

# CHRIST THE KING'S MESSENGER

Association of Free Lutheran Congregations  
804 8th Avenue N.E. P. O. Box 682  
Pipestone, MN 56164 Phone: (507) 825-5958

E-mail: [ctkfree@gmail.com](mailto:ctkfree@gmail.com)  
Web Page: [www.ctkpipestone.com](http://www.ctkpipestone.com)  
Pastor Tim Johnson  
Associate Pastor Joe Larson

VOLUME XXXX, No. 12

December 2023

*See, the virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will name him Immanuel, which is translated "God is with us." (Matthew 1:23)*

The advent season reminder of God's promise that He is with us was given about 800 years earlier in chapter seven of Isaiah before Matthew repeated it in his Gospel writing. Matthew adds the meaning of Immanuel. Let that reminder sink in, "God is with us."

What does that do to your fear? Maybe you fear some health situation or some relational trial or a financial problem? Maybe you fear the end times? After all, there are wars and rumors of wars.

Jesus' very name includes Immanuel, God is with us. This is one of the main reasons we celebrate His birth every year. We need not fear anything because He is with us. "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me." We don't even need to fear the devil because Jesus, who is with us, defeated him in the resurrection. We need not fear the end times because He who is with us will come again and take us to a place that He has prepared for us.

Immanuel is also a proclamation to the lonely such as those missing their loved one or those who just feel all alone. You aren't alone. God is with us. God is with you.

But how can you experience His fellowship? First off, He speaks through His Word (the Bible). When you read your Bible, don't just read words, read them as God's message to you. I can read the same text months later and find God revealing something new to me. A while back, I was feeling down and God brought James 4:2 to my mind, "You have not because you ask not." So, in prayer, another way of fellowshiping with God, I asked Him to encourage me that day. That morning two different people, not even from CTK, shared how my life and ministry had blessed them. This was totally unsolicited. Later, in my Bible reading, I read Micah 7:7, "But I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me." Of course, He heard me. He is Immanuel, God with us.

How many of us rush about with no awareness of God's presence? The advent season and Christmas preparations add to our rushed lives. Please stop to reflect on Immanuel. He is with you. Experience His fellowship. Take at least a few minutes each day; just a few minutes; to read a passage of Scripture. What is God saying to you in that passage? Let Him speak into your soul. Allow this wonderfully refreshing fellowship with God to ignite your day. Let it light your holiday season. God is with us!

Immanuel, Pastor Tim





# Christmas Miracle

December 3	<b>The Miracle of the Moment</b>	Galatians 4:1-7	Pastor Joe
December 10	<b>The Miracle of the Message</b>	Hebrews 1:1-4	Pastor Tim
December 17	<b>SS Christmas Program/Youth Sunday</b>		
December 24	<b>The Miracle of the Method</b>	Luke 1:26-38	Pastor Tim
Christmas Eve	<b>The Miracle of the Manger</b>	Matthew 1:18-25	Pastor Tim
December 31	<b>The Miracle of the Mystery</b>	John 1:1-14	Pastor Joe



children's program


Youth Sunday  
&  
Sunday School Program

Sunday, December 17  
During the worship service 9:30 AM

# Christmas Events




*Christmas Eve Service*



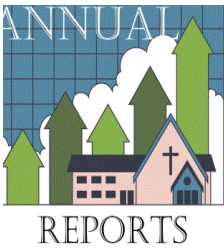
Please join us as we celebrate Christ's birth during our Christmas Eve Worship service, Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 PM

# Christ the King Free Lutheran Church Financial Report As of October 31, 2023

Cash Basis  
Balance Sheet

Revenue  
Expenditures

	<u>Oct 31, 23</u>		<u>Oct 23</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		<b>Revenue</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>		<b>Building and Grounds</b>	440.00
<b>Bank Total</b>		<b>Discipleship</b>	150.00
<b>Building</b>		<b>General Revenue</b>	25,071.40
Altar Guild	338.39	<b>Outreach Revenue</b>	7,108.01
Building Fund Account	161.09	<b>Total Revenue</b>	<u>32,769.41</u>
<b>Total Building</b>	<u>499.48</u>	<b>Expenditures</b>	
<b>General Total</b>		<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	1,435.64
General	73,118.73	<b>Discipleship Expenditures</b>	189.95
Truth Help	155.08	<b>Misc.</b>	504.41
<b>Total General Total</b>	<u>73,273.81</u>	<b>Office</b>	438.46
<b>Outreach</b>		<b>Outreach Disbursement</b>	
20% Offering	6,264.21	20 %Outreach	4,527.60
Children's Mission Offering	148.80	Miriam Infant Home-AFLC	600.00
Thrivent	2,160.41	Samaritan's Purse	249.75
<b>Total Outreach</b>	<u>8,573.42</u>	Special Outreach	395.00
<b>Share And Care</b>	785.36	<b>Total Outreach Disbursement</b>	<u>5,772.35</u>
<b>Special Accounts</b>		<b>Payroll Expenditures</b>	16,302.74
Internship Fund	6,800.00	<b>Youth</b>	649.59
Local Outreach Ministry	7,123.71	<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<u>25,293.14</u>
Church Missions	1,493.74	<b>Net Revenue</b>	<u><u>7,476.27</u></u>
Marriage Ministry	307.98		
Scholarship	322.26		
Youth	8,713.93		
<b>Total Special Accounts</b>	<u>24,761.62</u>		
<b>Total Bank Total</b>	<u>107,893.69</u>		
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<u>107,893.69</u>		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>107,893.69</u></u>		



Just a reminder to be and working on your articles for the Annual Report for the meeting in January. The deadline is January 1. If you have your article finished before then, feel free to drop it off or email to the church office. Thank You! Articles & reports are due January 1, 2024  
**Annual Meeting will be in January 21, 2024**

## Trustee Meeting Minutes Christ The King Free Lutheran Church November 9, 2023 7:00 PM

**Present:** Dave Sutherland, Denis Parsley, Alan Warner, Marcine Olsen, Jim Otter, Heather De Wilde, Dave Krusemark, Brandie Hulstein    **Absent:** Dave Muller

**Also Present:** Pastor Tim Johnson, Collene Landgren, Pastor Joe Larson, Keegan Otter, Pastor Matthew Pillman.

**President David Sutherland** called the meeting to order. Devotions were led by Heather DeWilde by reading from a Max Lucado devotion titled *Do Something* based on James 2:26. Faith with no effort is no faith at all, faith without works is dead. Heather D. led in prayer. Brandie Hulstein will lead devotions in December.

**Youth Ministry and Family Ministry Reports: Youth Ministry:** Keegan Otter reported the youth/family time is working well. He really enjoyed the SNA with Abiding Savior on October 15. They went to the corn maze, had a devotional time, and pizza. October 22 was family time at the Rups. November 3 was a game night at the church. Keegan appreciates Pastor Joe going to the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays to visit with the middle and high school kids during lunch time. The board appreciated Keegan's input and thanked him for coming.

**The Treasurer's report** for October was presented. Jim O. moved to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Brandie H. Motion carried.

**The preliminary budget** worksheet was given to the trustees. The budget meeting will be Thursday, December 14 at 6 PM.

**The Payment of bills,** Heather D. moved to approve the bills, seconded by Marcine O. Motion carried.

**Ankeny Church Plant:** The October financial report was presented. It was reported the check for \$50,000 from Home Mission was received in October.

**Outreach:** Jim O. moved to approve outreach, seconded by Denis P. Motion carried.

AFLC \$ 964.21    Food Shelf \$ 300.    Alpha Center \$ 300.  
CRU-Jeff \$ 500.    CRU-Paul \$ 500.    Steele \$ 100.00  
Brazil Student \$ 100.    Kvale's(Wycliffe) \$ 500.    Atlas \$ 200  
Children's Life \$ 200.00    PAS    Wellness Room \$ 200.00  
Abels \$ 500    Lost Timber \$ 100.    Ankeny Church Plant \$ 500  
Lake Benton Food Shelf \$ 300.    Missionary Dave Wold \$ 300  
AFLC Annual Conference \$ 500.00    Salvation Army \$ 100.  
Prison Ministry Christmas Bags \$ 200.00

**The secretary's report** from the October 12, 2023 meeting was presented. Denis P. moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Brandie H. Motion carried.

**Elders' Consultation:** Pastor Tim reported for the Elders. They have discussed small groups, potential new elders, how to encourage inter-generational ministry, and purposeful outreach evangelism. Pastor Tim reported the elders have approved Donna Smith for membership.

**Pastors' Report: Pastor Tim:** Submitted a report of his activ-

ities for the last month & highlighted different activities.

**Pastor Joe:** Submitted a written report of his activities for the month. Pastor Joe reported the youth & family meals have been working and the school visits are going well.

**Pastor Matthew:** Submitted a brief written update of activities for the Ankeny church plant. Pastor Matthew feels things are progressing well.

**Old Business:**

**Landscaping:** Update from Denis P. & Alan W. The work is done for this fall.

**Cross on entry:** Jim O. reported it is complete, he will get it put up.

**Wireless microphone:** waiting for quote. Collene

**Security Cameras:** Not going to get cameras at this time.

**Credit card policy:** Heather D. moved to approve the policy, seconded by Brandie H. motion carried

**Lights on flags:** Completed Thanks Marcine.

**Hope Haven mission trips:** Brandie H. will work on it.

**New Business:**

**Sunday School Times / clean up after brunch:** confirmation begins at 10:45 and end at 11:45. Sunday school begins at 10:50 and ends between 11:30 and 11:45. Ending times may vary. Cleaning table after brunch should be done after Sunday school.

**Annual Meeting:** will be January 21, 2024 at 10:30 AM

**Funeral flowers procedure:** Denis P. moved, seconded by Heather D. guideline to purchase flowers for funeral of members of CTK. Motion carried.

**Staff evaluations:** Collene will print a copy of job descriptions and put in trustee mailboxes

**Policy for CTK pastor for AFLC assignments:** Tabled

**Vision 2033 (Military Biblesticks):** Marcine O. moved, seconded by Heather D. to collect on Nov 19 & 26. Motion carried.

**Baby Shower for Pastor Joe & Sarah:** Marcine O. moved seconded by Denis P. to have baby shower on January 14, 2024. Motion carried. A planning meeting will be December 3 after Sunday school.

**Pew offering envelopes:** After discussion, have envelopes in pews and on the tables by offering plates.

**Offering for Thanksgiving and Christmas eve services:** Denis P. moved, seconded by Heather D. Thanksgiving offering to Pipestone food shelf and Christmas Eve to the Prison ministry. Motion carried.

**Other:** Marcine announced she will resign from the trustee board, she will finish through January 2024. She would have one year left.

Dave S. adjourned the meeting. Denis P. closed in prayer.

Collene Landgren, recording secretary {Draft subject to approval by the trustees}



THANK YOU



Dear Christ the King,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers for mom's memorial service. It was a beautiful addition to her service.

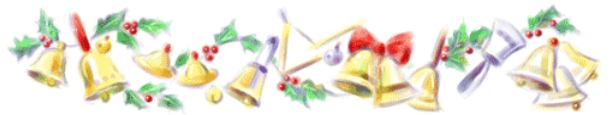
The family of Helen Jensen

Thank you for your recent gift! By God's grace, we can bring the message of the Gospel - repentance & faith - to our own towns & the people of the world. Heats can be convicted of sin & hear the good news that Jesus alone can forgive their sin. Thank you for your gift to AFLC World Missions.  
Rev Earl Korhonen

Dear Friends

Your consistent monthly support mean that when someone needs us, our doors are open. Our 24/7 phones & online chat are working - everyone who reaches out to us gets an answer. Our lights are on - the soothing music & warm building create a comfortable atmosphere. Our team is ready to offer essential services - we never have to wonder if we'll be able to care for our clients today. Your partnership makes these seemingly little things possible and that's a big thing when it comes to transforming lives.

Our deepest thanks, Alpha Center



## Women's Christmas Tea/ Coffee Party

Wednesday, December 20  
2:00 PM

Jeanette Larson's Home  
155 Ridgeview Drive  
Pipestone, MN

Join us to celebrate the Season!

Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.



Journey Missions is a Department of AFLC World Missions centered on connecting Christians across the globe in the ministry of Jesus Christ.



**Short-term Trips:**

Individuals and congregations train for and experience one to three week ministry trips



**Missionary Assistant:**

Living cross-culturally and partnering with a missionary for a temporary period of time

**Upcoming trip opportunities:**

- March 2024 – FLBC Oaxaca Mexico Trip
- June 2024 – Brazil Ministry Trip
- November 2024 – Israel Tour/Ministry Trip

For more information about trips, the Missionary Assistant program, or other information about Journey Missions, please contact Jon Nelson at [journeymissions@afc.org](mailto:journeymissions@afc.org) or visit our website at [www.afcjourneymissions.org](http://www.afcjourneymissions.org).

Follow us on social media for updates and stories





# December BIRTHDAYS



Notice: Check Facebook, KLOH or KNWC for cancellations or changes due to the weather

Chatter-sewers  
(Quilting)  
Will meet  
December 6  
@ 1 PM



Men's Bible  
Study  
Saturday,  
December 2  
@ 7 AM

- 1 Luke Landgren
- 3 Bailey De Wilde
- 6 Doug DeRuyter
- 7 Morgan McNickle
- 9 Corrie Thomson
- 11 Tad Woelber
- 11 Trevin De Wilde
- 11 Kristie Lindquist
- 13 Laurie Westerbur
- 13 Karen Halbersma
- 15 David Nelson
- 16 Sandy Swanson
- 16 Isaac Berg
- 18 Kathleen Keller
- 18 Julie Manzey
- 19 Carter Holt
- 23 Philip Berg
- 23 Bentley Feske
- 23 Sheila Westfield
- 26 Pat Haag
- 29 Mavis Remund



Thursday,  
December 14  
6:00 PM

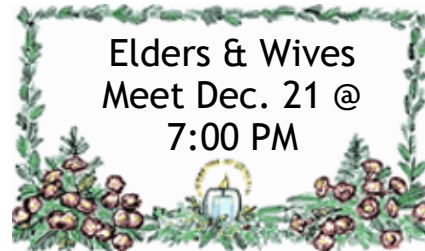
News Letter  
**DEADLINES**

December 24



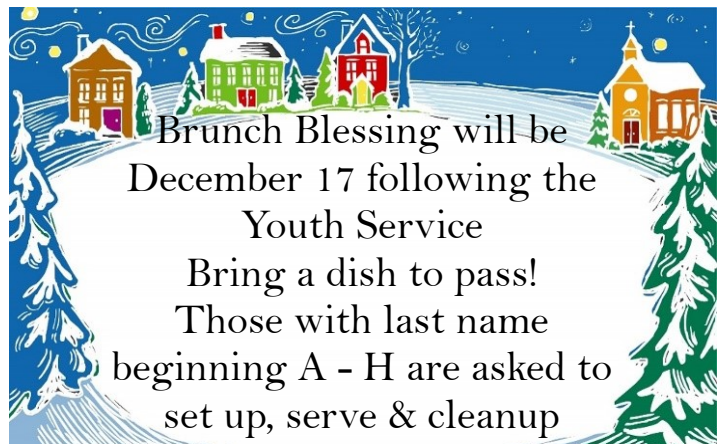
TRUSTEE  
MEETING

Thursday,  
Dec. 14 @ 7 PM



Pastor Tim & Cindy will be on  
Vacation after Christmas  
December 26 - 31

If there are any needs  
during this time,  
please contact Pastor Joe or  
one of the Elders.





## YOUTH Christmas Service

December 17- Mark your calendars!! Christ the King Youth Sunday is December 17, 2023 during the worship service. This will include youth of all ages! If your child/youth will not be able to participate please let Pastor Joe know as soon as possible. Parts/tasks are being assigned. December 10 will be practice for the service.

Christmas Party: Sunday, December 17 @ 4:30 for a Christmas event. There will be Christmas music, snacks, & games! Invite a friend! This will be a combined for all youth grades 6 - 12  
Please RSVP to Pastor Joe by December 13.



### Youth Parent Date Night Information:

**Parents of Youth (Grades 6-12):** On Sunday, December 10, we'd love to give you a chance to get away with your spouse. Sarah and I (Joe) will be ready to spend time with your students AND younger children at CTK anytime from after church until about 9 pm so that you can slip away for time together, be it dining, Christmas shopping, or even just a nap. We will recruit other helpers from the congregation if we have a large sign-up from you. **Please RSVP to me by Saturday, December 2 so that we have a rough idea of who will be there and when.**

This same night, the **Youth Night of Worship will be at the Hiawatha Lodge**, so we can also transport your youth students there (at 6 pm) and back, or you could collect them from the lodge if you are back from your date. The aim of the large time frame is flexibility, so feel free to let us know a rough idea of when you'd like to be on your date and we'll make sure your students & younger kids are taken care of.

**The PAS band concert** is also that Sunday at 2 pm, so we wanted to give plenty of coverage on either end to fit your schedules.

**One other note:** this offer is only for families with youth age students. Other families that just have younger kids will be given a similar day in the spring with the youth serving as volunteers.

Details on that to come later. For now, I look forward to hearing back from y'all by the 2nd and giving you guys a break! - Pastor Joe

December 10 Youth Night of Worship  
December 17 Youth Sunday & SS Program  
December 17 Youth Group Christmas Party  
February 2 - 4 Winter Retreat @ ARC



Todd and Barb Schierkolk  
Jerez, Zacatecas, Mexico



Thanks so much for your email, Collene. We appreciate the help in prayer so much. There are a couple things that I would add to or emphasize that might have been in a recent newsletter.

First, we praise God for a breakthrough with two high school girls. They are both in a confirmation class now and the class has gone tremendously well. We are praying for each of them, that the Holy Spirit would continue to strengthen their faith and also bless the light that shines through them in the midst of their dark family lives.

And second, we would continue to ask for your prayers for the mother of four young adults. She is a lost sheep that lost her way in bitterness and anger. Three of her four children were significantly involved in our church into their high school years, but were badly affected by their mom's life circumstances. We have had a number of very positive contacts with her sons in recent months. We also had a positive "drive-by" encounter with the mom in this past month that encouraged us very much. We feel an urgency to pray for this mom and her kids and would greatly appreciate your help in bringing these "lost sheep" back home.

Thank you so much! Blessings in Jesus, Todd and Barb

Todd and Barb Schierkolk have served with AFLC World Missions for some time, starting their ministry in Mexico in 1996. While leading Student Mission Fellowship in his time at FLBC, Todd grew a deeper interest in international missions. A missionary kid, Barb was impacted by the example of her parents and felt her own call into missions. Now, they have served faithfully together in their home in Jerez, Mexico for over twenty years. Rachel, Megan, and Kirstie are their three daughters who are now grown.

The Schierkolk's ministry has centered around planting and disciplining their congregation at Un Lugar de Encuentro con Dios. They deeply love their town of Jerez: the beautiful history, the tradition of horsemanship, and the delicious tamales. Committed to guiding the congregation in growth, Todd takes great care in preparing Sunday sermons to continue to establish and equip the church. Witnessing the transformation of believers from participants in the pew to playing an active role in equipping the church themselves is the hope and prayer of their ministry.



- Here are some prayer needs:
- \*Two girls in confirmation class
  - \*The mother of 4 young adults and those children
  - \* For spiritual growth of youth and their families
  - \* For God's wisdom and open doors regarding the purchase and construction of a church building
  - \* For their children: Rachel (Ben) Davis, Megan (Josh) Hedstrom, and Kirstie
  - \* For health and safety



### Hot Meals for a Child

WHEN JESUS WAS INVITED to dine at the home of a Pharisee, He noticed that the guests were preoccupied with the honor of where they sat. He turned the tables when He said, "When you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just" (Luke 14:13-14). Samaritan's Purse works in distressed places around the world to serve hot meals to schoolchildren who can't count on eating at home—or along roads where hungry refugees are walking. In these mission fields, the Lord gives us opportunities not only to nourish the hungry and vulnerable but also to share the hope of eternal life in Jesus Christ. For \$7, you can help provide a week of hot meals for a child.







**Luke 2:1-3 (CSB)**

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole empire should be registered. This first registration took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. So everyone went to be registered, each to his own town. ...

Altar Guild

All

Money Counters/  
Trustees

Dave Krusemark  
Jim Otter

Ushers

Family of the Week / Greeters

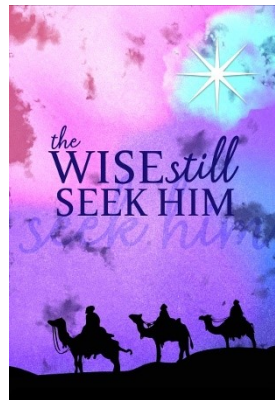
December 3: Steve & Marla Viland  
December 10: Melissa Wait  
December 17: Sheryl & Sonja Wait  
December 24: Alan & Irene Warner  
Christmas Eve: Family & Friends of Christ the King  
December 31: Don & Barb Westerbur

Acolytes

December 3: Jordan DeRuyter  
December 10: Kynslee Hulstein  
December 17: Tanner Thomson  
December 24: Caden Bruns  
Christmas Eve: Lauren Steuck  
December 31: Clifford Rupp

Sound Tech

December 3: Alan Warner  
December 10: Dave Sutherland  
December 17: Praise Band  
December 24: Alan Warner  
December 31:



Nursery

December 3: Ashley Hoheisel  
December 10: Amy Steuck  
December 17: Alyssa Steuck  
December 24: Ashley Hoheisel  
December 31: Amy Steuck

Worship Leaders

December 3: Bill Steuck, Irene Warner, Kari Rupp, Susan Parsley  
December 10: Donna Smith, Charles Hoffman, Laurel Berg, Jane Smith  
December 17: Praise Band  
December 24: Matthew Amdahl, Jane Smith, Janelle Brockberg, Susan Parsley  
Christmas Eve: Matthew Amdahl, Janelle Brockberg, Susan Parsley  
December 31: Bill Steuck, Irene Warner, Kari Rupp, Judy Steuck










# December



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						<b>2</b> 7 AM Men's Study
<b>3</b> 8:45 AM Prayer 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 - 11:45 AM Confirmation 4:30 PM Youth/Family Study	<b>4</b> 7 PM Small Group Study @ Amdahls	<b>5</b> 9 AM Home-school group	<b>6</b> 1:00 PM Quilters 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8:45 AM Prayer 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 - 11:45 AM Confirmation 12:00 PM Parent Date Night 6:00 PM Youth Night Worship	<b>11</b> 7 PM Small Group Study @ Amdahls	<b>12</b> 9 AM Home-school group	<b>13</b> 6:00 PM Year 3 Confirmation 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<b>14</b> 10 AM District Pastors' Meeting 6: PM Budget Meet 7: PM Trustee Meet	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8:45 AM Prayer 9:30 AM Worship Service 10:30 AM Fellowship Brunch 10:45 AM Sunday School 10:45 - 11:45 AM Confirmation 4:30 PM Youth Christmas Party	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8 PM Ankeny Board	<b>20</b> 2: PM Christmas Tea @ Larsons 7:30 PM Choir Practice	<b>21</b> 7:00 PM Elders & Wives meet	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> Messenger Articles Due <b>NO Sunday School</b> 9:30 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31</b> 9:30 AM Worship Service 	<b>NO Sunday School</b> 	<b>Dec 26</b> Pastor Tim & Cindy on vacation	<b>Dec 26</b> Pastor Tim & Cindy on vacation	<b>Dec 26</b> Pastor Tim & Cindy on vacation	<b>Dec 31</b>	