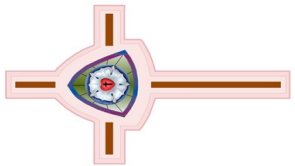


Christ's United Lutheran Church
437 Airport Road
Ashland, PA 17921
www.christsumited.org

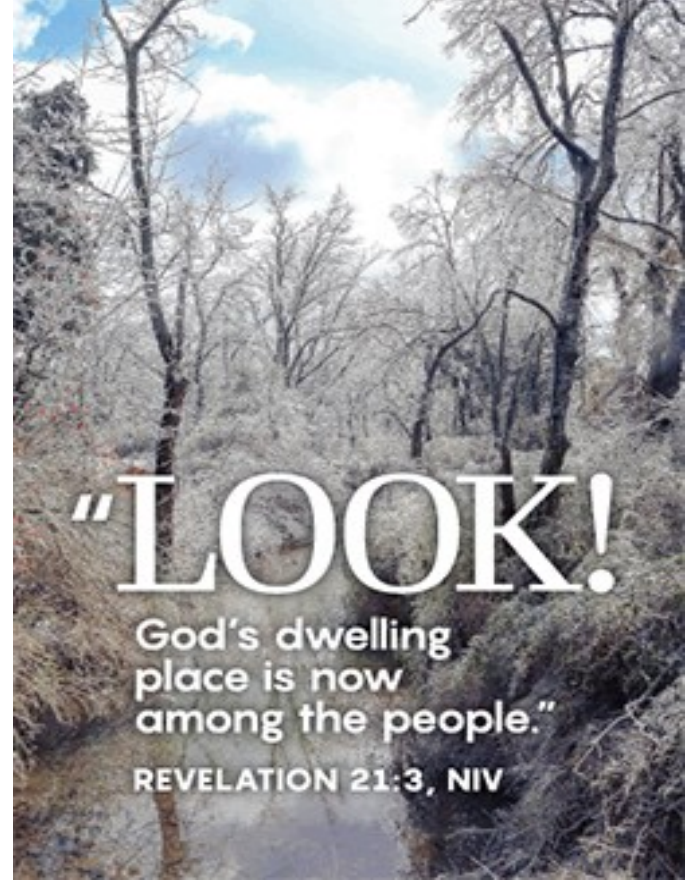
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Life Together at Christ's United Lutheran Church



Join us for Worship
Saturday 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 9:30 a.m.
Journey & Fellowship 10:45

Life Together at Christ's United





Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

January 2017

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CHURCH COUNCIL 2017

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Beth Andrews (Secretary)	570-874-2381	Feb. 2018
Gregg Sterling	570-449-6940	Feb. 2018
vicepresident@christsunited.org		
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2019
Deb Berner	570-875-3209	Feb. 2017
John Denchak	570-875-4970	Feb. 2017
Deidre Dengler	Youth Rep.	Sept. 2016
Gregg Sterling	570-449-6940	Feb. 2019
John Towey	570-205-2682	Feb. 2018
Mark Varndell	570-875-2545	Feb. 2019
Deb Zaharick	570-875-2691	Feb. 2017

PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Kim L. Lengert

570-336-3110

pastorkim@christsunited.org

STAFF

Parish Visitor	Lois Sterling	570-449-6947
	lois@christsunited.org	
Parish Administrator	Deb Hall	570-875-1591
	office@christsunited.org	
	Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	
Director of Music	Position open	
	music@christsunited.org	
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422
	treasurer@christsunited.org	
Indoor Custodian	Cheryl Varndell	570-875-2545
Outdoor Custodian	Bill Price	570-875-4272
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720

Status of Accounts as of November 30

Balance in Checking Account.....negative \$2,441.35
 Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2016 Annual Budget
 of \$174,914.20 is **\$14,576.18**
November income was \$14,886.27
 Benevolence Gifts.....-\$15,852.84
 (79% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,000.00 for 2016)



Pastor Kim's Message

Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education
education@christsunited.org

Evangelism/Outreach
evangelism@christsunited.org

Lutheran Church Men (LCM)
lcm@christsunited.org

Social Ministry
socialministry@christsunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA
welca@christsunited.org

Worship & Music
music@christsunited.org

Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees
finance@christsunited.org

Endowment Fund
endowment@christsunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating
council@christsunited.org

Personnel
personnel@christsunited.org

Property
property@christsunited.org

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.



The Pastor's Part:

So what?

It's the new year. Resolutions have been made, the year switched a number, the ball has dropped, the cigar has gone up, and everyone wants something better than they had before.

Like I said, so what? It may be a new year, but there isn't anything "new" about it. We're living in the same place, have the same friends, driving the same car, getting up for the same job and wearing the same clothes.

People may want this year to be different, but wanting it doesn't make it happen. Contrary to the advertisements, "wanting" doesn't change our wardrobe, bank account, relationship, or luck. "Wanting" doesn't change anything, especially us. You want something? So what?

Change – newness - doesn't happen because of wanting: change – newness – happens because of doing. Change is made, not received. Maybe that's why the new year begins in the season of Christmas.

For thousands of years God had been telling the people about change. The Word had been out there. But nothing was happening. So instead of just wanting, God starting doing: God spoke to Mary, and to Joseph, and "the virgin did conceive, and bore a Son" called Immanuel, meaning "God is with us". In Jesus Christ, God came *to be with* the people, to show the way, to heal the sick, make the blind see, the deaf hear and the lame walk; the prisoners were set free and the poor had the good news preached to them.

In Jesus Christ everything changes. Even you.

This year, stop wanting change, and start being it. Be made new, in Jesus Christ.

Peace,
Pastor Kim



From a church newsletter:

what a special occasion!
The confirmands dawned their Sunday best.
A reception was held afterward

The editor might have *donned* a blush that morning!

Church Council Highlights from December:

- 1) Due to Stewart Anthony's resignation, Dennis Wolfe was appointed to serve on Council for 3 months until the election at the Annual Meeting.
- 2) Gregg Sterling was nominated to serve as Vice-President.
- 3) Average weekly worship attendance for November--122, for the year--121.

January's council
Member of the month is
John Denchak



**Council Member
of the Month**

The Council Member of the Month is the "on call" member of council. The council member of the month is the person to call if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), notice the church lights on at 11 p.m., or need access to the building.

Pastoral Acts



Baptism :
12/04/16 Brayden Michael Ladick

Funeral Services:
11/29/16 Palmer Kimmel
12/05/16 Ralph "Cappy" Johnson
12/07/16 Randy Troutman
12/16/16 Sue Bendinsky

Light OF THE World

In a world full of sin and darkness, how can we find our way?
Discover Jesus' answer in John 8:12, NIV.

*Directions: Use the key to fill in the missing vowels.
Then read the completed Bible verse.*

KEY: **A** **E** **I** **O**

" _ _ M TH _ L _ GHT _ F
TH _ W _ RLD. W H _ _ V _ R
F _ LL _ WS M _ W _ LL N _ V _ R
W _ LK _ N D _ RKN _ SS."
J _ H N 8:12, NIV

Answer: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness." John 8:12, NIV





American Red Cross

The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Community Blood Drive

Christ's United Lutheran Church

Community Room
437 Airport Road (Gordon)
Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, February 6, 2017

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.

Open to the public and walk-ins are Welcome!

Want to spend more time with the "WORD"?



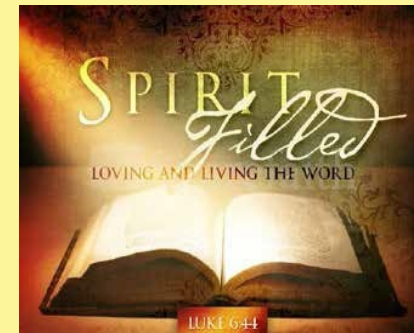
Do you want to have a better understanding of the "BIBLE"??



Would you like to listen and share "Stories of INSPIRATION"??

Do you want to share an Inspirational Book or CD
you have read or listened to that really had an impact on your life??

Watch for details on a new Bible Study coming soon!



The following Memorials were given to Christ's United since the issue of the last Newsletter:

\$ 20.00 in Memory of Tim Varndell by:
Donald & Laray Klinger

\$ 40.00 in Memory of Palmer Kimmel by:
Donald & Laray Klinger
Irene Morgan


\$1015.00 in Memory of Ralph "Cappy" Johnson by:

Victor Mickatavage	Terry & Dorothy Kessler
Laray & Don Klinger	Allen Johnson & Family
Frank & Karen Smith	John & Maryann Wolfgang
Jack & Frieda Johnson	Dorothy & Catherine Stanitis
Christina & Barry Bucher	Jeanette Zerbe
Jo-Ann & Leo Young	Joseph & Lee Anne Mattucci
Eloise & Richard Britt	Julia, Gary & Larry Klinger
Mr. & Mrs. David Slotterback	Patricia Procopio
SCI—Frackville employees	SCI—Frackville Food Service Staff
Ralph Johnson & Family	Irene Morgan

\$ 40.00 in Memory of Randy Troutman by:
Donald & Laray Klinger
Irene Morgan

\$120.00 in Memory of Sue Bendinsky by:
John E. & Patricia Lockhart-Rogers
Marlene Lucas
Constance J. Welker
Gerry & Bonnie Dillman
Irene Morgan



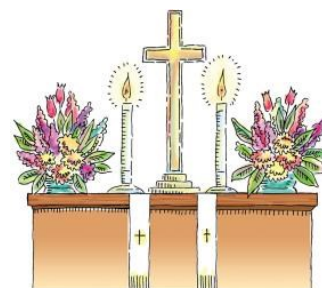


Lessons from a snowman

- It's okay to wear white well after Labor Day.
- Simply hanging out in your front yard can be fun.
- Accessories don't have to be fancy or expensive.
- We're all made mostly of water.
- You know you've "arrived" when a song is written about you.
- So what if you're a little bottom-heavy?
- Don't get too much sun.
- Sweating too much can be disastrous!

2017 Sponsorships

The new sponsorship sign up sheets are now posted on the bulletin board.



Altar Flowers

Sign up for: Altar Flowers \$25.00,
Palms for Palm Sunday \$12.00,
Worship Bulletins \$15.00,
Special service bulletins \$10.00,
Sanctuary Candle \$10.00,
Children's Bulletins \$10.00, and
Monthly Newsletters \$40.00.

Payments for Altar flowers should now be given to **Cathy Troutman**. All other payments should be made out to the church and given to Deb Hall in the church office.



WELCA News

JANUARY WELCA MEETING

The January meeting for WELCA will be held
January 4 at 7:00 p.m.

Gifts for Shut-Ins

Thank you to Laray Klinger, Pearl Lute, Darcie Gruber, and Nancy Lindenmuth for preparing the "Clothing Protectors" given to the shut-ins.



KNAUGHTY KNOTTERS

Knaughty Knotters will resume on Tuesday, January 10th at 9:00. Weather permitting, we will meet each Tuesday until Lent begins.

Ladies Nite Out:

*We need old friends to help us grow old
and new friends to help us stay young.*

Letty Cottin Pogrebin

Laugh and the world laughs with you.

Cry and you cry with your girlfriends.

Laurie Kuslansky



Come sit by the fire as we begin the new year reminiscing of where we have been and dreaming of where we will go! Please bring a covered dish to share and meet at Pastor's on Sunday January 8, 2017. Carpooling from the church is advised to help with parking! Sign up on the bulletin board!

Memorials Continued:

*\$20.00 in Memory of Sue Bendinsky for the Endowment Fund
by Don & Laray Klinger*

*\$20.00 in Memory of "Cappy" Johnson for the Capital Campaign
by Jo-Ann & Leo Young.*

*\$20.00 in Memory of "Cappy Johnson" for Christ's Cupboard
by Terry & Dorothy Kessler*

*\$50.00 in Memory of Palmer Kimmel, "Cappy" Johnson, Randy Troutman & Matthew Wolfgang for the Capital Campaign
by Ron & Donna Wallace.*

*\$20.00 in Memory of "Cappy" Johnson for the Capital Campaign
by Jo-Ann & Leo Young.*

*\$20.00 in Memory of "Cappy Johnson" for Christ's Cupboard
by Terry & Dorothy Kessler*

\$100 in Honor of their mothers, Margaret Hoenich and Rebecca Yorty for Christ's Cupboard by Pastor Bob & Nan Hoenich



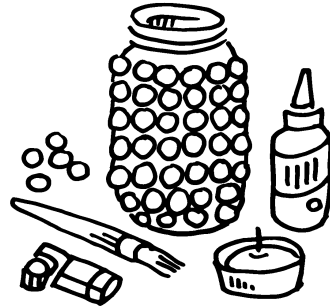
Several jackets and blazers have been left on the coat racks in the lobby area of the church. Please check to see if you are missing a jacket or blazer. If you are, call the church office and describe it. We'll let you know if its one of them.



Jr. Youth is for all elementary age members of Christ's United! Special activities—including projects and field trips—occur throughout the year. Watch the Youth bulletin board and the Church FaceBook pages for the next adventure in the making!

MASON JAR nightLight

Because Jesus is the light of the world, his followers don't need to fear darkness or life's dark times. Make this nightlight to remind you of Jesus' light and presence.



What you need:

- Work area with good ventilation
- Mason jar
- Clear glue that works on glass
- Paintbrush
- Glass stones
- Tealight candle
- Lighter
- Adult supervision

What you do:

1. Starting at the top of the jar, brush glue on a small section.
2. Press glass stones onto the glue in rows. Let dry.
3. Continue gluing stones, in small sections, until the entire jar is covered.
4. When dry, place a candle inside. Light with adult help.

WHO

ARE

These People???

Last month's "Who Are These People" are from the Confirmation Class of June 26, 1996. Front row: Samuel Troup, Renee Snyder, Ryan Snyder. In back, Pastor Lose.

Due to the lack of participation for this feature, we will discontinue it for now. If there is interest and photos to share, we will resume again in the future.

Give Electronically

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

As Christ's United prepares for a new year, it is important to know what support we can depend on from our congregation members. By knowing what you are willing to commit financially, we are able to better plan for the future. Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at www.christsunited.org, locate the Online Giving button and set up your recurring giving schedule. The first time you give, you will select a password that will enable you to log in at any time and make changes to your giving or view your complete online giving history. Or if it's easier, just scan this QR code to get started.



Capital Campaign

Have you ever driven through a town and passed a church building that sat empty, closed until Sunday? What thoughts go through your mind? What are the people doing, that the building sits empty?

In the past years Christ's United's building has rarely sat empty: Youth, WELCA, Men's Group, Journey programs, Seniors, decorating teams, Social Ministry events, Ministry Team meetings and people just coming in to pray are happening throughout the week. Neighbors asking "What's going on at that church – there are always cars there!" is a source for the congregation's growth; because while we may gather for worship on weekends, we live our faith everyday.

It's a lot of use for a building more than twenty years old. Systems are soon in need of repair or replacement. The Capital Campaign addresses our needs. The Capital Campaign goal of \$100,000, based on estimates received, provides for a re-surfacing of our parking lot (DONE – the holes are fixed!), replacement of our heating cooling units (six – parts no longer entirely available), replacement of our roof (near the end of its commercial life span and has had leaks), and the cleaning of our steeple (darkened by mold).

With thanksgiving an initial gift of \$32,000 was given by a couple to start the campaign with the resurfacing of the parking lot to get us through the winter – but we have a lot left to do! Please consider your pledge - not to the continued use of our building – but the growth of ministry at Christ's United.

Church: it's not just for Sundays anymore.

Christ's United
Lutheran Church
One God. One People. One Purpose.



Renewing in Faith

20 *"My house will be known as a house of prayer for all peoples"*
Isaiah 56:7

SR YOUTH ACTIVITY

Shady Maple Smorgasboard



**We will leave the church on
January 14th at 9am
Estimated time of return is
late afternoon**

**Bring your appetite. There is no excuse
for leaving hungry!!**

**Lunch is \$19.99 which includes tips, tax, drinks, dessert, and of course all
you can eat!! There is a really nice gift shop there so bring extra cash to
shop.**

Sign up on the bulletin board.

Life Together at Christ's United

9



- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|-------------------|
| 2 | Katelyn Bechtel | 16 | Rylee Nagle |
| | Barbara Pennypacker | 17 | Jim Gruber |
| | Nathan Smith | | Deb Hall |
| 3 | Emily Reichwein | 18 | Bill Burke |
| 4 | David Hepler | 19 | Deb Zaharick |
| | Margaret Koons | 20 | Ian Bendinsky |
| 5 | Miles Hudock | | Nathan Hepler |
| | Kevin Wright | | Jennie Kosmisky |
| 7 | Katrina Economy | 21 | Karen Schweinhart |
| | Brenda Knorr | 23 | David Chuplis |
| 8 | Craig Troutman | 24 | Katherine Bixler |
| 10 | Laray Klinger | | Rachel Hostetter |
| | Luke Young | 25 | Steven Wagner |
| | Liam Young | 30 | Allen Johnson |
| 11 | Harry Hepler | | Caleb Steinbauer |
| 12 | Richard Knorr | | Amanda Sterling |
| | Jennifer Lettich-Snyder | | |
| 13 | Jesse Cascarino | | |
| | Trevor Wilson | | |
| 14 | Ron Andrews | | |
| | Cheryl Neumeister | | |
| 15 | Karen Green | | |
| | Hannah Sterling | | |



JARED BOXES APPRECIATED

On behalf of the Pediatric Dept. at Lehigh Valley Health Network, Schuylkill South, I would like to thank all of you for the donation of the Jared Boxes for our patients. You outdid yourself this year with 46 boxes. Well done! We greatly appreciate it.

Thank you again,

Sandy Lynch, RN



SOCIAL MINISTRY



We will be collecting the following items for January:

Diapers, wipes, etc.

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday, Jan.12, 2017

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/08/11	Douglas & Lindsay Fetterolf
01/13/72	Leroy & Deb Berner
01/16/	Michael & Nicole Steinbauer
01/20/05	Allen & Keri Johnson
01/30/82	Craig & Penny Troutman



Annual Reports Due!

All Committee Secretaries and Treasurers must have their reports submitted to the church office by Monday, January 29, 2017. This is the deadline for all information or it will not be included in the annual congregational report. Our annual meeting is on Sunday, February 19 after worship. Thank You!



Fellowship Schedule

- January—Choir/Worship & Music
- February—Social Ministry
- March—LCM
- April—WELCA
- May—Evangelism/Outreach
- June—Journey
- July—Youth Group



Dear Christ's United Family,
 Thank you so much from all of us for your Christmas gifts. Your generosity and support is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
 Christ's United Staff

Give Electronically

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

As Christ's United it is important to know what support we can depend on from our congregation members. By knowing what you are willing to commit financially, we are able to better plan for the future. Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis.

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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. For the past several years these Prayer Teams have been silently serving God, the world, and us.



If you are committed to the power of prayer, please join one of these teams. Prayer lists are available at worship services each weekend, and a phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. Please see Pastor Kim for more information.



Ignite!

It is with Christians as with burning coals. If these are scattered apart, one after the other, they are easily extinguished. But, when collected together, the fire of one preserves that of the other, and the glowing coals often ignite others that lie near.

—August Francke



The Good Samaritan

Fund
 Special Offering
 January 28 & 29

We Offer our Prayers to...

PRAYER REQUESTS



Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be kept on for one month. **Please provide updates to the office in order that the list is always current.** If you would like someone added please call the office: if you add someone to the prayer list on a Saturday evening or a Sunday morning during worship, please make sure you write it down and place a note on the prayer podium.

December 25 – Ned Leiby (A. Berger), Alex Secly (A. Berger), Bill Elwood, Amy Lanning (B. Andrews), David Sweinhart, Gail Lorady

December 18-Tina Wolfe, Judy Stepulitis, Family of Sue Bendinsky

December 11 – Jaxon Klock, Families of Randy Troutman & Maynard Hahs, Jean Welker

December 4 – Wendy Farnsworth (E. Chappell), Heidi Walsh (T. Shilling), Families of Palmer Kimmel, Tim Varndell, Cappy Johnson, & James L. Fetterolf, Doris McGurl (L. Lute), Benjamin Lockhart (M. Bendinsky), Karyssa Wenrich (J. Clark), Elizabeth Brown (G. Marquardt), Judy Fritz, Keith Morgan, Dean Fetterolf, Barb Fetterolf, Harold Wink, Benjamin Lockhart (M. Bendinsky)

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 Dillman Family—Geraldine
The Gruber Family—Jim & Darcie
The Hepler Family—David, Denise, Wyatt, Micah

Serving Our Community of Faith in January:

Date	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte & Tag-a-Long	Crucifer	Post Worship Greeter in Narthex	Post Worship Greeter at Door
Jan 1 Christmas 2	Darcie Gruber	Jim Gruber Laray Klinger Dennis Wolfe Lowell Martin	Barb Stepanchick Donna Wallace Richard Shoup	Heather Klinger	Ashley O'Connor	Deb Zaharick	Dennis Wolfe
Jan 8 Baptism of Our Lord	Angie Berger		John Denchak Becky Spencer Angie Berger	Charlie Sweinhart	Thomas Wolfgang	Beth Andrews	Beth Andrews
Jan 15 2 Epiphany	Deidre Dengler			Nathan Berger & Logan Walacavage	Tanner Walacavage	Melanie Bendinsky	Deb Berner
Jan 22. 3 Epiphany	Vivian Brown			Danielle White & Ava Hubler	Kylie Mallams	Kay Berner	Vivian Brown
Jan 29 4 Epiphany	Donna Lassen			Amy Johnson & Kaitlyn Werner	Deidre Dengler	Cheryl Denchak	Dorothy Kessler

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1 st Sunday of Christmas 9:30 Worship Service With Communion	2 OFFICE CLOSED 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge	3 6:30 Choir Practice	4 10:00 Seniors 2:00 Staff Meeting	5 7:00 Evangelism/ Outreach Meeting	6  EPIPHANY	7 5:00 Worship Service
New Year's Day	7:00 Church Council		7:00 WELCA			
8 Baptism of Our Lord 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i> 3:30 Ladies Nite Out	9 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 6:00 Mutual Ministry	10 9:00 food Delivery 6:30 Choir Practice	11 10:00 Seniors 4:30 Sr. Youth Pizza & Food Pantry Set-up	12 10:00 – 12:00 Christ's Cupboard	13 Newsletter Deadline	14 9:00 a.m. Sr. Youth to Shady Maple Smorgasbord 5:00 Worship Service
15 2 nd Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i>	16 M L King Day 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 7:00 Stewardship	17 6:30 Choir Practice	18 10:00 Seniors	19 12:00 – 2:00 Ashland Area Food Pantry @ Good Shepherd 7:00 Personnel	20	21 5:00 Worship Service
22 3 rd Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i>	23 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge	24 Newsletter Assembly 6:30 Choir Practice	25 10:00 Seniors	26	27	28 5:00 Worship Service
29 4 th Sunday after Epiphany Good Samaritan Fund Offering 9:30 Worship 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i>	30 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 6:00 Grief Support	31		