

THE JOTTINGS



The Newsletter of Jehovah Lutheran Church

1566 Thomas Ave, Saint Paul MN 55104 • 651-644-1421 • www.jehovahlutheran.org

A Community of Joy . . . Celebrating, Learning & Sharing the Love of God in Christ Jesus

January 2022

Rooted In the Living Word

SUNDAYS

WORSHIP IN PERSON 9:30 am
GROWING IN FAITH SUNDAY SCHOOL
FOLLOWING DIVINE SERVICE
LIVING IN FAITH BIBLE STUDY 11:00 am



Join us for worship
Stay Informed
on our Church Website:
www.jehovahlutheran.org

Support our ministry at Jehovah
with your gift.



OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR HOURS

TUESDAY - FRIDAY
8:30AM - 1:30PM

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

CALL OR EMAIL AHEAD

PASTOR MAY BE VISITING

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
1:00PM-5:00PM

TUESDAYS - DAY OFF

FRIDAY - PASTOR VISITING

CALL TO MEET WITH PASTOR
PASTOR'S CELL: 612-600-3514

Email submissions for
THE JOTTINGS BY JANUARY 27TH
to office@jehovahlutheran.org

SCRIPTURES FOR WORSHIP

January 2: Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12

January 9: Isaiah 43:1-7, Romans 6:1-11, Luke 3:15-22

January 16: Isaiah 62:1-5, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2:1-11

January 23: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a,
Luke 4:16-31a

January 30: Jeremiah 1:4-10, 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13, Luke 4:31-44

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Walking Together:

God's Word makes every Sunday Epiphany!

As we begin a new calendar year, we continue our exploration together of the Divine Service. In December, we looked at the readings from Scripture, which we hear each Sunday. This month, we look at the sermon.

But first, Blessed Epiphany to you! The word "epiphany" means the appearance of God. It means that God shows up and reveals Himself through His Word. The Feast of Epiphany marks the end of the celebration of Christmas and commemorates the coming of the first non-Jewish people (the wisemen or magi) to visit the newborn Christ. Often, we hear that the wisemen were guided to Bethlehem by the star they saw in the heavens. This is not entirely true, or, at least, it is not the complete truth. At first, they followed the star to Jerusalem.

This only makes sense. If the wisemen were searching for a newborn king, it would make sense that the star would lead them to Jerusalem, where King Herod the (so-called) Great ruled. But when the wisemen speak to Herod and the religious leaders in Jerusalem, they hear from the reading of the Old Testament prophets that the Messiah will be born not in Jerusalem but in Bethlehem. The star could only take them so far, they had to hear the Word of God to find the Messiah. On their way to Bethlehem, the star reappeared (corrected it seems by God's Word), and led them as far as it could. Once again, the star led them to God's Word. This time, though, it was not the words of God recorded by the Old Testament prophets but the Word of God's New Testament: the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ.

continued . . .

In a sermon preached in the Gustavus Adolphus Cathedral in Gothenburg, the Swedish Lutheran pastor, Bo Giertz, likens the journey of the magi to the Christ child to the journey of people to faith in Jesus. Like the star, nature, history, conscience, and spiritual experiences can only lead us so far. They testify that there is a power in the universe higher than ourselves, but they do not really tell us anything truthful about that power. They certainly don't tell us that this higher power is God revealed in Christ for our salvation, for that we need an epiphany. We need an appearance of the Word of God. Thankfully for us, says Giertz, we don't have to travel on camels to Jerusalem or Bethlehem, for the Word of God in flesh, Jesus Christ comes to us. We only need to travel to the pew. We don't have to go long or far, just to church, to hear the Word of God, which proclaims God in Christ for us!

So now we come back to the place of the sermon in the Divine Service. This is where the Word of God is preached. This is where Jesus Christ in flesh comes to us and speaks to us. He speaks to us telling us that He has come for us. He tells us that He has come to take our humanity, our sin, our death, our diseases, our brokenness, our frustrations, and our fears as His own. He tells us that, in return, He gives us His relationship with God the Father, His righteousness, His eternal life, His wholeness, and His peace. We won't hear this Word through the stars or anything else in nature. We won't hear it through the media. We won't hear it through our experiences. We hear it in the Divine Service, and so we come to Divine Service to worship our God and to hear from Him, to hear that He has come to give us His very self for our salvation. Come hear His Word; invite someone else to come hear it too. God shows up and speaks to You, and in this way, every Sunday is Epiphany.

¹ Bo Giertz, "Sermon on Epiphany" (1964), in *A Year of Grace*, vol. 1: *Collected Sermons of Advent through Pentecost*, trans. Bror Erickson (Irvine, CA: 1517 Publishing, 2019), 59-60.

Your Pastor,
Joshua Miller



VOTERS' MEETING

Sunday, January 23

11:15am

Watch for information on a Zoom or an in-person meeting.
You will receive your Prospectus by email no later than Sunday, January 16.

2022 GIVING ENVELOPES ARE HERE

The giving envelopes for 2022 will be available for pickup in the reception area outside of the church office before and after church on Sundays, January 2 and January 9, 2022.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO TAKE DOWN CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 9
AFTER CHURCH**

It is time to take down the Christmas decorations at Jehovah. Please plan to stay after the Worship Service on Sunday, January 9, 2022, to help remove all of the decorations around the church and put them back into storage for another year. If you have any questions, please contact Marge Avoles at margeavoles@comcast.net or call 651-398-8204.



PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, January 2:

Isaiah 60:1-6

The prophet sees a restored Israel gathered from distant places, receiving the wealth of the world. Israel becomes light to nations and radiates God's glory.

Ephesians 3:1-12

To Paul has been revealed the "mystery" of Christ that Gentiles are heirs with Israel in the one body of the church.

Matthew 2:1-12

Wise Men come from the east, Gentiles bearing gifts to honor the one born king of the Jews, "who will be the shepherd of my people Israel".

Sunday, January 9

Isaiah 43:1-7

The Lord who created you, who formed you, O Israel, says, "I have redeemed you, I have called you by name. I will bring your children from afar. Do not be afraid, for I am with you."

Romans 6:1-11

Through baptism the Christian has identified with Christ's death and resurrection; The "self" is transformed so as to exclude sin from his daily life.

Luke 3:15-22

John baptized with water, preparing the way for Jesus who would baptize "with the Holy Spirit and fire." Jesus also came to be baptized, and while he was praying, the Holy Spirit descended on him and a voice from heaven spoke, "You are my son."

January 16

Isaiah 62:1-5

The prophet proclaims that Zion's vindication will shine like the dawn. The nations shall see her glory and God shall rejoice in her like a bridegroom.

1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Paul urges the Corinthians to hold together in the unity of the Spirit, recognizing that the varieties of their spiritual gifts and services come from God.

John 2:1-11

Jesus and his disciples were invited to a wedding at Cana. When the wine gave out, Jesus turned six jars of water into wine. This "sign" revealed his glory and his disciples believed in him.

Continued . . .

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

January 23

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10,

The exiles have returned and the people ask Ezra to read the law of Moses to them. When they hear it, they weep but Ezra urges them to find joy in the Lord their strength.

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a,

Paul urges the Corinthians to recognize that the variety of spiritual gifts among them are all given by God and should be used for the common good, for building up unity in Christ.

Luke 4:16-31a

Jesus teaches in his hometown synagogue, using words from Isaiah to claim that God's ancient promise to his people is now being fulfilled through him.

January 30

Jeremiah 1:4-10

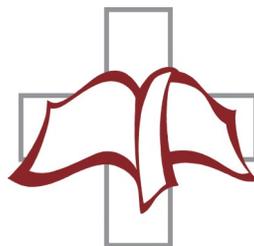
The Word of the Lord calls Jeremiah to preach to the nations. The prophet is reluctant but the Lord assures him that he will "put my words in your mouth."

1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

The final greetings of Paul to the Christians at Corinth, Urging them to continue in the new life of love and peace in God.

Luke 4:31-44

We hear about Jesus driving out a demon and healing many people.



JEHOVAH SERVICE AND EDUCATION SCHEDULE



9:30am Divine Service

Sundays in the Sanctuary

Invite a friend and join us
for a year of connecting and *Walking Together*.

Living by Faith

11:00am on Sundays

Ages 14 - 100+

Join us in person in the lounge

Contact Pastor Miller with questions
at 612-600-3514 or pastorjoshuamiller@gmail.com.



Growing in Faith

Ages Birth - 13 years

Gather with us weekly in the nursery after the Divine Service.

Parents are welcome to stay with their children.



Remembering Shirley Dorow

Jehovah member Shirley Dorow died peacefully on December 8, in full faith and surrounded by family. She was 90 years old. A service was held at Jehovah on Thursday, December 16 and committal was at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Garner, Iowa. We are keeping the family in prayer as we praise God for Shirley's work.

Remembering Bernice Demulling

Bernice Demulling fell asleep in Christ on Saturday, January 1, 2022. Bernice was at home with family and completely at peace with her Lord. The funeral service for Bernice will be held at Jehovah Lutheran Church at 11:00am on Friday, January 7. There will be a visitation before the service, beginning at 10:00am. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorials to Jehovah Lutheran Church. We give thanks and remember Bernice.



IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Donna Ostenson Kiefert
 Rita Galston
 Paul Finegan
 George Mendoza
 Sandy Quenzer
 Tom Kelly
 Tim Robinson
 Patrick Carey
 Wesley Pagel
 Shirley Starner, and her son-in-law Greg Beaudoin
 Jim Kinsel
 Lynne Baerthel and her family
 Charlie Avoles (recovering from surgery)
 Becky Herrmann (niece of Charlie and Marge Avoles)
 Jeannie Edwards (cousin of Pastor Miller with cancer)
 Kilee Bush (cousin of Pastor Miller)
 Margaret Davis (Great Aunt of Pastor Miller)
 Joyce and Susan Boettcher (stepmother and cousin of Elizabeth Wegner)
 Larry Schroeder (cousin of Tim Robinson)



*Let my prayer
 rise before you as incense.
 Psalm 141:2a*

continued . . .

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

Those suffering or recovering from COVID-19 and for wise use of the vaccines.

God's comfort and peace through the promise of the resurrection to the family and friends of Bernice Demulling, who passed into our Lord's care on Saturday, January 1.

Safety and good health for all students, teachers and staff at schools, including those from this congregation.

For strength to speak out for and protect the lives of the unborn our God has created and compassionate care of all that He has made. For the compassionate support of all mothers of young children who are in need.

For the refugees who have fled for refuge from Afghanistan to North America.

For better stewardship of God's creation and strengthening of those whose professional vocation it is to care for the earth.

For President Biden and Vice President Harris as they serve our nation.

For Governor Walz and all in leadership in our state.

For Mayor Carter and all in city government.

For our Synodical President Matthew Harrison, our District President Lucas Woodford as they lead us, and for our Circuit Visitor, Steven Bielenberg.

For our congregation as we follow our outreach roadmap, *Walking Together*.

For the Mekane Yesus congregation as they call a new pastor.

Special Weekly Prayers:

As we pray for each member and family in our congregation by name, this week we pray for Bea Samas.

Note: Note, we generally pray for members or families from Jehovah Lutheran each week. The order for these prayers is alphabetical. In addition to our public prayers, our pastor and Board of Lay Ministry are praying individually for these members and families each week.

Special prayer requests are encouraged any time and may be given to pastor via phone or email.

*Pray
without
ceasing*



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD

Pray For Us Calendar

JANUARY

EPIPHANY — JANUARY 1-31

Epiphany is from a Greek word meaning to “reveal” or “make manifest.” The season of Epiphany is our time to focus on the revelation of who Jesus is — both true God and true man — as we remember Christ’s revelation to the Gentiles in the visit of the Wise Men.

Give thanks as you pray:

1. That God would make us bold witnesses to the Good News of Jesus Christ in this new year and always.
2. For opportunities to witness to friends, family members and strangers. Please send Your Holy Spirit to give us wisdom and faithful words to use during these encounters.
3. For our congregations, that God would strengthen them by fostering a faithful Lutheran approach to confessing Christ to neighbors and planting daughter congregations.

4. That our schools would be faithful mission outposts, reaching unchurched families with the Gospel and strengthening the faith of church-ed families.

5. With thanksgiving for all the Synod’s faithful church workers, that they might be re-energized daily and find great joy in their service.

6. That just as You made known Your Son to the Gentiles through the leading of a star, You would continue to bring the light of Your Gospel to the hearts of all people.

7. For new church plants and mission starts, that the Lord would help faithful congregations sprout up in every corner of the United States.

8. That we would be effective in reaching out to people of different ethnicities who are living in our communities. Pray that the Lord would use us

as His instruments to make the LCMS a reflection of the Church Triumphant.

9. For those marching for life, whether at the National March for Life in Washington, D.C., or a pro-life event closer to home. Please pray that all those who attend might be a powerful witness to others.

10. For all children, that they would be brought to the saving waters of Baptism and raised in the love, nurture and admonition of the Lord.

11. That the Lord would help us raise our children and young people in the faith, always pointing them to the hope and salvation found only in Christ.

12. For college students, who are struggling with many different issues and challenges. Ask God to make them receptive to the peace and healing of the Gospel.

13. For the aged, that they would be godly examples to the young as they are patient in their tribulations, joyful in their hope, firm in their faith and humble in all they say and do.

14. That God would strengthen our hope and impact by encouraging partnerships in the Gospel that clearly confess Christ.

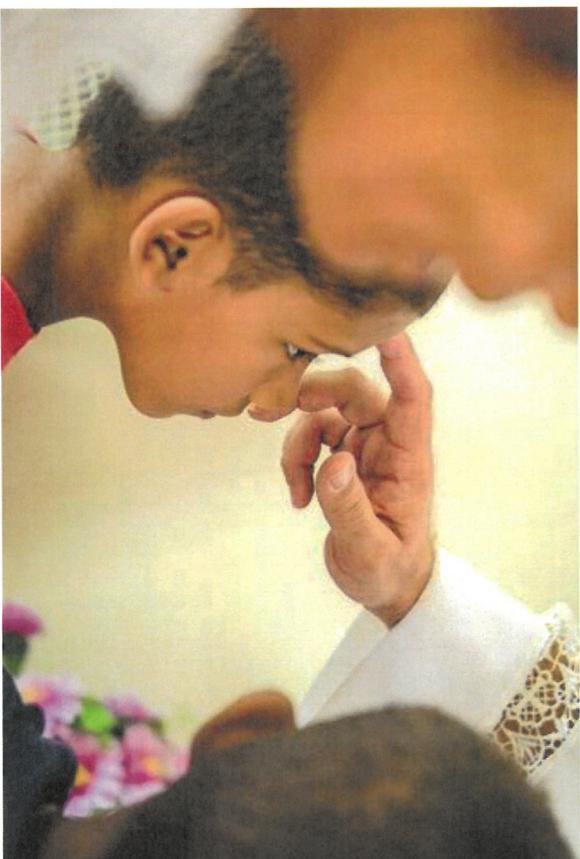
15. For the Synod’s 35 districts, that they might have the resources and wisdom to effectively reach out to their communities.

16. For strong districts, congregations and Recognized Service Organizations. When our Synod is strong at home, we can better reach out across the world.

17. For all missionaries around the world, who leave family and friends to travel to a foreign land to share the Gospel with those who have not heard. Pray that God would grant them safety, wisdom and strength.

JANUARY Pray For Us Calendar

- 18.** *With thanksgiving for all the faithful brothers and sisters in Christ who support the work of LCMS missionaries through their prayers and gifts.*
- 19.** *That God would raise up indigenous pastors, deaconesses and other church leaders to reach out to their own communities and share His Word.*
- 20.** *For the Synod's partner churches around the world, that they would continue to teach Christ's Word in all its truth and purity.*
- 21.** *With thanksgiving for all past missionaries. Thanks be to God, the Gospel seeds they planted continue to bear much fruit.*
- 22.** *That God would raise up more missionaries to serve at home and abroad, according to His will.*
- 23.** *That the Lord would open up the hearts and minds of people around the world, so that His grace-filled message can be spread far and wide.*
- 24.** *For discernment, that we might heed God's call to serve in His name, whether around the world or right here at home.*
- 25.** *That God would bless mission work in urban areas and protect those He sends to work in these often-difficult situations.*
- 26.** *For mission work in sub-urban areas, that we would not become complacent in the work God has called us to do in our own communities.*
- 27.** *For mission work in rural areas, that congregations would be equipped to respond to the changing demographics around them.*
- 28.** *That congregation members might be welcoming to every person the Lord brings to their church.*
- 29.** *That God would strengthen our faith so that His Word has free course in our congregations and homes.*
- 30.** *For all people who turn away from the loving arms of their Savior. Pray that the Holy Spirit would transform their hearts and minds.*
- 31.** *With thanksgiving that God has called and equipped us to join in His mission to seek and save the lost. Ask God to give you courage to be His witness in your daily life.*



Congregations and individuals are invited to copy these pages for newsletters or other distribution. Download at lcms.org/prayforum or call 888-843-5267 to request a copy.

THE
LUTHERAN CHURCH
MISSOURI SYNOD

PHOTOS: LCMS COMMUNICATIONS/ERIK M. LUNSFORD



JANUARY

- 2 Diane Grandstrand
Delaree Johnson
- 3 Julie Wynn
- 5 Katie Benke
Gunnar Miesen
- 7 Julie Quist
- 10 Jim Kinsel
- 17 Amy Peterson
- 19 Christian Koch
- 22 Debbie Gagner
George Hild
- 24 Jennifer Olson
- 28 Chris Koch
- 29 Tony Avoles
- 30 Charlie Avoles
- 31 Matthew Baerthel

★HAPPY★
BIRTHDAY!

*The Lord bless you
and keep you;
the Lord make his face
shine on you
and be gracious to you;
the Lord turn his face
toward you
and give you peace.
Numbers 6: 24-26*

JOIN US FOR OUR FRIENDLY FRIDAY CALL - IN CHAT



We chat at **11:10am each Friday**. All you need is your phone. Dial: 978-990-5000. If you are using a land line please dial 1 and then the number. When prompted enter the JELC code:

796345#

After the beep just say hello and your name. We can visit about how our days are going, silver linings, concerns, etc. We will also have a short devotion and prayer.

Join us on Fridays at 11:10am

*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,
as indeed you are doing.
1 Thessalonians 5:11*



Join us for Bible Study at 1:00pm
the first Thursday of each month
Open to everyone.
Our curriculum comes from
the Lutheran Women's
Quarterly

If you have questions or would like more information,
contact Pastor Miller.

NOTE ON COVID MITIGATION AT JEHOVAH LUTHERAN

During this time of uncertainty with the new omicron variant of COVID-19, we continue to ask our Lord's deliverance from this pestilence, and we continue good practices for mitigating the spread of COVID-19. Our leaders advise that lockdowns are not necessary, but continued vigilance and good mitigation practices are. The CDC recommends that the best strategy for preventing infection with COVID-19 is what is known as "layered mitigation."

Layered mitigation means being vaccinated, getting recommended booster shots, masking in public places, and staying home and getting tested for COVID-19 if you feel sick. We urge all of God's people at Jehovah Lutheran to follow this wise counsel.

In our building at Jehovah Lutheran, we require universal masking. That means anyone who is in the building and is together with someone outside their immediate family should wear a mask. Thank you for your participation in using this simple but effective tool for combating the spread of COVID-19 and its variants.

We pray for the day when masking is no longer necessary. We pray for the end of this pandemic. "In the meantime, we will continue to worship our Lord together, and we will continue to show our love and care for one another by wearing our masks."

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Joshua Miller and the Board of Lay Ministry



In compliance with the recommendations of the U.S. Center for Disease Control and the Minnesota Department of Health, face masks must be worn inside the facilities of Jehovah Lutheran Church anytime you are with another person who is not in your immediate household. This includes worship services, all board meetings, Bible studies, working, and volunteering. A facemask must completely cover the mouth and nose. If you do not have a facemask, we are happy to give you one.

Please help us continue to keep our facilities open, our worship services in-person,
and our neighbors safe.

KEYSTONE COMMUNITY SERVICES



The costs of food and gasoline are rising, and essentials are becoming less affordable. While some of us can adjust our budgets to cover these increases, many in our community cannot. Affording these basic items stretches their budgets beyond their limits, creating new challenges for many low-income people, seniors, and families who are still struggling to navigate the economic uncertainty caused by the pandemic. Participation in our food shelf programs has increased by 56% since August.

Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Your support of Keystone makes it possible to provide support and connection to more than 40,000 people in our community.

*thank
you*

THE NEW FREEDOM STORE

I don't know about you, but every year at Christmas time, I tend to worry at least a little about the poor, the homeless, the sick, and those recently released. And yet this year, once again, the freedom store took the week off. We had met all of our obligations to our regular Christian charities...and then some! We helped the Afghan refugees too, giving them thousands of dollars in donations, over a hundred winter coats, hats, gloves, scarves, hygiene supplies, socks, and school kits for their children as well. Thank you to all who contributed.

Charles Dickens concluded his famous novel with these words by Ebenezer Scrooge. "I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach." The words echo the very same mission of the New Freedom Store.

Jim Seemann, Correctional Ministry Coordinator
The Minnesota South District
seemann@csp.edu

MAIN STREET LIVING | SUNDAYS 9:00 – 10:00am | WFTC CHANNEL 29/9-2



Main Street Living is an LCMS program that features pastors from the WFTC, channel 29/9-2, viewer area. The first half hour is a reproduction of *This is the Life*. The second half hour is a modified Lutheran worship service, which is produced locally. Program information for January is below. To watch, go to mainstreetliving.com and select the “Twin Cities” tab.

January 2: “The Other Wiseman” featuring another Magi who makes his own journey to the Christ child and shows kindness as he encounters others along the way.

January 9: “Money or Marriage” featuring a woman whose decisions at work put a strain on the new couple’s marriage.

January 16: “Burden Made Light” featuring a housekeeper who helps a family through the struggles of an increasingly ill child.

January 23: “Like Father, Like Son” features a father whose example leads to his son making questionable choices at school.

January 30: s “Twisting Road” featuring how a young man and his wife deal with life, the future, and regrets of things left unspoken.

MAIN STREET LIVING CHOIR

You Are Invited to Sing in the Main Street Living Choir!

Recording for the television program will be on Saturday, January 29 at 9:00am at Emmanuel Lutheran Church. To reserve a spot, please contact Amy Schutte at

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
 2075 70th St E
 Inver Grove Heights MN 55077
 651-457-3929 X111
 Amy’s Email: acschutte10@gmail.com

If we do not have enough singers, we will have to cancel, so reserve a spot ASAP! Thank you!

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

January 2022

<p>2</p> <p>9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary</p> <p>Growing in Faith after Service Nursery</p> <p>Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Private Confession Contact Pastor 2-3pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Drew's Chapel</p>	<p> 6</p> <p>LWML Bible Study 1:00pm Open to all</p> <p>Lay Ministry Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	<p>1</p> <p></p> <hr/> <p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary</p> <p>Growing in Faith after Service Nursery</p> <p>Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Council Meeting 6:30pm</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Prospectus reports due</p> <p>Private Confession Contact Pastor 2-3pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>ARB Meeting 6:30 pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary</p> <p>Growing in Faith after Service Nursery</p> <p>Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Private Confession Contact Pastor 2-3pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Drew's Chapel</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary</p> <p>Growing in Faith after Service Nursery</p> <p>Voters' Meeting 11:15am</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Private Confession Contact Pastor 2-3pm</p> <p>Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm Drew's Chapel</p>	<p>27</p> <p><i>Jottings</i> articles due</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Friendly Friday Chat 11:10am</p>	<p>29</p>

<p>30</p> <p>9:30am Worship in the Sanctuary</p> <p>Growing in Faith after Service Nursery</p> <p>Living in Faith 11:00am, Lounge</p>	<p>31</p>
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2022 FEBRUARY						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Behold
I am making
all things new.
Revelation 21:5

