



I BRING GOOD NEWS TO YOU—
WONDERFUL, JOYOUS NEWS FOR
ALL PEOPLE. —LUKE 2:10

Newsletter December 2015

Waiting

Waiting is one of the key words of Advent, which makes sense given that we wait with Mary for Jesus to be born. We wait for the heavenly hosts to shout, “Glory to God!” We wait for shepherds to hear the good news of the birth of Jesus. We wait for Christmas celebrations filled with unruly sheep, favorite carols, and candlelit splendor. And, in the midst of our deeply troubled world, we wait with all creation for Christ to come in glory.

Yet, even as Advent would focus our hearts and minds on waiting, the waiting we experience in December often has little to do with the incarnation. Rather, these four weeks seem to be the time we wait in lines at stores and in the post office. We wait for people and packages to arrive. We wait in traffic on the highways. We wait on the phone to place an order, make a reservation, or lodge a complaint. We wait to see if our desires will be met at Christmas. There’s lots of waiting during the season of Advent but very little of it seems to focus on waiting for Christ to be born in us and in our world.

Usually, I find myself in December encouraging myself and others to get out of the lines, to skip the mad rush, to let go of the parties, and to find times and places to wait peacefully for the coming of Christ. Certainly, I hope you will resist the frenzy of the season and join Rev. Sarah and me at the Monastery for worship or their workshop on “Waiting in the Dark” or on Wednesday mornings for “Contemplative Prayer” or on Wednesday evenings for “Advent Bible Study” or on Thursday afternoons for “Advent Reflections” in Tea and Talk. But Gurilla Norris’ poem “*The Found Treasure of Time*” offers a different way of opening ourselves to Christ in the midst of the waiting. She invites us to transform the forced waiting of the season into moments of grace and peace.

*“With more awareness we may discover/
That small gaps in our daily round/
Can be places of silence. They are found times/
Or rather the moments in which we ourselves are found.//
Mostly they come when we are waiting/
In the doctor’s office, on the telephone,/
In traffic jams,/
in the checkout line./
In just those moments we have an opportunity/
To turn our attention to our physical being,/
To the rhythm of our breath,/
To the texture and feel of things around us.//
By noticing particulars we can also begin/
To notice the space in which they are held.../
The vastness that holds everything--/
The great lap of silence.//
These waiting moments in our daily round/
Can turn out to be treasures. We can allow them/
To support us instead of distracting us/
Or blocking us.//
Here in each day is a wealth of time/
We can take advantage of. They are breath breaks/
If we learn to rest and renew in them/
Our lives will go from disconnection and haste/
To breathtaking presence.”*

In stillness and in finding stillness in the midst of frenzy, may we open ourselves to the “breathtaking presence.” May Christ be born in us today. Merry Christmas,

Jane⁺

Dear Friends,

My strongest and deepest experiences of God's liberating love have come from travelling to new places outside of the U.S. Going to a place I have never been before forces me to admit that I do need God! Surrounded by a new environment and new people I know that my dependence on God is natural and unavoidable.

As an adult I have been blessed to travel to Europe, the Caribbean and Africa. I lived with a family in Nantes, France for a semester in college. I provided pastoral care and taught Vacation Bible School at churches in Jamaica during seminary. After graduation I joined a pilgrimage to South Africa with the Rev. Mpho Tutu. And now after lifetime of waiting I was able to travel to the Holy Land with Bishop Gayle Harris and 30 others from our Diocese.

In the Bible we find stories and writings that describe the landscape of the Holy Land: the hot sand, the solid stones and the life-giving cool water. The land itself hasn't changed but the buildings and people have changed. Groups of have been exiled, kingdoms have come and gone, religious groups waged war one another. Temples, churches and mosques were built or destroyed. Roads were moved or paved over.

The season of Advent holds the tension of travelling and sacred geography. Joseph and Mary travel to a foreign, or at least new to them, place in preparation for the birth of Jesus. Where most women might want to remain home in those final weeks, Mary must ride a donkey without the guarantee of shelter at the end of the journey. At the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem, we pilgrims attended an early morning Holy Eucharist. After the service, the priests showed us the spot where they believe Mary gave birth to Jesus. The stones look like any other stones you might find here in Lynn or Rockport and yet they were more than stones. Amidst the chaos of travelling and not finding a room, these solid stones held Joseph, Mary and Jesus. They offered the only hospitality available to this new family.

After seeing these stones, I'm reminded that Advent is a journey. It doesn't matter where we start or how we get there, but we do need MOVE! We need to get up from what feels good and comfortable and walk towards the unknown despite the uncertainty and fear. We must travel to the miracle of Christmas trusting that the grace of God will travel with us over the hills and into the deep valleys of our souls.

I hope we can journey together on Sunday, December 6 after church for my own reflections and photos from the "Journey to Bethlehem."

Advent peace and Christmas blessings!

Sarah

A Season of Thanks

As I write this piece, the fair (at least the major part of it) has been over for two days. Thanksgiving is three days away. Christmas is a little more than a month away. For the first time a chill is in the air, letting us know that winter is not far away.

During this busy time of year, we have been discussing gratitude. Webster's Dictionary says that gratitude is a feeling of appreciation or thanks. We all like to be appreciated and thanked. At this time I want to thank the members of the 2015 Fair Team for all the work they did to make this year's fair possible: Marilyn Cloran, Sally Gosselin, Lucinda McClain, Neil O'Donnell, Josephine Russo, Ruthanne and Steve Switzer. Of course we can't forget to also thank Rev. Jane Gould for her leadership. The ad book came together due to the hard work of Carolyn Hoy. Our sexton, Mark Gendreau set up tables and did extra duty as the master of our Pot of Gold drawing. Our office manager, Linda Midland generated reams of forms and paperwork, made lists of items, answered phone calls and stayed cheerful through all the demands and distractions of her office days. During the week leading up to the fair, Shanel Anderson, accompanied by Kingston, and Ginny Fuller helped to set up items. On the day of the fair other parishioners worked at tables, in the kitchen, or in the café. Please join me in thanking all of them.

If you haven't helped with the fair in the past, make a mental note to get involved next year. There are so many things to do that make it happen, everyone can do something. The fundraisers throughout the year are important events in the life of the church and need all of us to be involved.

Since last April the name Levi Whitcomb has been in the bulletin and your prayers have been requested for Irene and family. My ten year old grandson Levi has started his fifth chemotherapy session at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston today. His test results look good at this time. All of the prayers and positive thoughts sent his way, not to mention the cards and other contributions are appreciated by our family even more than any words can say. Gratitude does not even begin to describe our feelings, especially at this time of year. My daughter Jennifer posted a picture of Levi from one year ago on her Facebook page and the contrast with his appearance then and now is startling to say the least. However, she writes about how grateful she is that he is alive and working so hard to be well.

Even though this piece may seem to wander for one topic to another, gratitude is indeed the common theme. I am grateful to be a member of this church and to have the opportunity to use my skills and talents here. I am most especially grateful to be a member of this wonderful diverse family.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Irene V. Axelrod

STEWARDS OF RESOURCES

VESTRY SUMMARY: NOVEMBER 15. The Vestry received input and discussed the installation of holy water fonts in the church and chapel, reviewed year-to-date financials, discussed "income" in the draft 2016 budget including possible new sources of income, received information from the Stewardship Ministry Team about pledge follow up calls, met with leaders of the NS Caribbean Association to discuss collaboration of KIC Music with the Crystal Panjammers, discussed the Safford and Wing bequests for dining room and kitchen renovations, and solicited Vestry support (including an ad) of the Fair.

STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY TEAM PLANS PLEDGE FOLLOW UP. As we reach toward our pledge goal of \$133,000, the Stewardship Ministry Team and Vestry will make pledge follow up phone calls in December to encourage previous pledgers to return their 2016 pledge commitment cards and to inspire new people to join the ranks of pledging members. Already 62 households have pledged \$86,877, which means we are almost two-thirds of the way to our goal. Please pledge so that we can continue to be Vessels of God's love and care.

PLEDGE PAY UP SUNDAY IS DECEMBER 6. Our budget assumes 100% pledge payment and we depend on all of you making that happen. On December 6, the Treasurer will post in the Galahad Area and on the Office Door a list with Pledge Envelope Numbers (not names) and pledge amounts remaining to be paid. For those who do not have envelopes, please stop by the Treasurer's Office to receive your update. An end-of-year positive financial position depends on all of us paying our pledges.

BUY YOUR MULTI-GIFT RAFFLE TICKETS

**GRAND PRIZE: ONE NIGHTS AT THE
WESTIN BOSTON WATERFRONT; BREAKFAST AT SAUCIETY**

SECOND PRIZES:

Nutri Ninja iQ 1100 Watt Blender OR 7" Fire Tablet Bundle w/ 32 GB microSD card

THIRD PRIZES: \$50 GIFT CARDS

\$50 WalMart OR \$50 Stop & Shop OR \$50 Olive Garden

BUY YOUR SUPER SPORTS RAFFLE TICKETS

TWO PATRIOTS TICKETS

December 20, 2015: Patriots vs. Tennessee Titans in Foxboro

TWO BRUINS TICKETS

January 26, 2016: Bruins vs. Anaheim Ducks at the Garden

Tickets cost: \$2.00 or 6 for \$10

Drawing at "Journey to Bethlehem" on December 6

FAIR PROVIDES FUN & FUND RAISING. Deep gratitude to the scores of you who contributed to the Fair through your donations of time, talent, and treasure. Special thanks to the Fair leadership Team: Irene Axelrod, Marilyn Cloran, Sally Gosselin, Carolyn Hoy, Lucinda McClain, Neil O'Donnell, and Ruthanne & Steve Switzer. While we don't yet have a Fair total, our Fair weekend deposit was over \$4,000. As Fair season continues, **help us meet our Fair fundraising goal by buying & selling raffle tickets and spending generously at the Mini-Fair on Sunday, December 6.** Fair season ends on the 6th with "*Journey to Bethlehem.*" We will offer lunch followed by Rev. Sarah's reflections on her time in the Holy Land and a Christmas Craft program for children. After "*Journey to Bethlehem*", we will enjoy dessert and DRAW WINNERS OF THE SUPER SPORTS AND MULTI-PRIZE RAFFLES. The Mini-Fair, 9:00am-1:30pm, will feature new gifts for sale as well as Special Same Day Raffles.

ST. STEPHEN'S TIFFANY WINDOW NOTECARDS FOR SALE. Tiffany note cards are on sale for personal use or giving as gifts. Packages of 10 cards cost \$10. The assorted pack includes 2 each of 5 designs. We also have single card packs, which offer ten cards of Mary from the Annunciation window, or ten lilies in pastel pink, blue and green from a small window below the Annunciation window. Packages can be purchased in the office or from Marilyn Cloran at church; they can be mailed for an additional \$3. Marilyn and Rick Cloran took the photos.

NORTH SHORE DEANERY INVITES CREATION OF LDI TEAMS. On Tuesday, December 1 at 6:00 at Ascension, Ipswich, the Diocesan Leadership Development Initiative will offer "An Intro to the LDI" for parishes hoping to be part of this year's NS LDI Cohort. Participation in the leadership training is funded by the NS Mission Hub. Please join our NS Deanery delegates on the 1st as we imagine how God might be calling us into mission. All are welcome.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR LEADERS. Our Parish, Deanery, and Diocese need leaders and the good news is that the leaders we need are sitting in our pews. Please think, pray, and talk to Nominating Committee members Bob Dixon, Conrad Squires, and Joyce Wallace as you reflect on whether God might be calling you to serve.

NURTURING THE CONGREGATION

ARE YOU READY FOR THE ADVENT JOURNEY? The four weeks of Advent can often feel like a blur. After recovering from the overeating of Thanksgiving, we rush headlong into the decorating, shopping, and worrying that precipitate Christmas. But as we are reminded by Dr. Seuss' beloved story The Grinch, Christmas will come without "presents, packages and bows." So instead of racing to Christmas, try the Advent Journey. Pray, meditate, read, worship and serve as you anticipate Jesus' birth on December 25. In the Galahad Area you will find resources for adults and children to journey through Advent.

WORSHIP DECEMBER 1 & WORKSHOP DECEMBER 5 AT THE MONASTERY. On Tuesday, December 1 (leaving St. Stephen's at 4:15pm), we will join the SSJE Brothers for worship and supper at the Monastery. And on Saturday, December 5 (leaving St. Stephen's at 7:45am), we will participate in "Waiting in the Dark", an Advent workshop focused on finding light in the midst of darkness. The Monastery Chapel is a place of quiet beauty, which lends itself to Advent's encouragement of waiting quietly for God to be born in us. Sign up is required but please join us for both Advent Field Trips.

ADVENT STUDY & REFLECTION OPPORTUNITIES. Wednesdays at 10:00am take a break from busy-ness and enjoy an hour of “Contemplative Prayer.” We will meet in the candlelit church for a structured time of prayer. Wednesday evenings at 6:30, Bible Study will use LOVE Revealed, a Biblically-based Advent study program. On Thursdays at 1:00, following our noon worship with healing prayers, Tea and Talk about Faith will read and discuss a series of Advent reflections by spiritual writers across the centuries. Take time in the midst of the busy-ness to prepare for Jesus being born in you.

HEALING PRAYER AND PASTORAL CARE TEAMS MEET DECEMBER 3. The Healing Prayer and Pastoral Care Teams will meet at 10:30 on Thursday, December 3rd. We will check in and discuss Part I (pages 9-28) of Lay Pastoral Care Giving.

BLUE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ON DECEMBER 17 AT 6:30. We all know that the holidays can be difficult when pain and loss make life hard. In our Blue Christmas service, we offer a chance to offer to God the pain, disappointment and loss of our lives as we recognize the reality that “the light came into the world and the darkness did not overcome it.” We light candles in the darkness; we hear words of comfort and strength; we offer prayers for healing and wholeness; and we gather at God’s table to be fed. As Christians, we believe that nothing can overcome the light of Christ in our lives and in the world but this does not mean that we must pretend that our lives are all that God and we would want them to be. Join us for Blue Christmas and bring with you those for whom you suspect this holiday season may be hard.

LIVING WORD WORSHIP WITH MARY ON DECEMBER 20. Our Living Word Worship in December will focus on the words of Mary who was on her own Advent journey. The Church School team will tell the story of Elizabeth’s baby (John the Baptist) leaping in her womb at the sound of Mary’s voice. The sermon conversations will reflect on the Mary’s response to Elizabeth, which we know as the Magnificat. Worship God, study the Word, and pray with us on this last Sunday before Christmas.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DECEMBER 20 AT 5:00. Join us at 5:00pm on Sunday, December 20 for Spirited singing, table Eucharist, powerful prayers, and reflection on “**What is God growing in you?**” During our reflection time, we will create “Identity Boxes” that hold what we show on the outside and what we carry inside that God is growing in us. Feel encouraged to bring photos or other expressive objects that you want to include in your box. But know that you may arrive empty handed because we will have plenty of bits for you to use to create your own box. All ages are welcome!

DECK THE HALLS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT NOON. The timing of Christmas is perfect this year for a community church decorating party; help us Deck the Halls after church on December 20. While young people practice for the Pageant, adults will eat. And then we will transform the church from Advent to Christmas. We will clean, hang, arrange and polish. The more people who lend a hand, the more we can do to beautify our church for Christmas.

POINSETTIAS GIVE TWICE. Please complete the enclosed form to contribute to our Christmas decorating fund by offering a memorial or thanksgiving donation. On December 27 following Christmas Lessons & Carols, please help us deliver poinsettias to our homebound members. It’s a blessing to spread St. Stephen’s Christmas cheer.

**JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON
JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

6:30PM BLUE CHRISTMAS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24—CHRISTMAS EVE

5:30PM CHRISTMAS PAGEANT WITH CAROLS & COMMUNION

10:00PM CHRISTMAS CAROL SING

10:30 CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25—CHRISTMAS

10:00AM CHRISTMAS COMMUNION WITH CAROLS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

8:00AM HOLY COMMUNION WITH SERMON

10:00AM CHRISTMAS CAROL SING WITH COMMUNION

HOSPITALITY TO CHILDREN, YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

ADVENT IS NOT CHRISTMAS. SO HOW DO WE DO ADVENT? Yes the stores are playing Christmas music and advertising their holiday sales, but that doesn't mean we should skip over the season of Advent. The next four weeks of preparation require time and space to reflect on what Jesus is bringing into the world on December 25. Resource packets are available in the Galahad Area to help your family observe Advent both at church and at home.

TIME TO GET READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT. Calling all actors and actresses from infants to high schoolers to prepare for and participate in the St. Stephen's Christmas Pageant held at the 5:30pm Christmas Eve service. We have parts for all: speakers, readers, singers, watchers, dancers, and sheep! The purple sign up forms are in the Galahad area and can be given to Rev. Sarah or Rev. Jane. Rehearsals are held after 10:00am worship on Sundays starting November 29. We need adults to help with organizing, directing, and feeding the cast.

KIC MUSIC CONCERT & SUPPER DECEMBER 9 AT 6:00. The KIC Music program continues to thrive. We have welcomed 4 new children in November, meaning we now have over 20 participants coming each Monday and Wednesday after school. This month, our older children started learning Brazilian instruments and rhythms, and the younger children have been playing "body percussion," among a variety of other activities. Those who were at the Fair at 1:30 on November 21 were treated to a KIC Music Mini-Concert. The kids and staff at KIC Music would love for the congregation to share in what we're doing. Please join us for our next KIC community dinner, on Wednesday, December 9 at 6:00 pm, in the dining room. The KIC Music kids help prepare the meal for themselves, their families, the congregation, and the community. All ages are welcome, and children and other guests will also get a chance to try out the drums themselves. We hope to see you on the 9th!

YOUNG ADULTS BUILD COMMUNITY OVER FOOD & CONVERSATION. Several generations of Oasis gather on first Tuesdays to enjoy food and fellowship at our monthly YA Dinner. Join us on **Tuesday, December 8 at 5:30 for a Film, Faith, and Our Futures outing to see *Creed*.** All 18-25 year olds are encouraged to join us at the church for a quick supper before heading to the Revere Cinemas. Each YA is asked to contribute \$5.00 to help cover costs.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION DECEMBER 18. Our Middle School, BE YOU and OASIS Youth Groups will gather together for a joint Holiday Celebration 6:30-9 on Friday, December 18. Join us to celebrate the season and the success of the Christmas Presents Project for Kids. We will meet downstairs for yummy treats, holiday art, music and more! Please see Jason Cruz or Rev. Sarah for more information.

KIDS' CHOIR SINGS AGAIN. Kids' Choir will sing on Sunday, December 20 as we focus our worship on the Annunciation. For music education and for performance preparation, young people need to attend Choir Practice Saturdays, December 5 and 19 from noon to 2:00. All young people in 2nd grade and higher are encouraged to join the Choir. We also need parent helpers. Please call the parish office or talk to Juliana Davis for more information.

ELF GIFT DISTRIBUTION ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20. The people of Trinity Church in Topsfield are eagerly shopping for Elf gifts for our St. Stephen's children and youth. If you signed up your child/children for Elf gifts please pick them up after 10am worship on Sunday, December 20.

REGISTER NOW FOR BCH IN FEBRUARY. Senior High Retreat, February 5-7. Winter Camp for grades 7-11, February 15-20. For fun-filled faith or faithful fun, tweens and teens are invited to register now for time at BCH in February. You can register online at bchcenter.org or see Rev. Sarah. Scholarships are available but spaces fill up fast!

DEEPENING COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

OASIS TOY DRIVE IS HERE! CPPK 2015 IN FULL SWING! Sign-ups for the Christmas Presents Project for Kids were crowded with Lynn families who depend on the food from our weekly Food Pantry. On Tuesday, December 8, the BE YOU and OASIS groups will travel to Boston to sell inspiring art at our Diocesan Offices. The last day to sign up for gifts is December 4th (4:30-6pm). Shopping Day is happening on the Saturday, December 12 (9am-2pm) and Distribution Day is on Thursday, December 17th (4-6pm). Please let Rev. Sarah or Jason Cruz know if you'd like to donate money, a gift, and/or your time to support CPPK 2015. We definitely need help organizing bags Sunday, December 13, 2-6pm.

MANY THANKS TO THE WITTRUPS FOR ANOTHER FABULOUS SPAGHETTI SUPPER. Once again, the Wittrups rescued us from turkey leftovers and commercial Christmas-hype by hosting the Annual CPPK Spaghetti Supper Fundraiser on Saturday, November 28. We wrapped up ordinary time with a flourish as crowded tables, plentiful food, and lots of laughter filled the Wittrups home and helped the teens raise money to buy toys for children in the community. Thank you Sandy, Kent, and Family for spoiling us and helping a good cause!


ECCO ANNUAL MEETING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 AT 6:00. ECCO has a lot to celebrate this year! During the nine weeks of signature gathering for the Fair Share amendment, **79 ECCO leaders from 16 congregations including St. Stephen's collected 4,505 signatures!** The Fair Share Amendment now goes to the State Constitutional Convention; if passed, it will generate 1.3 billion dollars each year for public education and transportation infrastructure by increasing the tax rate for Massachusetts residents earning over one million dollars a year. ECCO's work significantly contributed to the 22,000-plus signatures collected by faith institutions through MCAN! In fact, MCAN collected the most signatures of any community-based group in the state. The Raise Up Coalition collected over 155,000 signatures to advance economic justice in our communities. This year, ECCO leaders also developed strategies to address racial profiling in the city of Lynn, responded to President Obama's Executive Order on immigration, and made a pilgrimage to see Pope Francis in Philadelphia. As our members take leadership on these campaigns they are experiencing personal transformation and creating power for their communities. **Come ECCO Annual Meeting and Potluck on Thursday, December 3 at 6:00pm at St. Andrew's in Marblehead.** Come to St. Stephen's at 5:30 if you need a ride. .

ECM ADVENT RETREAT AT ST. STEPHEN'S ON DECEMBER 5. On Saturday, December 5, 9:00-12:30, Episcopal City Mission invites everyone to "Preparing for the Prince of Peace: An ECM Mission Discernment Day". ECM will provide the program and the food but we need people to show St. Stephen's-style hospitality beginning at 8:30am. Please let the clergy know if you can be part of Team St. Stephen's on December 5.

MANY THANKS FOR THANKSGIVING ABUNDANCE. On Friday, November 20, thanks to the generosity of parishioners and our allotment from the Greater Boston Food Bank, the St. Stephen's Food Pantry distributed a room full of turkey and trimmings to families and individuals who depend on our Pantry. On Wednesday, November 25, we gave out more groceries and our last remaining turkeys to folks who needed a little help. We also let folks know what local restaurants provide a free meal on Thanksgiving. We continued our celebration of abundance on November 22, when we collected the United Thank Offering to support development work around the world as well as the bags and boxes generated by the Church School Can Drive. To highlight the abundance of the season, we thank Lucinda McClain and Helen Patmon for the beauty of our Harvest Altar, which was bountifully decorated with fruits and vegetables.

LEND A HELPING HAND. Fridays, 3:00-4:00 and Wednesday, December 23, 3:00-4:00, help our Food Pantry give out groceries. We also give away books and clothes most weeks. Extra hands and generous hearts are always appreciated. **On Saturday, December 5, 9:00-10:30,** help the Lynn Hunger Network and Greater Boston Food Bank meet the need of families hurt by the closing of the St. Mary's/ Sacred Heart and Lynn City Mission Food Pantries. In November, ably assisted by our own Harry Jackson, LHN&GBFB distributed 22,000 pounds of food. Join Harry at St. Mary's on December 5 because the numbers are high (over 500 people expected) and the need is great. **Join the St. Stephen's Table Team on Sunday, December 27, 1:00-4:00, because holidays are hard and we have a chance to spread some Christmas cheer.** Desserts are greatly appreciated. **Also, we are collecting coats in good condition for children and adults to give to folks at My Brother's Table.**

December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>SUNDAYS 8 & 10am Worship in English</p> <p>10am Worship in Kiswahili</p>		<p>1 3:30-5:30pm Be You Monks 4:15pm Tuesday with the Monks 6pm NS Deanery, Intro to LDI, Ascension, Ipswich 6:30pm Knitters' Club 7pm NA</p>	<p>2 10am Contemplative Prayer 2-6pm KIC Music 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>3 10:30am Healing Prayer & Pastoral Care Teams Meeting Noon Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1pm Tea & Talk 6pm ECCO Annual Meeting</p>	<p>4 4:30-6pm Final CPPK Sign Up</p>	<p>5 7:45-1:30pm SSJE "Waiting in Darkness" 9-noon ECM Advent Retreat at St. Stephen's 9-12:30am Sewing Club 9-10:30am food Truck Distribution 10am Choir Rehearsal 12-2pm Kids' Choir</p>
<p>6 Mini Fair Post 10am Worship: Journey to Bethlehem - Lunch Provided RAFFLE Drawings 1:30pm</p>	<p>7 2-6pm KIC Music 8pm AA</p>	<p>8 3:30-5:30pm Be You 6pm Finance Committee 5:30pm YA Dinner 6:30pm Knitters' Club 7pm ECCO Beloved Community Planning 7pm NA</p>	<p>9 10am Contemplative Prayer 2-6pm KIC Music 6pm KIC Music Concert & Supper 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>10 Noon Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1pm Tea & Talk 6pm St. Stephen's Towers Annual Meeting</p>	<p>11 3-4pm Food Pantry 6:30-9pm OASIS</p>	<p>12 9am CPPK Shopping Day 9-10:30am Sewing Club 10am Choir Rehearsal</p>
<p>13 12:15pm Vestry Meeting</p>	<p>14 2-6pm KIC Music 8pm AA</p>	<p>15 3:30-5:30pm Be You 6:30pm Knitters' Club 7pm NA</p>	<p>16 10am Contemplative Prayer 2-6pm KIC Music 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>17 Noon Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1pm Tea & Talk 4-6pm CPPK Distribution Day 6:30pm Blue Christmas</p>	<p>18 3-4pm Food Pantry 6:30-9pm Youth Christmas celebration</p>	<p>19 9-10:30am Sewing Club 10am Choir Rehearsal 12-2pm Kids' Choir</p>
<p>20 10am Living Word Worship w/ Kids' Choir Post 10am worship Deck the Halls - Lunch Provided 5pm Contemporary Worship</p>	<p>21 8pm AA</p>	<p>22 6:30pm Knitters' Club 7pm NA</p>	<p>23 10am Contemplative Prayer 3-4pm Food Pantry 6:30pm Bible Study</p>	<p>24 5:30pm Christmas Pageant with Communion 10pm Christmas Carol Sing 10:30pm Candlelit Communion with Choir</p>	<p>25 10am Christmas Communion <i>Christmas</i> </p>	<p>26 St. Stephen's Day</p>
<p>27 10am Christmas Lessons & Carols 1-4pm My Brother's Table</p>	<p>28 8pm AA</p>	<p>29 7pm NA</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 Noon Eucharist & Healing Prayers 1pm Tea & Talk</p>	<p>Office Hours 8:45am-2:45pm</p>	