



A Member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

# The Messenger

*"Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message,  
and the message is heard through the word of Christ."  
(Romans 10:17)*

## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

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### Trust by Pastor Sims

I trust everyone has had a good start to the 2019. I trust everyone's household, job or school are doing great. I trust that you are getting the point that we use the word trust in a loose way at times. Did some or many of you have a good start to 2019? Are there some households, jobs and schools that are actually doing well and moving forward? The answers are yes. But my trusting and wishful thinking don't make it so for everyone.

Trust is a pretty deep word. It really gets deep when you are in the middle of challenges as a congregation, school, family or on a personal level. It gets deeper when you don't know from where the next paycheck is coming because of cutbacks or layoffs or because of health issues.

Uncertainty brings about many questions, speculation, doubts and a lack of trust on every level of our being. We can't trust our leaders, because they aren't leading proactively. We can't trust our feelings, because they get so knotted up that we don't know which way is up. We can't trust our reason, because the conclusions we may come to are not where we want to end up.

It is difficult to trust in people and things that change. There is uncertainty and just a wishful thought. It is difficult to trust when the results remain to be seen. But brothers and sisters, isn't that what faith is? It is trust in things that we can't see, ends that have not been reached yet from our

position. We can trust that the difficult things will be taken care of and carried to completion; maybe not always according to our plans or desires, but according to the One who always brings his plans to completion.

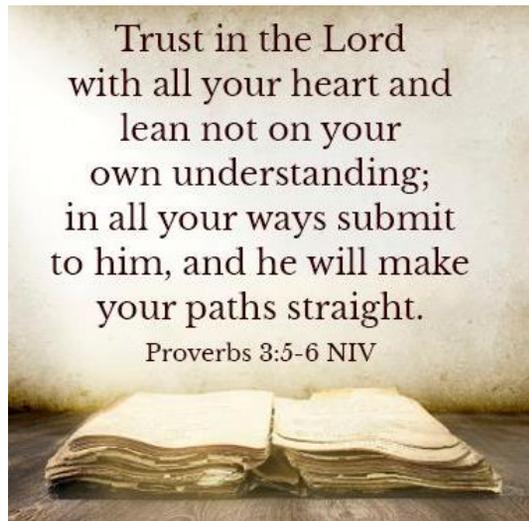
I know some of the challenges a number of you, brothers and sisters, are going through in your lives; financially, physically and emotionally. God knows

them even better. It is not easy to deal with these things alone or even in your own little corner of the world. This is one reason we rejoice to gather. This is why we take the words of Solomon to heart.

We trust in the LORD with all our heart. He is the one who makes promises and keeps them. He is the one who can take all our challenges and heartaches, turn them around and give us a victory we never saw coming. We may not know when he will do it, how

he will bring it about or why he is taking so long to bring us the peace we so desperately desire. But we know we can trust in him because he has already given us a path straight to heaven through his Son and our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

As 2019 continues, challenges will continue as well. Don't give up! Don't give in! Yes, that may be easier said than done. It may be hard to understand why the LORD would let you, us, go through such things. Don't try to understand. Plan for challenges and trials to the best of your ability. Then listen to Solomon - trust in the LORD, submit your plan and ways to his will. Finally, wait for him to straighten things out according to his design and will for your good and the good of his kingdom.



## Special Voters' Meeting – February 3<sup>rd</sup>

A Special Voters' Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, after the 10:30 AM worship service. The voters will address the present and future state of affairs concerning our finances.

## WELS Marriage Enrichment & Get-Away Weekend

It's simple, really. Marriage is a man and a woman promising to live together as husband and wife until death. But anyone who has tried it knows it's also complicated. Spend the weekend with your spouse making it simple again.

In Simply Marriage couples learn to overcome frustration, appreciate their incompatibility, break patterns that destroy oneness, use words that work and grow more intimate.

Register for Simply Marriage in Canton, Ohio, March 29-31, 2019. See the poster or brochures in the Narthex (back of church). Visit [www.wels.net/marriageenrichment](http://www.wels.net/marriageenrichment) for more information and to register. Makes a wonderful Valentine's gift!

## Chili Cook-Off Winners

The winners of St. Paul's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off were: 1<sup>st</sup> place – Vicar Swiderski, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – Joyce Larger, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – Dara



Baumann and Children's Choice – Dawn Howell.

Congratulations to the winners. Thanks to the 26 brave people who came out on a snowy and very cold night for good food and fellowship!

## Congratulations Grad!

On December 15<sup>th</sup>, Steven Baker graduated from Ohio University with a degree in electrical engineering. We wish him God's blessings as he enters this new chapter in his life!

## Donations for Food Pantry

After preparing the 30 Christmas Boxes our supply in the kitchen food pantry is depleted. There are people who need a little help to get by in difficult times. If you are able to donate some items it would be very helpful. Suggestions are: canned fruit, applesauce, canned vegetables, soup (chicken noodle, tomato, vegetable), spaghetti sauce and

spaghetti noodles, tuna and tuna helper, instant mashed potatoes, crackers, cereal, etc.

Bring donations to the kitchen anytime to help those in need!

## January Messenger

Sorry for the late Messenger in January. It was mailed on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and the first ones delivered came on January 17<sup>th</sup>. The entire Columbus metro area got hung up somewhere in the postal system.



## Social Studies Fair

The students are working on their projects for the Social Studies Fair which will take place on Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM. Each classroom has a theme for their projects. Mark the date, plan to come and see the work of the children.

## Tennessee Trip Report

Plans continue to progress for the Smokey Mountain Trip. Approximately 24 fifth-eighth grade students are signed up to go on the trip during the Easter break from school. They will be traveling on a charter bus. Be watching for more information as the trip gets closer!

## CO-ED Basketball Tournaments

St. Paul's will be taking a co-ed team to compete in the WELS Grade School Basketball Tournaments at Michigan Lutheran Seminary (MLS) on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and at Luther Preparatory School (LPS) on March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Awards

On Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, at the regular assembly, awards were presented to students on the Principal's List, the Honor Roll, and to those with Perfect Attendance for the quarter. The following students received awards:

**Principal's List** – Zaria Davis (Gr.4), Diamond Johnson (Gr.4), Katie Stewart (Gr.5), Kylie Stewart (Gr.5), and Brian Ott (Gr.8)

**Honor Roll** – Jeffrey Burks (Gr.3), Jayden Bowen (Gr.4), Caihden Morgan (Gr.4), Aria Shellow-Lawson (Gr.4), Ethan Shupp (Gr.4), Katarina Dean (Gr.6), Cambell Harper (Gr.6), Ileah Parker (Gr.6), Jaelan Howel (Gr.7), Katie McDonald (Gr.7), Steven Wolfe (Gr.7), and Jakobe Newman (Gr.8).

**Perfect Attendance** – Gabby Platt (Gr.K), Diamond Johnson (Gr.4), Ethan Shupp (Gr.4), Jayden Bruce (Gr.6), Jaelan Howell (Gr.7), Katie McDonald (Gr.7), Emma Martin (Gr.8) and Brian Ott (Gr.8).

check it out and sign up. The cost is \$25.00 for the Altar vases and \$15.00 for special flowers after the altar vases are taken.

The Altar Committee for February is Kathy Glende, Lucille Ortziger and Mindy Sayre.

*(Pat Ratz, president)*

## Evangelism

Your Evangelism Team continues looking for opportunities to fulfill our Lord's Great Commission. Here's a summary of activities discussed at our January meeting.



Recapping the Christmas postcards distributed about the neighborhood on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, 14 members came out to help with the distribution despite the wet weather that day.

30 Christmas baskets were delivered in December. Almost half went to school families, numerous others went to families recommended by members to receive these gifts of our congregation. This is a wonderful evangelism tool when coupled with a short gospel presentation.

You may note we have a small amount of space available on our new church sign for an additional message. The team is to consider short, revolving messages we could add to the sign. One suggestion was a "sentence sermon." We've probably all seen such on signs in front of other churches in our travels about town: thoughts that score a salient and reverent, or prayerful, etc. point in only a few words. Have any ideas you can impart to the team? (We figure we have space on the sign for an 8-to-10 word statement.)

Many blessings were noted at this meeting: visitors at recent services, member participants in handing out Christmas service invitations at the German Village Lights event on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, preparation of the Christmas baskets by the deacons, snow removal before the January 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> services, our gifted member musicians both instrumental and vocal, the members who carried out the difficult job of removing the loose plaster so it was safe to again play the organ and edify our services.

Upcoming events planned so far in 2019 follow. By the time this is in print, our annual Chili Cook-off will have taken place, on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Next up



- Feb. 14 Valentine's Parties
- Feb. 18 Presidents' Day – No School
- Feb. 25 Professional Day – No School
- March 1 Social Studies Fair – 6:00 PM
- March 15 End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
- March 21 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
Dismiss at 12:00 noon
- March 22 Parent/Teacher Conferences  
No School
- March 29 Jump Rope Contest – 12:30 PM
- April 21 Easter Sunday
- April 22-26 Easter Break – No School  
Tennessee Group Trip
- April 29 School resumes after Easter break

## ORGANIZATIONS



The Altar Guild will have their next regular meeting on Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the auditorium. Women of St. Paul's are invited to join the Altar Guild and serve by helping to take care of the altar flowers and altar paraments as well as carrying out other responsibilities.

The Flower Calendar for 2019 is posted on the entryway bulletin board. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers in the coming year, please

is our annual bowling event, now set for Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 PM. (Watch for details in the Sunday bulletins and the monthly Messenger.) We plan to invite school families to participate in this event too. Also planned is a game night after the bowling event, tentatively set for Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM. We are considering having a Bingo Night sometime too. Again, watch for details to be presented in the future.

As we handed out Christmas postcards in December, we plan to do the same with Easter postcards inviting people to attend our Easter services. Further, we are looking into the idea of having additional worship services in Schiller Park over and above our annual Easter “Sonrise” service. Also, being worked on at Schiller is a movie night(s).

We recognize it’s important to recruit young members onto our team. Young members can relate to and generally communicate better with other young people. With that in mind, we’d welcome new members – young or not so young – to come to our meetings, which are held the second Mondays in the Upper Room at 6:00 PM. New members are always welcome, and the team asks that you prayerfully consider joining us at our meetings to impart your ideas and wisdom. Come give it a try!

*Dave Colegrove, Evangelism Team member*



### Evening Women's Guild

#### Meeting on February 8th

The next Evening Women’s Guild meeting will take place on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the home of Dara Baumann of 4459 Olmsted Road in New Albany. Victoria Schrimpf will have the devotion. All are welcome. Our ladies have been reading the book of Esther in conjunction with the God’s People series from Northwestern Publishing House. There is still room in our group for others to join us as we continue to explore this devotional series. At this meeting, we will also continue to plan for the Mother/Daughter banquet. Consider joining this active and social group of ladies for a meeting. Carpools are available from Grove City or St. Paul’s. Questions? Contact Suzanne Geiger at 614-214-9305.

#### Lenten Meals Start on March 6th

Starting with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, our Evening Women’s Guild will host the annual Lenten meal each week. A soup supper has traditionally been provided at St. Paul’s. If you have a favorite old family recipe for delicious homemade soup, consider signing up to share your tasty creation with fellow church members. Desserts can be brought by those attending the meals. For questions or to sign up to cook - Contact Kathy Glende at 614-570-1685.

*(Suzanne Geiger, president)*

#### LWMS News

##### Spring 2019 Door Offering Projects

Door offerings collected twice a year at St. Paul’s for mission projects will fund one home mission choice and one world mission choice which is voted on by LWMS member churches. Final voting results are always revealed at the annual convention. On Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, St. Paul’s will collect the next door offering. Those with mite boxes can bring them to Evening Women’ Guild Treasurer Joyce Larger.

#### New St. Paul’s Befriend A Mission Assignments

2019-2021 Home Mission Partner:

Pastor Paul Biedenbender

Christ Lutheran Church

3460 Humboldt St.

Denver, CO 80205

[www.clcdenver.org](http://www.clcdenver.org)

Facebook: Christ Lutheran church/Iglesia Luterana Cristo

Pastor Biedenbender writes:

We minister in an inner city setting with its unique challenges. Please pray that your brothers and sisters in the faith continue to find their hope and strength in our Savior’s work and also pray for the called workers who have the occasional disheartening day. We also minister in a neighborhood where many are moving to work in the fast pace of a downtown urban setting with the fun of the mountains less than an hour away. Needless to say there are many temptations to forsake God and pursue money and fun. We are looking for ways to reach out to the thousands moving into our area. Please pray that the Lord

bless those efforts.

We have several special outreach events going on throughout the year such as:

**Care bags for the homeless**--we seek to assemble 200 bags with items that would be helpful for those who live in the streets (toothbrushes, socks, hand warmers, protein bars, etc.) We have a woman in our congregation who was homeless for a long stretch and is our passionate resident expert on how we can best show Christ-like love for those in a tough situation. We also have an **Open House/Block Party**--held in August. The main draw is giving away school supplies and backpacks to needy kids. We had over 750 attend the Open House last summer and we ran out of supplies.

2019-2021 World Mission Partner:

Pastor Mark Panning

P.O.Box 900

Lilongwe, Malawi, AFRICA

email [mtpanning@gmail.com](mailto:mtpanning@gmail.com)

website and blog and facebook

<https://welsfriendsof africa.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/OneAfricaTeamWELS/>

[https://wels.net/serving-](https://wels.net/serving-others/missions/africa/malawi/)

[others/missions/africa/malawi/](https://wels.net/serving-others/missions/africa/malawi/)

Pastor Panning writes:

My main job in Malawi is to be a professor of religion at the Lutheran Bible Institute (LBI). At LBI we train young Malawian and Zambian men to be pastors in the Lutheran Church. Please pray that I will be able to do this work well, and that the students will be able to grow in their knowledge of God's word. Malawian pastors are often paid very poorly by their congregations. (Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world). Please pray that the members of the Lutheran Church of Central Africa will be blessed financially and that they will be willing to support their pastors with generous salaries.

Please pray for outreach to new areas in Africa. There are countless churches and groups around the continent that are looking for fellowship and assistance from Bible-believing Lutherans like WELS. Our mission teams in Africa are actively working with new groups in Mozambique, Uganda, Rwanda, Liberia, among other places. We are also working with Sudanese refugees who have moved into Ethiopia. We already have fellowship with

church bodies in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia. The church in Malawi has recently elected a new leadership council, and they have also implemented a new synodical constitution. Please pray that this transition will go well, and that the Malawian church leaders will be blessed by God to do their work effectively.

Note: It is okay to use the title Pastor in letters, although letters to Malawi can take as long as a month to arrive. I and all the missionaries greatly appreciate the faithful prayers and support that we receive from the LWMS. May God bless you for your efforts!!

Young at Heart



We will meet on Thursday, February 21st, at 10:00 AM in the church library. We will continue our studies of other Christian churches led by Vicar Swiderski. Call Joyce Larger at 614-314-7571 with questions. (Joyce Larger, coordinator)



With the New Year, there are new and exciting events for St. Paul's Youth Group. Kicking things off on January 5<sup>th</sup>, the teens gathered for a belated New Year's party. Games were played, pizza was eaten, and plans were made. The teens now eagerly look forward to the upcoming Valentine's Day dinner, held on February 10<sup>th</sup> right after late service, where they will serve a spaghetti dinner to the congregation and raise money for future events, including the summer's Youth Rally! With Bible Class, the teens have been discussing *This Changes Everything*, a book on Christian living for teens. So far, the book has proven to be very practical and honest, generating lots of good discussion. Join the teens for Bible Sundays at 9:15 A.M. in the auditorium to begin with devotion. Guests and visitors are welcomed. Stay updated with the teens in the church bulletin, our newly revamped youth group page on [stpaulcares.org](http://stpaulcares.org), and on Facebook!

*Respectfully submitted,*  
Vicar Swiderski

## Family Bowling Event



Our Annual “Pins, Pizza, and Pop” Bowling Event will be held on **Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**. It will be at the Wayne Webb Columbus Bowl, 3224 South High Street, Columbus, OH, from 3:00-6:00 PM. (Come at 2:30 so that we can all be ready to start bowling at 3:00) Cost: \$15.00 per person, which will include **non-stop bowling for three hours**, pizza, pop and shoe rental (if necessary). Sign-Up sheets are posted at church or you may call the office to sign up.



This year’s Pollyanna party will be held on **Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 12:00 PM** in the upper room. All are welcome to this women’s Secret Pal group so bring a friend to join us! Bring along your gift to reveal your identity to your Pollyanna. Newcomers may bring a gift for exchange with other newcomers. Also bring something to share for the potluck luncheon. This year’s hostesses are Mindy Sayre, Kathy Glende and Dawn Howell.

## Every Member Visits With Pastor Schrimpf

Dear members of St. Paul’s,

I thank the members who have called me and made appointments for a visitation. I have enjoyed getting to know who you are. After a break for the holiday season, I would like to start up the visits again. For those who have yet to make an appointment, feel free to call me anytime (614-817-2812). Please know that we do not need to meet at your home. I can visit you at St. Paul’s, a café, the park, etc.

Sincerely in Christ,  
Pastor Schrimpf



## Young Adult Bible Class

**Who?** Single or married adults between the ages of 18 and 35

**Topics:** Review of Small Catechism, Romans ch. 6-8, Ephesians 5 & 6

**Why?**

1. A person is either growing in knowledge and faith of Christ Jesus or shrinking. Therefore, it is imperative to take this opportunity to grow in knowledge and faith of the truths you have confessed. (Hebrews 10:38)
2. Christ has bought you so you might serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness. You are not your own. Therefore, you need to grow in understanding God’s will from Scripture so you can mature in serving your Lord Jesus. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
3. Christian men are often placed into leadership positions without any training (ex. Husbands, fathers, church boards). Christian women might not know what it means to support their men, or future men in a godly way. Therefore, it is imperative for young men and women to learn how God designed leadership as a blessing for the family and the church. (Ephesians 5:22-33)

**Where?** St. Paul’s Church or someone’s home

**When?** Go to St. Paul’s Facebook page to fill out a poll. The day and time with the most votes will be chosen.

**What if you have children?** Arrangements are being looked at to have babysitters on hand to watch your children so you can focus on the bible study.

**Led by:** Pastor Schrimpf



The Conference of Presidents held its winter meeting the first week in January. Topics for discussion and decisions made include:

- The COP will work with the Commission on Congregational Counseling to develop guidelines for congregations that are beginning the process of closing or merging. Guidelines will be made available upon request from the district president.
- The COP is developing a tool to assist congregations that are exploring alternative approaches to congregational structure and polity.
- The COP expressed support for the plans of Congregational Services to offer two programs to replace Mission and Ministry Sunday in fall 2019. One program, the 10 for 10 stewardship program, will offer a ten-week emphasis on whole life Christian stewardship. The work we do together as a synod will be highlighted as one part of the program. The other, the Welcome Home initiative featuring a “Welcome Home Sunday” on Oct. 27, will help congregations to seek to regain those who have strayed from active congregational membership.
- The COP expressed support for a WELS National Conference on Lutheran Leadership being planned by Congregational Services for Jan. 21-23, 2020, in Chicago, Ill. The conference will emphasize leadership that is rooted in the beliefs of confessional Lutheranism.
- The COP discussed the importance of encouraging congregations in their efforts to increase Congregation Mission Offerings (CMO). The continuation of vital synodical ministries depends on increasing CMO support from our congregations.
- The COP has begun an effort to review the synod’s bylaws dealing with discipline of called workers and congregations, as well as the appeals process. The COP will complete its work in time for the revised process and bylaws to be reviewed by the 2020 district conventions.
- The COP Doctrine Committee will schedule regular meetings with the Doctrine Committee

of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and with the faculty of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

- The COP expressed support for plans to form an Institute of Lutheran Apologetics (defending the Christian faith and teachings).
- The COP reviewed the pastoral vacancies and noted that the overall vacancy rate has remained about the same since its last meeting.
- The COP expressed its support for an effort by Congregational Services to assemble a “Rural Ministry Task Force” that will provide ministry resources for rural and small-town congregations.

Serving in Christ,  
President Mark Schroeder

**[This is a correction of a previously published item dealing with the teacher calling window.]**

A special committee is studying the issue of the calling window for teachers. Currently the calling window runs from November 1 through the first week of June. The committee is considering a change in the window, moving it to the first Sunday in October through the first Sunday in April. The COP was asked for input and indicated that it would approve of such a change if proposed. The committee has not yet made a final decision. It will continue to seek input and will bring its recommendation to the COP at a future meeting.

## December 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>Greeters</b> 2-(E) Thissen (L) Balsler 9-(E) Howell (L) Stuebs 16-(E) Frye (L) Falter 23-(E) Thissen (L) McDonald	24- (7PM )Stewart 25-(10AM) Ratz 30-(E) Howell (L) Moehl 31- (7PM) Larger	<b>Altar Committee</b> Dawn Howell Dorothy Ortman Lucille Ortiger		<b>1</b> 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon SS Pageant Practice  12:00 Noon Women's Christmas Party
<b>2</b> WELS Connection 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship 5:00 PM Village Lights	<b>3</b>  7:00 PM Board of Elders	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:35 AM School Chapel  4:30 PM Jr. Bell Choir 6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	<b>6</b>  7:00 PM Bible Basics	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon SS Pageant Practice
<b>9</b> Communion 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM SS Pageant Caroling after Pageant	<b>10</b>  6:00 PM Evangelism Team	<b>11</b>  7:00 PM Sunday School Teachers	<b>12</b> 8:35 AM School Chapel  7:00 PM Area WELS Advent Service at Shepherd of Peace in Powell, Ohio	<b>13</b>  7:00 PM Bible Basics	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30 AM Pack Food Boxes 10:00 AM Distribute Christmas Invitations 3:00 PM Pick Up Time for Food Boxes
<b>16</b> 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	<b>17</b>  6:00 PM Bd. of Education 7:30 PM Church Council	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8:35 AM School Chapel  6:15 PM Sr. Bell Choir 7:00 PM Sr. Choir	<b>20</b> 10:00 AM Young at Heart  7:00 PM School Children's Christmas Service	<b>21</b> School Christmas Parties	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> Communion 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 7:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship	<b>25 Christmas Day</b> 9:15 AM Christmas Carol Sing-Along 10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> 8:00 AM Worship 8:45 AM Fellowship 9:15 AM SS & Bible Class 10:30 AM Worship	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>  7:00 PM New Year's Eve Worship with communion					

