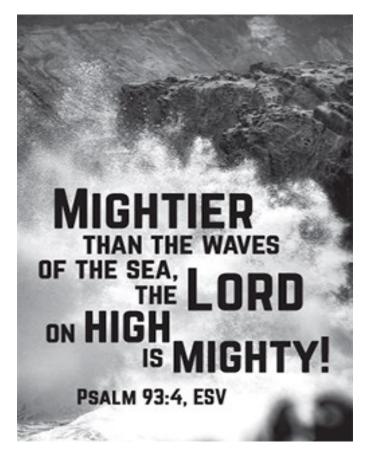
Christ's United Lutheran Church 437 Airport Road www.christsunited.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Life Together at Christ's United Lutheran Church





Join us for Worship Saturday 5:00 p.m. & Sunday 9:30 a.m. Journey & Fellowship 10:45
Life Together at Christ's United





Christ's United Lutheran Church One God. One People. One Purpose. 437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921 www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

February 2017

In This Issue:

Pastors Message	3 & 4
Council Highlights	5
Memorials	6-7
Youth Group News	8-9
Birthdays & Anniversaries	10-11
Lenten Worship	12
Serving our Community Of Faith	13
Calendar	14-15
Prayer List	16
Social Ministry	18
"Souper Bowl" of Caring	19
Capital Campaign	20
WELCA News	22



Status of Accounts as of DECEMBER 31

Balance in Checking Account......\$1,074.42 Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2016 Annual Budget of \$174,914.20 is **\$14,576.18**

December income was \$22,760.25

Benevolence Gifts....-\$17,462.36 (87.3% of our Benevolence goal of \$20,000.00 for 2016)



CHURCH COUNCIL 2017

council@christsunited.org

	Phone	Term Expires
Beth Andrews (Secretary)	570-874-2381	Feb. 2018
Gregg Sterling	570-449-6940	Feb. 2018
vicepresident@chris	tsunited.org	
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2019
Deb Berner	570-875-3209	Feb. 2017
John Denchak	570-875-4970	Feb. 2017
Deidre Dengler	Youth Rep.	Sept. 2016
Gregg Sterling	570-449-6940	Feb. 2019
John Towey	570-205-2682	Feb. 2018
Mark Varndell	570-875-2545	Feb. 2019
Deb Zaharick	570-875-2691	Feb. 2017

PASTOR

Rev. Dr. Kim L. Lengert 570-336-3110 pastorkim@christsunited.org

<u>STAFF</u>					
Parish Visitor	Lois Sterling	570-449-6947			
lois@christsunited.or	g				
Parish Administrator	Deb Hall	570-875-1591			
office@christsunited.org					
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00					
Director of Music	Position vacant				
music@christsunited.org					
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-875-2422			
treasurer@christsunited.org					
Indoor Custodian	Cheryl Varndell	570-875-2545			
Outdoor Custodian	Bill Price	570-875-4272			
Financial Secretary	Christine Brennan	570-875-0720			



Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education education@christsunited.org

Evangelism/Outreach evangelism@christsunited.org

Lutheran Church Men (LCM) lcm@christsunited.org

Social Ministry socialministry@christsunited.org

Stewardship

WELCA welca@christsunited.org

Worship & Music music@christsunited.org <u>Christ's United Committees</u> Auditing & Finance Committees finance@christsunited.org

Endowment Fund endowment@christsunited.org

Mutual Ministry

Nominating council@christsunited.org

Personnel personnel@christsunited.org

Property property@christsunited.org

Christ's United Lutheran Church Mission Statement

We the members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Ashland, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which includes a creative reexamination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will under gird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.



From a worship bulletin:

Stop by for some coffee or sweat tea.



This doesn't sound like a very sweet offer!

Pastor Kim's Message

The Pastor's Part:

Stewardship

Every faculty you have, your power of thinking or of moving your limbs from moment to moment, is given you by God. If you devoted every moment of your whole life exclusively to His service, you could not give Him anything that was not in a sense His own already.

- C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Just say the word "stewardship" and you'll see eyebrows raising. The word stirs up feelings of fear, annoyance, and even panic for some people. These reactions are understandable considering how the word "stewardship" has been often used as a weapon, a threatening tool of churches to pay for projects and pastors. But even though that is how the word has been used, it is not what it means.

The word "stewardship" is not about money: it is about relationship.

The word began in the beginning, when the Spirit of God flowed over the chaos and formed the universe, creating the heavens and the dry land, the mountains and the seas, the fish and the furry, the slimy and the sleek. And the word took form as God gathered the dust and shared His breath and humanity was formed.

Then God said, "Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth."

> God created humanity in God's own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them. Genesis 1: 26-27

Unlike anything else created, it is humanity that carries God's breath, God's life, and... God's love.





By the word God created the richness of the earth, reflecting God's beauty and harmony, a place of joy where God walked freely with humanity to enjoy the peace, the work of God's heart – and human hands. As humanity was set apart by God's breath, so was humanity set apart by God's purpose. For as God gave His word to create the universe, God has created humanity to care for it. In Genesis 2: 15 we see our purpose as God placed humanity as "stewards" in God's Garden, to take care of it, to nurture it, to grow it, so that its beauty and peace may continue to be enjoyed by God – with us – together. The beginning of stewardship.

As the people of God, as the church on earth, the word stewardship is to do more than raise our eyebrows: it is to raise our hearts. It is a word that defines our relationship, gives us confidence, purpose and hope. In stewardship our lives have a meaning that is directly connected with eternity and born in boundless love.

So it seems fitting that this month of February, when we remember the loves in our lives with words on pictures of hearts, we start a new series of articles in our newsletter about living in the love of God. Watch for new insights into our lives of faith in the stewardship section of the newsletter each month. Check the website for new videos as members of our church family – near and far – share their personal stories of stewardship.

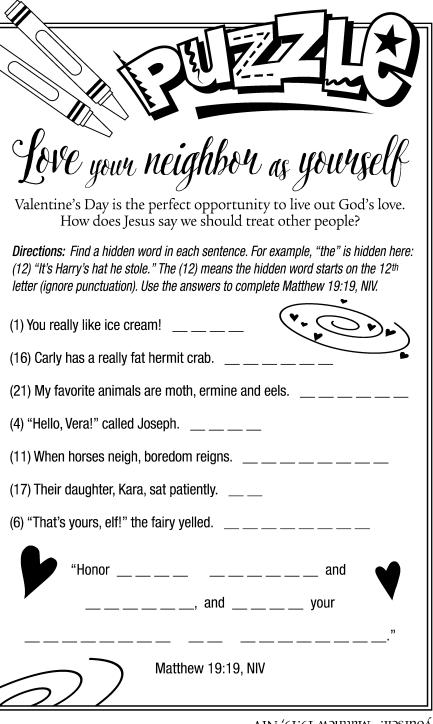
And in it all, may your relationship with God ever grow in in His love.

Peace,

Pastor Kim









American Red Cross

The need is constant.

The gratification is instant.

Give blood.™

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Community Blood Drive Christ's United Lutheran Church

Community Room 437 Airport Road (Gordon) Ashland, PA 17921

Monday, February 6, 2017 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Open to the public and walk-Ins are Welcome!

The American Red Cross remains in the midst of a severe blood shortage and has issued an emergency call for blood and platelet donations. Ice, snow, and subfreezing temperatures in many states have led to blood drive cancellations.

Church Council Highlights from January:

- 1) The mortgage balance is down to \$77,249.52.
- 2) An ad will be placed in the Pottsville Republican right away for a Director of Music with organ and choir leadership required .
- 3) Average weekly attendance for December--100, for the year 119.
- 4) It was decided to refer the Capital Campaign to the Finance Committee to come up with pledge sheets for a \$500 pledge and call it a "pledge block." Finance would fill in the sign board with the pledge blocks including the names of those who wish to be identified.
- 5) A motion was made to accept Cheryl Varndell's official letter of retirement as Friday March 3rd.

February's council Member of the month is Angie Berger

The Council Member of the Month is the "on call" member of council.

The council member of the month is the person to call if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), notice the aburab lights on at 11 nm. or



of the Month

notice the church lights on at 11 p.m., or need access to the building.



Pastoral Acts

Funeral Services:

01/04/17 David Schweinhart 01/06/17 Jeanette Wolfgang 01/07/17 Nancy Wolfgang



The following Memorials were given to Christ's *United since the issue of the last Newsletter:*

\$20.00 in Memory of Ralph "Cappy" Johnson by: Sandra Marlow

\$25.00 in Memory of Sue Bendinsky by: Dave & Lorrie Shearn



\$230.00 in Memory of David Schweinhart by:

Harvey & Annetta Troup Leo & Jo-Ann Young **Bob Harner** Joan & Cyrus Clark Tracy Berner Dr. Kay Berner Barbara Leim

\$135.00 in Memory of Jeanette Wolfgang by:

The John Wolfgang Family (John, Maryann, Thomas & Tyler)

Vivian Brown Carl & Pearl Lute Jo-Ann & Leo Young Dr. Kay Berner

\$200.00 in Memory of Tom & Betsy Wolfgang by Jim & Patty Wolfgang

\$20 in Memory of David Schweinhart for the Endowment Fund by: Don & Laray Klinger

\$20 in Memory of Jeanette Wolfgang for the Endowment Fund by: Don & Laray Klinger

\$12.00 in Memory of Carl Pennypacker for Palms by Jane Pennypacker

Take care

In Jimmy Fallon's first monologue as host of NBC's The Tonight Show, he expressed thanks to all past hosts. On an occasion when he might have said, "And now this stage is mine!" or "I'm delighted to be counted among such greats," instead he stated with deep humility, "I just want to do the best I can and take care of this show for a while."



Take care of. That's language not of ownership but of stewardship. That's the language of Genesis 2:15 (NIV) — "The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

What have we been called to "take care of for a little while"? The earth, surely. Perhaps a congregation, a business, a neighbor in need, a volunteer or an employee. A child, who may need less care — or different forms of it as time goes on. We don't own these people and things. God invites us to be stewards of them, to care for them, to use wisely and value these precious gifts ... and someday, to pass them on to others.

2017 Sponsorships

The new sponsorship sign up sheets are posted on the bulletin board.



Altar Flowers

Sign up for: Altar Flowers \$25.00, Palms for Palm Sunday \$12.00, Worship Bulletins \$15.00, Special service bulletins \$10.00, Sanctuary Candle \$10.00, Children's Bulletins \$10.00, and Monthly Newsletters \$40.00.

Payments for Altar flowers should now be given to Cathy **Troutman**. All other payments should be made out to the church and given to Deb Hall in the church office.

WELCA News

FEBRUARY WELCA MEETING

The next meeting for WELCA will be held February 1 at 7:00 p.m.

WELCA will begin making Easter candy soon. Watch the bulletin for exact dates. Help is needed!





KNAUGHTY KNOTTERS

Knaughty Knotters meet each
Tuesday at 9:00.
Weather permitting,
we will meet each week
until Lent begins.

Ladies Nite Out:

Sunday, February 5, 2017

We will meet at Green's Restaurant, Lavelle at 3:00 p.m. So we need not travel far from home in this inclement weather and we will be finished in time to watch the Super Bowl. Please sign up on the bulletin board for a fun afternoon.



Memorials Continued:

\$25 in Memory of Randy Troutman by Lucille Brubaker, Jack Curry, Sally Bacon & Luanne Curry Reese

\$10,000.00 in memory of Malcolm & Betty Boyer and Hilda Tielman for the Capital Campaign by Beth & Ron Andrews.

\$50.00 in Memory of David Schweinhart, Sue Bendinsky, Jeanette Wolfgang, and Nancy Wolfgang for the Capital Campaign by Beth & Ron Andrews.

\$50.00 in Memory of David Schweinhart, Sue Bendinsky, Jeanette Wolfgang, and Nancy Wolfgang for the Capital Campaign by Ron & Donna Wallace.



We wanted to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, visits and memorial contributions during David's battle with cancer.

A special thanks to Pastor Kim and Pastor Vicki, not only for doing the Funeral, but for the visits to the hospital and helping us through this

difficult time.

Also a special thanks to the choir for the hymnal and singing at his service. I am sure he was looking down saying "job well done". David always enjoyed when the choir sat up front while he played because it made him play better. It was match made in Heaven.

Thanks to everyone who helped on the day of the Funeral, too.

God bless each and everyone of you,

The Schweinhart Family





Jr. Youth is for all elementary age members of Christ's United!
Special activities

—including projects and field trips—
occur throughout the year. Watch the Youth
bulletin board and the Church
FaceBook pages for the next
adventure in the making!



Senior and Junior Youth

Bowling at Strike Zone March 5, 2017 2-4 pm Everyone Welcome!!

Meet at Strike Zone at 1:30 P.M.

Cost is \$10.00 and it

includes Bowling for the entire 2 hours and also shoe rental!!



Please see Tracy Berner for more information

Sign up on Youth Bulletin Board by Feb 26th.

Give Electronically

Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving

As Christ's United prepares for a new year, it is important to know what support we can depend on from our congregation members. By knowing what you are willing to commit financially, we are able to better plan for the future. Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis.

To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at www.christsunited.org, locate the Online Giving button and set up your recurring giving schedule. The first time you give, you will select a password that will enable you to log in at any time and make changes to your giving or view your complete online giving history. Or if it's easier, just scan this QR code to get started.





WELCOME DIANE

After consideration of inquiries, Diane
Calhoun was unanimously recommended and
hired as our new Director of Music. Many
may already know Diane as she is originally from Gordon,
had played at St. Paul's, and is a regular volunteer at
Christ's Cupboard. Diane has a long musical background
having led choirs and served as organist in several churches,
and also taught music in school as well as having both piano
and organ students. Diane's first official day is March 1st,
Ash Wednesday. Please welcome Diane as we thank Harold
Morgan for carrying us through this time of transition!





Capital Campaign

What's a furnace worth? We really do not ask ourselves this type of question much unless the furnace isn't working. But this and other questions like it have been getting asked around Christ's United lately. Our building will be 25 years old this year: while that may not seem like much for a person, it is a lot for a building, especially one that gets as much use as Christ's United. In order to prepare for repairs that are or will be needed, Christ's United has started a Capital Campaign. We are half way of reaching our goal of \$100,000, which will cover the cost of re-paving our parking lot, replacement or repair of all our heating and cooling systems, a new roof, and cleaning of the steeple. Please take time to make a pledge of \$500 or more

Church: it's not just for Sundays anymore.

To support our "Re <i>new</i> ing in Faith"
I pledge:
\$500 2 years @ \$5.00 per week (or \$21.00 per month) 1 year @ \$10.00 per week (or \$42.00 per month)
Or
Other amount \$
Name Env. #

SR YOUTH WING NIGHT



Thursday, February 16th Meet at the Fountain Springs Country Club at 6pm

If you need a ride let Tracy know prior to this event.

If you do not like wings there are other things on the menu.

Come join us for dinner, fun, and laughter on a cold winter night.

Sign up on the Youth Bulletin board in the hallway.



REFRRI

21

3

4 5

6

BIRTHDA	16	Behret Steinbauer Vicki Reeser Daniel Sisko
		Lois Sterling
	17	Crystal Huber
Ross Sterling	18	Cyrus Clark
Kim Walacavage		Jacob Tice
Stephen McGrath	19	Dean Lesher
Dennis Wolfe		Pearl Lute
Richard Weikel		Shaun McNally
icionala Wenci	20	T' C1 11

Terry Kessler 9 Allison Rusinko 10 Rebecca Houser Jason Miller Mark Varndell 11 Vanessa Pirie Tanner Wilson Leo Young

Kenneth Zweizig

Brian Bolich

Paul Troutman

- Chantelle Klinger 12 **Edward Stepulitis** Rhonda Carl 13
- Barb Habowski Deana Lesher
- 14 Bobbi-Jo Hummel
- 20 Jim Chappell Cheryl Denchak Micah Hepler Mina Pennypacker Bill Price 21 Kylei Long 22 Teresa Ambrose Gavin Dwane Kolton Fetterolf **Brielle Smith** 23 Jennifer Wehry Ricky Williard 24 Zalen Williard Charlie Klauger 25 26 Geoffrey Dudick

Denise Hepler

Nicole Steinbauer

Dorothy Shadle

Ann Welker

Alaina Lindenmuth Melissa Sisko

CHANGE THE GAME

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

MORE THAN 25 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

> "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat."

Since that day, more than \$110 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it's like to make a positive difference in the world - as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday.

Items Needed for the "Souper" Bowl Saturday, February 4 & Sunday, February 5

- Pancake Syrup
- Tuna
- Jelly
- Canned Fruit
- Soup
- Peanut Butter



Please place all food donations on the table in the Narthex. Monetary donations will be collected also and used to purchase more food. All items will go to "Christ's Cupboard".





27

28





The month that your committee serves please help out in the kitchen before and after the service. Also, please bring in baked goods or other items for the snacks. Thank you.

Fellowship Schedule

February—Social Ministry March—LCM April-WELCA May—Evangelism/Outreach June-Journey July-Youth Group August—LCM/WELCA



We will be collecting the following items for January:

Soup

Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

The next food distribution date is Thursday, Feb 9, 2017

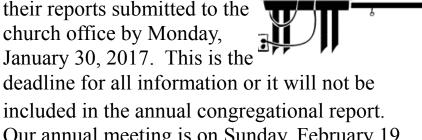


02/13/93	Ron & Donna Wallace
02/14/10	Nelson & Angie Berger
02/16/95	Traci & Donald Smith Jr.
02/19/66	Dean & Barb Fetterolf
02/21/53	Cy & Joan Clark
02/23/85	David & Denise Hepler



Annual Reports Due!

All Committee Secretaries and Treasurers must have their reports submitted to the church office by Monday, January 30, 2017. This is the



Our annual meeting is on Sunday, February 19 after worship. Thank You!





COMMITTEE

REPORTS

DEADLINE

Remember....

That you are dust, and to dust you shall return. Such are the words of blessing offered on Ash Wednesday, as we WEDNESDA' remember our humanity and God's immortal love, shown to us in Jesus Christ. It is a time of somberness in recognition of the love so strong that death could not break its grasp on us, as Jesus carries us from death to life. Come and remember: Services will be held at Noon and 7:00 pm on Wednesday, March 1.



During Lent all are invited as in faith we gather ea Wednesday night for a Soup Supper and Worship. During Lent all are invited as in faith we gather each • The Social Ministry Team introduces the meal at 6:00 by sharing information on ministries around the world, telling us how our actions are affecting the lives of others (for good!). We then gather as light breaks the darkness in Holden Evening Prayer at 7 pm. This is a special time of faith, the gathering together deepening our understanding of God's

actions of love in Jesus Christ. Please set aside time in your schedule to share in this special practice of Lent and bring a friend!

Collection of the Palms

Once we waved them with shouts of triumph in celebration of our Lord and King. Many then took their palms home - placing them on pictures, mantles, or the sun visor of their cars - any where that would remind them of that day. The palms were a sign of celebration: but now they are a sign of our mortality. Please bring your palms to Christ's United and place them in the bin in the gathering area. The palms will be burned, and the ashes used to anoint our heads on Ash Wednesday (March 1, 2017).

PRAYER CHAIN

Each day members of Christ's United bow their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for the ministries of this congregation and



people in need. For the past several years these Prayer Teams have been silently serving God, the world, and us.

If you are committed to the power of prayer, please join one of these teams. Prayer lists are available at worship services each weekend, and a phone chain notifies you of immediate needs. Please see Pastor Kim for more information.



Sunday, February 19— 11:00 a.m.

The Acts of the Apostles is not just a book in the Bible at Christ's United: it is the living and breathing of the Holy Spirit through the people! Bring some



food to share and join in a celebration of ministries new and growing! We will celebrate our ministries with food and fellowship, and select new council members for the coming year! Please sign up on the bulletin board with your potluck offering! All – not just members - are welcome!







We Offer our Prayers to...

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please note that those experiencing a traumatic event are placed onto the Prayer List and will be kept on for one month. Please provide updates to the office

in order that the list is always current. If you would like someone added please call the office: if you add someone to the prayer list on a Saturday evening or a Sunday morning during worship, please make sure you write it down and place a note on the prayer podium.

January 22 – Maura Sweitzer, Doris McGurl (L. Lute), Pete Waldick, Richard Landis (A. Berger), Stanley Sr.

January 15—Donald Schieb (P. Schaeffer), Helen Wolfgang (S. Wolfgang), Mark Burke, Joanne Schultz, Joseph Decavage, Pam Huhn, Benjamin Lockhart (M. Bendinsky), Wendy Farnsworth (E. Chappell), Karyssa Wenrich (J. Clark), Elizabeth Brown (G. Marquardt), Judy Fritz, Dean Fetterolf, Barb Fetterolf, Harold Wink, Sandra Beecher (L. Lute)

January 8 - Families of David Schweinhart, Lance Frew, Carolyn Johnson, Jeanette Wolfgang and Nancy Wolfgang, Ron Fox Jr. (G. Marquardt), Jean Welker, Tina Wolfe, Judy Stepulitis

January 1 - Gail Lorady, Heidi Walsh (T. Shilling)

Praying Through the Directory



Each month we will be listing three of our church faith families. We ask that you take the time and uplift them in prayer for their needs and spiritual journey.

The Hepler Family—George, Emily Bakerofskie & Harry The Nagle Family—Robert, Jessica, Bryson &Rylee

This month we pray for: The Dillman Family—Bonnie, Bryan

Serving Our Community of Faith in February

Date	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte & Tag-a-Long	Crucifer	Post Worship Greeter in Narthex	Post Worship Greeter at Door
Feb 5	Gail Marquardt	John Wolfgang Thomas Wolfgang Deb Berner Richard Berner	John Towey Barb Stepanchick Maryann Wolfgang	Ralph Johnson	Steven Wolfgang	Mark Varndell	Irene Morgan
Feb 12	Becky			Brandy Speer & Marissa Seritsky	Desiree Dengler	Beth Andrews	Jim Gruber
Feb 19	Barb Stepanchick			Nicole Hood & Brian O'Connor	Brandon Hood	Deb Hall	Darcie Gruber
Feb 26 Transfig- uration Sunday	Erik Tice		Dennis Wolfe John Denchak Barb Anczarski	Jordan Walter	Ryan Walter	Darcie Gruber	Darlene Stank

February 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*			1 10:00 Seniors	2	3	4
t S			7:00 WELCA			5:00 Communion Service
5 5th Sunday after Epiphany	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:30 Communion Service		9:00 food Delivery	10:00 Seniors	10:00 – 12:00 Christ's Cupboard		
Souper Bowl of Caring 10:30 Fellowship	1:00 – 6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive	9:00 Knaughty Knotters	4:30 Sr. Youth Pizza	Cappotala		
10:45 <i>Journey</i> 3:00 Ladies Nite Out		6:30 Choir Practice	& Food Pantry Set-up	6:30 <i>Journey</i> Team		5:00 Worship Service
	7:00 Church Council			Meeting		
12 9:30 Worship Service 10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i>	13	14 Valentine's Day 9:00 Knaughty Knotters	15 Newsletter Deadline 10:00 Seniors	16	17	18
10:30 Worship & Music 5:00 LCM		6:30 Choir Practice		6:00 –Youth wing night @ Ft. Springs Country Inn		5:00 Worship Service
6:00 Property Committee	7:00 Social Ministry					
19 7th Sunday after Epiphany 9:30 Worship Service 11:00 Annual Congregational Meeting & Luncheon	20 Presidents' Day	9:00 Knaughty Knotters 9:30 Newsletter Assembly	22 10:00 Seniors	12-2 pm Ashland Food Pantry-Good Shepherd	24	25
& Editorioon		6:30 Choir Practice				5:00 Communion Service
26 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:30 Communion Service	27	28				
Installation of New Council		9:00 Knaughty Knotters				
10:30 Fellowship 10:45 <i>Journey</i>	6:00 Grief Support	6:30 Choir Practice				
10.43 Journey	0.00 Ghei Support			Confee Confee	HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!	