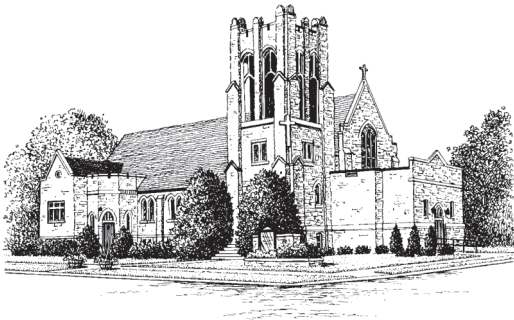




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ST. PETER'S NET

JANUARY 2012

A New Year's Resolution

As the new year stretches out before us, one of the lessons of the old year might be enlightening for the new. During the brouhaha at the height of the Occupy Wall Street movement, some voices began to ask, "Where is the Church?" There soon followed the usual speculation, "What would Jesus occupy?"

Here's a good rule of thumb. If anyone begins to talk to you about what Jesus *would* do, or what Jesus *would* want or say, you can be very sure that this will tell you nothing about Jesus and a lot about that person's biases. They're using Jesus' good name to prop up their own points of view. We have what Jesus *did* do and what Jesus *did* say. Beyond this He gives us the freedom to exercise the brain that God has given each one of us, without the need to take His name in vain so as to claim divinity for our own thoughts.

So as we look into the new year and answer the call of our faith to serve the common good, we Christians might do well to exercise our brains. Some careful thought will do more for the common good than to follow the kneejerk reaction of those Christians who join the ranks of the "perpetually outraged," or those isolationists who see nothing in common between the Gospel and our present economic crisis.



The following is from an excellent, insightful article I read online. "When a civilisation loses its faith, it loses its future. When it recovers its faith, it recovers its future. For the sake of our children, and their children not yet born, we must renew our faith and its prophetic voice. But the idea of religious leaders

saving the [economy] sounds absurd. What has religion to do with economics, or spirituality with financial institutions?

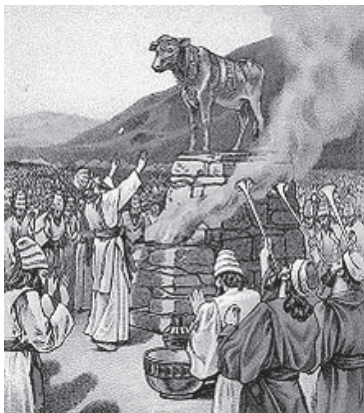
"The answer is that the market economy has religious roots. It emerged in a culture saturated with Judeo-Christian values. In the Bible, for instance, material prosperity is a divine blessing. Poverty crushes the human spirit as well as the body, and its alleviation is a sacred task... The birth of the modern economy is inseparable from its Judeo-Christian roots.

"But this is not a stable equilibrium. Capitalism is a sustained process of creative destruction. The market undermines the very values that gave rise to it in the first place. The consumer culture is profoundly antithetical to human dignity. It inflames desire, undermines happiness, weakens the capacity to defer instinctual gratification and blinds us to the vital distinction between the price of things and their value.

"Instead of seeing the system as Adam Smith [1723-1790, the father of modern economics] did, as a means of directing

Continued next page

self-interest to the common good, it can become a means of empowering self-interest to the detriment of the common good. Instead of the market being framed by moral principles, it comes to substitute for moral principle. If you can buy it, negotiate it, earn it and afford it, then you are entitled to it — as the advertisers say — because you're worth it. The market ceases to be merely a system and becomes an ideology in its own right."



"Ultimately, financial failure is the result of moral failure: a failure of long-term responsibility to the societies of which we are a part, and to future generations who will bear the cost of our mistakes. It is a symptom of a wider failure: to see the market as a means not an end. [Even in the Church money can become an end in itself rather than a means to support the Gospel!] The Bible paints a graphic picture of what happens when people cease to see gold as a medium of exchange and start seeing it as an object of worship. It calls it the Golden Calf.

"Markets need morals. We tend to forget that the keywords of a market economy are deeply religious. Credit comes from the Latin *credo*, meaning 'I believe.' Confidence comes from the Latin for 'shared faith.' Trust is a religious and moral concept. Try running an economy without confidence or trust and you will soon see that it cannot be done. It was a breakdown of trust that led to the banking crisis. And trust cannot be created by systems. It depends on an ethic of honour and responsibility internalised by those who run the systems.

"Stabilising the [economy] is one thing, healing the culture that surrounds it is another. A world in which material values are everything and spiritual values nothing is neither a stable state nor a good society. Humanity was not created to serve markets. Markets were created to serve humankind."

[Follow this link to read the entire article. It is well worth the time!]

<http://www.chiefrabbi.org/ReadArtical.aspx?id=1845>

And then when you ponder these things in view of the fact that God became flesh in Jesus, fully human, while also reflecting on the things that Jesus *did* say and *did* do, well, various ways toward a more productive engagement by Christians with the economy is revealed. Now that's a hefty new year's assignment, but we would do well to think on these things...

Pastor Hendrickson

PS Many thanks for the cards and gifts of Christmas! After all these years, they remain a heartwarming and much appreciated part of my work as pastor.



1/8 Judith Smith
1/18 James Dobratz
1/25 Joyce Herwig

God's Divine Design February 17-19



God's Design. He made them male and female. He made Adam for Eve and Eve for Adam. He brought them together. He does the joining! His design shows us the picture of how it is between Jesus and His Bride the Church. We'll look at relationships, dating, and the birds and the bees from God's design. He's the one, after all, who made us and brings us together!

When: February 17 -19th, 2012

Cost: \$60/person - 1/1/12 - 1/31/12 \$70/person - after 1/31/12

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI

For more information contact:

Leila Wells - leilaywells@gmail.com

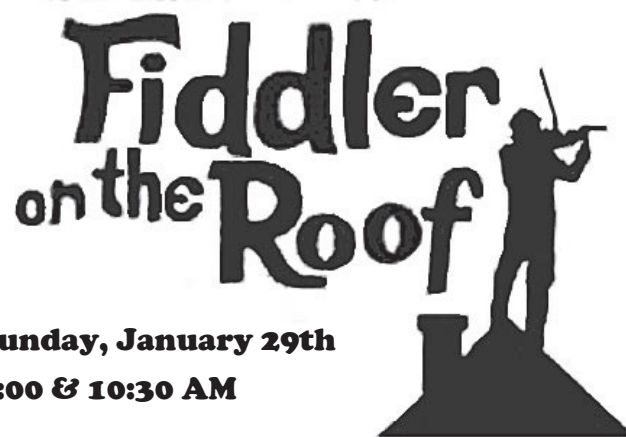
Church Office: (920) 458-8246

or Sandra Ostapowich at retreats@higherthings.org

Higher Things Retreat Coordinator

Or visit the Higher Things website:

<http://higherthings.org/retreats/ucevents.html>



Sunday, January 29th

8:00 & 10:30 AM

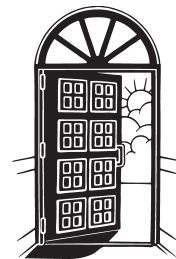
On January 29th, the St. Peter's Choir, together with a small band, will present music from the Broadway classic, *Fiddler on the Roof*, in cantata form. Invite a friend or two to join you in worship that Sunday. It will be like hearing the Old Testament in a whole new way!

New Mercies

Everyone seems to have at least one resolution that seems impossible to keep. And that can become very discouraging.

The prophet Jeremiah, who had his own reasons to feel down, wrote, "The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." [Lamentations 3:22-23]

God refuses to give up on us. When we lose hope, when we fail and fall short, his mercy never runs out. Tomorrow is full of promise and our Lord's unceasing love.



NO-SEW FLEECE SCARF



Winter is a difficult time for people in need, so make this scarf to help someone stay warm.

What you need:

- Medium-weight polar fleece, 60" standard width (a 9" portion will make one scarf)
- Scissors
- An adult to help

What you do:

1. Cut a piece of medium-weight polar fleece to the size of 60" x 9". Cut the fabric across its width so the material is stretchy.
2. Trim off the edge binding. To add "fringe" along each end, make a 6"-long cut every half inch.
3. For curly fringe, pull each strand and then let go sharply. Another attractive option is to tie an overhand knot at the top of each strip.
4. Donate your scarf to a local group that helps people in need. For greater impact, encourage your Sunday school classmates or other friends to make scarves, too.



to remind you that
"you are special!"

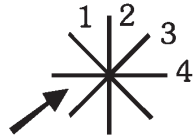
You will need:

- 4 drinking straws,
- 1 large paper doily,
- stapler, scissors,
- string, white glue



How to:

1. Crisscross straws.

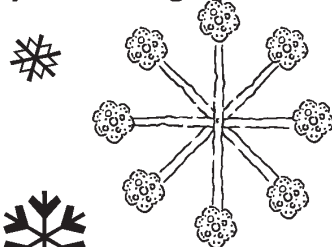


2. Staple in the center where they all cross (can use tape if needed).

3. Cut round designs out of doily.

4. Glue a "doily design" on the end of each straw.

5. Hang with a piece of string.



Youth decorating, making sure the trees have lights and the ornaments are balanced. Thanks go to the Trustees for bringing in the trees, donated by the Brad Zimmerman Family. Thanks also go to the Altar Guild for some extra touches, and to the Latzigs for the evergreen ropes and wreaths!



St. Peter's Child Care & Preschool

WMELS, Pre-K and NAEYC Accredited

By Connie Hendrickson, Director

God has proven His love for you by taking care of your greatest needs. He has given you life and salvation through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus Christ. As a result He will never leave you or forsake you. Hebrews 13:5

Everyone gets carried away with excitement and promises of change with the onset of a new year. Parents and children alike can get caught up with promises during Christmas and then with New Year resolutions. It's especially important for parents to remember that if they can't be 100 percent sure the promise made to their child can be kept, they should use a different term such as "we can try to do that." Also mention that if you are unable to keep a promise you have made to your child, you should explain that it isn't always possible for adults to keep their promises, even with the best of intention.

Another important thing to explain to your child is that with God, He *does* keep His promises to us, *always*. Parents — or any adult in a child's life — should point out to our children the many little blessings that God provides them each day. A simple daily form of litany together such as "Thank You, God, for....." will do the trick.





Above: The Pre-School Nursery class practices their lines.

L to R - Lisa Hagenow, Piper Johnson, Vance Hathaway, Taylor Reese (hidden), Wyatt See, and Kenzie Johnson
Below: Singers from the Upper Grades practice their music.



DIVINE SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

<p>January 1 Christmas 2</p> <p>I Kings 3:4-15 Psalm 119:97-104 Ephesians 1:3-14 Luke 2:40-52</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>A Real Boy</i> Text: Luke 2:40-52 Order: <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 733 - 384 - 370, 386 - 388 Organist: David Hoffelt Choir: TBA</p>
<p>January 5/8 The Epiphany of Our Lord</p> <p>Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-11 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>The End from the Beginning</i> Text: Matthew 2:1-12 Order: (Thu) <i>Holy Communion</i> (Sun) <i>Matins</i>, p. 219 Hymns: <i>1st Noel</i> - 395 (st. 1-4, 5-6) - 397 - <i>We Three Kings</i> Organist: David Hoffelt Choir: (8:00) SS Lower Grades</p>
<p>January 12/15 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p>I Samuel 3:1-10 Psalm 139:1-10 I Corinthians 6:12-20 John 1:43-51</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>Under a Fig Tree</i> Text: John 1:43-51 Order: (Thu) <i>Contemporary Service</i> (Sun) <i>DSIII</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 412 - 402 - 396, 625 - 830 Organist: David Hoffelt Choir: (8:00) SS Upper Grades</p>
<p>January 19/22 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p>Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62 I Corinthians 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>Fishers of Men</i> Text: Mark 1:14-20 Order: (Thu) <i>Holy Communion</i> (Sun) <i>Matins</i>, p. 219 Hymns: 398 - 839 - 688 - 735 Organist: David Hoffelt Choir: (Sun) Handbells</p>
<p>January 26/29 4th Sunday after the Epiphany</p> <p>Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Psalm 111 I Corinthians 8:1-13 Mark 1:21-28</p>	<p>Sermon: <i>Tradition — The Beginning of Wisdom</i> Text: Psalm 111 Order: <i>DSIII (w/o HC)</i>, p. 184 Hymns: 409 - 533 - 523 - 842 Organist: David Hoffelt Choir: (Sun) Adult Choir & Orchestra</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">HOUSE OF THRIFT NEWS</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p style="font-size: 2em; margin: 0;">Thrift Store</p> </div> </div> <p>Valentine items will be out for sale in January. Yellow-tagged items will be 50% off the first two weeks in January and 75% off the last two weeks.</p> <p>The store is located at 201 Cottage Grove Rd (just off Monona Dr). The hours are Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and on Saturdays 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Donations are welcome during these hours. The phone number is 223-1228.</p> <p>Members of St. Peter's work on the first Friday (January 6th) and the third Wednesday (January 18th) of each month. Please call Alice Hanson if you have any questions or would like to become part of the <i>House of Thrift</i> team.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thank you!</p>

COUNCIL NOTES – December 13, 2011

The **December 13, 2011 St. Peter's Church Council meeting** was called to order at 6:30 P. M. by President Bill Steffenhagen. Members present were Tom Crum, Tom Daugherty, Greg Frank, Steven Hustad, Marvin Manke, Verna Mueller, Steve Paskey, Keith Podoll, Shannon Rohrbeck, Mark Schoeckert, Bill Steffenhagen, Lynnette Taylor, Cynthia Thurston, Mark Witt, Brad Zimmerman, Deacon Schroeder and Pastor Hendrickson. Michael Post, Glenn Puntney, Mark Manke, Sandra Sandstrom, Mary Taylor, Corinne Tuschl, and were excused.

Deacon Schroeder gave the opening devotion about simplicity. Religion is really very simple. All of the things that have so much meaning are simple (ie: Baptism=water; Lord's Supper=Bread & Wine; Cross=two beams of wood). God saving us is simple yet as humans we try to "gum" it up.

The **agenda** was presented. Two modifications were added. An organ update and Christmas Gifts will be added to new business. Mark Witt moved to accept the agenda with the modifications, Keith Podoll seconded and the motion carried.

The **Secretary's minutes** were read and accepted as read. Mark Schoeckert moved to accept, Marvin Manke seconded, and the motion carried.

The **Financial Secretary's report** was read by Lynnette Taylor. There were no questions. Greg Frank moved to accept the report, seconded by Tom Crum, carried.

The **Treasurer's report** was given, it seems that the financial situation is good at the moment. Pastor did address the negative in the Deacon account in Special Purpose and noted that some large amounts are coming in shortly. Motion to accept by Steve Hustad, second by Tom Crum, carried.

The **Board of Elder's report** was given by Greg Frank. Marvin Manke listed the new usher that have been added to various teams. CWC reported that the church has been cleaned and the cookie walk went well. Mark Witt indicated that care packages have been sent overseas. The Christmas in the Barn at the Manke's was well attended and a good time was had by all. Motion to accept the report made by Mark Schoeckert, second by Brad Zimmerman, carried.

The **Board of Trustee's report** was given by Keith Podoll. He started by saying that the Wilson House loan with Bank of Poynette will be renewed at 5.38% interest, down about 1% from previous rate. The floor tiles on the side aisles of the church have been replaced and look fantastic. The Sharp copier has been delivered to a warehouse in Illinois per instructions. There was an elevator problem (due to the power outage) on a Friday evening that had to be repaired. It was determined that the backup battery had failed. This will be replaced. Thanks were given to the Brad Zimmerman family for the Christmas trees and those who helped set them up. Tom Crum made the motion to accept the Trustees report, seconded by Steve Hustad, carried.

The **Board of Christian Education reports** there are 31 enrollees in the CCC. It will be closed December 26th and January 2nd due to the center's policy for holidays. Director Connie Hendrickson met with the Poynette School Administration for the quarterly Pre K meeting and reported that there are no issues

at this time. Sunday school classes are rehearsing for their respective Christmas programs, the lower grades on Dec 18th at 9:30 am and the upper grades for the carol service on Dec 24th. They are finished with regular Sunday School classes until January 8th. The Mid-week classes will resume again on Jan 4th. Bible classes continue on Sunday Morning between services, Tuesday afternoon at Marie Cook's, and Friday mornings. The High School Youth decorated the trees on November 30th followed by a pizza party. They are also looking into attending two youth rallies in the upcoming year. The first is a weekend retreat in Sheboygan Feb 17-19, 2012 and the other is a four day function in Missouri the first week in July. Deacon Schroeder is hoping that anyone interested will try to sign up before the end of the year as the prices are all discounted until then. Mark Witt moved to accept the report, Verna Mueller seconded and the motion carried.

Pastor reports that the Christmas season is busy. The Choir will perform on Sunday Dec 18th and is busy preparing for Fiddler on the Roof. The handbell choir will also be performing on the 18th. Pastor will be on vacation during the week after Christmas. In January, he plans to hold an adult confirmation class because there is a cluster of people who have expressed interest in taking the class. Circuit forum will be held January 29, 2012 and a delegate is needed. Brad Zimmerman moved to accept the Pastor's report, seconded by Shannon Rohrbeck, carried.

In **membership changes**, Shandra (Latzig) Tremain has requested a transfer to *St. Luke's Lutheran Church (LC-MS)* in Montgomery, IL. Greg Frank moved to accept the transfer, Marvin Manke seconded, passed.

In **old business**, Mark Witt reported that the Budget is ready except for a few year end numbers and he will present it at the Annual Voters' Meeting in January. Greg Frank reported on the nominating committee and stated that they are struggling to fill positions. He will be speaking to the congregation on Sunday, Dec 18th to ask members to come forward to run for open positions. Bill Steffenhagen reported that Walker Technical Company will be coming in after Christmas to install the additional stops and voices. Dan Angerstein will follow to install the blower and refinish the organ with the improved acoustics of the church. Sam Hutchinson, the organist from the Overture Center in Madison will play at the organ dedication set for Sunday February 19, 2012.

New business consisted of setting the Annual Voters' Meeting date. Keith Podoll moved to hold it on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at 1:00 p.m., Steve Paskey seconded, motion carried. The Pastor and Deacon were asked to step out while council members discussed Christmas Gifts. It was decided that Pastor will receive \$500, David Hoffelt and Lynnette Taylor will receive \$250 each and Deacon Schroeder will receive \$100 as Christmas Gifts from the congregation. Thank you to Mark Witt, Keith Podoll, Steve Paskey, Pastor, Matthew, & Michael Hendrickson for putting up the Nativity scene on the Church lawn. The Lord's Prayer was recited and Bill Steffenhagen adjourned the meeting.

~Cynthia Thurston, *acting Secretary*





**FINANCIAL REPORT
CURRENT EXPENSE FUND:**



Balance on Nov 30, 2011 \$6,693.34
 Receipts for Dec \$13,601.60
 Expenses for Dec (\$15,053.90)
 Shortage/Overage \$5,241.04

LOAN BALANCES:

Organ - \$66,457.85. The interest for this loan is costing us approximately \$343 per month.


Wilson House - \$48,444.59. The interest for this loan is costing us approximately \$242 per month

Repair Projects - \$20,201. 50.

January

Elders

Jan 1	8:00 a.m.	Thomas Daugherty & Mark Witt
	10:30 a.m.	Glenn Puntney & Greg Frank
Jan 5	6:30 p.m.	Glenn Puntney
Jan 8	8:00 a.m.	Steve Hustad
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum
Jan 12	6:30 p.m.	Mark Schoeckert
Jan 15	8:00 a.m.	Marvin Manke & Greg Frank
	10:30 a.m.	Tom Crum & Steve Paskey
Jan 19	6:30 p.m.	Mark Manke
Jan 22	8:00 a.m.	Marvin Manke
	10:30 a.m.	Greg Frank
Jan 26	6:30 p.m.	Mark Manke
Jan 29	8:00 a.m.	Steve Hustad
	10:30 a.m.	Mark Schoeckert
















PUZZLE













A caring disciple

In **Acts 9**, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

Instructions: Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.


___ adcltne			
___ rohmtae			
___ srgbape			
___ rbieda			
___ pentshred			
___ rdhaenlca			
___ fadoo			

Her name in Greek

___ pdeesh		
___ dchilnero		
___ drove		
___ acehtr		
___ sarcos		
___ nusoatinm		

Answers: Tabitha, Dorcas

THANKS go to the St. Peter's musicians who made the Advent-Christmas season so delightful! A lot of hard work and dedication was invested by members of the Choir, the Handbells, the vocal and instrumental soloists, the Sunday School students, and, of course, our organist, David Hoffelt. To each and to all, *Bravo!*



January USHERS

January 1, 8, & 15

Early

Jeff Anderson, Chr.
(434-9764)
 Dave Sandstrom
 Austin Anderson
 Craig Wendt
 Glenn Puntney
 Riley & Cody Puntney
 Todd Taylor
 Logan Sandstrom

Late

Robert Kronberg, Chr.
(920-992-5272)
 Nathan Campbell
 David Steinke
 Vint Quamme
 Tom Crum

January 22 & 29

John Caldwell
(635-4762)
 John Burkhardt
 Don Thurston
 Mark & Fred Manke
 Tom Manke
 Mike Manke
 Herb Schultz
 Kraig See

Herb Miller, Chr.
(635-4557)
 Paul Yamriska
 Dennis Hahn
 Charles Hilgendorf
 Joseph Pingel
 Andrew Klahn

**JANUARY
ALTAR GUILD**
635-4825



Connie Hendrickson



Coming Attraction

On Sunday afternoon, February 19th, 2:30 p.m., Samuel Hutchison, the Madison Symphony Organist, will be our guest recitalist for the dedication of the new organ.

CALENDAR FOR JANUARY 2012

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Christmas 2 1 <i>New Year's Day</i> 8:00 AM HC Service <i>No Sunday School</i> 10:30 AM HC Service	2 1:00 PM Bible Class	3 4:00 PM Midweek Handbells 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	4 6:30 PM HC Service	5 The Epiphany of Our Lord 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class 9:00 AM <i>Thriff Store</i>	6 11:30 AM Private Confession	7 11:30 AM Private Confession
Epiphany 1 8 8:00 AM Divine Service 8:00 AM Lower Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 9:15 AM BP Screening 10:30 AM Divine Service	9 1:00 PM Bible Class 6:00 PM Bd of Ed 6:30 PM Council 7:30 PM Elders	10 4:00 PM Midweek Handbells 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	11 6:30 PM Contemporary Service	12 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	13 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	14
Epiphany 2 15 8:00 AM HC Service 8:00 AM Upper Gr Sing 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM HC Service	16 1:00 PM Bible Class	17 Confession of St. Peter 9:00 AM <i>Thriff Store</i> 4:00 PM Midweek Handbells 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	18 6:30 PM HC Service	19 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	20 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	21 11:30 AM Private Confession
Epiphany 3 22 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service 1:00 PM Annual Mtg	23 	24 St. Timothy Pastor & Confessor 1:00 PM Bible Class	25 Conversion of St. Paul 4:00 PM Midweek Handbells 6:00 PM Handbells 7:00 PM Choir	26 St. Titus Pastor & Confessor 6:30 PM Contemporary Service	27 6:30 AM Men's Bible Class	28
Epiphany 4 29 8:00 AM Divine Service 9:15 AM SS/Bible Class 10:30 AM Divine Service	30 1:00 PM Bible Class	31 1:00 PM Bible Class				
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>St. Peter's Lutheran Church Phone: 608-635-4825 Fax: 608-635-2753 E-mail: stpeterluth@gmail.com www.stpetersarlington.org</p> </div>						