

January Calendar 2025

<u>Events</u>		<u>Anniversary & Birthdays</u>	
Wed.	1-Jan (H) New Year's Day	1-Jan	(B) Lisa Smith
Fri.	3-Jan	3-Jan	(A) Carla & Judd Newcomb 2004
Sat.	4-Jan	4-Jan	(B) Madeline Gladson
Sunday	5-Jan (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service (E) Installation of Officers		
Mon.	6-Jan (E) 7pm Ladies' Aid Meeting	6-Jan	(B) Alex Gladson
Tues.	7-Jan	7-Jan	(B) Caryl Hickerson
Wed.	8-Jan (E) 7pm Council Meeting		
Sunday	12-Jan (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service (E) 11am Voters Meeting		
Wed.	15-Jan	15-Jan	(B) Keith Torbeck
Thurs.	16-Jan	16-Jan	(B) Molly Hickerson
Sunday	19-Jan (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service	19-Jan	(B) Diana Bauer
Mon.	20-Jan (H) Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20-Jan	(B) Susan Williams
Sat.	25-Jan	25-Jan	(B) David Wasmuth
Sunday	26-Jan (E) 9am Bible Class & Sunday School (E) 10am Worship Service		
Fri.	31-Jan	31-Jan	(B) Jacob Smith

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January, 2026

Dearly Beloved of Christ,

Following the twelve days of Christmas, Epiphany bursts on the scene. Finally, the Wise Men make it to Jesus, bearing their gifts. And while we will not have an Epiphany service, I thought it good to reflect on an Epiphany hymn - As With Gladness Men of Old (LSB 397).

1 As with gladness men of old
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright;
So, most gracious Lord, may we
Evermore be led by Thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Thy lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before
Thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare
At Thy cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Thy glory hide.

5 In the heav'nly country bright
Need they no created light;
Thou its light, its joy, its crown,
Thou its sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King.

Text: Public domain

“The hymn text summarizes Matthew 2:11, part of the Epiphany Gospel. The rising star causes men of wisdom, perception, and insight, with a working knowledge of the Hebrew Scriptures, to rise and follow, journeying westward. Prevailing thought held that royal nativities occasioned astronomical movement in the heavens. These Wise Men were moved to look for the one, true, and eternal newborn King. Following the star and approaching Jerusalem, and more specifically, nearby Bethlehem, the Magi moved on, by Herod's royal direction and deceptive intentions. The cosmic alignment of star, house, and the child's presence, together with that of His mother, Mary, produced great joy, and they presented their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

“The first three stanzas are carefully constructed with the poetic balance of ‘as’ and ‘so,’ mirroring the past scriptural event with the present desired result: ‘As with gladness men of old . . . as with joy they hailed its light . . . so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by Thee’

(stanza 1). Just as the Wise Men were led, so do Christians desire to be led by the written star of Scripture and the Light that is Christ. Similarly, in stanza 2, as the Magi were hastening on, so we also make haste to pray at the mercy seat of the Redeemer. In stanza 3, as the men of wisdom humbly offered gifts, so we also desire to bring the best, like Abel, and make offerings for our King's use.

“Stanzas 1 through 3 instruct from Holy Scripture and exhort to action; stanzas 4 and 5 emerge as a petition. The last two stanzas pray that all Christians (including those who sing the hymn) be kept on life's journey in ‘the narrow way’ (stanza 4), the way that leads to eternal life, and off the broad road that leads to perdition. The destination beyond death is heavenly life and light, where neither moon nor sin is needed (Revelation 21:23). Stanza 5 rejoices in praise and confident adoration in the light of the King, the child King once born, Lord of eternity, worthy of alleluias forever.” (LSB Companion to the Hymns, vol. 1, p. 186-187).

God bless your new year with a closer walk with Christ and His Word.

In the love of Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

Here are the readings for the upcoming Divine Services:

January 4 Christmas 2A

1 Kings 3:4-15

Eph. 1:3-14

Luke 2:40-52

January 18 Epiphany 2A

Is. 49:1-7

1 Cor. 1:1-9

John 1:29-42a

January 11 Baptism of Our Lord A

Is. 42:1-9

Rom. 6:1-11

Matt. 3:13-17

January 25 Epiphany 3A

Is. 9:1-4

1 Cor. 1:10-18

Matt. 4:12-25

Thank you for all your prayers, visits, cards, gifts and well wishes this Christmas season. God's blessings for all of you. Charlie Kruenegel

Council meeting is Jan. 7th at 7:00 pm. in Parish Hall

Voters meeting is Jan 11th at 11:00 am immediately following the service

2026 offering envelopes are available in the Narthex.

Contact Pastor Landskroener 330-204-4180 or email lawandgospel@hotmail.com for a Pastoral visit.

Prayer Request – When prayers are requested, we ask that we are informed of the relationship of the person with our congregation. There has been concerns about names on prayer list & who they are. We will add the relationship to the prayers. This will allow members to ask about the individual's progress in recovery. In an effort to manage the list more effectively, individuals will be placed on the list for a period of four weeks. If at the end of that time, those people still need additional prayers, they may be re-added to the list for another four-week term. This may be done as long as the individual continues to need the added strength of the church prayer for their special need.

Dollar for Missions Project: Replace original kitchen equipment in the sexton's apartment at Immanuel Lutheran Student Center, Macomb Immanuel Lutheran Student Center in Macomb was dedicated in 1969, but some of the equipment in the kitchen of the apartment for the live-in student who takes care of the student center (the sexton) has not been replaced since then. DFM funds would be used to replace the original kitchen equipment. **Amount to be funded:** \$11,000

Please Sign attendance books in the pew, so Pastor is better able to serve you.

Church Closings Update – Church closings will be announced on the Augsburg Facebook page. Closings will also be announced on local radio stations. Scott will send Church closing via text, if you would like that also. If you would like a phone call, please contact Pastor or an Elder with the number they can contact you.

Text Messaging updates – If you don't receive messages about Church info and would like to, please let Scott know. This is an easy way to get messages to many members in a timely manner. If there is a message you would like sent to several members, please let Scott know as well.

Parish Hall reservations – If you would like to plan an event or meeting to use our Parish Hall for any reason, this also includes Church activities, you will need to contact Scott or Karen Torbeck. If not asked, we don't know. Use of the Parish Hall will be determined by the first reservation made.

Augsburg is collecting Christian materials, Bibles, Portals of Prayer, Sunday School and VBS materials, Lutheran Witness, books, etc., to be given to the mission in Butler to distribute worldwide. Please put them on the table in the middle of the basement.

The Church will be sending some of their unused materials to the Butler mission. There will be a table in the Parish Hall to view the materials that will be sent. If you would like to take any materials for home use, feel free to do so.



CHRISTIAN WORD SEARCH

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

WORD LIST

APOSTLES
BAPTISM
DISCIPLE
FELLOWSHIP
GIFT

GLORY
GOODNESS
HOLY SPIRIT
KINGDOM
MIRACLE

PEACE
PRAYER
RESURRECTION
SAVIOR
SCRIPTURE

SHEEP
SHEPHERD
SPIRIT
TEMPLE
WISDOM