



September 2026

Dear First Pres Friends,

I hope that everyone is staying cool as the hot months roll on for our church! We've done so much good work this summer, from taking our High School Youth up to Montreat for their annual Montreat Youth Conference, to celebrating Rally & Backpack Sunday at the beginning of the month when most of our children went back to school, and even celebrating our 3rd annual Bluegrass Sunday not that long ago! As we start to kick off the year, I wanted to bring a few exciting things to your attention.

Looking ahead, we will have many exciting opportunities in the church for Fellowship and getting to know one another! We have At Ease on the first Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise posted), Prayer Meeting on Wednesday evenings in the Session House with a special lesson series in collaboration with other Ministers in town being planned for October, Youth has kicked off and we meet every Sunday at 5:30 PM (unless otherwise posted), and some other fun pop up events that you won't want to miss! These could be moments of Stewardship in service, Abba House volunteering opportunities, member-led cooking classes (with hopefully a new FPC Cookbook in the works!!), a Fall Festival at the end of September, and so much more!

On a personal front, Jenny and I discovered that Luke loves corn! So much so it is hard to take it away from him when he is all done with it. It has been quite an exciting time as he takes his first steps, explores and tries out new things, and starts dancing and clapping along to his Dad's music (found out he is as much a fan of Tom Petty as he is of Daft Punk). It is such a blessing in our lives!

Lastly, while this is a special time in the life of our church, let us also remember those on our prayer list as it continues to grow. This season can be difficult for many of us, so if you ever need anything, please feel free to reach out to me! Also, if you ever need to meet or talk, my door is always open, and I am more than happy to talk with you, visit, take you out to lunch, and meet you where you are in life! You all are always in my prayers.

Blessings,

Rev. Maxwell Michaels



Sunday School Classes

Parlor Class

The Parlor Class will study the 6-week series, *Tame Your Thoughts*, by Max Lucado. This study focuses on how our thought life shapes our spiritual life, drawing heavily from passages from Philippians 4:8, Romans 12:2, and 2 Corinthians 10:5. Join us for this wonderful time together in the Parlor!

Fellowship Class

Join the Fellowship class as they begin a new Max Lucado study, *Unbreakable Courage*. This 6-week study will focus on the courage of Elijah. Adults The Fellowship Class meets each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. It is a relaxed class with lots of discussion. Please think about joining us for coffee & fellowship!

Youth Class

Our Youth Class will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. This month they will compare personal experience and faith claims that God works through us to bring reconciliation at times of conflict. They will also explore the generosity of God's grace that exceeds fairness and consider the authority of God's call in comparison to the other voices they listen to and follow. Join us! All 6th-12th graders are welcome!

Children's Class

Our Children's class, ages K-5th grade, will continue studying *Feasting on the Word*. They will recognize the value that Jesus places on forgiveness, look for God's ways in the parable of the two sons, and rejoice in God's love.

The children's class meets upstairs and has lots of fun!

Preschool Class—(ages 3-4)

meets downstairs in the Louise Carpenter room and will also be studying *Feasting on the Word*. For the month of September, children will consider Jesus' teachings

Nursery always available (downstairs)



Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule

September 2

Fun Program begins! 3:15-4:45 p.m. with Mrs. Weiz, Mrs. Lindsay, Mrs. Kathie, Mrs. Susie, & Mrs. Tammy.

Sunday, September 27

Fun Program to sing & ring in the sanctuary for the 11 a.m. service.

Wednesday, October 7

No Fun Program (Happy Fall Break!)

Sunday, October 25

Fall Carnival with Games & Prizes!

Wednesday, November 4

Fun Program to Make Veteran's Day Cards

Wednesday, November 18

Friendsgiving in the Fellowship Building!

Sunday, November 22

5-6 p.m. Christmas Pageant Costume Fitting;
6p.m Chancel Choir Cantata Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 25

No Fun Program or Chancel Choir
(Happy Thanksgiving!)

Saturday, December 5

10-11:30 a.m. Christmas Pageant Rehearsal with Pizza lunch!

Christian Education & Music Ministry Schedule Cont.

Sunday, December 6

11 a.m. Christmas Pageant (children to ring & sing)

Sunday, December 13

Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata at 2:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

Wednesday 12/9, 12/16, 12/23, 12/30, 1/6

No Fun Program (Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!)

Wednesday, January 13

Fun Program resumes

Wednesday, February 10

No Fun Program (Winter Break)

Sunday, February 28

Children to ring & sing during the 11 a.m. service

Wednesday, March 31st

No Fun Program (Spring Break)

Sunday, May 2

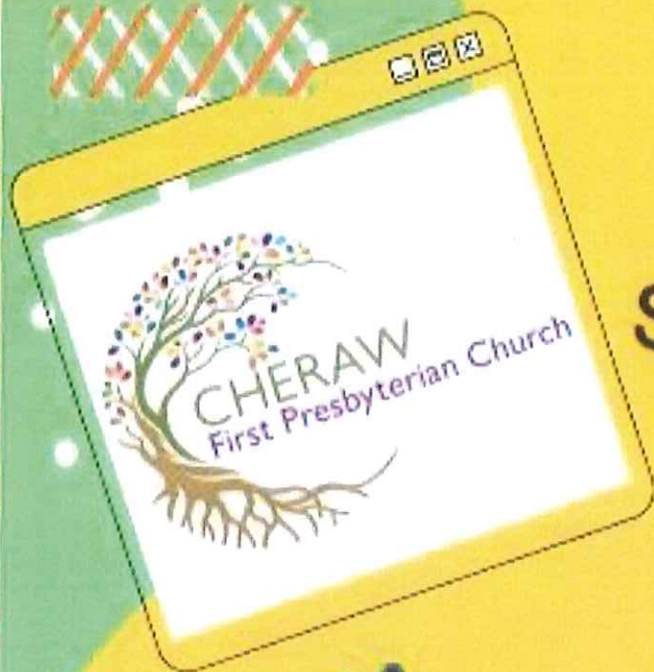
Youth Sunday

Wednesday, May 5

Last Fun Program Celebration

***Stay tuned for additional Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata rehearsals!**

**Fun Program Begins
Wednesday, September 2nd!
Register now online @
cherawfpc.org**



FUN PROGRAM
Starting
September 2
1st-5th
Grades

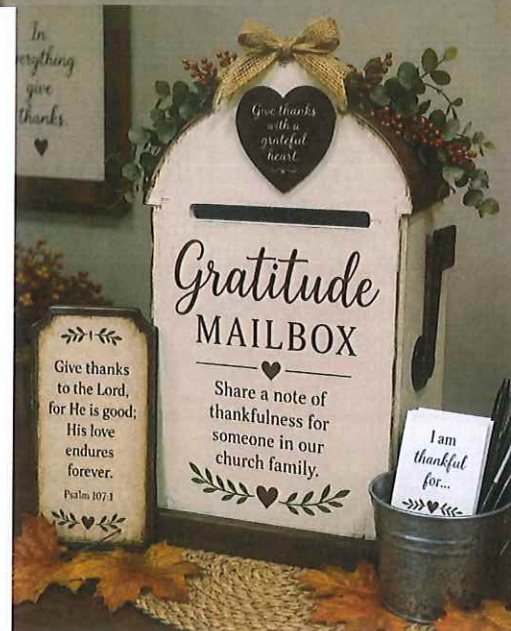
**EVERY
WEDNESDAY
3:15-4:45PM**

**SNACKS, GAMES,
CRAFTS,
HANDBELLS,
CHOIR, & BIBLE
STUDY!
BRING A FRIEND!**

**300 Market St
Cheraw, SC**

Gratitude Mailbox!

This fall we invite our entire church family to join in a simple Gratitude Project—our very own *Gratitude Mailbox*! Take a moment to think about someone in our church family who has blessed you, encouraged you, inspired you, or simply made a difference in your life.



Pick up a gratitude slip, complete the sentence:

"I am thankful for someone in our church because..."

Then place your completed slip in the Gratitude Mailbox.

Your words of appreciation will help us celebrate our church family and be read aloud during the Friendsgiving Meal on Wednesday, November 18.

"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. "— Psalm 107:1

Let's fill our mailbox and our hearts with gratitude!

Take a moment to give thanks for someone in our church family today.

Presbyterian Women News

Duties:

Circle Meeting

Sept. 2– Circle Meeting 10:00 am in the Parlor.

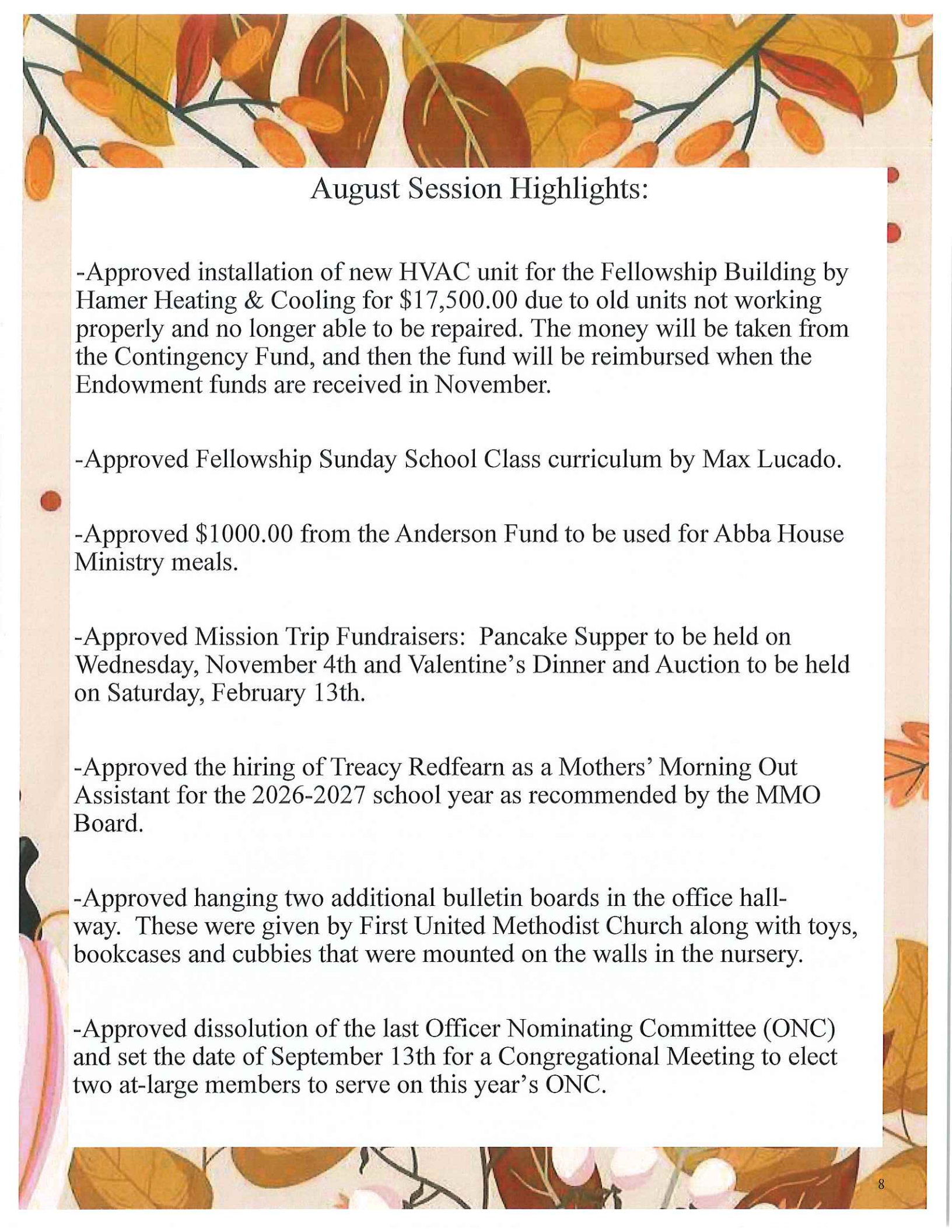
Please come and join us!

If you haven't been able to come to Circle in the past
but have the time now. Please join us!

Communion

Sept. 6– Kim Brabham and Christie McLeod





August Session Highlights:

- Approved installation of new HVAC unit for the Fellowship Building by Hamer Heating & Cooling for \$17,500.00 due to old units not working properly and no longer able to be repaired. The money will be taken from the Contingency Fund, and then the fund will be reimbursed when the Endowment funds are received in November.
- Approved Fellowship Sunday School Class curriculum by Max Lucado.
- Approved \$1000.00 from the Anderson Fund to be used for Abba House Ministry meals.
- Approved Mission Trip Fundraisers: Pancake Supper to be held on Wednesday, November 4th and Valentine's Dinner and Auction to be held on Saturday, February 13th.
- Approved the hiring of Treacy Redfearn as a Mothers' Morning Out Assistant for the 2026-2027 school year as recommended by the MMO Board.
- Approved hanging two additional bulletin boards in the office hallway. These were given by First United Methodist Church along with toys, bookcases and cubbies that were mounted on the walls in the nursery.
- Approved dissolution of the last Officer Nominating Committee (ONC) and set the date of September 13th for a Congregational Meeting to elect two at-large members to serve on this year's ONC.

Chancel Choir Spotlight

Buddy Brooks

From as early as I can remember, my dad was always singing fun, happy, and love songs at home. He was a bass in a Barber Shop Quartet that was a traveling comedy & musical show to Civic Club Ladies Nights all over the country. He was a banker by profession and this was a special love for music he had.

I was in a mixed chorus in high school and joined my church choir at age 16 as a bass along with my Dad and close friend, Eddie. I did not continue my choir experience at the Citadel. My high school choir teacher was Mrs. Dorothy Moore who I will always remember so favorably. Then on several occasions over the past 20 years, Reba would tell people that I sang so well so Barbara Dickson gave me a chance to sing in the Christmas Cantata. When she retired and Weiz Baker became our Choir Director, she had such great talent and enthusiasm, I was excited to be a part of Chancel Choir, even though somewhat "green" at reading music. I am indebted to Dad, Dot Moore, Barbara Dickson, and Weiz Baker.

McArn Food Bank Backpack Ministry

McArn Food Bank Partners with Cheraw Primary school, to provide weekend food for 35 of their students most in need. Each week during the school year, nutritious food items are bagged and placed in children's backpacks for them to carry home for the weekend.

Food items may include (**No peanut butter or nuts**):

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| *Ravioli cups | *Mac-n-cheese cups |
| *Ramen noodles cup | *Pudding cups |
| *Jello cups | *Fruit cups, |
| *Applesauce cups | *Vegetable cups |
| *Pop Tarts | *Granola bars |
| *Individual cereal bowls | *Instant grits |
| *Instant oatmeal | *Lance sandwich crackers |

If you would like to contribute any of these items to this ministry, please place them in the designated box outside the church office door or the little red wagon in the Narthex.

Prayer Changes Things

Kathy Bradshaw

Shirley Brock

Louise Carpenter

Summer Cathey

Pam Cook (Alison Chapman's mother)

Betty Davis

Sue Funderburk

Tommy Gullledge

Nadia Harris

Ruth Jackson

Gerry Rogers

Susan Malloy

Robbie McCombs (friend of Dan Tillman)

Benny Moore

B.J. Moore

Marion Murphy

April Quick

Clytie Roddy

Patti Rollings

Sherryl Shaw (Friend of Susie Pace)

Lynn Smith

Wyatt Smith

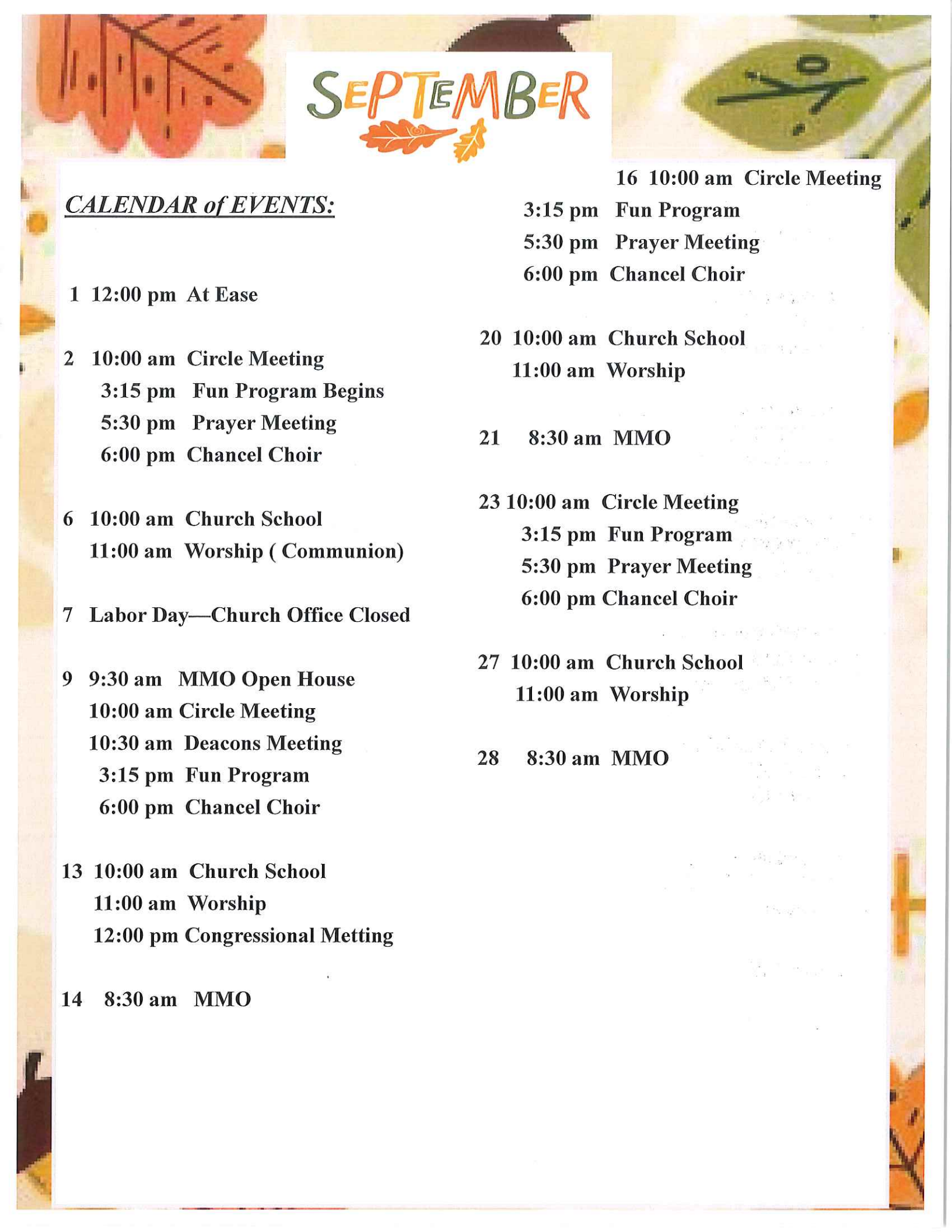
Jessi Tillman

Edward Tinsley

Harold Watson

Lesley Jean Watson

For those suffering from chronic mental and emotional illnesses



SEPTEMBER

CALENDAR of EVENTS:

- | | | | | | |
|----|----------|--------------------------------|----|----------|----------------|
| 1 | 12:00 pm | At Ease | 16 | 10:00 am | Circle Meeting |
| | | | | 3:15 pm | Fun Program |
| | | | | 5:30 pm | Prayer Meeting |
| | | | | 6:00 pm | Chancel Choir |
| 2 | 10:00 am | Circle Meeting | 20 | 10:00 am | Church School |
| | 3:15 pm | Fun Program Begins | | 11:00 am | Worship |
| | 5:30 pm | Prayer Meeting | 21 | 8:30 am | MMO |
| | 6:00 pm | Chancel Choir | | | |
| 6 | 10:00 am | Church School | 23 | 10:00 am | Circle Meeting |
| | 11:00 am | Worship (Communion) | | 3:15 pm | Fun Program |
| 7 | | Labor Day—Church Office Closed | | 5:30 pm | Prayer Meeting |
| | | | | 6:00 pm | Chancel Choir |
| 9 | 9:30 am | MMO Open House | 27 | 10:00 am | Church School |
| | 10:00 am | Circle Meeting | | 11:00 am | Worship |
| | 10:30 am | Deacons Meeting | 28 | 8:30 am | MMO |
| | 3:15 pm | Fun Program | | | |
| | 6:00 pm | Chancel Choir | | | |
| 13 | 10:00 am | Church School | | | |
| | 11:00 am | Worship | | | |
| | 12:00 pm | Congressional Metting | | | |
| 14 | 8:30 am | MMO | | | |



SEPTEMBER **Birthdays**

9/1 Charlie Phillips

9/2 Marion Anderson

9/3 Eliza Chapman

9/5 Billy Smith

9/7 Rev. Maxwell Michaels

9/9 Mason Leviner

9/11 John Anderson, Dal Luke

9/13 Ginny Nickles

9/15 Eva Goddard

9/16 Tracie Phillips

9/17 Bennett Evans

9/22 John Folger

9/23 Ella Morgan

9/25 Miriam Stricklin

9/26 Nancy Griggs, Penny Angle



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october

BIRTHDAYS

10/1 Knox Miller, Karen Tillman

10/3 Avery Dickson, Sam Phillips

10/5 Susie Ingram

10/6 John Long

10/10 Alison Chapman

10/12 Dan Tillman

10/14 Regina Evans

10/17 Robert Angle

10/27 Brylee Denham

10/31 Tammy Joyce