

# The Journey December 1, 2024 9am

Living Lord Lutheran Church 11107 Palmbrush Trail Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202 941-753-9365



# **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God. **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **GATHERING SONG**

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# Prepare Ye The Way



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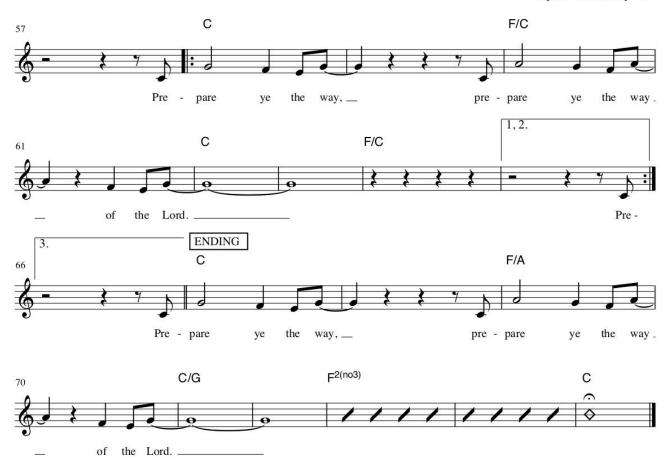
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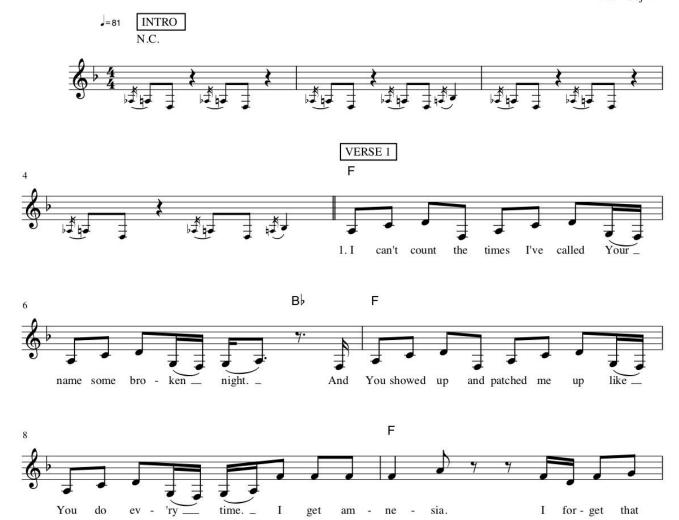


#### **OPENING SONG**

# Good God Almighty

(based on the recording by Crowder)

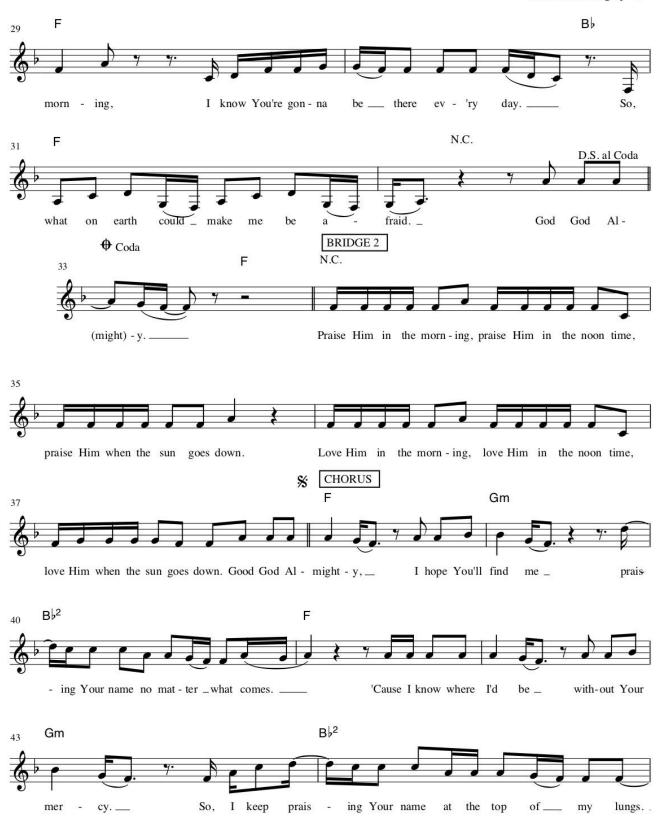
Words and Music by David Crowder, Ben Glover and Jeff Sojka

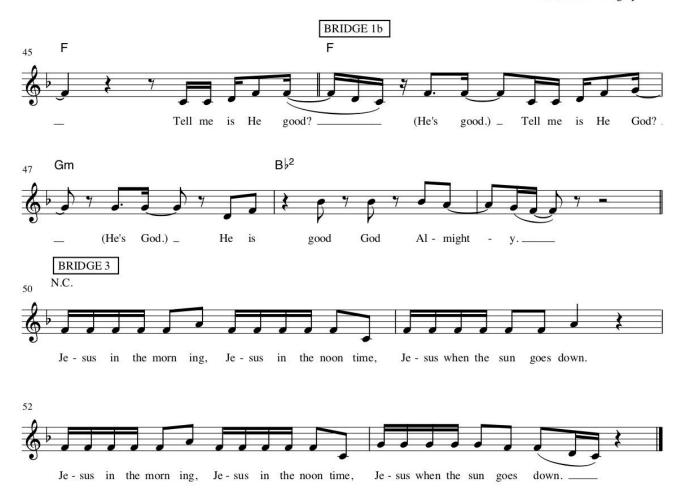




CCLI Song # 7168602
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#### OPENING PRAYER

#### FIRST READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

#### **GOSPEL SONG**

# Open Our Eyes

Words and Music by Bob Cull



#### **GOSPEL READING: Luke 21:25-36**

A reading from Luke.

<sup>25</sup>There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

- <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."
- <sup>29</sup>Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
- <sup>34</sup>Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

**MESSAGE** 

The Path to Joy

#### **MESSAGE SONG**

# Sing Wherever I Go

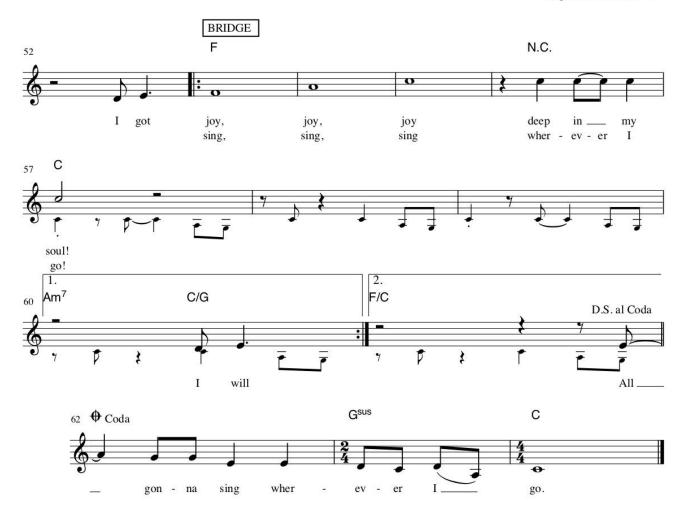
(based on the recording by We The Kingdom I original key - A)

Words and Music by Andrew Bergthold, Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Kyle Briskin, Martin Cash and Scott Cash



CCLI Song # 7138601
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#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

#### A brief silence.

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world.

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze.

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good.

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering. We pray *especially* for those who have asked for our prayers, those most dear to us whom we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts (pause)...In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love.

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

#### **OFFERING**

Let us give thanks to God for our many blessings as we offer our monetary gifts for the mission and ministry of this community of faith. For those who are online, you can offer your financial support for our mission and ministries by going to our website livinglordfl.org and clicking on the give button at the top of the home page.

#### OFFERING MUSIC

His Eye Is on the Sparrow
Brooke Palmtag, soprano

C.Martin/C.Gabriel

#### **APOSTLES CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate. was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body. and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### THE MEAL

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

#### LORD'S PRAYER



#### **MEAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Holy Communion here is just this simple: All are welcome because this is the Lord's table. It is Jesus who invites us to share in this meal. So, it doesn't matter who you are or how you are but that you simply come because God's gifts are... **C** Free

## MEAL HYMN 1 (VS. 1, 4) ELW 396

#### Spirit of Gentleness



Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940 Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley Text and music © 1978 James K. Manley, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

#### **MEAL SONG 2**

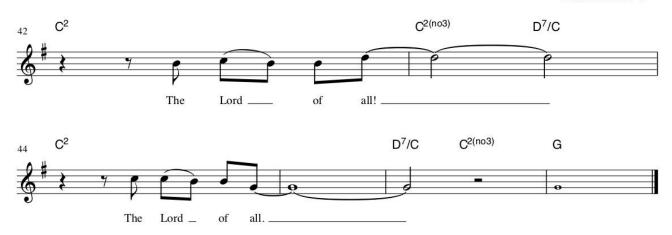
#### Jesus Messiah

Words and Music by Daniel Carson, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash and Jesse Reeves



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#### **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

May this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace now and forevermore.

#### C Amen

#### **SENDING SONG**



#### **DISMISSAL**

#### **DISMISSAL SONG**



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**The Altar Flowers** are given by Mike and Madelyn Tetmeyer in remembrance of our parents and brother.

**The Eternal Candle for the month of December** is given by Bob and Carolyn Scott. Happy Birthday, Jesus.

The Altar Guild Diane Buechner

**COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION** All who have faith in the words, "given for you" and "shed for you for the forgiveness of sin" is really worthy and well prepared to receive this sacrament. Communion is by individual cup (wine or white grape juice and gluten free wafers are available). Let an usher know if you need communion brought to you.

The **Sunday bulletin** focuses on the what, when, and where of announcements and ministry opportunities for the upcoming week. Detailed information is available on our **Facebook** page, in the **Link**, which is published weekly, and in the **Voice**, our monthly newsletter, and on our **website** – <a href="www.livinglordfl.org">www.livinglordfl.org</a>. Extra copies of the **VOICE** are available in the Narthex in the mail bins on the south wall.

**Financial Support** Thank you for your continued support for our ministry and mission. Offerings can be mailed to the church or online giving with banking or credit card payments at <a href="www.livinglordfl.org">www.livinglordfl.org</a> (Give Tab).

**Attendance Pads** Please fill out the attendance register and pass it down the aisle and let us know you were here. Add your name and if you are communing place a "C" in the member or visitor column. Otherwise, simply place a checkmark ( $\sqrt{}$ ) in that column. This is a change to satisfy our constitutional requirement to maintain a record of those who have communed. Thank you for helping us with this detail.

#### **Covid-19 Guidelines Update:**

The Worship Team's current guidelines include: Optional masks. Each individual should choose what is right for them and the use of the common cup during communion distribution is suspended until further notice.

**SCRIP** after each service. An ongoing fundraiser designated towards Building Improvement. Purchase gift cards at the table. Orders are placed every week for pick-up the following week.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** K thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, 4<sup>th</sup> grade thru 7<sup>th</sup> grade and Faith Formation for teens - every Sunday from 10:05 to 10:55. Confirmation class is still being determined.

<u>ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL</u> 10:05-10:50am in the Activities Hall. Bible study of the Old testament and Epistle lessons read in Sunday worship is an opportunity to dig deeper into the message with other adults. Bring your cookie, coffee, questions and insights as we explore with friends the readings' connections to our lives today.

GENERAL OFFERING #4010			
YEAR-TO-DATE	2024 BUDGET	2023 ACTUAL	
October 31, 2024	October 31, 2024	October 31, 2023	
\$264,276.08	\$303,305.15	\$301,210.16	

Hurricane Helene & Milton Lutheran Disaster Response working alongside synods and other partners, is prepared to provide support throughout the impacted region. Gifts to "Hurricane Response" will be used (100%) to assist those affected by hurricanes, until the response is complete. Give through your congregation or make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write "Where needed most" or "Hurricane Response" in the memo line.

<u>CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS</u> 8 inch, red poinsettias will be available for \$12.00. Flower order envelopes are on the Welcome Desk. Please indicate how many poinsettias you would like. Envelopes can be placed in the offering plate.

<u>PUB THEOLOGY</u> All are welcome to join us on Thursday, Dec. 12 (Temporary one time day change). Share views about how God interacts in our everyday lives? At the Beef O' Brady's, Lakewood Ranch Blvd, 6:30pm. The format is simple: beer, conversation, and God. For more information contact Doug Holst at (813) 447-9917.

<u>HANDEL'S MESSIAH</u> - A Sacred Oratorio will be presented by Sarasota Choral Society on Thursday, December 5th at 7pm at Church of the Palms in Sarasota. Tickets are \$25. If interested, contact Sue Copeland at 941-243-5329.

#### Week of Dec. 2 - Dec. 8

#### **Monday**

Tai Chi 10am

AA Meeting 11:30am

Boy Scouts 6pm

GA Meeting 7pm

#### **Tuesday**

AA & Al-Anon Meeting 11:30 am

Cub Scouts 6pm

AA Meeting 7pm

#### **Wednesday**

AA Meeting 9:30am, 11:30am

Pastor's Bible Study 1pm

Evangelism Meeting 2:30pm

Girl Scouts 6pm

Advent Service 6:30pm

#### **Thursday**

AA Meeting 11:30am

Euchre 1pm

Building Improvement Meeting 3pm

#### **Friday**

GA Meeting 9:30am

Crafting 10:30am

AA Meeting 11:30am

Cub Scouts 6pm-6am

AA Meeting 6pm, 8pm

#### **Saturday**

AA Meeting 4pm

Al-Anon Meeting 4pm

#### **Sunday**

7:45am Traditional Service

9am The Journey

11am Traditional Service

AA Meeting 6:30pm

#### **OUR DAILY BREAD SERVERS**

We need 6 servers on December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9:15 am until approximately 11:45 am. No experience required, on the job training, pay is great, hearing the "thankyous" from the homeless as you serve lunch. Please INCLUDE your phone number when signing up. So we can reach you if last minute changes are needed. If you want to help, but have questions, call **Bob Scott**, (941) 758-5954 or (817) 313-2945.

**ANGEL TREE** - Angels and gifts are due back at church on TODAY.

#### **BUILDING IMPROVEMENT NEWS**

As we wait for our roof to be repaired, we continue to concentrate on completing the corridors, kitchen and Narthex. With the corridors now being painted we will clean the tile floor and install the base. Bulletin boards are being studied to determine what can be updated or is needed.

CHURCH COUNCIL Interested in being on our church council starting in January 2025? Talk to Pastor Ed or Maggie to make us aware of your interest. Our council meets once a month to discuss the business of LLLC. CHRISTIAN LIFE Our current small groups are starting up this fall. If you are interested in being a part of our existing small groups or being a part of a new group, talk to Deb Miller and sign up on the clipboard in the Narthex.

**QUILT RAFFLE** Please look forward to our holiday raffle and silent auction/sale by the handicrafts/quilting group, A Stitch and A Prayer, **TODAY** and 8th. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each or \$20/5 tickets. Proceeds will go toward supplies for future community projects. Donations are always appreciated. Thanks for your support!

**ADVENT SERVICES** There will be mid-week services on Wednesday December 4, 11 and 18 at 6:30pm.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES will be at 4:00pm and 7:00pm.

Monday Class Faith Talks at 10:00 AM will be cancelled for December 2 due to post-Thanksgiving travel. We resume class on Monday December 9. Ruth McConnell

**FAMILY YUM(FUN) NIGHT** will be Friday, December 13th from 6 to 8pm. This month will be a cookie exchange, just in time for your celebrations. Each family is asked to bring 3 dozen cookies - you will leave with more than that. Pizza will be provided. Get more details on the sign-up sheet in the narthex.

**LUNCH BUNCH INVITATION** The second Thursday of every month the LLL lunch bunch meets for lunch. Our next lunch will be on December 12<sup>th</sup> at <u>11:30</u>. We will meet at Station 400 located at 8215 Lakewood Main, Lakewood Ranch, FL. This luncheon is open to <u>all</u> who wish to attend. There is a signup sheet posted in the narthex. If you have any questions, please contact Deb Miller at 616-540-1745.

# Christianity

As Told by the Evangelists
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John

# Beginning January 6, 2025 on Mondays In Activities Hall 10:00-11:30 AM

In 18 weekly classes we will learn and experience Jesus, who transcended humble origins, showed us God's love, paid the price for our forgiveness, and transformed his followers forever.

This course is free. Because God's gifts are FREE!

January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025:

# Peter and Paul and the Christian Revolution.

What happened to the disciples after the crucifixion of Jesus? Would Jesus disappear from history? Video and readings in Luke's book of Acts, where the church began.

# February 3 through April 7:

# Understanding New Testament Gospels

Lectures by professors of Christian theology and history to enhance your reading of Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John. Discussion of texts.

April 14: MOVIE **The Gospel of John**, read by Christopher Plummer, 2 hours Easter Monday April 21, 2025 NO CLASS

April 28 and May 5, 2025 TO BE ANNOUNCED (Sacred Journeys?)

Documentaries, Bible Readings, Instructional Videos, Lesson Summaries, Discussions, and your Questions. *Just like college!* <u>Videos easy to see on 85 inch TV.</u> Ruth McConnell, leader



## **Living Lord Lutheran Church**

Phone: (941) 753-9365 Fax: (941) 758-9015

Web Site: <a href="www.LivingLordFL.org">www.LivingLordFL.org</a>
Information: Info@LivingLordFL.org

Monthly Newsletter: Voice@LivingLordFL.org

All God's Children Preschool Phone: (941) 739-2776

Interim Pastor	Ed Holloway	753-9365	revelholloway@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Maggie Hammond	753-9365	maggie@livinglordfl.org
Minister of Music	Thomas Pizzi	753-9365	tompno3@gmail.com
All God's Children Director	Erin Bonifate	739-2776	agcerin@gmail.com
Office Clerk	Marianne Strimer	753-9365	marianne@livinglordfl.org

#### **Church Council Officers**

President	Rebecca Powers	913-306-5415	Illcpresident@gmail.com
Vice President	Rich Jones	614-570-6540	j42hcir@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mike Gutzler	978-857-7172	mjdj4togo@yahoo.com
Secretary	Rae Dowling	741-8335	raedowling@yahoo.com

#### **Church Council – Team Leaders**

Member-At-Large	Beverly	352-464-1177	bsbrockschmidt@gmail.com
	Brockschmidt		
Parish Life	Stephney Rose	782-8005	stephneyr@yahoo.com
Education	Open		
Worship & Music	Rhoda Olson	201-6304	rhodarose100@gmail.com
Evangelism	Patty Kunkel	748-6669	pattykunkel@verizon.net
Youth Representative	Brooke Palmtag	252-646-8801	brookepalmtag@icould.com

#### **Special Teams Leaders**

Property	Bill Hoth	914-523-8425	whothjr@aol.com
Stewardship	Karen Symos	410-370-8666	ksymos@hotmail.com
AGC Liaison	Mary Hunter	746-3757	mehretired5@gmail.com
Altar Guild	Nancy Taylor	717-891-8791	mimitay@comcast.net
Faith Comm. Nurses	Karen Hansing	748-5806	riseuprnk@gmail.com
Fellowship	Pam Lange	404-358-1124	pamlangemobile@gmail.com
Stephen Ministry	Randy Hanson	981-9048	randley.hanson@verizon.net
New Members Coord.	Patty Kunkel	748-6669	pattykunkel@verizon.net
Outreach	Mary Torke		mtorke@comcast.net
	Sue Copeland		copelandfamily1992@gmail.com
Bookkeeper	Karen Symos	410-370-8666	ksymos@hotmail.com