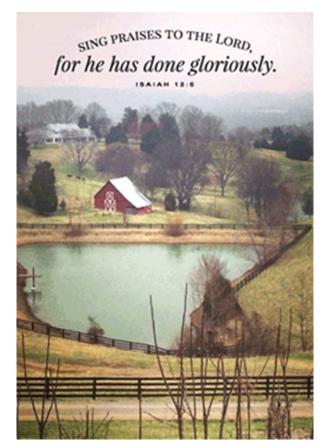
Christ's United Lutheran Church 437 Airport Road

www.christsunited.org



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

1





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

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

Volume 4, Issue 11 November 2016

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The November Newsletter is sponsored by Donald and Laray Klinger in loving memory of Mark Klinger



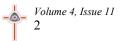
"Dad's thankful service finished in time to rush home and see the big game!"

Status of Accounts as of September 30

Balance in Checking Account......Negative \$1,622.41.

Amount needed in offerings <u>per month</u> to meet our 2016 Annual Budget of \$174,914.20 is **\$14,576.18**

September income was \$45,643.46



CHURCH COUNCIL 2016

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Beth Andrews (Secretary)	570-874-2381	Feb. 2018
Stewart Anthony	570-644-0373	Feb. 2018
vicepresident@christ	sunited.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.o	rg	
Parish Administrator	Deb Hall	570-875-1591
office@christsunited		
Office Hours: Mond	ay-Friday 9:30-3:00	
Director of Music	Keith Morgan, ALCM	570-933-5916
music@christsunited	l.org	
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422
treasurer@christsun	ited.org	
Indoor Custodian	Cheryl Varndell	570-875-2545
Outdoor Custodian	Bill Price	570-875-4272
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720



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 reexamination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will under gird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.

Pastor Kim's Message

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Seems like time is racing, doesn't it?

The trees we knew and enjoyed all Summer are different, the green under which we took shade now a myriad of colours, a last view of their majesty before dried and dead, they are forced to the to the ground by the growing winds, increasingly constant, the movement of air now colder, causing us to close ourselves in from our surroundings, drawing up our jackets and pulling down our windows, sealing ourselves – protecting ourselves - from the passing of Summer.

We want to hold on to Summer, grabbing its last drops with anything outdoors, with shorts and t-shirts and walks and play.... But despite our want, like those that we love, Summer passes away.

Friends, relatives, parents, spouses, children... the want that we hold cannot hold tight enough - death comes - and life passes. The pain rips us, as it feels they were ripped from us, leaving an open wound of loss. Our pain makes us question ourselves and all around us: if everything passes from us, what is there that can hold on to?

Like feet on an icy sidewalk, our journey becomes treacherous, and instead of our years bringing confidence and boldness, age carries only an increasing uncertainty and fear of what will soon pass. We join the words of the prophet Isaiah (40:6-8):

> A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the Lord blows on it: surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades...

Even the great prophet Isaiah talks about it! It is a confirmation of our fears, an affirmation of our lack of commitment, a restatement of our question: if everything passes from us, what is there we can hold on to?

He who holds on to us.

For the prophet does not end with our experience of the world, our understanding of life's passing, but continues with a truth that defies all that we know:

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the Word of our God will stand forever."

Forever. By the love of God in Jesus Christ life, like Summer, does not end, but passes from this time to return again, re-born, new with life, a cycle of change as constant as God's never ending love.

The world is racing and we feel like we're slipping and the pain is real but God is calling – hear His voice in the wind? In the silence? In your soul? –

"Hold on..."

Peace,

Pastor Kím



Pastoral Acts

Marriages Scheduled: 11/12/16 John Lisowski & Hannah Sterling

Baptism: 10/15/16 Devan Elizabeth Fetterolf

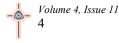


Throughout the Bible, God blesses his chosen people. How can we receive these gifts?

Directions: In the word search, find all the words in the box. Then write the words in the correct order on the blanks below to complete the verse.

	De	utero	nom	y Al	l o	n yo	ur	obey	wil	I Go	od y	ou_	and								
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				_				2	28:2,	NIV											

Answer: "All these blessings will come on you and accompany you if you obey the Lord your God." Deuteronomy 28:2, NIV





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,

Advent

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.

The long view of Advent

Advent is about preparing not only for Christmas but also for Jesus' return. According to Scripture, that won't be the calm, silent scene described in Christmas carols.

In 1928, Dietrich Bonhoeffer preached: "It is very remarkable that we face the thought that God is coming so calmly, whereas previously peoples trembled at the day of God We have become so accustomed to the idea of divine love and of God's coming at Christmas that we no longer feel the shiver of fear that God's coming should arouse in us. We ... [forget] the serious aspect, that the God of the world draws near to the people of our little earth and lays claim to us."

God is love; we'll be in good hands at the end of time. But during Advent, also be in awe of God. Embrace a reverent fear of the Lord that reminds you how profound it is that God chooses again and again to draw near and lay claim to you.

Church Council Highlights from October:

- *Pastor Kim was on vacation and absent from the meeting.
- *General Checking Account-negative \$1,622.41.
- *John Towey made the motion, seconded by Gregg Sterling to have Jim Chappell build a shed under the specs presented to Council.
- *Parking Lot is done and paid for.

Are you an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to direct?

Each year, eligible Thrivent members are designated Choice Dollars based on their qualifying insurance premiums, contract values and volunteer leadership. If you're an eligible Thrivent member with Choice Dollars available to designate, you can help strengthen our community by directing them to Christ's United.

In fact, in 2015 eligible Thrivent members directed \$3,093.00 to Christ's United. Thank you to those members who participated in the Thrivent Choice program and helped support our church's mission by directing Choice Dollars!

Choose to make a difference by directing Choice Dollars today. Simply visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions.



Blessing of the Animals



The Annual Blessing of the Animals was held on Saturday, October 15th. Lucy, Ivy, Angel, Faith, Lovey, Dino, and Penny were all in attendance to be blessed.









A Funeral Cremation Pall was donated by Richard and Judy Fritz in memory of their parents, Leroy and Jackie Troutman and Richard and Dorothy Fritz.



Help needed...

WELCA is in need of baked goods and sweet treats for the BAKE SALE on Saturday, NOVMEBER 19th (at the Pork & Sauerkraut Supper). Please support WELCA with your tasty pies, breads, cakes, or candies. Your donations are very much appreciated.



KNAUGHTY KNOTTERS

gather on Tuesdays at 9 am.
Helpers are needed to assemble
and knot quilts.
Donations of new or used blankets,
mattress pads, sheets.

mattress pads, sheets, and fabric are always needed.

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

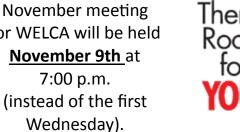


Come sit by the fire as we begin the new year reminiscing of where we have been and dreaming of where we will go! Please bring a covered dish to share and meet at Pastor Kim's on Sunday January 8, 2017. Carpooling from the church is advised to help with parking! Sign up on the bulletin board!

WELCA News

NOVEMBER WELCA MEETING

Attention women of Christ's United: The November meeting for WELCA will be held **November 9th** at





SAVE THE DATE



Christ's United Congregational Christmas Meal— December 11th following the morning worship service. Watch for details and sign up in the coming weeks.



December 3 6:00 p.m.

The countdown has begun! While the world has begun advertising gifts to buy, we are getting ready that has been given: Jesus Christ,

the Saviour, is born! The Live Nativity at Christ's United is a GREAT way to tell our community about God's Gift!

As we prepare for the second Living Nativity program we are in need of the following items/help.

Members and friends are needed to be characters, help with staging and costumes, and even to park cars. We also need people to help build & construct the displays and help with the sound system, mannequins, spot lights, costumes, young baby & a toddler to play Jesus, and farm animals. Please sign up at the Bulletin Board!

We are also looking for camping or closed trailers to provide support for our displays. Trailers should be here by the morning of December 3 and can be removed after the performance. If you or someone you know has these items or can help, please contact Jim Chappell at 570-644-1602.





SR. YOUTH GROUP

Bowling Trip to Strike Zone Alley
Saturday, November 12th
@ 5:30pm
Sign up on bulletin board
so lanes can be reserved.



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!

Got cans? In the back of
Christ's United building are
large bins for your aluminum
cans. The Sr. Youth sort and bag
the donated cans for recycling,
and use the money collected for
special activities. Please be generous and drop off
your aluminum cans when you come to church!





Each month we like to have a different picture from long ago. See if you can guess who some or all of the people in the picture are. The answers will be in next months "Life Together" Newsletter.

If you have any old pictures from Christ's United or any of the chapels that formed Christ's United, please provide pictures to the church office to be included in future "Life Together" Newsletters. Also provide the names of those that are pictured. We are also looking for pictures of the exterior of the Chapels: St. John's, St. Paul's, St. Peter's and Zions. Thank you!

What are you 'holding on to'?

In the previous weeks Christ's United has been reminded that we are called to 'hold on' to Jesus Christ each and every day – and every aspect - of our lives.

Journey, our Sunday morning education program, helps us live our commitment to Christ by giving us the tools we need to



to Christ by giving us the tools we need to learn and live as followers of Jesus Christ. Groups are designed for both children and adults. Come Journey with Christ's United!

How's Your Handwriting?

Christ's United is blessed in that people remember their loved ones through memorial gifts. Each memorial gift is recognized by a card and inscription in the Congregational Memorial

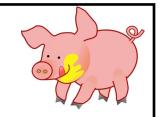
Book, a historical record of gifts. For many years Connie Welker was the recorder of gifts: due to her health changes, Connie is not able to continue this ministry. If you feel that God has blessed you with good handwriting, please call Deb at the church office and let her know. Entries may be made on your own schedule, and all information is provided.

Pork & Sauerkraut Supper

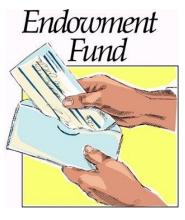
Christ's United Lutheran Church 437 Airport Road, Ashland 570-875-1591

SATURDAY, November 19, 2016 4:00 – 7:00 pm

Sponsored by the Lutheran Church Men Bake Sale Sponsored by WELCA Adult \$9.00 / Child (6-12) \$4.00



There will be a special offering for the Endowment Fund on November 26 & 27. Please be generous to support our youth in their future endeavors.





The Endowment Committee is pleased to announce that during the worship service on **Sunday, November 27th**, the following five students will receive a scholarship check to assist them in furthering their education.

Ian Bendinsky is attending Triangle Technical Institute in Sunbury for Welding and Fabrication Technology.

Rhonda Carl is attending King's College for Neuroscience and minoring in Chemistry and Business.

David Hall is attending Penn State University, Harrisburg for Mechanical Engineering Technology.

Kaitlyn Neumeister is attending Lock Haven University for an Associate's Degree in Nursing.

Taryn Wilson is attending Shippensburg University for Early Childhood and Early Intervention.

Please attend this service to show your support and offer prayers for a successful future for our students.



- 21 James Dengler William Dillman, Jr. Robert Nagle Jessica Shadle Charles Brain 2
- 3 Jeanette Wolfgang
- 4 Jennifer Geedey Dean Krise
- 5 Brayden Koons
- Mary Houser 6
- 7 Joshua Coward John W. Wolfgang
- 8 Daylon Long Steven Wolfgang
- 9 Amy Fegley Jo-Ann Young
- 10 Gerry Dillman
- 11 JeanMarie Brayford **Brooke Harris** Jordan Walter
- 12 Deanna Hepler Connie Weinreich

Volume 4, Issue 11

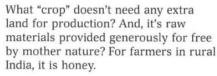
Rick Walsh 13

- Deidre Dengler 14 Brian Rickert Cory Weikel, Sr.
- Melody Bosco 16 Jack Houser
- 17 Nellie Schlorff
- 18 Oscar Troutman
- 19 Jo Conrath Randy Lucas
- Raquel Snyder 20 Charles Sweinhart
- 21 Breann Barker Jean Bitting Carol Reiner
- 23 Tracy Berner Carl Lute
- 24 Dale Bolich
- 25 Bernie Marquardt
- Suzanne Peel 26
- 27 Cathy Stutzman
- 28 **Becky Spencer** Garrison Stehr
- 29 Remington Stehr
- 30 Tammy Dengler Rusty McAndrew



Honey of an idea

INDIA ELCA.org/hunger



Like most farmers, Sonamuni Tudu of West Bengal, India, relies on the land to produce crops to support his family. Changes in weather patterns have created challenges in food production. One alternative for him is to migrate or work at stone quarries, but both of these options carry risks, including human trafficking.

Thanks to your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, through the Lutheran World Service India Trust, the Santhal tribal people, like Sonamuni, now have a safer and a more sustainable option - beekeeping.

In this part of India, the raw materials for honey are readily available and



beehives require neither additional land nor compete with agriculture. For Sonamuni and other rural and tribal farmers, beekeeping has become an additional source of income, as they produce high-quality honey that is in demand in markets around the region.

"Beekeeping has come to us as an alternative source of income," says Sonamuni. "The extra money we earn from honey production has increased our family income, which we use to invest in our children's education. cover health care costs, and improve our living situation. We feel that we are earning money with dignity in an eco-friendly environment."

Thank you for supporting ELCA World Hunger. Through your gifts, the rural and tribal famers in West Bengal, India, now have a tailored solution that can help put an end to hunger - for good.

Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger support innovative solutions that fight hunger and poverty in nearly 60 countries around the world, including the United States.

Will you help with your gift today?

YES! I would like to support ELCA World Hunger (WHG0038)

☐ I have enclosed my gift of \$100

☐ I have enclosed my gift of \$250 Othe

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er	\$					Ī

Mail Make your check payable to "ELCA World Hunger." Place your gift in your congregation's offering plate or mail it to:

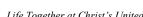
> ELCA P.O. Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Online ELCA.org/hunger/donate

Phone 800-638-3522

ELCA World Hunger Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.







SOCIAL MINISTRY



The month that your committee serves please help out in the kitchen before and after the service. Also, please bring in baked goods or other items for the snacks. Thank you.

Fellowship Schedule

November—Endowment Fund

December—Church Council January—Choir/ Worship & Music February—Social Ministry March—LCM April-WELCA May—Evangelism/Outreach



We will be collecting the following items for November:

Stuffing & Gravy

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday, Nov. 10, 2016.



11/01/14 11/14/85 11/19/11 11/20/82 11/30/96

Anthony & Kelsey Kodack Frank & Peggy Dziczek Kenny & Jen Snyder Bruce & Jean Bitting John & Joan Wolfgang



Standard time returns. Remember to turn your clocks back Saturday, November 5 before going to bed.

The meaning of life

The greatest thing is to give thanks for everything. He who has learned this knows what it means to live. He has penetrated the whole

mystery of life: giving thanks for everything.

The Annual Budget meeting will occur on Sunday, November 13 following worship. The budget will detail the costs of doing ministry, broken down into the larger ministry areas such as Education, Social Ministry, and Worship (and more!). As pastor, I pray that each member will take the time to review the proposed budget with thanksgiving for the work of Christ that has occurred, and prayer for the witness we have yet to do. To help us prepare, the ministry budget will be available on November 6.

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.

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.



Christ's Cupboard in the news!

The following article was published in the Summer 2016 issue of the Nourishing News newsletter rom the Greater Berks Food Bank

Agency Feature: Christ's Cupboard in Ashland

In less than two years, Christ's Cupboard Food Pantry in Ashland has grown into a vital and impactful partner for the GBFB in the fight against hunger in Schuylkill County.

Seeing a need that was being underserved in their mainly rural part of the county, the Social Ministy Team at Christ United Lutheran Church approached the GBFB about becoming a member agency. Monthly, volunteers from the church now provide food to between 90 and 120 local families

(about 275 people) in need.

The vast majority of the food Christ's Cupboard distributes is received from the GBFB. In just the past twelve months, nearly 50,000 pounds of food (valued at \$88,000) has passed from the CBFB's warehouse through Christ's Cupboard and onto the plates

Christ's Cupboard has also put forth extra effort to make sure

Cupboard with the Wegmans' Retail Service Denter, Poltsville, which had a group of feam members looking to perform a company sponsored community service project. As a result, plans are being finalized for the Wegmans' team to install a large commercial refrigerator and shelving units to benefit the

Christ United Lutheran Parish Administrator, Erik

fice, credits their pantry's working relationship with the GBFB's Agency Services Department

3,700 pounds of frozen meats to nourish their

annual special distribution of frozen meats. More than 100 families received a total of Thank you Christ's Cupboard for being such a tireless friend to your hungry neighbors!

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.

October 23 - Loretta Cook (G. Marquardt), Dot Ziegenfuse, Judy Fritz, Carol Guistwite (B. Andrews), Keith Morgan, Dean Fetterolf, Barb Fetterolf, Betty Bader (D. Zaharick), Donald Troutman - Parkinsons, Chelsea Maloney (E. Werner), Kayla Werner (E. Werner), Mr. & Mrs. John Chappell (J. Chappell), Benjamin Lockhart (M. Bendinsky)

October 16 - Joan Tumolo (N. Lindenmuth), Cindy (I. Morgan), Irene Morgan, Family of Anna Ambruck (J. Pennypacker), Family of Chris Slodysko (G. Lorady), Ashley Varndell (C. Varndell), Karyssa Wenrich (J. Clark), Tim Varndell (M. Varndell), David Schweinhart, Judy Stepulitis, Deb Price, Barb Liem, Karyssa Wenrich (J. Clark),

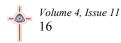
October 9 - Donna Mueller (A. Berger), Family of Robert Deifenderfer (brother of Dot Zangari), Bud Hall, Frank Carr (T. Shilling), Gail Lorady, Joyce Mallams, Betty Neumeister

October 2 - Lance Frew (M. Bendinsky), Elizabeth Brown (G. Marquardt), Suzanne Zerby (T. Dengler), Bob James (E. Tice), Family of Matthew Wolfgang, Amber Dino (D. Price)

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 Harner Family—Bobbie
The Johnson Family—Ralph S. & Grace
The Mattis Family—Frank



Serving Our Community of Faith in November:

Date	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte & Tag-a-Long	Crucifer	Post Worship Post Worship Greeter at Narthex Door	Post Worship Greeter at Door
Nov. 6 All Saints	Cheryl Varndell	Mike Steinbauer Thomas Wolfgang Dennis Wolfe John Wolfgang	Barb Stepanchick Becky Spencer Irene Morgan	Steven Wolfgang	Charlie Schweinhart	Angie Berger	Cheryl Denchak
Nov. 13	Donna Wallace			Carey Wahalec & Kaitlyn Werner	Nathan Berger	Mark Varndell	Jim Gruber
Nov. 20 Christ the King Sunday	Kylie Mallams		Judy Stepulitis Maryann Wolfgang John Towey	Steven Wolfgang	Tanner Walacavage	Deb Hall	Darcie Gruber
Nov. 27 1st Sunday Of Advent				Deidre Dengler & Karleigh Economy	Blake Olayo	Jennie Kosmisky	Dorothy Kessler

November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6:30 Choir Practice	2 10:00 Seniors 10:00 Staff Meeting	7:00 Evangelism &	4	5 9:00 WELCA Cluster Planning Meeting 5:00 Communion Service
6 All Saints Sunday 9:30 Communion Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Journey 3:30 Ladies Night Out	7 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 7:00 Church Council	8 9:00 Food Delivery 9:00 Knaughty Knotters 6:30 Choir Practice	9 10:00 Seniors 4:30 Sr. youth pizza & food pantry set up 7:00 WELCA	Outreach Meeting 10 10:00-12:00 Christ's Cupboard	7:00 Wedding Rehearsal	12 1:00 Wedding of Hannah Sterling & John Lisowski 5:00 Worship Service
13 26 th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Annual Budget Meeting	14 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 6:00 Mutual Ministry Meeting	15 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 Knaughty Knotters 6:30 Choir Practice	16 10:00 Seniors	17 12:00-2:00 Ashland area food pantry @ Good Shepherd 7:00 Personnel Meeting	18	4:00-7:00 Sauerkraut Dinner 5:00 Communion Service
Christ the King Sunday 9:30 Communion Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Journey Our King	21 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 7:00 Stewardship Team Meeting	9:00 Knaughty Knotters 9:30 Newsletter Assembly 6:30 Choir Practice	23 10:00 Seniors	24 Office Closed THANKSGIVING!	25	26 5:00 Worship Service
27 1st Sunday of Advent 9:30 Worship Service Endowment Fund Offering 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 Journey	28 11:15 Worship @ Luther Ridge 6:00 Grief Support Group	9:00 Knaughty Knotters 6:30 Choir Practice	30 10:00 Seniors			

