

*Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Dana Point, California*

# DEI-LY LIGHT



## FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER

# RAINY DAYS

Dear Gloria Dei family,

*"I'm singing in the rain..."* Of course that has slowed down construction, but we keep moving on. At the annual meeting, we heard about how the delays, especially early on has cost us. The council is working with our lender - The Mission Investment Fund to resolve that shortage. Hopefully, we will hear good news soon.

Rainy, cloudy and gray - those are words we use for life also. Someone who knew about rainy days or rainy years was John Calvin. The reformer buried all three babies he and his wife ever held. That's a storm. Scholar William J Bouwsma describes Calvin as *"a singularly anxious man."* Who could blame him?

What was Calvin's answer to the storms, the anxiety, the fear? He wrote paradoxically, *"The stability of the world depends on the rejoicing in God's works.... If on earth, such praise of God does not come to pass... then the whole order of nature will be thrown into confusion..."*

As we move in and out of rainy days, it's a good challenge. May God's Spirit lead us to give thanks for the life, death and resurrection of Jesus - that is the way of purpose in this world and hope in every moment.

Peace,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David R. Mattson".

Pastor David R. Mattson



## Pastor Sabrina's Dei Light

Now that it is February, it is already time to start looking ahead to Lent! The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is March 1st. Our theme for Lent 2017 at Gloria Dei is **The Stations of the Cross**. In ancient times, Christians used to make pilgrimages to Jerusalem for Holy Week. One popular activity while they were there was to walk the route that Jesus walked before his death from Pilate's house to Calvary, stopping for devotionals to commemorate various events that took place along the way. During medieval times in Europe, wars prevented Christian pilgrims from visiting the Holy Land. So European artists created works depicting scenes of Christ's journey to Calvary. These sculptures or paintings were then installed at intervals along a procession route, inside the parish church or outdoors.

Christians would perform the devotion by walking the entire route, stopping to pray at each "station."

Traditionally, there are 14 Stations of the Cross. During each Sunday and Wednesday evening service throughout the season of Lent we will be looking at one of the stations following a series called *The Way of the Heart*. There will be a short video devotion from a prominent theologian, and then a reflection by Pastor David or me. The Stations of the Cross are a long-standing Christians tradition with a rich history and beautiful contemplative meaning. I hope you will join us on Sundays and Wednesdays as we ready our hearts and minds to travel the road that Jesus traveled to the cross. Invite a friend to join you on this Lenten journey.

## THE BIG HAPPENING...

(This is it! The big happening, that you don't want to miss out on, that is huge, a big give thanks to God!)

- NEW COUNCIL:** Our thanks to the people who are serving us in leadership!
- Executive Committee:

President	Craig Collins
Vice President	Liane Schuller
Treasurer	Mark Desmond
Financial Secretary	Lisa Ellis
Secretary	Annette Fettis
  - Returning Church Council (Members at Large):
    - Don Caskey, Dennis Pysz and Chuck Weinhardt
  - New Church Council (Members at Large):
    - Jim Bankson, Kristina Mayfield, Bill Ramsey and Kim Santore

# THE BIG HAPPENING continued...

**UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION** - By the printing of this newsletter (depending upon rain!), the roof should be taking shape, a tour of the new sanctuary will tentatively be on Feb. 19th, and the "public art" component has been approved by the Planning Commission. Also, the walkway along the existing sanctuary has been finished and the new stairs are going in. During the first week of January, the entrance to the parking lot closed and new pavers have been put down. Very soon, more and more of our current parking lot will be given back to us. Thanks to everyone for using the tandem parking. It helps, especially on busy Sunday mornings.

**CONCORDIA COLLEGE CHOIR** from Moorhead, Minnesota will be with us to sing on Wednesday, March 8. We will feed them and help with housing. Then we will join our brothers and sisters at St. Edward's Catholic Church for the concert at 7pm. This Lutheran college choir is known around the world for their excellence and this will also be an ecumenical service for Lent. Watch the sign-up for ways that you can help or speak with Music Director Kathy Person.

BARB COLLINS, CHILDREN AND FAMILY DIRECTOR



## DEI-LY FRIENDSHIP

(Fellowship, Congregational Life, Community, Get-Togethers, Fun, Support, etc.)

**WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP** - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) will meet on Tuesday, February 7, at 7pm to discuss - *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. Location: Marie Callender's in the Library Room. If interested in joining, speak with Diane Kelly (949-493-9632).

**MEN'S BRIDGE** - Will meet on Tuesday, February 7th at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

**PRIMETIMERS** (senior group) - The first 2017 event for Primetimers will be Friday, Feb. 10. All ages are invited to attend. Appetizers and wine at 6:30pm, followed by music at 7pm. We will host Mike Chamberlin for an evening of WWII music.

**FELLOWSHIP EVENT** - Why wait for Fat Tuesday? On February 24 at 6pm, please join us for Fat Friday Fellowship! This pre-Mardi Gras celebration will be Gloria Dei's kick-off to welcome in the Lenten Season. Beer and wine will be provided; Bring an appetizer to share and invite a friend. Location TBD..

**WOMEN'S MINISTRY** - Our women's ministry kickoff event for the new year will actually be open to men and women. Save the date, Sunday, March 12th. Everyone is invited to a night of appetizers, wine, and desserts at We Olive in San Juan Capistrano. Check the bulletin for details coming soon.

Paige Gulck, Youth Director



## YOUTH NEWS

### SENIOR HIGH

**JAMBA JUICE & JESUS:** Take a break from homework and come hang out for an hour or so! Tuesday, February 21 at 7pm. Jamba Juice is located at 32585 Golden Lantern St, Suite G. Email [youth@mygloriadei.org](mailto:youth@mygloriadei.org) for details.

**CONFIRMATION WINTER RETREAT:** March 3-5. Let's head to (hopefully) sunny San Diego for a weekend to discover some of

God's greatest creations! Details to follow.

**T.A.G. - MIDWEEK PROGRAMMING** for all ages (preschool - through confirmation, plus Adults too) on Thursdays. Why? To build "sticky faith", no gaps in our ministry program and it will be the next step of growth for our music programs, youth programming, and adult education.

TAG Schedule Format and Place: 5:30 - 5:50pm: Dinner for Children/Youth; 5:50 - 6:10pm: Games; 6:00 - 6:45pm: Confirmation (Sanctuary); 6:10 - 6:25pm: Music program for younger kids (Classroom under the Sanctuary) 6:25 - 6:45pm: Lesson for younger kids; 6:30 - 7:15pm: Bell Choir (Sanctuary); 6:30 - 7:15pm Adult Class - 4dm (Classroom near kitchen); 7:30pm: Sanctuary Choir.



**HELP NEEDED:** Each T.A.G. session lasts seven weeks. If you would like to help with the planning of this overall program, or would like to volunteer with a meal (something simple, pizza, chicken, etc.) or if you have questions, speak with Barb Collins, Children and Family Director.





## GROWING TOGETHER!

(All things related to learning, Bible study, small groups, G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together) groups, education, etc.)

### **G.I.F.T. (Growing in Faith Together)**

GIFT Group at David and Susan Warneke's home (25262 Barque Way, Dana Point Phone: 203-952-5657) meets on Monday, February 27 at 7:00 p.m. Study: The Book of James.

GIFT Group at Dennis and Daneen Pysz's home ((33172 DeSoto Way, Dana Point, Phone: 949-290-0381) meets on Wednesday, February 22nd. Study: Discipleship, led by Jim and Neta Wenrick.

**SUNDAY MORNING ADULT CLASSES (9:40am)** - The overall theme for 2016 - 2017 adult education Sunday morning forum is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In February, Bill Jonas will be leading a class called "We Plant the Church," about the history and formation of the Lutheran Church in the United States. Join us at 9:40 a.m. in the sanctuary.

**T.A.G. FOR ADULTS** - This adult Bible study during "Thursdays are Grace" is at 6:30pm and is led by Pastor David. Each Thursday, the focus is a different part of Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*. You are always welcome to join in.

**HEART-LIFTERS WOMEN'S EVENING STUDY** continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month, February 14th and 28th. They will meet at Donna Combe's home, 45 Via Belleza San Clemente, CA. All women are welcome to join in. Refreshments and social time: 6:30; Bible Study: 7pm - 8pm. Carpooling is available. For information contact Donna at 949-369-5382 .

Kathy Person, Music Director



## DEI-LY WORSHIP

(All things related to worship, music, altar guild, choirs, singing, praise, etc.)

**CHOIRS** - Sanctuary Choir (Teen - Adults) continues to rehearse on Thursdays at 7:30pm.

**HANDBELL CHOIR** is meeting in the Sanctuary on Thursdays at 6:30. We are having a great time learning new music and new techniques.

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** - This month the choir is learning about part singing and descants. We will sing at 10:30 service on February 12th. Matt Sears will accompany us on guitar. It's going to be a really fun day.

Join us!

### Upcoming Special Event March 8th. Mark your calendars!

Concordia College Choir of Moorhead Minnesota will be giving a concert in Dana Point. Gloria Dei will be hosting. The 72 voice choir is led by the highly acclaimed choral director Rene Clausen. Concordia has made many outstanding recordings. You can learn about this **amazing** group and listen to samples at: <https://www.concordiacollege.edu/music/ensembles/choirs/the-concordia-choir/>

**Host Families Needed:** Coming in March--- Gloria Dei will be co hosting a special concert given by Concordia College of Moorhead, Minnesota. We will need overnight housing for approximately 70 students. Watch the board for more information!

**ORGANIST/PIANIST HANNA LEE** not only leads us in worship, but accompanies the Sanctuary Choir and other groups on Sunday morning. She has her doctorate degree in Organ Performance and her Master's Degree in Piano Performance. Please welcome her to the Gloria Dei family!



Shelli Parajeckas, Preschool Director

## PRESCHOOL

(All things related to the Gloria Dei Lutheran Preschool)

***Gloria Dei is a place where children play and pray!***

February is a very busy month for our preschool. It's tour season, and Registration Day is February 22nd for our new school year. If you want more information about Gloria Dei Lutheran Preschool, give us a call to set up a tour. Our teachers just finished doing Parent-Teacher Conferences, and next week, we will do Chancy & Bruce Developmental Screenings. As an

ELEA Accredited school, we provide a high quality program for both parents and students. Our students will dive into the topic of patriotism in honor of President holidays, as well as acts of love and kindness. Please stop by and visit our classrooms; we'd love to show you what we are doing.

*"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32*



## DEI-LY SERVICE

(All things related to service, ministry, helping others, compassion, caring, loving, serving "the least of these", etc.)

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** - Meets the first Saturday of each month: February 4th, 9am. This ministry invites people of all ages to join us. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or would like more information, call Peggy Johnson at 949-363-8714.

**QUILTING GROUP** - This group will meet on February 25th at 9:30am (4th Saturday of every month) in the Fellowship Hall.

**SERRA'S PANTRY** - Providing food to those in need is a local volunteer opportunity, located in San Juan Capistrano. Interested Gloria Dei members serve at Serra's Pantry every third Saturday of the month at 8:30am. February 18th is the next volunteer opportunity at Serra's Pantry. Contact Paul Dubow at 949-248-8865, if interested.



### **LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE MINISTRY**

Gloria Dei will have four missionary trips to Los Angelitos in 2017. Please mark your calendars and contact David and Susan Warneke, 203-952-5657, if you are interested in attending any or all trips. Look for more information in the Sunday bulletin and future monthly newsletters. Watch for sign-ups.

#### **Los Angelitos Orphanage Trips in 2017**

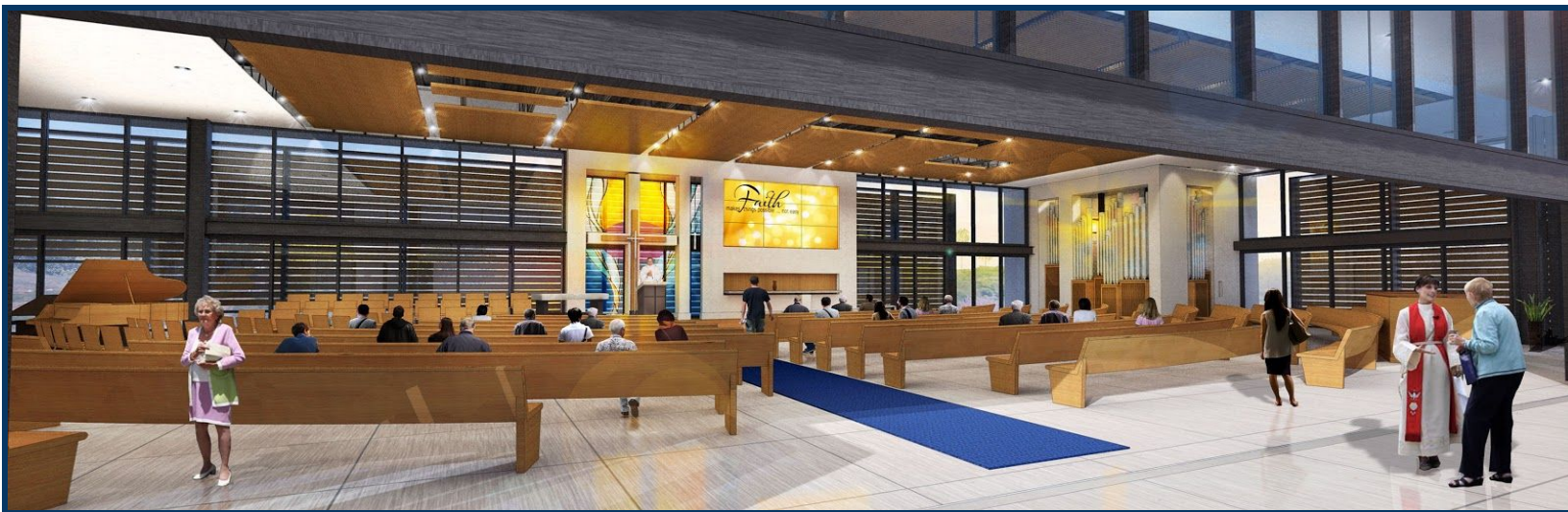
Saturday, March 25  
Saturday, June 10  
Saturday, August 26  
Saturday, November 18

Dear Gloria Dei,

Thank you for making 2016 such a good year for the children of Los Angelitos Orphanage. Your help and support made it possible to provide for 20 orphans and abandoned children, that otherwise had nowhere to go. You will be forever blessed for your kindness and generosity.

-Lizeth Ortiz Lopez





## DEI-LY DETAILS

(Anything that has no other place, volunteer lists, prayer requests, special announcements, numbers, and figures, a veritable potluck of stuff, jokes...)

### ATTENDANCE AND OFFERING

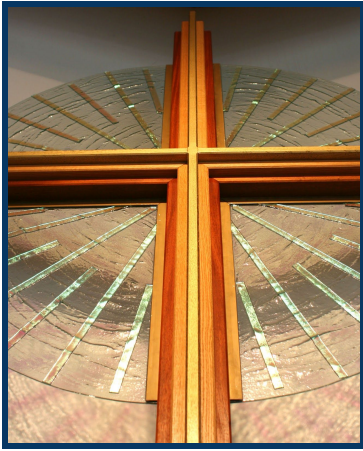
<u>1/1</u>	198	\$ 7,896.00
<u>1/8</u>	267	\$ 9,184.00
<u>1/15</u>	292	\$ 6,717.00
<u>1/22</u>	275	\$10,324.00

**"SIMPLY GIVING"** - Gloria Dei offers electronic giving, which allows you to make donations on a scheduled, automatic basis. Applications are available at the Visitor's Center or call the church office.

**GLORIA DEI ENDOWMENT FUND** - "What legacy will you leave?" Brochures are available in the pews and at the Welcome Center! Have you considered putting Gloria Dei in your will? If you would like to leave a lasting gift to your church, please consider doing so.

**THANKS** to your amazing musical team! I haven't been to service for awhile and that may have something to do with it, but I've just got to tell you that the music at the 4pm Christmas service was just so very exceptional! Hanna Lee, Kathy Person and that vocalist (Melody Versoza) - what a performance!!!! Enjoyed her tremendously. All three of you have a true feeling for music. In a word, the performance was FABULOUS! - Harry Meinholtz





# DEI-LY DUTIES

## FEBRUARY 2017 VOLUNTEERS

<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>
2/5	J. Skraba	R. Higgins	J. Moyer	D. Combe
2/12	D. Macher	L. Mers	B. Mesa	B. Cummings
2/19	D. Chernenkoff	J. Combe	E. Mills	P. Johnson
2/26	B. Keim	P. Johnson	J. Moyer	G. Rightmire
<u>ACOLYTE</u> (month)	C. Susag	L. Miertschin		
<u>USHER</u> (month)	J. Gustafson G. Rightmire	J. Cummings D. Dooley		
<u>COMMUNION ASST</u> (month)	J. Adams	F. Hettmann		
<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>				
2/5	K. Desmond	L. Flippen		
2/12	N. Ficken	S. Grady		
2/19	B&B Gillespie	J. Hettmann		
2/26	C. Jennings	L. Heuer & F. Houghton		
<u>WELCOME CENTER</u>				
2/5	N. Ficken	K&C. Anderson		
2/12	K. Desmond	R. Hanson		
2/19	P. Evans	D. Powell		
2/26	B&B Gillespie	S. Pyle		

## MARCH 2017 VOLUNTEERS

<u>LECTORS</u>	<u>8:30am</u>	<u>10:30am</u>	<u>5:00pm</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>
3/5	J. Luhan	S. Schroeder	A. Boicey	L. McCarty
3/12	P. Dubow	A. Hettmann	C. Simpson	G. Talstad
3/19	L. Ellis	M. Boland	J. Contestabile	D. Dooly
3/26	A. Luhan	A. McElwaine-Leto	B. Mesa	L. Mers
<u>ACOLYTE</u> (month)	J. Chernenkoff	A. Melschau		
<u>USHERS</u> (month)	L&W Morgan	G&D Powell T. Cawein		
<u>COMMUNION ASST</u> (month)	C. Backhus	W. Johnson		
<u>REFRESHMENTS</u>				
3/5	K. Chernenkoff	L. Mers		
3/12	S. Manville	P. Michalis		
3/19	J. Olson	D&D Pysz		
3/26	D&G Blanda	A&J St. Martin		
<u>WELCOME CENTER</u>				
3/5	D. Kelly	T. Seibert		
3/12	J. Skraba	G. Sherwood		
3/19	S. Manville	A&J St. Martin		
	G. Sels			
3/26	J. Olson	S&D Warneke		

# THE CONCORDIA CHOIR

*René Clausen, Conductor*

# CONCERT



**RENÉ CLAUSEN**  
*Conductor*

**Wednesday,  
March 8  
7 p.m.**

St. Edward the Confessor  
Catholic Church  
33926 Calle La Primavera  
Dana Point, Calif.

*Tickets available at  
ConcordiaTickets.com,  
800-838-3006 or at the door*

*Presented by Gloria Dei  
Lutheran Church and  
St. Edward the Confessor  
Catholic Church*



**STAGERIGHT**

The Concordia Choir performs  
on StageRight Choral Risers.

**CONCORDIA COLLEGE**  
Moorhead, Minnesota  
TheConcordiaChoir.org



**“exceptional”**  
*-Garrison Keillor*

**“so talented”**  
*-The King’s Singers*

**“you MUST see them”**  
*-Eric Whitacre*

The Concordia Choir of Moorhead, Minn., continues to affirm its reputation as one of America’s finest a cappella choirs. Since 1920, the 72-voice choir has performed in nearly every major hall including Carnegie Hall and Kennedy Center as well as numerous international tours.

A February 2010 performance and recording session with the Grammy Award-winning King’s Singers and multiple performances on Garrison Keillor’s “Prairie Home Companion” radio show highlight the Choir’s world-class quality. In May 2011 the choir toured South Korea and performed with Dr. Hak Won Yoon’s Incheon City Chorale.

The Concordia Choir is featured in the Emmy-winning Concordia Christmas Concerts, which are nationally broadcast on public

television. The choir’s recordings are distributed internationally and through iTunes, making it one of the top-selling choirs in the country.

Dr. René Clausen is the third conductor in the choir’s illustrious history, assuming the role in 1986. As a composer he has written more than 120 commissioned works. The Kansas City Chorale recording “Life and Breath: Choral Works by René Clausen” won two Grammy awards in 2013.

This year’s 2017 national tour of the Southwest spans 15 days and includes locations between Minneapolis and Los Angeles.

Learn more at [TheConcordiaChoir.org](http://TheConcordiaChoir.org)

# DEI-LY PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*"Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs..."*

**HEALING** - Tom Avery, Blaine Johnson, Gina Grefsrud, Ken Anderson, Len & Betty Michel, Debbie Campominosi, Ray Burke, Kristen Sears and Gloria Olson.

**ETERNAL HOPE** - For the family of Annette Jones.

**PEACE AND SAFETY** for all our service men and women now serving around the world.

**PRAYER CHAIN REQUEST** - To place a loved one on the Prayer Chain, call the church office at 949-493-3414.

## Letter from Child Share

Dear Pastor David, Pastor Sabrina, and the people of Gloria Dei, thank you once again for the gift cards. Your support and partnership is greatly appreciated. Many blessings to you this new year. Your generosity brought smiles and happiness to hundreds of children.

With much gratitude,

Kathy Hernandez, Child Share

(Child Share - "Finding Homes and Supporting Foster Families)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH AND PRESCHOOL

33501 Stonehill Drive, Dana Point, CA 92629

Church Office: (949) 493-3414; Fax: (949) 493-6479; Preschool: (949) 493-3414 x209

Website: [mygloriadei.org](http://mygloriadei.org); Email: [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org)

Facebook Page: [Facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint](https://www.facebook.com/GloriaDeiDanaPoint)

#### Staff Email Addresses:

Pastor David R. Mattson [pastordavid@mygloriadei.org](mailto:pastordavid@mygloriadei.org)

Pastor Sabrina Vasta [pastorsabrina@mygloriadei.org](mailto:pastorsabrina@mygloriadei.org)

Carol Weinhardt [gloriadei@mygloriadei.org](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org); Shelli Parajekas [preschool@mygloriadei.org](mailto:preschool@mygloriadei.org);

Paige Gulck [youth@mygloriadei.org](mailto:youth@mygloriadei.org); Barbara Collins [sundayschool@mygloriadei.org](mailto:sundayschool@mygloriadei.org)



# FEBRUARY 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 10am Women's Bible Study  4pm TOPS  6pm DHHS/Baja (Sanctuary)	<b>2</b> 5:30pm TAG Dinner & Games 6:10pm Kid's Music & Lesson 6:30pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sanc. Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 9am Prayer Shawl Ministry
<b>5</b> 8:30am Worship 9:40am Education 10:30am Worship  5pm Worship	<b>6</b>  7pm Al-anon	<b>7</b> 7am Breakfast Study (Rj's)  6:30pm Men's Bridge 7pm RIOT Reading Group (Marie Callendars)	<b>8</b> 10am Women's Bible Study  4pm TOPS	<b>9</b> 5:30pm TAG Dinner & Games 6:10pm Kid's Music & Lesson 6:30pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sanc. Choir	<b>10</b> 6:30pm Appetizers & Wine 7pm WWII Love Songs (hosted by Primetimers)	<b>11</b> 8am Men's Breakfast
<b>12</b> 8:30am Worship 9:40am Education 10:30am Worship  5pm Worship 6pm Fantasy Football Party (Fratello's)	<b>13</b>  7pm Al-anon	<b>14</b>  6:30pm Heart Lifters - D. Combe	<b>15</b> 10am Women's Bible Study  4pm TOPS	<b>16</b> 5:30pm TAG Dinner & Games 6:10pm Kid's Music & Lesson 6:30pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sanc. Choir	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 8:30am Serra's Pantry (SJC)
<b>19</b> 8:30am Worship 9:40am Education 10:30am Worship  5pm Worship	<b>20</b>  7pm Al-anon	<b>21</b> 7am Breakfast Study (Rj's)  7pm Jamba & Jesus High School Outing 7pm Council Meeting	<b>22</b> 10am Women's Bible Study  4pm TOPS  7pm GIFT @ Pysz's home	<b>23</b> 5:30pm TAG Dinner & Games 6:10pm Kid's Music & Lesson 6:30pm Adult Ed 6:30pm Bell Choir 7:30pm Sanc. Choir -TAG Ends-	<b>24</b>  6pm Fat Friday Fellowship- location TBD	<b>25</b> 9:30am Quilting Group 1:00 - 3:00 Confirmation volunteering at Second Harvest Food Bank
<b>26</b> 8:30am Worship 9:40am Education 10:30am Worship 5pm Worship  New Council installation at respective services attended	<b>27</b> 7pm GIFT@ Warneke's  7pm Al-anon	<b>28</b> 6pm Preschool Parent Meeting -Classroom 6pm DHHS/Baja (Sanctuary) 6:30pm Heart Lifters - D. Combe	<b>March 1</b> Ash Wednesday 12 noon Worship  4pm TOPS 6pm Soup Supper 7pm Worship			