

THE ST. JOHN NEWS

St. John Lutheran Church

December 2012

Toward a Lutheran Piety of the Incarnation

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:16

Our secular world doesn't like anything that it does not have a scientific explanation; or that it cannot explain rationally to its satisfaction. Secularists have problems believing anything that they cannot grasp intellectually and completely. And yet as Christians we believe in a God whose ways are infinitely higher than our ways. We on the other hand admire what we do know about God even though we also freely admit that we don't know everything about God. We accept that God's higher wisdom is mysterious for people to comprehend, and His actions are hard to understand unless He clearly explains them to us in His Word. Unlike others who refuse to believe that God entered our human existence through the incarnation, by becoming flesh and blood, we accept that God's ways are profoundly beyond our limited understanding. This is why we speak of the sacred mysteries of God. These mysteries are things that cannot be fully explained by the limited capacity of our own human logic. We have come to understand that God and His ways are not something we can simply observe under a microscope, or easily fit into our pre-existent assumptions about life.

The greatest Christian mystery of all is that God has become incarnate -- a human like us -- in the person of Jesus Christ. We only know this because the Gospel reveals to us the invisible God was made flesh (which is what incarnate means) and lived among us for the purpose of suffering on the cross to pay for our sins and restore us to a right relationship with God. Try as we may, we know that we will never find an answer for why God did what He did in a way that satisfies our sinful curiosity. For we are unable to define God or to dissect any part of Him or His plan for mankind. All we can do is to acknowledge His undeserved and inexplicable love for us which led God to do this incredible thing. We cannot decipher the Gospel of God's becoming flesh like we might figure out an algebraic equation or a coded language.

For what God did by becoming that baby born in Bethlehem will forever baffle the mind. Why would God enter the world to save us when we deserve nothing but eternal death and condemnation due to our rebellious disobedience towards God? And why did God choose this way to approach us instead of some other? No one will ever be able to logically deduce why God became like us in every way except without sinning. Instead faith merely trusts that God did what He did purely out of undeserved love and mercy for an entire world that could never earn or deserve His love. Our Lutheran piety counts this as the most important part of knowing God, to know the great mystery that God has made Himself known by becoming a human like us. The Gospel reveals that He did this so that He could live a perfect life on our behalf; so that He could die an atoning death on a cross in our place; and so that He could defeat death and the grave for us as God's new Adam -- His new representative man.

After having died for our sins, Jesus was vindicated by the Spirit by being raised from the dead and later being received up into glory. His bodily resurrection vindicated all of the claims of Jesus proving that He was indeed who He claimed to be. Due to the incarnation of our Lord Christians don't attempt to find God by staring up into the heavens, or by gazing inwardly upon themselves. Instead due to our incarnational believers and brand of Christianity we Lutherans find God lying in a manger within a lowly cattle shed. Because of the incarnation we do not find God in sophisticated human philosophies. Instead in our incarnational form of piety we find God in the cradle, on the cross, and we find God in His Word and Sacraments to this very day. For our entire theology and life are incarnational. That is, we know that it is only through God's Son who came into our world in the flesh that we find the true God who is eternal life.

Other manmade religions are anything but incarnational. To find God in the flesh seems very unspiritual to these other religions. In their non-incarnational forms of religion people think the ultimate spiritual goal is for their soul to escape their body. And so for them it makes no sense that God who is a spirit would humble Himself to be born of a woman for the purpose of suffering and death. But the true God is not anti-body. God is pro-body. For when God created men and women He did not create only our souls, but God made us to forever be body and soul. And God did not only redeem our souls. But God by His blood has redeemed us in body and soul. When we say that we are incarnational in our piety we mean that God created body and soul and always intended for us to remain body and soul. Sin and death changed this so that death now is the frightful severing of body and soul. But this unnatural division of body from soul was never what God intended. And so God took on our entire human nature of body and soul to redeem both our bodies and souls. This is our hope. And when God became a baby born in Bethlehem with a body and soul God revealed His intentions. For God did not come to save just a part of what makes us human, but to restore everything about us that is human so that we can live again in eternity as God intended. Be an incarnational Christian by finding your God in the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

May God grant you peace and joy in both body and soul, Pastor Mark Elliott

Let Us Pray

For Peace and Comfort: Betty and family at the death of husband Duane

Following Surgery: Paula -friend of Alberta

Hospitalized: Mary , Roger

Healing and Recovery: Warren, LaVonne, Ida , Lavina, Merv, Wendy , Norman, Earl, Russell father of Rochelle

For Successful Treatment: Sue , Anita , Thelma

Military: Zachary, Jimmy, Brandon , Keidi , Christopher, Taylor, Suzzanna, Robert, Kerry, Ben, Allyson

Missionaries: Pastor David Rakotonirina and the Madagascar Lutheran Seminary, Pastor Magnus Bengston and Lielsalaca Lutheran Church in Latvia, Pastor Obot Ite and the Lutheran Mission in Kingston, Jamaica



Men's Prayer Breakfast

The men of the congregation are invited the second Thursday of each month to Original Pancake House for prayers, devotion, food and fellowship. Please join us this month on Thursday, December 13th, at 6:30am.



The annual Christmas Luncheon sponsored by the Mary-Martha ladies will be on Thursday, December 13, at 12:30. Please bring a dish to share if you are able, but please come regardless. Tableware and drinks will be furnished. There will be entertainment by the school children and also group singing. All are welcome!

Poinsettias for Christmas

Would you like to help make our sanctuary beautiful and festive for the Christmas services? Consider donating a red poinsettia in memory or honor of a loved one. Cost is \$8 each. Fill out an order form found on the narthex table, or call the church office. Please make checks payable to St. John Lutheran.



Mission Statement

United in faith, we serve the Kingdom of God by building lives that are rooted in the Word, centered on Christ, and motivated by Grace; to reflect Christ's love and share His Gospel with all.

“And Was Made Man”

Words Worth Our Deepest Reverence

Have you ever seen someone bow their heads or even kneel when the words “And was made man” are said in church? These words of the Nicene Creed blend in with the rest of the confession for most of us Christians. And yet, there was a time in the Church’s life when these words stood out most starkly.

Of these words, in their connection to John 1:14, which says, “And the Word became flesh,” Martin Luther has said, “And when the congregation came to the words ‘from the Virgin Mary, and was made man,’ everyone genuflected and removed his hat” (*Luther’s Works*, volume 22, page 103). We really do not see that kind of display of reverence given to those words anymore, or to any words in our Divine Service, for that matter. The closest we come to that kind of respect is when we stand for the Trinitarian verses of certain hymns and make the sign of the cross when the Trinitarian formula (“In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”) is spoken.

Even so, Luther continues, “It would still be proper and appropriate to kneel at the words ‘and was made man,’ to sing them with long notes as formerly, to listen with happy hearts to the message that the Divine Majesty abased Himself and became like us poor bags of worms, and to thank God for the ineffable mercy and compassion reflected in the incarnation of the Deity” (page 103). In no way am I attempting to make you feel guilty for a lack of prostration at the words “and was made man.” And I do not think it should be a requirement for any of us to do so.

Rather, it is my hope that all of us will come to a better understanding and appreciation for these great words by contemplating the significance of those dramatic actions. And such meditation on them is truly warranted this time of year as we make our preparations for Christmas, the celebration of the Incarnation of Christ, when the Word was made flesh. Think about these things. Ponder anew the magnitude of Jesus’ conception and birth. Allow the overwhelming sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, who humbled himself to the extreme of taking on our very own “bag of worms.” Such imagery is far from the glitz and amusement of this holiday season. Nevertheless, that imagery is the very heart and soul of this great season, even as it is the very meat of our Christian faith.

For it is quite true that without the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ, we, as “bags of worms,” would be nothing more than that. A sad thought indeed. Without God taking on human vesture, we would still be in our sin and God would still see us as his enemies. Without the Word being “made man” we would be forever lost as the friends and possessions of the devil, this world, and our own sinful nature.

Thanks be to God that we are not without the truths of the incarnation of Christ, his vesting with human nature, his being “made man.” Instead, we possess them greatly. Our faith clings to the Jesus who is our brother in the flesh, the new Adam who gives us everlasting life. Our faith clings to this truth that has survived through the centuries, that the Son of God “was made man.” Such sacrifice, such humiliation, such love deserves our utmost respect and at the very least our reverence when those words are so often spoken. In them, we see the glory of our God, who humbled himself to be born of a virgin. “Nails, spear shall pierce him through, The cross be borne for me, for you; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mary!” (*What Child Is This, Lutheran Service Book*, 370, verse 2).

For your continued Advent preparation and ongoing appreciation of the incarnation of Christ, consider listening to lutheranpublicradio.org for your holiday music this year. They begin playing Advent carols on December 2 with Christmas hymns soon to follow. Our God and Father bless you through our Lord Jesus Christ as you get ready for the celebration of his being “made man.” A blessed Christmas to you all!

Pastor Caithamer

Bible Bowl 2012

Congratulations to the following students who represented our school at the Bible Bowl on Saturday, November 17, at the Lutheran High School in Springfield:

Grade 5: Lia , Kai , Pryce , Hunter , and Lizzie
1st place

Grade 6: John , Billy , Grace , Abraham , and Graham
1st place

Grade 7: Molly , Kelly , Connor , Emma , Christiaan
3rd place

Grade 8: Rachel , Chris , Matthew , Andy , Allie
1st place

The season for gift giving is rapidly approaching, and sometimes anxious eyes focus on toys that may pose risks to their safety. Each year toys and playground equipment cause more than 11,000 injuries to young eyes. We need to keep safety in mind when selecting toys and play ground equipment for our children and grandchildren. Here are some things to keep in mind when selecting gifts for children.

1. Avoid toys with sharp points, shafts, rods and sharp edges.
2. Buy age appropriate toys and keep toys intended for older children away from young children.
3. Avoid flying toys or projectile-firing toys.
4. B.B. and pellet guns, and bows and arrows or darts with sharp ends are extremely dangerous and should not be given to children.

Have a safe and Joyous Christmas from
St. John Parish Nurses



The sixth grade class would like to thank all who supported our class by attending the Chili Supper, purchasing Beef House Rolls, and ordering Market Day pies! We are off to a great start in fundraising for our 8th grade Gettysburg Trip. We appreciate you support.

As requested by the Voters Assembly, here is an update on 2012 offerings received through October 2012.

Envelope Giving for Oct 2012

Unified Fund*

Needed Each Month**:	\$ 119,212.50	
Total Received Oct 2012:	\$ 101,716.27	-\$ 17,496.23
Env./Plate/S Svc Oct 2012:	\$ 58,945.96	
Tuition Oct 2012:	\$ 42,770.31	
Needed YTD:	\$1,192,125.00	
Received YTD:	\$1,110,665.72	-\$ 81,459.28

Debt Retirement

Received Oct 2012:	\$ 2,270.31
Received YTD:	\$ 37,245.36

* Includes envelopes, plate offering, special services not designated for other purposes and school tuition.

** NOTES: Needed values are based on 2012 estimated budget Figures, **NOT** actual expenditures.

2012 Proposed Unified Budget: \$1,430,550.00

Giving compared to 2011

Oct 2011	Oct 2012
Envelopes, Plate, Special Services	
\$ 67,484.77	\$ 58,945.96
Tuition	
\$ 44,607.12	\$ 42,770.31
Debt Retirement	
\$ 5,764.00	\$ 2,270.31
=====	=====
\$ 117,855.89	\$ 103,986.58



We're in the home stretch of preparations for Advent and Christmas- there's still more room in the balcony! If you'd like to try singing or ringing just for a couple of weeks, this is the perfect opportunity!

Regular rehearsals continue as follows:

Alleluia Ringers	6:00 – 7:00 pm Wednesday	12.5, 12.12, 12.19
Men's Choir	6:00 – 6:45 pm Thursday	12.6, 12.20
Mixed Choir	6:45 – 7:30 pm Thursday	12.6, 12.20



No rehearsals on Thursday, 12.13 as that is the evening we go carolling!

Choir rehearsals will resume Wednesday –Thursday, January 2-3.

Performance schedule is as follows. This information is now also available at: http://stjohnmedia.org/choir/Fall2012_ChoirSchedule.pdf

Sunday, December 2	Advent 1	8:00	Handbells
		10:45	Handbells – Prelude
		10:45	Men's Choir
Sunday, December 9	Advent 2	8:00	Mixed Choir
Sunday, December 16	Advent 3	10:45	Men's Choir
Sunday, December 23	Advent 4	8:00	Trio
		10:45	Mixed Choir

All through Advent we have special musical selections planned, and of course on Christmas Eve we will celebrate with a wide variety of beautiful music.

Christmas Eve, December 24	5:00	Handbells and Instruments – Family Service
	7:00	Mixed Choir & Brass – Holy Communion
	10:00	Men's Choir – Lessons and Carols

BACH Christmas Concert. Sunday, December 16, 2012 • 7:30 p.m. Holy Cross Catholic Church, 405 W. Clark St., Champaign. This joyous holiday concert in the beautiful sanctuary of Holy Cross has become a popular community tradition. The University High School Madrigal Singers, in Elizabethan costume, will open the concert with a selection of seasonal music. The BACH chorus and orchestra will feature two works— a little-known Christmas cantata by Handel's teacher, Wilhelm Friedrich Zachow, and one of J. S. Bach's festive orchestral suites. After intermission the audience is invited to join in and raise their voices in a glorious medley of Christmas melodies by Baroque and more modern composers.



Here's What is Happening at School this Month

December is an important month at school during the Advent season as we prepare our students for Christmas. Some special activities and events are planned for December. The PTF ice skating party is 6:00 – 8:00, Monday, December 3. On Friday, December 14, students in fifth through eighth grades will compete in a St. John Spelling Bee at 1:45. The school's Christmas service, entitled "Christmas Jubilee," and a band concert will be held at 6:30, Tuesday, December 18. All church and school families are invited to attend. It's hard to believe, but the end of our second quarter is Friday, December 21. Christmas vacation for students is December 24 through January 4.

Come and cheer for our basketball teams. The boys play Countryside here on Monday, December 10 with the JV game at 5:30 and varsity at 6:30. On Friday, December 14, the varsity girls play at 6:00 and the varsity boys play at 7:00 here against Our Savior Springfield. Then on Monday, December 17, boys play Danville Lutheran with a JV game at 6:00 and varsity at 7:00. The boys play home games against St. Thomas Philo on Thursday, December 20, with JV at 6:00 and varsity at 7:00. Take this news article to any of the home basketball games for free admission and a complimentary drink.

St. John Youth News



December Events

Sunday, December 2
4:00-5:00 pm

NYG Participant Meeting:

We will be designing our t-shirts and have team building activities.

Sunday, December 16
4:00 pm

Sunday School Christmas Program

All are invited to participate in this service.

Practices are Sundays, December 2 & 9 from 1—3pm.

Sunday, December 16
5:00—7:00 pm

LYF Fest: Christmas Party

All youth are invited to join us for a Christmas party!

January Events

Sunday, January 6
4:00-5:00 pm

NYG Participant and Parent Meeting:

We will be planning the Valentine's Day Dinner.

Sunday, January 13

LYF Groups: Bowling

Sunday, January 27

LYF Fest: Cleaning the School/Church

Advent Dinners

The youth are again hosting advent dinners between midweek services. All are invited to come eat and enjoy fellowship. A free-will offering will be taken to support our high school youth going to the National Youth Gathering and the Jr. high Servant Event next summer. Please consider signing up to donate food items. Thank you!

The Menu and Serving Schedule:

December 5- Chili/ High School

December 12-Sloppy Joes and cheesy potatoes/Jr. High

December 19-Tacos/High School

December LYF Fest

Who: All Youth (6-12 grade)

When: December 16, 5 to 7pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

Activity: We will make blankets for a charity.

What to bring: \$3 for pizza, a \$5 gift to exchange: Jr High Girls – girl gift/Jr. High Boys-boy gift/ High Schoolers– High School Gift
Sign-up on the youth board

Sunday School Christmas Program

All youth from pre-school through high school are needed for the Sunday School Christmas program, "Jubilee," Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 pm. We have begun practicing, and there are two more rehearsal: Sundays, December 2 & 9 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm and Sunday, December 16 during Sunday School. If you would like to participate, but have a conflict with the rehearsal schedule, please speak to Risë .



St. John Parent Teacher Fellowship

Teacher Wish List Items

There is still time to help with St. John Teacher Wish List Items. If you would like to help fund a teacher wish list item, you can do so by contacting the school office. You may pay by cash, check (payable to St. John PTF), or credit card (through mid-December).

HATS, MITTENS, GLOVES, AND SCARVES DRIVE



The PTF is sponsoring a service project for this holiday season by collecting new hats, gloves, mittens, and scarves of all sizes. Donations can be brought to the Fellowship Hall and placed on and around the Christmas tree. **The donations will be accepted until December 12th.** All donations will be taken to *Empty Tomb.*



Market Day December

Orders Due: Friday, December 14 (3pm if using order form, 11pm if ordering on-line @ www.marketday.com)

Pick Up: Wednesday, December 19, Fellowship Hall

Time: Pick up between 3 and 4pm

December order forms are on the Narthex table and need to be turned in to the church or school **by** Friday, December 14. You may also call your order to Diane . Order forms will be

Promotions this Month

- 1) **It's Cookie Dough Bonus Month** — Purchase cookie dough and you will be helping out the 7th grade class with their fund-raising efforts for their trip to Washington D.C. and Gettysburg in the fall of 2013.
- 2) **FREE 1# Pork Tenderloin** — Purchase \$90 online and enter promo code: *DECBONUS*
- 3) **Free-Quent Buyer** — If you made at least two \$40 purchases between September and November with your \$40 purchase in December, receive a **FREE** large insulated tote.



ICE SKATING PARTY

PTF invites you to join us for a fun evening of skating and Christian Fellowship at the U of I Ice Arena at 406 E. Armory in Champaign.

MONDAY
December 3
6-8pm
FREE Admission
& Skate Rental

Bring a snack to share. PTF will provide drinks. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Holiday Shopping With Ram Rebate

Upcoming Order Dates:

Mondays---December 3, 10, 17

Please have orders with payment (made payable to St. John PTF) to the school office by 3pm on the due date. You may also order on-line at www.shopwithscrip.com by entering our St. John enrollment code: 84L8EEE115569.

NEW: Now thru mid-December — You can pay for your order using a credit card when you stop by the school office and register.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Chris | 23 Ruby, Karla, Christy, Glenda |
| 2 Joan, Kim, Ellen, Dan | 24 Christiaan, Barry, Wendy |
| 4 Paul, Marc | 25 Christian, Walt, Jessy |
| 5 Joel | 26 Eileen, Rory |
| 6 Jackson, Jesse, Cyndy | 29 Larry, Ryan, Terry, McKenzie, Steve |
| 7 Cheryl, Paul, Joyce, Holly, Lydia | 30 Anna, Harold, Shirley, Rita |
| 8 Jim, Rick, Cindy, Jeanette | 31 Leo, Rachel |
| 9 Heath Gary, John | |
| 10 Larry, Russell, Barb | |
| 11 Mark, Jeff, Chris, Rich | |
| 12 Robert, Megan, Adam, Bob, Charlie, Merv, Josh | |
| 13 Tom, Emily, Susan, Darrell | |
| 14 Jeff, Jenna, Linda, Paul, Lola, Al | |
| 15 Don, Carol | |
| 16 Ethan, Mark, Vicki, David, Chris, Nellie | |
| 17 Cole, Alberta, Aaron, Joy Lou | |
| 18 Lindsey, Gaylord, Mechell | |
| 19 Kelsi, Kate, Marvin, Tucker, Abby | |
| 20 Eric, Ryan, Dan, Robert, Grace, Ron, Dan | |
| 21 Paul, Lee, Wayne, , Karen, Amanda, Linda,
Christian, Monica | |
| 22 Steve, Charlie | |

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | |
|--|
| 4 John & Bonnie (36); Norm & Karla (13) |
| 9 Timm & Patty (18) |
| 15 Joel & Lauren (5) |
| 17 Andrew & Natalie (1) |
| 18 Jim & Jackie (30) |
| 21 Ken & Sharon (38); David & Debra (10) |
| 22 Tom & Betty (55) |
| 24 Larry & Cynthia (11) |
| 26 Vince & Linda (57) |
| 27 Tom & Eunice (59); Elmer & Louise (53); Charles & Sharon
(43); Rich & Sandy (51) |
| 28 Paul & Kate (56) |
| 29 Randy & Carol (39); Trent & Leah (22) |
| 30 Andy & Susan (23); Luke & Hope (6) |
| 31 Peter & Valerie (8) |

PLEASE notify the church office (359-1123 or pmartin@stjohn-lcms.org) if your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect.

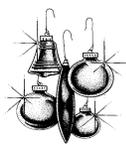
ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR NOVEMBER



Sundays	8:00	Comm	10:45	Comm
Nov 4	291	189	151	119
Nov 11	267	201	168	123
Nov 18	232	172	168	n/a
Nov 25	258	175	157	116

Wednesdays	7:15	Comm
Nov 7	45	29
Nov 14	30	22
Thanksgiving Eve, November 21st	122	93

DECEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat																																																																																																		
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Devotions & Hymn-sing</i> <i>Amber Glen</i> <i>9th & 23rd</i> <i>2:30</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Day School</i> <i>Christmas Break:</i> <i>Dec 24—Jan 4</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Pastors' day off:</i> <i>Fridays</i> <i>Church Office 359-1123</i> <i>School Office 359-1714</i></p>	<table border="1" style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="7">November 2012</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr> </table>	November 2012							S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		<table border="1" style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><th colspan="7">January 2013</th></tr> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	January 2013							S	M	T	W	T	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				<p style="text-align: center;">1 4:00 Church Decorating</p> 
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<p>2 <i>1st Sunday in Advent</i> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Classes New Member Class Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion 1:00 SS Christmas Rehearsal 4:00 NYG Meeting</p>	<p>3 8:45 MOPS 2:15 Mom's in Prayer 5:30 Technology Comm. 6:00 Ice Skating Party <i>Ram Rebate orders due</i></p>	<p>4 10:30 Adult Bible Class 7:00 Trustees 7:00 Fellowship Board</p>	<p>5 8:25 Chapel 3:30 Advent Service 4:30 Advent Dinner 5:45 Midweek School 6:00 Handbells 7:15 Advent Service</p>	<p>6 12:30 Widow's Group 6:00 Men's Choir 6:45 Mixed Choir</p>	<p>7 <i>Ram Rebate pick up</i></p>	<p>8 8:00 Handymen 2:30 Mohr/Kauffman Wedding</p>																																																																																																		
<p>9 <i>2nd Sunday in Advent</i> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class New Member Class Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Instrumentalist Rehearsal 1:00 Voter's Meeting 1:00 SS Christmas Rehearsal</p>	<p>10 2:15 Mom's in Prayer 6:00 Finance Board <i>Ram Rebate orders due</i></p>	<p>11 1:00 1st & 2nd Grade Reading Buddies 6:00 Elders</p>	<p>12 8:25 Chapel 3:30 Advent Service 4:30 Advent Dinner 5:45 Midweek School 6:00 Handbells 7:15 Advent Service</p>	<p>13 6:30 Men's Prayer Breakfast 12:30 Christmas Luncheon 6:00 Christmas Caroling</p>	<p>14 <i>Market Day orders due</i> <i>Ram Rebate pick up</i></p>																																																																																																			
<p>16 <i>3rd Sunday in Advent</i> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class New Member Class Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion 12:00 Instrumentalist Rehearsal 4:00 Sunday School Christmas Program 5:00 LYF Fest</p>	<p>17 2:15 Mom's in Prayer <i>Ram Rebate orders due</i></p>	<p>18 6:30 Day School Christmas Program</p> 	<p>19 8:25 Chapel 3:00 Market Day Sale 3:30 Advent Service 4:30 Advent Dinner 5:45 Midweek School 6:00 Handbells 7:15 Advent Service</p>	<p>20 5:00 Instrumentalist Rehearsal 6:00 Men's Choir 6:45 Mixed Choir</p>	<p>21 <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> <i>Ram Rebate pick up</i></p>	<p>22 4:30 Kresca/Maddox Wedding</p>																																																																																																		
<p>23 <i>4th Sunday in Advent</i> 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class New Member Class Sunday School 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p>24 <i>Christmas Eve</i> 5:00 Family Service 7:15 Holy Communion 10:00 Candlelight Service</p>	<p>25 <i>Christmas Day</i> 10:00 Holy Communion</p>	<p>26 <i>There will be no Wednesday evening service</i></p>		<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>																																																																																																		
<p>30 8:00 Holy Communion 9:30 Adult Bible Class New Member Class 10:45 Holy Communion</p>	<p>31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7:15 Holy Communion</p>	