

# ST. PETER COMMUNICATOR

43 N 3rd St., Hilbert, WI 54129

Office: (920) 853-3217

November 2022

## From the desk of Pastor Peterson

Dear fellow redeemed. The last few newsletters have focused on the decline in church membership with various statistics showing why people are not as interested in attending church, and the last newsletter focused on the 7 signs of the church. In this newsletter, we will look at the meaning of our liturgy. To better understand why we have a liturgical, divine service, we know that God initiates, and we respond. Saint Paul in his letter to the church in Corinth, in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:40-41 tells the church that everything must be done in good order. God is not an agent of chaos. Just as God set down the way to worship in the Old Testament, to provide order to the Israelites. God also desires order in our churches. Again, I refer to 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:40-41.

The original Greek word *leitourgia*, which means "service," "ministry," or "work of the people" was used for any public work of the people, not only religious services. In ancient Athens, a liturgy was a public office or duty performed voluntarily by a wealthy citizen.

**Liturgical Churches:** Liturgical churches include the Orthodox branches of Christianity (such as Eastern Orthodox, Coptic Orthodox), the Catholic Church as well many protestant churches that wished to preserve some of the ancient forms of worship, tradition, and ritual after the Reformation. Typical practices of a liturgical church include vested clergy, the incorporation of religious symbols, the recitation of prayers and congregational responses, the use of incense, the observance of a yearly liturgical calendar, and the performance of sacraments.

In the United States, the primary liturgical churches are Lutheran, Episcopal, Roman Catholic, and Orthodox churches. Non-liturgical churches could be categorized as those which do not follow a script or standard order of events. Apart from worship, offering time, and communion, at most non-liturgical churches, the congregants typically sit, listen, and observe. At a liturgical church service, the congregants are relatively active reciting, responding, sitting, standing, etc.

**Liturgical Calendar:** The liturgical calendar refers to the cycle of seasons in the Christian church. The liturgical calendar determines when feast days and holy days are observed throughout the year. In the Catholic church, the liturgical calendar begins with the first Sunday of Advent in November, followed by Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, and Ordinary Time. The same is true of Lutheran Churches for the most part.

Dennis Bratcher and Robin Stephenson-Bratcher of Christian Resource Institute, explain the reason for liturgical seasons: This sequence of seasons is more than just marking time; it is a structure within which the story of Jesus and the Gospel message is recounted throughout the year and people are reminded about the significant aspects of the Christian Faith. While not directly a part of most services of worship beyond Holy Days, the Christian Calendar provides the framework in which all worship is done.

**Liturgical Vestments:** The use of priestly vestments originated in the Old Testament and was passed down to the Christian church after the example of the Jewish priesthood.

### Examples of Liturgical Vestments

- **Alb**, sticharion in Orthodox churches, Lutheran, Catholic, and other liturgical churches is a plain, lightweight, ankle-length tunic with long sleeves.
- **Anglican Collar** is a tab-collared shirt with a wide, rectangular tab.

- **Amice** is a rectangular piece of cloth with religious symbols and two cords attached to each front corner.
- **Chasuble**, phelonion in Orthodox churches, is an ornate circular garment with a hole in the center for the priest's head. The garment flows to the wrists, forming a semi-circle when the clergy's arms are extended. The chasuble is used when the pastor is the celebrant at the Lord's Supper. When a funeral is held at the church, a funeral pall is used to indicate that the person who has died is covered by the grace of God in their baptism. The Chasuble and stole can match each other. The chasuble is to be used when there is Holy Communion during a funeral.
- **Cincture**, poias in Orthodox churches, is usually made of cloth or rope and worn around the waist to hold up vestments.
- **Dalmatic** is a plain garment sometimes worn by deacons.
- **Mitre** is a hat worn by a bishop.
- **Roman Collar** is a tab-collared shirt with a narrow, square tab.
- **Skull Cap** is worn by Catholic clergy. It looks like a beanie. The pope wears a white skull cap and cardinals wear red ones.
- **Stole**, epitrachilion in Orthodox churches, is a narrow rectangular garment worn around the neck. It hangs down to the clergy's legs, ending below the knees. The stole designates an ordained clergy. It is also used to clean communion ware as part of the service.
- **Surplice** is a lightweight, blouse-like, white garment with sleeves and lace trim.
- **Thurible**, also called a censer, is a metal holder for incense, usually suspended on chains.

#### **Liturgical Colors**

- **Violet, Purple or Blue:** Violet, purple, or blue is used during the seasons of Advent and Lent and may also be worn for funeral services. These are penitential colors and symbolize the need for repentance during these church seasons.
- **White:** White is used for Easter and Christmas, Holy Trinity Sunday, or other Sundays as listed in our church year.
- **Red:** Pentecost Sunday, red is worn. As well as Reformation Sunday, Ordinations, Installations of Pastors. Even at the funeral of Pastors.
- **Green:** Green is worn during Ordinary Time.
- **Black:** Can be used on Good Fridays to show the solemnness of the death of Jesus Christ at the cross. In some instances, a black stole can be used to signify the prophetic office of the pastor when he proclaims God's Word.

I hope that this information is helpful to you all, and give you a better understanding of why we do what we do. The next newsletter will focus on our liturgy and the Divine Service.

In His Grip



Pastor Mark Peterson

Acknowledgements: Fairchild, Mary. "What Does Liturgy Mean?" Learn Religions, Sep. 22, 2021, [learnreligions.com/what-is-a-liturgy-700725](https://www.learnreligions.com/what-is-a-liturgy-700725).



## LUTHERAN WOMEN IN MISSION

**YOU ARE INVITED:** Have you ever noticed that people gather in the back of church or in the narthex after church to catch up on the latest news with each other...either family or friends? WIM has decided to offer you a chance to do this with a cup of coffee or juice and perhaps a cookie on the second Sunday of each month. Each month will also have a theme of some type. In September we celebrated Back to School, in October we celebrated Pastor Appreciation Month and LWML Sunday, and in November we will honor our American Veterans. Come and relax for a few minutes as we share a beverage and cookie. This will also conclude our Gifts from the Heart for our area homeless/needy veterans.

### GIFTS FROM THE HEART:

**Veterans Items:** We are currently in the middle of our gathering of items needed by area veterans. Take a look at the bulletin board in the narthex for desired items, but basically they need hygiene items and warm clothing. The clothing item stressed the most by our local veterans' service office is warm socks. When our feet are cold, we feel cold all over! Let's help our veterans stay warm. It will warm your heart.

**Free at Last Ministries:** The warm clothing items for the Free at Last mission in Milwaukee were delivered on October 14. Here are some excerpts from an email sent by the administrative assistant at Mission of Christ Lutheran Church: "Praise God for the Women in Mission of St. Peter Lutheran in Hilbert for their servant hood in Christ Jesus' Name. We are so blessed by your generous donation to the community we serve here on 9th Center. Yes, we will (also) accept any and all devotional materials that we can utilize during our community outreach events. Thank you all for thinking of us, gathering the items and taking the

time to deliver." It is a heart-warming day when we can take our no-longer-needed items and share them with those who are in need.

**CHRISTMAS BRUNCH:** Our December 'coffee and cookies' will actually be our Christmas brunch. We urge all members of the congregation and guests to join us. Watch the bulletin, bulletin board and December newsletter for more details. For now, mark your calendar for December 11.

**BIBLE STUDY AND BUSINESS:** We don't usually have much business, but we do have really good Bible studies taken from our Quarterly and led by Pastor Peterson. Bring your favorite Bible, or if you forget we have some in the Fellowship Hall, and join us for relevant discussion. We meet every second Tuesday at 1:00. Remember, every woman of LCMS is a member. Our November date is November 8. This is also election day, so remember to vote in the morning or plan to go on your way home.



### November

- 1 James Behnke
- 4 Bev Boesch  
Lori Schwalenberg
- 5 Pat Schaefer
- 7 Kelly Schwalenberg
- 8 Joanne Hernke
- 15 Judy Paulson
- 19 Richard Kamps  
Nicholas Krepline  
Halley Lau
- 21 Jennifer Vander Sande
- 29 Kelley Mueller  
Jamie Hackbarth
- 30 Jim Kamps

# Mission Matters

## SWD Hispanic Ministry

Most people assume that the Hispanic members of our communities are Roman Catholic, however this appears to not be the case. In SWD, we have two growing areas of Lutheran Hispanic ministry; one large group is located in Milwaukee and another is in the Sheboygan area.

At our recent Zone Rally, the mission speaker was the Rev. David Blas from the Sheboygan area. He gave us an overview of the growth and activities of this ministry. When he arrived in Plymouth at the invitation of St. John Lutheran, he was still a Vicar and worked under the leadership of Rev. Nathan Meador. Subsequently, he was ordained, and officially started his ministry on January 1, 2016. Being an energetic person, and having Spanish as his first language, he eagerly and quickly started meeting with the Hispanic members of the Sheboygan area communities. The goals of the outreach were to:

- Reach People
- Baptize People, and
- To make them a part of the church

Currently, this ministry has several Hispanic and/or bilingual worship services each week, conducts multiple Bible studies, hosts a Hispanic Vacation Bible School in the summer (none were held during Covid) and has many informal contacts with members of the Hispanic community in his day-to-day activities. He also remembers coming to St. Peter, Hilbert, with the Revs. Novelli of Milwaukee to conduct a Spanish worship service for our ESL (English as a Second Language) members several years ago.

According to Rev. Meador, who is now our District Mission Executive, grants are available through the district office to initiate mission activities throughout the district. Perhaps the time is now to reach out to our Hispanic neighbors again. Maybe our neighboring congregations feel the same way and would be willing to share an outreach mission.

“Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded of you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Matthew 28:20

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## Resurrection courage: Ours in Christ

By Matthew C. Harrison



Stained glass at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Fort Myers, Fla., depicts the nail-scarred feet of Jesus Christ. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

The story the world tells is not hopeful. Every day there's something new to fear, some way your life is outside your control, some grave threat to your person or property, some variation of death. It's easy to get caught up in the hand-wringing, to let our Christian hope be drowned out by the constant cacophony and chaos.

But we know a better story. Every November begins with the Feast of All Saints on Nov. 1. Every time I consider those who have preceded us in life, in faith and in death, I remember the words of the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. (Heb. 12:1–2)*

All our loved ones whom we rightly — but not hopelessly — grieve on All Saints' Day still surround us. Jesus teaches that our guardian angels (Luther believed Matthew 18 teaches we all — not just children — have a guardian angel) protect us while beholding the face of our Father in heaven. So we sing “with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven” as Christ comes to meet us and feed us with His body and blood. While they surround us, they do not distract us. Rather, like the crowds that swell as the finish line of a race approaches, they sharpen our focus on what lies ahead. So we fix our eyes on Jesus, who endured a shameful death on the cross, and whose victory over the grave guarantees our own bodily resurrection.

The end of our story is guaranteed. The Lord who endured death and triumphed over the grave, who in Baptism joined us into His very death and resurrection (Rom. 6:3–4; Col. 2:12; Titus 3), will not abandon us to the grave. We know the end of the story, which gives us courage to face the days between now and then.

*Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. (Heb. 12:3–4)*

The Lord's church is the original resistance movement. She has always resisted the hopelessness, faithlessness and lovelessness of a culture of death. Everything the Lord's church does is founded on this resurrection courage. If nothing can change the future of those who belong to the crucified and risen Christ, then we can face any trial.

*Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. (Heb. 12:12–14)*

The church, so far as she is Christ's, never enculturates herself; even as she brings the Gospel to every tribe and nation in languages and ways in which her message can be received, the church is

her own culture. Hers is a culture of life, of forgiveness, of rock-solid hope, of courage. Think of what she does with this courage and invites you to do with this courage.

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I would tell every married couple not to have babies. Don't bring more lives into this sad, dying world.

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I wouldn't waste a minute going to church. Don't give attention, time or money to a merely human institution built on a false premise (1 Cor. 15:12–19).

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I would tell fathers not to teach the catechism to their children. Don't squander the fleeting moments you have with your children on such antiquated fairy tales.

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I wouldn't tell anyone about the death of Jesus on the cross or invite them to receive the forgiveness given out daily in His church, which Luther in the Large Catechism says is “the mother that begets and bears every Christian through the Word of God, which He reveals and preaches, and through which He illumines and enkindles hearts, that they understand, accept it, cling to it, and persevere in it” (LC II 42). Don't be the weirdo always talking about Jesus at the water cooler, I'd say.

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I wouldn't care for my aging parents. Don't spend time with those approaching an inescapable end.

If I didn't believe in the resurrection, I would grasp for every narcotic to numb the pain of this hopeless life. Don't endure any unnecessary suffering. Suffering without resurrection is pointless.

But I believe in the resurrection. I believe Jesus rose from the dead. And I believe all who die in Him will rise with Him on the Last Day (1 Cor. 15; John 11). I believe in the resurrection, so I see the beauty of each precious, new life as a person who will rise on the Last Day.

I believe in the resurrection, so I let the first hours of the first day of the week be filled with the Word, saved for going to church.

I believe in the resurrection, so I think the holiest, manliest thing men can do is instruct their families in the catechism.

I believe in the resurrection, so I want to share this hope with any I encounter, even if I'm the weirdo at the water cooler.

I believe in the resurrection, so I find courage in caring for my aging family members, and I know it is a privilege to care for those who have cared so much for me.

I believe in the resurrection, so I can endure suffering without needing to escape. Suffering sharpens my hope for what is to come, for resurrection. And it reminds me that the kingdom of this world was never meant to satisfy me eternally. I am awaiting another kingdom. And that kingdom cannot be shaken.

*But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. ... Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire. (Heb. 12:22–24, 28–29)*

Take courage, dear friends. Death is undone. Join the resistance and do so with joy. Resurrection courage is yours in Jesus.

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

November

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dean & Maria Schroeder
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Scott & Jenny Peters
- 23<sup>rd</sup> George & Carol Krepline



## Support hurricane relief by purchasing needed items

by Sarah Reinsel



Donated supplies for hurricane relief sit on tables at Zion Lutheran Church, Fort Myers, Fla., on Oct. 18. Those who wish to donate additional supplies may do so through an Amazon wish list. (LCMS/Erik M. Lunsford)

“Everything is up and running again,” said Jay Wendland, district disaster response coordinator for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Florida-Georgia District. “All the churches are functioning and able to have indoor services. And we’ve assisted all of the pastors who have reported damages.”

Yet there is still much work to be done. Lutheran Early Response Teams (LERT) stationed at Fort Myers, Fla., and Venice, Fla., are now turning to the requests for help from nearly 100 other church workers across nine different congregations.

“Needs abound,” Wendland said. “[Requests include] anything from financial assistance to tree removal to daily supplies of food to mucking out.” Baby supplies and paper products are in particularly high demand.

The Florida-Georgia District has established an [Amazon wish list](#) for those who would like to help out by purchasing needed supplies. In addition to baby supplies and paper products, the list

contains items such as lip balm, toothbrushes, soap, insect repellent and cleaning products.

Wendland emphasized the constant need for more LERT volunteers from now until December. Responding to the ongoing requests for help will keep the two teams busy through Dec. 18. After taking a break for Christmas, the teams will turn to the needs of the wider community.

“Please keep volunteering,” Wendland said. “The donations are coming in. We’re thankful for them, and we’re thankful for all that have contributed in different ways. It may not seem it, but we are really blessed.”

[View a photo gallery of Hurricane Ian.](#)

[Visit the Hurricane Ian Amazon wish list.](#)

[Volunteer to serve on a Lutheran Early Response Team.](#)

[Visit the LCMS Disaster Response page.](#)

Individuals and congregations in the LCMS, including those in the Florida-Georgia District, who wish to assist with the response are encouraged to contact the district office at [flgadistrict.org/lert](http://flgadistrict.org/lert) or call 407-857-5556 or 877-457-5556 (toll-free).

Individuals, congregations and groups wanting to donate to the Synod’s response may:

- Text the keyword LCMSHURRICANES to the number 41-444.
- Visit [lcms.org/givenow/hurricane](http://lcms.org/givenow/hurricane).
- Make a check payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and write “Hurricane Response” on the memo line. Send to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861.
- Call 888-930-4438.

The Florida-Georgia District is also receiving direct contributions to support its hurricane response at [flgadistrict.org/give](http://flgadistrict.org/give). (The LCMS is not sending direct donation appeals into the Florida-Georgia District so that individuals and congregations there do not experience duplicate or competing solicitations.)

For additional assistance or to ask questions about donating, please call LCMS Mission Advancement’s Contributor Care Line at 888-930-4438.

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## **The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry Newsletter article – November 2022**

What Makes for a Cheerful Giver?

St. Paul wrote to Church of Christ in Corinth: “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). God loves a cheerful giver. But who is a cheerful giver?

Abel was. By faith, he gave the firstborn of his flock, and it was acceptable in God’s sight. Abraham was. By faith, he prepared cakes and a tender choice calf for God and entertained angels unaware. So also were David and Solomon. By faith, David would not make a sacrifice to God that cost him nothing, so he paid Araunah his due. By faith, Solomon built a house for God, where his name would dwell and thereby where He would dwell to be Israel’s God and they His people.

What more shall we say? For time would fail us to tell of all those who gave not simply for the joy of giving but for the joy of knowing the One to whom they gave.

So also our Lord, who for the joy set before Him, gave everything – yes, even His life – enduring the cross and scorning its shame. He gave to the shedding of His blood, willingly and resolutely setting His face toward Jerusalem to die for the life of the world. Though He was rich in every way, He became poor, so that by His poverty, we might be rich beyond measure.

So then, let us like Abel and Abraham, like David and Solomon, and even like our Lord Jesus Christ, give cheerfully to God for the work of His kingdom in our midst. Like them, let us decide in our heart for the joy set before us. It’s the joy of knowing the One to whom we give is the One who gives us all good things.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry:  
[lcms.org/stewardship](http://lcms.org/stewardship)

**St. Peter Lutheran Church Quarterly Voter's Meeting  
October 23, 2022**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wally Jentsch.

**Opening Prayer:** The opening prayer was given by Pastor Peterson.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report stands approved as distributed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Pastor's Report:**

- All the shut-in members are being visited.
- Bible Study at St. Peter is off to a good start.
- SWD President Wille is doing well with his chemotherapy treatments.
- The SWD Pastors Conference in Madison was excellent. The Minor Prophets and the meaning of Biblical Lament in our Divine Services were studied.
- The Elders and Pastor are working on contacting and encouraging inactive and non-attending members of St. Peter to come back to church.
- Pastor Mark Krueger will cover out church services and any emergencies that occur during Pastor Peterson's trip to Iowa (December 25<sup>th</sup> through January 2<sup>nd</sup>).
- Advent Services will be on Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. at St. Peter and 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke. Christmas and New Year's Day will be at regular Sunday Service times. Christmas Eve Service will be 5:00 p.m. at St. Peter and 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke. Thanksgiving Services will be 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke (Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>) and 9:00 a.m. at St. Peter (Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>)

**Treasurer's Report:**

- The new curtains at the back of the church are paid for.
- The rising price of gas accounts for the rise in the church property gas bill.
- The treasurer's report was filed for audit.

**Board of Trustees Report:**

- The trustees are looking into changing the St. Peter Cemetery sign on McHugh Rd.
- Trustees are also looking into making a change in our church sign in front of St. Peter on the corner of Cedar and 3<sup>rd</sup> St.
- Dave Franz explained the masonry on different parts of the church building needing repair (black mold, cleaning, tuck pointing, etc.) Dave gave a quote of \$6,600 from Quality Building Restoration, Inc. for the necessary work.
- Dan Koffarnus said all the organ repairs are completed. The organ plays and sounds great.

**Nominating Committee: MMSC to accept the Ballot of Officers presented for the St. Peter Congregation.** (There was no nomination for Vice Chairman as of yet.)

**Joint Parish Committee:** The next meeting will be December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at St. Luke.

**New Business:** Next voters meeting will be January 22<sup>nd</sup> after the church service.

**Adjournment: MMSC to adjourn**

**Closing Prayer:** Pastor Peterson led us in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Caroline Behnke, Secretary



# November 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Altar Guild:</b> Donna Marose DeAnn Eldred		<b>1 All Saints' Day</b>  7:00p Bible Study	<b>2</b>  4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	<b>5</b>  Set Clocks Back
<b>6 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <i>Green</i>  8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School  <b>Daylight Saving Time Ends</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  1:00p W.I.M. Meeting & Bible Study  7:00p Bible Study	<b>9</b>  4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>  10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton  <b>Veterans Day</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b> <i>Green</i>  8:30 Divine Service (NC) 9:30 Coffee & Cookies Sunday School	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  7:00p Bible Study	<b>16</b>  4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	<b>19</b>
<b>20 Last Sunday of the Church Year</b> <i>Green</i>  8:30 Divine Service 9:30 Sunday School	<b>21</b>  Newsletter Articles Due	<b>22</b>  7:00p Bible Study	<b>23</b>  4:00p Confirmation Class @ St. Luke  7:00p Thanksgiving Service @ St. Luke	<b>24 Thanksgiving</b>  9:00 Thanksgiving Day Service	<b>25</b>  10:00 Bible Study @ Terra Verde, Chilton	<b>26</b>  9:00 Decorate for Christmas
<b>27 First Sunday in Advent</b> <i>Blue</i>  8:30 Divine Service (NC)	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  7:00p Bible Study	<b>30</b> 10:30 Midweek Advent Service  @ St. Luke 5:30p Meal 7:00p Advent Service	<b>31</b>		

Divine Services marked (NC) will not have Holy Communion