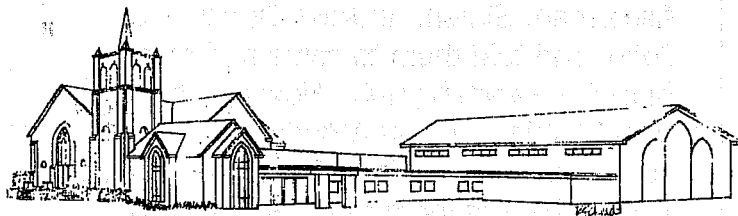


# ~ FEBRUARY 2012 EAGLE ~

## ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH



246 Benjamin Street

Romeo, MI 48065

(Ph.) 586-752-4588

(Fax) 586-752-4272

(Hotline) 586-752-1067

(Email) [stjohnlutheranromeo@comcast.net](mailto:stjohnlutheranromeo@comcast.net)

(Website) [www.stjohnromeo.org](http://www.stjohnromeo.org)

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- February 2 Larry & Ruth Macha  
February 4 Marvin & Ruth Kloock –  
*Happy 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!*  
February 7 Bill & Linda Walters  
February 17 Steve & Amy Hunt  
February 20 Glenn & Karen Hopp  
February 23 Bob & Janet Griffin

## BAPTISMS

- January 8 Alexa Faye Foltz  
January 8 Madalynn Taylor Foltz  
January 29 Aidan John Phillips



# 2012

# THE EAGLE NEWSLETTER

## Pastor's Page ~

**FEBRUARY 2012 Eagle ~ V. 477**

As I look back on the year 2011 my first reaction is: "We made it!" In the midst of a world full of uncertainty and chaos, our congregation continued to faithfully do the Lord's work. We worshipped, we studied, we served, and together we had some fun. We also struggled. We said farewell to some long time members who died and are now with our Lord. We also said good bye to dear friends who had to move out of state to find work or retired and left the community. As the finance committee will report we ended the year with a balance, but not as much as last year. So that is a concern. Our worship attendance continues to show a slight decrease, and we struggle to get enough volunteers to do the basic ministries of our congregation, and that is a concern, but all in all we are still blessed with many gifted and talented members who enrich the daily life of St. John Lutheran Church. I'll state very clearly that we are not in a desperate situation that makes us fear for the immediate future of our congregation, and that's both a blessing and a curse. Here's the blessing – there are positive signs of growth and innovation in our congregation. We continue to begin new ministries while maintaining our basic ministries.

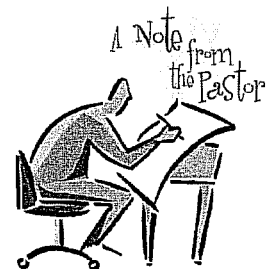
The curse is that without a crisis to energize us we can become complacent and fail to heed our Lord when He calls.

As I've been working on this report I've also been working on a sermon. (Yes even an old guy can multi-task!) The theme for the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January is *Moving Forward*, and it's based on the account in Mark's Gospel of Jesus calling his first disciples. Mark

describes how our Lord was walking along the Sea of Galilee and he approached four fishermen: Simon, Andrew, James and John, and told them to come and follow him-----*and they did!* Now let's talk about fishing. It was a good life. You could make a good living catching fish, but I think there is more to it. Some of you love to fish. Fishing gets into your blood, and you can't wait to get out on that lake. So these four men were not desperate. They did not turn and follow Jesus because they had nowhere else to go. So here's my question - why would they leave a good, stable and fulfilling life to follow Jesus? The answer lies in what our Lord said as He summoned them to become his followers. He said: "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." Fishing is a good life, but Jesus invites Simon, Andrew, James and John to live life in a new way. Now they will become a part of the greatest movement the world has ever known. And now He invites us live this new life with Him. We are to cast our nets, not for fish but for people! As followers of Jesus we have been given the joyful task of inviting people to be a part of the Kingdom of God. Now our task is to figure out what is the best bait. What and how should we be reaching out with the Gospel? Our Strategic Planning Committee will be offering the insights they have gathered from months of prayer and research. On the 12<sup>th</sup> of February at our Annual Meeting we will hear from them. I'm excited! How about you?

God's Peace,

*Pastor Mark*



**FEBRUARY THEMES & LESSONS**

**February 4/5**

**Theme:** *He's Got An Attitude!*

**Lessons:** Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; **Key Text:** 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39.

**February 11/12**

**Theme:** *He Could Not Keep His Mouth Shut!*

**Lessons:** Jeremiah 1:4-10; Psalm 30; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; **Key Text:** Mark 1:40-45

**February 18/19**

**Theme:** *I Want a Piece of That Action!*

**Lessons:** 2 Kings 2:9-12; Psalm 50:1-6; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6; **Key Text:** Mark 9:2-9.

**February 25/26**

**Theme:** *Somewhere Over the Rainbow*

**Lessons:** **Key Text:** Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15.

**UPCOMING FEBRUARY EVENTS:**

**February 8:** 50+ Group, 10:15am

**February 12:** ANNUAL MEETING after 10:00am Worship

**February 14:** Men's Club Euchre, 6pm

**February 26:** Contemporary Worship, 10:30am

**VOLUNTEER MINISTERS SCHEDULE FOR COUNTERS**

**Month: FEBRUARY 2012**

- 2/5 - DROP BAG
- 2/12 - DROP BAG
- 2/19 - Dave & Ryan Dau
- 2/26 - Deb Thompson, Ron Weyersberg

**Saturday Worship Coordinators**

**Month: FEBRUARY 2012**

- 2/4 - Dave & Laurie Hudson
- 2/11 - Cathy Vestrand, Paul Hansen
- 2/18 - Bob & Marcia Rick
- 2/25 - Joe & Marlyn Hnatow



Please come to our Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> directly after one worship service at 10:00 a.m.!

\*\*\*\*\*



We are in desperate need of volunteers! We are very short of people for ushering, counting, coffee hour and communion care and bread. Please prayerfully consider signing up for one of these volunteer ministries on the attached Time and Talents Sheet. Training is available. As of this writing, we have no one available for March 8:30am communion care and bread.

Thank you!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Senior Adult**



**Fellowship**

The group will meet on the **2nd Wednesday of each month**. Our next meeting is **February 8<sup>th</sup>** at 10:15am. The theme is "Leader Dog for the Blind."

Guest speaker will be Mrs. Ashley Pecket, Special Events Manager. Also attending will be one of the guests! Potluck lunch at noon. Bring your own place settings. Fun-time following! Fellowship, games, cards and a good ole-time for one and all! Please sign up on the poster in the Gathering Area. Helpers needed! Free-will donations accepted.



**RECEIVED BY WELCA FROM THE  
ROMEO NURSING CENTER:**

Thank you all so much for the wonderful quilts and Christmas gifts for our residents. We appreciate your kindness. Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!  
Romeo Nursing Center  
Lynne Jenkins, Activity Director and Social Work Director

\*\*\*\*\*



**Women's Fellowship**

**Church Group** – Meets at 12:30pm on the first Wednesday of the month at the church. Please feel welcome to attend these Bible studies at any time. For more information, call Martha Kegler at 586-784-5439.

**LOVE Day** – Meets 9am-3pm on the second Tuesday of the month in the church basement. Contact Leona Thorman at 810-798-8532.

**LOVE Day II** – Meets 9am – 12pm on the first Wednesday of the month in the church basement. Contact Jan Alling at 586-752-7016.

\*\*\*\*\*



**WELCA FEBRUARY PROJECT –**

**HEALTH KITS:**

- ☆ Bath Towel, Hand Towel ☆
- ☆ Washcloth, Bar of Soap ☆
- ☆ Toothbrush, Toothpaste ☆
- ☆ Comb ☆
- ☆ Nail File or Clippers ☆
- ☆ Box of Band-aids ☆

**THANK YOU!**

Over 30 ministry resources available to you for free at:  
[www.semi-welca.org](http://www.semi-welca.org)

Please save your pop can tabs and turn them in at the church across from the coat rack. 74.5 lbs. was collected in 2011 for a grand total of over **332.5 lbs.** collected since February 2007! This fundraiser is for the purchase of kidney machines.

**MORE WAYS YOU CAN SAVE:**

- 1. Box Tops for Education**
- 2. Campbell's Soup Labels**

\*\*\*\*\*



**Men's Fellowship**

**Tuesday Night Euchre**

**Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>** is the next Euchre Night! Sponsored by the St. John Men's Club, Euchre Night is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month (off during summer months). Registration is 6pm and start time is 6:30pm. A fee of \$10 includes snacks and prizes. Proceeds are used to fund local Romeo charitable organizations. Future dates are March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10, and May 8<sup>th</sup>.

**COME JOIN THE FUN AND SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY!**

Don Schwartz, 2011-2012 President  
Men's Club

\*\*\*\*\*



**Meijer Community Rewards for December 2011**

**\$ 35.52**

**Year to Date for 2011: \$374.43**

**Thank you, Shoppers!**

*Meijer Rewards Enrollment Applications are in the Gathering Area.*



**FEED THE HUNGRY**

**FEBRUARY PANTRY NEEDS FOR SAMARITAN HOUSE**

- \* Cooking Oil \* Oatmeal \* Flour \*
- \* Coffee \* Juice \* Crackers \*
- \* Tomato Sauce \* Hamburger Helper \* Baby Food #3 \* Sugar \*
- \* Macaroni & Cheese \* Oatmeal \*
- \* Depends Size Lge. & XL \*
- \* Deodorant \* Laundry Soap \*
- \* Shampoo \* Bath Soap \*
- \* Dish Detergent \*

NOTE: We always need low-sodium, gluten-free and sugar-free foods. We appreciate any non-perishable food items and toiletries that you can donate. Thank you! Drop off your food donations during our normal business hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 10-6 and Friday 10 - 4.

We are located at: 62324 Van Dyke (between 28 & 29 Mile Roads in Washington) Phone: 586-336-9956

➤ **Please note** that there are black cupboards in both the main hallway and also up near the entrance to the sanctuary for Samaritan House Food collection.

**SAMARITAN HOUSE NEWS**

The **Second Annual all-you-can-eat Spaghetti Buffet** will be at the Capital Banquet Center on 31 Mile just east of Van Dyke on **Wednesday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 4-8 p.m.**

\$15 per adult or 2 for \$25  
\$6 per child, 5 & under

You may purchase tickets at the door or call Samaritan House at 586-336-9956.

\* \* \*

Samaritan House would love to have a Nativity Scene for our front yard. It needs to be weather resistant and a size that is noticeable from the street. If you have a nativity you are no longer in need of and would like to donate, please call us at 586-336-9956. Thank you.

\* \* \*

**Income Tax Preparation:**

Beginning the last Saturday in January and continuing through early April, Samaritan House in cooperation with Accounting Aid Society and VITA will offer both Federal and Michigan Income Tax preparation to individuals with a gross income of \$25,000 or less and families with a gross income of \$50,000 or less. This is a free program, appointments are necessary. In early January, we will begin to schedule appointments, please call 586-336-9956. This free program at Samaritan House has returned OVER \$1.1million to this community at no cost to our clients. \*\*\*\*\*

**NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE RECYCLING**

Thank you for the tremendous response with this! In **December** we recycled **5.48 tons** and received **\$87.91**. Landfill space saved – 17.10 cubic yards. Total 2012 Year-to-date: **\$87.91**. Thank you!

**LIVE GREEN**

**You can recycle:**

- +Magazines
  - +Mail
  - +Shopping Catalogs
  - +Newspaper
  - +Office & School Papers
- You can recycle anything listed here from your business as well. The Bin is located in the back lot next to the garage.



**PLEASE, NO CARDBOARD or PHONE BOOKS!**

**IMPORTANT NOTE!**

When we collect under 4 tons of paper, we earn under \$20.00. But when we collect 4 tons or more, we earn at least \$60.00!!!  
So a little bit more paper from each of us earns the church 3 times as much money!



Our new pictorial directories are in!  
Please stop by the office M-F, 8am-4pm to  
pick up your copy.

\*\*\*\*\*



St. John Lutheran is a STEPHEN  
MINISTRY Congregation. Look for  
informational brochures on the table near  
the entryway.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Community Wide Military  
Package Drive**

All are invited to bring unsealed Military Care  
Packages during Downtown Romeo's Romantic  
Days & Chocolate Festival. At Romeo Masonic  
Temple, 231 N. Main, Romeo, MI. (Boxes and  
info available in church entranceway)

Friday, February 10, 2012

10:00am – 6:00pm

Saturday, February 11, 2012

10:00am – 12:00pm

\*\*\*\*\*



**Director of Music Job Opening**

at

Trinity Lutheran Church

35110 Division Rd.

Richmond, MI 48062

Interviewing for a part-time Director of  
Music. This person will also provide  
music for all worship services.  
Instruments are organ, piano and  
keyboard.

Contact Pastor Kelsay Parker at  
586-727-7270 or by email at  
[tlcpastorkelsay@gmail.com](mailto:tlcpastorkelsay@gmail.com)



**WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER**  
Lutheran Expression

Lutheran Marriage Encounter  
weekends are:

- ❖ Designed to strengthen each couple's relationship and their relationship to God
- ❖ Enrich ALL marriages, for couples married 1 year or 50 years +
- ❖ 44 hours at a comfortable hotel or conference center away from all distractions
- ❖ Led by an ordained Lutheran minister & spouse plus 3 highly trained lay couples
- ❖ A program that began in the Catholic church over 30 years ago-now used by all major faiths
- ❖ Popular-over 2 million couples have shared this valuable weekend
- ❖ Worthwhile-\$45 fee plus a confidential contribution you choose to make at the end of the weekend covers hotel, meals, materials, and other expenses
- ❖ Entirely self-supporting-non-profit, no paid staff, no subsidy from any church or organization

Two Marriage Encounters have been scheduled for 2012. The first will be held March 9-11 in Birch Run and the second is September 28-30 in the Portage/Kalamazoo area. You must register at least 4 weeks prior. You may call Larry and Liz Grupe at 586-566-1525 for more information or go to the Marriage Encounter website at: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org).

**St. John Lutheran Church  
Dec. 2011 Finance Report**

**General Fund: Jan. 1 to December 31, 2011**

<u>Total Contributions and Other Income:</u>		\$	33,117
Expenses Paid in Dec.		\$	(20,668)
<u>Surplus(Shortage) for Dec.</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>12,449</u>
Expenses Not Paid in Dec.		\$	-
<u>Actual Surplus(Shortage) for Dec. 2011</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>12,449</u>

**General Fund: Year to Date Through December 31, 2011**

<u>Total Contributions and Other Income Year to Date:</u>		\$	239,893
<u>Total Expenses paid Year to Date:</u>		\$	(234,635)
<u>Surplus(Shortage) Year to Date 2011</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>5,258</u>
<u>Add Unpaid Expenses:</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Actual Surplus/(Shortage) Year to Date 2011</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>5,258</u>

**Mortgage Reduction Fund Through Dec. 2011**

<u>Contributions Dec.</u>		\$	18,915
<u>Interest Received:</u>		\$	-
<u>Total Income:</u>		\$	18,915
<u>Less Mortgage Payment to Thrivent:</u>		\$	(6,401)
<u>Surplus(Shortage) for Dec.</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>12,514</u>
<u>Total Surplus(Shortage) Year to Date 2011</u>		<u>\$</u>	<u>7,847</u>

	<u>05/15/1997</u>		<u>12/31/2011</u>
Mortgage Principal Balance Remaining:	<u>\$ 900,000</u>	\$	<u>265,446</u>
Months of mortgage Remaining:	240		49

**NOTE: Thank you for your generous contributions that make all of our ministries possible.**

In his name:

Finance Committee

## SHARE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS - BE A VOLUNTEER MINISTER!



During the worship service, on any given Sunday, we have volunteer ministers who not only make the worship service run smoother, but contribute spiritually to the overall worship experience. But even more importantly, by sharing of their time and spiritual gifts with our congregation, they connect with God in an individual way. Sharing our spiritual gifts that God has given us enhances the worship experience and helps us grow in faith.

We often hear concerns in the church office about being a volunteer minister. Some of these may be concerns that you have.

- 1) If I volunteer I will be scheduled every Sunday.
- 2) I'll be constantly scheduled on Sundays when I have other plans.
- 3) I go away all summer (winter) and so I don't think I should sign up for anything.
- 4) I don't know how to do any of the volunteer ministries.
- 5) My children or other family members are involved in the choir and I don't want to be scheduled for a conflicting service.

These concerns are understandable. Everyone is super busy, rushing from one place to another with more things to do than time allows. Sometimes Sunday is the only day we have to slow down and the thought of committing ourselves to do one more thing is too much. Being a volunteer minister on Sunday morning doesn't have to be an additional source of stress. If everyone (adults, youth, families with children) in the congregation volunteered to share just two of their spiritual gifts, then we would have enough people to schedule once every few months or more!

We schedule volunteer ministers two months ahead of time and that schedule is put in the monthly Eagle newsletter. Most people look at the schedule in the Eagle each month, and then write it down on their calendar at home. The worship service bulletin also contains the volunteer minister schedule for the following week. If you know you will be gone or busy during a certain time of the year, just let the office know this and we won't schedule you during that time. If you only wish to volunteer during one specific month of the year, put that on your form when you sign up. We also try to keep track of the choir schedules and to not schedule someone for the early service if their child is scheduled to sing at the late service. We try *real* hard to work around *your* schedule!

If you should be scheduled on a Sunday that you can not be here, which sometimes happens, all you need to do is call someone listed on another Sunday and switch with them, then let the office know. If at any time you cannot continue your ministry just call and tell us.

Training for any of the volunteer ministries can be done during a scheduled training session, or we can schedule you with a veteran volunteer minister that can train you on Sunday morning. We also can arrange for someone to train you on another day of the week; just let us know what is convenient for you.

Volunteer ministers are an integral part of our worship experience. It provides each of us with an opportunity to grow in our faith and relationship with God. It is our loving response to the spiritual gifts that God has first given each of us. It is a way to be part of the ministry of St. John.

Please consider sharing your gifts with us on Sunday mornings!

# 2012 Time and Talent Sheet

***"Since then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness."***

**2 Corinthians 3:12**

Listed on this form are a variety of opportunities to give of your spiritual gifts through the pledging of time and talent. If you have a question about any of the opportunities to serve please contact the Church office 586-752-4588. Thank you in advance for the generous giving of your time and talent. Please join us in praying that we will all be strengthened to serve and give.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

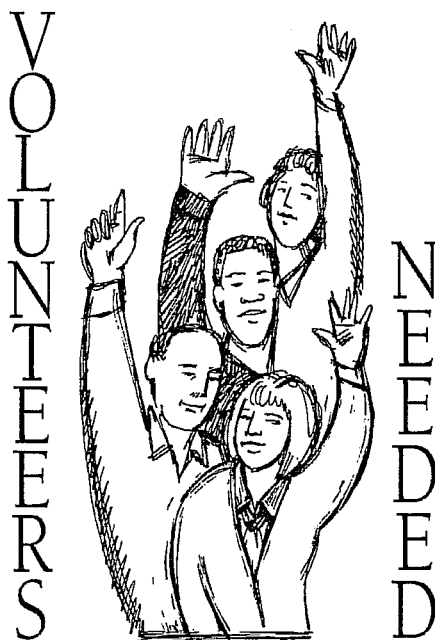
**Time and Talent sheets will be renewed in 6 months.**

**Please mark here which Sunday morning service you wish to be scheduled for:**

\_\_\_ **8:30 a.m.** or \_\_\_ **10:30 a.m.**

## **Sunday Morning Worship**

- \_\_\_ Greeter
- \_\_\_ Reader
- \_\_\_ Acolyte
- \_\_\_ Nursery
- \_\_\_ Usher
- \_\_\_ Communion Care
- \_\_\_ Communion Bread
- \_\_\_ Coffee Hour
- \_\_\_ Assistant Minister



## **Counters**

- \_\_\_ Sunday morning count
- \_\_\_ Monday morning count

## **Music Programs**

- \_\_\_ Praise Singers
- \_\_\_ Praise Ringers
- \_\_\_ Can Do Ringers
- \_\_\_ Youth Choir
- \_\_\_ Kids of the Kingdom

## **Saturday Evening Worship**


- \_\_\_ Service Coordinator
- \_\_\_ Special Music

## **Office Help**

- \_\_\_ Eagle Newsletter
- \_\_\_ Bulletins
- \_\_\_ Special mailings

# St. John's United Methodist Church CALENDAR FEBRUARY 2012

B=Basement C=Conference Rm CH=Choir Rm F=Fellowship Hall G=Gathering Area L=Library/Sisson St. Rm S=Sanctuary X=Extra Classroom Y=Youth Rm

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Love Day II (B) 8am Tai Chi (F) 10:30am WELCA (G) 12:30pm Soccer (F) 6:30pm Praise Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Praise Singers (CH) 7:30pm	<b>2</b> AA (B) 8pm Alanon (X) 8pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Worship w/Communion, 5pm
<b>5</b> Worship w/Comm., 8:30 & 10:30am Sunday School 10:15am <b>Confirmation</b>	<b>6</b> Can-Do Ringers (CH) 6:30pm	<b>7</b> Rental (F) 6:30am Weight Watchers (B) 5:45pm Symphonia Chorale (S) 7pm	<b>8</b> Tai Chi (F) 10:30am <b>50+ Group</b> (G) 10:15am Soccer (F) 6:30pm Praise Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Praise Singers (CH) 7:30pm	<b>9</b> AA (B) 8pm Alanon (X) 8pm	<b>10</b> Scrapbooking (G) 6-10pm	<b>11</b> Scrapbooking (G) 10am-10pm Worship 5pm
<b>12</b> <u>Worship One service at 10:00am</u> <b>Sunday School, 9:45am</b> <b>ANNUAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP</b>	<b>13</b> Can-Do Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Stephen Ministry(C)7pm Pack 259 (F) 7pm	<b>14</b> Rental (F) 6:30am Love Day (B) 9am-3pm Weight Watchers (B) 5:45pm BS Troop 156 (C) 6:30 <b>Men's Club Euchre (F) 6:30pm</b> Symphonia Ch.(S) 7pm	<b>15</b> Tai Chi (F) 10:30am Soccer (F) 6:30pm Praise Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Praise Singers (CH) 7:30pm	<b>16</b> Finance (C) 5:30pm AA (B) 8pm Alanon (X) 8pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Worship w/ Comm. 5pm
<b>19</b> Worship, 8:30 & 10:30am <b>NO Sunday School</b> (Winter Break)	<b>20</b> Can-Do Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Quilting (G) 7pm Council (C) 7:30pm	<b>21</b> Rental (F) 6:30am Weight Watchers (B) 5:45pm Symphonia Chorale (S) 7pm	<b>22 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> Tai Chi (F) 10:30am <b>Soup Supper (F) 5:30pm</b> Praise Ringers (CH) 6:30pm <b>Lenten Worship 7pm</b> Praise Singers (CH) 7:30pm	<b>23</b> AA (B) 8pm Alanon (X) 8pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Sound Disciples (S) 10am Rehearsal (S) 3pm Worship 5pm
<b>26</b> Worship w/ Comm. 8:30 & 10:30am Sunday School 10:15am <b>Confirmation</b>	<b>27</b> Can-Do Ringers (CH) 6:30pm Pack 259 Comm. (G) 7pm Stephen Ministry C) 7pm	<b>28</b> Rental (F) 6:30am Weight Watchers (B) 5:45pm <b>Men's Club (G) 6:30pm</b> Symphonia Chorale (S) 7pm	<b>29</b> Tai Chi (F) 10:30am <b>Soup Supper (F) 5:30pm</b> Praise Ringers (CH) 6:30pm <b>Lenten Worship 7pm</b> Praise Singers (CH) 7:30pm			