OCTOBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October 4th October 11th October 13th November 1st		9:30 AM 6:30 PM	World Communion Sunday Blessing of the Animals Visionary Council meeting All Saints Day	1 Matthew 5:14-16 Be the Light	2 Mark 12:30-31 Love Your Neighbor	3 Philippians 2:3-4 Notice Others
4 1 Corinthians 10:16-17 One Table	5 Luke 10:33-34 Stop and Notice	6 James 1:19 Listen First	7 Romans 12:10 Honor Others	8 Hebrews 13:2 Welcome the Stranger	9 Galatians 6:2 Carry Together	10 Micah 6:8 Walk Humbly
11 Genesis 1:24-25 Bless All Creation	12 Colossians 3:12 Lead With Compassion	13 Matthew 9:36 See as Jesus Sees	14 Proverbs 18:13 Hear Their Story	15 Jeremiah 29:7 For Our Community	16 Matthew 25:35 Meet Jesus There	17 Romans 12:13 Practice Hospitality
18 John 13:34-35 Love That Can Be Seen	19 Proverbs 17:17 Be a Friend	20 Luke 19:5 Learn a Name	21 1 Thessalonians 5:11 Encourage Someone	22 Matthew 5:9 Make Peace	23 1 Peter 4:10 Use Your Gifts	24 Hebrews 10:24 Stir Up Love
25 Matthew 20:26-28 Serve	26 Romans 15:7 Make Room	27 Luke 24:29-31 Share the Table	28 Acts 2:46-47 Life Together	29 Colossians 4:5-6 Every Conversation Matters	30 Ephesians 2:10 Join God's Work	31 Matthew 28:19-20 Go!

God Loves You

Today a woman walked into the church. She wasn't looking for money. She wasn't asking for food. She wasn't looking for some program we could enroll her in. She simply needed someone to listen. She needed an ear to hear her story, a heart willing to offer a little grace, and someone who would stand beside her and pray.

And for a few moments, that is exactly what the church became. Not a building. Not an institution. Not a budget. The Church became a place where one human being could encounter the love of God through another. I have been thinking about that ever since.

We talk about giving to the church. We talk about budgets, utilities, maintenance, salaries, insurance, ministry expenses, and all the things necessary to keep a church operating. Those things are real. The lights really do have to stay on.

But maybe we need to remember **why** we keep them on. We keep them on because somebody may walk through the door. We keep them on because children need to hear that Jesus loves them. We keep them on because someone needs Communion.

Because someone needs prayer. Because someone needs a funeral. Because someone needs a baptism. Because someone needs a community. Because somewhere nearby is a person who desperately needs to discover that God has not forgotten them.

That is what your giving makes possible. And yes, sometimes Christian giving involves sacrifice. Sacrifice means I give God something that actually matters to me. It means I don't simply give from whatever happens to be left over. I intentionally make room in my life for the work of Christ. Not because God needs our money. But because our neighbors need the ministry our giving makes possible.

There may always be another electric bill. Another repair. Another expense. But behind every one of those numbers is something much more important: **a person.**

Today, one of those people walked through our door. And because the church was here, someone was here to listen. Someone was here to pray. Someone was here to say, through presence more than words: **God loves you.**

That is worth keeping the lights on for.