

PROCLAIMER

Christ Lutheran Church

November 2025

Worship

Sunday Morning Holy Communion 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Livestream 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education for all ages 9:30 a.m.

Office

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. 210-822-3394 office@clcah.org

From our ELCA Bishops to the Church

On behalf of the Congregation Council, I am sharing with you a letter that the ELCA Synodical Bishops recently composed during the conference of Bishops in response to current events in our nation.

- Dr. Michael Fischer, President of Congregation Council

October 8, 2025

Beloved in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

As bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we write to you in this moment of national and global tension with clarity and conviction. Our faith compels us to stand where Jesus stands—with and for those whom society often seeks to exclude, erase, or diminish.

Our shared confession that every person is created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27) grounds us in the conviction that all people possess inherent dignity. The incarnation of Jesus Christ reveals God's profound solidarity with humanity—especially with those who are marginalized or oppressed. The gospel we proclaim insists that our neighbor's need is the occasion for our love and that our public life is shaped by justice, mercy, and a commitment to the common good.

Further, we have a shared tradition in our social teachings which grounds us. The ELCA's Social Message on Immigration reminds us:

"We are to respond to newcomers as we would to Christ—welcoming them, meeting their immediate needs, and advocating for justice in our laws and policies."

Likewise, our recently adopted Social Statement on Faith and Civic Life affirms that Christians are called to be "a public witness, holding leaders accountable when they fail to protect the vulnerable."

We are living through a time when vulnerable communities are being scapegoated and attacked. Immigrants and refugees are vilified, though Scripture commands us to welcome the stranger. People of color continue to bear the devastating weight of racism woven into the fabric of our society. Transgender people, beloved by God, are being targeted with laws and rhetoric that deny their dignity and even their right to exist. These assaults on our siblings are not political abstractions—they are deep wounds in the body of Christ.

In this time of division and fear, we, as people grounded in our faith, insist on love. This commitment flows from our faith in Christ crucified and risen—the One whose love breaks down barriers, confronts hatred, and transforms hearts.

Love insists on the dignity of every human being. Love insists on justice for the marginalized and oppressed. Love insists that the church must reflect God's diverse, life-giving community.

Continued on next page...

Love insists that we listen, speak, and act with respect, even in disagreement. Love insists on hope, trusting that God's kingdom of justice and peace will prevail.

This love also compels us to speak clearly against Christian Nationalism, which our Churchwide Assembly named as a distortion of the Christian faith and an unhealthy form of patriotism. Christian Nationalism confuses the Gospel with political power, turns God into a mascot for the state, and privileges some people over others based on race, religion, or birthplace. This is not the way of Jesus. The kingdom of God is not a nation, not a culture, not a political ideology—it is God's reign of love, justice, and mercy for all people.

Therefore, as bishops of this church, we declare that the ELCA cannot be silent. Our call is clear:

- To proclaim the God-given dignity of every human being.
- To resist systems and ideologies, including Christian Nationalism, that oppress, dehumanize, or erase.
- To stand shoulder to shoulder with those who are targeted or harmed.
- To bear public witness that the love of Christ is stronger than fear, stronger than hatred, and stronger than death.

We call on all members of the ELCA to join us in prayer, advocacy, and action:

- Pray for those who are vulnerable and for all who work for justice.
- Advocate in your communities, legislatures, and Congress for laws that protect migrants, advance racial justice, and safeguard LGBTQIA+ people.
- Engage in the holy work of hospitality, creating spaces of safety, affirmation, and belonging for all God's children.
- Model respectful dialogue in a polarized world, seeking understanding rooted in love.
- Hold fast to hope, trusting that the Spirit is still at work renewing creation and reconciling the world to God.

In baptism, we are marked with the cross of Christ forever. That cross is not only a sign of our hope—it is also a summons to follow Jesus into solidarity with those who suffer.

In the power of the Spirit, let us be bold. Let us be faithful.

Let us Insist on Love—in our words, our actions, our public witness, and our life together.

Together in Christ,

Bishop Kevin Strickland Southeastern Synod

Bishop Becca Middeke-Conlin Arkansas-Oklahoma Synod

Bishop Donna Simon Central States Synod

Bishop Anne Edison-Albright East Central Synod of Wisconsin

Bishop Deborah Hutterer Grand Canyon Synod

Bishop Felix Malpica La Crosse Area Synod

Bishop Wayne Miller Metropolitan Chicago Synod

Bishop Philip C Hirsch Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod

Bishop Scott Alan Johnson Nebraska Synod

Bishop Christa Compton New Jersey Synod

Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas North/West Lower Michigan Synod

Bishop Amy Odgren Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Bishop Christopher deForest Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod

Bishop Stacie Fidlar Northern Illinois Synod

Bishop Meggan Manlove Northwest Intermountain Synod

Bishop Shelley Bryan Wee Northwest Washington Synod

Bishop Kristen Papson Northwestern PA Synod

Bishop David Nagler Pacifica Synod

Bishop Jeff R. Johnson Sierra Pacific Synod

Bishop Joy Mortensen-Wiebe South-Central Synod of Wisconsin

Bishop Bryan Penman Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

Bishop Melissa L. Stoller Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod

Bishop Tracey Breashears Schultz Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod

Bishop Lee M. Miller II Upstate New York Synod

Bishop Erik Gronberg Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod Page 2

Bishop Susan J. Briner Southwestern Texas Synod

Bishop Vivian Davila Caribbean Synod

Bishop Bill Gohl Delaware-Maryland Synod

Bishop Pedro Suarez Florida-Bahamas Synod

Bishop Paul Erickson Greater Milwaukee Synod Bishop Stephen R. Herr Lower Susquehanna Synod

Bishop Katrina D. Foster Metropolitan New York Synod

Bishop Jen Nagel Minneapolis Area Synod

Bishop Nathan Pipho New England Synod

Bishop Emily K. Hartner North Carolina Synod

Bishop Kevin Jones Northeastern Iowa Synod

Bishop Laura Barbins Northeastern Ohio Synod

Bishop Katherine Finegan Northern Great Lakes Synod

Bishop Scott Dalen Western Iowa Synod

Bishop Martin Halom Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

Bishop Daniel G. Beaudoin Northwestern Ohio Synod

Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar Oregon Synod

Bishop Meghan Johnston Aelabouni Rocky Mountain

Synod

Bishop Ginny Aebischer South Carolina Synod

Bishop Amy Current Southeastern Iowa Synod

Bishop Brenda Bos Southwest California Synod

Bishop Keith Marshall Southwestern Washington

Bishop Craig Miller Upper Susquehanna Synod

Bishop Phyllis Milton Virginia Synod

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Faith University in November, 9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

- November 2 All Generations Día de los Muertos/Remembering our Beloveds
 See page 6 for more information.
- November 9, 16, 30 and December 7

Discover the Bible Like Never Before with Rev. David Schulte Join us on a journey through Scripture with a captivating series of short, animated videos that explore the Bible in fresh and meaningful ways. Together, we'll dive into:

- * What the Bible is and where it came from
- * Its overarching story and central themes
- * The rich variety of literary styles it contains
- * And most importantly, why engaging with the Bible daily is essential for us as the people of God
 - * * * Spoiler alert: The Bible transforms lives. * * *

These beautifully crafted videos are produced by The Bible Project, a team of creatives from diverse Christian traditions united by a shared mission—to make the Bible accessible and compelling for today's world. Whether you're new to Scripture or looking to deepen your understanding, this series is designed for you. Come ready to be inspired, challenged, and changed.

December 14: Christmas Pageant—Christmas Around the World

Children and Youth Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

We encourage our children to participate in our Sunday School programs here at CLC. All ages will meet in the children's chapel for a daily message and song followed by breakout groups by age. Sunday School is led by our faithful and amazing church members along with the Director of Faith Formation, Blythe Boeck.

Preschool (3 years old - Kindergarten)

We will jump into the wonder of learning the Bible stories through the Godly Play curriculum. Patti Lynch, Beth Whitten, and Deacon Lisa Diana will be the lead Sunday school teachers for this class.

Elementary (1st - 5th Grades)

This year, students will be exploring the great stories of the Bible through storytelling and art. Rhonda Barsalou and Natalie Stone will lead storytelling through the Old Testament, focusing on a different story each week and Suz Braaten, Scott Merkord, and Elizabeth Yust will lead the art component.

Confirmation: (6th through 8th Grade)

Students are encouraged to attend Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. or Wednesday evenings at 5:30 p.m. with Ms. Blythe to work through the Confirmation Talksheets that cover and reinforce the material presented in Pastor Leslie's classes. We are currently studying Lutheran life, worship, and the sacraments.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

Mission and Outreach Team Meeting Monday, November 3, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Parlor

A Zoom link will be sent to those who aren't able to be there in person. All are welcome.

Habitat for Humanity Lutheran Cluster Build Saturday, November 15th, 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

CLC has signed up for Landscape Day as a part of the Lutheran Cluster build, which will be on Saturday, November 15, 7:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. We need 20 volunteers from Christ Lutheran. Please sign up on the Habitat for Humanity link/QR code. Make sure you sign up on the correct day (the last day of the build). If you have trouble registering or would like to carpool, contact Deacon Lisa Diana at lisa@clcah.org. This is also the date for the dedication ceremony, and all ages are invited to this event after the landscaping has been completed around 10:30 or 11:00 a.m. Volunteers should be ages 12 and over. There is also a lunch that follows the dedication ceremony, and everyone is invited. I hope you will consider joining us for this time of service and celebration. Here is the link/QR code to sign up. https://volunteer.bloomerang.co/JE/g5ewmg2eqo2wbo



Thanksgiving Bake Sale Fundraiser Sunday, November 23, CrossWay

The Mission and Outreach Team will be hosting a bake sale between and after the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. services on Sunday, November 23. We are asking for donations of baked goods (homemade or purchased) to be dropped off at the church on Saturday, November 22, from 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Proceeds from the bake sale will help those in need in our community. Contact Lisa Diana for more information at lisa@clcah.org.

Inner City Development Christmas Toy Sale

CLC's benevolence partner, Inner City Development, brings Christmas cheer to its neighbors in one of San Antonio's lowest income neighborhoods. Inner City asks friends to help them set up a Christmas store at their community center at 1300 Chihuahua Street in 78207.

This year, Inner City Development will be our Christmas community outreach project – giving needy families a boost so they can afford to buy shiny new gifts for their kiddos.

They're asking for new toys, dolls, balls, arts and crafts, puzzles, baby toys, books, games, bikes, and athletic equipment that they will then "sell" to neighbors from their festive pop-up store at the Inner City community center. Shoppers pay at a 90% discount . . . or whatever they can afford. It brings dignity and joy to families who want to give their children a Merry Christmas but cannot otherwise afford to do so. (Note: They ask that we please not supply any toys or games that promote violence.)

Last year, over 700 children benefitted from the Christmas sale, and the funds raised are used to provide emergency services for the families served by Inner City.

Toys should not be gift-wrapped. We will deliver to Inner City on Saturday, December 13, and ask that you bring your contributions to the church by Sunday, December 7, and mark them "Inner City Development."

Thank you for caring, sharing, and generously bringing Christmas joy to struggling families in our community.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

Children's Choirs, Wednesdays, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. Angelicus Choir (pre K - Kinder) and Gloria Choir (1st - 5th grade)

The Gloria and Angelicus Choirs continue to gather to sing, have fun, and learn about God's love. Both choirs sang in worship in October, and they did a beautiful job! Parents, thanks so much for your support and please mark your calendars with the important dates listed below. Your children's lives will be enriched with music and fellowship, and our worship will be blessed by their sweet voices in praise.

Choir rehearsals run each Wednesday through December 17 (please note no rehearsal on November 26 for the Thanksgiving break). Pastor Leslie and Ms. Becky will lead ages 3–5-years in the Children's Chapel. Ms. Mary and Ms. Sharon will lead our 1st through 5th grade students in the Sanctuary. We hope no one will miss this musical fun!

Angelicus Choir Singing in 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship:

- November 9
- December 7

Gloria Choir Singing in 10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship:

- November 16
- December 14



Family Dinner Nights



Looking for a midweek pick-me-up? Join us every Wednesday at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Family Dinner Night! It's a time to relax, enjoy a meal, and connect with friends of all ages. To make these dinners possible, we rely on volunteers to bring main dishes, sides, and desserts, as well as activities for the kids and cleaning up. Your participation helps these dinners run smoothly and creates a welcoming space for everyone. Please use our <u>Sign Up Genius link</u> to choose a date and volunteer role. Together, we can keep Wednesday nights welcoming, delicious, and full of fellowship!

UPCOMING EVENTS

All Saints Sunday & Dia de los Muertos Remembrance, November 2

The traditions of All Saints and *Día de los Muertos* are beloved at Christ Lutheran. They allow us to gather and remember, grieve, celebrate, and find solace and hope. During worship at 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. you will find our All Saints Altar at the front of the church, reminding us of our baptismal promises that no matter what, even in death, we are forever held in love by God. You are invited to bring pictures and mementos of loved ones to place on the altar throughout the morning. There you will also see candles strewn across the table that will be lighted during worship in remembrance of the saints who have gone before us. A special bell will toll in memory of all those members and friends of our community of faith who have died since our last All Saints remembrance, as we lift their names in prayer.

Between worship services, during our education hour, we will continue our remembering by sharing stories of our sainted loved ones and creating projects in their memory. Again, please bring pictures and mementos to share and to place on our *Día de los Muertos* Altar. We will close our time together with a brief service of remembrance.

For a little background on this colorful, meaningful celebration:

El Día de los Muertos is a unique cultural tradition that remembers those loved ones who have gone before us. It is an annual three-day Mexican festival where family and friends remember the dearly departed. It is a vibrant celebration of life that gives artistic expression to mourning through music, color, dance, food, art, flowers, and more. The dead are celebrated literally as though still alive and ofrendas or "offerings" are made in memory of them and their favorite sports, foods, drinks, and pastimes. Calaveras literarias are poems written for the dead to celebrate their life and remember them. Mexico's Día de los Muertos



inspires us to enrich our own tradition of remembering the saints who are dear to us.

Visitor & New Member Wine & Cheese Monday, November 10, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., CrossWay and Garden

The CLC Welcome Team invites all visitors and new members to a Wine and Cheese gathering in the CrossWay and Garden on Monday, November 10, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. We will gather for lively conversation in a casual and comfortable setting to get to know one another better. There will also be special activities for the children with Ms. Blythe. Please join us and get to know more about CLC in an evening of fellowship, fun, and food. (NOTE: Who's considered a new member? If you joined CLC in the past couple of years and would like to gather with us for this occasion, please do! We'd love to have your fresh eyes and wisdom to help us welcome newer members and visitors!)

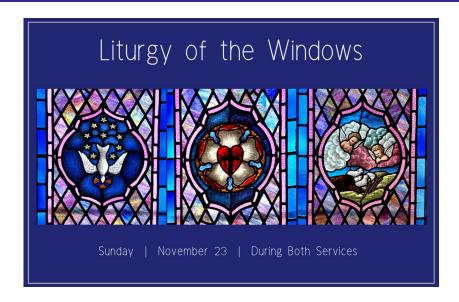


UPCOMING EVENTS

Fair Trade Sale Sunday, November 16, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m., CrossWay



Holly Schwartz, owner of All's Fair, a fair-trade boutique in San Antonio, will be in the CrossWay with handmade items from around the world. Fair Trade is an organized social movement that helps artisans and producers in developing countries make better trading conditions and promote sustainability. Fair trade ensures that workers get fair compensation for their products. Shop for exotic teas and coffees, handmade gift items, chocolate, and Christmas gifts.



Hanging of the Greens Sunday, November 30, 11:30 a.m.

Listening to Christmas music and hanging boughs of holly really get one in the spirit of the season! Add fantastic fellowship with good and faithful friends and the joy of contributing to the beautification of our worship space for the Advent and Christmas seasons and you have our annual tradition of the Hanging of the Greens at CLC. The children are invited to the Fellowship Hall to make ornaments for the Christmas tree that adorns our Sanctuary. A special gift for them and for the congregation as we admire their creative art throughout the season. Once the work is done, we gather for tamales and chili, thanks to Clara Tenorio's gracious hosting!



SMALL GROUP CORNER

Joseph's Sons, Monday, November 3, 6:30 p.m., Wild Barley

Joseph's Sons will meet Monday at 6:30 p.m. for a meal, a short bible study, and fellowship at Wild Barley Kitchen and Brewery, 8403 Broadway, San Antonio, TX 78209. If you have questions or need directions, please contact Joe Diana.

CLC Book Club, Tuesday, November 4, 6:45 p.m., Primrose House

Readers! You're invited to join fellow book lovers on Tuesday, November 4 (after you vote), in the CLC Primrose House at 6:45 p.m. to discuss <u>A Change of Habit</u> by Sister Monica Clare.

FIRST Thursday Lunch Bunch - Note the date change! Thursday, November 6, Noon, Fellowship Hall

Our social group for seniors, Lunch Bunch, will gather on November 6 at noon in the Fellowship Hall for a Friendsgiving Meal. Join in and share that for which and for whom you are thankful, including good friends.

Men's Breakfast Group Tuesday, November 11, 7:00 a.m., Bill Miller BBQ

All men of the church are invited to a short Bible study on the upcoming Sunday gospel. Breakfast tacos and fellowship at Bill Miller BBQ located at 410 and Nacogdoches Road.

The Gathering, Thursday, November 13, 9:30 a.m., Bird Bakery

The Gathering is a group for moms with children from infants to college age. This group will meet on the second Thursday of each month. The Gathering is a place where moms of children of all ages can come to chat about anything and everything. It's a group to give advice when asked, to listen, laugh and just enjoy making and growing friendships. For more information please contact Carrie Jowers at carrie.jowers@gmail.com or Joan Woods at Joanwoods2@yahoo.com.

Living in Interesting Times, Thursday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., Parlor

Are you concerned about what is happening in your community, state, nation, and world? Would you like to pray and work with other people of faith toward similar goals? Possibilities include being a support group for each other, reading certain books, going on field trips, and engaging in advocacy. We will meet in the Parlor November 13 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Fellowship with the Fellas Thursday, November 13, 6:30 p.m., Wild Barley

This is a welcoming group of 20-40 somethings who are singles or married men with or without children. This group of young and young-ish men invites other guys to the group for great conversation to find a deeper meaning of your faith, yourself, and your family. It's a no pressure environment in a place of trust and commitment to each other. Please consider making this your time for friendship and faith. Contact: Jayme Brown

Lucy Circle, Sunday, November 16, 9:30 a.m., Parlor

CLC women are invited to join The Lucies on Sunday, November 16 in the church Parlor to discuss "The Strength You Gain by Not Taking Offense," by Arthur C. Brooks. If you'd like a copy of the essay and you're not on The Lucies mailing list, please let me know.

- Jan Schubert Norris

CHILDREN AND YOUTH CORNER

An update from the Director of Faith Formation

Over the past few months, our youth have been actively engaged in a variety of events that have brought joy, fellowship, and spiritual growth. Our new Sunday school format has been a great success, giving kids of all ages a time to worship together before breaking into age-appropriate groups for stories, crafts, and games.

FX3 has started meeting and enjoying fellowship at a swim party and video game night. Confirmation classes have met twice, covering two of the four major units of study for this year. Wednesday night ministries are providing a chance for everyone to come together and share a meal after youth choir rehearsals.

Our new take on Trunk-or-Treat, **Spooky Walk**, offered kids the chance to walk through trick-or-treat stations, enjoy crafts, watch movies, and even try their hand at an escape room. It has been a blessing to see our young people grow in faith while strengthening friendships with peers in our church community.

Looking ahead, we have a wonderful lineup of upcoming activities designed to continue nurturing our youth in both fun and faith-filled ways:

- **Sunday, November 2:** All-ages **Día de los Muertos** celebration during the Sunday school hour, with activities and snacks for everyone.
- **Sunday, November 30:** Youth are invited to help create ornaments for our Christmas tree while parents decorate the sanctuary for our annual **Hanging of the Greens**.
- **November:** Elementary-aged youth will begin rehearsals for our **Christmas Pageant**, which will be presented on December 14.

We warmly invite all families to encourage their young people to participate and to support these opportunities.

Our youth are the heart of our church's future, and your encouragement, prayers, and involvement make a real difference. Thank you for supporting our ministry as we continue guiding our young people in faith, fellowship, and fun.

- Blythe Boeck

Upcoming FX3 Events



CHURCH BUSINESS

Office Staff Transitions

Lori Harris, our bright and helpful Communications Coordinator, left us at the end of October. We were blessed to have Lori take on the role of Office Administrator for CLCAH beginning in October 2021. Last February, she reduced her hours and began working at home in a more limited role, handling graphics and bulletins. Now, she will move into full retirement, and she is excited for all this new chapter will hold.

We thank Lori for her years of service to our church. She has worked diligently, improving several aspects of our office communications, patiently assisting members and staff, designing beautiful graphics, overseeing our new website and more. She will be deeply missed in this role. Our Office Manager, Ainslee Ford, increased her hours last February to pick up some of the office administrator duties, will now take over the other duties associated with this role. If you would like to send Lori a note of thanks for her work, please mail it to the church office or email her at office@clcah.org.

SYMPATHIES AND PRAYERS FOR:

- The family and friends of Peggy Carmody, who died on October 3, 2025.
- Lucy Mathesen and her family as they grieve for George Mathesen, longtime member, who died on October 14, 2025.

CONGRATULATIONS!

- We welcome into God's Kingdom, Madeleine Almquist, born on September 10, 2025, to Michael and Katelyn Almquist.
- We also welcome Odin Fuentes, born on October 22, 2025, to Ivan and Lia Fuentes.

PRAISES TO:

- Jayme Brown for his hard work and expertise in the kitchen as he prepared food for Oktoberfest and chili for Family Dinner Night
- All others who helped make Oktoberfest a success
- Those who attended the Tapestry of Care launch event and those who came to the Companionship Training with the Congregational Collective
- All who brought items for the Upbring Care Kits
- All who participated in the all -ages Sunday School October 26th to help assemble the kits and write notes of encouragement
- Everyone who helped make Spooky Walk a spooky, fun time

STAFF

The Rev. Leslie Price Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl Pastor

Blythe Boeck

Director of Faith Formation

Dana Ferraro

Director of Day School

Ainslee Ford

Office Manager & Accountant

Deacon Lisa Diana

Minister of Mission & Outreach

Lori Harris

Communications Coordinator

Dr. Dan Long

Director of Music Ministry

Jeff Hammack

Organist

Mary Patino

Youth Choir Director

Sharon Wiedemann

Youth Choir Accompanist

Sam Tenorio

Custodian

Jesus Garcia

A/V Tech

Carolyn Dufelmeier

Event Coordinator

Clara Tenorio

Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATION

Michael Fischer

President

Bryan Woods

Vice-President

Jeff Timm

Treasurer

Paul Pfeifer

Secretary

Karen Corder

At-Large Member

James Ehler

At-Large Member

Edna Robbins

At-Large Member

The Rev. Leslie Price

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Howard Stendahl

Pastor

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



6720 Broadway San Antonio, TX 78209 clcah.org 210.822.3397

November at CLC

2 .	All Saints'	Sunday/Dia d	le Los Muertos
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4 Church Office Closed

10 Visitor & New Member Wine & Cheese

15 Habitat for Humanity Landscape Day

16 Fair Trade Sale

23 Liturgy of the Windows/Bake Sale/No Sunday School

26-27 Church Office Closed

