



Making Christ Known to All!

THE REPORTER

JULY 2019



Pastor's ponderings – From *Living Lutheran*, June 2019, Worship 101 by Meghan Johnston Aelabouni:

“Since the earliest days of the church, Christians have identified worship as the heart of faith and sought to describe what lies at its heart. As early as AD 150, philosopher Justin Martyr identified at least four essential components of worship – gathering, word, meal and sending – that are still found today in Christian churches around the world.”

At LCR, our gathering times have often separated us as a congregation. We have worshipped as both traditional and praise, at 8:30a and 11a, and as older and younger. Yet we are one congregation, one body of Christ, one worship community.

As part of our Turnaround Initiative with the synod and Healthier-Church.org, some members of the congregation have been encouraging us to move to one service, be together as one congregation, and join ourselves to each other in prayer and worship.

The Proclamation Ministry team and the Council have heard the requests and voted at the June council meeting to move to one service at 9:30am each Sunday, from July 7 through Sept. 15th (Rally Day). Of course, other things are affected by this change, so Coffee Hour will be prior to worship and Bible Study will follow worship.

Our music ministry teams have met together and are looking forward to “stepping up” our game, so to speak. We will enjoy hearing the praise team as they participate in the playing and singing of all kinds of music and settings at our one service. The choir and the bell choir are looking for additional people to play or sing as we gear up for the fall.

Additionally, we’re looking to put together several work teams to spruce up our worship space – new paint, new configuration, cleaning and waxing of floors, cleaning chair upholstery, and decorating! Think about how you can join the revitalization of our worship life...

Be sure to join us this summer as we assess the changes. Feel free to give your feedback either via email to the office (resurrectionoakforest@gmail.com) or by placing a note in the suggestion box by the bulletin board.

A blessed summer to all. I'll see you in my prayers and at church,

Pastor Mary†

**15050 Central Ave.
Oak Forest, IL 60452**

708-687-2170

E-mail:

resurrectionoakforest@gmail.com

Sunday Worship

Time: 9:30

(ONE SERVICE)

Website:

www.resurrection-oakforest.org



The Rev. Mary Appelt-Graves, Pastor

Tuesday - Thursday:

10:30a-7:30p

708-408-0457 (cell)

Leni Shandou-Scace

Office Manager

Monday - Thursday

09:30a - 2:30p

815-992-0198 (cell)

Thomas Stefan

Music Minister

630-601-0596

Tom.stefan@hotmail.com

Prayer & Visitation

Ministry

Call the Church office

(708) 687-2170

Resurrection Preschool:

Tania Downen,

Preschool Director

708-687-2196

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Church Family,

One year ago May 2018, we made a commitment to work on turning our church around and becoming an Unstoppable Church. Become unstoppable in our desire to change individually, unite together as a community of Christian faith. Become unstoppable in our desire to invite and mentor the unchurched, uninvolved and underinvolved to take an active role in the Body of Christ.

One of the first actions taken was to recognize God in our lives. So, we looked for “God Sightings”. Happenings in our lives or others that showed God doing for us what we could not do for ourselves. This small step strengthens your faith and inspires sharing God with others.

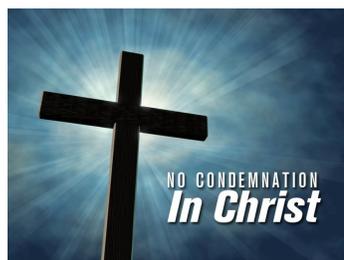
We looked at attitudes:

5 Significant Attitude Differences That Separate Growing and Declining Churches

1. **We can versus we can't**—Growing churches believe they can
2. **Them versus us**— Declining churches focus on themselves not on the people they're trying to reach.
3. **Principles versus Preferences**-- Declining churches focus on their member's preferences instead of principles that will reach out to new people
4. **Proactive versus Reactive**-- Growing churches are *proactive*. They choose their agenda and immediately address issues that can impact their future. Declining churches are reactive, letting members determine the agenda and reacting to problems as they arise
5. **Now versus Eventually**-- Growing churches act. And they act now!

We looked at relationships with each other:

- **Stop criticizing**—encourage, motivate and lend a helping hand – use prayer instead
- **Stop condemning**—listen to others, give people the benefit of the doubt--use prayer instead
- **Stop complaining**—find a solution for the problem, or accept the situation—use prayer instead



We looked at how to get people motivated:

- * **Unchurched**—be hospitable, friendly, inviting not just the first meeting but every meeting
- * **Uninvolved** --- ask face to face for their help, invite them to a church function, get to know their likes and talents, offer a spiritual gifts inventory
- * **Under involved**-- ask face to face for their help, offer a spiritual gifts inventory, invite them to move into a role based on their likes, talents and spiritual gifts

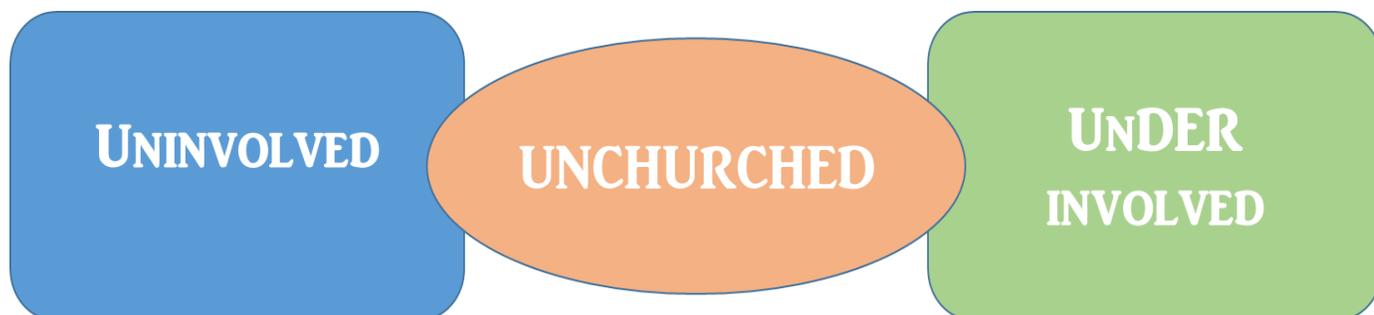
This year, eleven members served for the first time in ministries of the church.

We learned that our church will grow when we are involved, when we practice living as a community of Christian love and faith, when we worship with celebration and joy, when we are on fire to share the wondrous blessings we have received and when we learn to love others in thought, word and deed as we love ourselves.

There is no magic bullet, pill, a single person or a pastor that can make a church grow. The church grows because you allow the Holy Spirit to work with you to inspire those around you and all you encounter on a day to day basis. Allowing others see Jesus' teachings in you.

Attraction is far better than promotion!

Susan Centner



MINISTRIES

MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY LIFE

BREAKFAST

LADIES BREAKFAST

All ladies of LCR are invited to attend the next breakfast outing at Blueberry Hill Breakfast Cafe, on 179th and Lagrange Road, in Tinley Park, on **July 18th, at 9 A.M**

Hello all! Summer is in full swing...Summer Bunco gathering was on Friday, June 21st – the Summer Solstice! What a great turn out, and so much fun.

Upcoming community life opportunities include, but aren't limited to...

- ♦ **OakFest** – July 3rd to July 7th: call your neighbors and get out of the house. Two shifts are open – BINGO and FLOATER, so check in with Patti Tregoning or Dan Tregoning to see where you can help (708-595-5754 or 708-945-4712). Special thanks to Dan, Patti, Bob and Dave R for coordinating and filling most of the slots.
- ♦ **Summer Salad Luncheon** – Sat. Aug. 3rd. See all the details below, but know this is a FUNDRAISER and a chance to invite neighbors, family & friends to hear a great acapella group sing great songs from the 50's and 60's. Spread the Word!
- ♦ **Rally Day** – Sunday, Sept. 15th: After a great summer of activity, let's come back together, share stories, God sightings, great worship and an awesome picnic. Look for more info as we get closer... *another chance to invite someone to church!*

Yours in Christ,

Jean Bowser

PSALMS

The prayer shawl group at Lutheran Church of the Resurrection has a name....

We are **PSALMS : Prayers, Shawls, And Loving Ministry.**

Do you know someone who would take comfort in knowing they are being prayed for? Someone who might need a physical reminder of His loving embrace? We invite you to bring them one of our Prayer Shawls or Prayer Cloths.



PSALMS would like to express our appreciation to those who have generously shared yarn, money and prayers to keep our ministry as vibrant as the shawls we create!

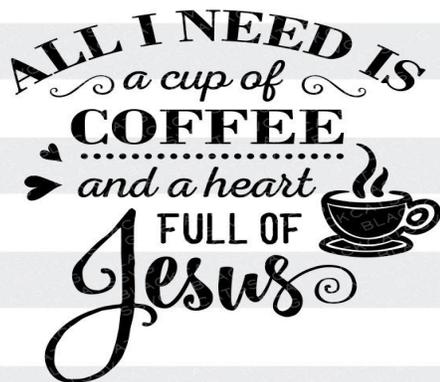
We welcome you to contribute to our Prayer Shawl Ministry in any of the following ways: One is by crocheting or knitting prayer shawls and/or prayer squares. Patterns are available if you need some project ideas. If you don't already know how to knit or crochet, come to a meeting and we will help you learn. The second way is to offer prayers for those who make the shawls and for those receiving them. And if you would like to keep those ladies' hands busy, consider donating a few skeins of acrylic yarn. It takes about three skeins of yarn to make one shawl. Brands like Red Heart and Caron work well, but if in doubt, we welcome gift cards to Wal-Mart, Michael's, Hobby Lobby or JoAnn's.

We usually meet the first Saturday of each month at **9:30 am** in the conference room. Our next meeting is **Saturday, July 6th.**

Please consider attending and sharing your handiwork, fellowship and prayers.

FELLOWSHIP

NEW COFFEE HOUR PROCEDURE



There will be two sign up sheets on the narthex board. One is to sign up to bring food items. The other is for set up and clean up. If you would like to contribute an item to coffee hour, indicate a Sunday and what you will bring. Please have your items in the kitchen for setup before the 8:30 coffee hour. Service is at 9:30a with bible study at 10:45. Please help us to continue this social gathering opportunity. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Bowser or Anna Ohren.

Many thanks and God Bless You.

50's-60's LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

~ This 50s-60s Luncheon is a FUNDRAISER, so the more folks we invite the greater the funds will be raised.

~ We want to encourage everyone to mark this day on your calendar and give it top priority.

~ It is an event for *everyone* not just ladies.

~ Invite family, friends, neighbors, etc. Fill a table of 6 w/ your invited guests (including) yourself and receive \$5 in RAFFLE TICKETS.

~ Donate a Raffle Basket or part of one and receive your luncheon ticket for free. (*see sign up sheet*)

~ Sign up to bring a salad or two. (*see sign up sheet*)

~ Reach out to friends of LCR you may still be in touch with and make this luncheon a chance to catch up.

~ Invite NOW and don't wait, summer can be a busy time for all.

~ Seating will be reserved. Tickets will go on sale Sunday, June 30th. Deadline July 28.

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THIS EVENT A SUCCESS.

If you have any ideas or questions please talk with Michelle Sowa or Tania Downen.



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
15050 S. Central Ave, Oak Forest
50's & 60's Luncheon Fundraiser
Saturday, August 3rd @ 12 noon



Turn back the clock for an afternoon of
Food, Fellowship, Raffles and more!

Entertainment by ~

The CONVERTIBLES

The Convertibles, an acapella quartet,
performs music of the 50's and 60's,
bringing the doo-wop experience
to audiences throughout the
tri-state area surrounding Chicago.



Come and reminisce as they perform
music from the 50's and 60's -
interspersed with stories and humor.

Tickets: \$10 / Reserved Seating

For more information and to purchase your tickets
Please call the church office 708-687-2170.

Lutheran Church
of the
Resurrection
"Making Christ Known To All"

15050 Central Avenue • Oak Forest, IL 60452 • 708/687-2170 • RESURRECTIONOAKFOREST@GMAIL.COM

MINISTRY OF DISCIPLESHIP

"WWW - WORKING WOMEN'S WORSHIP- BIBLE STUDY"

"Working Women's Worship- Bible Study"

No meeting in July

NEXT MEETING ON AUGUST 10th at 1:00pm!

DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITIES

JOIN OUR SUMMER BIBLE STUDY...

We meet on Sundays at 10:45am and Tuesdays at 6pm to study the Lectionary, the readings appointed for use in most protestant churches for Sunday worship.

In preparation for Sunday worship and personal devotional study, we look at the bible texts for next Sunday's worship, discuss the good news, the historical significance and what it means for our lives.



PRESCHOOL - GRADE SCHOOL

Children's church has started again. All children age 3 through the 5th grade are welcome to attend. Teachers lead the children in activities that correspond with the Gospel lesson.

We meet in the conference room for fun, snacks, crafts, games and a story based on the day's Gospel lesson and return to the sanctuary for communion.



SARAH CIRCLE



**WE WILL RESUME MEETING
IN SEPTEMBER**



CONFIRMATION

July 1st : A day of remembering our baptismal covenant (Montrose Beach in Chicago)

July 7th: A day of service/mission outreach

August 10th: Field Trip to “Vertical Endeavors” to talk about faith, rock climb and begin working on your “Faith Statement” (which will be published at the time of your confirmation)

Classes begin Wednesday, Sept. 18th at 6:30pm

Parents of 8th graders...Pastor will be holding an “Introduction to Confirmation” on Saturday, September 14th from 10a – Noon.
Please RSVP to Pastor by August 15th.



MINISTRY OF TRUSTEES

A LETTER TO THE CHURCH FROM FOOD4LESS:

Dear LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION (KC614),

The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to go beyond being a part of the community to also helping create a stronger community. We recognize that every community is different and has unique causes that need support.

Because your total quarterly contribution is less than \$25, which is the minimum check amount, you will not be receiving a check at this time. This amount will be held and combined with your next quarter's contribution total until your contribution amount exceeds \$25. At the time your total contribution reaches \$25, or the end of the program term, whichever comes first, your organization will then receive a check. If you have any questions, please email community.programs@ralphs.com or visit our website at <https://www.food4less.com>.

We encourage you to ask your supporters to link their rewards card to your organization. Community Rewards is easy to understand and easy to explain! The more your supporters shop with us, the more money your organization will earn!

Thank you for being such an important organization in our community,

Community Rewards Staff.

01-Mar-2019 to 31-May-2019
7 Households = \$ 22.13



STATE OF RESURRECTION - 6/1/19 thru 6/16/19

Income (What's been donated)

Income	\$3,347.24
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Total Income	\$3,347.24
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Expenses

1517 Media	\$148.24
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ComEd	\$242.80
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Maryan Subley (Supply Musician)	\$250.00
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Mission Investment Fund (Mortgage)	\$554.87
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Nicor Gas	\$88.54
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NuWay Disposal Service	\$88.04
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Parish Publications	\$36.00
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Rausch-Clifford Florist	\$136.00
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Tom Stefan (Supply Musician)	\$250.00
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Total Expenses	\$1,794.49
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Income Minus Expenses	\$1,552.75
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STEWARDSHIP

Brother Steward

Sun-Days Appeal Starts!

Yes, it's going to be a long hot summer. Already, as some folks head for vacation, our offertory collections head south. So, in order to keep our AC running, our electric bills paid, our hurricane protection completed, we're asking for a little help. An extra \$5.00 per week would get us through the summer. That's the price of a latte, or the savings on a two-for-one sale. Or, if you can make it more: a few dollars from your tax refund or savings from a Memorial Day Bargain. And because hardship never goes on vacation, the good stewards of our community keep our ministries going.

If everybody does a little it will add up to a lot. So, for this Sun-Day and every Sun-Day during the summer, giving is a cool thing to do.

God Bless.



Drowning in Debt

In my stewardship talk for today, I may cause some people to be a little uncomfortable, because I want to talk about debt ... especially credit card debt. As the bumper sticker reads, "I owe, I owe, it's off to work I go." Before I share some debt statistics and causes of overspending, I will share some words from Scripture that caution us about debt. In Proverbs 22:7 we read, *"The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender."* In Luke 12:15 Jesus said, *"Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."* In Romans 13:8 the apostle Paul wrote, *"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another . . ."* To live beyond one's means is not only foolish, it is a violation of God's will regarding the management of the money that God has given to us.

Today the average U.S. household has almost \$9,000 in unpaid credit card bills. In the last decade the indebtedness has more than doubled. To pay the compound interest on credit cards will cause many people severe financial problems. So why do people live beyond their means.

The following are four temptations that cause overspending:

1. Pride: People will respect me more in the light of my increased possessions.
2. Selfishness: I deserve to accumulate things despite negative consequences.
3. Greed: I need that luxury car and bigger house even though I can't afford them.
4. Covetousness: If my neighbors have it, I want it, too, but I want it bigger, better, and newer.

If these temptations are causing you problems, you need to ask God for strength to deal with them. With God's strength, we can not only overcome our spending problems, and we can learn to be content. A contented person is content with less and is less likely to overspend. As Epicurus, a Greek philosopher said, "If you want to make a man happy, add not to his riches but take away from his desires." How blessed we will be when and if we understand that our happiness is not dependent upon what we have or own.

MINISTRY OF PROCLAMATION

SUMMER HAS FINALLY ARRIVED

Our first One Service Sunday for the summer will be on Sunday, July 7 at 9:30a. Since we will be combining services, we will again be filling the positions for Ushers, Readers and Communion Assistants through the month of September. Please continue to prayerfully consider committing or recommitting to be a worship assistant at our services. Those who are already on the roster to serve, I will be calling to see which date or dates you are able to serve. And for those of you who are interested, you can call me at 708-429-4510 and I will be able to tell you what is involved in being a worship assistant. For new assistants, we will have training sessions on all you will need to know.

I will also be placing a sign up sheet with dates assistants are needed on the bulletin board in the narthex. If you see me in church and have any questions, just come up to me and ask. I will help you in any way I can.

I am also asking all of you to do something that won't cost you a single penny... I am asking that you pray for our church and our worship time together. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to come together as a family in word, music and sacrament.

In the name of our Triune God, I am asking that you take that first step to do all you can to help our church to be **THE BEST THAT IT CAN BE!!!**

In His Holy name,

Donna Flanagan

Minister of Proclamation

ALTAR GUILD

FLOWER CHART OPENINGS: August 4 – two; August 11 – two; August 18 – one; August 25 – one; Sept. 1 – one; Sept. 8 – two; Sept. 29 – two.

Please select a few dates to honor your loved ones on their special day.

There are two bouquets each week at \$20 per bouquet. Please take your flowers home after the service.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL ACTION

PLEASE SAVE CAPS AND LIDS from prescription bottles, water bottles, hairspray, yogurt lids etc. for Jaci Meade's nephew's school project. The school plans on using the materials to build a bench. You can place the clean materials outside Pastor's office in the polka dot box. A list of accepted items is available. See Linda Jurinek for more information.

Linda Jurinek

Minister of Social Action

**SOCIAL
ACTION
TEAM**

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE FUNDRAISER

Come join the revolution! This organization builds beds for children across the USA. This year the Oak Forest group has built 50 beds and they have orders for 52. They assembled and delivered 4 beds just this week to Chicago Heights.

Dave Rhodes would like to invite the entire congregation at LCR to their next fundraiser at Gaelic Park **August 2nd from 6:30p to 9pm.**

Come join the fun, help raise money for this awesome cause, play Bingo and have a chance to win a ton of basket raffles items.



LOVE SUNDAY

Please remember to support St. Stephen's food pantry on LOVE SUNDAY

(FIRST Sunday of the month).

Please consider donating **NON-PERISHABLE ITEMS**, especially proteins. Leave your generous donation in the corridor and it will be delivered to St. Stephen's Lutheran church once a month.



Thank you

Preschool Corner

Preschool is currently accepting registrations for the fall.

If you know of a family looking for a preschool, have them contact us!

See you in September!

PRESCHOOL

**REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN**



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR JULY FRIENDS!

Betty Moniak	July 1
Bob Downen	July 5
Lee Travis	July 10
Samantha Niemeyer	July 11
Vic Bell	July 14
David Rhoads	July 16
Marietta Sullivan	July 18
Karen Baeder	July 21
Donna Aggen	July 24
Richard Shellberg	July 27



MEDIA TEAM

OUR MEDIA TEAM is looking for help on Sunday mornings!

Take a minute and talk with Stan Sowa and see how you might be able to help out with:

- ◆ Sound Board & microphones
- ◆ Computer Visuals (development)
- ◆ Screen/Worship projection



BARTER BOARD

Check out the Barter Board for items that people are in search of, and looking to sell. A simple way to bring your treasures to others.



- Do you need something that you really can't afford new?
- Do you want to downsize and have items you'd like to see someone else use?

Cards are on the Barter Board (over the water Fountains)

S E R V A N T S I N C H R I S T

MONTHLY LAY READERS ROTATION

Sundays 9:30

- 1st Kathleen Domzalski
- 2nd Karen Baeder / Jean Bowser
- 3rd Ruth Millis / Sue Centner
- 4th Elsie Burk / Donna Flanagan
- 5th (ONE Service) Donna Flanagan

MONTHLY COMMUNION ASSISTANTS LIST

Sundays 9:30

- 1st Kathleen Domzalski / Paul Scott
- 2nd Donna Aggen
- 3rd Elsie Burk
- 4th Elsie Burk / Donna Flanagan
- 5th (ONE Service) Kathleen Domzalski

MONTHLY USHERS ROTATION LIST

Sundays 9:30

- 1st Donna Aggen
- 2nd Open
- 3rd Donna Aggen
- 4th Rich Shellberg
- 5th (ONE Service) Open

ALTAR GUILD

- JULY 7 Claris Okon
- JULY 14 Claris Okon Lora & Michaela Tryon
- JULY 21 Ruth Millis & Joan Tobbe
- JULY 28 Marietta Sullivan and Joan Tobbe

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

- JULY 2 Open
- JULY 9 Open
- JULY 16 Open
- JULY 23 Open

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR JULY

- JULY 7** Both bouquets open

- JULY 14** One bouquet from Kathleen Domzalski in memory of 8 friends
One bouquet open

- JULY 21** One bouquet from Kathleen Domzalski in honor of her mom's birthday
One bouquet from Terry Baeder in honor of Karen's birthday

- JULY 28** Both bouquets from Sue Centner

JULY COUNTERS:

Sue Centner, Dan Tregoning

If you are scheduled to serve as a reader or communion assistant and you cannot make your commitment, please try to find a replacement for your Sunday and let Elsie Burk know. Thank you.

**Lutheran Church of the
Resurrection**

15050 Central Ave.
Oak Forest, Il 60452



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Oak Forest, Il 60452
708.687.2170**

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

09:30a Service (Fellowship hour @ 8:30am)

BIBLE STUDY:

Sundays @ 10:45a & Tuesdays @ 6:00p