

St. Peter's Epistle



December 2024

St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church
145 S. 6th Street, Waterford, WI 53185

Upcoming Events

Advent Midweek Vespers
Dec 4, 11, & 18

Christmas Eve 5 & 7 PM
Christmas Day 9:30 AM

Movie Night
December 13

Men's Bible Study
Dec 7, Dec 21

*Be sure to follow us on facebook
and visit our website at
www.stpeterswaterford.com*

*Sign up for updates by emailing
Pastor Conradt and asking to be
put on the list.*

CHURCH

Telephone: 262-534-3639

Rev. Joshua P.H. Conradt, Pastor
pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com

Church Office
secretary@stpeterswaterford.com

PRESCHOOL

Telephone: 262-534-6066

Mr. Melvin Beversdorf, Director
director@stpeterswaterford.com

From the Desk of Pastor Conradt

Classical Education: Part II of III

A continuation from last month...

I. CHRISTIAN (continued)

"In the Memoria Press curriculum, Christian studies is a rigorous academic subject on the level of all other subjects. Students have Christian studies every year, becoming Bible literate in the lower grades and studying church history in the upper grades. Students read Augustine, Lewis, Dante, and Chesterton. They memorize and recite Scripture every year beginning in kindergarten, using the poetic King James Version. A Christian education is a foundational pillar of Memoria Press because it equips students to use the gift of knowledge in the service of others and for the glory of Christ and the church.

"I like to compare classical Christian education to climbing a mountain. It is an arduous journey, but one that is exciting and exhilarating because as we climb upward we see the landscape below with so much clarity; we have ever larger vistas. And we really are reaching closer to God as we begin to see our human condition with an elevated vision rather than the low vision that we have from our carnal natures.

II. CLASSICAL

"An essential core of a classical education is the study of Latin and the classical civilizations of Greece and Rome. Latin is the heart of a classical education. It is the most effective tool we have to train

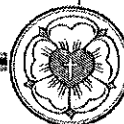
and develop the minds of the young. Latin forms the minds of students by impressing upon them its own qualities of structure, order, and logic, of which Latin is an unexcelled model. Students learn to focus, analyze, and think systematically as they work their way through the Latin grammar to the translation of Latin literature. The study of Latin literature is the final goal and culmination of a classical education-it is where students reap the reward of all the hard work that has gone before. In terms of usefulness and practicality, there is no subject children can study that intersects with every other subject more than Latin.

"Latin isn't the only concern of a classical education though. The other essential component is the classics themselves-reading the best that has been thought and said in literature and history. In the study of the humanities the goal is to build virtue in the soul so we can do and act rightly and to discourage vice so we can avoid hurting others and ourselves. Reading literature and history civilizes young people, teaching those human values that they are not born with: unselfishness, compassion, courage, integrity, and justice.

To be continued...

In Christ,

Pastor Conradt



Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod

OFFICIAL ACTS

DECEMBER 2024

MISSION OF THE MONTH

NEW MEMBERS

By Profession of Faith:

Christine Poznanski

MEMBERS LEAVING

Transfer Out:

Deborah Petri
Klayton & Breanne Schultz,
Brooke, Reid, Lane & Bryn

Removed:

Terry Dlugi
Richard & Linda Noll

DEATHS

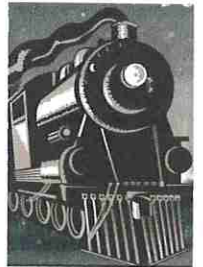
Elaine Beguhl
6/1/1933 11/15/2024



The November and December mission of the month will be combined again this year. We will again participate in the "Friends for Jesus" Toy Drive. Wrapped toys need to be here by December 5th. Additional information is in the narthex. All money raised in the box will go to "Luther Classical College". The mission of Luther Classical College is to be proudly and unapologetically Lutheran in liturgy, theology, and culture. Lutheran. Conservative. Classical. A college for Lutherans. More information about the college is in the narthex.

POLAR EXPRESS UPDATE

The Explore Waterford Polar Express Bus is stopping at St. Peter's *three* times on Saturday, December 14th. (approx. 2:45, 4:45 and 7:15 p.m.) You can be part of the fun in helping us prepare and / or to help us host a quick 15-minute stop. Please check out the sign-up boards in the narthex for how you can help. Thank you in advance! For more information or if you have questions, contact Melvin Beversdorf, at the Preschool phone at 262-534-6066.



January Newsletter Submissions
Due by December 19th.



BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY

The Board of Social Ministry is planning to go Christmas caroling to area nursing homes on Saturday December 21st. We will meet at church at 11:30 am, visit 5 nursing homes from noon until 6:00 pm, and then head to Pizza Ranch in Burlington for dinner (at your own expense). The sign-up sheet is on the office window with separate spots for caroling and dinner.

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone that had pictures taken for the directory. The board of Parish Fellowship has decided to keep the account open at the photographer thru December 31, 2024, so there is still time to have a picture taken for the directory. Please call 414-483-2526 or you can go to their website at: in-focusphotography.org. They are located at 4160 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., St Francis, WI 53235. There have been a few questions about having family portraits taken. This is also possible at the studio. They will continue to offer no fee sitting and ½ price on pictures or product for our members through the end of the year. If you have any questions, you can contact Diana Nowak at 414-418-4749.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT



The Board of Parish Education continues to host "Family Movie Night" at 6:00pm in the parish hall. The December 13th movie is *Joseph: King of Dreams*. There will be some time for "open gym" after the movie. We will have popcorn and juice; attendees can sign up to bring a snack to share.



SENIOR GROUP/LWML CHRISTMAS PARTY



The last meeting of this year will be December 9th. We will have a short business meeting at 11:00 am, followed by our Christmas luncheon.

Please put on your best (or worst) Christmas sweater as there will be a prize for one of you. We will be playing Take-Away Bingo, and the entry fee is a wrapped "white elephant" present. Hope to see you all there!

TO ALL WIDOWED MEMBERS OF ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

As you may be aware, the Board of Social Ministry desires to start a volunteer group to assist widows in our congregation that may have a need. The Board members understand that you may already have a network of friends and family that you rely on. Our intent is to be an additional back up source for you when it is needed. Volunteer assistance can be for rides to church, groceries, doctor appointments, as well as work around the house.

The process for requesting help is to first call one of our two coordinators.

- 1) Colin or Lauren Szymankiewicz
(262) 475-4721
OR
- 2) Lila Solar (262) 534-7321

Our coordinators will then contact one of our volunteers. The volunteer will then contact you to finalize the time and date of your task.

It is our hope and prayer that this offering is a comfort to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me or one of the coordinators.

Yours in Christ

Jeff Ostovich

Jeff Ostovich
Chairman
Board of Social Ministry
(262) 514-4620

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CEMETERY

The church cemetery is a great blessing given to us by our earliest church founders. It was important to them to have a place of rest for all St. Peter's Lutheran Church members. Can you imagine how wonderful it will be on the day of resurrection when we all rise together to meet Jesus.

Cemetery plots are available for all St. Peter's church members. As part of your estate planning, please consider purchasing a plot for you and your loved ones. For more information please contact:

George Neumueller at 262-534-3655 or
Dan Tagatz at 262-336-7132.

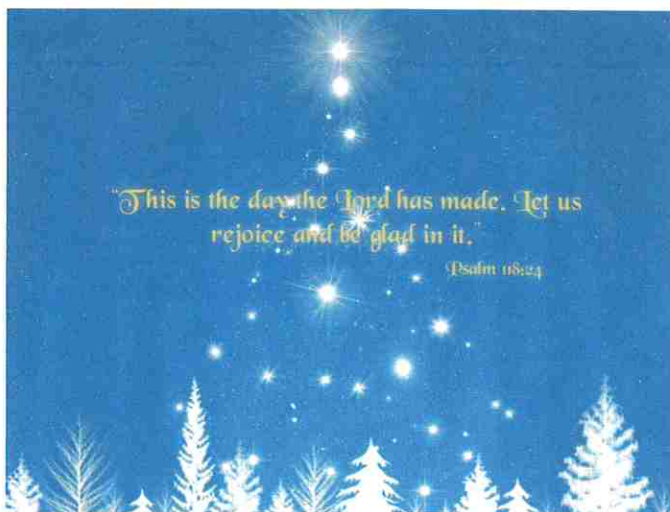


SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

Please join us for the Sunday School Childrens Christmas Program on Sunday, December 22nd at 8:15am in the Parish Hall.

TURKEY DINNER COMMITTEE REQUEST

Traditionally the funds raised from the Turkey Dinner have been used to fund projects around the church that are not in the budget. The committee is asking members and groups to submit any requests for funds by 12/31/2024. Requests should include the item or work requested, the purpose and reason for the request and a total cost including installation if needed, more than one quote is requested if possible. Requests can be submitted to Shelley Kempken or placed in the Fall Fair mailbox. Be sure to include your contact information.



OFFERINGS



The Board of Stewardship is pleased to offer a new digital option for giving through a company that the church already uses, Vanco. The QR code listed here will allow you to give by scanning the code and then set up an account. Please note, your annual offering statement will reflect donations given via Vanco and/or your offering envelope. If you already give through Vanco on our website, you do not need to make any changes. There is no charge directly to you for this service. The nominal fee is paid by the church.



EMAIL LIST!

Pastor Conradt periodically sends out an email to church members who want to be informed of important updates. To be included on Pastor's email list, please send an email to Pastor Conradt at pastorconradt@stpeterswaterford.com and include in the subject line: **"Add me to the list."**

THE SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT (SWD) VOCATIONAL DIRECTORY

At the South Wisconsin District office, we often receive calls from churches and church members seeking recommendations for trusted professionals - attorneys, accountants, plumbers, realtors, etc. - but too frequently, we lack information to share.

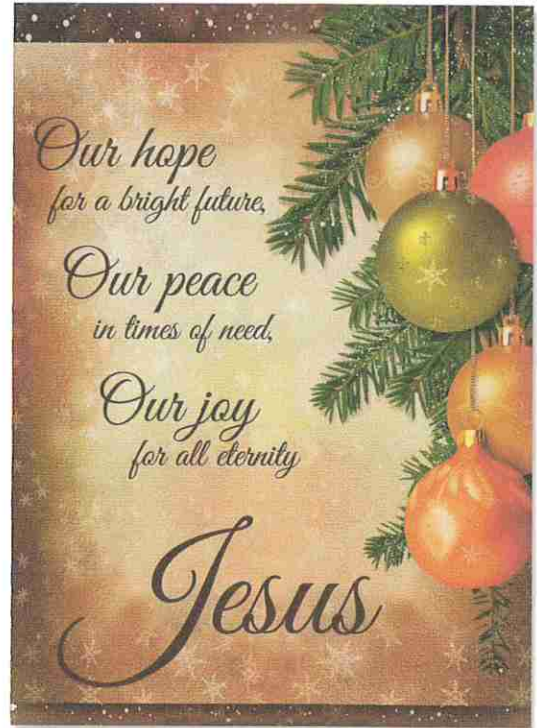
To bridge this gap, we're excited to announce the launch of our *Vocational Directory*, designed specifically for LCMS business owners and professionals in South Wisconsin.

This directory isn't about finding volunteers for *pro bono* work; it's about building a network of skilled professionals within our membership. We invite you to share your expertise with congregations across South Wisconsin.

Ready to get involved? Complete the simple registration form at swd.lcms.org/PRO or scan the QR code below to get started.



Please share this invitation with fellow LCMS business owners and professionals who might want to share their skills and join us in honoring each of our Christ-centered vocations.



~RECIPE CORNER~

Thanksgiving Leftovers Casserole

Ingredients:

- cooking spray
- 3 cups leftover stuffing
- 4 cups chopped leftover roasted turkey
- 2 cups leftover cooked vegetables
- ¾ cup mayonnaise
- 3 cups leftover mashed potatoes
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- ½ teaspoon ground paprika

Directions

1. Gather Ingredients. Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F (190 degrees C). Spray a 9x13-inch baking dish with cooking spray.
2. Spread stuffing evenly in the bottom of the prepared baking dish.
3. Mix turkey, vegetables, and mayonnaise together in a bowl until well combined; spoon over stuffing and spread into an even layer.
4. Mix mashed potatoes and Cheddar cheese until well combined; spread over the turkey mixture. Sprinkle paprika over top.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until heated through, 30 to 40 minutes.
6. Drizzle with gravy and serve with cranberry sauce — (because you probably have those leftover too!)

Recipe Tips: Not enough leftovers? You can use cooked ground turkey, a prepared 6-ounce box of Stove Top stuffing, frozen mixed veggies (thaw them first), and prepared instant mashed potatoes. You can substitute low-fat mayonnaise and Cheddar if preferred.

Ladies Aid/LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League)

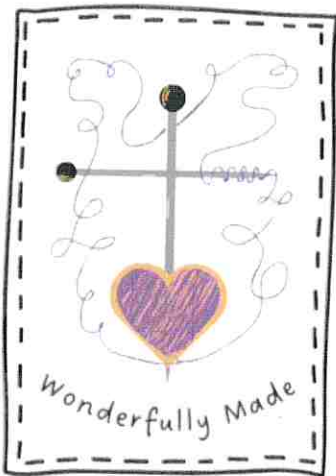
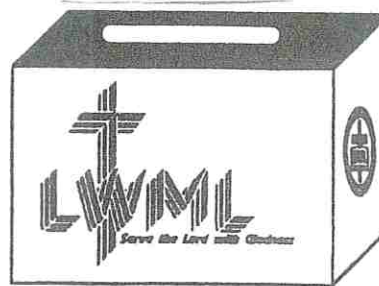
2024-2026 LWML South Wisconsin District Mission

Grant #2 - Lutheran Counseling and Family Services of Wisconsin
\$25,000 - PAID!

Grant #3 - \$30,000 - South Wisconsin District Church Work Student

The need for pastors, teachers and other professional church workers is critical both to serve the church at large and in the mission field. The South Wisconsin District is committed to furthering the education of our future professional church workers. The annual expense at a Synodical university is \$54,000 and at a Synodical seminary is \$57,000. This grant money will help offset the financial burden with which our church workers graduate

Pick up a Mite Box in the Narthex.



2025 LWML SWD Winter Getaway
Fri, Jan 31 - Sat, Feb 01, 2025

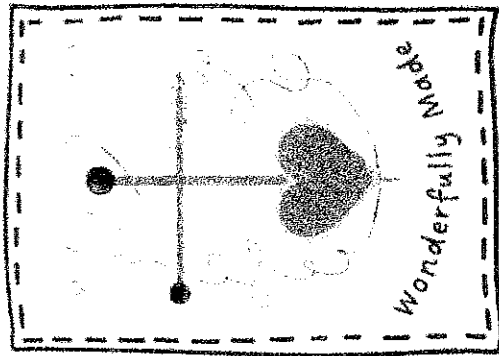
Location: Cranberry Country Lodge
319 Wittig Road, Tomah, WI 54660

Theme: Wonderfully Made

*For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made
Wonderful are your works. (Psalm 139:13-14a)*

Registration form - in Ladies Aid box in the office.

Serve the Lord with Gladness - South Wisconsin District



LWML SWD Winter Getaway

January 31 - February 1, 2025

Cranberry Country Lodge

319 Wittig Road, Tomah, WI 54660

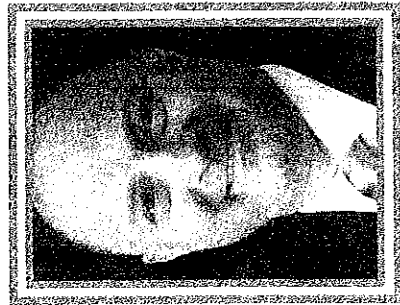
For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works (Psalm 139:13-14a).

GUEST SPEAKER:

Rev. Michael Salemink,
Executive Director of Lutherans for Life

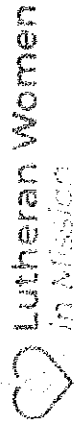
Sessions on being:

- Wonderfully Made by God's Grace
- Wonderfully Made as Male & Female
- Wonderfully Made for Needing One Another



Registration Fee- \$65

Information available at www.lwml-swd.org



SERVANT EVENTS:

- Eyeglass Cases for MOST Ministries
- Soap Sacks for Hope House of Central Wisconsin

GIFTS FROM THE HEART: SOS Center

Art Supplies, LEGOs, Calculators, Paper Plates, Cups & Cutlery, Ziploc baggies (all sizes), 8 & 13 gal garbage bags, Paper Towels, Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Windex, 409, Mr. Clean, Pine Sol

FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSION BOOK DISCUSSION

Lady Like: Living Biblically by Rebekah Curtis & Rose Adle

OFFERING RECIPIENTS:

- 3/4 for Lutherans for Life
- 1/4 for the Female Church Work Scholarship Fund



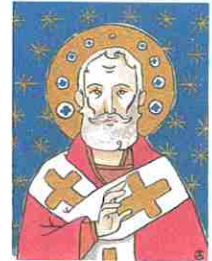
St. Peter's Lutheran - Rainbow Preschool



"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us." Matthew 1:23

Do you know the history of St. Nicholas?

You *may have* heard that he served as a bishop during the fourth century in town of Myra, on the coast of the eastern Mediterranean Sea (southern part of modern day Turkey). He may have attended the Council of Nicea that Constantine convened in 325 A.D. to resolve issues troubling the Christian church. (We still say the Nicene Creed).



Born in 280 A.D. to prosperous parents. Nicholas (meaning people's victor in Greek) was named after an uncle, who was an abbot at a nearby monastery. Growing up in a Christian household in the town of Patara, Nicholas learned to care for the less fortunate. When the plague swept through Lycia (the area he lived), his parents both died. He went to live with the aforementioned uncle. He decided to train for the priesthood and made up his mind to give away his possessions and inheritance from his parents.



The story continues with how Nicholas gave away some of his wealth, when he came to know of a family who had recently become impoverished. The man's three daughters were not able to be married (no dowry money) so they were soon to be sold into servitude. Nicholas dropped a bag of coins into the man's house (possibly landing in a shoe or stocking). This was enough for the eldest daughter to be married. Nicholas did the same - sneaking in the night to deliver a bag of coins - for the second daughter. The father stayed up and found Nicholas when he later gave the third bag of coins. Nicholas told the man to thank God, not him and asked the father to keep the generosity a secret.

Stiftskirche St. Goar
Sankt Goar am Rhein, Germany
1469-1489

In the end, it is ultimately that Nicholas pointed to Christ with his life and confession is what makes him important to remember. As we prepare for the Advent of our King, Jesus, may we this month share the story of the Son of David coming down FOR YOU and me to save and forgive you and me from our sins and give us His righteousness, good gifts, eternal peace.

There's more to the history of this person who would become known as St. Nicholas. We will share some of his story with community guests who travel to visit us on the Polar Express Train (decorated bus) with the Explore Waterford Event on Saturday, **December 14, 2024**. There are sign up sheets in the narthex if you'd like to donate, prepare, or serve as greeters for the 2:45 p.m., 4:45 p.m., or 7:15 p.m. We will be setting up the downstairs as a walk through winter wonderland (highlighting Preschool & Sunday School art) and then invite our guests to the parish hall / gym as a snack / activity area where we will share the story of St. Nicholas (the historical Christian version). **Please consider how you can volunteer to help.** Thank you in advance for your help!



***For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6***

Repenting of “Yours” and “Mine”

Retailers have had their Christmas displays up since before Reformation Sunday. The kids have made their list and checked it twice, or three times or more. It won't be long before the tree will start shedding its needles, the stockings emptied, the gifts unwrapped, toys broken, and the too small or out of style clothes returned. Before we know it, the annual celebration of Christmas will be over.

But for the children of God, we know that the gift of Christmas doesn't ever end. Week in and week out, the Lord continues to shower His gifts on us. Every time the Lord gathers us to His house, and we are led to kneel at His table, the gift of forgiveness is repeatedly granted to us. It is nothing we deserve. It comes to us freely!

The fourth stanza of the stewardship hymn, “Forgive Us Lord for Shallow Thankfulness” (*LSB* 788) highlights both this gift and our response.

*Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
that gives as Christ gave, never counting cost*

To learn thankfulness is necessary. The parents of young children are well-versed in the fact that they must teach their children thankfulness. It does not come naturally. The spiritual genetics inherited from our parents allow us to think that the world revolves around us. When we receive something, there is an inward desire to think that we in some way deserve it.

But there is no way that we deserve anything we get from our Lord. We need that ongoing lesson from God Himself. Thankfulness toward God is worked in us by the Holy Spirit. God's Word works this thanksgiving in us. We need this weekly reminder that Jesus didn't consider “equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself” for us, to the point of death on a cross (Phil. 2:6). He didn't bat an eye. He paid the price! Our life of stewardship is one of daily and weekly thanksgiving inspired by the Lord Himself.

*That knows no barrier of “yours” and “mine,”
assured that only what's withheld is lost.*

Because Jesus gave us everything and more, there can be no ownership. The child at Christmas is quick to claim that the newly gifted toy is “mine!” But as Psalm 24:1 asserts, “The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein.” There isn't anything in creation that is ours. When we cling to and claim ownership of anything in creation, we are losing out on the continual gifts with which the Lord desires to shower upon us. Closed hands cannot receive anything new. We cling to the old and dead and miss the new thing that the Lord desires to do in and for us.

We are led to repent of the “yours” and “mine” and remove the lie that we have any ownership. In this we have the promise that God will continue to give to us. Not just at Christmas, but every Sunday at the altar in the Lord's house.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tanner Brown	12/01
Edwina Shelton	12/01
Noah Multhauf	12/02
Robert Repischak	12/02
Jessica Berndt	12/06
Valerie Kimball	12/06
Rebecca Rauterberg	12/06
Rosemary Heck	12/07
Linda Winkelman	12/07
Frederick Wolfgram	12/07
Russell Korntheuer	12/12
Ginny Morby	12/12
Laura Fischer	12/13
Darlene Jacobson	12/13
Craig Campbell	12/14
Eric Obermeyer	12/16
Mackenzie Somers	12/17
Andrew Handeland Sr.	12/18
Scott Jung	12/19
Jack Morawetz	12/19
Claire Scott	12/19
Heidi Kin	12/20
Beatrice Jacobson	12/21
Joan Somers	12/21
Connor Charland	12/23
Raymond Fischer	12/23
Rick McGaughy	12/25
Courtney Blawat	12/26
Nicole Grant	12/26
Jessica Koch	12/26
Pearl Beversdorf	12/27
Jodi Kirincich	12/27
Jill Jacobs	12/29
Debra Steinke	12/29
Daniel Grosskreuz	12/30
Dennis Kramer	12/30
Shelley Kempken	12/31



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

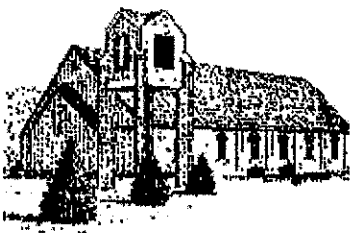


To the following couples who are celebrating December Wedding Anniversaries.

Ronald & Ruth Burke	12/02
Ron & Susan Greiner	12/09
Bryan & Karry Brintnall	12/11
Robert & Luanne Hassey	12/13
Lawrence & Teri Geboy	12/15
Dale & Janet Buchholtz	12/18
Spencer & Heidi Frost	12/27



HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS



Abbreviations
 B.C. Bible Class
 S.S. Sunday School
 M.B.S Men's Bible Study
 W.B.S. Women's Bible Study

December 2024

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church

Waterford, WI

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Bible Study -8:15am Worship -9:30am Choir Practice after Worship	2	3 W.B.S. 1:00pm	4 Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	5	6	7 M.B.S. 8:30am Caroling at Ten Club Park (6:00pm) after Christmas Parade
8 S.S./B.C. -8:15am Worship -9:30am Choir Practice after Worship	9 Sr. Group and LWML Christmas Party 11:00am Finance 6:00pm Council 7:00pm	10 W.B.S. 1:00pm	11 Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	12	13 Movie Night 6:00pm "Joseph: King of Dreams"	14 Carrie Jacobs / Paul Terry Wedding 1:30pm Polar Express participation -- see posting in the Narthex.
15 S.S./B.C. -8:15am Worship -9:30am Choir Practice after Worship	16	17 W.B.S. 1:00pm	18 Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm Elders 7:30pm	19	20	21 Caroling at Nursing Homes -- meet at church at 11:30am
22 S.S. Program in Parish Hall -8:15am Worship -9:30am Choir Practice after Worship	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship 5:00pm Worship 7:00pm	25 Christmas Day Worship 9:30am	26	27	28
29 Worship -9:30am	30	31 New Years Eve				