joy!

MaryJane Koslosky spent three weeks visiting her friend in Maryland the end of May and the beginning of June. This is a vacation she always looks forward to and has a great time. We were glad to see her return, because her friends here miss her even though they know she is having a really good time.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

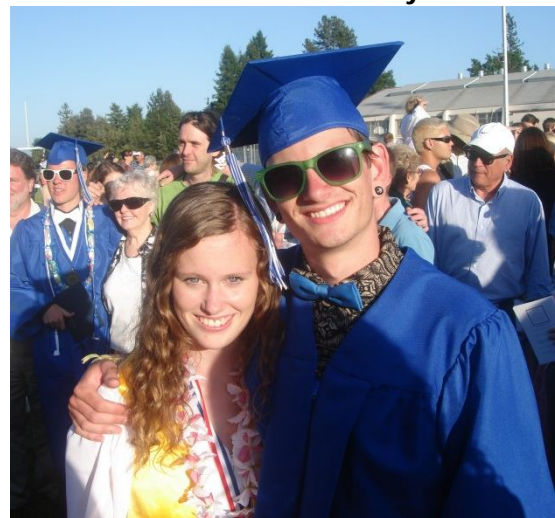
Liza and Carlos Marcelino on the birth of their first child, Christian Emanuel, on June 20, 2012. Christian was born in Trinitas Hospital in Elizabeth and weighed 9 pounds 4 oz. Our best wishes to the happy family. We are very anxious to see the new baby!



Picture snapped when Jayne Cocco and her father, Charles Lamont visited Jeanne and Rob Moore in celebration of their son, Zachary's graduation from Edinboro University.



Jeanne & Rob Moore with graduated son, Zachary and Junior, Andrew Moore attending Penn State University.



Nina & Alec Henelsmith graduate from Analy High School in California

HAWK RISE SANCTUARY

Carolyn Franz announced in church that the dedication of the Hawk Rise Sanctuary had its ribbon cutting ceremony on Wednesday, May 30, 2012. She invited everyone to attend. It was a lovely program with about 75 people attending, including children from our school system. They had already walked the trail through the wildlife and passive recreational setting before the program started. The speakers included: Mayor Richard Gerbounka, Ass't. Commissioner N. J. Dept. of Environmental Protection, Wolfgang Skacel, President of the N. J. Audubon Society, Eric Stiles, Supt. Linden Public School, Dr. Rocco Tomazic, and Councilman, Chairman of Linden Landfill Com., Bob Frazier.

The Hawk Rise Sanctuary is part of 96-acre city-owned forest and wetland complex that has long been recognized by numerous organizations as an important environmental feature in the Rahway River and Arthur Kill watersheds. Designed to encourage hiking, bird watching and nature appreciation, Hawk Rise has nearly a mile and a half of elevated walkways and an observation deck to enjoy the panoramic view of the Rahway River.

The first two phases of the Sanctuary were constructed with Green Acres grant monies, and assistance from local corporations.

Under the stewardship of the N. J. Audubon Society, a full suite of natural history programs for families and adults will be offered beginning in June.

Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity and visit the Hawk Rise Sanctuary. Directions – Go down Stiles Street (cross Rt. #1 and go about a mile). Turn left on Range Rd. It is down a short way on the left. Enjoy!

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DON'T FORGET

ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH AT 10:30 A.M. WE WILL RETURN TO THE CHURCH SANCTUARY FOR OUR REGULAR WORSHIP SERVICES.



To the family of George M. Barnes, 49, a long-standing member of our church, who died on June 8, 2012 at home surrounded by his loving family.

The funeral service was held on Monday, June 11, 2012 at the Leonard-Lee Funeral Home conducted by our pastor, Rev. Dr. Ricardo Ramos. Interment was at Graceland Memorial Park, Kenilworth, N. J. The women of our church served a luncheon to the family and friends in Aldersgate Hall following the service. Visiting hours were held on Sunday, from 2 to 5 p.m. George was raised in Linden and lived in Rahway for 22 years with his family, returning to Linden in the last 6 months.

He was employed as a customer service and sales representative for J & H Barge Co., Markson Lab Sales Co. and Fischer Scientific Co. George was a former member of Boy Scout Troop #34, of the Reformed Church, Linden, where he attained the rank of Eagle Scout. He was the loving son of the late George C. Barnes, who died in 1986, and the late Mary Muir Barnes, who died in 2012.

He was the devoted husband of 25 years to Karen Masterson Barnes, cherished father of Allyssa Marie and Jennifer Lynn Barnes of Linden, and loving brother of Mary Jean Barnes and her husband Michael Maye, of Berkeley Heights, N. J.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Atlantic Home Care and Hospice, 465 South St., Morristown, NJ 07960, in his memory would be appreciated. We extend our deepest sympathy to his loving family and friends. In our hearts we will still see George and Mary Jean sitting in their favorite pew as children, with their parents!

In June, some of the women who join together on Fridays for a movie and lunch met at the new home of Bobbie Bogard to view her new location. They enjoyed the luncheon she provided and the afternoon of friendship. Bobbie was one of those who also enjoyed the movies each week before she moved away.



Gertrude Baldwin, Carolyn Franz, Marie Dziamba, Bobbie Bogard, Ruth Schulte, MaryJane Koslosky, Doris Henel



Carolyn Franz & Gertrude Baldwin enjoy the visit.



.....and Ruth Schulte has a good laugh!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN'S RUMMAGE SALE

WHEN - Friday & Saturday, October 19 & 20

TIME - 9 a.m. to 12 noon

SET UP - Wednesday, October 17 - 9:30 a. m.
We need help and would appreciate any time you can give us.

We need clothing for men, women and children, linens, soft-covered books, jewelry, shoes, purses and white elephant items in good condition.

We have a problem that we want you to be aware of. In one of our recent Messenger articles we made you aware that money was being stolen from our church office and advised you not to leave money there anymore.

We are now pretty sure that someone is taking rummage from our storage area (probably to have a yard sale of their own). Whole bags are disappearing and specific items that we have been told were brought to the church are gone. It is very difficult to keep track of everything because we have a large number of rentals and many people using our facilities every day. We are warning everyone so that we can all watch and report anything that looks suspicious. It is terrible to think that we have a thief in our midst but somehow, it is even worse when the stealing is from a church that is trying to help people in need. So continue to bring your rummage but call Doris Henel, 486-5571, so we will know how many bags you have delivered. We are asking everyone to help us and hope we can solve this problem without taking more serious precautions.



SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING

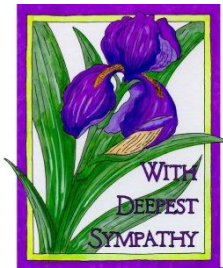
U. M. New Canaan Church was given permission to continue meeting in our church on Sunday evenings through August 29th. If they require any additional extension of time, it is to be requested by the middle of August.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

Dear Church Members:

Thank you for the support and prayers during the illness and passing of George M. Barnes. The kindness of the Church family was overwhelming. The repast after George's funeral was lovely. Both the food and company meant a lot and was greatly appreciated. Thanks to all who provided their time and effort. A special thank you to Rev. Ramos for the beautiful and heartfelt service he gave for George.

Love, Karen Barnes & Family



We extend our sympathy to Carol and Jonathon Jones (daughter of Ethel Steiniger) on the death of Jonathon's brother, Robert L. Jones, Jr. who died on Saturday, June 30, 2012 at Sunnyside Manor in Manasquan, N.J. after a long illness.

A graveside service was held at Hazelwood Cemetery on July 6th followed by a memorial service at St. Paul's U.M.C. in Bay Head, N. J. For 32 years, Robert was a vice president of sales for B.D. divisions of Becton Dickinson in Franklin Lakes, N.J. He was a trustee of the N. J. Symphony Orchestra and a member of the Bay Head Yacht Club.

He is survived by his brothers, Stephen and wife Joan of LaMesa, California and Jonathon and wife Carol of Bay Head, N. J. and nieces and nephews, Mark, Amy, Matthew and Jonathon.

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We also extend our deepest sympathy to Gertrude and Mickey Kiely on the death of Gertrude's cousin, Bill Stevens, who died on July 26, 2012 in the General Hospital in Pennsylvania. He had been on our Prayer List for quite a while and was looking forward to returning to the Nursing Home where he had been residing. Unfortunately, he did not continue to improve and died peacefully in July.

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FAREWELL TO BISHOP SUDARSHANA & MRS. PREMA DEVADHAR

At the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference of the U. M. C. at Charleston, W. Va., Rev. Devadhar was assigned to the Boston Area (New England Conference) and Bishop John R. Schol of the Baltimore Washington Conference, was assigned as our new Bishop.

A farewell for Bishop Devadhar and Mrs. Devadhar will be held on August 26, 2012 at the Calvary Korean U. M. C., 572 Ryders Lane, East Brunswick, N. J. at 4:00 p.m. A light dinner will follow the worship service. A love offering will be taken and offered as our gift to Bishop Devadhar. Please RSVP to your District Office – Call 973-571-0313, email

gatewaynorth@gnjumc.org. Everyone is welcome!

If you cannot attend, but would like to contribute to the gift, checks with notes or cards may be mailed to the GNJAC, Attn: Treasurer, 1001 Wickapecko Drive. Ocean, NJ 07712. Make checks to GNJAC and include Bishop Devadhar Celebration to the memo line.

WELCOME TO BISHOP JOHN & MRS. BEVERLY SCHOL on October 27th at Princeton Chapel. Further information will be announced soon.

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DEAR FRIENDS,

"If you live to be a hundred, I want to live to be a hundred minus one day, so I never have to live without you".

Winnie the Pooh

70TH LINDEN HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

On October 13, 2012 the Class of 1942, from Linden High School, will celebrate their 70th reunion at the new Linden Public Library on the third floor from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. The committee planning the events for the day include Doris Henel, Edna Kastner, Bobbie Bogard, Bill Palermo and Lillian Tomalavage. Some of the food will be catered by a local restaurant and also by committee members. People are coming from California, Florida, Virginia, Colorado, New Hampshire, North Carolina, New Jersey and of course, Linden! Many surprises are planned and everyone is looking forward to a great day. As far as they know, this is the first 70th reunion for Linden High School.



We were saddened to read in the Star Ledger, that Gerald Alvarez, husband of Judy Miller Alvarez, died on August 1, 2012 at their Spring Township, Pa. home. Judy served as our choir director/organist a number of years ago. The funeral service was held August 3rd at the West Lawn U.M.C.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, 12 grandchildren and he would have become a great-grandfather this coming January.

We extend our sympathy to Judy and her family and friends.

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RENTAL OF ALDERSGATE HALL

At a recent meeting of the Board of Trustees, a motion was made, passed and carried, that the new rate for renting Aldersgate Hall will be \$225. effective immediately. This applies to all outside organizations and people requesting the use of the Hall.

There will still be no charge for members of the United Methodist Church who wish to use it for their own personal use.

Applications must be filled out and given to Donald Beyer by members and non-members, so that they will have the name of the person responsible. Non-members must give a \$100. deposit which will be returned if everything is left in good condition. **YOU MUST GO THROUGH DONALD BEYER, 862-8686, TO MAKE A RESERVATION AND HE WILL LIST IT ON THE CALENDAR AFTER THE PROPER APPLICATION IS COMPLETED.**

DO NOT LIST IT ON THE CALENDAR YOURSELF - THERE WILL BE NO RECORD OF IT AND IT WILL NOT BE HONORED UNTIL THE APPLICATION IS ACCEPTED AND ON FILE.

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DATE ANNOUNCED FOR CHURCH CONFERENCE

WHEN: Sunday, November 11, 2012

**TIME: 8:00 a.m. - Parsonage Inspection - Rev. Dr. Jisun Kwak and board of trustees & Pastor-Parish
8:30 a.m. - Rev. Kwak meeting with Pastor/Parish Committee
9:30 a.m. Rev. Kwak conducts the Annual Church Conference. All are invited to attend in Aldersgate Hall**

WORSHIP - 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

We hope that as many as possible will attend the Annual Church Conference. It will be the hour before our regular worship service so come join us! You will hear about the previous year and plans for 2013. Officers will be elected and all members can vote at this meeting. Reserve this date!!!

NEW CANAAN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

In another part of this Messenger you will have read that New Canaan had requested an extension of their meeting in our church through August 31st. This was approved by the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Council,. They have obtained a church now but it needs some major work done before they can hold their services there. They have now requested an additional extension until February 28, 2013. This will be presented to the Trustees and the Administrative Council in the near future and the outcome will be reported in the next Messenger.

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Recently the Trustees asked the Linden Fire Department to make an inspection of Aldersgate Hall and let them know the legal capacity of the number of people allowed in the Hall at one time.

They did an inspection and left two notices to be posted as follows:

People sitting at tables – 120

People sitting on chairs only – 241

Anyone using the Hall, whether members of the United Methodist Church of Linden or outsiders renting the Hall, must not go any higher than the numbers listed. If any go above those numbers they will not be allowed to use the Hall again. The Board of Trustees are pleased to announce that the repairs to the parsonage are completed and the final payment to Innovative Reconstruction has been made. They are in the process, with the help of some of the women of the United Methodist Women, in furnishing the parsonage. As soon as that is complete, the back of the house power washed and a railing installed on the newly finished front steps and stoop, they will host a coffee hour at the home so that everyone can view our lovely parsonage. It does look great!!

Another project the Trustees are working on is the cleaning up of the stage in Aldersgate Hall. Some of the rentals (especially for weddings) have requested the use of the stage but there is so much on it that it would be impossible to find room to even walk there. They are requesting that everything be removed from the stage. It was never meant to be a storage area. The Weight Watchers will move their boxes to an area that will not interfere or be viewed by the public. They are asking that all Christmas decorations be moved to the attic, and the musical instruments be moved to the room they were given for storage items. If anyone else has items on the stage, please move them as soon as possible. We will assume that anything left is trash and will take care of it accordingly. (The fireplace can be left and the chair next to it, since it helps give the stage an "at home" look). The Trustees will also put hooks up for the huge Christmas wreath that will hang on one of the side walls on the stage, and not viewed by the public.

Thank you for your cooperation!

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SEPTEMBER 23, 2012 IS GOING TO BE
"SOME ENCHANTED EVENING"

The Starlight Chorale is pleased to announce that their first "Great American Songbook" show since 2007 will be at 4:30 p.m. in Ocean Grove, NJ. at the historic Bishop Janes Tabernacle, 50 Pitman Ave., right next to the Great Auditorium. You will recognize music from Show Boat, Easy to Love, South Pacific, The King and I. and others. The Chorale will be led by the Rev. Dr. Tony Godlefski. Come join them on September 23rd!!

**SEPTEMBER
2012**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 9:30 – Last Worship In Aldersgate Hall	3 LABOR DAY	4 12 Noon - United Methodist Women – Luncheon at Home of D. Henel 4:30-Weight Watchers 4:30-Fencing School .	5 4:30-Fencing School	6 4:30-Fencing School	7	1 8 9:30-Fenc.Sch.
9 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship Return to Sanctuary 4:30-Interfaith Council meets	10 7-Board of Trustees D.Beyer,T.Henel,B.Losyk, G.Baldwin,J.Stamer, C.Ettel,W.Hanns 4:30-Fencing School	11 10:30-Bible Study in Youth Room 4:30-Weight Watchers 4:30 -9:30 Fencing Sch.	12 4:30-9:30 – Fencing School	13 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	14	15 9:30-1:30 – Fencing School in gym
16 9:30 AM - Choir 10:30 - Worship	17 4:30-9:30- Fencing School	18 10:30-Bible Study 4:30-6:30-Weight Watchers 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	19 10 AM-Aldersgate Hall ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL 4:30-Fencing School	20 4:30-9:30-Fenc.Sch	21	22 9:30-1:30- Fencing School in gym
23 9:30 AM – Choir 10:30-Worship 11:30-Coffee hour by Nurture celebrating 146 years of UMC in Linden	24 4:30 – 9:30 Fencing School	25 10:30-Bible Study 4:30-6:30-Weight Watchers in Aldersgate Hall 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	26 4:30-9:30 Fencing School	27 4:30-9:30-Fencing Sch	28	29 9:30-1:30 Fencing Sch. in Gym
30 9:30 – Choir 10:30Worship			.	.		.