

November Newsletter

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 ALBANY SHAKER ROAD
LOUDONVILLE, NY 12211



Office 518-458-1562

Kathy Flynn Admin. Assistant

Kevin Wertman Custodian

Anita Andersen Music Director

Church Council:

Danny Patrick President

Mike Serge Vice President

Jeff Emptage Treasurer

Patti Kopach Secretary

Atif Dean

Kathryn Ingalls

Nancy Layne

Carol Phelps

Maryanne Sangiacomo

Elizabeth Sickler

Susan Spofford

Marie Wertman

Meg Winters



Mission Statement

“We are a community of God’s faithful people called by Christ to love, welcome, and care for all.”

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Contacts

Kathy Flynn, Admin. Asst. office@gscl.org	518-458-1562	Mon. – Wed.
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<u>ADMINISTRATION</u>	
Financial Secretary	Marjorie Raymond
Assistant Treasurer	John McGrath
Bldg. Rental Coordinator	Danny Patrick



Betty Cadwallader	Keith Kelly
Carlos Sanchez	Carolyn Wolfe
Kathy Ingalls	Marcia Bahan
Lou Reiss	Barbara Rasmussen
Lynn Best	Barbara Emptage
Prayers for a Special Intention	



1 – Jeannette Harting	17 – Iftikhar Dean
1 – Janet Crouse	18 – Lauren Bradley
1 – Barbara Rasmussen	18 – Ikupa Mwandambo
2 – Marie Wertman	20 – Carol Phelps
3 – Judy Ahl	21 – Joyce Claypool
5 – Richard Kleinhenz	21 – Patti Olsen
6 – Vicki LaFrank	22 – Michael Kromrey
13 – Dennis Claypool	24 – Linda LaManna
13 – Michael Crouse	25 – Cassandra Halpin
14 – Marjorie Raymond	29 – Shahnaz Dean
16 – Kathy Flynn	29 – Barbara Emptage
	29 – Kathy Ingalls

A MESSAGE FROM

Pastor Jinney

A Message and Sharing from Pastor Jinney



This November, as stewards of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, we are called to focus on gratitude for the blessings in our lives, particularly those we share as part of our church community. There is no doubt that we live in uncertain times, and the opportunity for distraction, offense, and isolation abound. However, that is not God's desire, nor does it benefit

humanity. It has been said that the best offense is a good defense, and the church as a community is the best defense against the struggles that wage war on the soul of humanity.

Christian community is the biblical prescription for the ailments of modern society and the impetus for human flourishing. In connection with each other, we can best express God's love, empower each other to fulfill destiny, and equip one another to withstand adversity. The church provides good soil for transformative growth. It allows us to join to achieve more than we can individually as we strive daily to walk the Way of Jesus.

I want to share a Thanksgiving Prayer from Diana Butler Bass, the author of seven books on American Protestantism, including *Christianity for the Rest of Us*, *Strength for the Journey*, and *The Practicing Congregation*:

God, there are days we do not feel grateful when we are anxious or angry, when we feel alone. When we see and know injustice. When we do not understand what is happening in the world or with our neighbors.

We struggle to feel grateful.



But this Thanksgiving, we choose gratitude. We choose to accept life as a gift from you, from the unfolding work of all creation. We choose to be grateful for the earth from which our food comes, for the water that sustains us, and for the air we breathe.

We choose to see our ancestors, those who came before us, and their stories as a continuing gift of wisdom for us today. We choose to see our families and friends with new eyes, appreciating them for who they are, and to be thankful for our homes, whether humble or grand. We will be grateful for our neighbors and strive to love them as we love ourselves. We choose to see the whole planet as our shared commons, the stage of the future of humankind and creation.

God, this Thanksgiving, we do not give thanks. We choose it.

We will make thanks with courageous hearts. When we see your sacred generosity, we become aware that we live in an infinite circle of gratitude. We all are guests at a hospitable table around which gifts are passed and received. We will not let anything opposed to love take over this table. Instead, we choose to open our eyes to see grace and the gifts of life everywhere. In this choosing, we will share gratitude in the world.

Thus, with you and with all those who gather here, we pledge to make thanks.

We ask you to strengthen us in this resolve. Here, now, and into the future. Around this table. Around the table of our nation. Around the table of the earth.

Amen.

Pastor Jinney



Medicare Information Seminar

We are looking to see if there would be any interest in a Medicare Update seminar as there are so many changes going on right now. It is not a sales pitch but just someone who is involved with this and has insight as to what the changes are and how they may affect people. There will be a question and answer session. Hope you are able to attend.

If interested, please contact Steve Layne either by phone 518-727-1410 or by email at slayne0320@. It can be held in the Church Fellowship Hall.

Bake Sale Fundraiser

On October 25, we had our first Bake Sale Fundraiser during the Blood Drive and it was a success! We made \$181 dollars. And this wouldn't have been possible without all of the help of our many talented bakers!!!!

And now, I am going to ask you all again to warm up those ovens and get your baked goods to us for our Election Day Bake Sale on November 7!

Please drop off your baked goods the day before or the day of the bake sale. This wouldn't have been possible without all of your help and it is certainly appreciated.

Nancy Layne



SUNDAY SCHOOL AT GOOD SHEPHERD

CHILDREN COME TO THE SANCTUARY AT 9:30 AM FOR SPECIAL TIME WITH THE PASTOR AND THEN ON TO THE CLASSROOM. THERE WILL BE NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON NOVEMBER 12TH OR NOVEMBER 26TH DUE TO THE LONG HOLIDAY WEEKENDS.

THE CHILDREN HAVE A GREAT TIME – ALL ARE WELCOME! WE ARE WORKING ON PLANNING THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR **DECEMBER 17TH.**

Financial News

Financial Report for September 2023			
	September	YTD	
Expenses	\$8,386.25	\$90,699.00	
Revenue	\$7,448.40	\$77,695.27	
<u>Surplus +</u> Deficit -	-\$937.85	--\$13,003.73	

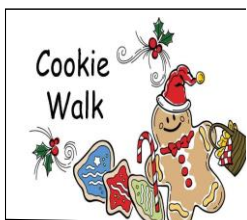
WE STILL WANT YOUR ATHLETIC SNEAKERS!!



Do you have used or old tattered athletic sneakers or even new ones that do not fit? Please consider bringing them to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 510 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville for our

SNEAKER FUNDRAISER! Continuing Now Through November

We need your help to make this fundraiser a success! Spread the word and help us by collecting sneakers from your relatives, friends, neighbors, and workplace. Questions: contact Nancy Serge at 518-542-8808



Cookie Walk Fundraiser

In the coming weeks, we'll be getting ready for the **Annual Cookie Walk, scheduled this year for Saturday, Dec. 9, 9 am –1 pm** and is open to the congregation and the community. Please sign up on the sheets in the Narthex. We need bakers, sellers, organizers, set-up and clean-up helpers, cashiers and hosts. More information to come!!

Christmas at Sea

Every year the Albany Maritime Ministry provides Christmas boxes to the seafarers who come to port here in Albany. For those who will not be home for Christmas these Christmas gift boxes mean so much to them. It shows them that people care. We would like to support this “**Christmas at Sea**” program again this year.



Pease fill a shoebox with the following or similar items: toothpaste/brushes, men’s knit caps, gloves, pens, dental floss, shaving cream, razors, AA or AAA batteries, lip balm with sunscreen, deodorant, and post-it-notes. Most items can be purchased at the Dollar Store. **Please return the wrapped shoe boxes to the table in the narthex by Dec.9th.** If you have empty shoe boxers to donate, please bring them in and put them on the table.

Mitten Tree

As in past years, we will be collecting mittens, hats and scarves for our friends at the Outreach Center. The tree will be in the narthex beginning in December as the holiday season begins. If you knit, please lend your talents and help those in need of items to help keep them warm. If you prefer to purchase and donate a new item, please do so!



American Red Cross Blood Drive – Update



Thank you to all who donated to our October 25th drive. We had 30 successful donors who will help about 97 patients needing blood or blood products. Thank you to those who shared this gift of life as there is no substitute.

We are grateful for the many members and friends willing to step up when asked, The Red Cross has not been able to fully fill the hospital's needs for a while so every donation counts. Thank you again for your willingness to donate.

Thank you to Danny Patrick who greeted the Red Cross, to Betty Suarez who did the registration and locked up, and to Kirsten Andersen who welcomed donors to the canteen and served the snacks.

Carol Phelps, Coordinator



The Worship and Music Corner

For the month of November we welcome the following to preside over worship:

11/5 James Netzer, SAM

11/12 Anne Cinquemani, SAM

11/19 James Netzer, SAM

11/26 Rev. Andrew Nelson

*Prayer Vigil – will be held on November 21st 7am to 7pm in 30-minute increments. Participants will bring an item of food for the food pantry. We will also collect food during advent.

*Advent Services – Services are being planned together with the Albany cluster. More information will be provided in the midweek messages and bulletins as soon as everything is finalized. The four Sundays of Advent begins **November 26th**. Each Sunday we will light one candle, bringing us closer to the birth of the Baby Jesus.

*The mitten tree is being set up by Kevin on the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

*Steve Layne volunteered again this year to get the Christmas tree and put it up with the help of Mike Serge.

*Bertie will coordinate decorating the church for Christmas which will be on December 10th after worship and fellowship.

*Steve will be getting poinsettias from Constantine's. Forms to purchase poinsettias are available in the narthex.

***Christmas Eve service will be at 3pm.**

*The children's Christmas pageant will be December 17th.

*The Christmas tree will be decorated after church on December 10th.

*The Longest Night service is being discussed with Pastor Jinney. More information can be found in the midweek messages as soon as a date is finalized.

*The next meeting will be on **November 20th at 6:30.**

HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team would like to thank everyone who came to this year's Community Halloween Party. The children had a great time and folks came from the community as well. A very big thanks to everyone that helped out with the party. Our Administrative Assistant Kathy Flynn won the trunk or treat contest and received a great Halloween Basket. We distributed a copy of Good Shepherd's cookbook along with upcoming events at church to all the folks who attended from the community. Again, a great time was had by all and thank you for your help and support.

The next Outreach and Evangelism Ministry Team meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 7 at 7:00 pm** via in person or zoom. We have many events and activities to plan. All volunteers are welcome!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88657765704?pwd=cGY5YS9pcVNSUFVRSzFXUmJHUU1qUT09>

Meeting ID: 886 5776 5704

Passcode: 641935





Holiday Boutique

Holiday Boutique

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is sponsoring a Holiday Boutique on **November 18, 2023 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** The Boutique will feature a Craft Fair, a "Share the Wealth" drawing, a Pie and Bake Sale, and a Silent Auction with a variety of gift baskets and gift certificates. Soup and sandwiches will be available for lunch and take-out. Proceeds will be used for the ministries of Good Shepherd and refugees and asylum seekers in our area.

Nancy Serge is accepting gift baskets and gift certificates for the Silent Auction, Marie Wertman is coordinating the Pie and Bake Sale, and Chris and Marc Kleinhenz will coordinate the food sale.

We hope the entire congregation will participate in this fundraiser. For more information about the Holiday Boutique, please contact one of the team leads or Marjorie Raymond at 518-424-6043.

Do you have a Favorite Hymn?

The Worship & Music Team, along with our organist, Anita Andersen, discussed the possibility of incorporating suggested hymns into the worship service, when appropriate to the week's lesson.



Forms are available in the narthex. Please fill in 1, 2 or 3 hymns that you would enjoy hearing/singing and put the completed form in the box provided.

We look forward to including hymns you have suggested.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Phelps & Bertie Cole, Co-Chairs

TECHNOLOGY TEAM REPORT

Pastor Jinney's email is the same as used for whomever is serving as our pastor. – pastor@gscl.org. New pictures are replacing some of the old ones and the monthly newsletter, calendar and Youtube videos of the weekly Worship service can also be found there. You can access it at <https://www.gscl.org>



Gratitude Brunch – Please Sign-Up if You Will Attend!

On Sunday November 12th after the worship service there will be a Gratitude Brunch catered by Tovah Ortiz. Tovah needs a head count by Thursday November 9th.



There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board near the front door or If you would like you can R.S.V. P. by calling Danny Patrick at (518) 477-5355. See you on Gratitude Sunday November 12th for a delicious way to enjoy fellowship and together, to be grateful for all of God's gifts.



ELECTRONIC GIVING IS SO EASY & CONVENIENT!

Our online giving continues to be available! More and more people are carrying around less cash, but that no longer means you can't make a donation to our congregation. You can go to our website www.gscl.org via your computer or phone and make an electronic donation.

You can also download the app from the App Store on your phone – tithe.ly. It's secure and easy. Try it out today.



Scholarship Update

Rich Kleinhenz sent a note thanking the congregation for his Hillenbrandt Scholarship and letting us know he has been using it for text books and school supplies. Rich states he is on track to graduate in 2025 with his Master's from R.I.T. Rich is currently working as a contractor in his field while going to school and all is well. Rich's note will be posted on bulletin board near Pastor's office. We certainly wish Rich all the best in his studies and send our blessings.

WHAT IS RSV?

RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) is a potentially dangerous, highly contagious virus that can cause respiratory disease. Anyone can get RSV, but doctors know it can be more serious for adults over 60, including those with underlying medical conditions, and babies.



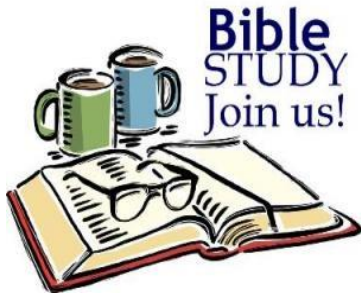
Don't forget to get a flu shot.

Also consider the vaccine against RSV especially if you are over 60 years old.

Boosters are now available at all pharmacies and at your primary care office.



Wednesday Bible Study



Join us for the Wednesday Bible Study 1:00 pm – 2:15 pm in the church library or join by phone as we study Scripture and grow in God's word. Men and women are invited! Each week we begin in prayer, and then discuss the lessons relating to the upcoming Sunday worship service. You are invited to attend in person at Good Shepherd or by calling in. Contact Bertie Cole at 518-698-8839 for current information about joining the group!

Fundraising Team Update

The next meeting of the Fundraising Team will be held on November 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM. The main focus of this meeting will be the Holiday Boutique which will be held on November 18, 2023 and chaired by Marjorie Raymond.

December will be the annual Cookie Walk on December 9. Again, this is always a big event and last year, we sold out in an hour and a half! So we need as many of our fine bakers as possible to make additional baked goods this year!

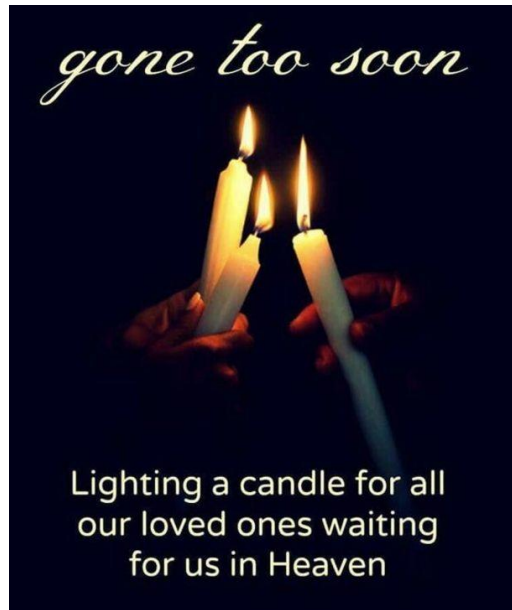
Also please remember that we are once again doing a Bake Sale on Election Day, November 7, 2023 so any contributions of baked goods will be appreciated.

BUT WE NEED ALL OF YOUR HELP! We need other ideas and sponsors of events! We are a community of many fine, talented people. Please join us in working and supporting these events as well as any others you can come up with!!!!

"CLYNK" FUND RAISER! CAN COLLECTION!!

A display has been set up in the Narthex for our Clynk Can Collection Fundraiser. There are Clynk bags and associated tags to be taken and used for this purpose. The tag will designate Good Shepherd's Account Number so a check can be sent to Good Shepherd Church for deposit.





**Sunday, November 5th
All Saints Sunday**

Loved ones and friends whom we have lost will be remembered during this special worship service.

Please let the office know if someone you knew or a loved passed away during the past year that you would like mentioned in the bulletin.

All Saints Sunday

You will see a dramatic change of sanctuary colors from red/white for Reformation to purely white for All Saints Sunday. Please send us or call us and give us the name(s) of anyone you wish to honor that died in the past year. A bell is rung as each name is read. Also, you are invited to light a votive candle to float in the water to remember all who were called by our Lord and are greatly missed.

Fall Collection at Good Shepherd

Emergency Overflow Homeless Shelter - The shelter, run by Capital Area Council of Churches, has reopened for the season. If you would like to drop off supplies, you may contact Pam, the shelter manager, during the week at (518) 391-2675, and she will meet you at the shelter door (the farthest door from the State Street parking lot) to collect the supplies.

You could also purchase the supplies from Amazon and have them mailed to the CACC address (646 State Street, Albany, NY 12203). If you prefer, you may mail or drop off a check to cover the cost of some supplies. Please write “shelter supplies” in the memo section.

Specific supplies the shelter needs are:

- Paper Towels
- Strong paper plates, paper hot & cold cups (8 oz. preferred - NO Styrofoam please)
- Plastic knives, forks and spoons
- Napkins
- Disposable face masks
- Solid air freshener
- Disinfectant wipes (Lysol, Clorox or basic brand)
- Liquid Pine Sol (or basic brand)

Thank you for your continuing support of the shelter. Your generosity is appreciated.



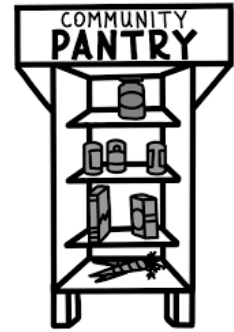
Men's Shelter Meals

Again this year, Albany Lutherans Together (formerly known as the cluster churches) will be preparing meals for the Overflow Homeless Shelter at First Lutheran Church that opens on November 1, 2023. The meal needs to be prepared for about 15 people and consist of an entree, vegetable or salad, and dessert. The shelter is requesting no fish or pork and it is not necessary to provide a salad dressing with the salad. It has worked out well when three people prepare a meal so that no one is doing the whole meal.

We have some folks already who have volunteered to make meals. These are the Good Shepherd dates that are still available. For 2024: January 23, February 20, and April 16. If you would like to help with this special ministry, please speak with Danny Patrick and he can be reached at (518) 477-5355. As always thank you for your anticipated help.

Community Food Pantry *Help Us Help Our Neighbors*

Good Shepherd's little food pantry has turned into a big part of our community outreach. It allows members of our congregation to leave non-perishable food items for those in need. A few guidelines though:



- *No glass - Accidents happen and we don't want glass in the parking lot;*
- *No liquids - these tend to freeze and will spoil food in the cabinet*
- *No ready to eat items - snack bars or candy.*
- *No cleaning products - again they may contaminate food.*
- *Diapers, dry formula, powdered milk, toilet paper, are always in need. But please do not attach receipts to formula or diapers.*
- *Please check to make sure the food is not spoiled or out of date.*
- *Very few canned goods will freeze.*

THANKSGIVING – NOVEMBER 23rd



This year, as we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, let's remember to celebrate the greatest gift of all — salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

"You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." (John 18:37)

Christ the King Sunday is November 26th, the last Sunday of the calendar year. Each year, Christians from around the world gather to celebrate what is widely referred to as "Christ the King" or "Reign of Christ" Sunday. In the late 1970s, the Inter-Lutheran Commission on Worship adopted an amended version of the Roman lectionary, and it included Christ the King.



As we step into Christ the King Sunday in 2023, we pray for those countries that are currently involved in wars, the effects of climate change which are resulting in the deaths of people and animals on every continent. If we're trusting in our own abilities and merits to set us free from this suffering in the world, the outlook is pretty bleak.

But if we shift our efforts toward enacting the will of the one who was sent to rule over us, we can begin to see the dawn of a new age peeking over the horizon. Orienting our lives towards the commands of Christ can help us move with a laser focus towards those who Christ held most closely: widows, orphans, disabled people, gender and sexual minorities, those in prison—all those that the world casts as unworthy.

This Christ the King Sunday, how might we use our power and privilege as Christians to help make Christ manifest in our lives as our regent and the one to whom we bow? Our answers are likely to surprise, inspire, and challenge us as we lean into the realities of this life lived in an eternal kingdom that is both on the horizon and already here.



**Don't forget to set your clocks
BACK one hour on November 6th!**



We are excited to announce that our organization is participating in the Hoffman Car Wash Helping Hands fundraiser.

The fastest and easiest way for us to sell these car wash tickets is online at our custom home page on the Helping Hands website.

[http://www.hoffmanhelpinghands.com/fundraisers/GSLC Ministries](http://www.hoffmanhelpinghands.com/fundraisers/GSLC%20Ministries)

Here you can buy tickets and have them delivered electronically directly to an email or mobile device. You can also see our fundraiser progress and learn more about our organization. Feel free to share this address with your friends, family, coworkers - everybody needs a car wash and selling them online is easy for everyone.

If you need to sell the car wash tickets using an order form, you can print one out directly from our custom web address I have listed above. This is very convenient if you want to leave an order form out somewhere at work or church, for example.

This fundraiser can be a great success if we all work together. Contact Danny Patrick or Chris Kleinhenz.

Thrivent Grants

The many outreach projects of our congregation are made possible in large part by grants from Thrivent Financial. Every Thrivent member is eligible to apply for two \$250.00 Action Team grants per year. These are easy to apply for, and if you need help please ask Carol Phelps, Danny Patrick, or Pastor Joyce.

If you are not a Thrivent member, but would still like to help apply for a grant, you can become a Thrivent Associate Member. Associate membership is \$19.95 and with that membership you are able to apply for a \$250.00 Thrivent grant for our congregation's outreach projects. Contact Thrivent either by phone or at Thrivent.com for more info.



THOSE WHO SERVE 11/5

Opener/Greeter	Kathy Ingalls
Usher	Mark Silo
Lay Reader	Dick Walker
Communion Assistant	Patti Kopach
AV Tech	Elizabeth Strohbeck
Closer	Atif Dean

THOSE WHO SERVE 11/12

Opener	Emmie Knobloch
Greeter	Maryanne Sangiacomo
Usher	Paul Spofford
Lay Reader	Kiran Dean
Communion Assistant	Atif Dean
AV Tech	Emmie Knobloch
Closer	Rob Beach

THOSE WHO SERVE 11/19

Opener	Steve Layne
Greeter	Dick Walker
Usher	Mike Serge
Lay Reader	Mark Silo
Communion Assistant	Kathy Silo
AV Tech	Maryanne Sangiacomo
Closer	Danny Patrick

THOSE WHO SERVE 11/26

Opener	Mike Serge
Greeter	Nancy Serge
Usher	Dick Walker
Lay Reader	Mike Serge
Communion Assistant	Nancy Serge
AV Tech/Closer	Steve Layne

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 1 pm Bible Study	2 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids	3 9:30 Colonie Srs. (BR)	4
5 9:30 WORSHIP All Saints Set clocks back One hour!	6	7 12:30 Colonie Srs. 6 pm Audubons 7 pm Outreach Team	8 1 pm Bible Study	9 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids	10 9:30 Colonie Srs.	11
12 9:30 WORSHIP Gratitude Sunday & b BRUNCH	13 6:30 Fundraising Team	14 12:30 Colonie Srs. 6:30 Church Council	15 1 pm Bible Study	16 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids	17 9:30 Colonie Srs. (BR)	18 9am-2pm HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE
19 9:30 WORSHIP	20 7PM Worship and Music	21 12:30 Colonie Srs. 7am-7pm Prayer Vigil	22 1 pm Bible Study	23 Thanksgiving	24 9:30 Colonie Srs. (BR) Drama Kids(FH)	25
26 9:30 WORSHIP CHRIST THE KIND SUNDAY / ADVENT 1	27	28 12:30 Colonie Srs	29 9:00 Colonie Sr Board 1 pm Bible Study 7pm Property Comm.	30 12-3 Colonie Srs (BR) 4pm Drama Kids		