



NEW YEAR NEW ME

THEREFORE, IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATION; OLD THINGS HAVE PASSED AWAY; BEHOLD, ALL THINGS HAVE BECOME NEW.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

The Vine—January 2019

Ministry Team

All members of Lutheran Church of Our Saviour

Pastor

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Administration & Congregational Care

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Church Board 2018-2019

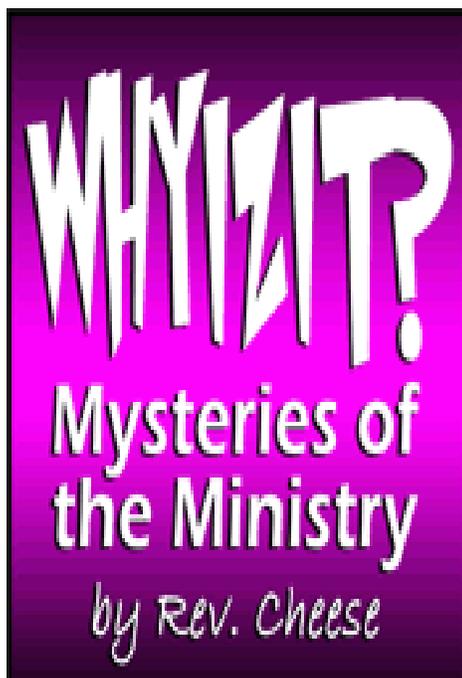
Doug Gerbrandt
Jens Kaack
Avril LeBlanc
Dale Mass
Bob Montgomery—Chair
Shirley Moule
Nick Perchthaler
Darren Tenor
Les Walker

Please call ahead to access the building outside of regular office hours.

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www.churchmice.net

From Pastor Julianne

The Word.

Today my sister shared that her grandson was reading and understanding words far beyond the expectations of his age. This reminded me that the use of one word and not another depends on the possibility of understanding the intended meaning and is critical to communication.

Writers are careful to use the correct word to express the intent. Words in any translation including Biblical translations are carefully chosen to honestly reflect the current understanding of any word with the integrity of the original.

This month we are exploring the gifts God gives, in our Baptism and by the Holy Spirit. Together we will wonder about recognizing and encouraging others to use their gifts in the church and in our neighbourhoods.

Which word best describes the motive behind our work together: volunteers or servants?

If we consider the current cultural use of the word volunteer, we hear motives such as wanting to feel good and support a worthy cause. Perhaps we volunteer to belong, to please God or someone else.

In the Christian context, a servant lives for the Kingdom of God and wants to serve Jesus. More recent English Biblical translations use the word servant, instead of the word slave, which is a more traditional translation for the Greek word “doulas.” Some have suggested the use of the word servant began because of the politically incorrectness of slavery.

In Biblical times slaves were paid for and cared for by their masters. Perhaps the thought of us being slaves/servants to Jesus is uncomfortable, but it expresses our relationship with our Saviour and Master who paid the ultimate price for us.

Which represents your attitude; “Thank you for your time” or “Well done good and faithful servant”?

Let us move forward into what God has for LCOS with the heart and mind to live as servants together, encouraging and equipping each other to serve in Jesus’ name.

In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. The body we’re talking about is Christ’s body of chosen people.

Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn’t amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ’s body, let’s just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other, or trying to be something we aren’t.

Romans 12:4-6 The Message

Lord God,

You have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our

Lord. *LBW Page 153*

Youth & Children's Ministry

Young Explorers Return January 6th!

We're back! Our regular Young Explorer classes return, with our last few months looking at the life of Jesus. Join our Preschool, Kindergarten, Grade 1–6, or Youth Classes, for games, snacks, crafts, lessons and much more!!

There are an incredible number of cultures through out the world today. Join us as we celebrate the traditions of these cultures with games, crafts and snacks. Our focus is on what makes up a culture, with special guests sharing about their own cultures.



YOUTH
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12TH - 1:00 PM
SIGN UP BY SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH

GRAB YOUR SLED AND JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON ON THE HILLS!
FOLLOWED BY A TRIP TO TIM HORTONS FOR HOT CHOCOLATE.

Lace up your skates—we're hitting the ice!
Cost is \$15 for a family of 2 adults and children under 17. Please sign up by Sunday, January 6th.
More information will be shared soon!



Tween Diversity Night

Friday, January 11 at 7:00 pm

There are an incredible number of cultures throughout the world today. Join us as we celebrate the traditions of these cultures with games, crafts and snacks.

Grab your sled and join us for an afternoon hitting the hills! We'll be heading to a few sledding spots in the community, and finishing with a trip to Tim Horton's for some hot chocolate. Sign up by Sunday, January 6th so we can ensure we have enough spots in vehicles for everyone.
Please note that swimming will be our back-up plan if there isn't enough snow for sledding.



FAMILY SKATE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 18TH
6:00 PM

Sign up by Sunday January 6th

Cost: \$15

For family of 2 adults and children under 17

More information to follow

Youth & Children's Ministry

It's the return of one of our favourite events of the year. Please consider sponsoring one of our youth as they fast for 30 hours. All funds raised go towards the Canadian Lutheran World Relief Fund.

The fast starts Thursday, January 24th at 6 00pm. We'll all gather for an overnight event at the church on Friday the 25th—make sure to bring a sleeping bag/airmattress, toothbrush/toothpaste, and pj's.

Break the fast Friday at 12 midnight. Pick up will be Saturday morning at 10 am.

Youth Hunger Mission



Friday, January 25th at 7:00 pm



We invite LCOS members to sponsor one of our youth as they fast for 30 hours. All funds raised go towards the Canadian Lutheran World Relief Fund.



**SAT Jan 26th
10am**

**Everyone is
welcome to join
us as we
practice, praise
& worship songs
together.**

It is time to start looking at some new praise and worship songs!!

Any youth is welcome to join us—we can find a spot for everyone, no matter the level of your musical skills.

Sunday, January 27th 10 am—Special AGM Young Explorer Class

It's our annual AGM Young Explorer Class. Join us as the youth teach the children about a special topic.

There'll be snacks, crafts, games and so much more!!

Please note that the youth will be providing child care during the Annual General Meeting that starts at noon.

Message from the Board Chair

Happy New Year everyone!

Having arrived on the 'other side' of 60 I may not fully appreciate the benefits of this age yet, but I'm told that I will. I want to begin my New Year message as Chair this way because the gift of another year represents a perfect time to reflect on our blessings and... the gift of life.

2018 was difficult for us as a congregation with many still dealing with the passing of Gretch a year before, let alone the untimely passing of Darrell, Rachelle and most recently, Roger. Life is indeed a gift from God that I need to learn more about how to not take it for granted. For me, that also extends to Lee's retirement. His life among us was an amazing gift that, like many gifts, isn't fully appreciated until its not there. I miss his presence in so many ways and know that as we move forward this will heal and we will continue on our mission to serve Jesus.

On a brighter note, 2018 brought Pastor Julianne to work with us as interim Pastor until we find our new leader. As many of you know, she is blessed with many gifts, including administration and management, but her gifts are not the same gifts as those of Pastor Lee. I point this out because some of you were hoping they would be the same. On behalf of the Board I ask that you do your best to engage her as the person God has called her to be, complete with her own unique set of gifts that LCOS will benefit from during the interim period. If you have any concern about her ministry among us, I would ask that you contact her directly to discuss it, or me directly to ensure we respect and honour each other appropriately. Please remember that LCOS has extended a Call for her to work in an interim capacity; she has accepted that and is working very hard to follow where God is leading.

So, what does the gift of life in Christ look like for you in 2019? I challenge you to engage those you love and make sure they know how much you care. I challenge you to take another look at the unique set of gifts God has given you and where you may best use them within our Church and around our neighborhood. I challenge you to appreciate the gift of life you have been given and how you might walk with another as they discover their gifts.

I'm looking forward to 2019 and to the challenges it may hold. With guidance from the Holy Spirit, together we will meet whatever comes our way in the manner we always have, with grace and compassion.

In His Service,

Bob Montgomery B.A. CRSP CHSC NCSO

Chair – LCOS Board of Directors

Annual General Meeting

The **Annual General Meeting** will be held on January 27th at 12 noon

followed by a potluck lunch. Everyone is welcome. Active members of LCOS are allowed to vote.

If your last name starts with:

A-G please bring dessert

H-M please bring sandwiches

N-Z please bring salad or raw veggies.

AGM

Please ensure that your food is brought "table ready".

Child care will be provided.



"I hope this bullhorn will make this meeting a little less boring."



Applied Theory

We're off to visit pieces of sporting history!

We're heading to Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, located at WinSport's Canada Olympic Park, with a cost of \$12 per person. There is an amazing array of exhibits, ranging from hockey to water sports to the Olympics. Sign up by Sunday, January 6th.

Applied Theory Grade 11 to University

Sports Hall of Fame

Saturday January 19th at 1:00 pm

Cost: \$12 per person

Sign up by Sunday, January 6th

Games Group

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month

Come out January 15th for some fun!!

We accept new members year round.

Any questions can be directed to Eleanor Wilson. Our first meeting in 2019 will be January 15th at 1:00.

We play Bridge, Mexican Train, Cribbage and a variety of other games and are always looking at learning more. Join us for a game or two and get to know us. We also enjoy celebrating life's big events of our members such as birthdays, anniversaries and other worthy events.



Hospital Visitor Training

Would you like to train to be a Hospital or Care Facility Visitor?

Join us on Saturday, January 26 from 10 am to 2 pm at St. Matthew Lutheran Church Basement, 66-7th St. NE Calgary for the initial session of training. Bring a bag lunch. There is no cost for the training. Sponsored by Lutheran Hospital Ministries-Southern Alberta, Pastor Mark Lobitz, Facilitator. Phone 403-637-2650 or email mclobitz@gmail.com



Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who serves on Sunday mornings and every other day of the week. LCOS is a busy place, with many acting and assisting behind the scenes. Your willingness is appreciated.

People serve with many different gifts in many ways, including (but not limited to):

Altar Care

Children's Ministry

Choir

Ushers

Youth Ministry

Volunteer Drivers

Counters

Computer Operation

Welcome Desk

Communion Assistants

Operation Christmas Child

Christmas Giving Tree

Coffee Duty

Praise Teams

Funerals

Hotdog Crew

Small Group Leaders

Church Board

Sound Board



Service of Remembrance and Healing

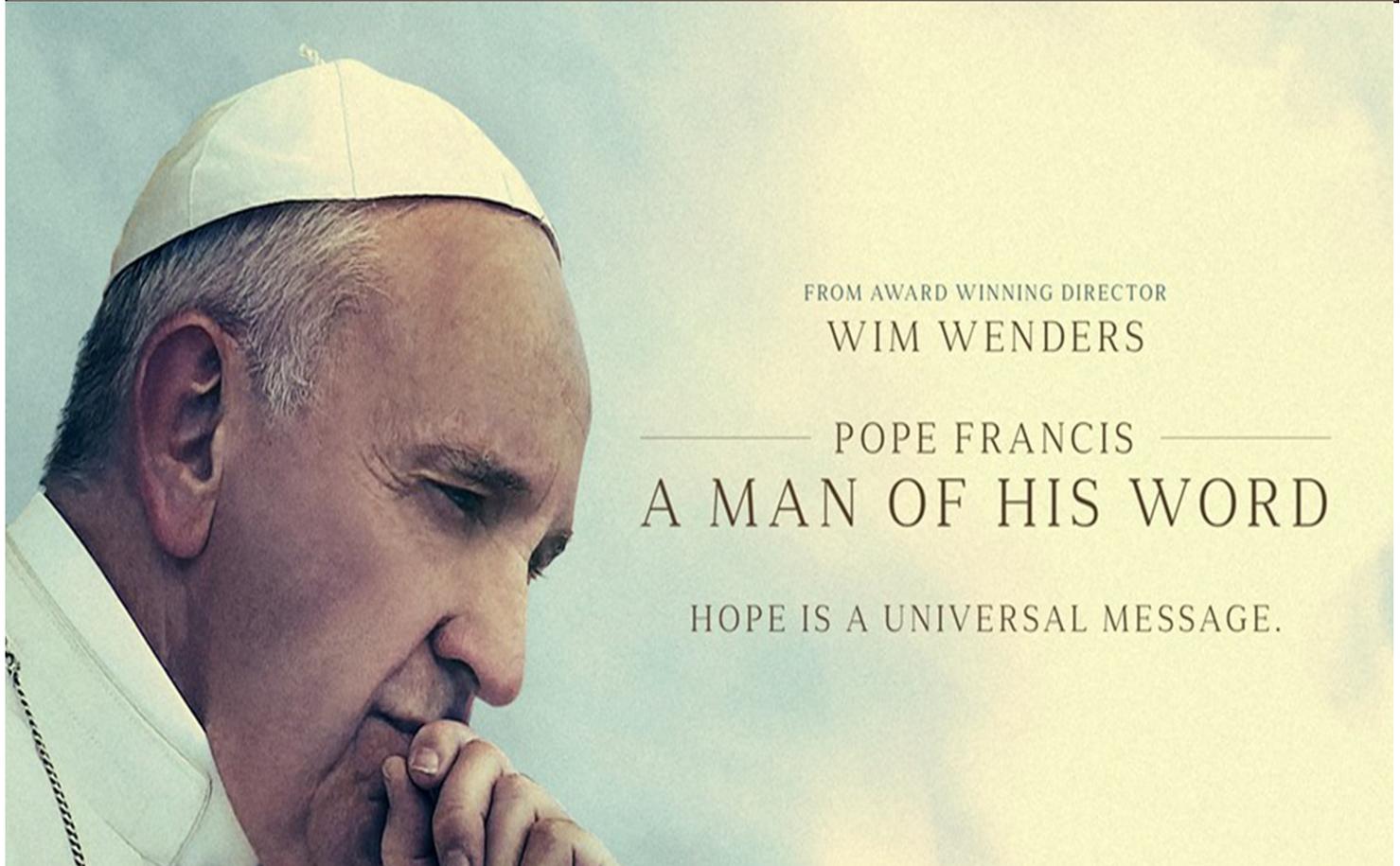
Sunday, January 13 7:00 pm



Movie Lovers

January 25th at 7:00 pm

This movie offers a compelling
look at the man and his ideas.



Today's Pilgrims

This long-running small group meets at 7:00 pm on January 8th and 22nd in the Fireside Room. Discussion will centre around Preston Pouteaux's book, "The Bees of Rainbow Falls". All are welcome to join.

Questions? Contact Pat Farn.

Financials

CATEGORY	FUND	2018	2017
Budgeted Giving	General	\$43,146.00	\$47,125.00
	Initial	\$55.00	\$5.00
	Loose	\$1,407.64	\$1,325.16
	TOTAL	\$44,608.64	\$48,455.16
	CLWR	\$405.00	
	Flower Fund	\$715.00	
	Samaritan's Purse	\$220.00	
	Memorial Fund	\$1,200.00	
	Refugee Mission	\$25.00	
	Refugee Mission-All Saints	\$1,054.69	
	Refugee Mission-Prince of Faith	\$981.05	
	Shoe Boxes	\$693.25	
	Capital Maintenance	\$20.00	
	Canada Lutheran Subscriptions	\$18.11	
Designated Giving	Urgent Care	\$50.00	
	TOTAL	\$5,382.10	\$5,312.47
	Cost Recovery	\$90.99	
Non-Receiptable / Credit	Youth Funds	\$85.00	
	TOTAL	\$175.99	\$1,902.55
Other Income	Praise Team Donation	\$100.00	
	Rentals	\$444.00	
TOTAL	TOTAL	\$544.00	\$531.50
TOTAL		\$50,710.73	\$56,201.68

Pre-Authorized (PAR) giving (included in totals above):

# participants	19	21
General	\$4,184.00	\$4,269.00
Capital Maintenance	\$20.00	\$20.00
CLWR	\$255.00	\$205.00

Number of Sundays	5	4
Average Attendance	173	173
Christmas Eve Services Attendance:	463	600

COMMENTS:

Designated >=\$1000 for 2018 includes:

Memorial Fund (\$1,200.00)

Designated >=\$1000 for 2017 includes:

VBS Donations (\$1,750.00)

Shoe Boxes (\$1,419.97)

Cliff Blumhagen
Financial Secretary

Financials

Get on PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) at LCOS

Did you know that you may give to LCOS via pre-authorized remittance one time per month from your bank or credit union chequing account? This program is like any other pre-authorized debit program and is called the PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) program. Debits will be drawn from accounts on the 20th of each month. Whenever the 20th falls on a weekend or holiday, the debits will be drawn on the first business day following the 20th. Donations via the PAR program will be recorded on quarterly statements and year-end tax receipts along with all other giving.

Amounts from PAR can be directed to:

- 1) The LCOS general budget
- 2) Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)
- 3) Capital Maintenance

You can give additional amounts and to other purposes via your regular donation envelopes.

The minimum amount to give via this program is a total of \$50.00 per month.

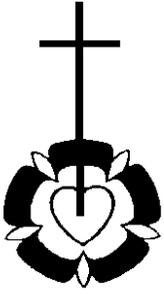
You can sign up, make banking or donation amount changes, or withdraw from the program at any time. These changes will be effective the month following the submission of the change. Forms are available to process these changes. The program is administered by the Financial Secretary. Authorization forms are available in the Place of Welcome.

Internet e-transfers & PayPal are also available!

To make a one time or recurring email transfer simply send donations to donate@oursaviourchurch.ca. Please include either your envelope number or your name and address in the email so that we can give you a proper receipt at the year's end.

A total of 62 pledges have been received, up to and including December 31, 2018, committing to total of \$152,452 for 2019. This compares to last year where there were 77 pledges committing a total of \$191,568. This is a 20.4% decrease in the amount pledged.

Bishop's Message



Dear Beloved of God

“In the time of King Herod...,” that’s how the story begins.

“In the time of King Herod....” He built monumental structures including the Second Jewish Temple, the mountain-top palace at Masada and the palatial Herodium complex whose desert palace included a grand residence, a theater and large pools, baths and gardens. When his position was seemingly threatened, he did not hesitate for a second but had his wife killed and at least two of his sons.

“In the time of King Herod...” He dominates the story. Of the twelve verses of the Epiphany Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12, he controls the action in ten of them. He rules a world dominated by his authority, his power, his ruthlessness.

King Herod so rules over the world, over this story, that it would be easy to miss the good news of the birth of an infant for it is almost buried, almost hidden, almost veiled in the reality dominated by Herod.

It is no wonder then that he, and all of Jerusalem with him, are stunned by the arrival of wise men from the East who come to Jerusalem wishing to pay tribute to a “child who has been born king of the Jews.” It frightens him, and all Jerusalem and he moves quickly to control, to assess, to dominate calling the religious leaders together and then secretly meeting the wise men.

And later we will learn that Herod had been fooled by these wise foreigners – fooled but not beaten. He fights back as cruelty does and has all the infants slaughtered.

“In the time of King Herod...”

This is not an easy, gentle story – but the gospel writer, Matthew’s witness, does not shy away from recognizing that the good news of Jesus – of the birth of the Christ-child, “the king of the Jews” is surrounded by, it is immersed in, harsh reality. And that beneath this reality as defined by Herod – almost hidden, almost veiled – is the truth.

Foreigners arrive in Jerusalem with wealth to place at the crib of a Jewish baby. And, in this act of homage, they become the first to see what God is up to in the birth of this infant. An epiphany which means something like manifestation, or unveiling, or revealing the truth. That the steadfast love of God is met in the flesh and blood of Jesus, born of Mary and that it is veiled, revealed in weakness, hidden in poverty, seen in helplessness.

The gospel writer’s witness invites us to see that the epiphany is not obvious. Rather, it is fragile, tenuous, dream-like, as vulnerable as an unnoticed baby in a god-forsaken little village, witnessed to by foreigners, in a land ruled by Herod.

Bishop's Message

And this is where we find ourselves. For if we are to be a people who seek to be disciples of Jesus Christ, “in the time of King Herod,” then we are invited to see God at work in the hidden, veiled, fragile, tenuous, vulnerable, weak, poor; in people and places and events one would hardly notice at all.

For what child is this whose epiphany is so quiet, so unobtrusive, little more than a whisper and yet this one is known, is revealed in the sharing of a little piece of bread and a sip of wine?

For what child is this whose epiphany is so fragile, so veiled, in a village fifteen kilometers from the center of power in Jerusalem and yet this one is baptized, and we are ourselves, baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, are named and claimed children of God?

For what child is this whose birth in a manger is witnessed hardly at all, and who is killed on a cross embracing the whole world. A story from start to finish surrounded by loss and grief and yet a story that ends in surprising, new life?

“In the time of King Herod....” And soon this family will be running to Egypt.

God give us eyes, new eyes, to see You at work among us. And then nurtured in the water and the Word of our baptism, nourished in the communion meal, and upheld in community move us to action for the fragile, tenuous, vulnerable, weak, poor.

In Christ Jesus – Shalom, +Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

“The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

Shalom, +Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

“The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)

Break forth Weekend

Join us for one weekend where Christ-followers of all generations and all denominational backgrounds from all regions of Canada gather to worship one God.

Our cultural landscape is changing. The rate of change is accelerating faster than at any time in history. If the church is to speak into this changing reality with the love and grace of Jesus we will need to do so prayerfully, strategically, thoughtfully, lovingly and humbly. As One.

Break Forth One is an invitation to come together in unity. It's an invitation to leaders and the broader church to come together for one weekend to dialogue, listen, learn and pray together—to be equipped and empowered—to reach our neighbourhoods, cities, and country.

There is programming for youth and adults and as such would be appropriate for grade 9 and up. If you are interested in attending Breakforth please contact Jesse or Katharine. The rates go up to \$279.00 per adult and \$239.00 per student December 1st. For speaker and worship line details please check out:

www.breakforthcanada.com

January 25th to 27th, 2019

**One God.
One Church.
One Weekend.**

BREAK FORTH
One

January 25 – 27, 2019
breakforthcanada.com

The image features a deep blue night sky filled with numerous white stars of varying sizes. A single, exceptionally bright star is positioned in the upper center, radiating a powerful white and yellow light that creates a starburst effect. Below the sky, the silhouettes of three camels are visible, each with a rider, standing on a dark, rounded hill. The background behind the camels consists of several layers of lighter blue, hazy hills, creating a sense of depth. The entire scene is framed by a thin, light blue border.

Isaiah 60:1

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 6:30 Breakfast at the Seed 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 9:30 Women's Bible Study
6 Communion 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult, Children and Youth 11:00 Worship Service	7 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 AI Anon	8 10:00 Book Club 7:00 Today's Pilgrims	9 9:30 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 AI-anon 7:30 11 AM Praise Team	10 7:00 Board Meeting	11 7:00 Tween Diversity Night	12 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 1:00 Youth Sledding
13 Sandwich Sunday 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult, Children and Youth 11:00 Worship Service 7:00 Service of Remembrance and Healing	14 1:00 Memory Plus 7:00 Fireside Group	15 1:00 Games Group	16 9:30 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 AI Anon 7:30 11 AM Praise Team	17 5:00 Hosting Calgary Alliance for the Common Good Assembly— Fellowship Hall 7:15 Flock Care	18 6:00 Family Skating	19 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 1:00 Applied Theory— Canada's Sports Hall of Fame
20 Communion 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Adult, Children and Youth 11:00 Worship Service 2:00 Taking Strides Rental	21 1:00 Memory Plus	22 7:00 Today's Pilgrims	23 9:30 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 AI-anon 7:30 11 AM Praise Team	24	25 7:00 Movie Lovers 7:00 Youth Hunger Mission	26 8:30 50 Plus Exercise Class 10:00 Youth Band
27 9:00 Worship Service 10:00 Young Explorers 11:00 Worship Service Noon AGM Potluck lunch to follow 2:00 Taking Strides Rental	28 1:00 Memory Plus	29	30 9:30 Experiencing God 11:00 Acadia Lunch 7:00 AI-anon 7:30 11 AM Praise Team 8:30 AI-anon Book Club Rental	31		