

Church of the Brethren  
301 Gale Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
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The NOVEMBER 2022  
**CARILLON**

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**Volume 22**  
**Number 11**



*(Our worship services are available in person, concurrently on Zoom or Live Stream, and posted to the Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren YouTube Channel and our Website on Sunday afternoons. Go to [www.mechanicsburgcob.org](http://www.mechanicsburgcob.org) and click on "messages".)*



## NOVEMBER WORSHIP THEMES

**November 6:** "5 Loaves and Two Fishes" - Pastor Jim Benedict

**Worship Theme:** The generous boy in John's account of the feeding of the 5000 reminds us that in the face of big problems, even small contributions can make a difference.

**Scripture Texts:** John 6:1-13

**November 13:** "Prayer, Pure and Simple" - Pastor Jim Benedict

**Worship Theme:** Progress often means things get more complicated, instead of simpler. We should never let that happen to prayer. Prayer is just talking to someone who is already talking to you.

**Scripture Texts:** Luke 11:1-13

**November 20:** - Guest Speaker

**November 27:** "This is Your Wakeup Call" - Pastor Jim Benedict  
**(First Sunday of Advent)**

**Worship Theme:** Jesus issued a wakeup call to the world: "The kingdom of God is at hand!" Advent, which starts today, is also a kind of wakeup call.

**Scripture Texts:** Mark 13:32-37



**Daylight Savings Time ends on  
Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>!  
Remember to turn your clocks back 1  
hour!**

Feelings are powerful and we never have complete control over them. They come and go, and we can seldom explain exactly why we feel the way we do. Our feelings, including the feeling of gratitude, are in part the product of our circumstances and in part the product of our temperament, which in turn is the product of both our genes and our past experiences.

God knows this, of course, and since God knows we never have complete control over our feelings, God never commands that we feel one way or another. When we are called to "give thanks," it isn't a command to feel something or to express a feeling. It is a call to do something. Thanksgiving in this sense is not a feeling, but a practice.

Now here is where it gets interesting. As a practice, we can do it even when we aren't feeling it, but when we do it over and over again it can change how we feel. Thanksgiving is the practice of identifying the good things in our lives, and the more we do it, the better we get at it. The better we get at it, the more we notice and appreciate the good, and that tends to provoke the very feelings of gratitude that we may have lacked at the start.

Of course, there are seasons in life when things are hard and it may be difficult to see much we can be grateful for. In those seasons, we can be honest with God and say, "I'm sorry, but I am not able to do this right now. Have mercy on me." But much of the time we have trouble feeling gratitude, it is because we are simply out of practice. We have fallen out of the holy habit of regular thanksgiving and lost some of our ability to identify the good in the world. The good is still there; we just have trouble seeing it.

The call to thanksgiving is a call to a practice that enriches our lives and increases our love for God and one another. That's why God commands that we do it. It is just another way in which God's love for us is expressed.

Thanks be to God!

Peace,

Jim

# LET US GIVE THANKS

## The Practice of Thanksgiving

*"O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever."*

1 Chronicles 16:34

Our oldest daughter, Naomi, was an early talker. By the age of two, she was speaking clearly in full sentences. She got good at talking the same way we get good at most things – through practice. She talked and talked and talked.

Not only did she talk quite clearly and quite often, but she also said exactly what she was thinking. Though it wasn't funny at the time, my wife and I now laugh when we recall the time she had done something to make her brother cry and we asked her to tell him she was sorry. She looked us squarely in the eye and said, "But I'm not sorry!" We had to give her credit for integrity; she wasn't feeling sorry so she wasn't going to say she was.

That episode came to mind several years ago when I was thinking about the Bible's emphasis on thanksgiving. The simple imperative (command), "Give thanks," appears 60 times in scripture and many of the rituals and holidays described in the Bible are understood to include or be forms of thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is clearly a fundamental way in which we are called upon to relate to God.

But what if, like Naomi, we're just not feeling it? What are we supposed to do with the command to give thanks when what we're feeling is not gratitude but anger or sadness or frustration or confusion or depression? Certainly, as we prepare to celebrate the holiday called Thanksgiving this month, not all of us are "in the mood for it," so to speak. Does that mean we should just skip it? Or should we instead make the effort to express thanks for blessings even if we aren't feeling grateful in the moment? My recommendation is that we do the latter. Allow me to explain why.



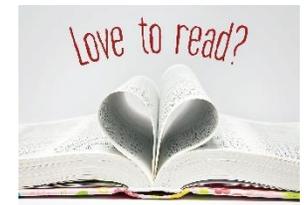
**Adult Bible Study** is held each Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. by Zoom.

(There will not be Bible Study on November 23<sup>rd</sup>.)

Contact Pastor Jim if you would like to join.

The **Church Book Club** will meet on Monday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m. by Zoom.

This month's selection is *The Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger. Discussion Leader is Jill Risser.



The **College Care Packages** were packed Monday, October 10th and mailed the next day. We had lots of interesting treats, goodies and necessities for our young folks. We are amazed each time at the variety of donations that are made. We pack very carefully in order to fit as much in the boxes as possible....think of a three-dimensional puzzle. We had more than enough treats and cash contributions to cover the cost for 12 students' boxes/bags and for the mailing of 10 boxes. You are unbelievably generous ..... toward this project and our young adults. Thank you so very much..... Christian Education Team ♥

**Do you play an instrument? Do you like to sing?**

Our musical groups have begun practicing and would love to have you join them! Please check the weekly schedule for practice days and times. Or contact:

Jim DuBois, Chancel Choir  
Stephen Vinson, Ensemble  
Pat Putz, Handbell Choir



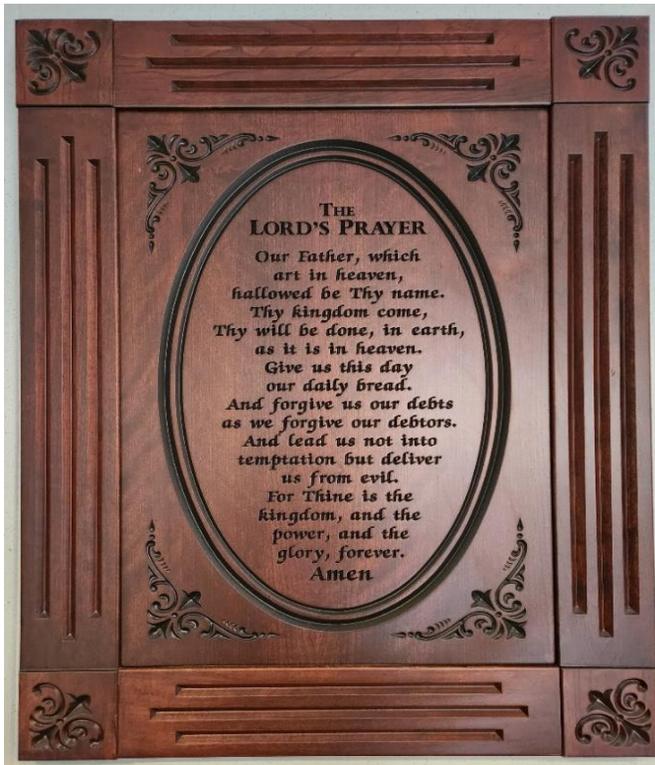
**The beginning of Advent**

November is the month of Thanksgiving, but it often also includes the beginning of a new church year. This year, November 27th is the first Sunday of Advent. The season of Advent is about Jesus, the Word, "coming." It's about anticipating and preparing for Christ's arrival.

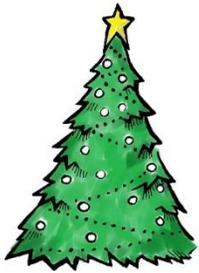
God comes to us in many and various ways. He speaks to us through the prophets and saints. He comes and speaks to us when we are listening. He comes in the beauty and mysteries of nature. Most of all, God comes in the person of Christ, speaking to his listeners face to face.

Pastor Edmund Steimle put it this way: "The Christian story is a story of God coming into the middle of life, of our lives, opening the dialogue with us."

That's what Advent is really all about: God visiting the earth in person to speak with anyone and everyone who is ready to do so.



"The Lord's Prayer", carved wood plaque hanging in the narthex, was donated to Mechanicsburg COB by Rev. Charles Hostetter, former member of the Church of the Brethren and former chaplain of Messiah Lifeways, who is currently serving in the ministry of the Church of God.



## Advent Outreach Program

### CWS Best Gifts

As we enter the season of Advent and reflect on the Best Gift the world has ever received, we have an opportunity to share our blessings with those less fortunate through the Church World Service Best Gifts program. As last year, the Witness Team will have a Giving Tree in the narthex where you can choose an ornament with varying gift amounts to share through CWS.

These gifts will help to provide food, clean water, livestock to raise, education and more to those in need.

Watch for more information as the Advent season approaches.

Janet Zeiters, Witness Team



## NEW HOPE MINISTRIES THANKSGIVING BLESSING EXPRESS

During the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons, New Hope Ministries gratefully accepts the following items as donations for holiday meals for our guests.

**Donations for Thanksgiving would be appreciated by  
November 16, 2022.**

Turkey\*  
Vegetables  
Gravy  
Potatoes  
Canned fruit  
Cranberry sauce  
Pie filling pie crust  
Boxed stuffing  
Cereal  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Butter



**Please place your donations in the shopping cart located  
in the sanctuary.**

\*Turkey donations should be placed in the freezer in the kitchen with a note marked for "New Hope Ministries".

Contact Linda Wevodau with any questions: 717-736-0689



## Volunteer Recruitment Fair

**10 a.m., November 17**

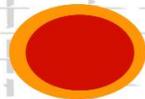
Camp Hill United Methodist  
417 S. 22nd St., Camp Hill

### JOIN US AND

- ✓ FIND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU, YOUR ORGANIZATION OR SCHOOL
- ✓ FIND INTERNSHIPS

For more info. contact  
[susan@familypromisehcr.org](mailto:susan@familypromisehcr.org)

Sponsored by:





The **Sock and Mitten Tree** will be up **November 10<sup>th</sup>** in the back gathering area.

All items will be donated to **"Operation Wildcat"** for their Christmas baskets to be given to needy families within the Mechanicsburg Area School District.

Please consider helping our neighbors in need by placing socks, mittens, hats, gloves or scarves to help keep little ones and their families warm during the winter months.

**DEADLINE for items on the tree is Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>**, as volunteers will be packing the Christmas baskets that week. You have all been generous in the past. Let us continue this tradition of helping others so everyone may have a warm and joyous Christmas holiday!



**New Hope Ministries CHRISTMAS BLESSING EXPRESS**

where guests are able to shop for unwrapped gifts for the whole family. Collection boxes will be at both entrances on November 1<sup>st</sup> with "Wish Lists" attached to receive your donations **through Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>.**



We also want to bless our guests with a Christmas 'Basket of Food'. Suggestions: ham, turkey, vegetables, gravy, potatoes, canned fruit, cranberry sauce, pie filling, pie crust, boxed stuffing, cereal and macaroni & cheese. Please place food items in the shopping cart in the sanctuary.

Turkey and Ham donations should be placed in the freezer in the kitchen with a note marked for "New Hope Ministries".

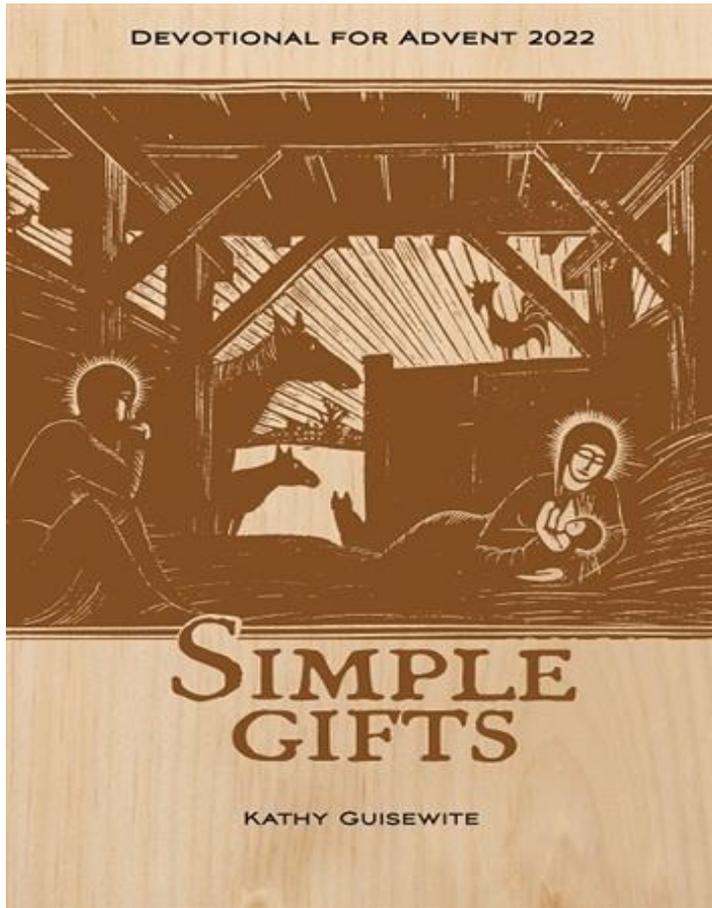
**ADVENT**  
*Bible Reading Plan*

1 Luke 1:1-4	2 John 1:1-5, 18	3 John 1:1-5, 18	4 Isaiah 9:6-7 & 11:1-5	5 Micah 5:2-4
6 Matthew 1:1-17	7 Luke 1:5-25	8 Luke 1:26-38	9 Luke 1:39-45	10 Luke 1:46-56
11 Luke 1:57-66	12 Luke 1:67-80	13 Luke 2:1-7	14 Matthew 1:18-25	15 Luke 2:8-21
16 Matthew 2:1-12	17 Luke 2:22-40	18 Matthew 2:13-15	19 Matthew 2:16-18	20 Matthew 2:19-23
21 John 1:6-8, 15	22 John 1:9-14	23 John 1:16-17	24 Isaiah 52:13-53:12	25 Revelation 21:1-8

**Advent Begins on November 27, 2022**

*Every part of the Christmas story is miraculous. God's love was made manifest in a lowly barn, in the dark of night, for ordinary people. We need not believe that we must do anything extraordinary to make this season magical. There's no need to worry about shopping for it or allowing the stresses of life to weigh us down. Perhaps if we practice leaning into the simplicity of the holy story and the sacredness of our ordinary lives, we will find joy and peace.*

Available now from Brethren Press.



**POINSETTIA ORDERS DUE NOVEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup>.**

**It's time to think about ordering your poinsettia plants for Advent. Poinsettia Sunday is December 25<sup>th</sup>, when the flowers will be displayed as we honor or to remember our loved ones. Pick up arrangements will be announced.**



If you would like to order one or more poinsettias, place your completed order form in a brown envelope **w/payment** in the box provided in the **NARTHEX by the office window**.  
CONTACT Drinda Hock with any questions.

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**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM**

**(Order Deadline: Tuesday, NOVEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>)**

The Poinsettias are **RED** or **WHITE** – 6 1/2" pots – 5 blooms  
**Cost is \$10.00 each**      **(Circle Color Choice below)**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the Envelopes provided for payment and mark  
"For Poinsettias" on it.

Place your order form With Payment in the box provided.

Number ordered \_\_\_\_\_ **RED** or **WHITE**      Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Circle One)**

# Decorate the Church



The Nurture Team is hosting a Christmas decorating event on Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup> following the morning Worship Service. Pizza and soda will be provided in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to join us in setting up and decorating Christmas trees and adding other festive decorations to our church building.



P.O. Box 851  
Carlisle PA 17013-0851  
717-385-7932  
www.carlisetruckstopministry.org  
email: Cism851@gmail.com

Sharing Christ with Truckers and Travelers Since 1985



## Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc. 2022 Cookie Collection ~ ~ **Calling all Bakers!**

Mechanicsburg COB will provide cookies for this event. Bakers should prepare cookies to distribute by packing 6-8 cookies in zip-lock bags and then put into brown lunch bags (which may be decorated) for distribution. (Colorful Christmas card fronts stapled to the bag are great!) We encourage you to enclose a friendly note, Bible verse or tract.

Cookies should be at the church by December 4th and then will be delivered to Carlisle on Dec 5.

Questions to Oceana Goodwin or Janet Zeiters

NOTE: Due to COVID-19 concerns, we are asking you to wear masks and gloves while preparing and packaging cookies, and that you seal the bags with staples, bows, etc.

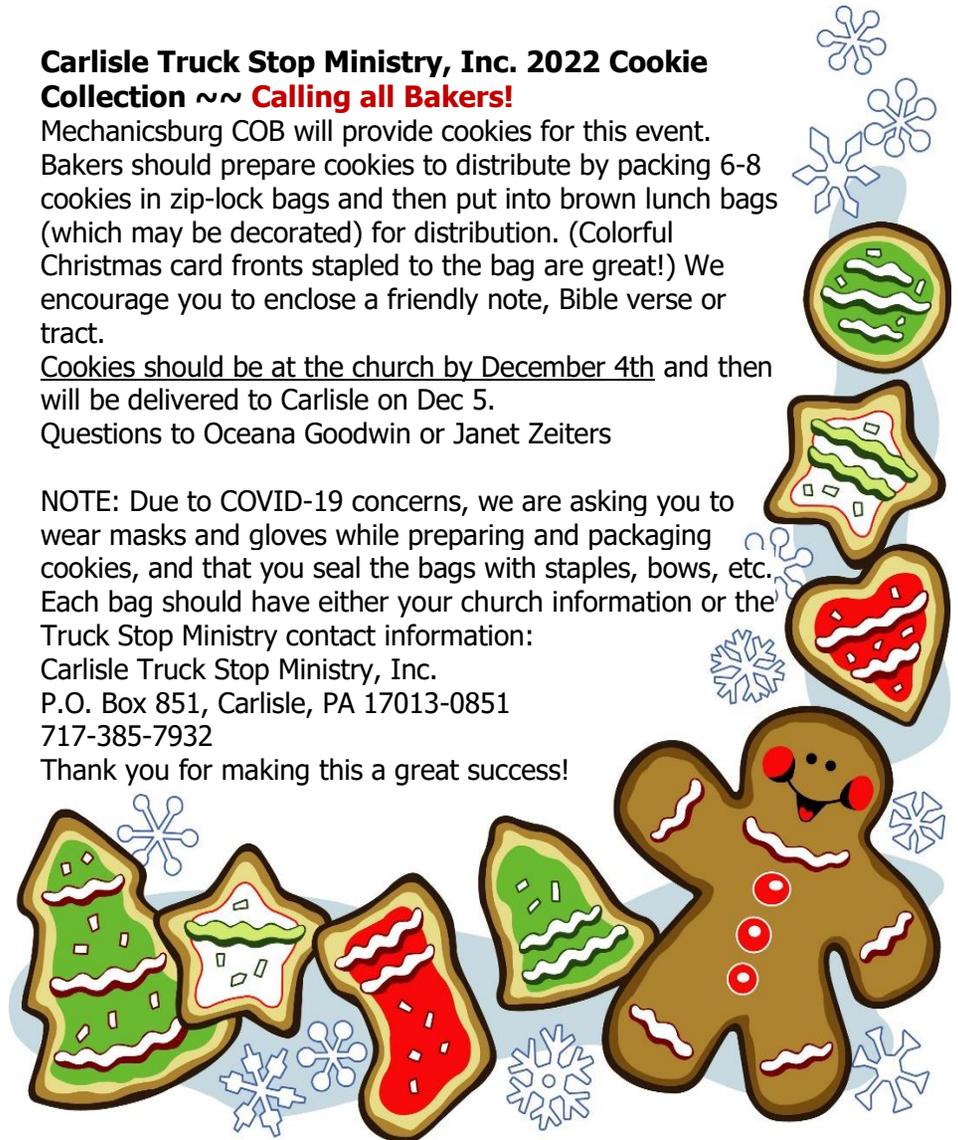
Each bag should have either your church information or the Truck Stop Ministry contact information:

Carlisle Truck Stop Ministry, Inc.

P.O. Box 851, Carlisle, PA 17013-0851

717-385-7932

Thank you for making this a great success!





# DISTRICT & COMMUNITY NEWS



## November Senior Day Wednesday, November 9, 2022

9:30 am - Gathering / Morning Program

Join us as we enjoy a Chalk Talk done by Elva Hurst! This Chalk Talk will be about Faith and Thanksgiving. You will hear from the journals of Christopher Columbus & William Bradford, as well as details from the Mayflower voyage.

12:00 pm - Lunch (Pork dinner, mashed potatoes & gravy, salad, & apple crisp.

1:00 pm - Afternoon Program with Christmas story & Activity

Cost: \$18.00 Per Person  
RSVP by November 2<sup>nd</sup> to 717-642-8256



- 2 – Bryce Hollinger; Shirley Snyder
- 3 – Samuel Altland; Cheryl Heimbach; Carlene Bengel
- 5 – Cathy Wise
- 6 – Lewis Furry
- 8 – Jean Richwine; Scott Baney; David Mumma
- 10 – Ken Zook
- 14 – Marie Heimbach; Diane Replogle; Jenny Rhoads
- 15 – Trish DuBois; Dee Owens
- 17 – Lucy Carberry; Janelle Ayers; Kim Snowden; Wesley Baughman
- 19 – Phyllis Lewellen; Jill Risser
- 21 – Ryan Wakefield
- 22 – Thom Bowes; Sherri Kimmel
- 23 – Ryan Meck
- 24 – Deb Werner
- 27 – James Foltz; Troy Snyder
- 30 – Robert Arbogast; Josh Keebaugh



- 5 – John & Sandy Mumma (76)
- 15 – William & Edna Hendrickson (86)  
Joe & Stacie Callaway (08)
- 18 – Ted & Pat Seebold (00)
- 25 - Ron & Darlene Kiehl (67)  
Ralph & Deb Wakefield (72) **"50 Years!"**
- 30 – Stephen & Janice Custer (68)

# November

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9 am Bible Study (Zoom) 9 am Quilting (Choir Room) 6:30 pm Ensemble 7:30 pm Choir	<b>3</b> 5/9 pm Basketball 6 pm Hand Bells	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Fellowship Hall Reserved (Kiehl) CAS Annual Dinner at York 1 <sup>st</sup> COB <b>Turn Clocks back 1 hour!</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Food for New Hope</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>7</b> 5/9 pm Basketball	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 9 am Bible Study (Zoom) 9 am Quilting (Choir Room) 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon 6:30 pm Ensemble 7:30 pm Choir	<b>10</b> 5/9 pm Basketball 6 pm Hand Bells	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	<b>14</b> 1 pm Knitting Group (Library) 5/9 pm Basketball	<b>15</b> 1 pm Caregivers Group (Library) <b>Dec. Newsletter Deadline</b> 7 pm Leadership Mtg. (Reorganization)	<b>16</b> 9 am Bible Study (Zoom) 9 am Quilting (Choir Room) 6:30 pm Ensemble 7:30 pm Choir	<b>17</b> 5/9 pm Basketball 6 pm Hand Bells	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>
<b>20</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>22</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>23</b> <b>No Bible Study</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>OFFICE CLOSED – THANKSGIVING</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>25</b>  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>	<b>26</b> Fellowship Hall & Kitchen Reserved (Keeney)  <b>Pastor's Vacation</b>
<b>27</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship <b>Poinsettia Orders Due</b> <b>11:30 Pizza lunch &amp; Church Decorating</b>	<b>28</b> 1 pm Knitting Group 5/9 pm Basketball  7 pm Church Book Club (Zoom)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9 am Bible Study (Zoom) 9 am Quilting (Choir Room) 6:30 pm Ensemble 7:30 pm Choir			

# 2022