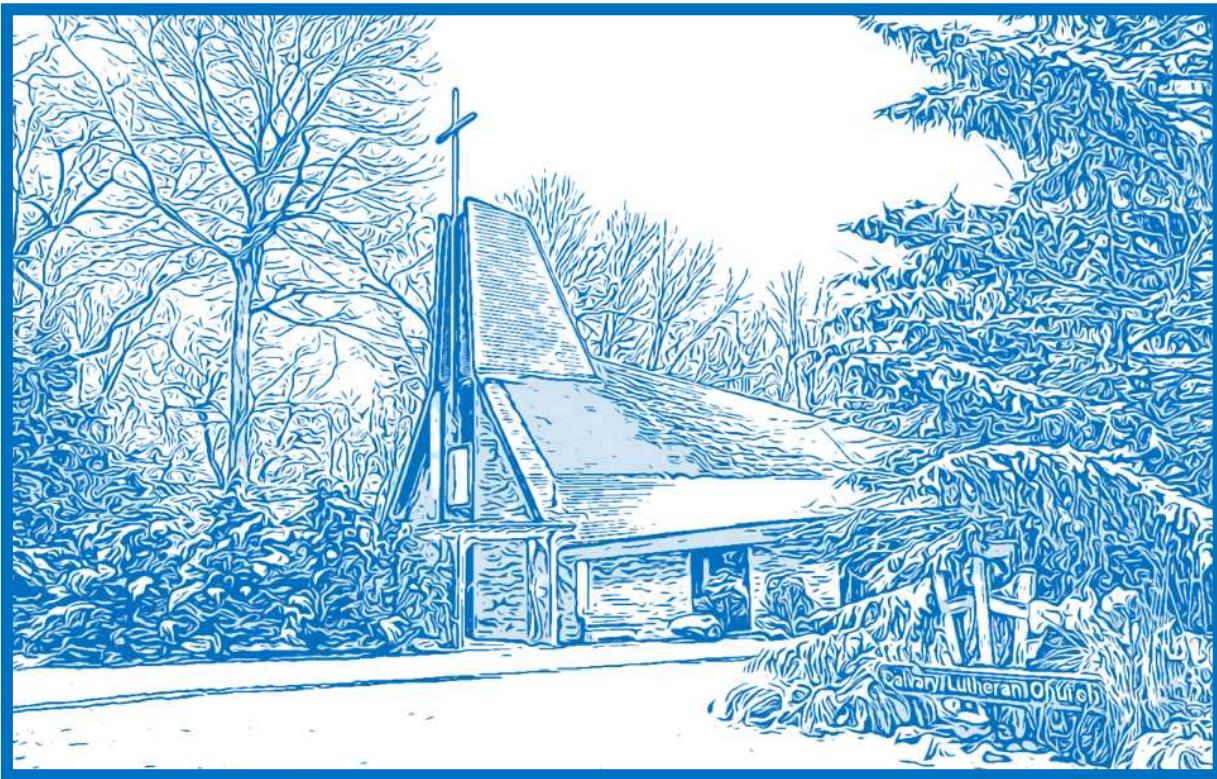


# Come and See



*what's happening at  
Calvary Lutheran Church*

165 West Crescent Ave  
201-327-4786

Allendale New Jersey  
<http://calvaryluth.org>

*January 2026*

**Calvary's Mission Statement**

*To teach and display the love of Christ  
by connecting with people of all walks of life  
through worship, discipleship, and outreach to our community.*

# It's Un-decorating Time

Your Help is Needed!

It's time to put away the Christmas decorations.

**Sunday, January 11 after worship service**

snowdate: Saturday, January 17 9:30 AM

Please come and give whatever time and assistance you can.

If you donated a poinsettia, feel free to take it home.



**The Annual Congregational Meeting  
for 2025 Reports and  
2026 Ministry Spending Plan Approval  
is Sunday, January 25th**

**immediately following the worship service.**

**All confirmed members  
are encouraged to attend.**

This meeting is a review and celebration of the past year and looking forward to the possibilities of life together as Calvary Lutheran Church this year.

Your presence at this meeting is important!

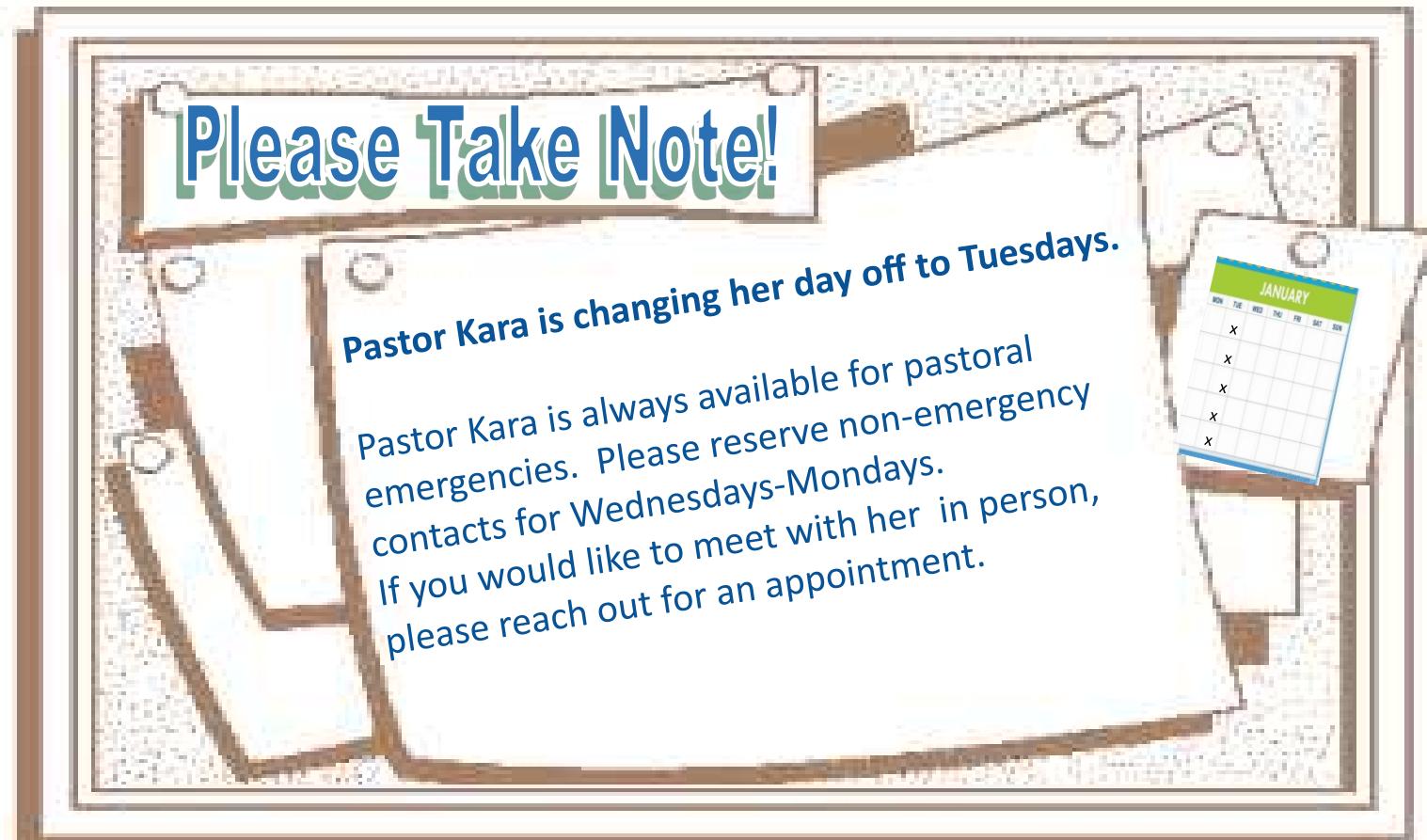
Please come to worship together and participate in the decisions that guide us to be church together.

# January Worship Assistants



Date / Color	Altar Guild	Communion Assistants	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Counters
4 white	Kathy Peterson	Alma Costello Kristine Nooney	Mike Levitzke	Mike Levitzke	J. Peterson M. Levitzke	N.Roller S.Strauch
11 white	Kathy Peterson	****	Christina Metri	Petersons	G. Strauch J.Peterson	N.Roller S.Strauch
18 white	Alma Costello	****	Jon Tangen	Glaesers	J. Tangen N. Roller	N.Roller S.Strauch
25 green	Alma Costello	****	George Strauch	Petersons	G. Strauch M. Levitzke	N.Roller S.Strauch
Feb 1 green	Alma Costello	Christina Metri George Strauch	Christine Souza	Christina Metri	J. Tangen N.Roller	A.Costello L.Nooney

**WORSHIP ASSISTANTS - PLEASE NOTE:** In case of a conflict, please find a substitute and then inform the church office at 201-327-4786.



# OUTREACH

## OPPORTUNITIES to REACH OUT

SOUPER  
BOWL  
2026

THE CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION's shelves need restocking after the holidays.

Winter brings additional stress for our neighbors who are experiencing food and home insecurity so starting **January 1 thru February 14**, we will be collecting **HEARTY SOUPS**.

Please look for special sales and buy a can or two.

Last year we donated 177 cans! Let's try to top that!!

### 2026 Polar Bear Plunge at Seaside Heights



**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

**Date: February 28, 2026**

**Location:** Seaside Heights Boardwalk  
50 Blaine Avenue  
Seaside Heights, NJ 08751

**Time:** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Plungers help **Special Olympics** provide year-round training and services to thousands of athletes with intellectual disabilities across the state.

Calvary's team is forming now. Please contact Tori Gooden at [gooden\\_victoria@yahoo.com](mailto:gooden_victoria@yahoo.com) and join the fun!

Thank you for your support and donations! Calvary was able to supply 25 satchels to the **Christmas-at-Sea program**.

At this time, we have depleted our reserves and now must begin again to collect hoodies, socks, t-shirts, and knitted hats. If you wish to participate but cannot shop, let us know. We will shop for you.

Attention All Knitters – purchased hats are fine but not nearly as warm, cozy and personal as the hand-knitted hats. Yarn and patterns are available.





**PROJECT SMILE** provides good dental hygiene/health for our neighbors in Haiti and Honduras. Please consider donating individually wrapped toothbrushes and toothpaste (large size with fluoride.) A receptacle is in the narthex. Your participation in this, as in all Outreach projects, is appreciated.

Christine Souza!



This past weekend we concluded our second Lay Preaching Program! We are grateful for these lay leaders, the months of work they've put in, and the time spent together preaching, listening, and sharing the word of God. (ELCA NJ Synod)

### Christine Souza Completed Lay Preacher Training!

Christine Souza recently completed an eight week lay preaching course that was offered by the New Jersey Synod. Christine enjoyed the class, which ended with an in person retreat on Saturday, November 15th. She delivered her sermon to her classmates and members of the clergy at that time and looks forward to sharing it with the congregation on Sunday, February 22, 2026.



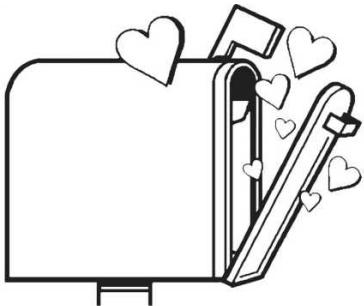
### BLESSINGS ON YOUR January BIRTHDAY

January 3 Matthew McCue  
Samantha O'Connell  
Dawn Rohsler  
January 4 Chapman Grumbles  
January 5 Thomas Ewald  
January 5 Thomas Johnson  
January 6 Kelsey Heitman  
January 7 Nancy Holland  
William Kemball-Cook  
January 9 Betty MacFarran  
Bennett Derrico  
January 14 River Budesa  
January 16 Alison Piercy

Your Calvary family wishes you  
a happy birthday and  
joy in the year to come.

January 18 Bill Scher  
Jenny Fullam  
January 19 MaryAnn Veleber  
January 21 Louis Ludwig  
January 22 Laura O'Leary  
January 23 Aidan Feeley  
Susan Poff  
January 24 Kristine Nooney  
January 25 Christine Kinahan  
Jessica O'Dell  
January 27 Christine Souza  
Debra Alexander  
January 29 Pearl Weller

If we miss your birthday, please let the office know! We are working to update records



## College Student Valentine Update

Our college student Valentine Care Package tradition has brought smiles to many of our young adults over the years! We would like to keep the tradition going even if your college student is still living at home. Everybody needs a study break treat.

Parents who have a college student, please reach out to Laurie Jacober with your student's name and college experience location. Even if we only have one or two, keep the tradition going!

If you would like to join in the effort you can donate some treats or make a monetary donation and let the Caring Committee do the shopping for the treats! There will be a box for both in the Narthex.

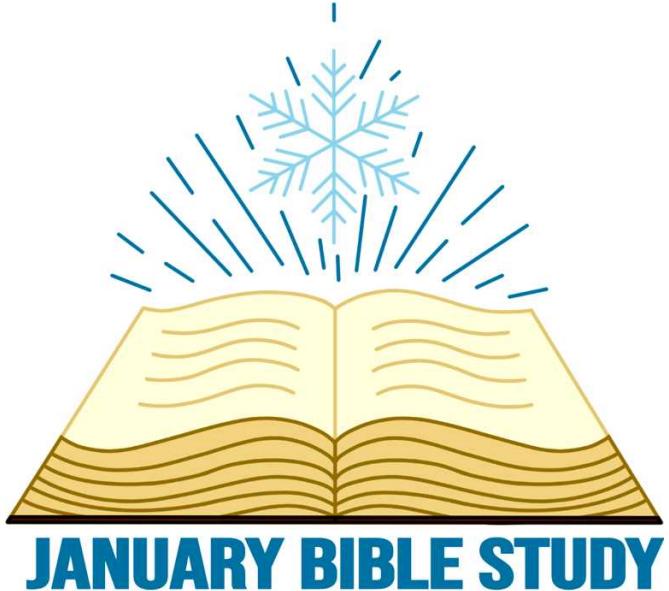


Join us for Sunday School at 10:30  
January 4, 11, 25

There will not be Sunday School during the school vacation on January 18.  
Join your family in the worship service!

**Come to Bible Study!**  
**All Are Welcome!**  
**Tuesdays- January 13 and 27**  
**2:00 –3:00**

**No preparation! No Homework!**  
**Discovery! Discussion!**



## Start the New Year by Serving in Worship!



As we head into 2026, we're looking to grow our team of worship assistants. It's a simple, meaningful way to be part of Sunday mornings—and we could especially use **Communion Assistants, Greeters, and Ushers**.

Never tried it before? No worries.  
We'll show you everything you need to know.

If you're interested or just want to learn more,  
talk to Pastor Kara or Kathy Peterson.

We'd love to have you join in!

## A REMINDER TO THRIVENT MEMBERS:

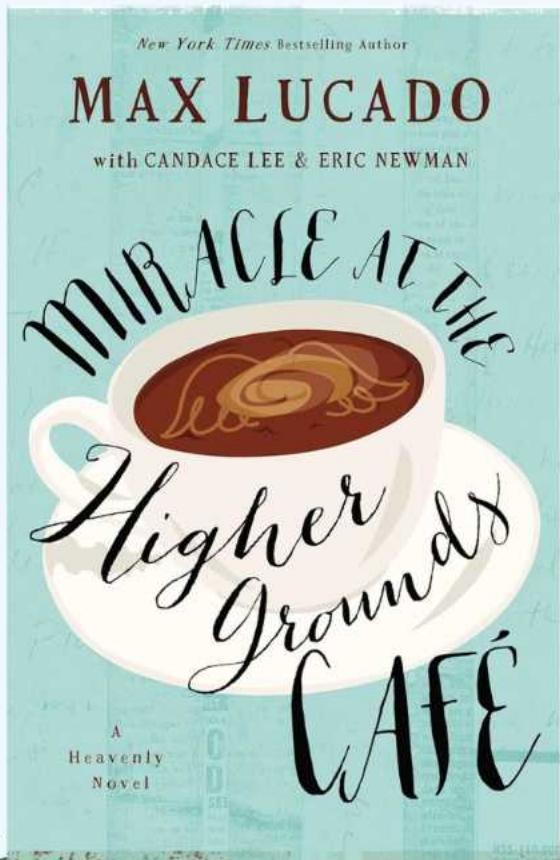
**YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR \$250 THRIVENT ACTION TEAM DOLLARS PER YEAR, THAT CAN BE USED AS "SEED MONEY" FOR CALVARY OUTREACH OR EVENTS.**  
**CONTACT PASTOR KARA IF YOU WOULD LIKE HELP APPLYING.**  
**IT'S A VERY EASY PROCESS ONLINE OR BY PHONE.**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 2:00 Carter Glennon Concert
4 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Communion Service 11:35 Worship & Music Meeting 11:45 Council Planning Meeting	5 7:00 Guitar Group	6 5:00 Praise Band Practice	7 7:30 Choir practice	8	9 12:00 Calvary Staff Meeting	10
11 9:30 Choir 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service  11:30 Undecorating 4:30 Confirmation Class	12 7:00 Stewardship Meeting  7:00 Guitar Group	13 2:00 Bible Study	14 7:30 Choir practice	15	16	17 snowdate for undecorating
18 9:30 Choir 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service  11:45 Council Meeting	19 7:00 Guitar Group	20 5:00 Praise Band Practice	21 7:30 Choir practice	22	23	34
25 9:30 Choir 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Praise Band Worship Service  11:30 Annual Congregational Meeting	26 7:00 Guitar Group	27 2:00 Bible Study	28 6:15 Guitar Group 7:30 Choir practice	29 6:30 Book Group & Pot Luck	30	31

# BOOK DISCUSSION & POTLUCK

Jan 29 @ 6:30pm



Step inside the Higher Grounds Café, a place brimming with who, a heaping helping of comfort food, and a direct line to heaven. Where faith lives, all things are possible, for a family, a community, and one woman who wasn't sure she had the courage to believe again."

—Lisa Wingate, New York Times bestselling author of Before We Were Yours

*For more info contact:  
Christine Souza*

*Attendance via Zoom is available!*

SATURDAY  
3RD  
JANUARY @ 2PM

**CARTER-  
GLENNON  
PRESENTS**

SCAN TO  
RSVP



**Masayo Ishigure and  
Miyabi Koto Ensemble**



**Nate Tota Jazz Quartet**



**Bone Appetit Trombone  
Quartet**



**Michelle Baker and Martha  
Locker- Horn and Piano**



An Eclectic Concert:  
**Slides, Strings, and Swing**

**Free Concert**

(Donations Welcome)

**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
165 W Crescent Ave, Allendale, NJ 07401



**CARTER-GLENNON  
CENTER FOR ARTS AND NATURE**

Join us for an eclectic afternoon of  
music that will cross cultures, times,  
and styles.

# Contact Information

## CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jim Holland	President
Alma Costello	Vice President
Gerry DelGatto	Secretary
Carl Glaeser	Treasurer
Sara Strauch	Stewardship
Ned Roller	Worship & Music
Christine Souza	Outreach
Christina Metri	Caring
Kristine Nooney	Christian Education
Tori Gooden	Property

If you are in need of pastoral support,  
please contact:

**Reverend Kara Song**

through the church office

**Office Administrator: Sam Choi**

**Office Phone** 201-327-4786

**Office E-Mail:** [calvaryallendale@gmail.com](mailto:calvaryallendale@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** M,W,F 10:00-2:00

**Website:** [www.calvaryluth.org](http://www.calvaryluth.org)

Find us on Facebook

### **MINISTERS AND WITNESSES :**

All the people of  
Calvary Lutheran Church

**Music Director**  
Elise Carter

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

#### **CARING**

Laurie Jacober & Janet Berger

#### **PROPERTY**

George

#### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Nancy Glaeser

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Bill Scher

#### **OUTREACH**

Lori McCue

#### **WORSHIP AND MUSIC**

Kathy Peterson

# Scenes of the Season

## Decorating-

Many helping hands— and even more we didn't get pictures of!



Pastor Kara, Elise, and Bill brought the gift of music to Juniper Village



Bible Study  
Christmas  
& December  
birthdays  
Party



## Children & Youth Christmas Pageant





## Advent Wreath Lightings



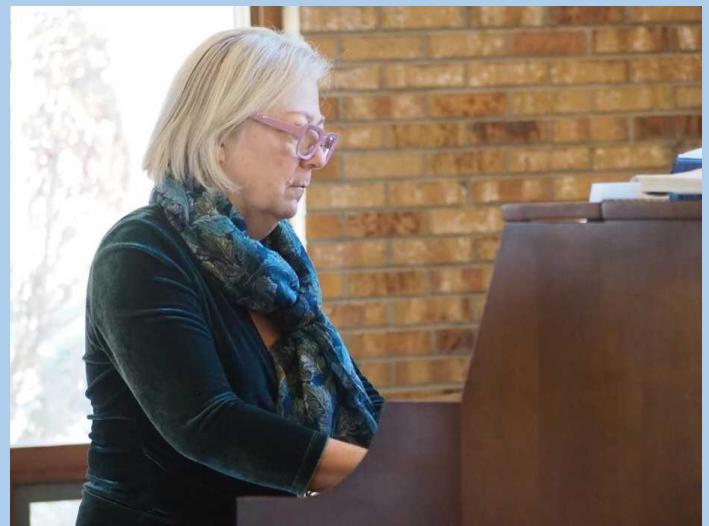
# Calvary Choir Outreach

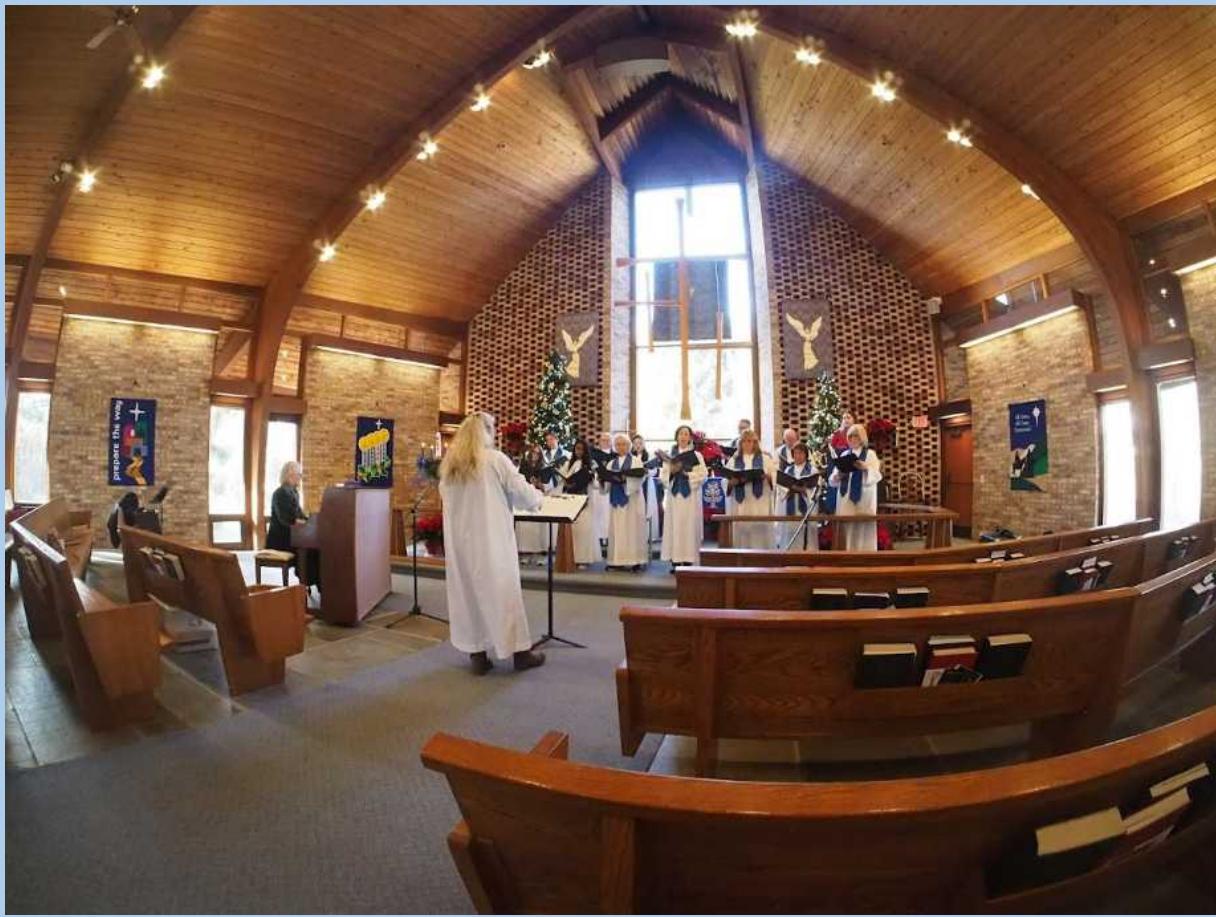
The choir shares Christmas joy at the Bristal Senior Living Center, singing the Christmas Cantata.



# Choral Worship Service







## Opportunities for Fellowship



# Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



