

**“MOVE YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD”
MARCH 2007**

The Sunday when Daylight Savings Time begins is always a bit risky for churches. Parishioners are used to coming to the worship service at a specific time. They know when they must get out of bed in order to have enough time to get dressed, eat breakfast, and get to church on time. With the coming of Daylight Savings Time, this routine is altered. Members are reminded of the time change the week before and it is hoped that everyone, or at least the vast majority, will remember to turn their clocks ahead one hour on Saturday night.

Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, March 11th, this year. The experts say that this is a good thing because it will give us an extra hour of sunlight in the evening. This should save energy and give us more time for recreational activities. Benjamin Franklin first came up with the idea more than two hundred years ago. He urged people to wake up earlier so that less candle wax would be burned. It wasn't until 1918 that Congress finally made Daylight Savings Time the law of the land.

Not everyone is happy with the idea of changing our clocks. Some feel that it is somehow going against the earth's natural cycle. If you are one of those who forget to change your clock, be prepared for the surprise of arriving at the wrong time. At our church, we are hoping that this month's time change goes without a problem. This is because we are hosting the area's annual Girl Scout Sunday on March 11th. We have visions (or nightmares) of brownies, girl scouts, visitors, and members arriving just as the service is ending.

The Bible has a lot to say to us about time. While we may worry and fret about time, Scripture assures us that God is in charge of the passing hours and days. As David writes in Psalm 31,

*I trust in you, O Lord; I say, "You are my God."
My times are in your hand. (Psalm 31:14-15)*

It is human nature to try to control the passing of time. We attempt to bend it to suit our will. We complain about not having enough hours in a day. We protest about not having enough leisure time. Every time we look at a calendar, we wish that time would slow down a little. When we look at our watches and begin to get anxious, we need to listen to David's calming words.

Please circle Sunday, March 11th, on your calendar and remember to turn your clocks ahead one hour. As you do that, remember to thank God who has given us "time" as a gift, not a burden.

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