



## The Friendship Connection

Monthly Newsletter of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church...  
October 2023 Edition

Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

We are a few days away from celebrating Berea Friendship's 70th Homecoming. The impacts of seventy years of ministry and fellowship in Christ are difficult to quantify in terms we readily understand. The Kingdom of God is as infinite as our God. He is always working in ways beyond our comprehension; He transforms us as we follow in faith, believing His words. We never understand fully this side of glory. We see fully when we see through His eyes.

Many have come here seeking a better understanding of their God. All have had different experiences, all have added to God's beautiful tapestry of love in this place. What have people experienced at Berea Friendship these past seventy years? Some have simply gotten a taste, and known the Lord is good. Some have come to faith in Jesus Christ here. Others have grown in faith here. Many have enjoyed years of Christian fellowship. Many have served those in need. Loving relationships have blossomed here and grown increasingly fruitful. There have been countless blessings of the Lord poured out in this place. There has been unspeakable joy. There have been unimaginable heartbreaks, losses, and disappointments. There has been laughter. There has been anger. Here every human emotion has played out here in the light of Jesus. God's promises have come true for good every day, and always will. Every follower of Jesus has been transformed into His likeness.

What do those who have received the most, and made the most profound differences at Berea Friendship have in common? In obedience they walked humbly with their Lord Jesus Christ. Gentle, meek and mild they considered others more important, they laid their lives down, and poured themselves out so others could know God and come into His presence. They picked up their crosses! As Jesus was sent into the world, they went out into the world, the light of men!

And that is how Berea Friendship will enjoy its 80th , 90th , 100th , and 200th anniversaries!

Much love in Christ,  
Pastor Davon

## BEREA FRIENDSHIP BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY  
Birthday



October Birthdays... 1<sup>st</sup> Tony Earnest, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jackson Thomas Surrett, 5<sup>th</sup> Clay Argo, 6<sup>th</sup> Grace Disher, 7<sup>th</sup> Leah Elizabeth Sylvester, 8<sup>th</sup> Sue Bagwell, 8<sup>th</sup> Judy Bikas, 10<sup>th</sup> Laura Childs, 10<sup>th</sup> Lisa Nichols, 12<sup>th</sup> Wilson Creswell, 12<sup>th</sup> Linda Lee, 15<sup>th</sup> Shirley Dickson, 16<sup>th</sup> Kevin Baker, 16<sup>th</sup> Victoria Smith, 16<sup>th</sup> Rebecca Looper Henthorne, 18<sup>th</sup> Cindy Wells, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sonya B. Evans, 25<sup>th</sup> Everette Youngblood, 25<sup>th</sup> Jan Martin, 26<sup>th</sup> Casey Ann Armstrong, 27<sup>th</sup> Dalton Argo, 30<sup>th</sup> Robert Bridges, 31<sup>st</sup> Maxwell Willard



## BEREA FRIENDSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Happy  
Anniversary



October Anniversaries... 5<sup>th</sup> Rodney & Linda Lee, 27<sup>th</sup> Mark & Melissa Miller



## 3:16 Prayer Ministry

**Please Pray For: Please Pray For:** Shellie Moser Atchison, Kristie Carter, Rob Coogan, Michael Dow, Lainey Gilstrap, Scott Hall, Doris Harrelson, Amanda Hayes, Bob Helms, Freda Hudson, Carolyn Knight, Susan Kruse, Mike Lathem, Joe Malone, Robert Moler, Batsie Styles, Daniel Surett, Jimmy Tarrant, Jordan Emory Turner, Joe Williams, Allen Zorn

**Continue To Pray For Our Shut-Ins:** Dr. Eugene Bondurant, Sue Coggins, Shirley Dickson, Libby Gilliam, Carolyn Hunter, Gloria Moore, Alex Stone, & Barbara Thackston

## 70<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION October 8, 2023

The church welcomes all charter members, their families, and former members along with other visitors and special guests participating in the worship service. Seventy years ago, a few people realized the need for a Methodist congregation in Berea. There soon followed the organization and development of a new congregation, which held its Charter Day Celebration on October 11, 1953. As the church has grown across the years, there have been those significant occasions when the congregation has paused to reflect upon the journey made up to that point, taken stock to evaluate the present, and then forged a new advance in God's tomorrow. The Seventieth Anniversary of this congregation certainly has to be one of those most significant occasions.

To all who participate in the celebration as well as to all those who challenge us anew with the words of Jesus "to go into all the world," the membership of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church thanks you for your prayerful support and encouragement.

The candle on the altar is in memory of all deceased members of Berea Friendship United Methodist Church. We thank God for their love and commitment to this church and to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

The flowers on the altar are given in honor and in memory of the Charter Members of Berea Friendship by Becky and Henry Philpot

## **BEREA FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

### **Seven Decades of Service & Ministry**

In May of 1953, twenty-two people met at Berea High School on Farr's Bridge Road to discuss with the District Superintendent the possibility of organizing a Methodist church in the Berea community. The very next week, on June 7, fifty-six people met for a worship service in the auditorium of the school.

One week later, on June 14, the first Sunday School class was held at the school. Later that afternoon, the church was officially organized, adopting the name **Berea Methodist Church**. Thirty-one people became the first members of the newly formed congregation.

During the next several months, worship services, meetings, and church socials continued to meet at the school and in the homes of church members. The first celebration of Holy Communion was in the BHS auditorium October 4. With no altar in the auditorium, the front row of seats was used as the altar.

Later that same month, property was acquired on White Horse Road and building plans were adopted for an education building. October 11, 1953, was one of the most significant days in the church's history. On that day seventy-seven members received charter certificates, ground was broken for the new building, and the church officially was named **Berea Friendship Methodist Church**. "United" would be added to the name when the national Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Church in the late 1960s.

Construction of the new education building was completed in less than three months. The first worship service was held in the new facility in January, 1954. The church debt for the building was paid in full and the mortgage burned June 12, 1955.

Four years later, on May 25, 1958, ground was broken for a sanctuary. Members met for the first worship service in the new building February 22, 1959. The indebtedness for the sanctuary was paid in full and the mortgage burned August 28, 1977.

In the years that followed, Berea Friendship would acquire land and build a parsonage, organize an adult choir, purchase an organ, build the Leisure Ministry Center, form groups for children, youth, and adults within its membership, dedicate a carillon, renovate the sanctuary, add stained glass windows, observe homecomings and special anniversaries, see the addition of a Child Development Center, remodel and expand the original education building, organize the Quilters, and establish the first church-wide bazaar, now an annual tradition.

As BFUMC celebrates seventy years of ministry, its members look forward to continuing to fulfill its mission - "to share the good news of Jesus Christ and to serve others in His name."

*(These highlights were selected from the history of the church written in celebration of its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2003. That history was compiled by Becky Philpot, chairperson of the history committee, and members Henry Philpot, Vivian Day, and Betty Pierson.)*





**Men's Group** will meet on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Berea Friendship UMC is seeking crafters and artists to be vendors at our 27th Quilters & Crafters bazaar Sat. Oct. 21, 2023 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Vendors are expected to display handmade items, original works, (Not mass produced) or items focused on health and wellness. Blood Mobile has been invited for a community blood drive. Bazaar will be open for Set up 7am Sat. or Friday 20th 5pm – 7pm Our famous baked goods, jams, jellies, and pickles will also be available plus breakfast and lunch items.

For more information or a vendor registration form please contact [Hoppysmith@aol.com](mailto:Hoppysmith@aol.com) (Jan Smith) subject line: Vendor Info Or call church office 864 246-4311 or email [bfumchurch.office@gmail.com](mailto:bfumchurch.office@gmail.com) Web site <http://www.bereafriendshipumc.org>

We look forward to meeting new crafters and artists. Invite Friends and Family to visit us on Saturday Oct. 21, 2023 Please let me know if you are interested so we can save you a spot, Spaces will be limited,

THANK YOU

Jan Smith - Vendor coordinator

**Pink Sunday...** We will celebrate Pink Sunday – Breast Cancer Awareness on Sunday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> – Diane Greer & Jan Smith are working on the program.

**Quarters & Clean Clothes Project...** Many thanks to all who donated quarters for the clean clothes project sponsored by the Ladies Friendship Circle – with your generosity the circle was able to donate \$132.00 & 30 packets with detergent & softener sheets.

**Quilters & Crafters Bazaar...** We need you! Thursday – set up tables: 5-7; Friday – set up goods 12-7, Saturday – come eat & buy! – man tables/booths 8-12 – 12-4; clean up 4-5:30...need baked goods, cakes, cookies pies, etc.

Our prayer focus for October is on the Wesley Community Center in Savannah, Georgia. They were founded in 1949 and today they have a 4.7 star rating. Their mission is to enhance the economic, educational, and spiritual growth through excellence in early learning care and services for women, children, and families. Their programs include food assistance which is offered on the first Wednesday of each month. Crisis intervention services are offered 24/7. Excellent child care is available at their Lady Bamford Early Childhood Learning Center. They serve area children from the ages of six weeks through four years old. Their Wesley Family Life Center offers many services including utility and rental assistance, financial literacy, SNAP assistance, case management, adult education, career closet, and computer training. For the youth in the area, they offer homework help, tutoring, cooking classes, arts and crafts projects, field trips, and guest speakers. The United Methodist Church and United Methodist Women have long been known for caring about the needs of women and children. Wesley Community Center has been supported by the UMC and UMW through financial contributions, donations, and hands on volunteers. Birthday cards will be sent to missionaries Cindy Johnson in Texas and Carolyn Lawhorn in Tennessee.

## OCTOBER OUTREACH MINISTRIES NEWS:

The outreach ministries committee has selected Jasmine Road and Alabaster House as the outreach ministries project for October. We are collecting cleaning products, paper towels, toilet paper, and laundry detergent for them. Please bring donations and place them on the tables in the back of the sanctuary.

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Thank you to everyone who helped with our September Mission project of canned goods for United Ministries. Dinner for Berea High Football Team On Thursday, October 26th we will serve the Berea High Football team dinner at the school. We will meet at the church around 1:00 to start preparing the food and leave the church at 3:40 and go to Berea High and set up and serve dinner to the team. If you would like to attend, please contact Vickie Failor or a member of the outreach ministries team. We did this in September and it was a great success.

## COMING UP:

For the month of November we will be supporting the Christmas Shoe Ministry. We will be collecting shoes for 60 children. The Christmas tree with names will be available starting Sunday, November 5th . We will collect through Wednesday, November 29th. Christmas Shoe Ministries has also asked if we could have 5-10 volunteers to help on the following days checking shoes in: Saturday, December 2nd from 10 am -12 p.m. and Tuesday, December 5th from 12 p.m. – 2 pm. If you can help, please let Vickie Failor know. Mark your calendar, we will be going caroling on Saturday, December 16th . We will leave the church at 3:00 p.m. and return around 6 p.m. When we return we will have a dinner and a time of fellowship.

## TRUNK OR TREAT

The church will have a trunk or treat event on Tuesday, October 31, 2023. We will meet at the church starting at 5:00 p.m. to decorate vehicles. Trunk or Treat will run from 6:00 until 8:00. A light dinner will be provided for those participating. Please come out and decorate your vehicle and enjoy a time of fellowship. We are in need of candy donations for the event. You can place the candy in the tub located under the table at the back of the sanctuary.

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## United Women in Faith

The Friendship Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 17 th at 2:00 p.m.

The Shalom Circle will not meet in October. We will be participating in the church bazaar.

The United Women in Faith will have a World Thank brunch on Saturday, November 18th . Please mark your calendars. More details will be available closer to event.

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## Homecoming

We are looking forward to seeing everyone for Homecoming and our 70th anniversary celebration

Below is a schedule of the day's events:

8:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Coffee and Donuts in Fellowship Hall

9:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Sunday school

10:00 a.m. Traditional Service (Rev. Dr. Michael Guffee Sr., Guest Minister)

11:00 a.m. Catered Homecoming Dinner in Gymnasium

Noon- 5:00 p.m. Church open for members and guests

5:00 p.m. Praise and Worship Service (Pastor Matt Greer, Guest Minister)

6:00 p.m. Ice Cream Social in Fellowship Hall

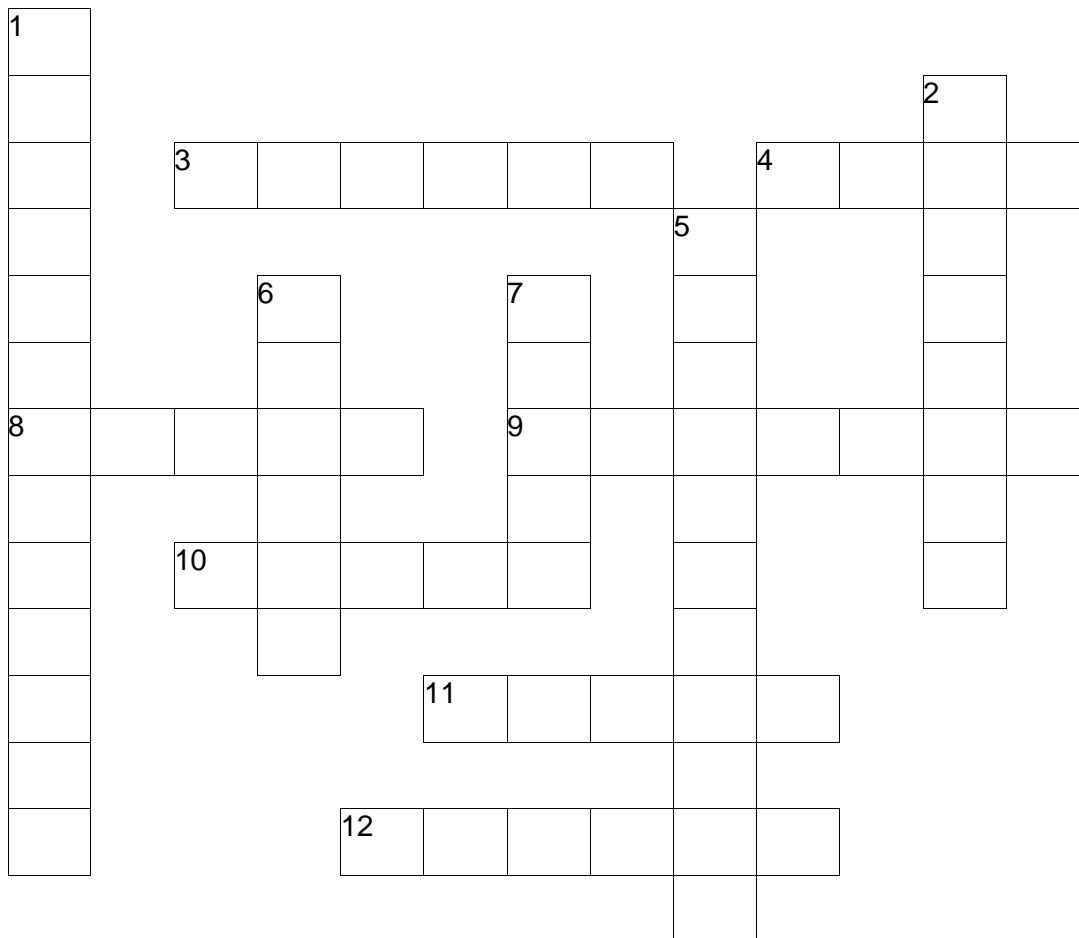
Invitations have been sent in the mail. For those that would like, you can place your RSVP cards in the basket located on the back table of sanctuary or you can mail them to the church, email the church office or call the church office and submit your reservation. Reservations need to be completed by October 1st , so we can notify the caterer. Needed for homecoming: Ice Cream churns for the ice cream social. If you can loan us a churn or volunteer to make ice cream, please contact the church office.

# 12 Disciples Of Jesus

D K N X W E R D N A P H A E M X D H T Z Z K X C  
 E M S E H L Z R N H K B R D U S H E C C F Z H D  
 L J J I D I C V C H H Q I B A R T H O L O M E W  
 B L A F T M Z E K H G T F G D I E X S Y Z P V R  
 B Y M L M K R N H R N A S T G A N Z T C P M T J  
 T E E A Q N Z B J U D A S I S C A R I O T K V O  
 R E S N J W Z K S U E A D D A H T C N I K S Z R  
 G D S B H N M I S S A M C E D A M Q G B G U X W  
 U E O N O M C H R H J B P B E R L P Q O O E Q X  
 J B N W K I Z A H O C T E B F V Y O F J U A M H  
 Q E O E O D O V F O E X B G J E B K T C N H P G  
 O Z F E N L K L W S O A W I E P M O N O K P B G  
 G F Z N Y A B Z V Z R E T E P N O M I S B L H C  
 P O E T G W N S S I F S R N Z R P L T W C A A D  
 I N B Z R L N C O A N U S L Z K F N B P R F Y C  
 L O E Y B O F G E T M C T M O L V M I N B O H M  
 I S D O F P W L L M J O P V L Q J R W C O N A I  
 H N E T E T Z L P S G V H Z X E Z V P A U O M F  
 P H E Y M S T W P H L A C T Z G N P R N T S R G  
 O O Z K Z K S I O Y V F D W E H T T A M U S E W  
 F J A N V R N O E A J T Y E R K U B C H P E G D  
 Y P S F C F Q C V R C J N Q D D I N P O Y M Q D  
 B R V S I M O N T H E Z E A L O T E U E W A T B  
 N Y J N M Y S L Q Z A Q Y E V W X I Q J M J S M

Bartholomew      Judas Iscariot      Simon the Zealot      Thaddaeus      Thomas  
 Philip      James son of Alphaeus      John son of Zebedee      James son of Zebedee  
                  Simon Peter      Andrew      Matthew

# The 12 Disciples



## Across

- 3. Preached to Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:9-13)
- 4. Son of Zebedee
- 8. The Zealot
- 9. The tax collector
- 10. Son of Alphaeus
- 11. Also called Peter
- 12. Brother to Simon

## Down

- 1. The betrayer
- 2. AKA Lebbeus Thaddeus
- 5. The only disciple left
- 6. Doubting
- 7. Son of Zebedee



# 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

CELEBRATION

1953 - 2023

**OCTOBER 8TH, 2023**

HOMECOMING

TRADITIONAL  
SERVICE AT 10  
FOLLOWED BY DINNER

PRAISE & WORSHIP  
SERVICE AT 5  
FOLLOWED BY ICE CREAM SOCIAL

BEREA FRIENDSHIP  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**QUILTERS & CRAFTERS BAZAAR**  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST FROM 8 UNTIL 4

*Berea Friendship*  
**Trunk  
or  
Treat**



**Tuesday, October 31st from 6 until 8**  
8001 White Horse Road

Berea Friendship

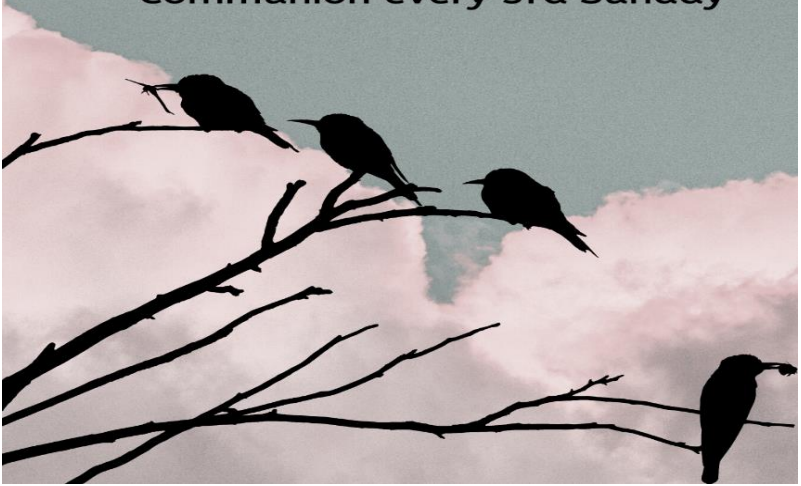
PRAISE &  
WORSHIP

Sunday at 5:00

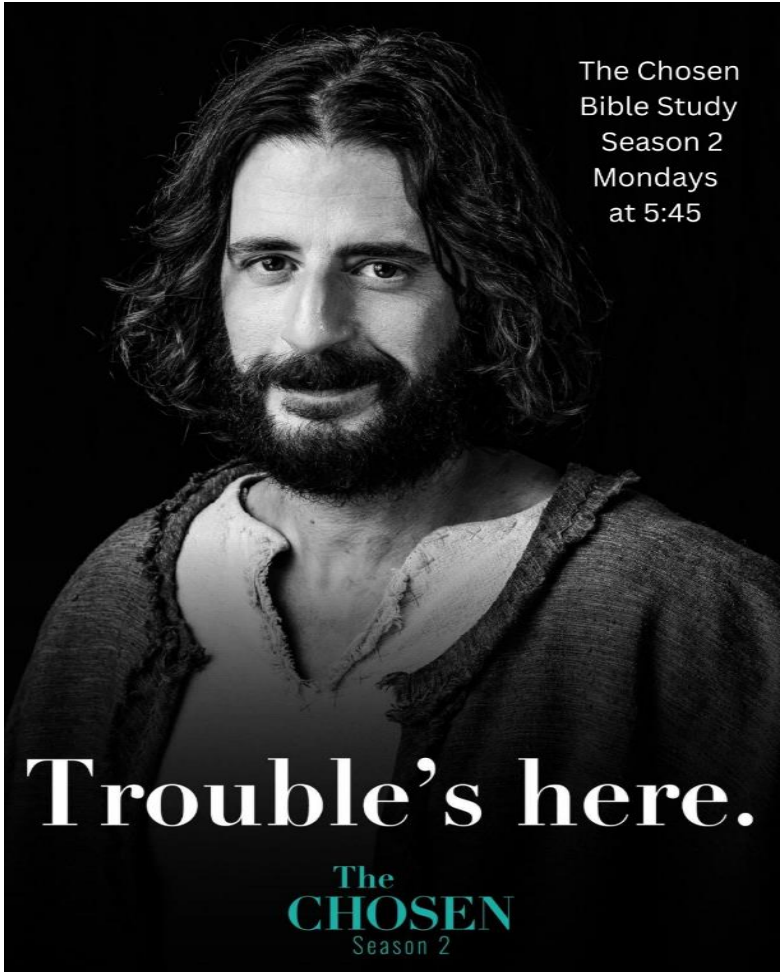
Message by Davon Harrelson

Music by Josh Durham  
& His Flock Of Friends

Communion every 3rd Sunday



The Chosen  
Bible Study  
Season 2  
Mondays  
at 5:45



Trouble's here.

The  
CHOSEN  
Season 2

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3:16

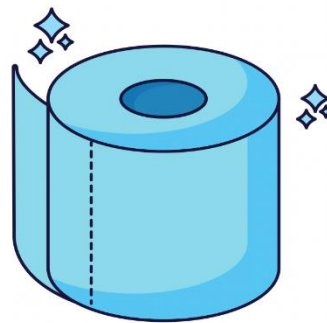
Prayer  
Ministry

Berea Friendship  
Tuesday 10:30-11:30  
In The Sanctuary



✦ October ✦  
Outreach

JASMINE ROAD/  
ALABASTER HOUSE



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THEY NEED

Cleaning Products, Paper Towels,  
Toilet Paper, & Laundry Detergent

thank you!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9 Sunday School 10 Traditional Service 5 Praise & Worship 1	5:45 Chosen Bible Study 2	10:30-11:30 3:16 Prayer 11:30 until 2 6:30 until 8:30 Quilters 3	6:30 Choir Practice 4	5	6	7
70 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Homecoming 8	5:45 Chosen Bible Study 6:00 Men's Group 9	10:30-11:30 3:16 Prayer 11:30 until 2 6:30 until 8:30 Quilters 10	6:30 Choir Practice 11	12	13	14
9 Sunday School 10 Traditional Service 5 Praise & Worship 15	5:45 Chosen Bible Study 16	10:30-11:30 3:16 Prayer 11:30 until 2 6:30 until 8:30 Quilters 2 Friendship Circle 17	6:30 Choir Practice 18	19	20	8 until 4 Quilters & Crafters Bazaar 21
9 Sunday School 10 Traditional Service 5 Praise & Worship 22	5:45 Chosen Bible Study 23	10:30-11:30 3:16 Prayer 11:30 until 2 6:30 until 8:30 Quilters 24	6:30 Choir Practice 25	26	27	28
9 Sunday School 10 Traditional Service 5 Praise & Worship 29	5:45 Chosen Bible Study 30	10:30-11:30 3:16 Prayer 11:30 until 2 6:30 until 8:30 Quilters 6 until 8 Trunk Or Treat 31				

# OCTOBER

