

First United Methodist Church of Windsor
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The Messenger



Our Vision:

Building Believers in God's Love, Who Seek to Share God's Love



December 2011

Rev Bob Simpson, Pastor

Special Worship and Event Schedule

December 2011

First UMC Windsor

Here's what's inside this issue:

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Sunday, December 4th –

Family Christmas Party; Lunch at 11:30 a.m (Youth fundraiser)
 Christmas Caroling: Depart Church 1:30 p.m., Return to church for cookies and hot cocoa, Santa visit

Sunday, December 11th –

ONE SERVICE 10:00 a.m.
 Annual All Church Conference 12:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 17th –

Sounds of the Season 5 – 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 18th –

10:00 a.m. Choir Cantata (ONE SERVICE)
 11:00 a.m. Children's Program

Saturday, December 24th –

Christmas Eve Services 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 25th –

Christmas Day – ONE SERVICE 10:00 a.m.

Do you have something you would like to share with the congregation? Have it added to the Messenger.

The FUMC Messenger is looking for submissions from the congregation to keep all of its members up to date on what's happening in our church. The deadline is the 10th of the month. Please email fumcmessenger@gmail.com

Dated material for December 2011.



Thank you for being part of our church family. May many prayers flow through you, and may many answers to prayer come to you in God's love.

"I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people."

Luke 2:10, NRSV



Welcome to this house of
PRaise



Jesus Christ Lives!



Get Involved!



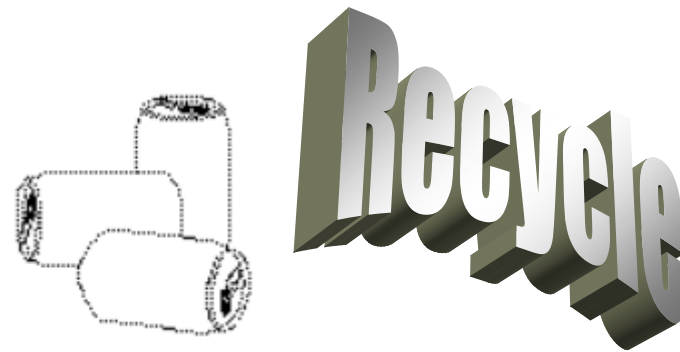
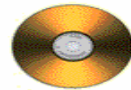
"Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts."
- Colossians 3:16 NIV

Youth Group- Recycling

Our youth group recycles inkjet cartridges, laser cartridges, cell phones, and aluminum cans, to raise funds. The funds raised this year benefits the youth mission trip.

In addition, we are now able to recycle DVD's, Laptops, MP3 Players, Digital Cameras, Portable DVD Players, Video Game Consoles, and GPS Devices.

Don't throw it away! Please recycle. It's good for the environment, and our youth group will earn funds.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have a Ministry at this church that creates handmade Prayer Shawls. They can be knitted, crocheted, quilted or sewn. We mostly work on the Shawl's at home, saying prayers to ask God to provide healing of the body, mind and spirit for the person who receives the Shawl. We do have fun meeting together and sharing our crafts and stories. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 10:00am in the upstairs room of the church. We have yarn and some hooks and needles and we can teach you how to crochet or knit. Come experience the gift of giving. For more information, contact:

Marcia Teachout 303-880-5263

msteachout@comcast.net



"For it was you who formed my inward parts, you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well."
Psalm 139:13-14 NRSV

WATER PROJECT RECYCLING

Please remember to bring your aluminum cans to Jason Burkhart for recycling. All of the funds collected go directly to the Sierra Leone advance #1811000 for developing wells. A clean water well can change the lives of all those living in the community who may be walking for miles to carry drinking water back to their families. If a child does not have to spend the day carrying water they can spend the day attending school! You can drop off your cans in the alcove between the buildings or contact Jason or Mike Ferrell if you need something picked up. Old appliances or anything metal can be recycled for cash. Thank you for supporting this important project with your donations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER FUN

If you have the name and address of a soldier serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, please contact Lee Cochran 460-0342 or Jaime Cummings 303-596-4206. Please help us connect with soldiers to let them know they are loved and prayed for.

If you know of someone who is pregnant, is sick, has been hospitalized or is going to have surgery, please call Jaime Cummings at 303-596-4206, Ken Iliff at 674-1034 or Krista, church secretary, at 686-2368.

Thank you for helping us reach out.

For up to date details on upcoming walks and other details, please see the Northern Colorado Emmaus website



www.northcoloemmaus.org

Special dates

- Second Sunday of Advent, December 4, 2011
- Third Sunday of Advent, December 11, 2011
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18, 2011
- First day of winter, December 22, 2011
- Christmas Eve, December 24, 2011
- Christmas Day, December 25, 2011
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, December 31, 2011

Sunday, December 4th will be our Family Christmas Party.

The Youth Group will prepare a lunch and a free-will offering is appreciated. Following the lunch there will be Christmas Caroling, Hot Cocoa, Cookies, and a visit from Santa! Donations are needed to make the party a success, and donation stickers are available with the sign-up sheet for the party. Please take a look and see what you can bring when you sign up to join us for this fun family event.

Our Annual Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, December 11th at 12:30pm. There will be only 1 service at 10:00am on this day as well. A light soup and sandwich lunch will be available following the service and Childcare will be available during the conference. Everyone is invited to attend!

Sounds of the Season will be on Saturday, December 17th from 5:00pm-7:00pm. A sign-up sheet is now available for you to let us know what talent you wish to share. We hope to see you there!

Your Church Leaders

Pastor.....Bob Simpson
 Office Manager..... Krista Goddard
 Youth Coord.....Deb Campbell
 Leadership Council Mike Rais
 SPR Chair.....Mark Cook
 Sunday School SuperintendentKerry Spirek
 Trustees..... Bruce Hyink
 Finance ChairLarry Hintz
 Financial Secretary..... Bill Pratt
 TreasurerMarlene Bronson
 UMW.....Vera Chipman
 Historian/Librarian...Tracy & Debbie Bates
 Comm. Steward.....Terry and Judy Haduck; JM & Michele Shafer
 One-Hour Min.....Jaime Cummings
 Head Usher..... Bob Foster
 Head Lay Leader.....Monte Savage
 Vestments Arranger..... Vicki Christian
 Boy Scout Rep..... Eric Harris
 Choir DirectorAnn Pratt
 Organist..... Emma DeBey
 Pianist.....Connie Hill
 Newsletter.....Melissa Colgate
 Leadership Council.....Mike Rais, Shanna Hintz, Monte Savage, Jan Cook, Warren Wilson, Sandy Lee, Jaime Cummings, Lindsay Savage (Youth Rep)

Office Hours
8:00am—3:00pm
Monday—Thursday

Messenger Articles:
Please email Melissa Colgate
FUMCMessenger@gmail.com

Bible Quiz Answer: B
(See Matthew 1:18-2:12 and Luke 2:1-20, especially v. 11.)

Learn Something New

+ Christian Symbols +



Rose

This flower, often shown as stylized artwork, is a symbol for Advent, the promise of the Messiah and Jesus' nativity. A white rose represents the Virgin Mary, and a red rose stands for martyrs. A wreath of roses symbolizes heavenly joy.

Dare to hope

If you've ever given up on a dream, then you have something in common with Zechariah. When an angel brought news that Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, would soon have a son, Zechariah had trouble believing it (Luke 1:13-18).

How long had it been since Zechariah first prayed for a son? More to the point, how long had it been since he'd given up praying for a son? With the couple's childbearing years long past, Zechariah likely felt compelled to emphasize the impossibility of the angel's proclamation.

Perhaps you know what it's like to lose hope. Zechariah's story reminds us that God's plans cannot be hampered, even when the laws of nature stand in the way. Hold on to your hope because God works miracles.

Make your preparations 'Advent'-urous

Advent – the first season of the liturgical year – includes the four Sundays and weeks prior to December 25. Advent dates from the fourth century, when it lasted 40 days and included fasting and solemnity, much like Lent.

Advent is from *Adventus*, Latin for “coming,” referring to Jesus' birth in Bethlehem and also his second coming. The traditional colors of Advent are purple for penitence or blue for hope.

Observing Advent is a meaningful, adventurous way to prepare for Christmas. Buy or make an Advent wreath and use candles of your choice: four blue, four purple, or three blue or purple and one pink. If you have a fifth spot, add one white Christ candle. During meals or devotions, light only one candle the first week. Add another for each new week (the pink candle traditionally marks the third week), concluding with the white candle (if you have one) on Christmas. The increasing light reminds us we're getting closer to celebrating Christ's light coming into the world.

Aspire to Inspire

Thank you to our church family for all of your donations, prayers and support of our Armenian trip! I just can't thank everyone enough for the love and support we felt before, during and after our trip.

- Pat Ferrell

Sterling Kairos News - We deeply appreciate your prayers and financial support for our recent Fall weekend (#28). The team, including five members from our church, spent over 72 hours in Sterling. All of our waking moments were spent inside the prison talking, singing, providing meals and snacks and holding special chapel meditations with 41 incarcerated inmates. It was incredible just to feel God's Holy Spirit working through us to touch the lives of those men. As a result, we heard testimonies from several of the prisoners at our Sunday afternoon closing ceremony. This included at least two major gang leaders, who called for an end to fighting and violence between their members, both inside and outside of the prison. What a remarkable awakening to God's love! Hallelujah!

HONOR A LOVED ONE WITH A DONATION TO THE WATER PROJECT

As many of you know our church has started a water project fund to collect donations for a well in Sierra Leone, Africa. We are connected to the United Methodist Global Ministries through Advance # 181000. As of now our church family has sent \$1,200.00 toward this project and it is our desire to continue to support this advance which is developing wells and building schools in Sierra Leone. The project mission statement reads: “Improve the quality of life by supplying quality water for the community's physical needs, Living water of Jesus Christ for their spiritual needs, and giving them hope were otherwise they had no hope!”

During the month December our church mission committee will be providing personalized gift cards for each donation given to the water project in honor of a loved one. Imagine the joy your friend or family member will feel when they receive the card and realize that a donation of life giving water was made in their honor. Add a nice reusable water bottle to the card and they will remember your thoughtful gift each time they fill their water bottle with clean drinking water. To receive the gift card you just need to add the individuals name on the memo line of your check made out to FUMC Windsor. Please put Advance 181000 in the memo as well. If you have any questions regarding this gift giving opportunity please contact Pat Ferrell at 686-9408 or 227 4034.



Bob's Reflection

December 2011

"Mary, I know what I'm going to do tomorrow and the next day and the next year and the year after that. I'm going to leave this little town far behind, and I'm going to see the world." So says George Bailey in the classic Christmas movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*. I can almost imagine similar words spoken by Joseph, the carpenter, to his fiancée, Mary, a young virgin from Nazareth. Surely he had dreams for their life together just as George Bailey had dreams to build things— airfields, skyscrapers, and bridges.

As it turns out, George is wrong. He doesn't know what he's going to do tomorrow and the next day and the next year and the year after that. And it turns out that Mary and Joseph were wrong as well. They didn't know what would happen to them.

In desperate longing for God to intervene in human affairs, the prophet Isaiah prayed "**O that you would tear open the heavens and come down.**" (Isaiah 64:1) In a little town called Bethlehem, God answered that prayer, loudly, clearly, and stunningly through the voice of an angel of the Lord: "**I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.**" (Luke 2:10-11) From that moment forward, plans changed, for Mary and Joseph, for shepherds, for wise men, for king Herod, and for you and me.

As much as we plan what we will do "tomorrow, the next day, the next year, and the year after that," the original Christmas story reminds us that our todays and tomorrows are ultimately in God's hands. I don't know about you, but I sometimes find this a bit unsettling. In fact those shepherds who were first to get the Good News were *terrified!* God knows this about us and so the very first words spoken by the angel of the Lord were simply "**Do not be afraid.**" Perhaps life events have disrupted some of your plans and dreams. Do not be afraid. Instead, *trust* that God is near; that he has torn open the heavens, come down, and intervened in your challenges. *Believe* that he is at work NOW, bringing hope, love, peace, and joy into your life. From this moment on, we can go forward *in faith*, with the very same assurance given the shepherds: "**This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.**" (Luke 2:12)

May your celebration of the Christ Child be wonderfully blessed!

In His Name,

Bob

Bible Quiz



Some parts of the Christmas story, as commonly told, aren't actually re-counted in Scripture. Which of the following details is recorded in the Bible?

- A. Mary rode a donkey to Bethlehem, and Joseph walked alongside her.
- B. Angels announced that a Savior, the Messiah (or Christ), had been born.
- C. There were three wise men.
- D. Shepherds and wise men (or Magi) worshiped Baby Jesus together.
- E. None of the above.

Answer on page 11

Just For Thought

I Want That Too!!!!

The Christmas holiday brings about a hustle and bustle of activity. And with all that activity comes wants and wishes of those around us and for ourselves. Commercials for "things" and sales on those "things" take over the television and radio stations. Stores compete for our business and promise the "lowest price around." This time of year (or any time of the year) stores are not the only things that are in competition. We as humans have a natural tendency to compete with others...especially with those that have what we want.

Gift giving is a year long event. We give gifts for birthday's, anniversary's, to say we are sorry, to put a smile on a loved one's face just because, and many other reasons. How do we know what to gift? Wish lists are created, we see what someone else has and we say we want it, and we listen to those wishes and wants and keep them stored away in the recesses of our minds for the "perfect" time to gift the want to the one we love. Then, once the "thing" desired has been given or received we want for something else.

Do you remember the smile on your loved one's face when you gave them the wanted gift? How about the look of desperation on the face of a loved one when they see someone else with something they *really* want? "Mom, Dad, look! I want that! See how he's smiling? See how she's laughing? That looks like so much fun! I would smile and laugh too if I had it. I want it! Please!?!?" Or, "Oh Honey! Did you see the new ring my sister got? Her husband must really love her!" (hint, hint) Or, "You know babe, I would remember these important dates better if I had an Ipad. The calendar app would remind me." (again...hint, hint)

As I lay thinking of these scenarios last night I had a feeling of conviction.

God gave us a gift...his Son, Jesus Christ. What would happen if we walked around showing such delight and excitement over that gift as we do over our new "thing"? Maybe we would have others around us saying, "I want that too!"

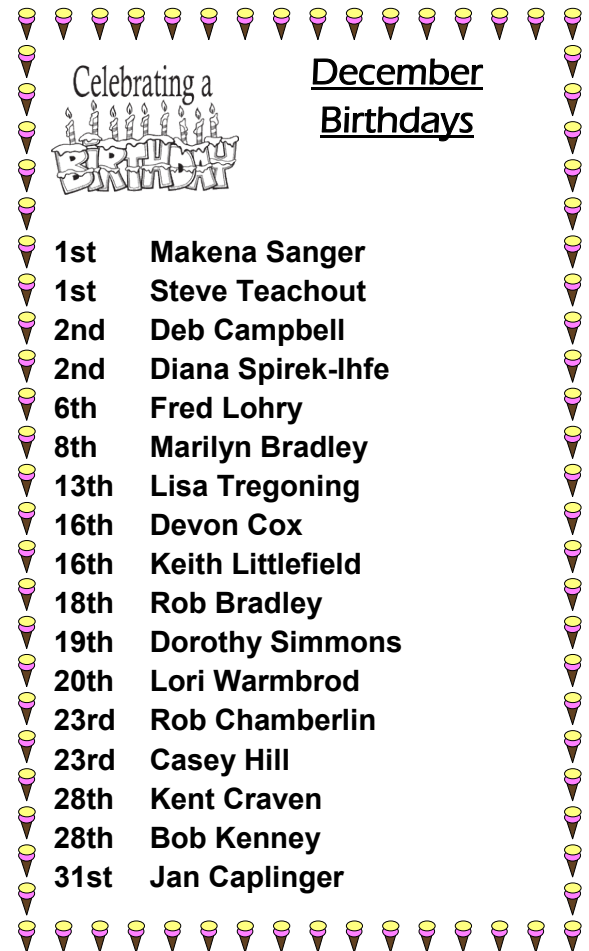
This gift from God is one that I every so often forget about. One that I have put on a shelf, and I no longer want it taking up shelf space. Instead, I want it to be the one gift that causes those around me to say, "I want it too!" To make that happen I need to show it off.

I am asking each of you to help hold me accountable. I want those around me to see my excitement over the gift of a lifetime...the one-of-a-kind gift that was given to me, and to all who accept it...the gift of God's Son, Jesus Christ. Not just for this month, or for this season, but every day of every year.

Will you join me in showing off the gift of God?

Wishing you all a happy, spirit-filled Christmas.

Krista



December Birthdays

- 1st Makena Sanger
- 1st Steve Teachout
- 2nd Deb Campbell
- 2nd Diana Spirek-Ihfe
- 6th Fred Lohry
- 8th Marilyn Bradley
- 13th Lisa Tregoning
- 16th Devon Cox
- 16th Keith Littlefield
- 18th Rob Bradley
- 19th Dorothy Simmons
- 20th Lori Warmbrod
- 23rd Rob Chamberlin
- 23rd Casey Hill
- 28th Kent Craven
- 28th Bob Kenney
- 31st Jan Caplinger

Joke Corner

- Q. What do Elves learn in school?
A. The Elf-abet
- Q. What kind of bird can write?
A. A Pen-quin
- Q. What kind of candle burns longer, a red candle or a green candle?
A. Neither, candles always burn shorter.
- Q. What do you call a Snowman party?
A. A Snowball
- Q. What did the Gingerbread man put on his bed?
A. A cookie sheet

December Anniversaries

- 17th Ken & Brenda Iliff
- 19th Paul & Francy Henderson
- 27th Rod & Lisa Tregoning
- 29th Eddie & Dorothy Simmons



PUZZLE

A PROMISED RULER

Prophets told of Jesus' birth hundreds of years before it happened. Never had a baby's arrival come with such a promise.

Directions: To read what one prophet (Micah 5:4, NIV) said about Jesus, complete the math problems below. Then fill in the words, using the math solutions as your guide.

7+6 strength	9+1 shepherd	30-5 the	7+5 ends	50-26 live	
21-10 will	27-29 reach	10+7 Flock	40-20 stand	15+9 security	8+8 his
35-31 Lord	17-3 greatness	10-3 earth	10+5 will	5+1 will	

"He _____ and _____ his _____
15 20 10 17

in the _____ of the _____ ... And they _____
13 4 11 24

_____, for then _____
18 16 14 8

_____ to the _____ of _____."
3 12 28 7

MICAH 5:4, NIV

Answers: "He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord ... And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth." Micah 5:4, NIV



GREETERS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 12-4 | 12-18 |
| 8:30a Mark Cook | 8:30a Cogburn Family |
| 10a Dave Cook | 10a Lind & Sally Weidlich |
| 12-11 | 12-25 |
| 10a Betsy Peterson, Monte & Karen Savage | 10a Ted & Lois Huckabee |

LITURGIST
(10 a.m. Service)

- 12-4 Warren Wilson
- 12-11 Cindy Miller
- 12-18 Lois Huckabee
- 12-25 Jan Cook

COMMUNION
12-4

- 8:30a Ken & Brenda Iliff
Candice Loya
- 10a Phil & Linda Neville
Mike & Kim Rais
Bill Pratt

USHERS

(10 a.m. Service)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 12-4 Virginia & Gary Lindblad | 12-18 Gene & Jan Caplinger |
| 12-11 Bob Foster | 12-25 J.M. & Michele Shafer |

COFFEE HOUR & FELLOWSHIP

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 12-4 | 12-18 |
| 9:30a Help Needed! | 9:30a Help Needed! |
| 11:15a Youth Group | 11:15a Bronson & Hopkinson |
| 12-11 | 12-25 |
| 9:30a No Fellowship | 9:30a No Fellowship |
| 11:15a Church Lunch | 11:15a Jaime Cummings |

CLOTHES CLOSET

(9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon Tues & Thu)

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1st Help Needed! | 15th Help Needed! |
| 6th Help Needed! | 20th Help Needed! |
| 8th Help Needed! | 22nd Help Needed! |
| 13th Help Needed! | 27th Help Needed! |
| 29th Help Needed! | |

December Wish List!

- Colored 8 1/2 x 14 Paper for Bulletins
- 13 & 33 Gal Trash bags
- Hand Soap Refills
- Windex
- Lemonade Powder
- Pledge Wood Polish
- Tissues
- Dish Soap
- Clorox Clean-Up w/ Bleach
- Decaf & Regular Coffee
- Batteries: AA, AAA & 9 volt
- Lysol Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Forever Postage Stamps
- Toilet Paper
- 8oz. Paper Coffee Cups
- 8in. Paper Plates
- Healthy Snacks for Nursery
- Post-it Notes
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Legal Size Envelopes
- Thank You!



"He's today's greeter."



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
	November 2011 S M T W T F S 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 29 30				January 2012 S M T W T F S 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 29 30 31	1	2	3
		Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Worship Times: 8:45a Traditional 11a Contemporary		9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN 7p BethStudios Mtg.	9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN 7p Stepping Stones	6:30p Girl Scouts 198/3594	7a Men's Emmaus
	4 COMMUNION  8:30a Adult Sunday School 8:30a Contemporary 8:45a Children's Church 10a Traditional 10a Children's Sunday School 11:30a Christmas Party	5 5:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Stephen Ministry 7p Boy Scouts	6 9a Clothes Closet 12:30p Women's Bible Study 6:30p Scout Committee 6:30p Advent Study	7 5:45p Prayer Group 6:30p Youth Fellowship 7p Chancel Choir	8 9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN 7p Stepping Stones	9 6p WCP Christmas Program 6:30p Girl Scouts 198/3594	10 7a Men's Emmaus 6p WCP Christmas Program	
11 7:15a Men's Breakfast 8:30a Adult Sunday School 10a COMBINED SERVICE 10a Children's Sunday School 12:30p Charge Conf.	12 6:30p Adult Missions 7p Trustees 7p Boy Scouts	13 9a Clothes Closet 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:30p Women's Bible Study	14 9a Lutheran Foster Families 1:30p PatriciaRose Circle 5:45p Prayer Group 6:30p Youth Fellowship 7p Chancel Choir	15 9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN	16 6:30p Girl Scouts 198/3594	17 7a Men's Emmaus 5p Sounds of the Season		
18 10a Choir Cantata- One Combined Service 11a Children's Christmas Program	19 5:30p Girl Scouts 6:30p Stephen Ministry 7p Boy Scouts	20 9a Clothes Closet 12:30p Women's Bible Study 4p DAR	21 MESSENGER FOLDING 5:45p Prayer Group 6:30p Youth Fellowship 7p Chancel Choir	22 9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN	23 6:30p Girl Scouts 198/3594	24 CHRISTMAS EVE 7a Men's Emmaus 5p Christmas Eve Service 7p Christmas Eve Service		
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS 7:15a Men's Breakfast 10a Combined Worship Service	26 7p SPR 7p Boy Scouts	27 9a Clothes Closet 10a Prayer Shawl Ministry 12:30p Women's Bible Study	28 1p UMW General Mtg. 5:30p Finance 5:45p Prayer Group 6:30p Leadership 6:30p Youth Fellowship 7p Chancel Choir	29 9a Clothes Closet 6p RIZZN	30 6:30p Girl Scouts 198/3594	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 7a Men's Emmaus		