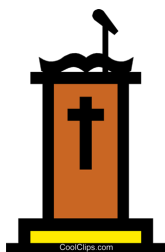




February 2023



IMPORTANT AND WORTHY



On February 22nd we will join Christians around the world in observing the season of Lent. Lent is a deeply spiritual time as we reflect on the tremendous love and sacrifice of Jesus for us so that we might have forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. The price of our redemption was overwhelming. As Dr. Martin Luther said in explaining the second article of the Apostles Creed "Jesus, my Lord, has redeemed me a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death." As Jesus Himself said, *"Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."* [John 15:13]

Luther went on with his explanation to state that Jesus made this supreme sacrifice "so that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true!"

In Jesus we have been redeemed from all sins, including the sin of selfishly wanting to use all of God's blessings for our own needs and wants rather than using them to His glory and the welfare of our neighbor. Selfishness is not part of good stewardship! Here is a definition of good and godly stewardship: God's redeemed stewards, in cooperation with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

Lent provides us with an excellent opportunity to reflect on what is really important and worth spending our lives and resources on. During this 2023 season of Lent may God's Holy Spirit help us to understand that God wants to use us as instruments in His hands to touch the lives of others in ways that make an eternal difference. As we are led to believe this truth we will better understand what it means to use our time, our skills and talents, and our financial resources in loving and sacrificial ways.

What a time of spiritual growth the season of Lent can be for us as we strive to spend our lives and resources on things that really matter and last beyond our lifetimes. God's redeemed stewards want to make this world a better place because we have been here. May the love and sacrifice of Jesus so impress us that we will want to reach out in loving and sacrificial ways.

God's redeemed and maturing stewards do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all they do.

In Christ

Pastor Sundborn

A View into the Temptation via the Two Natures of Christ

By David Petersen



The two great doctrines that drove the formation of the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds are the Holy Trinity and the divinity of Christ. We must know that there is one God and that He consists of three equal Persons. We must also know that this Holy Trinity worked out our salvation by the Second Person becoming a full and true man without giving up His divinity. He has not always been a man, and yet He has always been God. Now, however, He is always and forever a man, while also being God, and we do not know God apart from the flesh of that Man. He is begotten of and yet equal, in His divinity, to the Father, and also equal to the Holy Spirit who proceeds from Him and the Father.

In my ministry, I have not seen my members struggle with questions about either the Holy Trinity or the divinity of Christ. They love those doctrines. For the most part it seems almost easy for them to accept both.

Nonetheless, year after year, during Lent, some of them raise concerns and discomfort with the temptation of Jesus. They can't figure out how it is a legitimate temptation if Jesus can't sin. Since they do not doubt Christ's divinity, their discomfort is likely caused by a lack of familiarity with the relationship between the two natures in Christ. Not all of us have spent a lot of time thinking about how the two natures of Christ exist, in fullness, without being diminished or being fully united, so that there is neither a corruption of either nature nor are there two Christs side-by-side. This is a mystery every bit as difficult and essential to our faith as the doctrine of the Trinity.

It boils down to confessing the single Christ and His two natures. Lutheran theologians have usually spoken of the relationship of the two natures as being communicated or shared with one another in three, overlapping ways.

Communicating Attributes

The first way describes the whole Christ. What belongs properly to either the divine or the human nature is rightly attributed to the whole person of Christ (*genus idiomaticum*). The natures each retain their own attributes. Christ does not morph into a new substance that is somehow different or greater than human or different and less than divine. He is true God and true man, nothing less and nothing more. Yet these two natures share their attributes in the single Person of Christ. When Christ suffered and died on the cross, all of

A VIEW INTO THE TEMPTATION VIA THE TWO NATURES OF CHRIST *continued*

Christ suffered and died, that is to say, both natures died, including the divine. It was not just part of Christ, but all of Him that was offered up for us. Thus, it is not inappropriate, if rightly understood, to speak of “God dying on the cross” or of Mary being the “mother of God” even though God is immortal and eternal.

The second way recognizes that the divine and human nature are not equal. His human nature is perfect, indeed, but as the Athanasian Creed states, Jesus is “equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.” The divine nature’s attributes have been given to the human nature of Christ without changing the human nature (*genus maiestaticum*). The divinity of Christ is found in every hair on Christ’s head, in His bones, and blood. Thus, we rightly and necessarily worship the human nature of Christ, and, apart from His flesh, we do not and cannot know Him.

The third way overlaps greatly with the first. Christ’s acts are never simply according to one nature or the other. Christ always acts according to both natures together, at the same time, in the single Christ (*genus apotelesmaticum*).

There is one other piece to this. While the communication of attributes begins at the conception and never ends, there was a time when the Christ denied Himself, as a Man, and did not always and fully use His divine rights and attributes. He could have, in a sense, but He didn’t as an act of will. We call this His state of humiliation. If He had not denied Himself, then He could not have been hungry while fasting for forty days or ever grown weary, and He could not have been killed. But if He hadn’t done all of that, how could we be saved? We couldn’t have been. Thus, He denied Himself in order to suffer as we suffer and to make Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the world. We should note that His incarnation was not part of His humiliation, since becoming a man was an exercise of His divine power. Furthermore, He didn’t completely deny Himself all the time. He performed miracles. Those, too, were exercises of His power, albeit a partial and not a full use of His divinity.

Then, when it was finished, He descended into hell to declare His victory, and He began — and forevermore now — to fully and always use His divine rights and attributes as both God and man. We call this His exaltation. He does not deny Himself. This how the Christ, true God and true man, walked through the stone that sealed the tomb and through the door that was locked for fear of the Jews. He is also now present in His risen human body on more than one altar at a time, and we eat His body and drink His blood without destroying it. Once joined, His two natures are never separated. They were not separated at His death, and they are not separated now.

Divine Temptation

All this together and carefully considered leads us to recognize that when Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, there was no possibility that He might fail the test and sin. The Man Jesus is God. He is holy and cannot sin. For a time, He denied Himself, as a man, His divine rights and attributes but not His essence. Why then the temptation? As cruel as it sounds, the point was for the devil to torture and mock Him. It was not an even match. The devil was destined to lose. He could not have won. The Christ, holy and set on His path, willed to suffer. He willed to withstand all that we suffer and try to withstand, but He did so without failure. Thus He demonstrated that it can be done. He is a true man, as Adam was in the garden before the Fall, but Christ with-

A VIEW INTO THE TEMPTATION VIA THE TWO NATURES OF CHRIST continued

stood the devil. He did this for us, in our place. He defeated the devil for us and put an end not only to accusations but also temptations.

In the end, we come to see that His temptation is part of His redeeming work, His sacrifice for us. If we peer deeply into it, we see both natures at work together in the single Christ.

Further reading:

- Martin Chemnitz, *The Two Natures of Christ* (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1971): For those who are highly motivated and interested in this topic. It is a full and important treatment of the two natures of Christ.
- David Scaer, *Christology* (Fort Wayne: The International Foundation for Lutheran Confessional Research, 1989): A short and slightly easier read than Chemnitz.
- Francis Pieper, *Christian Dogmatics*, vol. II (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 1951): For those who do not want to make a financial investment, your pastor surely has a copy on his bookshelf and would lend it out to you.

Petersen, David., (2022, March 18). A View into the Temptation via the Two Natures of Christ. *The Lutheran Witness-Articles*.

<https://witness.lcms.org/2022/temptation-two-natures-of-christ/>





Life Quotes for February

February 5 "How sad as we hear of the overturning of *Roe vs. Wade* by the Supreme Court that so many are acting like this is the worst thing that could happen in our world. Stop and think of what they are arguing about. They want the right to kill a baby in their womb. They want the right to do what they want with their body. It is such a selfish, sinful, and demented way of thinking. Yet, as you hear the arguments and as your kids go off to college, you often feel like you as a Christian are such an uncaring person. My friends, we are all sinners. Imagine what Jesus must think of this. He loves every soul!" *Pastor Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota (6-26-22) – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

February 12 "When God tells us He knew us before we were born in our mother's womb, we can hardly say life doesn't begin at fertilization. When God tells our days are numbered and He will decide when our life is over, we can hardly ask for our life to be taken prematurely rather than dying a natural death. As you ponder God's Word and stand up For Life, your witness will have remarkable power and you, only you, will be impactful in your response. So, even if you are going it alone, you can and should contribute to the message For Life, and God will bless your efforts." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

February 19 "'You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit' (John 15:16). Those words are meant for every one of us. We should never cease to be amazed at God's gifts and timing to bear the fruit of God's love." *Lynette Auch, former President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

February 26 "Going to be with the Lord is not meant to be an escape from the responsibilities and good works God has prepared in advance for us to do!" *Barbara Lane Geistfeld, D.V.M., Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

Announcements



The Lenten Season will soon be upon us. Join us on Wednesdays for our midweek Lenten services starting Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 7:00 pm for the series:

2023 Midweek Lenten Series “Our Suffering Savior”

Isaiah 52:13-53:12 is one of the clearest depictions of the atonement of Jesus anywhere in Scripture. It vividly portrays the sufferings of Jesus and explains the theology of His atonement in a plain, reasoned way. Parts of this passage are quoted by Jesus Himself, and found in other New Testament books. Lent serves as a wonderful time to look at and ponder what Jesus, the Suffering Servant of Isaiah, went through on our behalf

St. Paul's Midweek Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday: February 22nd – “Who Has Believed?” Is 53:1, Pastor Sundbom, Communion celebrated

Midweek 1: March 1st – “Is There No Justice?” Is 53:8, Pastor Jonathon Schroeder, St. John Geneva

Midweek 2: March 8th – “Stray Sheep” Is 53:6, Pastor Travis Henry, Zion Painesville

Midweek 3: March 15th – “By His Wounds We Are Healed” Is 53:4-5, Pastor Sundbom

Midweek 4: March 22nd – “Appearances Can Be Deceiving” Is 52:14; 53:2-3
Pastor Kevin Guynn, Faith Mentor

Midweek 5: March 29th – “Knowing When to Keep Quiet” Is 53:7
Pastor Freddy Davison, Lighted Cross Ashtabula

Maundy Thursday: April 6th – “Bloodbath” Is 52:15, Pastor Sundbom – Communion celebrated

Good Friday: April 7th – “A Rich Burial” Is 53:9, Pastor Sundbom

Easter Vigil: April 8th – Worship Service with Communion 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday: April 9th – “Satisfaction Guaranteed” Is 53:10-12, Pastor Sundbom – Communion celebrated

MISSION GOAL REACHED!*Praise God from whom all blessings flow!***LWML 2021-2023
Mission Goal Met!!!**

Through the generous women of LWML and all of our benevolent givers, God has allowed us to surpass the \$2,150,000 Mission Goal for the 2021–2023 biennium!

Even though the LWML (national) goal has been met, the LWML Ohio District goal of \$190,000 has not, so continue to prayerfully "feed" your mite box. Your mite box may be deposited in the wooden mite box by the Friendship Circle board at any time. If you choose to write a check, make it payable to the St. Paul's Friendship Circle. We also look forward to a noisy mite collection during the month of March.

**NEW EDITORS FOR OHIO LWML
NEWSLETTERS**

Starshine Graziadei is the new editor of the LWML Ohio District Newsletter (THE ODE). You can read the latest edition at [LWML Ohio ODE](#)



Kelly Hines is the new editor of the Nor'easter (The Northeast Zone Newsletter). You can read the latest edition at [LWML Nor'easter](#).

***Altar Flowers***

Altar flowers are a great way for you to celebrate, honor or remember your special someone, date, or event. The Altar Flower Chart is located between the double doors leading out of the sanctuary. All you have to do is sign up next to the appropriate weekend. Be sure to print clearly the occasion, who the flowers are for and who is giving the flowers. Altar flowers are \$40.00. This can be placed in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" with the date of the weekend, then place in the collection plate.

St. Paul's invites you to ... Dinner and a Movie – “The Most Reluctant Convert”

Friday, February 10th at 6 p.m.

Free Admission

The Most Reluctant Convert: The Untold Story of C.S. Lewis



Film poster

Directed by	Norman Stone
Written by	Norman Stone Max McLean (original stage play)
Produced by	Ken Denison Matthew Jenkins
Starring	Max McLean Nicholas Ralph Eddie Ray Martin Richard Harrington Amy Alexander Tom Glenister David Shields Hubert Burton David Gant

Movie Description:

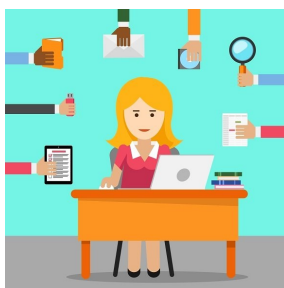
The dramatic, true story of C.S. Lewis' journey from committed atheist to reluctant believer begins with his turbulent childhood. After losing his mother to cancer and becoming estranged from his father, a young C.S. Lewis deems existence bleak and unfortunate. His tutelage under atheist William T. Kirkpatrick and his harrowing experiences in The Great War solidify his case for materialism until he befriends J.R.R. Tolkien and Hugo Dyson. His fellow intellectuals—all Christians—challenge him to consider the logical, mythological, and literary cases for Christianity, and Lewis must face a life-altering choice: to hold fast to materialism or to give his life to Jesus Christ.

Dinner includes chili and/or chili dogs, snacks, etc. and will be served at 6 p.m. The movie will be shown at 7 p.m.

Please RSVP attendance numbers via text or phone to Kristi McConnell at 1-440-321-0659 so we can ensure there is enough food for dinner.

Open Positions—OSL School Board

Our Shepherd Lutheran School currently has open positions on the School Board. Please prayerfully consider helping serve the school and church by joining. If you have any questions or would like more information, please talk to Eric Drake, Jack Lelle or Joe Graziadei.



OSL Secretary/Admin Position Available

There will be an opening for the secretary/administrative assistant position at OSL beginning with the '23-'24 school year. Details and additional information forthcoming.

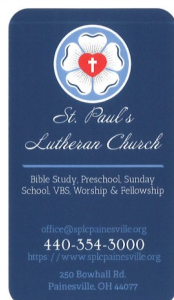
Prayer Quilts

Don't forget to let JoEllen Graziadei or Kristi McConnell know when you have a friend, neighbor or family member that is in need of encouragement and prayers. We can send a prayer quilt to them with a card and an invitation to church. In these troubled times, it's more important than ever to tell people God loves them and we are here for them.



RESTAURANT MINISTRY

If you have begun to venture back out to local eateries, please help St. Paul's reach out to members of our community. Grab a supply of St. Paul's business cards from the basket on the Welcome Center Table near the nursery door. When eating out, write a note of thanks to your waiter/waitress on the back of the card and leave it with their tip. Help us plant the seed ... and let the Holy Spirit do the rest!





January Meeting Notes

- 1) Pastor's Report: Pastor reported making 16 calls, 1 shut-in and 1 hospital call, and performed 1 funeral. With Ash Wednesday being Feb. 22, pastors will be discussing Pastor rotation for the Lenten services.
- 2) President's Report: Eric hoped the new year would continue to see improved attendance and financial support.
- 3) Vice-President's Report: Brian reported Morley Mowers has accepted the renewed snowplowing contract.
- 4) Treasurer's Report: Russ reported that our cash situation has improved \$5,154 from last year, with income up \$19,009 YTD and expenses down \$1,530 YTD vs. last year. Overall, we are in much better shape than we have been in awhile.
- 5) Education Report: Erin reported average weekly attendance for 2022 was 16 in the 4 classes kids Sunday school class sang "Go Tell it on the Mountain" at Dec. 18 service, that 5 Goody Bags were handed out to kids attending Christmas Eve services, Adopt-a-Family was successful (thanks to Star and Billie), and about 50 handmade Christmas cards were provided to Lake Health/University Hospitals staff as part of Christmas Caring Card Campaign.
- 6) Preschool report: Star reported registration for 2023-24 school year will begin in Feb: next meeting will be Jan. 9.
- 7) Elders Report: None
- 8) Stewardship report: Ken reported 102 items were collected during Giving Tree and will distribute to Christ Child, Hope Chest, Project Hope, and Sub-Zero Mission; he has forwarded to Peggy Time/Talent spreadsheet, and would like to highlight various volunteer opportunities thru Newsletter or message board each month. To clean up cluttered appearance in vestibule, he's proposing to downsize and move mailboxes against wall by coat rack (moving OSLS & LEAF boards in hallway) and has moved Flower sign-up sheet to rear double doors.
- 9) Financial Secretary report: Jenn has a new sign-up sheet for this year's volunteer counters.
- 10) Outreach Report: Will resume activities after January meeting.
- 11) Building & Grounds Report: No report due to vacation.
- 12) Contribution Secretary Report: Dennis reported that December's income was \$26,102 up \$10,483 (67%) from last Dec. Total deposits for 2022 was \$199,350(6.5%) up \$12,194 from contributed in 2022. Dennis also reported 87 envelopes are available for pickup and that 2022 Offering Statements are in the mailboxes.

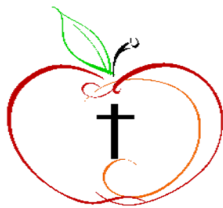
OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Pastor said the completed By-Law changes are being completed and will be sent to District soon.

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES continued**NEW BUSINES:**

- 1) Ash Wednesday Service will be Feb. 22 with communion. Lenten services rotation TBA.
- 2) Dennis stated the Contribution software is in need of updating, currently using Windows 7. Eric made a motion to explore with the Preschool about an extra computer they may have, and seeing if the office's license covers this and if not, to purchase a new laptop. Dennis 2nd. Motion passed.
- 3) Pastor announced the Preschool has applied for a grant for funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Details to follow, but could be a significant amount.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023 @ 6:30pm.



From the Preschool

Preschool Registration for 2023-2024



NEW for the fall ... a 3 hour a day Pre-K class!

Registration for St. Paul's Preschool 2023-2024 school year will be opening soon. If you are interested in your child attending St. Paul's Preschool in the fall please pick up a registration form which are located at the back of the sanctuary next to the double doors. Registration for current preschool families will begin on February 6th with open registration beginning February 27th. Once open registration begins classes will be filled as registration forms are received. If you have any questions please contact

Mrs. Marizek at 440-354-3000. If you know someone who has a preschool aged child please pass a registration form on to them.

Pre-K Needs Your Help!

Mrs. Cook's Pre-K class is making a milk jug igloo. They are asking you to please bring in CLEAN milk jugs. They can also be from juices, teas etc. She needs about 400 in order to complete her project. Thank you for helping!



February Birthdays

Allie Szoradi	Feb 1st	Roxanne Walton	Feb 19th
Michelle Lindrose	Feb 4th	Ken Chaffe	Feb 24th
Danielle Kiel	Feb 7th	Billie Lelle	Feb 26th
Heidi Bennington	Feb 12th	Joe Wojkowski	Feb 26th
Charlotte Hines	Feb 14th	Carl Graziadei	Feb 28th
Jeffrey Kiel	Feb 15th	Jared Sundbom	Feb 28th
Jonah Shaw	Feb 18th	JoEllen Graziadei	Feb 29th



February Anniversaries

Eric and Pamela West	42 years on Feb 7
Robert and Peggy McDonnell	34 years on Feb 25



February Word Search

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

T	K	J	C	V	Q	I	G	N	R	Y	J	S	W
R	I	J	W	S	H	N	C	E	M	O	C	P	T
A	N	E	T	E	I	I	A	M	E	F	I	Q	A
N	G	S	O	R	M	Q	F	E	P	F	N	E	A
S	S	T	J	V	G	U	F	S	I	S	F	R	M
G	G	E	C	A	N	I	L	S	M	P	I	P	A
R	C	E	I	N	A	T	I	A	E	R	R	I	J
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S	P	D	Q	B	O	S	E	H	L	G	T	C	T
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O	E	X	H	K	S	I	T	H	E	O	E	D	Q
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L	D	S	U	F	F	E	R	I	N	G	U	A	X

MESSAGE
 REVEALED
 SUFFERING
 SERVANT
 EXALTED
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 INIQUITIES
 OFFSPRING
 TRANSGRESSION
 MAJESTY
 INFIRMITIES
 ESTEEMED
 AFFLICTED
 PIERCED

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/4831734/isaiah-5213-5312/>



Those Who Serve: February 2023

ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Aaron Lindrose
9:30 A Sunday Craig McConnell

COUNTERS:

Jenn Drake, Craig McConnell
Kristi McConnell

LECTORS:

02-04-23 6:00 P Saturday Dave Murphy
02-05-23 9:30 A Sunday Ken Chaffe
02-11-23 6:00 P Saturday Dale Kerver
02-12-23 9:30 A Sunday Eric West
02-18-23 6:00 P Saturday Pastor Sundbom
02-19-23 9:30 A Sunday Terry Wakelee
02-22-23 7:00 P Wednesday TBD
02-25-23 6:00 P Saturday Dave Murphy
02-26-23 9:30 A Sunday Jack Lelle

GREETERS:

6:00 P Saturday
9:30 A Sunday

SIGN UP IN FEBRUARY TO GREET
YOUR FELLOW DISCIPLES.

Sign-up sheet located on the dou-
ble doors at the back of the
Sanctuary.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

250 Bowhall Road · Painesville, OH 44077
(440)354-3000 | www.splcpainesville.org | office@splcpainesville.org

Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor
Marlyss Sekki, Director of Music
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 9:30am

Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45am
Children 10:45am

St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director
preschool@splcpainesville.org
www.stpaulspainesville.com

Also Supporting



250 Bowhall Road
Painesville, OH 44077
440-354-3000



508 Mentor Avenue
Painesville, OH 44077
440-357-7778

February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  COMMUNION SERVICE </div> <div> WORSHIP SCHEDULE Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:45am Adult Bible Study—8:30am & 10:45am </div>			1 No Preschool- Evening Parent Teacher Conferences 6:30 pm Council Meeting	2 No Preschool- Daytime Parent Teacher Conferences 7 pm Virtual Bible Study	3	4 World Cancer Day  Northeast Zone Prayer Service
Black History Month	American Heart Month					
5	6	7 Preschool Chapel 7 pm Choir Practice	8 6:30 Women's Bible Study 6:30 pm Elder's Meeting	9 7 pm Virtual Bible Study	10	11 
12  	13 National Cheese Day	14 9:30 am Circuit Meeting  Preschool Valentine's Day Party-All Classes 7 pm Choir Practice	15	16 6 pm Outreach Meeting 7 pm Virtual Bible Study	17 Random Acts of Kindness <div> March Newsletter Articles and Announcements Due </div>	18
19	20 	21  7 pm Choir Practice	22 	23 7 pm Virtual Bible Study	24	25 
26 	27	28 7 pm Choir Practice		<div> Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-2:00pm </div> February Birthstone Amethyst	<div> Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays </div> February Flower Violet	