



Shalom Tidings

Second Sunday in Epiphany: January 18, 2026

The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" —John 1:29

This week at Shalom:

WORSHIP AT SHALOM: Come join us for a Contemporary worship service at 9:30 am. Enjoy treats and fellowship afterward in our Community Room. Seekers and guests are expected!

SERMON: John's Gospel assures us that Jesus, who takes the world's sin upon himself, abides with us always. But what can this possibly mean when we no longer know him "from a human point of view" (2 Corinthians 5:16)? And how do we keep faith when the world is in chaos and we don't perceive his presence? Pastor David preaches "The Word Abides" based on John 1:29-42.

THE RUNESTONE CHORUS sings its first concert today, 2 p.m. at Shalom. Enjoy an afternoon of beautiful music.

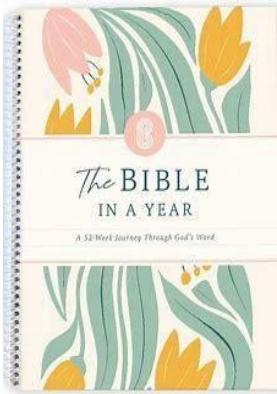
JOYCE THOMPSON'S funeral service will be Friday, January 23 at 2 p.m. followed by light refreshments in the Community Room.

HOSPITALITY THIS SUNDAY: Al Anderson, John & Nola Smith, Grant & Cami Pexsa.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE is asking ALL members of staff and of the congregation to please aid in the snow removal of the walkway at Shalom, specifically door to door. If you have a moment, if you are passing by, please swing in and push the snow off. If everyone helps it will take the load off the couple guys that have been doing the brunt of it last year and this year thus far....both of which work full time and cannot always be pulled away. If you are walking on it, push it. It makes it that much harder to push if several walkers pass through it. The shovel and salt are in the entry. Thank you.

SHARING IN MINISTRY: WAYS TO SUPPORT SHALOM: We are grateful for the many ways people support the ministry of Shalom. Our general offering continues to be the foundation of our shared ministry and mission. For those who feel called to give above and beyond their regular offering, several existing and newly designed funds are also available through our online giving platform, Vanco. These funds provide opportunities to support particular ministries while keeping our general offering strong. Vanco Funds are: General Fund, Building Fund, Youth Pizza and Chili, Youth Donations, Youth Meals, Food Shelf, someplace Safe, ELCA Disaster Response, Bake Sale, BBQ, WELCA Fall Bazaar, Radio Ministry, Shalom Technology Fund, Shalom Youth Playground. Please note that you can also give by check. Be sure to write where you wish the donation to go on your memo line.

FUNERAL Service for Phyllis Strand will be Saturday, January 10, 11 a.m. at Shalom.



Join Tammy and Kim for "The Bible In A Year", a 52-week journey through God's Word. The goal of this study isn't merely to increase your biblical knowledge but to transform your daily living.

Our plan is that we would do our daily scripture reading and chat or e-mail with each other a couple of times a week. Then we would plan to meet all together once a month.

If this interests you, please connect with Tammy or Kim. This study will begin in January. Books can be purchased at Amazon or talk to Tammy and she can help get a book. We will start on January 4th.

SHARED MINISTRY & CALENDAR: [Here is the link to our shared ministry sign-up](#). You can find the [monthly calendar here](#).

Shared Ministry

<u>Shared Ministry</u>	<u>01-18-26</u>	<u>01-25-26</u>
Acolyte		Mara Malvin
Assisting Minister	Nola Smith	Carol Hedlund
Communion Assist	Angie Erickson	Dean Kliewer
Communion Assist	Sue Engstrom	Catherine Kliewer
Greeters	Amy Schlosser	Barb Beyer
Greeters	Carolyn Carlson	Dave Beyer
Lector	John Smith	Brian Casavan
Musicians	SOS Band	
Proclaim/FB Live	CJ/Kim/Julie	CJ/Kim/Julie
Ushers	Al Anderson	Sherri Endreson
Ushers	Dave Burbank	Sue Engstrom
Counters	Vic Dale	Derek Navratil
Counters	Charmaine Munt	Al Anderson

THIS WEEK AT SHALOM

Sunday	01-18	9:30 am 10:30 am	Worship in-person or online Hospitality
Monday	01-19	5:30 pm	Church Council
Tuesday	01-20	7:30 am 9:00 am 5:00 pm 6:30 pm	Men's Bible Study at Common Ground Dartball Gospel of Uke Runestone Choir

Wednesday	01-21	5:00 pm 5:30 am 6:30 pm	Meal Confirmation/Faith time Shalom Ringers
Thursday	01-22	8:00 am 10:00 am 1:00 pm 6:00 pm	Quilting Bible Study Retired Pastors Shalom Singers
Sunday	01-25	9:30 am 10:30 am	Worship in-person or online Hospitality

Around the Synod and ELCA:

In Sure and Confident Hope: A Message from the ELCA Bishops of Minnesota



January 15, 2026

To the congregations, members, and friends of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in Minnesota:

We, the six ELCA bishops in the state of Minnesota, are writing today with a word we hope will anchor and sustain all of us in the days to come.

In recent weeks, several thousand ICE and Border Patrol agents have been sent to our state. Their tactics of stopping and questioning our neighbors and their aggressive interactions with the communities where we live have caused fear and anxiety. We grieve the killing of Renee Good on January 7.

All of this comes after other experiences of devastating violence in recent months and years.

We are tired, and our hearts are broken. Yet we are not deterred.

At every act of violence, we have seen you respond with compassion and resilience. This has been a season marked by profound grief. It is also a season in which we have refused to be defined by what the baptismal liturgy names as "the forces that defy God."

To our pastors, deacons, chaplains and ministry leaders, we say this: we are with you. We give thanks for your faithful leadership, for your courage and discernment, and for all the ways you live into the vocation we share. Dear friends, we believe you have been called and anointed for ministry in this time and place. It is our honor to serve with you.

To all members of our congregations, and our neighbors throughout Minnesota, we say this: we commit ourselves to continue to pray, to advocate and act alongside you, and to use the resources and gifts we have to work toward the fulfillment of the reign of God, so that all may know the abundance of life Jesus comes to give (John 10:10). We encourage you to remain connected to one another and actively support the efforts in your communities to meet the needs of those directly impacted in this time of fear and intimidation.

This past Sunday, congregations across our state marked the Baptism of our Lord. It is a celebration and remembrance of the moment when Jesus himself was baptized, and the voice of God broke through the heavens to declare, "This is my Son, the beloved, with him I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

We believe the voice of God still speaks. We know that all our neighbors bear the image of God. Through the waters of baptism, we have been named and claimed as beloved children of God.

It is our sure confidence in this truth that sustains us. We know we are God's children, and we know that you are, too. We pray that this truth will continue to anchor, guide and compel all of us as we work for justice for all people in every place.

We also know there are voices around us that challenge the truth of who we are and who our neighbors are. It is our fervent hope that every one of us would remain deeply rooted in our identity as God's beloved.

To that end, we write with a word of encouragement: go to church or your place of worship, ground yourselves in Scripture, and surround yourselves with those who will echo the voice of God for you. This is the nourishment that will sustain us.

[Along with Presiding Bishop Curry](#), we "join calls for a thorough investigation into this case, accountability for the shooting and a de-escalation of ICE enforcement across the United States."

When the challenges that surround us are overwhelming, we cling to what is true. We serve a God who sees us and who enters into the beauty and messiness of human life in the person of Jesus the Christ. Because of what God in Christ has done, we know that God is with us and we are not alone (Romans 8:38-39).

Until the day the reign of God arrives in full, we continue to work for justice and peace, grounded in prayer, rooted in Scripture, and compelled by the power of the Holy Spirit.

In sure and confident hope,

Bishop Regina Hassanally
Southeastern Minnesota Synod

Bishop Patricia Lull
Saint Paul Area Synod

Bishop Jen Nagel
Minneapolis Area Synod

Bishop Amy Odgren
Northeastern Minnesota Synod

Bishop Dee Pederson
Southwestern Minnesota Synod

Bishop Bill Tesch
Northwestern Minnesota Synod



Community Opportunities:



Ensure your home stays warm this heating season by applying for
Minnesota's Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program.



wcmca.org
1-800-492-4805 option 1

- Easy application process
- Homeowners and renters both encouraged to apply
- No asset limits
- Free Furnace repair and replacements to non-functioning units. (must own the home)



Apply
Online



PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

*John & Carrie Carlberg, *Bob Hildebrandt, *Dave & Mary Owen, *Gerry Kingsburg, Bill Malvin (Dave Malvin's Father), *Delores Martin, *Evie Raguse, *Charles & Jeanne Tanksley, Teri Market, *Jeanette Priebe, *Bonnie Anderson, *Dave Burbank, Joan Searles (Pastor David's aunt), *Skeeter Kingsburg, Ben DeLong (brother of Chrissy Oachs), Rod Miller (Geri's brother), Family of *Rol Halvorson, *Family of Phyllis Strand, *Family of Joyce Thompson, Family of Steven Dordan.

**Shalom member*