

St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
47 South Whiteoak Street  
Kutztown, Pennsylvania 19530  
610-683-3393

## Our Mission

*We, the family of St. Paul's UCC,  
guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ,  
are committed to carry His good news.  
We celebrate God's presence by shar-  
ing God's unconditional love with fel-  
lowship, worship and service to others.*

*We pray for God's wisdom and  
compassion to lead us  
in our endeavors.*

## CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Kim Adamson..... Pastor  
Barbara Merkel..... Admin Assistant  
Judy Heffley..... Organist  
Vacant..... Choir Director  
Donna Sheaffer..... Bell Choir Director  
Jan Lenich..... Sexton

## CHURCH OFFICERS

John Keiser..... President  
Steve Leinbach ..... Vice President  
Barbara Merkel..... Recording Secretary  
Cheryl Ziegler..... Treasurer  
Marjorie Weida..... Financial Secretary

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Louise Moyer..... President  
Sherry Leinbach..... Secretary

## Pastor's email :

[pastorkim@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:pastorkim@stpaulskutztown.org)

## Office email:

[office@stpaulskutztown.org](mailto:office@stpaulskutztown.org)

[www.stpaulskutztown.org](http://www.stpaulskutztown.org)



Dear St. Paul's Family:

As I write this, we are several weeks into the new church year that began the first Sunday of Advent. One of the things I was never fond of saying or hearing as the old calendar year winds down and the new calendar year begins is "Out with the old and in with the new." If Christians felt that way, perhaps they would feel that the Old Testament is not as important to our faith as the New Testament is, which would be an untruth.

The Old Testament is like the foundation of a building. A building's foundation provides support to the entire building as it lives its life in whatever Mother Nature sends its way. It helps to withstand floods, high winds, and earthquakes. It is the foundation of our faith that inspired Jesus, who was a faithful Jewish man, who is ever-present to help us to withstand what life sends our way.

A new year does provide some helpful things. A new year helps us to remember what God has done in our lives during the year. We can count the blessings in a way that doesn't keep us too stuck in the past that we can't move forward.

A new year provides an opportunity to refocus and recommit ourselves to the life of faith God is calling us to with Jesus as our example of how to live and care for others with the Holy Spirit by our side to sustain us. Is there something we wanted to do last year we didn't have an opportunity to do to love each other, our neighbor, and our world?

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A new year provides an opportunity to restart. A fresh start is part of our hope as Christians. It is never too late to make a change that has been nudging us. How can we practice loving God with all our heart, mind, strength, and soul?

A new year often reminds me of a favorite hymn – “This is a Day of New Beginnings” by one of my favorite hymn writers, Brian Wren.

This is a day of new beginnings,  
time to remember, and move on,  
time to believe what love is bringing,  
laying to rest the pain that's gone.

For by the life and death of Jesus,  
love's mighty Spirit, now as then,  
can make for us a world of difference  
as faith and hope are born again.

Then let us, with the Spirit's daring,  
step from the past, and leave behind  
our disappointment, guilt and grieving,  
seeking new paths, and sure to find.

Christ is alive, and goes before us  
to show and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings;  
our God is making all things new.

This is a day of new beginnings,

Pastor Kim



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## WINTER CANCELLATION POLICY

Church cancelations are communicated in several ways. Please tune into WFMZ TV or check their website at [www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter](http://www.wfmz.com/weather/stormcenter) under School and Business Closings, contact the church office at 610-683-3393 to listen to the recorded message, visit our Facebook page, or check your email for e-blasts. Consistory Members are contacted via the phone chain.

## POCKET FLAG PROJECT - FEBRUARY 18

The Sunday School will be folding Pocket Flags for deploying soldiers on February 18 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and invite all interested congregation members to join. St. Paul's has been participating in this project since 2014. We have folded over 2,000 flags! Please plan to join us!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**January**

- 1 Melinda Miller
- 4 Henry Bard
- 6 Dennis Bubbenmoyer, Terri Hilbert
- 7 Melissa Unger
- 8 Kathryn Widdows
- 9 Gretchen Barrell
- 10 Fernando Garcia, Glenn Weida
- 12 Erma Angstadt, Christopher Rarick,  
Jonathan Rarick
- 14 Ted Thomas
- 16 Patrick Fitzgerald
- 19 Chelsie Kistler
- 21 Debra Conover
- 26 Jeryl Kulp, Brendon Weida
- 27 Mason Moriarty
- 29 Gene Madeira, Michele Dugan
- 30 Tyler Luckenbill
- 31 Jonathan Hilbert



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

**February**

- 1 Evelyn Kistler
- 3 Debra Schaeffer, Pam Kemmerer,  
Kate Swan
- 5 Ronald Reinhard
- 7 Kay Schwalm, Abigail Hilbert
- 8 Gerald Silberman
- 9 Ronald Angstadt
- 10 Michael Merkel
- 12 Phillip Schmoyer
- 14 Ronald Metzger Jr
- 17 Cindy Schaeffer, Judy Daub  
Denise Keim, Leslie Stump
- 20 Erma Gruber
- 21 Greg Stricker
- 22 Benjamin Herman, Louise Moyer
- 23 Wayne Lobb
- 26 Reed Garner
- 27 Jean Follweiler
- 28 Brian Balthaser

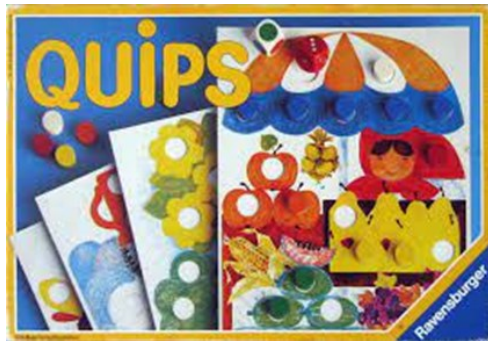


## My Favorite Hymn by Judy Heffley

When I asked Karen Rhode what her favorite hymn was, she replied, “Here I Am, Lord,” found on page 589 in our hymnal. This hymn speaks to her in a meaningful way. She feels it tells you how to live your life. She also recalled that it was one of Emory Fenstermacher’s favorite hymns, too.

The words and music to this hymn were written by an American composer named Daniel Schutte in 1979. The text is based on Isaiah 6:8 which reads, “Then I heard the Lord asking, ‘Whom shall I send as a messenger to my people? Who will go?’ And I said, ‘Lord, I’ll go! Send me.’”

A poll conducted by the National Association of Pastoral Musicians found among its members that this song came in second among “songs that make a difference.” It is also a favorite of several other members of our congregation.



## Colin’s Quips by Colin Heffley

1. If you eat a Christmas cookie fresh out of the oven, it has no calories, because everyone knows that the first cookie is the test and thus it is calorie-free.
2. An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the Old Year leaves!
3. I don’t have gray hair; I have wisdom highlights.
4. Gray hair is a blessing; just ask anyone who is bald.
5. During a church service, a woman announced that she would be singing the 22nd Psalm. Everyone agreed what followed was a lovely and moving performance. Everyone, that is, except my grandson, who whispered, “That song was way longer than twenty seconds.”

# JANUARY 2024

Worship—10:15 AM

Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM

Office/Pastor Hours; Monday (Work from Home), Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM  
(Due to church schedule, appointments suggested for Pastor)



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	2 7 PM Theology w/a Twist - Ktown Tavern 7 PM Bible Study	3	4 6:15 PM Bell Choir 4:30—8 PM—Lions Club Meeting Follow- ship Hall & Kitchen	5 11 AM—Free Senior Lunch @ St. Barnabas Center	6 830 AM Manna at Grace 9:30 AM Yoga
7 New Year's Wish Keith Brintzenhoff Pastor Sunday Epiphany Communion 3PM Rejoicing Spirits	8 6 PM Yoga	9 11 AM Worship Mtg. 6:30 PM Spiritual Council Mtg.	10 7 PM Consistory	11 6:15 PM Bell Choir	12 7:30 PM KFMS - Jolly Roving Tars	13 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga
14 9 AM Confirmation Class Undecorate Sanctuary after worship	15 6 PM Yoga 6:30 Fellowship 7:00 Missions 7:00 Property	16 2:15 PM Prayer Links 7 PM Bible Study	17 10 AM—Noon Young @ Heart Srs 2-9 PM H & H Quilters	18 6:15 PM Bell Choir	19	20 9AM—10PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga
21	22 6 PM Yoga	23	24 7 PM Women's Guild Meeting	25 6:15 PM Bell Choir	26	27 9:30 AM Yoga
28 9 AM –Confirmation Class Installation of new Con- sistory , Elders, Deacons	29 6 PM Yoga	30	31			

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	January 7, 2024	January 14, 2024	January 21, 2024	January 28, 2024
	The Baptism of Christ	Second Sunday after Epiphany	Third Sunday after Epiphany	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
	Epiphany/Communion			Installation of Consistory/Deacons/Elders
Daily Devotions	Genesis 1:1-5	1 Samuel 3:1-1-20	Jonah 3:1-5, 10	Deuteronomy 18:15-20
	Psalms 29	Psalms 139:1-18	Psalms 62:5=12	Psalms 111
	Mark 1:4-11	John 1:43-51	Mark 1:14-20	Mark 1:21-28
Fellowship/Events	Rejoicing Spirits Worship @3:00 PM			
Worship Leaders	Donna Sheaffer	Brian Unger	Kathy Landis	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck
Deacons	Tom Lenich	Cindy Swan	Gregg Hartman	Tom Lenich
	Denise Keim	Ethel DeMatteo-Beck	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim
	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach	Erin Webb	Daryn Keim
Flowers-Center	David & June Rung	Dr.Kristen Angstadt		
	In memory of Janet Jepsen	In honor of Erman's 99th birthday		
		Center - Piano		
		Mamie Afflerbach		
Flowers-Sides	Pastor Kim	In loving memory of her husband		
	In honor of the birthdays of			
	Janet Longazel & Isaac Kline			
Bulletins	Pastor Kim		David & June Rung	Robert & Jane Grim
	In honor of the birthdays of		Celebrating 20 years of stroke	In memory of her parents
	Janet Longazel & Isaac Kline		survival for David	

# FEBRUARY 2024



Worship—10:15 AM  
Sunday School—9:00 AM Adult SS 8:45 AM  
Office/Pastor Hours; Monday (Work from Home), Tuesday—Thursday 9 AM—1:00 PM

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:15 PM Bell Choir	2 11 AM Free Senior Lunch @ St. Barnabas Center	3 8:30 AM Manna at Grace 9AM-1PM Button Club (Lounge) 9:30 AM Yoga
4 Pastor Sunday 3 PM Rejoicing Spirits	5 6 PM Yoga	6 7 PM Bible Study	7	8 6:15 PM Bell Choir	9 7:30 PM KFMS David Cullen w/Matt Miskie	10 9 AM Prayer Walk 9:30 AM Yoga
11 <b>TRANSFIGURATION</b> <b>SUNDAY</b> 9AM Confirmation Class	12 6 PM Yoga	13 11AM Worship Mtg. 7 PM Finance Mtg. 7 PM Consistory	14 11 AM—1 PM Drive Thru Ashes 6-7 PM Lenten Meal 7 PM—Ash Wednesday Service/Comm.	15 PULSE DEADLINE 6:15 PM Bell Choir	16	17 9AM-10PM Crafting 9:30 AM Yoga
18 Lenten Communion Pocket Flag Folding	19 6 PM Yoga 6:30 PM Fellowship 7:00 PM Missions 7:00 PM Property	20 10 AM Lenten Book Study 6:30 PM Pastoral Relations Meeting 7 PM Bible Study	21 10AM—12 Young @ Heart Seniors 6-7 PM Lenten Meal	22 6:15 PM Bell Choir 2-9 PM H & H Quilters	23	24 9:30 AM Yoga
25 9 AM Confirmation Class	26 6 PM Yoga	27 10 AM Lenten Book Study 6:30 PM Personnel 7 PM Christian Ed	28 6-7 PM Lenten Meal	29 6:15 PM Bell Choir		

WORSHIP SCHEDULE	February 4, 2024	February 11, 2024	February 18, 2024	February 25, 2024
	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	Transfiguration Sunday	Frist Sunday in Lent	Second Sunday in Lent
Daily Devotions	Isaiah 40:21-31	2 Kings 2:1-12	Genesis 9:8-17	Genesis 17:1-7, 1516
	Psalm 147:1-11, 20	Psalm 50:1-6	Psalm 25:1-10	Psalm 22:23-31
	Mark 1:29-39	Mark 9:2-9	Mark 1:9-15	Mark 8:31-38
Fellowship/Events	Rejoicing Spirits Worship @ 3:00 PM	Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 PM	Lenten Worship - 7:00 PM	
		Deacons - Team C (Refer to chart)		
Worship Leaders	Karen Rhode	Carl Mantz	Keith Wuchter	Daryn Keim
Deacons	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim	Sandi Madeira	Denise Keim
	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach	Daryn Keim	Steve Leinbach
	Ann Oswald	Sherry Leinbach	Ann Oswald	Sherry Leinbach
Flowers-Center		Rosaria Angstadt & Daryn Keim		
		In honor of Denise's birthday		
Flowers-Sides				
Bulletins			Robert & Jane Grim	
			In memory of Ruth Leestma	





# St. Paul's United Church of Christ Kutztown

## Lenten Calendar 2024

Wednesday, 2/14	Ash Wednesday 11:00 AM-1:00 PM Drive-thru Ashes; (Parking Lot off Lambert Alley) 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Service with Communion
Tuesday, 2/20	10:00 AM Lenten Book Study
Wednesday, 2/21	6:00 PM – <u>Trinity Lutheran Church</u> - Soup and Bread Meal 7:00 PM Mid Lenten Worship, Pastor Kim Worship Leader
Tuesday, 2/27	10:00 AM Lenten Book Study
Wednesday, 2/28	6:00 PM – <u>St. Paul's UCC</u> - Soup and Bread Meal 7:00 PM Mid Lenten Worship, Vicar Seth Noggle, Worship Leader
Tuesday, 3/5	10:00 AM Lenten Book Study
Wednesday, 3/6	6:00 PM – <u>Trinity Lutheran Church</u> - Soup and Bread Meal 7:00 PM Mid Lenten Worship, Pastor Kim, Worship Leader
Tuesday, 3/12	10:00 AM Lenten Book Study
Wednesday, 3/13	6:00 PM – <u>St. Paul's UCC</u> - Soup and Bread Meal 7:00 PM Mid Lenten Worship, Pastor Dennis Ritter, Worship Leader
Tuesday, 3/19	10:00 AM Lenten Book Study
Wednesday, 3/20	6:00 PM – <u>Trinity Lutheran Church</u> - Soup and Bread Meal 7:00 PM Mid Lenten Worship, Vicar Seth Noggle, Worship Leader
Sunday, 3/24	10:15 AM Palm Sunday Worship
Thursday, 3/28	7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service
Friday, 3/29	3:00 PM Good Friday Service
Saturday, 3/30	6:00PM Easter Vigil Service
Sunday, 3/31	7:00 AM Sunrise Service in Kutztown Park 10:15 AM Easter Service

# Rejoicing Spirits of Eastern Berks County

Our December service featured Keith Wuchter as worship leader and Denise Keim reading from the Spark's Bible, including the moo-ing cows and coo-ing doves! Pastor Jim Schlegel provided the piano accompaniment. Christmas cookies were the snack during fellowship. Everyone enjoyed the time together.

Pastor Dennis Ritter will be the service leader for the January worship service. He will speak about making a resolution. February's worship service will be led by Pastor Jim Schlegel. The theme will be Love.

Please join us the first Sunday of every month to hear God's word, worship together and spend time in fellowship.

Erin Webb  
Co-chair

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## ALL SAINTS DAY November 5th, 2023



Christine M. Mattern – December 9, 2022  
Donald R. Grider – December 29, 2022  
Eddie Gene Reilman – December 31, 2022  
William C. "Bill" Eschbach – January 27, 2023  
Elaine A. Seaman – March 3, 2023  
Bruce D. Werley – March 27, 2023  
Anna E. Hartman – April 10, 2023  
Tina M. Burkos – July 3, 2023  
Rodney D. Barrell – July 14, 2023  
Keith J. Leinbach – July 19, 2023  
Shirley M. Delcamp – October 7, 2023

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## THANK YOU!!!

Women's Guild

I would like to thank all the ladies and men who helped to make our Bazaar a success! You all work so hard doing your part for the Bazaar. It is certainly appreciated.

Ethel DeMatteo-Beck  
Guild President



## **YOUTH HONOR VETERANS**

Our Youth helped to lead the worship service on November 12 to honor our veterans



## **YOUTH CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

A fun Christmas Program was enjoyed by all on December 10 as the St. Paul's Youth, led by play director Ashley Stofflet, enacted the play "Deck the Hall and Trim the Tree." Worship Service was followed by a luncheon hosted by the Board of Christian Education and Family Advent Craft Activities. Merry Christmas!





## YOUNG AT HEART SENIORS

### ELVIS IN THE HALL by Kathy Landis

Jeff Krick, impersonating Elvis, thrilled the audience of 43 (our largest crowd yet!) on November 15, 2023, for the **Young at Heart** program. Though his home is now in Florida, Jeff hails from Leesport, Pennsylvania and frequently visits the area. He, as an award-winning Elvis Tribute Artist, travels the country entertaining Elvis fans everywhere. He's been performing since 1990 singing with his strong, authentic voice songs of the 50's, 60's up to the present-day including oldies, classic rock n'roll, country, and gospel.

At St. Paul's, Jeff started his performance with oldies, mostly rock, and captured the audience immediately. He sang memorable songs such as "Jailhouse Rock," and "Teddy Bear" while many swooned, rocked, and clapped in their seats. It seemed like Elvis was right there with his details of live-Elvis performances with not only his voice, but also his dress and gyrations. Some audience members were given scarves and teddy bears as mementos of the concert.



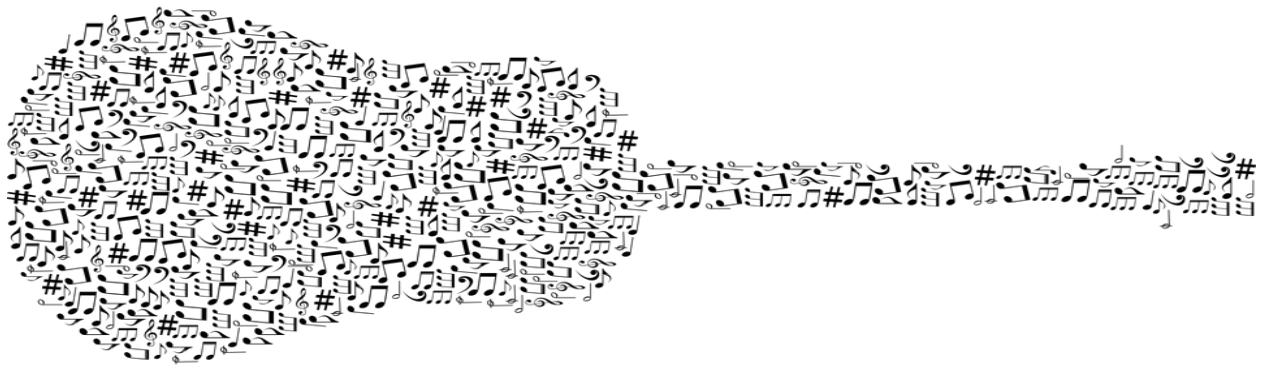
During the intermission, everyone was treated to a marvelous buffet of assorted delights made by the Young at Heart ladies of our congregation. Jeff spent the time speaking with many of the attendees in a friendly, engaging manner. Special thanks to all the providers of the delicious foods.

In the second half of the performance, Jeff had changed into a more formal, conservative jacket and entertained us with gospel songs. They included many familiar tunes as well as newer ones like "In the Garden," "Amazing Grace," "I Saw the Light," "One Pair of Hands," and "Peace in the Valley." Jeff also sang some beautiful Christmas songs to get us in the holiday spirit. Due to the audience's appreciation and excitement, Jeff sang many encores beyond his scheduled time.



It was a wonderful, memorable time for all attendees, not only from St. Paul's, but from other friends and neighbors in the community. Although "Elvis" has left the building, he will return in May to help raise funds at the Relay for Life and he has agreed to return to Young at Heart next November. Thanks to all who made this delightful event possible.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming Young at Heart gatherings: **Wednesday, January 17** for crafting with Local Folk's Kathleen Walck and time permitting, The Price is Right; **Wednesday, February 21** with Rev. Dr. Harry Serio speaking on "Ghosts Among Us"; **Wednesday, March 20** with children's author and illustrator, Kevin McCloskey; **Wednesday, April 17** for jewelry making with Sharon Kozlowsky.



## **Kutztown Folk Music Society**

### **Second Friday of each month 7:30 PM**

**January Concert: Friday, January 12**

**The Jolly Roving Tars:** Jake Laubach and Ken Purcell will take you on a sea shanty/pirate ship trip with maritime music featuring banjo, guitar, and concertina.

**February Concert: Friday, February 9**

**David Cullen with Matt Miskie:** Grammy Award-winning guitarist, with an outstanding folk singer, guitarist.

**\$9.00 - Adults; Free - Children 12 and under**

**\$7.00 - Seniors (62 and older), Students, and**

**Veterans/Active Duty Military.**

**St. Paul's UCC**

**47 S. Whiteoak Street Kutztown, PA 19530 -**

**- enter through the back door located on Lambert Alley**

**Call Barb at the church office for more info 610.683.3393**

## ***CATCH THE SPIRIT, EMBRACE THE JOURNEY***

by Kathy Landis and June Rung

When you travel on an ocean or river cruise, take a long-awaited drive to the shore, or journey to a place you've never been before, how do you feel- excited, adventurous, anxious, hopeful, happy?

*What are your thoughts about St. Paul's slogan: "Catch the Spirit, Embrace the Journey?"* Sounds like an exciting or mysterious journey, doesn't it? You see the slogan on the church bulletin each Sunday. You may also see the slogan on the banner draped across the railing of the balcony in the sanctuary. What does the slogan mean? You may recall that a few years ago, the congregation voted on it as the best suggestion for the church slogan. Then the banner was made and hung at Kutztown Day in the park, in Fellowship Hall, and in the sanctuary for various occasions.

*Since then, have you ever pondered the meaning of the slogan?* What is the "Spirit" and how do we "catch" it? What "journey" are we on, and how do we "embrace" it? What significance does it have for you, our church and the community? After all, since it's the church slogan, our members would benefit by understanding its meaning and how to apply it.

*Early in 2024, June Rung and Kathy Landis will ask many of you to respond to these questions about the slogan in order to get your interpretation of its meaning.* Responses will be summarized (anonymously, if preferred) and shared with the congregation. You may also choose to write your interpretation. Ultimately, we may discover from hearing numerous members' ideas, some other uses for the slogan and the banner. **BON VOYAGE!**



# **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

47 South Whiteoak Street  
Kutztown, PA 19530-1621

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*Sent With A Prayer To:*

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS JANUARY**

**JANUARY 7TH  
EPIPHANY COMMUNION  
REJOICING SPIRITS WORSHIP—3PM  
NEW YEAR'S WISH—KEITH  
BRINTZENHOFF**

**JANUARY 12TH  
KFMS CONCERT—7:30 PM**

**JANUARY 14TH  
UNDECORATE SANCTUARY  
AFTER WORSHIP**

**JANUARY 17TH  
YOUNG AT HEART - 10AM TO NOON**

**JANUARY 28TH  
INSTALLATION OF NEW CONSISTORY  
MEMBERS**

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS FEBRUARY**

**FEBRUARY 4TH  
REJOICING SPIRITS—3PM**

**FEBRUARY 9TH  
KFMS CONCERT—7:30 PM**

**FEBRUARY 14TH  
ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE—7:30PM  
LENTEN MEAL—6 TO 7PM**

**FEBRUARY 18TH  
POCKET FLAG PROJECT—9AM  
LENTEN COMMUNION  
FELLOWSHIP AFTER WORSHIP**

**FEBRUARY 21ST  
YOUNG AT HEART -10AM TO NOON**

**FEBRUARY 20TH & 27TH  
LENTEN BOOK STUDY**

**FEBRUARY 28TH  
LENTEN MEAL—6 TO 7PM**