

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONOVER, NC

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

PRELUDE "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN** LSB # 713 "From God Can Nothing Move Me"

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

P: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

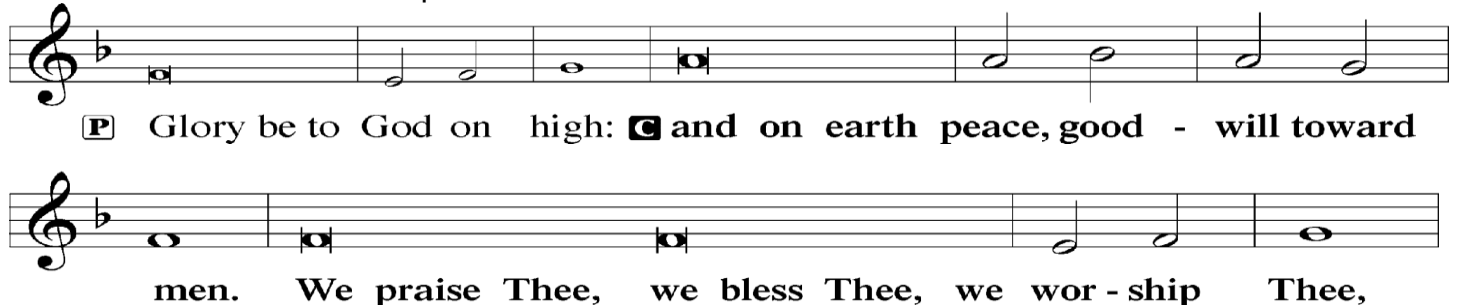
C: Amen.

Kyrie LSB p. 186 8:00 svc



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis LSB p. 187 8:00 svc



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

*please rise on last verse



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

THE COLLECT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: and also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BAPTISMAL HYMN LSB # 592 "*Dearest Jesus, We Are Here*" 10:30 svc

SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY BAPTISM

THE READINGS FROM GOD'S WORD

Ezekiel 33:7–9

⁷“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

Romans 13:1–10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. ⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P: This is the Word of God.

C: Thanks be to God!

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord!

Matthew 18:1–20

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. ⁷“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. ¹⁰“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. ¹²What do you think? If a man

has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish. ¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON 8:00 svc.

SERMON HYMN LSB # 698 "*May We Thy Precepts, Lord, Fulfill*"

THE SERMON "*You As a Christian and As a Citizen*" based on Romans 13:1–10

THE APOSTLES CREED 8:00 svc.

THE NICENE CREED 10:30 svc.

THE GATHERING OF OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD stjohnsconover.com/donate

SPECIAL MUSIC 8:00 "*Lead Me To Calvary*"

OFFERTORY pg. 192

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION 10:30 svc

Everyone is welcome to come to the Altar. Members of St. John's and sister LCMS congregations may receive the Lord's body and blood. Visitors may receive a blessing indicated by crossing their arms. Please refer to the Communion Statement found in bulletin.

Preface LSB 194

Sanctus LSB 195

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini LSB 197

Agnus Dei LSB 198

Distribution Hymns

LSB # 618 "*I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table*"

LSB # 606 "*I Lay My Sins on Jesus*"

LSB # 620 "*Jesus Comes Today with Healing*"

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199

Post Communion Collect LSB 201

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN LSB # 696 "*O God, My Faithful God*"

SILENT PRAYER, THE SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE, POSTLUDE

ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

September 6, 2026

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are given to the Glory of God.

EAGLE – Deadline is Thursday by noon

October NEWSLETTER Deadline is September 21

BIRTHDAY WISHES: Sept. 6 - 13

Sept. 6 Jennifer Ingle
John Lail

Sept. 10 Shelbie Baker
Jacob Moose

Sept. 12 Lee Stafford
Heather Bassett

Sept. 7 Grace Yount
Kathy Travis
Joanna Lee
Emma Chandler
Natalie O'Keefe

Sept. 11 Pearl Wright
Melissa Goble
Bridgett Bandy
Steven Rink
Gayle Schimming

Ash Voris
Sept. 13 Anthony Sigmon
Troy Barnett
Cristel Bender
Elizabeth Todd

Sept. 8 Brooke Huffman
Catherine Yount
Heather Straight

Autumn Canning
Ashleigh Nichols
Holly Sigmon

Kyla Sigmon

Sept 9 Amber McFetter
Eddie Elliott
Kira Lail
Carol Sigmon
Lonnie Loftin
Chris Hoffman
Keith Warren

COMMUNION STATEMENT

The Lord's Supper is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His Table those who trust His words, repent of all sins, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because Holy Communion is a public witness of our oneness in the faith and teaching, which is confessed at this Altar, we respectfully request that only Communicant members of congregations of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod or of congregations in Altar and Pulpit Fellowship participate in the Sacrament. Any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or visitors desiring to commune for the first time are asked to speak with the Pastor prior to the service. If you will be partaking of Holy Communion today, you may wish to read Luther's "Questions with their Answers" on pages 329-330 of the LSB to help you prepare for the Sacrament. There are also prayers for before and after communion in the inside cover of the LSB. *Adults and children who are not confirmed, may come to the altar for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest at the altar to indicate your desire for a blessing.*

We **WELCOME ALL GUESTS AND VISITORS** to our worship service today! We are glad to have you join us and pray that you will be blessed during our time together. Please sign our guest book in the narthex before leaving. Please come and join us again!

NURSERY HELPERS

6th Lisa Sain 13th Tammy Yount 20th Stephanie Weber & Megan Baker

USHERS 8:00 Doc Watson, Rex Sigmon 10:30 Matthew Ingle, Derek Teague

ACOLYTES 8:00 Olivia Miller, Ryan Johnson 10:30 Whitney Spleet, Scarlett Canipe

ELDERS FOR COMMUNION 8:00 Jerry Icenhour 10:30 Michael Tripp

BAPTIZED in the 10:30 service today is Shiloh Clarke Moose, daughter of Jacob & Rylie Moose. Shiloh's sponsor is Jake Bandy. May God keep Shiloh ever strong in her baptismal faith in our Savior Jesus and enable her parents and sponsor to keep the wonderful promise they make today.

The **NURSERY IS AVAILABLE** for the 10:30 service. Please feel free to bring your small children to it so that you can return to and enjoy the service.

SHARING CENTER – Tuesdays - 2:00-4:00 (disabled & 65 and older) & 5:00-7:00 for everyone
QUILTER'S GROUP - Thursdays 10am - 1pm in the Good Shepherd Room.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS are located to the left of the usher's table. Please return bags so each Sunday bags will be available.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS – Advent and Lent Evening services will now be held on Wednesday nights.

BOARD OF PLANNING will meet Wednesday, Sept 9th at 6pm in secretary's workroom.

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY will be on Oct. 25th with a combined service at 9:30 am (Sunday School at 8:30 am)

BLAST - There is a sign-up sheet for BLAST that *starts on Wed, September 23* for families to join. *Dinner begins at 5:45pm*. This year our lesson for BLAST will be done around the dinner table. After the lesson introduction, parents will lead the kids in discussion time. Then the kids will have music and activities while parents will have the opportunity to join a Bible study.

PREK-5TH GRADE SEPTEMBER EVENT - A sign-up sheet for our preschool through 5th grade kids for Apple picking at Perry Lowe Orchards on *Sunday, September 20th at 2pm* is in the Parish Hall. Kids are free. Parents cost is \$5. Sign up by Sunday, September 13th

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS HELP NEEDED - We are looking for Sunday School teachers for this fall. This year we would like to have a rotating group of teachers to ease the yearlong commitment of teaching! The number of volunteers will help to determine how often the teachers rotate, but ideally teachers will either serve on a specific Sunday of each month (example: serving the 1 Sunday each month), or on a month-by-month basis (example: serving the month of September, then being off for October.) The curriculum is easy to use and to follow along. Next to the signups we have provided a lesson plan for you to look over.

The **TUESDAY MORNING WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will resume on Tuesday, September 15th. We meet from 11-12 in the library and welcome new members! Please let Dana know if you are planning to join us for the first time so I can make sure I have enough books. (contact church office)

The **MAMA BIBLE STUDY GROUP** will meet *Friday, Sept. 11th, 8-10pm* (Place TBD). Join us for fellowship, prayer, and time in the Word. If you're able, bring an appetizer to share. Contact Dani Self ((contact church office) or Megan Baker ((contact church office) with questions

Mission Team is **NEEDING VOLUNTEERS** to help make biscuits. If you are able to help, please contact Rickelle Robertson (contact church office), Linda Travis 312-8277 or Dana Drum 244-0487.

GOLDEN NUGGETS will meet on Sat. Sept. 12th at 11:30 am at Dos Amigos in Conover.

The **LWML** will have their **SEPTEMBER SALAD SUPPER** at Tonya Whisnant's home on Thursday, September 17th at 6 pm. Bring a friend and your favorite dish to share and join us for dinner, fellowship and bible study led by Tonya. Her address is 3236 N Oliver's Crossroad, Newton. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

SHARING CENTER is **IN NEED** of *children's clothing (all sizes), toys (new and in good condition), diapers (sizes 3, 4, & 5), teenagers clothing, hygiene items (especially deodorant)*. If you are able to help, please leave items in the shopping cart in the parish hall. Thank you in advance.

If you would like to serve as a **SUNSHINE LADY**, please contact *Leigh Ann Trent* ((contact church office)).

COLLEGE STUDENTS ADDRESSES NEEDED: current college student or a college student in your family - If so, please provide information on sign-up sheet in the parish hall (even if you have provided it in the past) or email secretary@stjohnsconover.com. Any questions, please contact Kathy Harris 234-6174.

The **MUSIC SEASON** is about to kick off and we would love to have you join! We are currently looking for help with the MEN's section in choir and we also have a few spots open this year for **HANDBELLS!** I am excited to announce that our handbells will play for every combined service in the future so if you currently attend the 8am service, but would like to join handbells, this is the year to do it! I have also created a digital music **CALENDAR** that will make it very easy to see all of our practice and performance dates/times throughout the whole year. This is especially beneficial for anyone who would like to help with either of the combined cantatas, or even just our combined services! You will be able to see exactly when and where practices will be for these special events and all of the upcoming music for the year. If you would like access to the calendar please reach out with your email address and I can get you added! If you prefer paper copies I will have some printed each month as well. Thank you to **EVERYONE** who keeps the music alive and well, and I hope to see some new faces this year! Derek Baker

NEW WOMEN'S EXERCISE CLASS - Starting Fall 2026

I am starting a once-a-week exercise class for women beginning in September. The class will last for 30 minutes and will be designed for women of all fitness levels. It will involve kickboxing, drumsticks, and other fun types of movement. No prior experience is required. You'll just need to bring a mat or towel, water, and a whole lot of joy. There is no cost. We'll finish each session with a short devotion. Our first class will be Tuesday night, September 15th at 6:00. If there is enough interest, we could do the same class during the day. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to see if there is enough interest and to see what day and time works for the most people. If anyone would like to help lead this, please let me know. Dana Drum (contact church office)

There is a **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP** called the Sons of Solomon. No one hands you a manual on how to navigate life. Whether you are building a career, trying to figure out marriage, or trying to raise the next generation, you don't have to do it alone. King Solomon wrote Proverbs as a common sense survival guide for young men. We're getting together to study this book of wisdom, to share personal wisdom and see how we can apply it to our everyday life. We will be meeting the fourth Friday of every month at 8:00 pm, next meeting is Sept. 25th at Pastor Self's house. If you have any questions or would like to join, contact Pastor Self at ((contact church office)).

LIFELIGHT WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY- Come join us on *Wednesday, September 9th* as we begin a 9 week study on the book of Luke. Each week we will have 5 days of in-depth personal study and then meet Wednesday morning from 9:30 to 11:00 in the Good Shepherd Room for group discussion and teaching from our Pastors and DCE. Books for the class are \$13. To register, please contact Lisa Sain at jsain@bellsouth.net or by phone/text at ((contact church office)).

CALL TO MINISTRY

Born into a Lutheran farming family in Mooresville, NC, in 2004, *Ben Starnes* felt a steady call to ministry throughout his high school years. In 2024, he found his home in the LCMS at St. John's. This fall, Ben will begin his journey toward the pastorate at Concordia Theological Seminary. During his years at the Seminary, St. John's will be supporting Ben through prayer and with financial gifts. If you would like to know how you can help support Ben please talk to Pastor Self.

The **DAILY WALK BIBLE STUDY** will be led by Jeff and Diane Holchin on *Tuesday nights at 7 pm* in the library. We will focus on the New Testament in 2025. Daily Walk Bibles are available for \$15 and you can contact Jeff at (contact church office) with questions.



NEWS from *Katelyn Houser*- click on the QR code to read what has been going on!! She is serving in San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic with Solid Rock International. Please keep her in your prayers and if you **FEEL LED TO SPONSOR HER** visit <https://bit.ly/KHouserSRI>. All gifts made through the link are tax deductible.

The **PRESCHOOL** will be doing prayer partners again. Being a prayer partner means that you will get a picture of a child with their first name. You put it somewhere all year where you remember to pray for them! If you are interested in being a prayer partner for a child in one of our classes, please call or text Megan at (contact church office). We also will be doing a pottery program where students get to listen to a story and paint pottery relating to that story each month. I hope to get enough people to sponsor the students so they do not have to worry about an extra cost for the year. If you would be interested in sponsoring a child for this program, please reach out to Megan for more details. Thank you for all your support as a congregation for this amazing mission of Preschool!

HELP NEEDED in Sharing Center! - There is a sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall for those who could help. We need 2 hours of your time once a month. Financial donations are also appreciated.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD - Now that the back-to-school sales on supplies have begun, please keep the Operation Christmas Child project in mind as you shop. We had great success with members sponsoring already-packed boxes last year and I hope to have the same or better success with that this year. *Items needed: crayons, pencils, pencil sharpeners, pens, notebooks, notebook paper, colored pencils, and markers to fill the boxes.* Leave items in box at nursery. If you are planning to pack a box yourself, this is a great time to buy your supplies. Thank you so much for your support of this ministry! Call Dana Drum at (contact church office) if you have questions.

MISSION AND VISION THEME

Equip: We will equip all for the Christian life. (Ephesians 4:10-16)

Engage: We will engage with all people to be all things to all people for the sake of the Gospel. (1 Corinthians 9:19-23).

Encourage: We will continuously encourage one another in our faith. (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Endure: Everything changes, but the Word of God will endure forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE, Aug 30 Attendance: 8:00 10:30 249 SS 59

Offerings:	Budget:	Missions/Ministry	7,555.18	
		Sunday School	70.00	
		Memorial (T. Huffman)	25.00	
				\$ 7,650.18** (needed weekly 15,240)
Designated Funds:		Building Bridges	100.00	
		Cemetery	2,040.00	
		Education	50.00	
		Food Pantry	173.79	
		Helping Hands	202.00	
		LLL	1,000.00	
		Preschool Payroll	1,178.77	
		Short Term	10.00	
				\$ 4,754.56
Building Fund:		Offerings	602.00	
				\$ 602.00
Total Receipts for Aug 30				\$13,006.74

2026 GOALS

- *We will "Equip, Engage, Encourage, and Endure."
- *We will support Pastor Lagoutine and Pastor Self by faithfully attending church services, praying for their ministries and seeking ways to offer assistance as needed.
- *We will encourage and support our DCE Matt Cochran, our Sunday School teachers, youth leaders, youth groups, and adult Bible study groups by attending regularly.
- *We will support our preschool leaders Megan Baker, Vanessa Travis, and volunteers and pray for its continued growth.
- *We will faithfully pray for our church staff and church officers and continue to be supportive of the efforts here to "Lift High the Cross."

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 464-4071		<i>Website - www.stjohnsconover.com</i>	
PastorLagoutine@stjohnsconover.com		Matt@stjohnsconover.com	
Secretary@stjohnsconover.com		RevSelf@stjohnsconover.com	
Rev. Anton Lagoutine (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Rev. Luke Self	
Ryan Spleet– President (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Michael Tripp – Chairman of Elders	
Matt Cochran—DCE (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Bruce Ingle– Organist	
Derek Baker- Music Director (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Matthew Ingle – Deacon	
Scott Hollo – Head Usher 8:00 svc (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Paula Canipe - Sunday School	
Jason Sain – Head Usher 10:30 svc (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Jamie Sigmon – Acolyte	
Chastity Arndt – Church Secretary (contact church office)	(contact church office)	Megan Baker – Preschool	(contact church office)



StJohnsWebsiteDonate.png



StJohnsWebsite.png

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

Sunday, Sept. 6

Early Worship 8:00 am
Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am
Worship 10:30 am

Tuesday, Sept. 8

Daily Bible Study 7:00 pm

Wednesday, Sept. 9

Men's Bible Study 8:30 am
Women's Bible Study 9:30 am
Bd. of Planning 6:00 pm
Choir 7:00 pm

Thursday, Sept. 10

Quilters 10:00 am

Friday, Sept. 11

Mama's Bible Study 8:00 pm

Saturday, Sept. 12

Golden Nuggets 11:30 am (Dos Amigos)

Sunday, Sept. 13

Early Worship 8:00 am

Sunday School 9:30 - 10:15am

Worship 10:30 am

Elders 2:30 pm

Deacons 2:30 pm

Council 4:15 pm

Middle/High Youth 6:00 pm