



FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

## In The Boat

By Pastor Dan

What is your favorite Bible story? I have an old college friend who loves the story of Noah so much that his whole house is decorated with arks and animals. It really is impressive to see. But there are so many to choose from: Creation, Job, Burning Bush, Exodus, Esther, Ruth, David & Goliath, Samson, Jonah, Christmas, Easter. There are just SO many!!

My favorite story has always been Jesus washing the disciples' feet on Maundy Thursday. The thought of the very creator of the universe stooping down to wash the dirty, smelly feet of the disciples – a chore only slaves could be commanded to do – has always inspired me. First, to think that this is the depth of the love of God for us (which only goes further the next day on the cross); and, then, second, as an inspiration to serve others.

**When [Jesus] had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you.” John 13:12–15**



However, another story has recently come to the forefront. A few weeks ago, I was talking with a fellow pastor about everything I am facing medically. He had gone through something similar and was giving me tips on how to prepare and persevere; and throughout our conversation he continued to say, “Jesus is in the boat with you.” This is a reference to the story where Jesus and the Disciples are sailing across the Sea of Galilee. Jesus falls asleep just as a great storm arises; and as the disciples are in fear of their lives, Jesus awakes and rebukes the wind and waves.

Now I have always understood this story as Jesus proving His mastery over nature. I think that because at the end of the story the disciples are dumbfounded, fearful and awe struck saying, **“What sort of man is this, that even winds and sea obey Him?”**



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### *In The Boat, continued*

But another way to approach this story is that I am in that boat with Jesus...or perhaps Jesus is now in my boat; and I know exactly what sort of man He is. He is none other than God Himself.

That highlights two very comforting thoughts for me. The first, like the feet washing story, is that God has descended into human flesh to walk with me. This is the Christmas story, the incarnation, Immanuel, God with Us; and not just as a general concept for all humanity, but for me in all my struggles. God is with ME – Pastor Dan.

The second is that if He is in the boat with me, then my fate is His fate. If the boat floats, then we sail on together to whatever the future holds. If the boat sinks, then He and I sink together. Either way, we are together. Christ is with me, and I am with Him; and that gives me the confidence that I will be delivered, one way or another. There is no fear, just a quiet calm, comfort and confidence that Jesus is in the boat with me.

Thank you again for all the prayers, offers of help and meals. Your support for me and my whole family helps strengthen us during this difficult time. THANK YOU!

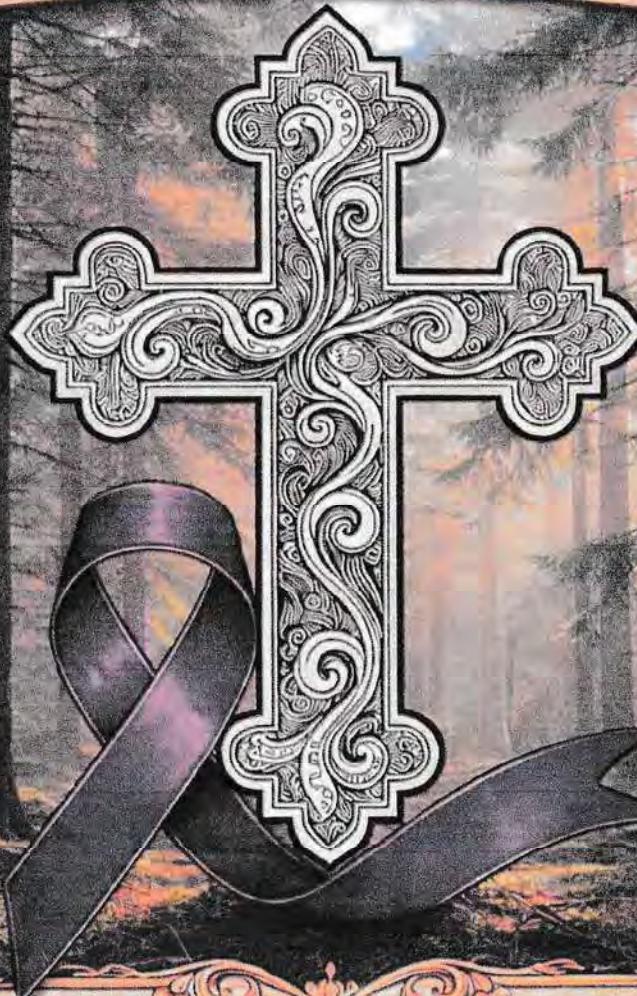
Your Fellow Servant in Christ,

Pastor Dan



P.S. – There are far too many people all around the world who are following my care. What a blessing! But to respond to each individually would be a full-time job. So that everyone stays informed I have set up a page on **CaringBridge.org** where I'll post regular updates. If you sign up on **CaringBridge.org** with your email address (it's free!), just search for "Dan Kletke" and follow my page. You will be notified of updates and able to post comments.

# Freewill Offering Fundraiser



Event Date: February 1st, 2026 @ 12:30 PM

Event Address:  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
701 W. Evans Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81004

We at the congregation of Trinity Lutheran Church would like to extend an open invitation to all of our fellow church family to attend a Fund raiser offering lunch to help support Pastor Kletke and his family through this time of difficulty.

We will be serving a Sloppy Joe style lunch with various sides, drinks, and desserts.

For questions contact us at 719-601-6368 or [kaven.martinez1@gmail.com](mailto:kaven.martinez1@gmail.com)

## The Kletke Family's Meal Train Updates

**Thank you for showing your love for the Kletke family by providing meals!**

- **As much as possible, please direct any meal plan questions to Heather Pegors on Sundays or by calling or texting 218-820-3496 anytime.**
- The meal plan sign up will be the same paper sign up in the fellowship area and an online sign up option.\* I will keep both frequently updated so the paper calendar and the online calendar match.
- If you want to participate but you need to keep it simple, consider dropping off a take out meal or a gift card from a local restaurant with healthy options. For example, Jimmy Johns, Subway, or Fremont Provisions. Please still sign up on the paper or online calendar and make a note of your plan.
- The online calendar will allow for friends and family beyond our congregation to be included and the paper calendar is helpful as well.
- The online calendar requires specific days to be selected. However, **if the selected days on the sign up calendar(s) do not work for you please let me know.** I can easily change the dates.
- When possible, please use either disposable containers or containers you do not need returned. This can help to ease the burden of any extra work.

**Address: 1014 Phay Ave Canon City. Please drop off meals between 3:45-6pm.** If you need to drop off at another time, please make a note to indicate this on the sign up calendar.

**Requests: Please avoid spicy food and added sugar,** Pastor Dan is trying to prioritize healthy meals. We will plan on two meals per week with no meals on Wednesdays during Lent. Thank you so much!

### Links:

- **Find the online meal train at: <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/6906gg>**
- For recipe ideas check out [pancan.org](http://pancan.org) and search under the “Facing Pancreatic Cancer” tab and look for “Diet and Nutrition.”

*\*If you sign up on the paper calendar: when I match the calendars I will only add your last name to the online calendar, **not** your number or email. This will allow the Kletke's to know who to expect or to contact if something changes on their part.*

# Words That Last Forever

A SERIES OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR LENT

Christ had no epitaph. Buried in a borrowed tomb, no words were emblazoned across his grave. Instead, during the final hours of his life, Christ mapped out his way of suffering with seven famous last words—seven final phrases, remembered and recited throughout the ages—tiny touchstones along his way of sorrows. We may find that these last words have a lasting impact, even now, for us.

## February 18th—Ash Wednesday FORGIVE

In this service for Ash Wednesday, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they are do,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## February 25th—Lent 1 PARADISE

In this service for Week 2 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross to the repentant thief, “Today you will be with me in paradise,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## March 4th—Lent 2 BEHOLD

In this service for Week 3 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross to his mother standing by John, “Behold, your son,” and to John, “Behold, your mother,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## March 11th—Lent 3 FORESAKEN

In this service for Week 4 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## March 18th—Lent 4 THIRST

In this service for Week 5 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “I thirst,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## March 25th—Lent 5 FINISHED

In this service for Week 6 of Lent, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “It is finished,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## April 2nd—Maundy Thursday FOR YOU

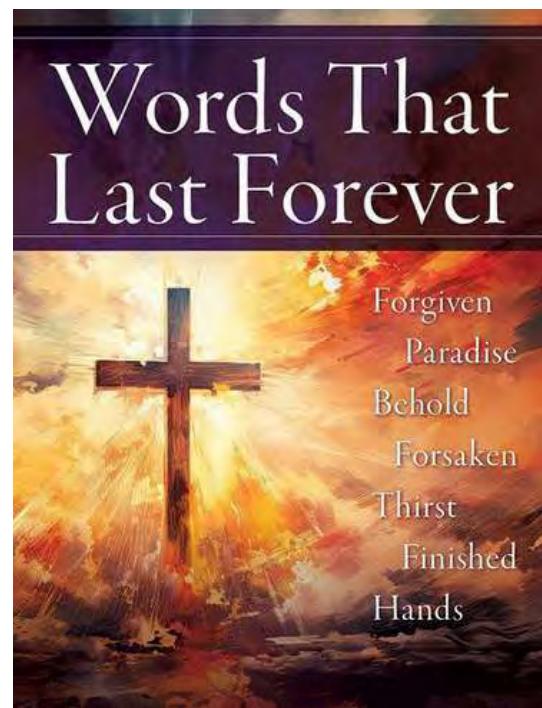
In this service for Maundy Thursday, we listen to Jesus say in the Upper Room, “Given and shed for you,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## April 3rd—Good Friday HANDS

In this service for Good Friday, we listen to Jesus say from the cross, “Into your hands I commit my spirit,” and we ponder the meaning of these words.

## April 5th—Easter ALLELUIA

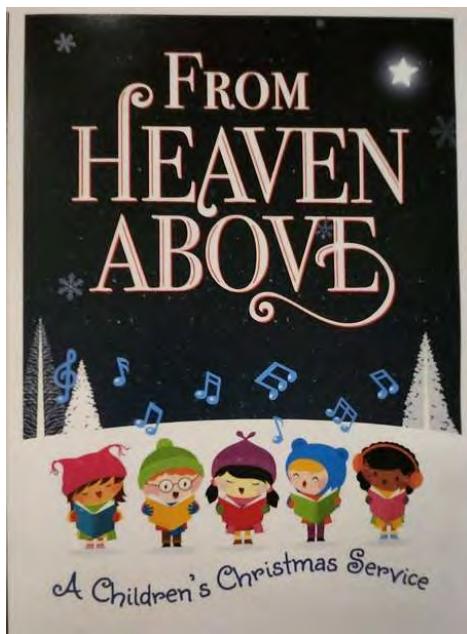
In this service for Easter Sunday, we sing, “Alleluia!” to Jesus who rose from the dead, and we ponder his words of life.



## St. John Children and Youth Christmas Program - December 24, 2025



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## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

**Macie and Levi Hairell were baptized on December 28, 2025**





## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### LWML Sunday was January 18, 2026

Toni and Donna served as acolytes. A cake was provided for everyone.

LWML ladies in the bottom picture are, left to right, Sue T, Angela B, Sue P, Mona A, Gerri H, Toni D, Donna H, and Sue W. LWML women serving in the kitchen and missing from the picture are Dawn A and Connie W.





## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

**Eight Children Will Receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism on  
Sunday, February 1, 2026**



Landon Thom



Caiden Thom



Madelynn Thom



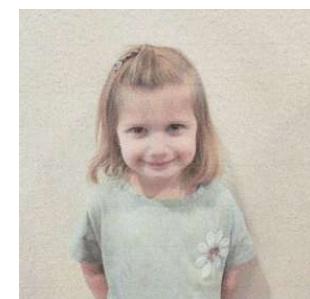
Dylan Thom



Waylon Thom



Brycen Thom



Natalee Thom



Rowan Thom



St. John's Baptismal  
Font, made by Arno  
Hartbauer and given  
to the church by the  
Kline family on  
October 19, 1986





## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### St. John News and Notes

#### WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

Wed., December 24: Christmas Eve	86
Thu., December 25: Christmas Day	60
Sunday, December 28:	60
Sunday, January 4:	83
Sunday, January 11:	81
Sunday, January 18:	80
Sunday, January 25:	70

**THANK YOU FROM MARY:** There is not a sufficient number of ways to say, "Thank you" to all my wonderful St. John Church Family for being so kind to me with your gifts of prayers, care, concern and monetary means.

As I continue to doctor, we will know what direction this is going to take, it probably will be a few more weeks further out. Once again, I feel soooo blessed to have my Church Family. Amen

Blessings, love and peace to all of you,  
Mary

**YOUTH:** The St. John Youth Group will meet at church on Thursday, February 19th, at 7:00 p.m. Sue T. (785) 227-5653.

**THE FLORAL CHART:** We will be trying something new and keep the flowers out for a two-week period, so we will only need sign-ups every other week. Please contact Sue Tangkawarow if you have any questions – (785)227-5653.

**ARTICLES:** for the March newsletter are due Sunday, February 22nd. If you have news for members, please e-mail articles to [Office@StJohnCanonCity.org](mailto:Office@StJohnCanonCity.org) to Attn: Gail, or call or text Gail at 720-201-8743.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP BULLETINS:** Please send announcements for weekly bulletins to Sarah at [office@StJohnCanonCity.org](mailto:office@StJohnCanonCity.org). Thank You.

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE:** As we begin this new year and continue to collect aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, I have news of a delivery: On Sunday, January 18 I delivered 3-1/2 pounds of those lovely, tiny tabs to the House in Colorado Springs. They were received with gratitude as always. The receptionist told me that in a year's time they benefit from recycling the tabs in the amount of \$8,000. So you can see that pulling off those tabs from aluminum cans REALLY DOES ADD UP!

Thank you very much for collecting the tabs and bringing them to the basket in the Narthex. I save them until I have a significant amount to make a delivery to the House when I have the opportunity to drive up to the Springs. Let's keep this worthwhile project going.

Your Sister in Christ,  
Susan Smiley



## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### Prayers and LWML Activities

#### IN OUR PRAYERS

**Shut-Ins:** Lucy Brown, Dale Kletke

**Sick & Recovering:** Debbie Ledbetter, Rod Willard, Sharon Martinson, Robert Tangkawarow, Zoey (Tangkawarow's family), Elaine Emery (Snyders' friend), Cody Atkinson, Mary Richardson, Pastor Dan Kletke

**Prayer Chain:** For prayer concerns please contact one of the following:

- Phone prayer chain: Mary Richardson, (719) 269-1426
- E-mail prayer chain: Sue Poehlein, [cspoehlein@gmail.com](mailto:cspoehlein@gmail.com)

**Military Service Members:** Jake Langley.

**Missionaries:** JP and Aimee Cima, the LCMS missionaries in Cambodia that our congregation has adopted.

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**Thank you** for your dimes in the Red Socks! \$5.20 was collected in January. In February the Red Sock donation is 2 dimes.

We will resume making new ribbons for the hymnals in February at the LWML meeting on Saturday, February 21. The ribbons are cut and ends sealed. We are ready to assemble. Our meeting will begin at 9:00. Ribbon assembly should begin between 9:30-9:40.

Thank you also for signing up for the Kletke Family Meals. The sign-up chart is full through the end of February. An announcement will be made when the March and April sign-up sheet is available.

Saturday, February 21, 2026 @ 9 am is the LWML meeting. We will meet at church. The meeting will be short so that we can complete the hymnal ribbon project. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

Blessings to All,  
Angela Bellantoni





## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### Snap Shots Around St. John



The Christmas undecorating team on Saturday, January 10<sup>th</sup>: Gail & Bob Kirkegaard, Sue Willard, Sandi & George Yeatts



Holy Communion on Christmas morning, December 25, 2025.



Chaplain David Wurdemann leading the children's message on Sunday, January 18th.



Pastor Dan at the Lord's Table, served by Chaplain David Wurdemann on January 11.



## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### St. John Members Study

A new Wednesday Bible Study began on January 14th, with 15 in attendance. Pastor Lyle leads the class. Please come to class at 10:00 a.m. **Jesus: A Study on the words of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.**

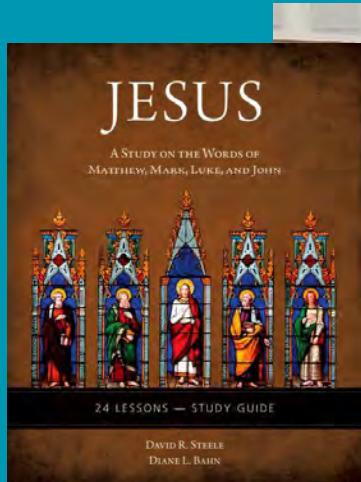


Photo by Connie W.



Sunday Adult Class is about to begin on January 25, 2026.



## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

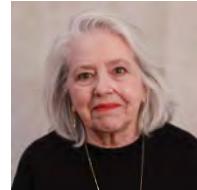
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February 2 - Lily Booth



February 18 - Sherie Huebner



February 11 - Lenny Williams



February 18 - Carla Lehmpuhl



February 12 - Emmanuel Urban



February 25 - Nancy Schmidt



February 14 - Nate Harms



February 26 - Florence Pegors



February 16 - Elizabeth Wallestad



Happy Anniversary!

February 10 - Leonard & Brenda Bosse

February 14 - (Carroll) & Susan Smiley

February 27 - (Jim Estes) & Judith Crider



## FEBRUARY, 2026 PARISH NEWS

### St. John To-Do List

#### Activities at St. John Lutheran Church

**Acolyte** - Altar candle duty for boys and girls at worship services.

**Adult Bible Class** - Sunday mornings at 10:30am after our time of fellowship.

**Adult Choir** - Join your voice with others on special festivals.

**Altar Guild** - Prepare vestments, candles, banners, etc. for worship.

**Audio-Visual** - Operate the slides and video production during worship service.

**Book Club** - Discuss books about once a month in member homes or at church.

**Bulletin Help** - Print worship bulletins a few times per year as needed.

**Car Show** - Annual fundraiser on the church grounds that needs many helpers.

**Christmas Program** - Help or take a part in the Sunday School program.

**Church Council** - Serve on a church board, or as church president, etc.

**Communications** - Publish events on the Website, newsletter, and Facebook.

**Confirmation Class** - Teens meet with Pastor for Christian instruction.

**Door Keeper** - Open the door and welcome people arriving at church.

**Driver** - Provide transportation for those who cannot drive to church.

**Elders** - Men who assist the Pastor with the spiritual life of the congregation.

**Evangelism** - Carry out evangelism programs in the church and community.

**Fellowship** - Serve refreshments after worship, and assist with special events.

**Garage Sale** - Annual fundraiser at St. John that needs many helpers.

**Gardener** - Keep the flower beds in neat and weed-free condition.

**Greeter** - Welcome and offer Sunday bulletin and visitor packet to worshippers.

**LWML** - Women's Auxiliary of the LCMS supports LCMS missions.

**Men's Breakfast** - Men of St. John have breakfast about twice a month.

**Missions** - Direct monetary resources for LCMS missionaries and missions.

**Morning Prayer** - Almost every weekday at 7:30am in the sanctuary.

**Nursery** - Volunteers assist parents who need help in the nursery.

**Prayer Chain** - Receive notice of prayer requests and pray for those in need.

**Quilters** - Construct quilts almost weekly for charities and individuals.

**Readers** - Read assigned Scripture passages at the lectern during services.

**Shut-In Visitation** - Spend time with members who cannot attend church.

**Sunday School** - Classes for kids at 10:30am after worship and refreshments.

**Teach** - Help children learn about their Savior, Preschool through High School.

**Trail Mix** - Hike on local and other Colorado trails with members and friends.

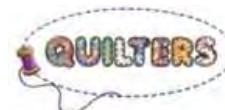
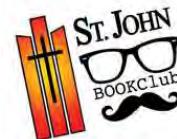
**Trustees** - Oversee maintenance, repair, cleaning of buildings and grounds.

**Ushers** - Assist people with special needs, direct worshipers for Holy Communion.

**Vacation Bible School** - A children's short-term summer educational activity.

**Wednesday Bible Class** - Study at 10:00am Wednesdays with Pastor Dan.

**Youth Group** - High schoolers discuss their faith as it applies to life's challenges.



# DECEMBER SNIPPETS!



Celeste visited over Christmas! We even got to enjoy a few days away at the beach as a whole family. God is doing an amazing work in Celeste as she adjusts to college life stateside. We are proud of her stellar first semester and sent her back with confidence in God's continued leadership for her life. **Please pray for Celeste!**



J.P. had the privilege of preaching at the Christmas service of Christ Lutheran Church in Phnom Penh. He received a Christmas thank you gift from the church alongside his dear friend, Rev. Phin Naro. **Please pray for Christ Lutheran Church!**

It is annual custom for us to host a Christmas party as a thank you to those who make it possible for us to serve in Cambodia. This year, four families came over for dinner, fellowship, singing, hearing God's Word about the birth of Jesus, and celebrating the common mission we have in him. Partnering with these local Lutherans is the greatest joy and privilege we have in serving overseas. **Please give thanks for our partners!**



We wish Chan and Lide (members of youth group) blessings on their marriage. Having been a part of youth group for 7+ years, we were bound to see some marriages happen (and there are more weddings on the way!). We rejoice in Lide and Chan's faith and how the love they share together is a witness of God's love for his bride, the Church. **Please pray for Lide and Srey Chan!**



It was hard to feel fully joyful over Christmas, as the whole country was filled with fear and anxiety about the border conflict with Thailand. Before Christmas, the situation had escalated considerably, with Thailand making frequent incursions into Cambodia to drop bombs. Fortunately, on December 27 an agreement was made to stop the fighting. We celebrate this and pray it will hold. We also pray for the over 140,000 people are still displaced (down from almost 650,000). **Please pray for provision and peace!**

**SQUARE TWO  
CIMA FAMILY  
NEWSLETTER**

**VOL 19  
NO 12  
DEC '25**

**WANNA HELP US IMPACT THE  
PEOPLE OF CAMBODIA?**

Give here or mail a check to 1) P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166 (payable to The Lutheran Church —Missouri Synod), OR 2) 40718 Highway E-16, Mapleton, IA 51034 (payable to Mission Central). For ALL checks, in the memo line write "Cima family-Cambodia." Thank you for your prayers and support!



# FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT EPIPHANY</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Elder's Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study	<b>5</b> <b>7:00</b> Men's Breakfast	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFT EPIPHANY</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class <b>11:30</b> Council Meeting  <u><b>SUPER BOWL LIX</b></u>	<b>9</b> <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>10</b> <i>Circuit Pastors'          Meeting – Pastor          Out of Office</i>	<b>11</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <u><b>VALENTINE'S          DAY</b></u>
<b>15 TRANSFIGURATION          SUNDAY</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	<b>16</b> <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation  <u><b>PRESIDENTS'          DAY</b></u>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study  <b>6:00p</b> Soup Supper <b>7:00p</b> Lent Srvc.  <u><b>ASH          WEDNESDAY</b></u>	<b>19</b> <b>7:00</b> Men's Breakfast	<b>20</b> <i>Prison Ministry –          Pastor Out of          Office</i>	<b>21</b>
<b>22 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN LENT</b> <b>9:00</b> Divine Service w/ Holy Communion <b>10:30</b> Sunday School & Adult Bible Class	<b>23</b> <b>6:30p</b> Confirmation	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>10:00</b> Bible Study  <b>6:00p</b> Soup Supper <b>7:00p</b> Lent Srvc.	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>

