

**Sharing
the
Joy**

2023



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the
Joy**

Our Savior's Lutheran



Sunday Worship

9:30 a.m. Worship Service

Our Savior's Lutheran Church ELCA

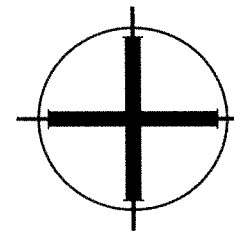
(715) 394 3472 oslcsuperioroffice@gmail.com

pastorkoos@gmail.com

Church Office Hours:

Monday -Thursday
9am -1 p.m.

Closed Fridays



Pastor's Report
January 2023



Greetings from your pastor and partner in ministry!!

We made it through another year of fruitful ministry together! Woohoo! God was so good to us last year. I am so pleased that our kids are happy and healthy and eager to learn about God. The Sunday school and confirmation classes are bursting with excitement and anticipation. And what a joy to see our adults equally devoted to learning in our weekly Bible studies, not to mention steady and rising participation in worship services. God is building something among us and I'm equally excited to witness it unfold in the months ahead. I would like to see our witness expand out into the larger community this year. Our rummage and craft sales are great outreach, but I'd sure like to see more. Perhaps we can revive our community meals and offer mission work to the community. I don't know where or how God is calling us into the world, but I'd really like to focus our attention on discerning it in the year ahead. I'll continue getting out there and meeting with our member households so that I can hear hopes and needs of our congregation. I should be putting out a new visitation schedule this month. Keep your eyes open for it. I just feel so privileged to be serving this congregation and want more people to experience its love and faithfulness. It just doesn't feel right to hoard it all to ourselves. There are people out there who can greatly benefit receiving what our congregation has to offer. We just need to keep finding new ways to reach out to them. Let us be prayerfully attentive to how God wants us to grow in our outreach this year. I'd love to see so many more people experience our Sunday school Christmas program and Superior Singers concert and Christmas Eve services at the end of the year!

Christmas/Epiphany blessings,
Pastor Koos

Narrative Lectionaries January 2023

January 1, 2023 Matthew 1:1-17

Genealogy of Jesus

January 8, 2023 Matthew 3:1-17

Jesus' Baptism

January 15, 2023 Matthew 4:1-17

Tempted in the Wilderness

January 22, 2023 Matthew 5:1-20

Beatitudes

From our Congregation President

2023 – HAPPY NEW YEAR! Do you make a New Year's resolution? I have one you might want to consider. Each day take a moment to think about what you are thankful for. It can be like a little prayer to God, thanking him for our blessings.

December has been a busy month. Thank you to all those that helped sew the **quilts and blankets**. Thank you to those that assisted with the **Vendors Fair, Pasty and Bake** sales. The extra income is always helpful to the budget. Thank you to the **Superior Singers**. It was great having them back performing again. Thank you to the **Sunday School staff** that organized the Sunday School Christmas program. It is always nice to have the children performing the Christmas story. And thank you to all of those that helped with the Christmas Eve services. It was nice to see a lot of new and passed faces in church again. Now the question is, what can we do to keep them coming?

Our church year comes to an end this month with our Congregational Meeting. I believe we have a full slate of people to fill our boards and offices, which is a positive way to start out the year! We ask that you attend our Congregational Meeting so that we can meet the quorum requirement of 50 people. That meeting is the last Sunday of the month, (1/29/2023) right after morning service. Hopefully it will be a short meeting.

You know what they say "It takes a village to raise a child." Well, "It takes member volunteers to run a church congregation." We only have four paid staff; for most jobs we depend on a lot of volunteers. So, if you see something that needs to be done and it is something you can do feel free to help. The more volunteers we have to share that work the better. And thank you to those volunteers that do help out!!

I want to thank all those that returned their **Pledge Cards**. If you haven't made your pledge, we will still except them. Pledges make it easier to plan the budget. As a congregation we have to have faith that the money will be there when it is needed.

Thank you to Carol Skamser for running the **Scrip Card Program** year after year. It has earned over \$3000 this year. And thank you to those that make use of the program.

A **special thank you** to Pastor, Doris, Laura, Johanna, Megan, Brad, Linda C., Stephanie, Julianne, Diane E., Council Officers, Board Members and Volunteers that have helped to make 2022 run smoothly.

In Christ,

Kandee

Bible Studies-January 2023

Wednesdays, 10:15-11:15

(Zoom meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89587901728> or call 1-312-626-6799, passcode: 466243)

01-04-23 Matthew 3:1-17

1. Why would John preach in the wilderness? Who would be listening to him there?
2. What was the core teaching of John's message?
3. What does it mean that the "kingdom of heaven is at hand?"
4. What was John's key mission?
5. Why was John's clothing and diet important? Are there any lessons we can learn from John in this?
6. What did "John's baptism" signify?
7. Why was John so aggressive toward the Pharisees/Sadducees? Didn't he want them to repent as well?
8. What does vs 9 mean? What is John's point?
9. What is the warning in vs 10? What important lesson can we learn from this?
10. Who is the latter part of vs 11 referring to? What does it mean that he will baptize with fire?

01-11-23 Matthew 4:1-17

1. Why would the Spirit lead Jesus to be tempted? How does this fit with Jesus teaching the disciples to pray "lead me not into temptation?"
2. Why might Jesus fast 40 days and 40 nights? How can he fast for so long? What lessons can we learn from Jesus' example here?
3. What do you think is Satan's chief goal in coming to tempt Jesus? What is the underlying theme of all of the temptations?
4. Why does he tempt Jesus to turn the rocks into bread? Would that be sin to do? Why or why not?
5. How did Jesus respond? Why might Jesus have been tempted to do so?
6. What does it mean to hunger & thirst for righteousness? What are some Biblical examples of hungering and thirsting for righteousness? (Exodus 33:18, Psalms 63:1, Philippians 3:10)

7. Why does Satan use Scripture in his second temptation? What does this teach us about Satan?

8. How does he use Scripture? What does this teach us about the proper way to use Scripture?

9. What can we learn from Jesus' response? Was Jesus saying that Satan should not put Him to test or that He should not put God to test? How might we sometimes put God to the test?

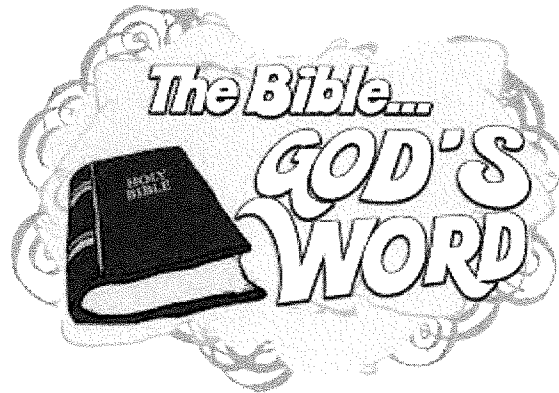
10. How could Satan give the kingdoms of the world to Jesus? Aren't they His already?

01-18-23 Matthew 5:1-201. What is the theme of Matthew 5:3-12? What does the word "blessed" mean?

2. What does the world think will make a person happy? Does it? What makes you happy?
3. If I am poor in Spirit, a) What will my focus be on? b) What will be my attitude towards God? c) How will I view others? What is the opposite of being poor in spirit? (Isaiah 66:2, Psalm 51:17)
4. What does the word "mourn" refer to? What kind of mourning is it talking about? (2 Corinthians 7:10; Jeremiah 9:1)
5. What does the world think is meekness? What does the Bible say about those who are meek? (Numbers 12:1-14; Matthew 11:28-30)
6. What does it mean to hunger & thirst for righteousness? What are some Biblical examples of hungering and thirsting for righteousness? (Exodus 33:18, Psalms 63:1, Philippians 3:10)
7. What is the meaning of being merciful? What is a merciful person like? What are some Biblical examples of mercy?
8. What is the prerequisite to seeing God? What is the meaning of the word "heart" in Scripture? (Mark 7:20-23) What is the Meaning of the word "Pure"? (Jeremiah 32:39)
9. What is the meaning of peace? Where is real peace found? (John 16:33) Why don't we have peace in this world? (James 4:1) How can we experience God's peace? (Philippians 4:6-7)
10. If becoming a follower of Jesus makes us better people, then why are we persecuted?

Bible study questions January continued 01-25-23 Matthew 6:7-21

1. How are we not to pray? Why? How are we to pray?
2. If God knows what we need, why do you think He wants us to pray for these things that we need? Why doesn't He just give it to us?
3. What is prayer? What is the purpose of prayer?
4. What was the purpose of the Lord's prayer?
5. What kind of person will hallow God's name?
6. What are some of the steps in helping you to forgive someone?
7. Where do our temptations come from (besides Satan)? What are some defenses against temptation?
8. What was the purpose of a fast in the minds of Jewish people? (Isaiah 58:6-11)
9. Have you ever taken time to fast? What kind of rewards could we expect when we fast? What are the benefits of fasting?
10. What is a treasure? What treasures do we store up here on earth or invest in? What kind of things should we not treasure?



Mentor Questions

January 2023

1. Why do you think the 2nd article of the Apostles' Creed focuses on both the details of Jesus' humanity and his divinity?
2. Jesus comes into the world to live, to teach, to die and to rise to save us. What part of Jesus' ministry do you find the most interesting and why?
3. How does your faith alter your perception of death and dying?
4. In what ways does Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection set you free?
5. What are some new beginnings you see coming into your life in the next year or so?
6. In what ways do you sense God's ongoing creative work in these beginnings yet to come?
7. What are some changes you see ahead that will bring some endings?
8. What did Jesus dying on the cross really do?
9. Why would he descend "to the dead" when he died?
10. How does Jesus' resurrection affect us now?
11. Is Jesus the only way to salvation/eternal life?
12. When will Jesus come back & what will happen then?
13. Where do you "see" or sense the presence of the risen Jesus during your week?
(For example, in your work, classroom, family, friends and so forth)
14. Jesus has done everything so that you "may belong to him, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and blessedness." How does the gift and blessing of Jesus in your life affect your actions, priorities, decisions?
15. Have you ever "searched" for Jesus and felt him just beyond your reach?
16. Why do you think the world is so afraid of Jesus? Might this apply to us sometimes as well?
17. What elements of the life of Christ connect you to him? (for example, his obedience, his suffering or his love)
18. When have you experienced Christ "coming at the right time" in your life?
19. What role does Jesus play in your "worlds"?
20. Who do people say Jesus is? Who do you say Jesus is?

Education Corner

Confirmation—

Confirmation will resume on Wednesday January 4th at 3:30 p.m. They continue to serve as acolytes.

The confirmands often come directly from school and are often very hungry. They appreciate when anyone donates treats for them.

Sunday School—

The Sunday School Christmas Pageant was held on December 18th. See pictures on the other page. Sunday School is now on their holiday break. They will resume on January 8th

Adult Education -

Adult bible study is continuing. It meets Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. At this time bible study is planned to continue on Wednesday mornings. Anyone is welcome to attend. See elsewhere in the newsletter for the scripture lessons and how to access the study group.



We hope to see you soon!

The children collected money to help Ukrainian children and sent it through the synod. They received this nice letter from Bishop Laurie in return.

Dear Sunday School students and teachers at Our Savior's Lutheran in Superior,

Thank you so much for your recent check of \$38.00 you collected to help the Ukrainian children and adults are living in a war zone. Their country has been bombed and their lives have been disrupted by the war with Russia. Please pray for them and ask God to help the leaders of the world to end the war and keep everyone safe. Pray for peace. I'm so happy that you are learning about your neighbors who live 5,000 miles away in Ukraine. Jesus told us that the greatest commandment is to love God and "to love our neighbor as ourselves." Matthew 22. The children in Ukraine are our neighbors. Thank you for sharing your gifts of money and praying for your neighbors in Ukraine. The soldiers in Russia are also our neighbors. Jesus also taught us to "love our enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5. That's a harder lesson to learn but just as important. I am glad to hear that you are learning about Jesus in Sunday school!

God's blessings to you and your teachers as we prepare for Advent and Christmas!

Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson
The Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA
Lskow-anderson@nswsi.org

Sunday School Christmas Program

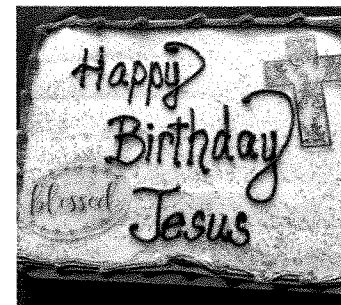
December 18, 2022



The angel posse



The
littlest
lamb



Mission & Outreach January

Faith United Methodist Food Panty

1/1/- canned vegetables, & Fruits, Canned Soups & Dried Soups

1/8- Canned Meats, Refried Beans, Baked Beans, Black Beans ,Kidney Beans,

1/15—Meal Starters like Macaroni & Cheese, Hamburger Helper, Rice A Roni, Pasta Roni

1/22 Pasta Products, Rice, Tomato Sauce, Diced tomatoes, Spaghetti Sauce

1/29-Breakfast Cereal, Oatmeal, Cream of Wheat, Granola Bars



Scrip Cards

Even though the big holiday shopping rush is over, don't forget about the Scrip cards for your usual shopping. You can buy cards for local places you already go to such as Kwik Trip, Holiday Gas, BP, Menards, Ace Hardware, CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Superior Meats, Applebees, Papa Murphy's,, Hardees, Burger King, Subway, Dairy Queen, and Dunkin Donuts.

A list of participating stores along with how much they contribute back to the church is in the narthex. Many stores occasionally run specials where they increase the amount they give back to the church so check the list frequently.

You can now also purchase reloadable cards. Contact Carol Skamser for more information.

Bottom line : It's an easy way to do your shopping and help the church at the same *time*.

Orders go in every 3rd Sunday of the month. This month your orders need to be in by January 15th.

Questions—call Carol Skamser at 715-781-0753 or email at scskamser@charter.net

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is January 29, 2023.

In order to have the completed annual Congregation Report ready for review by January 15, 2023, the Boards should have their annual reports into the office no later than January 7, 2023.

The slate of nominees for Boards and Church Council for next year is complete. Thank you to everyone who has shown their commitment to the church. These people will be confirmed at the annual meeting.

If you have any concerns you would like the Council to address, please talk to Kandee or Pastor to see if they can be addressed earlier or to have them put on the agenda. Please plan to attend the meeting so that we will have a quorum for any items that will need to be voted on.

From the Quilters and Sewers

The quilters continue to meet and invite anybody interested to join them. They will be making blankets for Christmas again this year. Call Kandee Rosburg for more information. They meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month from 9:00 a.m. to about 11:30 a.m. The next meeting will be January 9th.

Readers—Remember the Book Cart

Winter is upon us. Check the book cart for titles you may not have read and curl up with a good book. Bring in books you have already read and exchange them for another. There are also books on CD available. We have also just had a donation with some pre-teen books. The cart is located in the basement at the bottom of the steps from the middle doors. We also have some children and preteen books in the hallway by the office.

Puzzle Corner

We also now have jigsaw puzzles available. They are located with the book cart in the basement by the middle staircase. Like with the books, you can take a jigsaw puzzle of your choice. When you are finished, with it, you can keep it or return it and take another. You can also donate any puzzles that you have.

OSLC Cooks Soups

January is National Soup Month. Here are some new recipes to try.



Bacon Corn Chowder

6 strips bacon, sliced	1 cup milk
1/4 cup diced celery	1/2 tsp seasoned salt
1 small onion, diced	1/2 tsp salt
1 cup diced, raw potatoes	1/4 tsp. garlic powder
1 cup water	1/8 tsp. pepper
1 (14 3/4 oz.) can cream style corn	

In saucepan cook the bacon, celery and onion over medium heat 10-15 minutes or until bacon is cooked; drain. Add the potato and water. Cover and simmer for 20 minutes or until potato is tender. Stir in the corn, milk, seasoned salt, salt, garlic powder and pepper. Heat through but don't boil. Refrigerate or freeze any leftovers.



Cheesy Wild Rice Soup

1 cup wild rice, cooked (boil and drain 3 times)
2 cans cream of potato soup
2 cans cream of chicken soup
1 lb. bacon, cooked and crumbled
1/2 small onion, chopped and sautéed in bacon grease
4 stalks celery, chopped and sautéed in bacon grease
4 pints Half & Half
12 slices American cheese
1 pint sliced fresh mushrooms
Mix together in Dutch oven—rice, soups, bacon, onion, celery and 3 pints Half & Half. Heat over low heat. Tear cheese into small pieces and add to soup mixture. Add mushrooms. Cook over low heat, stirring often, until cheese melts.. f a thinner consistency soup is desired, add the other pint Half & Half.

Beer Cheese Soup

4 chicken bouillon cubes	3 cups water
1 can beer	1 cup diced celery
1 cup diced onion	3 cups cubed potatoes
2 cans cream of chicken soup	
2-3 pounds cubed Velveeta cheese	
1-2 pounds thick cut peppered bacon	
2-3 pounds cubed ham	

Cook bouillon, water, beer, celery and onions for 20 minutes. Add potatoes and cook until tender. Add the cream of chicken soup and cubed cheese. Cook until creamed together. Stir in ham and bacon. Cook until hot.



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Those serving in the military, those returning home with mental and physical scars, and for all military veterans. For the health of all unborn children and grandchildren, all those recovering or in nursing home care and for those struggling with addiction.

Congregation Members: Jim and Marcy Rigstad, Pat and Amanda Shaw, Meri Will, Roger Prescott, Mike Dahl, Joyce Bowser, Clark Garthwait, Ralph Rolson, Diana Garthwait, AJ Nelson, Judy Nelson

Family Member: Mike Klawitter, Nellie, Jeanne David, Joel Dykema, Casey, Bill Mullens, Tim Volpe, Ron Jr, Beth

Friend/neighbor: Annabel Hanson, Dwaine, Benita Sutherland, Lydia Miller, baby Curt, Pastor Bob Stoskoph

The Families of: Thomas Hilger

Call the church office (715-394-3472) to add (or remove) individuals to the prayer list.

Children's Clothes Closet

Families are definitely utilizing the clothes closet. There is now a significant need for more warm weather clothing in all age groups, infant to teen, particularly jackets. We are grateful for any donations of new or gently used clothing. If you would like to make a monetary donation, Mission & Outreach members will be happy to shop for you. We are so thankful that we can help fill a need in the community.

Please feel free to take a look in our Clothes Closet to see the wonderful service our congregation is providing.

Need your car washed?

As a fundraiser, the church is selling Kwik Trip car wash cards. 'Tis the season for salt on the roads and therefore your car. The cards are good for 5 car washes and sell for \$35.00. At this time, there are only 2 cards left. They will be available in the narthex before and after the church service or are available in the office.





Born in
January

01/01	Dave Cody	01/01	Dea Gran	01/21	Weston Morris
	Judy Hack		Allen Knase	01/22	Samuel Diedrich
	Matthew Little		Mark Nygard		Isabella Lisdahl
	Deb Pierpont		Doris Roeber	01/23	Tanner Dahl
	John Roeber		Mark Tomczak		Garrett Holmberg
01/03	Lauren Krob	01/03	Willa Wilrath		Matthew Netland
01/04	Eric Flagstad	01/04	Patricia Place	01/25	Clara Cody
	Bev Prescott				Joyce Cortes
01/05	David Kringle		Neil Thompson		Dale Van Ert
01/06	Sondra Forrest	01/06	Liam Perrault	01/30	George Bennis
01/08	Dean Wilner				Owen Gran
01/09	Nicole Gregory			01/31	Barbara Danielson
01/10	Dana Bukovich	01/10	Alexis Johnson		
	Douglas Magdzas				
01/12	Richard Nystrom	01/12	Heather Thompson		
01/14	Dawn Heinen				
01/15	Craig Hanson	01/15	Maggie Mueller		
01/17	Jacob Magdzas	01/17	Tarver Sellwood		
	Jordy Stank				
01/18	Christa Diedrich	01/18	Joanne Emberson		



Poinsettia Plants 2023

(in Memory or in Honor)



In Memory of Cecil & Effie Taber: Richard & Linda Taber

In Memory of my loving grandma, Olga T. Andersen; Linda Taber

In Memory of our parents, Baby Kyle, Neil: Marian & Tom Simon

In Memory of Ken & Lorraine Carlson: Linda & Rick Gran

In Memory of Al Will; Meri Will

In Memory of Robert A. Plunkett: Mom & Dad, brother by Vivian & Bob Plunkett

In memory of Alex Kotter: Sharon, Tim & Melodee, Tami, Mike, Cody & Boys

In Memory of Mae Jacobson: Dwane & Delores Schultz

In Memory of Our Parents: Jack & Carol Arthur

In Memory of Our Parents: Gene & Kandee Rosburg. (donation)

In Memory of Priscilla Rene: Pastor Koos & family

In Memory of Our Heavenly Loved Ones and In Honor of the Koos Family: Bev & Tom Donaldson

In Memory of Ray & Florence Splinter, Ginny & Bob Gradin: Jim & Cheri Splinter

In Memory of Our Parents: Ed & Sheryl Aamodt

In Memory of Darlene Kringle: avid Kringle

The vender/ craft fair held on December 3rd raised nearly \$3000.00 for the church. The next fair will be the first Saturday in December 2023. January is National Craft Month. Time to start thinking about what you might contribute to the church table next time.



OSLC Council Minutes – December 20, 2022

Opening Greeting: The meeting was called to order by President Kandee Rosburg at 5:15pm.

Present: Pastor Sean Koos, Kandee Rosburg, Jim Erickson, Kim Erickson, Diana Garthwait, Rick Gilbertson, Dave Kringle, Donna Liebaert, Doris Maki, Stephanie Shaw, Diane Tomczak, Bonnie Wentzel.

Devotions/Prayer: Pastor read from the Book of Isaiah. A savior king was prophesied in the Old Testament and told about in the New Testament. When we read the Old Testament with Jesus in mind, He does come through with our modern understanding.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the November 15th council minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Income for November was \$11,609.67. Expenses were \$17,758.34. Expenses included the shed payment and church insurance. . A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the treasurer's report.

Board Reports:

Deacons: The Deacons are looking for readers for upcoming services.

Stewardship: The Vendor/Craft/Bake Sale was a success with just over \$3,000 brought in. There were 24 vendors. Thank you to the planning committee. OSLC pledge cards for 2023 are coming in and a thank you will be sent. Family Sunday events will be held February 12th through March 19th, 2023.

Board of Education: The Sunday School Christmas Program was a success with 19 children participating.

Mission & Outreach: Donations are still needed for our children's clothes closet. January's food donations will go to the food pantry at Faith United Methodist church. The Superior Singers performed December 18th, with 150 attending and 244 viewing online. A potluck was held after the performance.

Trustees: The Trustees approved the 2023 budget. The new boilers are helping us use less gas. Parts have been ordered to repair the basement kitchen refrigerator. Maintenance was done on the elevator. Snow plowing costs are always a concern in the winter. Please consider a donation for this, and volunteers are needed to help keep the sidewalks shoveled.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept all board reports.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Sean will be on vacation after Christmas. Bishop Laurie Snow-Anderson was present for a day to meet with other pastors and attend a confirmation class. On January 17th she will meet with Superior pastors and church presidents at Concordia Lutheran Church to discuss the status of Superior's Lutheran churches.

Old Business: A new rental copy machine will be installed. The church directory photography session went well.



New Business: A family in need has received assistance.

Vision Victories: The Sunday School Christmas program. The Superior Singers. The Vendor/Craft/Bake Sale. The Children's Clothes Closet.

Upcoming events: January 10th, 2023 – 5:15 pm church board meetings; January 17th, 2023 – 5:15 pm church council meeting; January 29th, 2023 – Annual Meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn. Pastor gave a closing prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Kim Erickson, Secretary

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 a.m. Lessons & Carols New Years Day!	2	3 11::00 a.m. Pastor's text study	4 No New Perspective, Bible study, Harmony House, Confirmation or choir	5	6	7 Thomas Hilger funeral, lunch to follow
8 8:45 am Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 am Sunday School	9 9:00 a.m. Quilting	10 11::00 a.m. Pastor's text study 5:15 p.m. Boards	11 9 am New Perspective 10:15 am Bible study 3:30 p.m. Confirmation 4:30 pm Choir <i>5:30 pm choir</i>	12	13	14
15 8:45 am Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 am Sunday School	16 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day!	17 11::00 a.m. Pastor's text study 5:15 p.m. Council	18 9 am New Perspective 10 :15 am Bible study 3:30 Confirmation 4:30 Choir 5:30 pm music comm	19 National Popcorn Day! 	20	21 National Hugging Day! 
22 8:45 am Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 am Sunday School	23 9:00 am Quilting	24 11::00 a.m. Pastor's text study	25 9 am New Perspective 10 :15 am Bible study 1:30 pm Harmony House 3::30 pm Confirmation 4:30 pm Choir	26	27	28
29 8:45 am Choir 9:30 a.m. Worship service 9:30 am Sunday School ANNUAL MEETING	30	31 11:00 am Pastor's text study		