

# Mt. Calvary Messenger



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Mt. Calvary is a congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

**Volume 31, Issue 1**

**January 2026**



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1. Arlysha Bovane-Morrow  
Steven Flynn
2. Sherri Long
4. Barbara Zook
6. Edmund Fletchall
8. Kyra Lee (Szold)
10. Colin Barr  
John Brauer
11. Debbie Livingston
12. Rilla Adcock
14. Keith Crook
16. Leon Adcock
17. Michael Wilson
18. Doug Auer  
Abbie Matson
20. Larry Frank  
Benjamin Craig  
Jeff Fager  
Trinity Foote  
Rachel Terpening
21. Greg Browning
22. Theresa Johnston
23. Eric Hoffman
28. Ella Barr  
Bret Miller
30. Colton Maske
31. Aaron Keehner

## JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

28. Larry & Julie Frank

## EPIPHANY SERVICES

On **January 6th**, Mt. Calvary will celebrate the Epiphany of Our Lord with services at **11:15 am and 6:00 pm**. Both will be spoken Divine Services similar to Thursday evening services with extra hymn added.

## WEATHER ALERTS -

 **Inclement Weather Policy**  
With the onset of winter weather here are ways to receive cancellations. The TV stations, WMBD, WEEK, and WHOI will be notified, an e-mail will be sent out (if I don't have your e-mail and you want these notifications, please let me know) and it will appear on our web-site: ([www.mtcalvarypeoria.org](http://www.mtcalvarypeoria.org)) and facebook page.

## Worship Notes

### LESSONS FOR SUNDAYS IN JANUARY

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas — January 4<sup>th</sup>

Psalm 119:97-104; Isaiah 61:10-62:3;  
Ephesians 1:3-14; Luke 2:40-52

#### Epiphany of Our Lord — Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

Isaiah 60:1-6; Matthew 2:1-12

#### Baptism of Our Lord — January 11<sup>th</sup>

Psalm 29; Isaiah 42:1-9;  
Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 3:13-17

#### Confession of St Peter — Life Sunday — 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany — January 18<sup>th</sup>

Psalm 118:19-29; Acts 4:8-13;  
2 Peter 1:1-15; Mark 8:27-9:

#### Conversion of St. Paul — 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany — January 25<sup>th</sup>

Psalm 67; Acts 9:1-22;  
Galatians 1:11-24; Matthew 19:27-30



## COUNTERS FOR JANUARY

Ashley Gavic & LaVelle Borders

### ELDERS

January 4 — Tom Brosowske

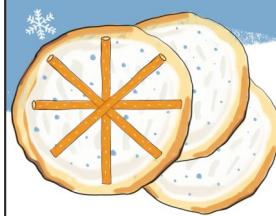
January 11 — Phil King

January 18 — Daniel Keehner

January 25 — Dr. Joel Eckert

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## Snowflake SNACK CAKES



Celebrate the beauty of winter with these fun snowflake-inspired treats!

### What you need:

- Graham cracker squares or sugar cookies
- White frosting or marshmallow fluff
- Pretzel sticks (snowflake arms)
- Shredded coconut or white sprinkles
- Mini marshmallows or candy pearls



### What you do:

1. Frost each cracker or cookie.
2. Arrange pretzel sticks in a crisscross for the snowflake base.
3. Sprinkle with coconut or sprinkles for snow.
4. Add marshmallows or candy pearls to the ends for detail.

### Lesson tie-in:

Remind kids that God made each of us unique—just like no two snowflakes are alike!  
(Psalm 139:14, KJV)

## ALTAR FLOWERS

January 4 — Barb Zook

January 11 — Open

January 18 — Judy Honig

January 25 — Theresa Johnston

## †*Prayer List* †

Prayer Notes: Folks have asked from time to time "who all are we praying for?" Here's a partial list with reference to their relation to the congregation. **If you know of anyone who needs to be added, or who can be removed, please let Pr. Long or Judy know. Help us keep the list manageable!**

- † Jacob Achterberg - grandson to Ron, nephew to Linda Khattar
- † Phyllis Basquin - mother to Luann Claudin
- † Ethan Saunders - grandson to Roger and Carole Hoffman
- † Gail and Jonathan von Holten - friends of Jessica Horman
- † Pr. Hoech & Ivy - our "TIM" partners
- † Dave Maxwell - husband to Tina
- † Pr. Glenn Niemann - circuit pastor, disability
- † Jonathan Stutz - grandson to Donna
- † Maureen Leuba - Concordia parent
- † Christiane Ramahi - member
- † Yasmin Ramahi - daughter to Christiane
- † Gloria Carter - friend of Nancy Meyer
- † Eric Puterbaugh - friend of a member
- † Michael Teeter - friend to Long Family
- † Dale Warren -
- † Ward & Cathy Lenz - sister and brother-in-law to Paula Horst
- † Jennifer Lenz - their daughter, niece to Paula & Jerry
- † Alex Zook - grandson of Barb Zook
- † Faith Zook - granddaughter of Barb Zook
- † Jenna Zook - granddaughter of Barb Zook
- † Josh Crosiar - member
- † Anne Maske - member
- † Steve Brinkmann - son to Dale & Vonnie
- † Braylynn Davis - friend to Brill family
- † Steve Brown - family to Josh and Michelle Joseph
- † Gordon Dupres - family to the Tagges
- † Shane Cremeens - brother to Brande Ruskusky
- † Lil Mulvaney - friend to Pauli family
- † Ginny Preston - friend to LaVelle Borders
- † Clara Riddick - friend to Brill family
- † Max Wessler - father-in-law to Carol Wessler
- † Bill & Pam Barr - members
- † Megan Primmer - cousin to Ginger Able
- † Kenneth Garner - acquaintance of Jan Pacey (Phyllis Knebel's daughter)
- † Lorrie Kaspar - mother to Julie (Kaspar) Eaton
- † Rod Pauli - member, son to Carolyn
- † Gloria Teeter - friend to Long Family
- † Mark Buettner - associate of Carol Wessler
- † Tamesha Gates - friend to Szold family
- † Sandra Boyer - daughter of food pantry contributor
- † Mark Leon - brother-in-law to Sue Leon
- † Shirley King - mother to Phil King
- † Rebecca Sierra - friend to Linda Khattar
- † Kris Taylor - Josh Joseph's aunt
- † Delcie Lane - member
- † Mark Manthey - member
- † Sherry Emberton - Vonnie Brinkmann's sister
- † Earl Boyett - father of Theresa Brusick
- † Sharon Rumbold - member at Bethel, Morton, occasional organist for us
- † Luann and Shelby Cooper - members
- † Victoria Buschard - family of Michael Marshall
- † Ms. Ellen Rytter - teacher at Concordia
- † Cheryl - friend to Linda Khattar
- † Jenny & Olivia Bradley - family to Lynn Laredo
- † Theo Norman - member, child of Cole and Brooke
- † Becky Richards - mother of Kim Carver
- † Daryl Claudin - member
- † Natalie Brusick - Daughter-in-law to Chris & Theresa
- † Deb Alig - co-worker of Theresa Johnston
- † Carol Loughridge - member
- † Anne & Miguel Bolwerk (and David & Henry) - family to Dave & Jan Heien
- † Cheris Hofmann - member
- † Harriet Caughey - member
- † Maureen and children - extended family to Roger & Carole Hoffman
- † Teresa Kerrick -

(Prayer List continued on page 4)

## †Prayer List (cont.)†

(Continued from page 3)

- † Pr. Drews – Pastor at Trinity, Pekin
- † PJ Comacho – friend to Mark Manthey
- † Lorie Livingston – wife to Ty
- † Patty Caughey – member
- † Linda Perrone – friend to Patty Caughey
- † Jessica Horman - member
- † Elizabeth Auer – military, daughter to Doug
- † Tomi – mother to Chris Brusick
- † Diane Norris – friend of member
- † Ginny & Marty Liex – friends to LaVelle Borders
- † Ann Jacobson – sister in law to Carolyn Pauli
- † Hugh – friend of member
- † Vonnie Brinkmann – member
- † Carolyn Pauli – member
- † Jane Wood – mother to Sherri Long
- † Ryan & Carol Stetzler – friends of Katie Tagge
- † Sue Elder – friend of Theresa Johnston
- † Tricia Smith – sister to Marcia Riddle
- † Chris Walker – brother-in-law to Vicky Jones
- † Brett Parrott – Erin's brother-in-law
- † Paul Fager – member
- † Diane Freeman – member
- † Dan Moran – Judy Norman's brother
- † Katie Tagge – member
- † Bev Hoffman – niece to Gordon
- † JayCee Grier
- † Norah Rossman – friend to Riebel family
- † Nan Borunda – sister to Lou Ann Cooper
- † Chris Pacey – son to Jan Pacey (daughter of Phyllis Knebel)
- † Donna Kirkman – sister to Lynn Laredo
- † Ilsa Adams – stepmother to Lynn Laredo
- † Robert Marshall – father to Michael Marshall
- † David Heien – member
- † Ross Pauli – son of Carolyn
- † Deaconess Gillian – friend of the congregation
- † Gary Ruckle - member
- † Trinity Foote – Kieth & Linda Crook's granddaughter
- † Sherri Crosiar – Josh's mother
- † Zeke Garrison – military, Gary & Kim Beenders' grandson

- † Denise Shivers – member
- † Ron Achterberg – member
- † Bob Shoreak – friend to Bob Frericks
- † Mike Solis – friend to Bob Frericks
- † Jane Millard – visitor
- † "Nylon" – visitor at Food Pantry
- † Cheryl Frericks – Bob Frericks' sister-in-law
- † Cisneros Family – friends of a member
- † Addie Wilson – Eileen Benne's mom
- † Joel Barr – Bill & Pam Barr's son
- † Ruth and Richard Boch –
- † Wendy Mirretti -Mother-in-law to Bronwyn (Beenders) Mirretti
- † Vanessa Ruckle – member
- † Nancy O'Brian – niece to Pam Barr
- † Jim Smith – brother to Marcia Riddle
- † Lee Mauschbaugh – member
- † Tom Brosowske – member
- † Jim Brosowske – Tom's brother
- † Larry Frank – member
- † Hazel Krenzke – daughter of Dcs. Christine
- † Cindy Niebur – niece to Barb Zook
- † Julie Riddle – daughter in law to Marcia
- † Conner Brinkmann – grandson to Vonnie
- † Joe Leon – husband to Susie
- † Kathleen Tagge – daughter-in-law to Katie
- † Ben Claudin – member
- † Sandy Willaims-McFarlane – member
- † Jonathan Tagge – member
- † Doug Auer – member
- † Peter Hipple – son to Mr. Hipple at Concordia
- † Rev. Larry & Pat Goetz – friends of the congregation
- † Lois Whitby – grandmother to Hunter & Sam
- † Larry Traub – member
- † Michelle Teel – sister to Vicky Brosowske
- † Gale Brill – father to Owen & Sydney



Attendance		Com.	General Fund Weekly Offering
Wednesday, Dec. 3	20	—	—
Sunday, Dec. 7	73	61	\$6,075.00
Wednesday, Dec. 10	21	—	—
Sunday, Dec. 14	45	11	\$5,440.00
Wednesday, Dec. 17	21	—	—
Sunday, Dec. 20	59	51	\$7,425.00
December 24, 3 pm	31	27	—
December 24 7 pm	70	45	—
December 25, 9 am	26	21	—
December 28, 9 am	32	24	\$10,082.00
Total			\$29,022.00

Mid-week offerings counted with Sunday's . offerings

# Puzz[e]!

In the New Testament, followers of Christ are called by many names. Use the hints to fill in the blanks. Need help? Check an NIV Bible for the missing letters.

D \_\_\_\_\_ s (Acts 6:7) 

C \_\_\_\_\_ n P \_\_\_\_\_ e (1 Peter 2:9) 

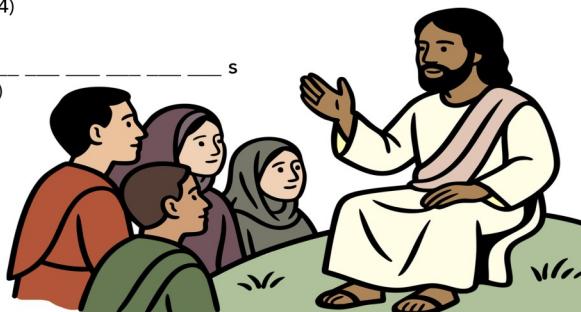
S \_\_\_\_\_ s of C \_\_\_\_\_ t (1 Corinthians 4:1)

C \_\_\_\_\_ s (Acts 11: 26)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s and S \_\_\_\_\_ s (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)

B \_\_\_\_\_ s (Acts 5:14)

W \_\_\_\_\_ s (Acts 1:8)



Believers; Witnesses; Disciples; Chosen People; Servants of Christ; Christians; Brothers and Sisters;

## In His Service

**PASTOR:**  
Rev. Barry Long 243-2042

**SECRETARY:**  
Mrs. Judy Honig 688-4321

**CONCORDIA SCHOOL**  
Ms. Emily Craine 691-8921  
Principal

## CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Chairman.....Gerald Horst  
Vice Chairman.....David Heien  
Secretary .....Judy Honig  
Treasurer .....Carol Wessler  
Finan. Secretary.....Theresa Johnston

## MEMORIALS AND SPECIAL GIFTS

, LaVelle Borders & Eileen Benne

## WOMEN OF MT. CALVARY

Chairperson Luann Claugin  
Vice Pres: Theresa Johnston  
Secretary: Lisa Cornelius  
Treasurer: Dawn Henderson

## ALTAR GUILD

Co-Presidents: Abbie Matson  
& Linda Khattar  
Treasurer: Linda Khattar

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pre-School-1st Grade — Linda Crook  
& Linda Khattar

2nd-5th Grades — Teresa Brusick &  
Kelly Eckert

6th Grade-High School — Paula Horst  
Tom Brosowske

## CONCORDIA SCHOOL BOARD

Kelly Eckert & Erin Green

## CONCORDIA FOUNDATION

Eileen Benne & Connie Kissner

## CONCORDIA TRUSTEES

Jarrod Horman

## Boards of Mt. Calvary

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

Teresa Brusick, Paula Horst,

## BOARD OF EVANGELISM

Dormant

## BOARD OF YOUTH

Michele Keehner, Erin Parrott

## BOARD OF LONG RANGE PLANNING

Dormant

## BOARD OF PROPERTY

Chris Brusick, Lisa Cornelius,  
Larry Frank, Jarrod Horman,  
Vicky Brosowske

## BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

Theresa Johnston, Kim Beenders  
Brett Hammer

## BOARD OF ELDERS

(families under each Elder's care)  
Achterberg -Brusick Tom Brosowske  
Carver — Grinslade Phil King  
Halverson — Kroenke Daniel Keehner  
Lampton — Norman Gary Beenders  
Parrott — Zook Dr. Joel Eckert

## FOOD PANTRY

LaVelle Borders  
Paula & Jerry Horst

## Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank to complete this verse from 2 Corinthians:

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new \_\_\_\_\_.  
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”



- A) Creation
- B) Beginning
- C) Season
- D) Covenant

Answer: A (See 2 Corinthians 5:17, ESV)



# LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

## **CELEBRATION OF LIFE!**

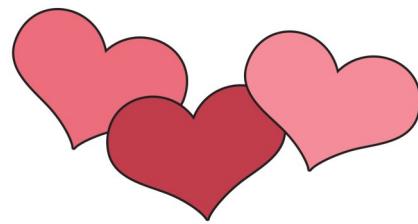
"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb." Luke 1:41 NIV

Peoria Area **Lutherans for Life** believes in the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. We are preparing for our annual fund-raising event and we need your help to make it a success. The event is called "**Pennies for Life.**"

Since this is our only fundraising effort each year, we rely on the proceeds from this event to fund our ongoing efforts throughout the coming year to educate Lutherans of all ages in the tri-county area to support life. We attempt to accomplish this mission through events such as our annual life essay contest and by lending financial support to many pro-life organizations such as the state and national Lutherans for Life organizations, Central Illinois Right-to-Life, Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center, Women's Care Center, Lutheran Hillside Village, and Peoria Rescue Ministries.

**On Life Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>,** we hope that you will express your thankfulness to your Heavenly Father by contributing a penny for each year of life you have been blessed with.

Please consider this opportunity to support life. We stand ready to continue our work, but we need your help! Please also consider joining us the fourth Monday of each month at 6:30 at Bethel Lutheran Church in Morton. We are a family of believers supporting God's gift of Life.



## *Valentine Boxes for College Students & Military*

**HELP US GATHER ITEMS FOR OUR VALENTINE PACKAGES FOR OUR COLLEGE YOUTH AND MILITARY** - During their meeting on Saturday, February 10th, Women of Mt. Calvary will be packing boxes for our young people who are in college or serving in the military. In this endeavor we need your help: 1) Please get the names and addresses of your college youth to Dawn Henderson (691-5547) or Kelly Eckert (309-256-1423); and 2) Consider contributing candy, microwave popcorn, individually wrapped snacks, tissue packages, pencils, pens, hotel samples (**no bar soap, please**), or anything a young person away from home might need. Your items can be placed on the kitchen counter, but please mark them for **Women of Mt. Calvary College Student Project**. The ladies would like them there by **Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>**.

## **THANK YOU**

"I Thank my God in every remembrance of you."  
Philippians 1:3

I have been very grateful for all the prayers and care you have shown to me. With out your help and support, I would not be where I am, back in the office. Thank you also for all the cards and remembrances you gave me this Christmas. I am very thankful to our Lord for all of you. May God bless you all in this coming year. Judy

## **THANK YOU #2**

Thank you all very much for my Christmas bonus. Merry Christmas to everyone.

Michelle Becker

## **THANK YOU #3:**

Pr. Long and family are once again humbled by your generosity. We thank God for you all. God bless us all in this new year.



## CURRENT BIBLE STUDY TOPICS

**Youth Sunday School Classes.** Sunday School has begun again. The classes meet in the church basement at 10:30 am for grades Pre-K-6<sup>th</sup>. Jr. & Sr. High if there are enough of you a class will be formed, otherwise you may help with the younger students or attend the Adult Class led by Pr. Long. Parents, you are invited to attend the Adult Class, during the time your children are attending Sunday School. No class on January 4th.

### Sunday Morning Adult Class -

Per a resolution from our District Convention this past summer, we'll be taking a few weeks to look at the Synod's "Everyone His Witness" program. While we may not be called to go out and convert everyone, we can learn how to talk about the faith in helpful ways. **Class meets in the Parish Hall at 10:30 am. No class on January 4th.**

**Men's Bible Study:** We are looking at Paul's Letters to Timothy. **Men's Bible Study meets on Wednesday mornings at 6:30 am at Gebby's Family Restaurant at 726 East War Memorial Drive in Peoria Heights.**

**Thursday Lunch Together and Bible Study -**  
We are currently reading the book of the Prophet Jeremiah and will hear God's word of promise and judgement in the face of national calamity. **We meet in the Parish Hall for lunch at 12:00 pm and Bible Study at 12:30 pm.**

### **JR. & SR. HIGH YOUTH**

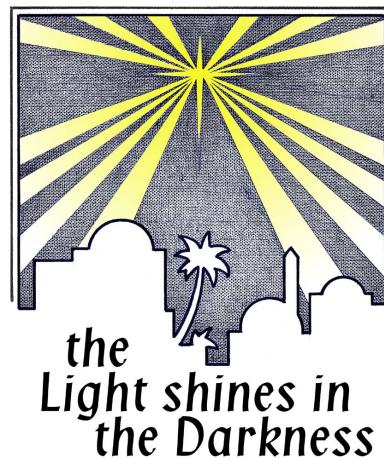
We'll once again have our "Locked-In" event. It will be on **Sunday, January 18 from 5:45-11:00 p.m.** here at church. Contact Michele Keehner (309-693-8095) for more information.

### **HELP DE-DECORATE THE CHURCH**

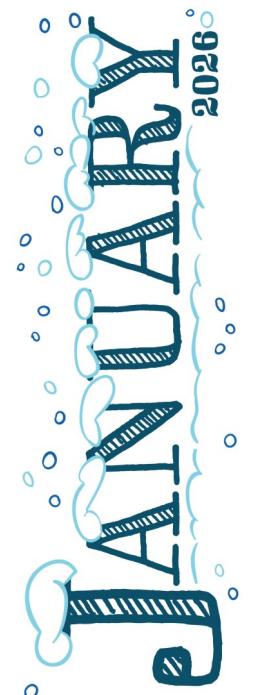
It's that time again. Unfortunately the lovely Christmas Decorations must come down. Linda plans to de-decorate the church on Sunday, December 11th, following the 11:45 Divine Service. She would like anyone who has time to help her. Remember, many hands make light work.

### **CONCORDIA NEWS**

- **Substitute Teachers** - As the season for colds catches up to us, Concordia could use more folks in their substitute pool. If you, or someone you know is interested, contact the school at 309-691-8921, or e-mail Ms. Craine at [ecraine@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:ecraine@concordiapeoria.com)
- **Librarians And Librarian Subs Needed** --If you are available during the day, we could use your help in the school's library. If interested, contact Ms. Craine at [ecraine@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:ecraine@concordiapeoria.com), or Mrs. Drozd at [mdrozd@concordiapeoria.com](mailto:mdrozd@concordiapeoria.com) or call the school office at 309-691-8921
- **Playtime Pals begins again on January 9<sup>th</sup>**, from 9:00 - 11:00 am in Gym A.
- **January 21<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade musical, 6:30 pm, public performance in the Ruppert Gymatorium.**



December 2025						
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			



February 2026						
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				

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
<b>4</b>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas</i>	<b>5</b>		<b>6</b>	<i>The Epiphany of our Lord</i>	<b>7</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>9</b>		<b>10</b>	
9:00 a	Matins Service			8:45 a	Pastor teaches at Concordia	6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	8:45 a	Pastor teaches at Concordia	9:00 a			
				9-11:00 a	Food Pantry	10:00 a	Crafts & Conversation						
				11:15 a	Spoken Divine Service	12:00 p	Lunch Together						
				6:00 p	Spoken Divine Service	12:30 p	Bible Study						
				6:30 p	Board Meetings	6:00 p	Divine Service						
				7:30 p	Administrative Council								
<b>11</b>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<b>12</b>		<b>13</b>		<b>14</b>		<b>15</b>		<b>16</b>		<b>17</b>	
	<i>Baptism of Our Lord</i>												
9:00 a	Sung Matins Service			6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	10:00 a	Crafts & Conversation	10:00 a			
10:30 a	Sunday School & Bible Class							12:00 p	Lunch Together	12:00 p			
11:45 a	Spoken Divine Service							12:30 p	Bible Study	12:30 p			
12:30 p	De-Decorate Church							6:00 p	Divine Service	6:00 p			
1:30	Youth Confirmation												
<b>18</b>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<b>19</b>		<b>20</b>		<b>21</b>		<b>22</b>		<b>23</b>		<b>24</b>	<i>St. Timothy, Pastor &amp; Confessor</i>
	<i>Confession of St. Peter—Epiphany Sun.</i>			3:00 p	Worship & Music	6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	10:00 a	Crafts & Conversation	10:00 a			
9:00 a	Divine Service			4:45 p	Board of Elders			12:00 p	Lunch Together	12:00 p			
10:30 a	Sunday School & Bible Class							12:30 p	Bible Study	12:30 p			
11:45 a	Spoken Divine Service							6:00 p	Divine Service	6:00 p			
1:30	Youth Confirmation												
5:30-11:15 p	Youth Movie & Game Night												
<b>25</b>	<i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</i>	<b>26</b>	<i>St. Titus, Pastor &amp; Confessor</i>	<b>27</b>		<b>28</b>		<b>29</b>		<b>30</b>		<b>31</b>	
	<i>Conversion of St. Paul</i>												
9:00 a	Sung Matins Service			6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	6:30 a	Men's Bible Study	10:00 a	Crafts & Conversation	10:00 a			
10:30 a	Sunday School & Bible Class							12:00 p	Lunch Together	12:00 p			
11:45 a	Spoken Divine Service							12:30 p	Bible Study	12:30 p			
1:30	Youth Confirmation							6:00 p	Divine Service	6:00 p			

# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

...you will be called by  
a new name that the mouth  
of the LORD will bestow.

ISAIAH 62:2, NIV