FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH

109 West Third Avenue, Warren, Pennsylvania

Phone: 814/723-6450

Email Office: <u>jess@flcwarren.com</u>
Website: www.firstlutheranwarren.com

The Rev. Jeffrey B. Ewing, Pastor, pastorjeff@flcwarren.com

Jack Hemink, Minister of Music Julie Baughman, accompanist



"Welcome to First Lutheran Church! All are accepted and affirmed just as we are, with all our differences and gifts – unique children of God. No matter your race, ethnicity, gender expression or identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental abilities, social or economic status, we have a place for you. As part of the whole complex, colorful spectrum of God's creation in all its diversity we are all one in Christ!"

Land Acknowledgement Statement

As we gather in this place, we acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Seneca Nation (Onödowá'ga:'). We remember that we also share this land with other parts of God's good creation: plants, birds, and animals.

May we be good stewards and good neighbors.



January 21, 2024 With One Voice

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

(See front of bulletin insert.)

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \oplus one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

Amen.

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you.

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In \pm Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Amen.

Amen.

1.) I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love. I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

REFRAIN: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

2.) I love to tell the story: how pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet!

I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy word. (REFRAIN)

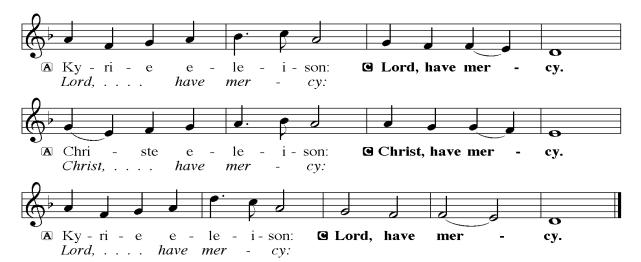
3.) I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when, in scenes of glory, I sing the new, new song, I'll sing the old, old story that I have loved so long. (REFRAIN)

*GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

KYRIE



HYMN OF PRAISE







CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST LESSON Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

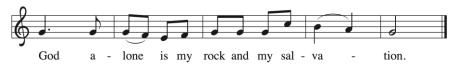
¹The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

"A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

PSALM 62:5-12 God alone is my rock and my salvation. (Ps. 62:6)



Psalm 62:6

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress. May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

⁵For God alone I | wait in silence;

truly, my hope is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and ¹ my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall nev- ¹ er be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance | and my honor;

God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

⁸Put your trust in God al- ways, O people, pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge. R

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate can- not be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride; though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power be-longs to God.

12Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord, for you repay all according | to their deeds. R

SECOND LESSON 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to ...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

*GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

14 Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey Ewing

Silence for reflection may follow.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

We Are Called

#720

- We are the Lord's. His all-sufficient merit, sealed on the cross, to us this grace accords.
 We are the Lord's and all things shall inherit; whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.
- 2.) We are the Lord's. Then let us gladly tender our souls to him in deeds, not empty words. let heart and tongue and life combine to render no doubtful witness that we are the Lord's.
- 3.) We are the Lord's. No darkness brooding o'er us can make us tremble while this star affords a steady light along the path before usfaith's full assurance that we are the Lord's.
 - 4.) We are the Lord's. No evil can befall us in the dread hour of life's fast-loos'ning cords; no pangs of death shall even then appall us. Death shall be vanquished, for we are the Lord's.

*APOSTLES' CREED

Congregation:

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Congregation response:

A: God of Grace,

C: Receive our prayer.

SHARING THE PEACE

A: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

| MEA | \boldsymbol{L} | |
|------------|------------------|--|
| | | |

OFFERING

An offering tray is available at the entrance of the sanctuary.

For those wishing to do so, we encourage you to donate online at <u>flcwarren.com/give</u>.

As always, thank you for supporting the work of bringing God's love to all people through First Lutheran!

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



*OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Blessed are you, Holy One,

C: for all good things come from you.

In bread and cup you open heaven to us.

Meet us at this table,

that we receive what we seek

and follow your Son, Jesus,

in whose name we pray.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

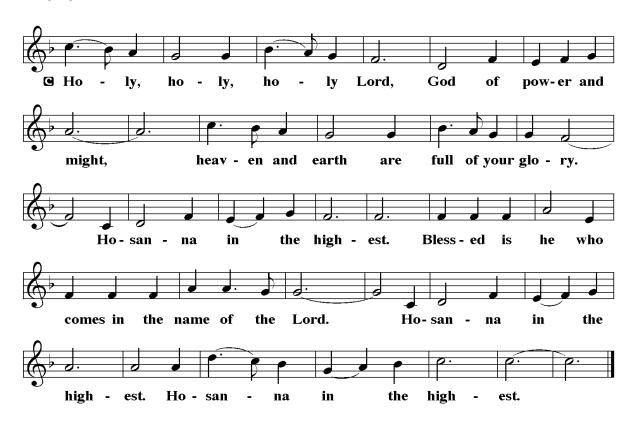
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...

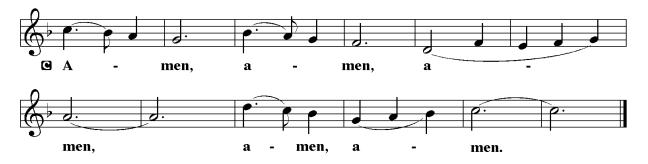
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation: *SANCTUS



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER AND RESPONSE

...Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.



LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

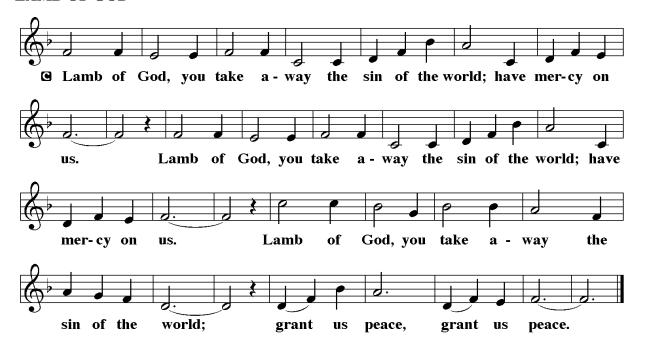
P: Come and taste the joy of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

As Lutherans we believe that Jesus is present in the elements of communion, bringing forgiveness and new life to all who receive it The table is open to everyone, and the gift is always given, never taken. Simply make a cradle with your hand(s) as you receive the bread. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are available from the ushers. Bring them forward to be blessed by the pastor. The response after receiving both the gift of bread and wine is "Amen."

For those who would like to continue to celebrate in the pews, please let the usher know. For our friends who are not celebrating communion, simply fold your arms across your chest and receive a blessing.

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION MUSIC

Jesus Come! For We Invite You

#312

- 1.) Jesus, come! for we invite you, guest and master, friend and Lord; now, as once at Cana's wedding, speak and let us hear your word: lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored.
- 2.) Jesus, come! transform our pleasures, guide us into paths unknown; bring your gifts, command your servants, let us trust in you alone: though your hand may work in secret, all shall see what you have done.
- 3.) Jesus, come! in new creation, heav'n brought near by pow'r divine; give your unexpected glory, changing water into wine: rouse the faith of your disciples— come, our first and greatest Sign!
 - 4.) Jesus, come! surprise our dullness, make us willing to receive more than we can yet imagine, all the best you have to give: let us find your hidden riches, taste your love, believe, and live!

- 1.) All who hunger gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.

 Come from wilderness and wand'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.

 You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

 Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- 2.) All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.

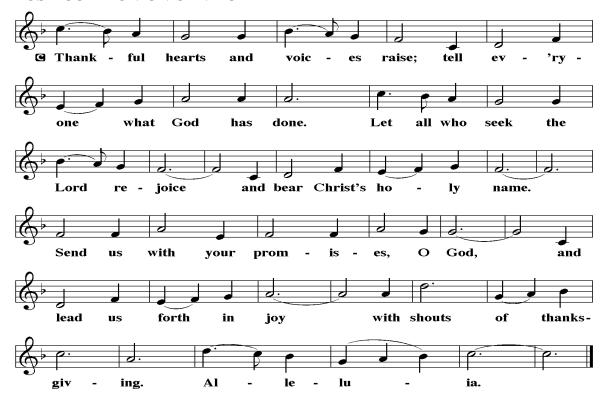
 Come from restlessness and roaming. Here in joy we keep the feast.

 We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.

 Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
 - 3.) All who hunger, sing together, Jesus Christ is living bread. Come from loneliness and longing. Here in peace we have been fed. Blest are those who from this table live their days in gratitude. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.
- P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever.

C: Amen.

*POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



* POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Giver of every gift,

C: Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body.

Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

*BLESSING

SENDING

*SENDING HYMN

O Jesus, I have Promised

#810

- 1.) O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
- 2.) Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
- 3.) Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.

 Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
 - 4.) O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please feel free to exit as you feel the need during the postlude.

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Today's Altar Flowers

Given by Amy Downey in loving memory of my father Jim Sadler.

Given by Marilyn Dahlgren. Have a happy day Kris!

| Serving Today | January 21 | January 28 |
|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Assisting Minister | (8AM) John Kersey | Lori Nowacki |
| | (11AM) Barb Luce | Denise Pearson |
| Cantor | (8AM) Anne Benson | John Beard |
| | (11AM) John Hyde | Joan Griesbach |
| GREETERS | (8AM) Tim Bleech | Randy & Sandy |
| | | Britton |
| | (11AM)Bonnie Abplanalp | Jen Check |
| ACOLYTE | (8AM) Braedyn Knupp | Isabella Knupp |
| | (11AM) Cory Ristau | Chase Colosimo |
| Children's Message | Cheri Kellogg | Pastor Jeff |
| DIGITAL DEACON | Keith Hedges | Gary Landrio |
| Counters | Jane Beardsley | Randall Britton |
| | Randall Britton | Dave Campbell |

PRAYER LIST

Names will remain on the list for a period of three weeks.

Names may be returned to the prayer list by contacting the church office.

Please receive permission before submitting names
to be included on the Prayer List.

Prayer Requests: servicemen & women, especially Andrew Shodi, Swede Backhus, Adam & Ben Frederick, Shane Simpson, Curtis Royek, Ty Elmquist, Julie & Joey Gilman, Hunter Feeney, Kohl Feeney

January 21: Sandy Centamore, Christopher Smith, John Fee, Janet Laird, Joyce Kelley, Mary Hofer

January 14: Linn Hyde, Ron Braxton, Sarah Mahan, Linkoln Parker, Larry Rambish, Eunice Herrington, Skip Jacobson, Alyssa Dennewitz, Judy Crothers, Brooklyn Streit-Ludwig, Donna Kavinski, Ron & Lois Hart, Jerry Stuart, Connie Buerkle, Jeff Granger, Eric Allen, Kia Lee, Cindy & Paden Smith, Jim Young, Betty Berdine, Jeff Nordin, Vic Wolfe, Earl Ross, Hildeberandt Family

January 7: Kim Tome, Jill & Mark Woody, Rose Troyan, Holly Schubert, Bonnie Gray, Velma Zock, Peggy Nelson, Janet Wilson, Blake Ristau, Carson Kiser, Helen Rae Bracklein, Margaret Granger, Debbie Suppa, Nathan Klenowski, Caitlin Magee & Family

Please contact the Church Office if you, a family member or someone from the parish is in the hospital.

Help us help you when pastoral care is needed!

MISSION TRIP

It's time to start getting ready for this year's mission trip. Plans are in the works to travel to Columbus, Ohio to work with various agencies in the area. Our trip will take place July 21st to 27th. We will meet on the 3rd Sunday of each month to strengthen our team in preparation for the trip. Our first meeting will be held in Niewoehner Hall TODAY after the 11:00AM worship

service. If you are interested in hearing more about the trip or are ready to commit to participating, please plan to attend this meeting. If you have any questions, please contact AnnaMarie Labowski, Colleen Witmer or Pastor Jeff.

CHANGE OF DATE FOR FRIDAY NIGHT OUT

We will be dining at Pellegrino's Deli on January 26th at 6PM, instead of the 12th. Please sign up in the narthex as soon as possible. We hope you can join us.



FIRST LUTHERAN PRESENTS...

GROWTH: REFRAMING BIASES IN TODAY'S WORLD TEDD TALKS: ETHICS & HOW FAITH GUIDES OUR ACTIONS TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 AT 6 PM

PASTOR TEDD COGAR



How does faith guide our actions? It's all about how we respond faithfully in welcome and hospitality towards all people.

The Reverend Tedd Cogar has a background presenting on topics including freedom of speech, ethics, and LGBTQIA+ issues and developing allies within the faith community. He is the Senior Assessment Coordinator & LGBTQIA Support at Indiana University of Pennsylvania and serves at the Lutheran Campus Ministry at IUP, Luther Chapel in Coral, and Zion Lutheran Church in Indiana, PA.

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES

We are finalizing the 2024 Altar Flower Schedule and the following dates have a single vase opening. Altar flower vases are \$27.00 plus \$1.25 delivery fee for a total of \$28.25. If interested in any of the listed dates please contact Cathy Southwell at 814-730-1155 or email at south55@verizon.net.

August 18 November 3 December 15 December 22

OFFICE EMAILS CHANGING EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2024



Our staff emails will be changing effective February 1, 2024. The new email addresses will be....

Pastor Jeff- pastor@flcwarren.com

Jess- office@flcwarren.com

Jack- music@flcwarren.com

Lori- finance@flcwarren.com

Cheri- christianed@flcwarren.com

You will also now be able to contact Christina, our custodian, via mail at custodian@flcwarren.com.

LANTERN MAILING

We will assemble the February Lantern and the Lenten Mailing on Tuesday, January 23 in Niewoehner Hall at 10AM. All are welcome to join in this time of fellowship and service!



GERTRUDE HAWK CANDY SALES

It's that time of year again! Gertrude Hawk Easter Candy is being sold by youth and adults attending this year's ELCA Youth Gathering. The catalogue and an order form will be in the narthex after each service on January 21, January 28, February 4th and 11th. (Sunday, February 11th at noon is the last time to order candy for this year!) Payment is due with your order and candy will be delivered in plenty of time for Easter (it should be here for distribution before Palm Sunday). If you have any questions, please call the office at 814-723-6450.



"CARE PACKAGES" FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS/MILITARY PERSONNEL

Remember how much fun it was to send your friends those little valentine's cards when you were in elementary school? And how special you felt when you opened your valentine's box and saw all those wonderful little cards that were sent to you? Let's have some long-lost fun again! Below is a list of our college students and military personnel. How about we each get some of those cute little valentines (or make them!) and address one to each person on the list. Sign each card (maybe

a short message, too) and put their name of the outer envelope and put them in the big Valentine box in the narthex. We will sort them and put them in a large envelope and send them to each person on the list. Imagine how excited they will be to receive all of these valentines from their church family! If you cannot find valentine cards to buy, there are some available on the table in the narthex. Please have your valentines in the box by 11:00 a.m. Sunday, February 11th so that we can assemble them after church that morning (and hopefully get them to people in time for Valentine's Day!) Thanks for helping us show our "absent" members how special they are to us!

| College | | Military |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Nicky Brooks | Connor Check | Hunter Feeny |
| Cole Chimenti | Aidan Colosimo | Kohl Feeny |
| Devin Colosimo | Maddie Flannery | Curtis Royek |
| Kaelah Knupp | Allison Koebley | |
| Lizzy Koebley | Megan Koerselman | |
| Heather Marfink | Hunter Peterson | |
| Lydia Renninger | Maddy Robbins | |
| Maddie Rodgers | Caitlin Strassburg | |
| Will Strassburg | | |

Refrigerator Schedule

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS MEETS

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, & Saturday at 6:30 PM

HP/Hansen Parlor; NH/ Niewoehner Hall; OFH/Old Fellowship Hall, YR/Youth Room, UC/Upstairs Classroom, SY/Sanctuary, CR/Choir Room

| Sunday, January 21 | 8:00 AM 9:25 AM 11:00 AM 12:15 PM | Communion Service (SY) Sunday's Cool (OFH/NH) Communion Service (SY) Mission Trip Meeting |
|-----------------------|--|--|
| M 1 I 22 | 6:00 PM | Losers (OFH) |
| Monday, January 22 | 1:00 PM 1:00 PM | Mahjongg (HP) Joan Nabert Circle (NH) |
| | 6:00 PM | ESOL (UC) |
| | 7:00 PM | Worship & Music (NH) |
| Tuesday January 23 | 10:00 AM | Lantern Assembly (NH) |
| | 2:00 PM | Rouse Suites Worship |
| | 6:00 PM | Tedd Talk (NH) |
| Wednesday, January 24 | 9:00 AM | Workshop (OFH) |
| | Noon | Bible Study (NH) |
| | 3:00 PM | TAP (NH) |
| | 5:00 PM | Grief Yoga (OFH) |
| | 5:15 PM | Handbells (SY) |
| | 6:00 PM | ESOL (UC) |
| | 7:00 PM | Choir (CR) |
| Thursday, January 25 | 10:00 AM | Prayer Shawl (HP) |
| | 6:30 PM | Acting the Song Workshop (OFH) |
| Friday, January 26 | 6:00 PM | Girl Scouts (ÚC) |
| • | 6:00 PM | FNO @ Pellegrino's |
| Saturday, January 27 | 9:00 AM | Shakespeare (OFH) |
| Sunday, January 28 | 8:00 AM | Communion Service (SY) |
| - | 9:25 AM | Sunday's Cool (OFH/NH) |
| | 11:00 AM | Communion Service (SY) |
| | 6:00 PM | Losers (OFH) |