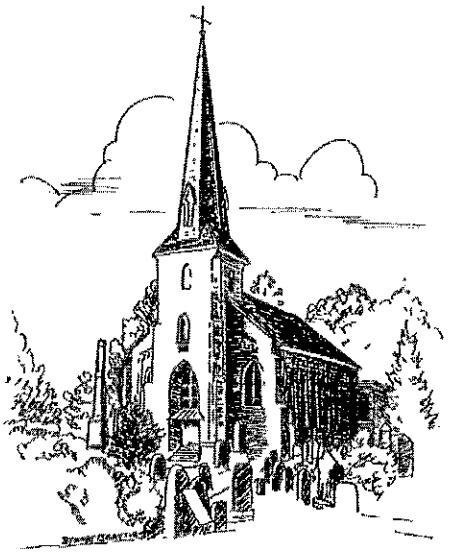
THE SPIRE

FROM: GREEN HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3112 Kennett Pike
P. O. Box 3892
Wilmington, DE 19807-0892

Website at www.greenhillpres.org

E-mail Address: info@greenhillpres.org



TO:

November, 2026

Green Hill Presbyterian Church Office Phone: (302) 652-5065

Pastoral Care: **Rev. Dr. David Lovelace**
revdel@comcast.net
(302) 652-5065 (Church)
(302) 368-5743 (Cell)

SPIRE Editor: **Evelyn Williams**
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WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Wednesday Women's Bible Study – 5:00 PM; Nov. 4 and 11 only

HIGHLIGHTS

November 1 – *All Saints Day*; Communion; Daylight Saving Time Ends
Tuesday, November 3 – Men's Bible Study, 8:00 AM, Janssen's Café
November 8 – Favorite Hymns; Pledge Sunday
Wednesday, November 11 – *Veterans Day*
Tuesday, November 17 – Men's Bible Study 8:00 AM, Janssen's Café
November 22 –*Christ the King Sunday*; Rev. Lovelace Unavailable; Elder Rick Baun Leading Worship; Thanksgiving Special Refreshments after Worship; 11:30 AM
Tuesday, November 24 – Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Joseph on the Brandywine RC Church, 6:30 PM
Thursday, November 26 – *Thanksgiving Day*
November 29 – *1st Sunday of Advent;* Rev. Lovelace Unavailable; Elder Rick Baun Leading Worship; Advent Candle Lighting; Service of Wholeness & Healing during Worship
Thursday, December 3– Decorate Sanctuary for Christmas Season, 9:30 AM

From the Session – October 4, 2026

1. The 2027 Budget was approved.

From the Session – October 18, 2026

1. This was our Annual Meeting with the Deacons. We acknowledge and appreciate all the work the Deacons do for the church and the community.
2. St. Joseph on the Brandywine Roman Catholic Church will be hosting the Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service this year on Tuesday, November 24.
3. The annual Session Minutes Review is scheduled for October 25 at New Castle Presbyterian Church.
4. Prayers for Senior Pastor Rev. Dan McKenty, First Presbyterian Church, Newark, who has serious health concerns.
5. The 2027 Calendar of Meetings is out for final comments.

Chandler Brown
Clerk of Session

Decorating for the Christmas Season



On **Thursday, December 3, at 9:30 AM** we will be **decorating the sanctuary** with holiday greens. This is a very important task and involves preparing and placing artificial greens, candles, and other Christmas items throughout the sanctuary. If you can spare an hour or so on Thursday morning, please join us!

What is All Saints' Day?

An excerpt from the Companion to the Book of Common Worship (Geneva Press, 2003, 150-151): All Saints' Day is **a time to rejoice in all who through the ages have faithfully served the Lord.** The day reminds us that we are part of one continuing, living communion of saints. This year, All Saints' Day is celebrated on **Sunday, November 1.**

Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

The **Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service** will be held at **St. Joseph on the Brandywine Roman Catholic Church** this year. It will be on **Tuesday, November 24, starting at 6:30 PM.** A reception for all attendees will follow in their Parish Hall. In addition to Green Hill and St. Joseph's, Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church will join us for this ecumenical worship service. The combined choirs are always a wonderful reason to attend this festive Thanksgiving event.

"Some Deep Thinkers' Thoughts About Thanksgiving"



Some people could be given an entire field of roses and only see the weeds in it.
Other people could be given a single weed and only see the wildflower in it
Perception is a key component to gratitude.
And gratitude is a key component to joy.

— Amy Weatherly

No amount of regret changes the past.
No amount of anxiety changes the future.
But any amount of gratitude changes the present.

— Marc and Angel Chernoff

Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

— Johnson Oatman, Jr.

Good reason to keep a Thanks Journal:
"We can only be said to be alive in those moments
when our hearts are conscious of our treasures."

— Thornton Wilder

"Do not worry about anything, but in everything –
by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving –
let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

— Paul of Tarsus

Pastor Dave Lovelace

Scripture and Life's Lesson Book (Psalm 119: 73-96)

This month we continue our journey through the longest chapter of the bible, Psalm 119, by exploring three strophes found in the middle of this song; verses 73 – 96.

These verses begin with the acknowledgment of God as the Creator, our Creator; verse 73 **"Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn Your commandments."** Because God created humanity, he has perfect knowledge of human needs and purposes.

The psalmist therefore asks for understanding so that he may learn God's commandments; *verses 75 - 77* ***"I Know, O Lord, that your rules are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me. Let your steadfast love comfort me according to your promise to your servant. Let your mercy come to me, that I may live; for your law is my delight."*** This request reveals an important spiritual principle: the God who creates us is also the God that instructs us. Human wisdom finds its proper direction when it is submitted to divine truth.

In verses 81-83 the psalmist describes intense spiritual longing. His soul faints for God's salvation, and his eyes grow weary while waiting for fulfillment of God's promises. These expressions reveal that even a faithful believer may experience seasons of uncertainty, exhaustion and distress; ***"My soul languishes for Thy salvation; I hope in Thy Word. My eyes fail with watching for Thy promise; I ask, "When will Thou comfort me?" Yet I have become like a wine skin in the smoke, yet I have not forgotten Thy statutes. How long must Thy servant endure?"***

The section (verses 89-96) begins with one of Scripture's clearest declarations of divine permanence ***"Forever, O Lord, your Word is firmly fixed in the heavens. Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast. By your appointment they stand this day, for all things are your servants."***

The themes of these verses are; 1) God knows us because He created us; 2) God sustains us even through suffering; and 3) God's Word remains constant. For the Christian, these passages remind us that spiritual stability does not come from having an easy life but knowing the faithful God whose Word provides direction and hope. Verses 93-94 remind us that God's Word gives us life, and our relationship with Him gives us reason to seek His protection; ***"I will never forget thy precepts; for by them thou hast given me life. I am thine, save, me; for I have sought thy precepts."***

Ref: The Daily Study Bible Series: Psalms Vol 2 by George A. Knight
published by Westminster John Knox Press (1983)
Biblical Ref: New International Version (NIV)

Bruce Fine
Music Director

Annual Election Meeting and Christmas Luncheon on December 6

Our **annual election meeting** will be on **Sunday, December 6**, immediately following the worship service. Please plan to attend this important meeting to cast your vote for our Ruling Elders (Session), Deacons, and Trustees candidates.

Following the annual election meeting we will hold our **Christmas Luncheon**. This is a special event which many members look forward to each year. This year, as last year, we will be seeking member commitments to bring a dish to this festive meal. Please answer the phone call or e-mail when a member of the Fellowship Committee contacts you. We will have an attendance sign-up sheet in the sanctuary or you may phone Diane in the office. We will also display and sell our fall **craft** selections. Please come prepared to eat and shop!

Stewardship 2027

The Stewardship Committee will be sending you your 2027 Stewardship materials during the week of October 26. Please read Stewardship Chair Tom Stevens' letter and prayerfully consider your annual gift to Green Hill. Pledge Sunday will be November 8 this year.

November Prayer Emphasis

Wisdom and Insight

[23] To you, O God of my ancestors,
I give thanks and praise,
for you have given me wisdom and power
and have now revealed to me what we asked of you,
for you have revealed to us what the king ordered." **Daniel 2:23**

Keri Kondracki Visit on November 15

On Sunday, November 15, **Keri Kondracki**, the missionary with World Initiative Network that we support financially, will speak to us about her ministry during the worship service. She will update us on her many recent mission trips during which she hosted Women of Worth (WOW) conferences. She also worked with female church leaders in the countries she visited, equipping them with the tools to be effective Women of Worth leaders themselves. Her recent mission trips have been to Hong Kong, Nigeria, Greece, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. In Hong Kong her work involved training others so that they could minister to women on their own in The Philippines.

We will be offering the opportunity to contribute items for Keri to provide to Women of Worth ministry workshop participants. Keri appreciates Amazon Gift Cards or specific items from the list at: https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/37XRIL94ON6ZW?ref_=wl_share Please plan to attend our special worship service on November 15!

Keri will be holding two ministry workshops specifically for **widows at Christmas-time**. She will be providing participants with the book, "Mourning Glories". Cash or check contributions for these books will be most helpful to Keri. (Please make checks payable to Green Hill with Keri in the memo line.)

Advent Candle Lighting 2026



In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has claimed that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait for Christ's light shining in the darkness, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

The first Sunday of Advent is November 29. If you are interested and willing to be an Advent candle lighter, please indicate your interest to anyone on the Worship Committee or to Diane in the church office. We will need candle lighters on November 29, December 6, 13, and 20.

Women's Christmas Party – Tuesday, December 1



Please plan to attend the Women's Christmas Party!

We will have food, fun Christmas word games, and a gift exchange…and maybe a surprise or two! Please join us.

The party starts on Tuesday, December 1, at 6:30 PM!

Sign up will be available in the Sanctuary and via phone to Diane in the office.

What is Christ the King Sunday?



Christ the King Sunday, celebrated in the Presbyterian tradition, marks the conclusion of the Christian liturgical year. This special day emphasizes the sovereignty of Christ as King and serves as a transition from Ordinary Time to the Advent season, which anticipates Christ's return. In 2026, Christ the King Sunday falls on November 22.

Remember Nuts for Troops

Please remember to support our **Nuts for Troops** project when you purchase your nuts for yourself. Nuts for Troops provides a shipment of our bagged nuts to military men and women serving overseas during the Christmas holiday. Our nuts have been enjoyed by many service persons who have been serving in far-flung parts of the world. We thank you in advance for your support of this Deacons project.

In Memoriam – Charlie Murphy

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Green Hill member, **Charlie Murphy**, on August 25, 2026, in Pharr, Texas, at age 91. Charlie was a native of Wilmington and graduated from Conrad High School. Charlie and his wife, Chris, were regular attendees at Green Hill when they became members in 2010. They loved to sit on the left side of the back pew. Charlie was usually quite quiet, though he often told stories about their travels around the country in their 5th wheel travel trailer. They saw many parts of North America. Chris passed away in November, 2019. Her service was held at Green Hill. After Chris' death, Charlie moved permanently to their home in south Texas.

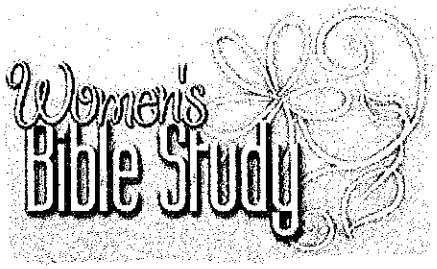
A memorial service at Green Hill Church is being planned for Saturday, November 14, with Rev. Dr. David Lovelace officiating. Final details are not available at SPIRE press time. Charlie's and Chris' ashes will be interred at the Green Hill Cemetery following the memorial service.

Charlie loved God and loved Green Hill Church. We are blessed to have known him.

Evelyn Williams

Women's Bible Study News

The Women's Bible Study has been working on the Old Testament book of **Proverbs** since it started its fall season on September 16. The group is currently working on Proverbs Chapter 3, with Rev. Dr. Dave Lovelace facilitating. We have learned about the value of wisdom and will now study verses which tell us to trust the Lord with all our heart and to fear the Lord.



We always welcome new participants in our study either in-person on Wednesday, 5:00 PM, at the church Board Room or via Zoom. Since we are still early in our study of this long Old Testament book, now would be a good time to join the group. We will take our winter holiday break beginning after the November 11 meeting and return on January 6, 2027. Please contact Evelyn Williams if you are interested.

Men's Bible Study



If you are a male Green Hill member or friend, you are welcome to participate in the bi-weekly **Men's Bible Study.** The men will meet on Tuesdays, **November 3, and 17, 8:00 AM, at Janssen's Café.** The meetings contain time for fellowship, prayer, and Bible study. In November the men will continue their study of the Old Testament book of Exodus. If you are interested in Men's Bible Study contact Rick Baun for more information. Please plan to check out the group and see if it is for you!

November 2026 Hymn-of-the-Month
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Dorothy Ann Thrupp (1779 -1847) is credited with these lyrics, which she included in her fourth edition of *Hymns for the Young* (1836). She was born and died in London. She was the editor of a series of hymn books and wrote extensively about the value of singing, especially in children and youth.

The text is a prayer for divine guidance and obedience to God's will. Psalm 23 and the parable of the shepherd that appears in John 10:18 were the inspiration for the first two stanzas. Another key phrase is taken from Corinthians 6:20, "Thou hast bought us, Thine we are".

The music was composed by American, William Bradbury (1816 – 1868) in 1859 especially for this text. He was born in York, Maine, and lived much of his life in Boston. In addition to his musical work, he took part in piano manufacturing with his brother and established a music publishing business. His other well-known tunes are used to sing *"He Leadeth Me"* and *"Jesus Loves Me"*

This tune's regular phrasing and repeated lines make it easy for congregations to sing together. The musical simplicity fits the hymn's purpose with a language that is accessible for children to learn and adults to carry in their memories for a lifetime.

Ultimately, the hymn more than a song about being comforted. It is a prayer asking Jesus to lead our lives, restore us, and keep us close to Him.

Savior, Like a Shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us; for our use Thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine, do Thou befriend us; Be the guardian of our way.
Keep Thy flock; from sin defend us; Seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus; Hear Thy children when they pray;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Hear Thy children when they pray.

Early let us seek Thy favor. Early let us do Thy will;
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus; Thou hast loved us, love us still;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus; Thou hast loved us, love us still.

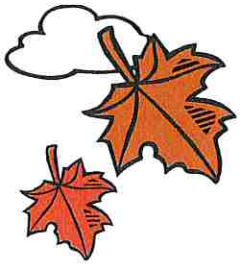
Lyrics by Dorothy Thrupp (1836)

[Presbyterian Hymnal (1990) #387]
[Hymns for the Family of God #601]
Ref: Presbyterian Hymnal Companion (1993) by Lindajo McKim

Bruce Fine

Signs of Serving

from the Green Hill Deacons



Fall Clothing Drive

The fall Clothing Drive will end on Sunday, October 25. Please get last minute donations into the Fellowship Hall vestibule. Thank you to all who participated. Donations will be delivered to **Sunday Breakfast Mission** during the last week of October**.** We will share our donation totals in the December SPIRE. Ellen Grubbs is the Deacon in charge.

Sunday Breakfast Mission Great Thanksgiving Food Drive

Pre-printed grocery bags and regular grocery bags may be used by those who wish to participate in the **Sunday Breakfast Mission's** (SBM's) **Great Thanksgiving Food Drive** which we will run through **November 8**. Handouts on the back table list the non-perishable food items Sunday Breakfast Mission needs. Your generous donation will aid in feeding many hungry individuals in our local community for the Thanksgiving holiday and beyond. Please make checks payable to Green Hill with SBM Food Drive in the memo line. Checks may be placed in the offering plate. If you have any questions, please contact Laurie Collender at (302) 379-8979.

Caroling Party



The Deacons' annual caroling will likely be via Zoom this year. We will stay after church and sing several carols under the direction of Bruce Fine, so that our local shut-ins and out of town friends can enjoy holiday cheer from us. We will announce soon when we will be able to create this Zoom with Mike Tate. This will be a fun time...please join us!

EDR & Meals on Wheels

Thank you to all who participated in the preparation of the meal for **EDR** on Monday, October 19. They included: **Ellen Grubbs, Evelyn Williams, Dan Dugan, and Kathy Dugan.**

We appreciate the work of our **Meals on Wheels** (MOW) delivery volunteers. During October they were: **Evelyn Williams, Jen Galvin, Gail Heath, and Kathy & Dan Dugan.**

Adopt-A-Child Program



We are participating in the Adopt-A-Child program again this year. The **Ministry of Caring** is seeking **cash donations** for this program in 2026. The Ministry takes donors' cash and buys gift cards for needy parents to use for Christmas gifts for their children. **Please make your checks payable to Green Hill Church with Adopt-A-Child in the memo line.** Cash and checks are due on **Sunday, November 15.** The Deacon contact for this project is Jen Galvin at (302) 494-8259.

For The Troops

We are donating **assorted nuts** to National Guard airmen and women who are deployed and serving during the Christmas holidays. Thanks to your generosity last year we sent **care boxes stuffed with nuts, granola bars, and lip balm** overseas to brighten the Christmas season for those who are so far from home. You may still purchase and donate **Nuts for Troops** when the nuts shipment is received this fall. Gail Heath is the Deacon contact.

Elder Rick Baun to Lead Worship on Sundays, November 22 and 29

Green Hill Elder, **Rick Baun**, will lead the worship services on Christ the King Sunday, November 22, and on Sunday, November 29, the 1st Sunday of Advent. Rev. Dr. Dave Lovelace is unavailable on Sundays, November 22 and November 29. The November 22 service will be our Thanksgiving worship service and Special Refreshments will follow. The November 29 worship service is a normal fifth Sunday worship service and it will include the service of Wholeness & Healing. We will also light the first Advent candle.

Fall Clean Up Tasks Available

Please remember to sign up and complete a task from the list of available **fall Clean Up jobs**. You may do the work at any time when your schedule permits. This is in lieu of a Fall Clean Up Day in October.

Christmas Poinsettias



Once again, our sanctuary will be decorated with massed poinsettias for Christmas. Red and white poinsettias can be purchased for **$25.00** each. This price is the same as last year – no increase. To place an order, please fill out the order form here in the SPIRE, or from the back table in the sanctuary, and return it to **Kathy Dugan** along with your payment. If you want to pay by check, please make it out to Green Hill Church. Please be sure to indicate on the order form how you want your name to appear on the Christmas Eve list of donors. Kathy can be contacted via USPS mail to her attention at the church (P.O. Box 3892, Wilmington, DE 19807), at (302) 888-1422 or kathydugan3@gmail.com. The **deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 6, 2026**. Your poinsettias may be picked up after the Christmas Eve evening service. You may also indicate on your order form that you wish them to be given to a shut-in by the Deacons.

To: Kathy Dugan

Order Form
Poinsettias
$25.00 Each

Name_____

(As you wish it to appear on the Christmas Eve donors' list)

Number of Red_____**Number of White** _____

Amount Paid_____**Please give away**____**yes** ____**no**

November 2026 Schedule of Volunteers

Head Usher John Stevens

Deacon of the Month Laurie Collender

Worship Assistants
November 1 - Allison Brokaw
November 8 - Kathy Dugan
November 15 - Laurie Collender
November 22 - Sandy Fine
November 29 - Denise Snyder

Greeters
November 1 - Laurie Collender
November 8 - Jen Galvin
November 15 - Evelyn Williams
November 22 - JoAnna Ventresca
November 29 - Gail Heath

Refreshments Jen Galvin/Gail Heath
November 1 - Gail Heath
November 8 - Jen Galvin
November 15 - Jen Galvin
November 22 - Thanksgiving Special Refreshments
November 29 - Jen Galvin

Chancel Flowers
November 1 - Margaret Marquardt
November 8 - Richard & Ramona Marshall
November 15 - Parry Wentz
November 22 - Evelyn Williams
November 29 - Laurie & Mark Collender

Communion Servers – November 1
Allison Brokaw
JoAnna Ventresca

Kids Sunday School Teacher + Child Care
Kids Activity Bags Available in the File Room

Meals On Wheels
November 16 - Evelyn Williams
November 17 - MOW Staff
November 18 - Jen Galvin and Gail Heath
November 19 - Kathy Dugan and Evelyn Williams
November 20 - Kathy Dugan and John Hartman

Emmanuel Dining Room – Cook Only
Thursday, November 19
Cooks – Gail Heath
Evelyn Williams
Kitchen Help – Ellen Grubbs
Celery – Gail Heath

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

7 Carson Hirs
12 Roxiana Foulk
14 Amy Baun
21 Vanessa Foulk
30 Cash Scarborough

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

2 JoAnna & Victor Ventresca
13 Amy & Rick Baun
28 Melissa Stevens & Rick Howard

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ***All Saints' Day*** 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Communion 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Fellowship Mtg. Daylight Saving Time Ends	*2* 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	*3* ***Election Day*** 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café	*4* 3:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	*5*	*6* 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	*7*
8 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Favorite Hymns; Pledge Sunday 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Deacons Mtg. 12:00 PM Worship Mtg.	*9* 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	*10*	*11* ***Veterans Day*** 3:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 5:00 PM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	*12*	*13* 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	*14*
15 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Keri Kondracki, Missionary, during Worship 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation 12:00 PM Session Mtg. SPIRE DEADLINE	*16* 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	*17* 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study at Janssen's Café	*18* 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 3:00 PM Handbells Rehearsal 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	*19* 8:15 AM EDR Prep 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries	*20* 10:20 AM MOW Deliveries 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	*21*
22 ***Christ the King Sunday*** 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Lovelace Unavailable; Elder Rick Baun Leading Worship 11:30 AM Thanksgiving Special Refreshments 12:00 PM Trustees Mtg.	*23* 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.	*24* 6:30 PM Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service at St. Joseph RC Church	*25* 7:00 PM AA Mtg.	*26* ***Thanksgiving Day***	*27* 6:30 PM AA Mtg.	*28*
29 ***1st Sunday of Advent*** 9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal 10:30 AM Worship; Rev. Lovelace Unavailable; Elder Rick Baun Leading Worship; Advent Candle Lighting; Svc. of Wholeness & Healing 11:30 AM Coffee & Conversation	*30* 5:00 PM AA Mtg. 7:00 PM Al-Anon Mtg.					