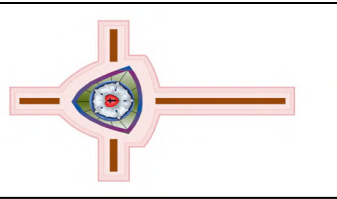


Christ's United Lutheran Church
437 Airport Road
Ashland, PA 17921
www.christsunited.org

Mailed 11/30/22



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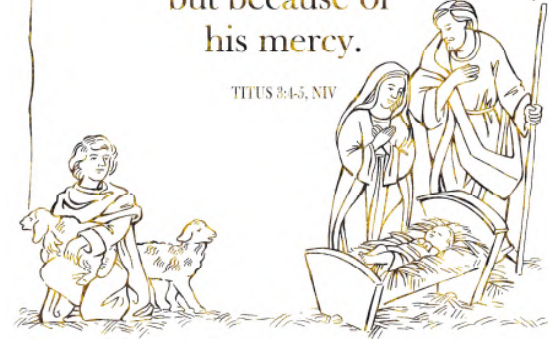
2022
DECEMBER



The CULC Messenger
God's Work,
Our Actions

But when the kindness
and love of
GOD
our
SAVIOR
appeared, he saved us,
not because of righteous
things we had done,
but because of
his mercy.

TITUS 3:4-5, NIV



Join us for

Worship -

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services 4:00 & 7:30 p.m.

Sunday School - 1st & 3rd Sundays @ 10:45 a.m.



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions





Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

December 2022

The December CULC Messenger is sponsored in Memory of our Mom, Ruby Fegley & Good Friend, Steven D. Conniff

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CHURCH COUNCIL 2022

	Phone	Term Expires
John Denchak President	570-875-4970	Feb. 2023
Vivian Brown Vice-President	717-275-5277	Feb. 2023
Angie Berger Secretary	570-875-3598	Feb. 2023
Robert Carl	570-590-7281	Feb. 2025
Ken Dengler	570-933-5144	Feb. 2025
Debra Price	570-205-6241	Feb. 2024
Darlene Stank	570-875-1644	Feb. 2025
Jacob Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2024
Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024

Youth Representative - Vacant

DESIGNATED PASTOR

Reverend Dana D. Heckman-Beil
570-875-0792

STAFF

Parish Administrator	Debbie Hall	570-875-1591
	office@christsunited.org	570-789-9722
	Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	
Director of Music	Jamie Johnson	570-590-1678
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-449-2021
Indoor Custodian	Ann Ray Begis	570-590-2729

Status of Accounts as of October 31

Total amount in checking account: \$96,975.24 .

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2022 Annual Budget of \$185,997.00 is \$15,499.75

October income was \$13,129.91

Expenses for October were \$6,918.46
resulting in a gain of \$6,211.45.

Benevolence Gifts through October were \$7,885.00
(52% of our Benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 for 2022)



2



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions



Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education
Evangelism/Outreach
Lutheran Church Men (LCM)
Social Ministry
Stewardship
WELCA
Worship & Music
Multimedia Ministry
Safety and Security Team

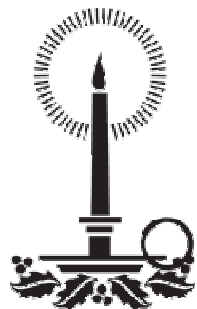
Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees
Endowment Fund
Mutual Ministry
Nominating
Personnel

Christ's United Lutheran Church

Mission Statement

We the members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Ashland, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which includes a creative re-examination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will undergird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.

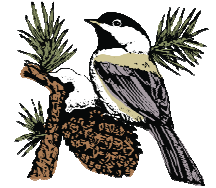


Christian symbol

CANDLE—The candle symbolizes Jesus being the light of the world (John 8:12), as well as his call for Christians to be lights (Matthew 5:14). Candles play a prominent role in the Christmas season. Each candle on an Advent wreath has a special meaning. Many churches have a candlelight worship service on Christmas Eve, often at midnight.



Messages from our Members:



Fellow members of Christ's United,

Waiting,

Waiting,

Waiting,

It seems as though we are always waiting for something...

We wait in line at the grocery store, and it always seems as though the person in front of us has a large cart full of items and the cashier is always so slow.

We wait in traffic, and the red light always takes "forever" to change to green!

We need to make an important phone call and are put on hold, they play calming music to try and help you relax, but you're on hold for 20 minutes or longer.

Why is waiting so difficult for us? We get so impatient when we must wait longer than we expected. Isn't that always what December feels like? Impatiently waiting. Waiting for Christmas! During our season of Advent this year we will be having "Conversations with the Angels" as part of our worship services. Join us as we wait for Christmas.

Abraham & Sarah waited on the Lord for many years to bless them with children, and at the age of 100 and 90 the Lord fulfilled his promise. Talk about a long wait. Then, God asks Abraham to do the unthinkable, to sacrifice the son. Could we wait that long? If God asks, could we do the unthinkable?



Again, Zechariah & Elizabeth, prayed for children but were barren. In their old age, an angel appears and tells Zechariah they will have a son. He doesn't believe the angel, but God accomplishes his will in unexpected ways. Another long wait.

There are many instances of waiting in the Bible, just as we seem to always be waiting. Hopefully not as long though! Many times, it is difficult to wait, but God has a plan worked out, we just have to be patient. As the excitement for Christmas draws near, patiently wait. Wait for God to bring us a pastor, wait for God to calm your fears, wait for God to give us his promise in a newborn Son.

Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains (James 5:7).

But they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint (Isaiah 40:3).

Waiting patiently with you,

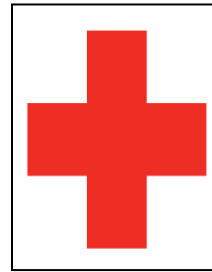


December Council Contact of the month is Angie Berger

The Council Contact of the Month is the "on call" member of council, the person to contact if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), or need access to the building. If you need to contact Angie,



Council Member
of the Month



American Red Cross Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, December 5, 2022
1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Please contact Debbie Hall or call
1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2676) or visit
www.redcrossblood.org
to schedule an appointment.



Jamie *Chris*
Ann Ray

On behalf of Christ's United's Staff:
May the miracle of Christmas give you joy
and peace this holiday season and
all through the new year.
Jesus, Our Saviour is born!

Ann Marie

Drew

Debbie

The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions





Church Council Highlights from November

- The Annual Congregational Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 11 following worship.
- Debbie Hall asked Council to consider new hours for the Church office. She would like to work Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Total hours worked per week would not change. Her request was granted to take effect January 3, 2023.
- A motion was passed to accept an offer from “Food for the Poor” to send a local ELCA pastor to lead worship on a Sunday in 2023.



NEW OFFICE HOURS **STARTING JANUARY 3, 2023**

Starting January 3, 2023,
the church office will have
new hours:

**Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday**



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions



Seeking the story

Angels joyfully announced a special arrival in Bethlehem at Christmas.

Directions: Find the words listed below. Then unscramble the intersecting letters to complete Luke 2:11, NIV.



WORD BANK

Shepherds
Child
Nazareth
Census
Baby
David
Mary
Travel
Town
Register
Born
Night

T	B	W	Y	A	Z	K	E	S	H	N	G	D	J	K
Q	O	Y	A	P	R	A	L	B	F	P	I	C	Q	L
N	R	W	X	B	E	Y	R	M	B	D	M	O	E	E
S	N	O	N	W	G	A	I	B	A	C	D	O	T	D
R	G	X	J	F	I	W	M	V	B	R	R	C	E	O
P	S	C	E	N	S	U	S	H	Y	U	Y	F	P	N
O	T	P	I	G	T	Q	C	N	T	G	M	U	S	T
O	A	N	D	B	E	C	H	I	L	D	N	Z	F	A
A	T	B	A	U	R	W	H	G	F	V	A	B	U	M
T	R	A	V	E	L	J	C	H	V	O	Z	G	N	H
F	B	Q	I	W	D	X	P	T	E	N	A	O	L	Q
Z	C	R	D	Q	S	H	E	P	H	E	R	D	S	V
R	U	V	Y	K	N	I	R	T	K	G	E	Y	I	R
K	V	A	Z	X	L	S	H	Y	T	P	T	J	S	K
L	L	E	S	M	J	Z	L	Q	R	U	H	V	W	X

“Today in the town of David a _____
has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.”

LUKE 2:11, NIV

Answer: Savior

We Offer our Prayers to...



November 20 - Paula Dietrich (E. Tice)
Bishop deForest
Lee Faust (C. Varndell)
Charlie Bann
Mark Bennyhoff

Families of Dolores Lesher
Elizabeth Hepler
Maureen Savitsky (S. Tice)

November 13 – Susan Herb (K. Berner)
Jane Fetterolf (P. Lute)
Jane Pennypacker
Rita Yarnell (J. Wolfgang)
Grace Johnson

Family of Richard Grabosky Sr.

November 6 – Wayne (Webby) Weinreich (S. Marlow)
David Weikel (J. Deeter)
Amie Freed (C. Brennan)

Families of Tommy Green
Ralph Wagner
Marilyn Heim (J. Denchak)
Judy Trautman (G. Marquardt)

October 30 – Karen Presto (J. Young)
Randy Fetterolf
Tammy Johnson (D. Price)
Daniel Werner

Families of Lou Ann Olson
Dolores Corcoran (J. Towey)

Please continue to pray for: Kay Berner, Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Jim Hepler (P. Hepler), Bobby Liem (B. Liem), Gail Lorady, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Dianna Monaghan (P. Lute), Richard Shoup, Cheryl Varndell, Dot Zangari, Linda Zerby Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis (J. Pennypacker), Edward Emerich (L. Martin), Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn (G. Marquardt), Bob Griffiths (I. Morgan), Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Pastor Bob & Donna Hughes (Grubers), Ron James (V. Brown), Kay Keefer (D. Calhoun), Tracy Maurer (C. Neumeister), Debbie Moyer (C. Carl), Elizabeth Smith & family, Judy Trautman (G. Marquardt), Karyssa Wenrich



December 2022 Sponsorships

The sponsorship sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board. Sign up for:

Altar Flowers \$35.00
Worship Bulletins \$15.00
Christmas Eve 4:00 service bulletins \$10.00

Altar Flowers Procedure:

Please sign up by the bulletin board for week(s) you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers and call

“Flowers From the Heart” 570-339-2519 to place order.

Cost is \$35.00.

Please place order and make payment directly to the florist.

Christmas Poinsettias!

Poinsettias are available in pink, white, or red.



Sizes available:

1 plant per pot for \$11.00
2 plants per pot for \$17.00
3 plants per pot for \$24.00

Please sign up on the bulletin board.
Make checks payable to CULC
and drop them in the church office.



CULC YOUTH GROUP Activities



Animal Resource Center (ARC),
Janet Weis Children's Hospital
and Jared box Assembly

On Sunday, December 18th from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., the Youth Group will be participating in the Jared box Assembly for the Janet Weis Children's Hospital. at the Pine Barn Inn in Danville.

They are also collecting donations to take along for the Animal Resource Center in Danville. If you would like to donate, please select from the list below and bring to the church by December 18th. Thank you.

Shelter Wish List:

- Gift Cards for supplies
(Giant, Weis, Petco, PetSmart,
Tractor Supply, Wal-Mart)
- Purina Kitten Chow
- Friskies canned cat food
- Fancy Feast cat food
- Dry cat food & cat treats
- Pill pockets
- Clumping cat litter
- Canned dog food
- Soft dog treats
- Large Milk Bones
- Balls & Kong toys
- Dish detergent & sponges
- Spray cleaner & bleach
- "Green" cleaners - Simple Green Cleaner



18

PRAYER CHAIN



Each day members of Christ's United bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for the ministries of this congregation and people in need.

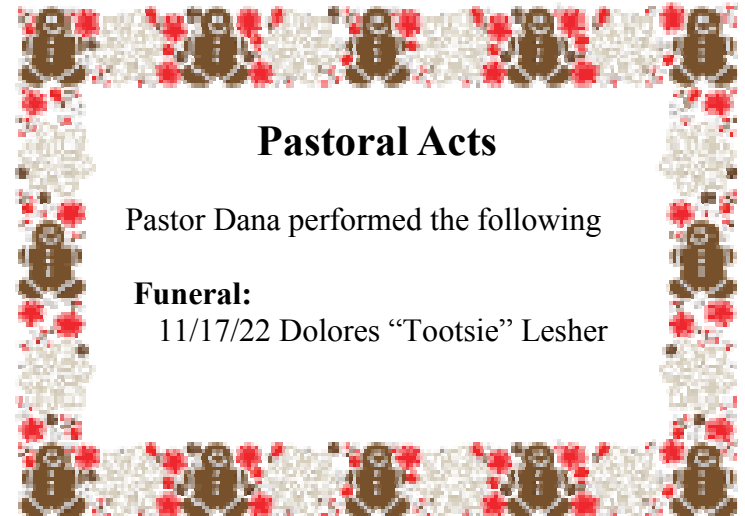
A copy of the Prayer List is available at worship services each weekend. You may also have an email sent to you on Mondays with a list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of

Praying Through the Directory

Each month we will be listing three of our church faith families. We ask that you take the time and uplift them in prayer for their needs and spiritual journey.

This month we pray for:

- The Miller Family - William and Sandy
- The Walacavage Family - Todd & Kimberly, Tanner, Logan
- The Zangari Family - Dorothy



Pastoral Acts

Pastor Dana performed the following

Funeral:

11/17/22 Dolores "Tootsie" Leshner

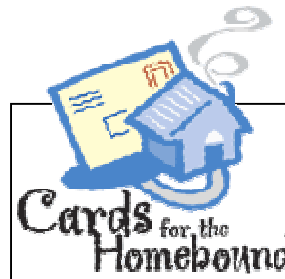
The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions





- 2 Nancy Lindenmuth
- 3 Asea Krah
- 4 Cheryl Weikel
- 5 Janna Gregis
- 6 Daniel Cascarino
- 7 Beryl Stitzer
- 8 Anita Fegley
- 9 Robert Pennypacker
- 10 Makena Dean
- 11 Cory Krise
- 12 Daniel Witner
- 13 Karleigh Economy
- 14 Joey Anczarski
- 15 Ralph R. Johnson
- Arlene Krise
- Jessica Nagle
- Leslie Shadle

- 16 Tammy L. Harris
- 17 Linda Brennan Panikkar
- 18 April Brennan
- Lynn Dillman
- Raven Marlow
- Samuel Troup, Sr.
- Tim Hubler
- 20 Richard Edmondson
- Rachel Pancher
- Regan Kratovich
- 22 Jeff Brennan
- Siena Smith
- 23 Robert Carl
- 25 David Hall
- Daniel Cunningham
- 27 Brody Baker
- Zackary Coward
- 28 Bonnie Dillman
- Donald Klinger
- Sawyer Smith
- 29 Beth Andrews
- William Cook
- Jessica Gregis
- Mike Stepanchick
- 30 Stephen Harhigh



During this Christmas Season please remember our homebound members with, cards, greetings, and prayers.

Corrine Coward, 520 Dutchtown Rd., Ashland, PA 17921

Diane Heidlebaugh, Grandview Nursing & Rehab,
78 Woodbine Ln., Danville, PA 17821

Jim Hepler, 501 Main St., Ashland, PA 17921

Nancy Kessler, Mt. Carmel Nursing Home,
2616 Locust Gap Highway, Mt. Carmel, PA
17851

Bobbie Liem, 212 Biddle St., PO Box 127, Gordon, PA 17936

Gail Marquardt, 154 Stein Rd., Ashland, PA 17921

Irene Morgan, 1400 Nissley Rd., Landisville, PA 17538

Anna Neumeister, Providence Place, 2200 First Ave,
Pottsville, PA 17901

Give Electronically

Checking/Savings Credit/Debit Card
Christ's United accepts electronic donations

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Go to www.christsunited.org or scan



New Christmas Tradition

Beginning December 1st read one chapter of the book of Luke in the Bible each evening.

There are 24 chapters.

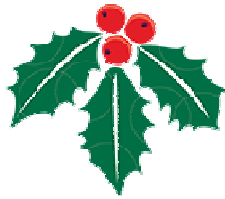
On Christmas Eve you will have read an entire account of Jesus's Life and wake up Christmas morning knowing WHO and WHY we celebrate!!



The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions



Advent & Christmas Events at CULC:



"When Christmas Hurts"

Service of Remembrance and Healing
Hosted by Kull-Heizenroth Funeral Home
December 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Congregational Christmas Meal -
December 11, 2022 following worship

Christmas Eve Worship

with Holy Communion

Saturday, Dec 24, 4:00 p.m.



Candlelight Worship

Candlelight
Service

Communion and Contribution Records



Please assist us in making an accurate report of all active, communing and contributing members of Christ's United.

As we approach the end of our calendar year, it is important that everyone take a moment to complete one communion card and one offering envelope with your name and address. Both can be found in the pew racks at any of our upcoming services. Thank you.

New offering envelopes for 2022 will be



16



12/05/08
12/07/02
12/11/93
12/11/99
12/28/10

Breann & Daniel Barker
Randy & Angie Lucas
Stephen & Tami Wagner
Erik & Sally Tice
Stephen & Brittany Harhigh

*The following donations were given
to Christ's United's Memorial Fund
since the last issue of the Newsletter:*

In Memory of Leo Young by:
Carrie & Russ Hummel

In Memory of Tommy Green by:

Dorothy & Terry Kessler
Ralph & Eileen Johnson
Don & Laray Klinger
Beth & Ron Andrews
Carrie & Russ Hummel
Marge Bolich
Susan M. Hocking
Kenneth Welker
Grace Johnson
Evelyn Lesniak
Carol & Jim Reiner

Kenneth & Tammy Dengler
Jo-Ann Young
James & Brenda Stepanchick
Marie Sacko
Carl & Edith Wehry
Sharon & Abigail Gessner
Catherine Stanitis
Sarah Williams
Joe, Melissa & Kaitlyn Klinger

In Memory of Dolores "Tootsie" Leshner by:

Grace Johnson
Rebecca Kline & Family

To Christ's United's Capital Campaign

In Memory of Tommy Green by:
Dillman & Peel Families

*The CULC Messenger
God's Work, Our Actions*



Christmas Tree of Sharing

We will again begin collecting items for the Tree of Sharing on Sunday, November 27th. This year we will be collecting clothing items and toys for children up to age 18 and also ELCA good gifts.



Tags will be available on the table in the hallway beginning December 4th. After you pick your selection please place the "ornament" on the Christmas tree. All children's gifts are due back to the church by Sunday, December 18th. ELCA good gifts may be purchased up until Christmas Eve. Please place gifts

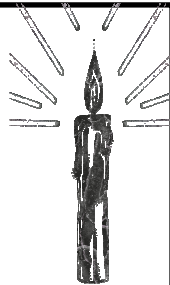


The Trunk or Treat committee would like to thank all the Trunkers that came out to Trunk or Treat on Sunday October 30th. We would also like to thank everyone who donated and helped out with Trunk or Treat. It was a wonderful event that had 11 Trunkers and about 85-90 kids. Thank you for all the support.

When Christmas Hurts

A service of remembrance and Healing

Will be held at Christ's United on
Sunday, December 4, 2022
At 6:00 p.m.



The Rev. Dana D. Heckman-Beil M. Div. will preside.

Serving Our Community of Faith in December:



Next WELCA meeting will be DECEMBER 7TH at 6:00pm.
All women of CULC are welcome to attend.



CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS MEAL

**DECEMBER 11
11:00 a.m.**

following morning worship

**STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST / BAKED HAM
GRAVY / HOT AND COLD DRINKS
will be provided by WELCA and LCM**

**Sign up to attend and include what you will bring
as a side dish to share.**

**Indicate what specifically you will contribute:
FILLING**

**HOT VEGETABLES
(yams, corn, green beans, etc)**

**SALADS
(coleslaw, cranberry sauce, broccoli, veggies, etc.)**

DINNER ROLLS

SOCIAL MINISTRY



Fellowship Hour will be held after worship on only the first Sunday of each month September through May. See schedule below for your committee's turn to serve. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help.

- December** - Social Ministry
- ~ 2023 ~
- January** - WELCA
- February** - Church Council
- March** - Evangelism/
Endowment/
Stewardship
- April** - Social Ministry
- May** - WELCA
- June/July/August** -
No Social Hour



We will be collecting the following items for December:

Stuffing Mix, Sweet Potatoes & Gravy

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday



Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congrega- tional Rep/ Announce- ments	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte	Acolyte
December 4 2nd Sunday of Advent	Erik Tice	Dennis Wolfe	Sally Tice	Robert Carl b John Towey b Allen Johnson c/d Ken Dengler so Dorothy Kessler G	John Towey AM Donna Lassen John Denchak	Dylan Buhay	Mason Buhay
December 11 3rd Sunday of Advent	Erik Tice		Mark Varndell			Ava Hubler	—
December 18 4th Sunday of Advent	John Towey	Jacob Tice	John Towey			Marisa Seritsky	—
December 24 4:00 p.m.	Pastor Dana		Barb Anczarski	Donna Wallace b John Towey b John Wolfgang c/d John Denchak so	Larry Wolfgang AM Becky Spencer Donna Wallace	Cole Johnson	Amy Johnson
December 24 7:30 p.m.	Erik Tice		Beth Andrews	Ted Ambrose b Ken Dengler b Allen Johnson c/d Terry Neumeister so	Kay Berner AM Beth Andrews Dennis Wolfe	David Cunningham	Daniel Cunningham
November 25 Christmas Day	Erik Tice		Donna Wallace		Vivian Brown AM Volunteer Volunteer	Jacob Tice	Volunteer



December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 2 nd Sunday of Advent 9:30 Worship w / Holy Communion 10:30 Fellowship Hour 10:45 Sunday School Adult Sunday School	5 1:00 – 6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive 7:00 Church Council	6	7 10:30 Seniors 6:00 WELCA 6:30 Choir Practice	8 10:00 – 11:30 Christ's Cupboard distribution 	9	10
11 3 rd Sunday of Advent 9:30 Worship 11:00 Congregational Christmas Meal 5:00 LCM 6:00 Property Committee	12	13	14 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice	15	16	17
18 4 th Sunday of Advent 9:30 Worship 10:45 Sunday School Adult Sunday School 1:00 - 5:00 Youth Group	19	20	21 Start of Winter 10:30 Seniors 6:30 Choir Practice	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT 4:00 Worship w / Holy Communion 7:00 Special Music 7:30 Worship w / Holy Communion
25 CHRISTMAS DAY 9:30 Worship w / Holy Communion	26	27	28 8:30 Newsletter Assembly 10:30 Seniors	29	30	31  <i>New Year's Eve</i>