St. Peter's Epistle

January 2026

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



Upcoming Events

Feast of Epiphany Divine Service Jan 6 6:30 pm

No Service Jan 7

Men's Bible Study Jan 3 & 17

> Movie Night Jan 9

Genesis Project Visits Jan 23-24

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

Incense

Old Testament

"I You shall make an altar to burn incense on; "Aaron shall burn on it sweet incense every morning; when he tends the lamps, he shall burn incense on it. And when Aaron lights the lamps at twilight, he shall burn incense on it, a perpetual incense before the LORD throughout your generations."" (Ex 30:1, 7-8) NKJV

"12 Then [Aaron] shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring *it* inside the veil. ¹³ And he shall put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of incense may cover the mercy seat that *is* on the Testimony, lest he die." (Leviticus 16:12-13)

"46 So Moses said to Aaron, "Take a censer and put fire in it from the altar, put incense on it, and take it quickly to the congregation and make atonement for them; for wrath has gone out from the LORD. The plague has begun." ⁴ Then Aaron took it as Moses commanded, and ran into the midst of the assembly; and already the plague had begun among the people. So he put in the incense and made atonement for the people." (Numbers 16:46-47)

At Vespers: "Let my prayer rise before You as incense, The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice." (Psalm 141:2)

Not without a believing heart: "13 Bring no more futile sacrifices; Incense is an abomination to Me. The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling of assemblies— I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting. 14 Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing *them.* 15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood." (Isaiah 1:13-15)

Not to false gods: "8 You provoke Me to wrath with the works of your hands, burning incense to other gods in the land of Egypt where you have gone to dwell, that you may cut yourselves off and be a curse and a re-

proach among all the nations of the earth?" (Jeremiah 44:8)

But in all the world: "For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name *shall be* great among the Gentiles; In every place incense *shall be* offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the LORD of hosts." (Malachi 1:11)

New Testament

"So it was, that while [Zacharias] was serving as priest before God in the order of his division, according to the custom of the priesthood, his lot fell to burn incense when he went into the temple of the Lord. And the whole multitude of the people was praying outside at the hour of incense. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense." (Luke 1:8-11)

they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh." (Matthew 2:11) This fulfills the prophecy: "The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you. ⁶ The multitude of camels shall cover your *land*, The dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; All those from Sheba shall come; They shall bring gold and incense, And they shall proclaim the praises of the LORD." (Isaiah 60:5b-6)

In heaven: "8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty -four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints," (Rev 5:8) and "3 Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand." (Revelation 8:3-4)

In Christ,

Parter Count

OFFICIAL ACTS



BAPTISM

Emily Hayden

12/21/2025

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Emily Hayden

12/21/2025

NEW MEMBERS

Transfer In:

Liam Cockrell



February Newsletter Submissions Due by January 21st.



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

The Board of Parish Education continues to host "Family Movie Night" at 6:00pm in the parish hall.

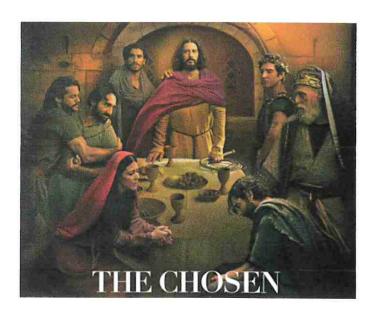
The January 9th animated movie is *Ferdinand*. There will be some time for "open gym" after the movie. We will have popcorn and juice; attendees can sign up to bring a snack to share.

CHURCH BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Please plan on submitting your financials for 2025 to the Church office by the deadline date of January 23rd.

Parish Fellowship

Parish Fellowship needs at least one more member to help plan fellowship events for 2026 and beyond. Interested parties should contact Jim Dumke, chairman of The Board of Stewardship. jdumke@wi.rr.com or 262-442-6050



"THE CHOSEN" Mark your calendars. We will be watching season 5 of The Chosen series after service on Sundays in February and March. This is the season called "The Last Supper" and follows Jesus and his disciples during Holy week. Pastor will have Bible Study after we watch the show to help us sort the truth from fiction. Light lunch or snacks will be planned. Watch for details.

BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY



The Board of Social Ministry would like to thank everyone who joined in the fun and shared their wonderful

voices for Christmas caroling at area nursing homes on December 13th. It was a great time to spend with each other singing and having dinner. The residents were very happy we were there.

Social Ministry will be having a meeting after church service Sunday, January 11th.

FLOWERS

Flowers are a wonderful way to honor a special occasion or remember loved ones and friends who have passed away. The 2026 signup sheet is in the Narthex by the coat racks. When signing up for chancel flowers please be sure to have the florist call the church office for delivery day and times.

JANUARY 2026 MISSION OF THE MONTH

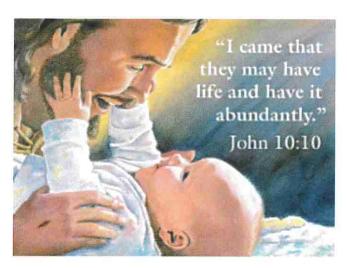
Lutherans for Life

Information taken from lutheransforlife.org website

OUR MISSION ... Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

OUR VISION ... Every Lutheran, both individually and in community, upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same

OUR PHILOSOPHY ... Lutherans For Life believes that the Church is compelled by God's Word to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable and defenseless. The crisis of our times is the repudiation of biblical truth manifested in the wanton destruction of innocent human life through legalized abortionon-demand and the growing threat to the lives of others through legalized assisted suicide and euthanasia. Therefore, as Lutherans For Life, we will strive to give a Gospel-motivated witness to the Church and society on these and other related issues, such as chastity, post-abortion healing, and family living. We will call God's people to compassionate action and foster life-affirming alternatives for those facing difficult situations.





TURKEY DINNER COMMITTEE MEETING

On February 11th, 6:00pm a meeting will be held to start preliminary planning of the 2026 turkey dinner. All church members are welcome to join us and become part of the planning. As a congregation, involvement is encouraged and welcomed to have a successful event. We've seen community attendance increasing over the last few years and are continually working on improving our processes.

COOKIE WALK The cookie walk was a huge success thanks to the generosity of our church members. Thank you so much to everyone who helped in any way. Whether you prayed for the success of the event, baked cookies, came and helped or shopped, had a vendor booth, brought your children to sing or were a child that sang...your efforts were worth it. Visitors to our church had so many wonderful things to say. They saw the light of Jesus shining brightly here! The containers that cookies were brought to church in, are in the kitchen and will remain there until the end of January. If you would like yours back, please pick it up there. The cookie walk raised \$3,434.50, which will be shared by the Preschool and a new fund for kitchen upgrades. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped in any way!



SENIOR GROUP/LWML CHRISTMAS PARTY

Fun was had by all that attended the Senior Group Christmas party and played take-away bingo. A Stowell's catered lunch was also enjoyed.



OFFERINGS

To have offerings included in your annual contribution statement, your offering must be submitted in one of the following ways:

- Use your annually provided giving envelope and place it in the offering plate.
- Give your offering electronically using Vanco (guidelines listed below).
- Mail your offering to the church office;

or

 Have your offering automatically made through your bank. Check with your bank to have this set up.

Your envelope includes a category titled "other". If you would like your offering to be assigned to one of the following, please indicate your desired category on your envelope:

- Building fund
- K-12 tuition assistance
- Organ fund
- Vicar fund
- Picnic shelter (Pavillion)
- Cemetery Association
- Mission of the month
- Preschool fund

Checks placed in the offering plate that aren't in a numbered envelope are not included on your annual contribution statement.

Donations collected through the Mission of the Month box are not included in your contribution statement. However, as indicated above, you can indicate on your numbered offering envelope that your offering is for the Mission of the Month.

If you need offering envelopes or have any questions, please contact the church secretary.



Vanco is a company the church currently uses for a digital option. The QR code listed here will allow you to give by scanning the code and then setting 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.



EAST MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION



The Village of Waterford main street project is set to start in the near future. They will reconstruct E. Main St. from Milwaukee St. to STH 36 and relay the water main from Milwaukee St. to 6th St. We will update in the newsletter and weekly bulletins as information becomes available.

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CEMETERY

The cemetery association will hold its annual meeting after service on January 18th. Cemetery plots are available for all St. Peter's church members. For more information contact: Ron Burke 262-488-2863 or Dan Taggatz 262-336-7132.



St. Peter's is partnering with St. Thomas to help stock their food pantry. Please continue to bring in your non-perishable

food items to the basket in the narthex and we will be sure they get delivered to St. Thomas. The pantry is open on the 2nd & 4th Fridays of each month from 1 to 3 pm.

Needed Pantry Items

Canned Vegetables (14-18 oz)

Canned Fruit (14-18 oz)

Canned Tuna/Chicken/Spam/etc. (5-10 oz)

Canned Beans (15-20 oz)

Canned Soup (10-20 oz)

Mac & Cheese (7-12 oz)

Pasta (16 oz/1 lb)

Tomato/Marinara Sauce/etc. (15-20 oz)

Spaghetti Os/Ravioli/Chili, Beef Stew etc. (15-

20 oz)

Peanut Butter (15-20 oz)

Jelly/Jam (15-20 oz)

Cereal (10-15 oz)

Salad Dressing (15-20 oz)

Ketchup (10-15 oz)

Mustard (10-15 oz)

Mayonnaise (10-15 oz)

GENESIS PROJECT

As you know the Genesis Project is a way for St. Peter's to consider whether or not to pursue opening a Lutheran Classical K-8 school. A Lutheran classical school seeks to cultivate wisdom and virtue by nourishing the soul on that which is true, good, and beautiful. Scholars learn how to think and express themselves eloquently. Subjects taught include Bible and Christian Studies, Grammar, Composition. Literature. Latin. Arithmetic. Logic, History, Geography, Science, Art, Music, and Physical fitness. More information can be found at www.ccle.org.

Please make every effort to attend one of the upcoming Genesis Project meetings to share your thoughts and hear ideas about how St. Peter's can do something new – in terms of using the facility God has blessed us with – for the education of the youth of the church and the community.

Surveys are available in the office for church members and also prospective student and community members.

Meetings will be held on January 23rd at 4:00pm and 6:30pm and January 24th at 10:00am.



~RECIPE CORNER ~

(from "Feeding The Flock" Cookbook by St. Peter's Lutheran School and rainbow Preschool 2006)

Vegetable Pizza

2 pkgs. crescent rolls
2 (8 oz.) pkgs. cream cheese, softened
½ c. mayonnaise
½ tsp. dill weed
½ tsp. onion salt
Shredded cheddar cheese
Assorted raw, finely chopped vegetables

Spread crescent rolls on cookie sheet and bake at 375 for 10-12 minutes. Cool. Cream the cream cheese, mayonnaise, dill weed and onion salt until smooth and creamy. Spread over cooled crust. Sprinkle shredded cheese, then mixed raw vegetables over cream cheese mixture. Chill until ready to serve. Cut into squares.

Mona Jacobs

KAMPE'S CHILI

3 lbs. ground chuck, browned

4 T. Flour

3 (16 oz.) cans Italian tomatoes

2 tsp. chili powder (or to taste)

1/4 tsp. red pepper

½ c. sugar

1 bay leaf

1 c. chopped onion

3 (16 oz.) cans kidney beans

1 c. chopped celery or chopped red bell peppers or any combination of these.

2 tsp. salt

1 T. vinegar

3 (8 oz.) cans tomato sauce

Drain all but 2 T. fat from cooked meat. Stir in flour until smooth. Gradually add tomatoes and stir until mixture boils and thickens. Add remaining ingredients and simmer for 15 to 20 minutes. Enjoy!

Christine Kampe



January 2026 Preschool & Genesis Project update

Mr. Melvin Beversdorf, Preschool Director Phone: 262.534.6066 Email: director@stpeterswaterford.com



Behold, I make all things new...

As I sit in the glow of the Christmas tree and think towards the new year, I am reminded of all the comfort and joy that we have just heard and been renewed in as we celebrated the Christ child being born for us. As we move forward with our new gifts from Christmas, or maybe you read this a few days after realizing you aren't able to do your lofty New Year's resolution, we go through the 12 days of Christmas and reach the Epiphany (revelation) of Jesus as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful." Revelations 21:5

This coming year is one that will be filled with conversations and choices. I was called to serve in your midst as your Preschool Director, but also to help aid you on your journey of discovery about how to use your school building. I have enjoyed the homeschool activities and community events that have helped me understand a little about who the people of St. Peter's are and those in the city, town, and surrounding areas. Now we come to the moment where we need to talk about what NEW things God may be doing in the church. As different options for a new type of education that partners with parents are developed and decided upon, PLEASE let your voice be heard. It is vitally important to know where each congregation member stands in terms of levels of support for a school.

And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 2 Corinthians 12:9

This month is to be highlighted by the Genesis Project consultants coming to visit on January 23 (Friday - afternoon / evening) and January 24 (Saturday morning). **Please make every effort to attend one of these meetings** to share your thoughts and hear ideas about how St. Peter's can do something new - in terms of using the facility God has blessed us with - for the education of the youth of the church and the community.

Living by the exceedingly great and precious promises of God - 1 Peter 1:4

Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Hebrews 13:5

As we ponder and discuss and move towards ideas (based on your feedback) to develop into options and plans to consider, we remember that God is the one who does the action for our salvation. The Holy Spirit moves where God wants and wills. May God lead and guide us in all these things to His glory and to the benefit of our families and neighbors.

Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Preschool Update - Thank you to everyone who came and enjoyed the Preschool Christmas Program. It was a wonderful time with about 150 people enjoying the kids singing, Pastor reminding us that Christmas is about Jesus, and some cookies and milk. As we approach the halfway point of the school year this month, we thank God for all the Preschool families that He has brought us.

As of this printing, we have 5 Signed up for new FALL 2026 already! We'll have an *Open House in the last week in January*. Please tell your family, friends and neighbors and encourage them to consider Rainbow Preschool!

Preschool / Genesis Project: Coming Up in January:

January 5

Enrollment for new community Preschool families begins

January 13 - 5:30 p.m.

Steering Committee Meeting

January 23

Tentative Plan - 1 p.m. Leaders Meeting

4 p.m. Congregational / Community Meeting

6:30 p.m. Congregational / Community Meeting

January 24

9 a.m. Leaders Meeting

10 am Congregational / Community Meeting

Please make your calendar to attend one meeting with our Consultants. Thanks!

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27

Ladies Aid/LWML January Newsletter

Do You Remember.... Lutheran Missions Attic Workshop

In 1953 a small group of medical volunteers organized there efforts related to the National Lutheran Medical Mission Associations, with centers in St. Louis and Chicago. They gathered bandaging materials, medicine samples and other medical item that were no longer needed from area doctors, hospitals, and other health centers. The items were shipped to a hospital in Nigeria and to a school in Hong Kong.

One of the faithful volunteers was Arlein Kapke, a public health registered nurse and a member of Hales Corners Lutheran Church on Grange Avenue. In 1960, as the organization grew, she was given permission by the church to use the unused space under the roof above the church offices. Hence the name, "Attic Workshop.

In 1985, under Arlein's strong leadership, Lutheran Missions Attic Workshop was incorporated as a non-profit organization.

Helping Hands and Hearts; A Team Effort

The medical team (nurses and helpers) identifies, sorts and packs these items for pickup by Orphan Grain Train, Westfield, WI, branch. They, in turn, send them stateside and overseas. Containers are being filled for Maui, Hawaii and the Ukraine. They also pack for International Chidren's Fund, Neenah, WI.

The shipping team fills boxes with quilts, layettes, school supplies, pillowcase dresses, hygiene items, medical supplies, etc. They ship to Love a Child, Inc. (Haiti), Lutheran Border Concerns Ministries (San Diego, CA), and Widow's Mite Mission (Cottonwood, AZ) via UPS. They also pack items to be delivered to Ebenezer Stone Ministries, Milwaukee, WI.

The special projects team works on assembling hygiene kits, Operations Christmas Child shoeboxes and any other special projects during the year.

We praise and thank God for the many generous donations we receive and the willing hands and hearts to get them to those in need.

For more information contract WnnieShelton - dgshelton02@gmail.com

SOME THOUGHTS TO PONDER IN 2026

TIME - TREASURE - TALENT

By Rev. Thomas Soltis, SELC Stewardship Director

Lifestyle Evaluation Quiz

- 1. I never seem to have enough time. (T-F)
- 2. I feel I'm drowning in money issues. (T-F)
- 3. I'm not living up to my potential. (T-F)
- 4. I'm not sure my goals are attainable. (T-F)
- 5. When I plan, I fear failure. (T-F)

Non-achievers Dream Vaguely and Dread Specifically

In the February, 2012, issue of Boat US magazine, Jeremy Cage (who spent 16 months sailing around the world with his wife and two children) had this to say, "Many people never achieve the things they want because they dream vaguely and dread specifically. They're vague about how to get there and allow dread to detract them from doing the work and the planning required." Jeremy is a senior executive at PepsiCo, Purchase, NY.

Time - Treasure - Talent

Time, financial resources and abilities are gifts from God and should be used according to His will and for His purposes. He has no delight in non-achievers who plan vaguely and fear irresponsibly. He delights in fearless stewards who plan specifically to engage their time, treasure and talent for His glory.

Some Spiritual "T's"

> Time - Christian stewards should not be vague about daily devotions. A specific time should be set for a two way conversation with God via His Word and prayer. Time should also be prioritized for Church worship. Christian stewards take the time to be good care-givers in behalf of family members and those in need. > Treasure - God personally doesn't need your money, but He greatly rejoices when you cheerfully share it through His Church (2 Cor. 9:7). Don't be vague about your offerings. Be specific. Predetermine in January what you will contribute weekly on a percentage of income basis (1 Cor. 16:2). And don't be afraid to fund God first with the tithe (10% of income) worrying about the future. Trust God to provide. > Talent - Volunteers are the dynamos of the Church producing the power to perform God's will in the world. Don't be vague about your talents. Know them and specifically put them into action. Prayerfully eliminate feelings of

inadequacy. Moses felt inadequate when called upon to lead Israel out of Egypt. Trusting God, he accepted the challenge and worked wonders (Genesis 3 & 4).

Some Temporal "T's"

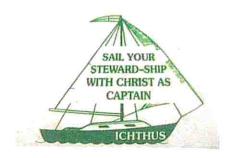
>Time - Engaging in long, insignificant conversations or excessively watching TV will eliminate time to do better things to better yourself... by reading beneficial books watching good DVD's, taking a class for self improvement, gleaning useful information on the internet, etc. Procrastinating clock-watchers at work never get ahead.

> Talent - Young people struggling to determine a future vocation should answer the questions: "What do I like to do? What can I do best? Those who realistically envision the future without the dread of failure are more likely to succeed Those already in a vocation should not simply coast along Fine tuning talents via self improvement can lead to more enjoyable occupations and better pay.

> Treasure - "Waste not; want not" is a good adage. Haphazard money management can be disastrous. Just ask someone in the dark pit of credit card debt. It's important to be specific about money flow by establishing a personal budget. To be a person of means, one must live within one's means.

Jesus, the Model Steward

Jesus was not vague about His Father's plan of salvation (John 3:16). Fearlessly, He fulfilled the specifics. He led a perfect life to cover our unrighteousness. On the cross He suffered the agonies of hell to deliver us for heaven. He was the perfect Steward of His Father's plan. God has a plan for your life. Know what it is, then let Jesus captain your ship of life to fearlessly fulfill your life's mission..





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Melissa Dodulik	1/02
Lillian Dolezal	1/03
Carol Wolfgram	1/04
Charlotte Jung	1/05
Diana Nowak	1/05
Lisa Salo	1/05
Julie Campbell	1/06
Holly Handeland	1/06
Andrew Handeland Jr.	1/07
Juliana Taggatz	1/07
Kathe Oelkers	1/08
Ruby Gobel	1/10
Terry Jacobs	1/10
Lloyd King	1/10
Liam Cockrell	1/11
Andrew Salo	1/11
Kaitlyn Buchholtz	1/13
Ted Myers	1/13
Michael Dessecker	1/18
Jarmen Czuta	1/19
Jacob Gilgenbach	1/20
Logan Mittelstaedt	1/22
Bernd Kampe	1/23
Diane Mehring	1/24
Joseph Multhauf	1/28
Rose Beversdorf	1/30
Jackson Keeling	1/30
Gabriella Salas	1/30
Diana Storm	1/31



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

To the following couples who are celebrating January Wedding Anniversaries.

Ted & Jill Jacobs	1/16
Dwight & Debbie Jutrzonka	1/17
Jarmen & Tina Czuta	1/23



January 2026

St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church Waterford, WI

Abbreviations
B.C. Bible Class
S.S. Sunday School

M.B.S Men's Bible Study W.B.S. Women's Bible Study N.M/A.C New Member/Adult Catechesis Class

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	M.B.S. 8:30am
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am	5	W.B.S. 10:00am Worship 6:30pm The Epiphany of Our Lord	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm	N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm	Movie Night 6:00pm "Ferdinand"	10
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am Social Ministry meeting following worship service	Sr. Group and LWML11:00am	W.B.S. 10:00am Steering Committee 3 rd meeting 5:30pm	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Finance 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm Council 7:30pm	15 N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm	16	17 M.B.S. 8:30am
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am	19	W.B.S. 10:00am	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm	22	Leaders Mtg	Leaders Mtg
Cemetery Assoc. Annual Mtg.			Worship 6:30pm Elders 7:30pm	N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm	1:00pm Congregation/ Community Mtg. 4:00pm and 6:30pm	9:00am Congregation/ Community Mtg. 10:00am
S.S./B.C. 8:15am Worship 9:30am	26 Sr. Group 11:00am	W.B.S. 10:00am Preschool Open House	Youth Catechesis 5:15pm Worship 6:30pm	N.M./A.C. Class 6:00pm	30	31