

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield
139 Craig's Meadow Road
East Stroudsburg PA 18301
570-223-9422
E-mail: stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net
Web Site: stpaulscommunitychurch.com
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield



Pastor Deb Staniszewski

Everyone is Welcome

Instagram: st.pauls_smithfield

**ST. PAUL'S
CALL
NOVEMBER
2025**

OUR MISSION:

**To be a beacon of faith guided by the Holy Spirit.
Growing in Christ, we share God's grace through witness,
love, and service.**

**JOIN US EVERY SUNDAY:
FOR PRAYER, WORSHIP
AND FELLOWSHIP**

SUNDAY SERVICES

8: 30AM AND 10:00AM

LIVE STREAMING AVAILABLE 10:00AM SERVICE.

**Connect to Facebook direct or go to our web site FB tab.
A PDF of the 10:00am service bulletin is on the web site.**





Greetings Friends!

Philippians 4:4-7 is a great text for gratitude month as we prepare to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday!

Paul writes, [“]⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

No matter what our circumstances, there are always plenty of reasons to rejoice in God with thanksgiving!!

One way that we might track our gratitude during this month, is to set up a “Gratitude Calendar” I found this suggestion at spiritualityandpractice.com

You can set up a schedule of “areas of gratitude”, in your date book, journal, or even your wall calendar.

For November and December, perhaps you select a different focus for each week:

Whatever your focus for the week, try to think of one or two people, things, creatures, or circumstances each day which you are grateful for, or that you appreciate.

Write it down and reflect on that person, thing, creature, or situation, for a few moments,

Then offer God some words of joy and thanksgiving for whatever has bubbled up that you listed on your calendar or journal.

Here are just a few suggestions for areas of focus, but feel free to use whatever area of your life you would like to reflect on with gratitude!

- (1) People in our lives present and past,
- (2) People we do not know but admire, or who have inspired us (living and dead),
- (3) Service providers in our community (4) Our faith community
- (5) Our body (6) Places we are grateful to have experienced
- (9) Pets (10) Things in nature

Your Sibling in Christ,

Pastor Deb

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield
Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)

Operating Funds

	<u>September 2025</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Year to Date Budget</u>
CHURCH INCOME			
GENERAL INCOME	\$14,411.00	\$88,616.05	\$90,337.59
BENEVOLENCE INCOME	186.00	1,407.00	1,875.06
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	2,249.74	17,828.93	14,400.00
INTEREST INCOME	603.45	2,227.64	3,029.94
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$17,450.19</u>	<u>\$110,079.62</u>	<u>\$109,642.59</u>
CHURCH EXPENSES			
STAFF	\$8,724.40	\$81,470.45	\$84,692.88
BENEVOLENCE EXPENSE	0.00	4,666.66	5,441.22
PARISH ADMINISTRATION	555.22	5,091.67	4,950.00
WORSHIP	1,352.94	3,990.60	4,151.16
LEARNING	67.48	699.68	1,687.41
PROPERTY	11,348.32	44,695.01	31,338.81
DEBT PAYMENTS	1,229.00	10,822.00	10,546.47
STEWARSHIP	0.00	271.40	524.97
OUTREACH	0.00	275.00	374.94
WITNESS	0.00	75.00	434.97
SOCIAL FELLOWSHIP	22.25	244.99	862.47
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$23,299.61</u>	<u>\$152,302.46</u>	<u>\$145,005.30</u>
EXCESS INCOME/(EXPENSES)	<u>(\$5,849.42)</u>	<u>(\$42,222.84)</u>	<u>(\$35,362.71)</u>

Special Funds

SPECIAL FUNDS INCOME			
BENEVOLENCE			
Pantry/Good Samaritan	\$589.00	\$3,386.90	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretion	0.00	25.00	0.00
DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIP	0.00	500.00	0.00
MEMORIAL INCOME	0.00	1,005.00	0.00
INTEREST	79.62	204.00	0.00
COMMUNITY GARDENS	0.00	24,655.00*	0.00
PLAYGROUND	0.00	46.00	0.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS INCOME	<u>\$668.62</u>	<u>\$29,821.90</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
SPECIAL FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS			
BENEVOLENCE			
Pantry/Good Samaritan	\$0.00	\$2,029.63	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretion	0.00	1,134.91	0.00
Postage (Pantry)	0.00	14.60	0.00
Scholarship	401.26	1,401.26	0.00
YOUTH	0.00	100.00	0.00
MEMORIAL FUNDS	0.00	1,000.00	0.00
MUSIC	0.00	56.99	0.00
MAJOR REPAIRS & REPLACEMENT	0.00	2,023.00	0.00
GARDENS	0.00	24,155.00*	0.00
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$401.26</u>	<u>\$31,915.39</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Cash Accounts

Operating Checking Account	\$20,188.73	
Special Funds Checking Account	10,527.10	\$30,715.83
Operating Funds in Thrivent Financial	\$42,076.24	
Special Funds in Thrivent Financial	5,608.21	\$47,684.45
Total Cash		<u>\$78,400.28</u>

*\$24,155 income and expense were a donation. This did NOT come from church funds.



Worship & Music

Hanging of the Greens – On Sunday, November 23rd we will be decorating the church for Advent and Christmas following coffee hour. All are welcome to help. Many hands make the decorating go faster.

Please join for our Advent Series – On Tuesday, December 2nd, 9th and 16th, we will be holding art-based Spiritual formation events from 6-7:30. Our Advent theme will be How Hope in God overcomes fear. Each Tuesday we will join in spiritual practice, create an art project and share cookies and cocoa. All are welcome. A sign-up sheet for cookies and/or desserts will be posted.

Poinsettias – Order forms will be posted on the bulletin board for Poinsettias with pricing and due date in the next week. If you are interested on ordering poinsettias for the holiday season and to decorate the altar, please complete a form and turn it in with your payment to the secretary.

Praise Team – will be presenting a special Advent service on December 21st. There will be combined pieces with the choir. Join us for this special service and bring a friend.

Christmas Services – Christmas services will be held on Wednesday, December 24th at 3:30pm and 7pm. We look forward to hosting your families for this special night and welcoming the blessings of baby Jesus into our hearts.

Check the bulletin board for sponsorship opportunities!

Sending Thanks filled Blessings!

Worship & Music Committee



***The Salvation Army Angel Tree
with tickets will be in the Narthex
November 23rd.***





Next Pantry is Thursday Dec 4th

9:30am – 12:00noon

The food pantry needs: Peanut butter and jelly, cereal, spam and canned fruit.

Anything else you would like to donate is appreciated - It must be non-perishable in can, box or bag. Please check the "best by" and expiration dates, we cannot accept anything past the best by or expiration date.

Future Pantry Dates: December 4th **Any changes will be announced.**

CONNI'S CAFE



The Memory Café is a place to meet with others living with Mild Cognitive Impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's or other related dementias and their Care Partner in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

RSVP: Barbara Van Nortwick
570.236.3380

It's a place to talk with others and to learn,
"You are not alone."



EVERY 3rd THURSDAY

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Next Meeting

NOVEMBER 20th

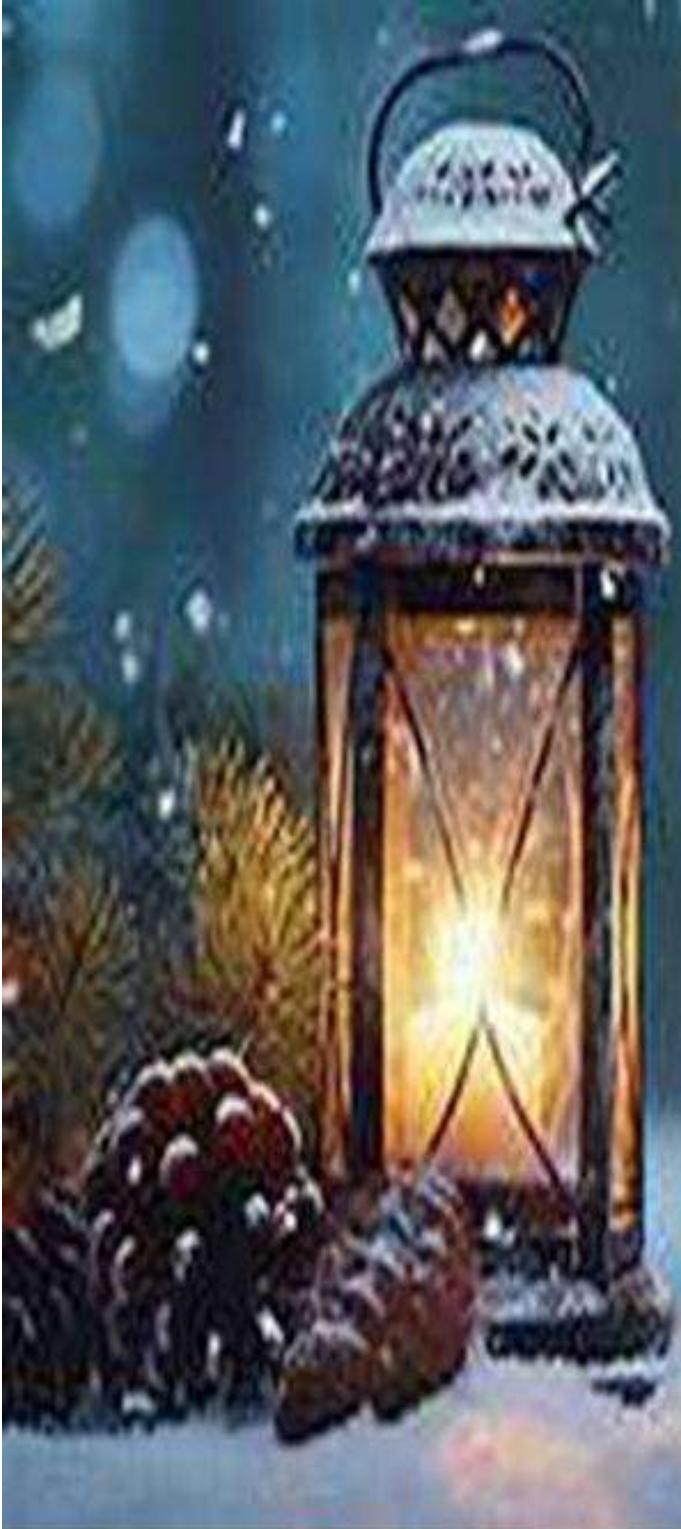


NOVEMBER 20

2:00PM - 3:00PM
CEREMONY AT 2:00PM

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
139 CRAIGS MEADOW RD.
EAST STROUDSBURG, PA 18301





Tuesdays in Advent

6-7:30pm

Dec 2nd – Wreath Making

Dec 9th – Collage

Dec 16th – Angel Making

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield
139 Craig's Meadow Rd, East Stroudsburg, PA
FMI, 570-223-9422

Advent Wreath Making



Tues. Dec 2nd
6-7:30pm

St Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

139 Craig's Meadow Rd. East Stroudsburg. PA

Reserve space, call 570-223-9422

Cookies & Cocoa, Bring a friend!

FRIDAY LADIES Friday's 9:00 – 12:00 noon

The ladies make lovely lap robes that they share with hospitals, nursing & retirement homes plus our newly baptized babies go home with one. They are always appreciated and if you know of someone that might need one, please let Edie know.

Donations always welcome of clean cotton fabric printed or solid. Large pieces of fabric for backing, quilting thread or just ask the ladies if you have something they might use.

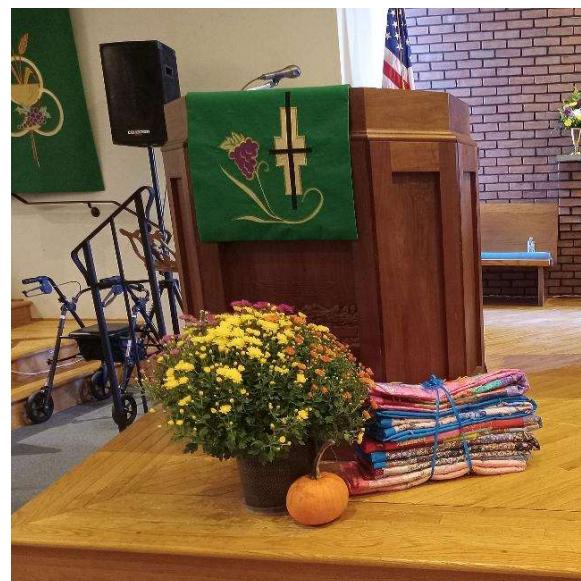
Feel free to come on Friday and Join in.



**Audrey Barr
picking
up 6 quilts
to take to
Brookmont**



Blessing of the Quilts October 5th



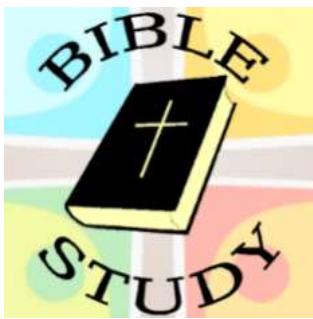


The "Friday Ladies" as we affectionately call them, provide a wonderful outreach ministry to our community. The ladies volunteer their time each Friday morning to make quilts for nursing homes and personal care homes, shut-ins, and new babies. Each blanket represents the devotion and love of our ladies whose main mission is to share the love of Jesus Christ with the community by doing something they love! For decades, the ladies have recorded their hours with the Monroe County Senior Volunteer Program (MSVP, formally known as RSVP). MSVP provides a variety of volunteer services by seniors for seniors in Monroe County. Edie Lansdowne makes sure that the hours are collected and provided to the program on a monthly basis. Each year in October, The Monroe County Aging Office and MSVP celebrate the achievements of all of their volunteers with a luncheon including a talent show and tricky tray.

Volunteers of all kinds (Meals on Wheels, medical transportation, friendly callers, food shoppers, etc. come together to celebrate each other. October 24th marked the 35th MSVP Volunteer Recognition at Mt. Airy Lodge. Laura Pride (an administrative assistant for the Aging Office) was pleased to attend along with the Friday Ladies who were duly honored! Dody Hartmann and Edie Lansdowne were recognized for over 20 years of service, and Joan Carpenter was recognized for 30 years of service!! Well done, good and faithful servants! God bless the Friday Ladies and their ministry of outreach and love!



EDIE LANSDOWNE MADE THESE BEAUTIFUL HAT AND SCARF SETS FOR THE SAVATION ARMY.



**Every Tuesday in Fellowship Hall
11:30am to 12:30pm.**

JOIN US



Hello Church Youth Families,

**SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS STARTED
9:00am – 9:45am
Contact Alisa or Pastor**

Blessings always, Christian Education Team

Alisa Nixon (908) 279-5242

Pastor Deb (570) 350-5115



**Come join us for Pickleball in Celebration Hall!
Beginners and more experienced players welcome.**

Download the app TeamReach
and use the code STPAULS. Once
in the app you can look at the calendar for
times. ANY questions text or call Laura
Biddulph.
570-369-0359



WE ARE NOW COLLECTING

**Mutual Aid of the Poconos is in need of the following items
for the area homeless.**

**Tents, sleeping bags, coats, hats & gloves. Please leave by
or in box in narthex. Items can be new or gently used.
Please contact Faye with any questions.**

Thanks for all the donations for AWSOM



MONTH OF OCTOBER

HAVE A HEART FOR ANIMALS

In October we acknowledge St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals. We would like to take this opportunity to donate pet food and supplies to our local shelter, AWSOM, in preparation for the cold weather.



Check out our Instagram for pictures from our **"BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS"** Service
Instagram: [st.pauls_smithfield](https://www.instagram.com/st.pauls_smithfield/)

We had a great turn out for our **Red Robin** **fundrasier.**

Thanks to all who came out to eat with us.



Red Robin® will give
20% OF FOOD SALES* **BACK TO**

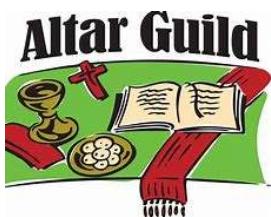
**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF SMITHFIELD CRAIGS
MEADOW**

Show this flyer or simply mention the fundraiser to your server to have your sales counted.

FUNDRAISER DETAILS

1792 N. 9th St, Bartonsville, PA 18321
October 2, 2025 4PM - 8PM

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!



Please see Nancy Fritz or leave your name in the office.

No experience necessary you will be instructed and helped as much as you need. Assistance is needed for a month at a time.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE



Contact Jeannette Richardson or Faye Jones if interested.



Contact Wanda Richardson, Faye, Noreen or office If you would like help with the Food Pantry

SUNDAY SERVICE



If you would like to help on a Sunday contact Kathy Ertle or office. Ushers and Lay Readers

Contact Pastor direct.

If you are interested in leading a service on one of Pastor's Sundays when she is away.

Sponsor Opportunities Sign up sheets on Narthex Bulletin Board

Be A Worship Sponsor!

For \$22.00, or split with another, you can sponsor a worship service. The money goes towards expenses for web sites used in bulletin preparation, copyright for songs and supplies like paper and toner. Checks can be given to Dana Strohl or Secretary Lynne Williams.



Altar Flowers

The flower sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Celebrate a loved one with a fresh flower arrangement from Floral Boutique. Please find someone to share with you if you'd like to. Order forms and checks may be given to Dana Strohl or Lynne Williams.

CELEBRATION HALL RENTALS

Please share with friends. For information contact Sonji Patrick 1-917-817-4895



Celebrate Your Event



- Full Commercial Kitchen
- Seating: 160 Banquet Style
- 180 Assembly
- Parking: Up to 75 Vehicles
- Handicap Accessible
- Wi-Fi Ready



Sweet 16 Party



Phoenix Martial Arts Society / St. Paul's Celebration Hall



Days & Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays

6:30 PM - 7:30 PM 6-12 yrs, 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM 13 yrs+ (Adult)

Please feel free to contact us at [570-982-4999](tel:570-982-4999)

[Phoenix Martial Arts Society | East Stroudsburg PA | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PhoenixMartialArtsSocietyPA)

Champion Force Athletics / St. Paul's Celebration Hall



Making a Difference Through Youth Cheerleading Programs

<https://www.facebook.com/CFAEastStroudsburg>

CFA Site- <https://championforce.com/>



NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Do Justice, Love Kindness, Walk Humbly: The Work of the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania

Written by: Pastor Mike Bennethum, LAMPA Policy Council Chair

In a well-known scripture, the prophet Micah proclaims, “*He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*” (NRSV Micah 6:8) It has been pointed out that we Lutherans often are more comfortable loving justice and doing kindness; that is, we find satisfaction in feeding hungry people but shy away from calling out and addressing the root causes of hunger and poverty. For the past 46 years, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania (LAMPA) – funded in part by your mission support giving – has taken up the important, but daunting task of working to change systems that perpetuate inequity and injustice.

LAMPA’s staff – Tracey DePasquale, Director, and Pastor Erin Jones, Communications and Advocacy Engagement Manager, joined this year by Hunger Advocacy Fellow, Daniella Garber – work with a Policy Council composed of representatives of Pennsylvania’s seven synods, the United Lutheran Seminary, and a synod bishop to develop a biennial Policy Agenda that guides our church’s engagement with state legislators and departments in the governor’s office.

The current Policy Agenda includes the following priorities:

- Hunger: improving access to healthy, affordable food;
- Creation Care: advocating for laws that protect clean air, water, and land;
- Poverty: addressing homelessness and housing insecurity;
- Education: working toward adequate and equitable school funding;
- Healthcare: working to ensure all Pennsylvanians have access to affordable care;
- Civil Rights: working to reduce hate crime and safeguard the right to vote;
- Immigration: standing for welcome to our newest neighbors; and
- Violence Reduction: addressing the root causes of violence, including trauma and extreme poverty.



2025 Lutheran Day at the Capitol

The LAMPA staff and Policy Council pursue this ambitious agenda in several ways:

- By forming and participating in coalitions with leaders of other denominations, faith-based organizations, and community groups that are passionate about these same issues;
- By engaging with state legislators and those who work in the governor's office, regardless of party affiliation, to advance measures that benefit all Pennsylvanians;
- And, most important, by equipping and supporting the members of the 1,050 ELCA congregations in Pennsylvania so that each of us becomes more confident expressing our faith in the Good News of Jesus by becoming bold advocates for a just and compassionate society. The widely used Bonhoeffer curriculum is just one example of this.



Policy Council Chairs: NEPS Bishop Christopher deForest, Pastor Dillon Epler, and Pastor Mike Bennethum



LAMPA Council Policy Meeting

Each of you is an important partner in this ministry. Check out LAMPA's website, lutheranadvocacypa.org. Sign up to receive helpful Action Alerts regarding pending legislation that addresses the issues above. Follow LAMPA on Facebook and Instagram. Sign up to join approximately 250 of your fellow Lutherans at the next Lutheran Day at the Capitol (tentatively Tuesday, April 21, 2026).

At the center of Lutheran ethics is God's command to love our neighbors as ourselves. Please join in this ministry of neighbor-love by supporting LAMPA's work. Thank you for your mission support giving that helps to make this possible!

DID YOU KNOW that your Mission Support helps fund areas of the synod and ELCA like this one and many other important initiatives? Your contributions are making a significant impact and helping others grow in faith, supporting the synod's lanes of Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life, along with the directions of loving like Jesus, healing like Jesus, and engaging like Jesus. To learn more, visit godslove.org/missionsupport.

STAY INFORMED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!



LAMPA's Action Alerts connect faith and public life by giving you quick, meaningful ways to advocate for justice and compassion in Pennsylvania. Each alert includes background and an easy way to contact legislators on issues like hunger, housing, and creation care.

SIGN UP
TODAY

→ lutheranadvocacypa.org



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 2025						1
				Choir 6:30	Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	
2 All Saints Sunday 8:30 & 10:00am Sunday School 9:00 - 9:30	3 Worship and Music	4 Bible Study 11:30 - 12:30pm	5	6 Choir 6:30	7 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	8
9 Pentecost 22 8:30 & 10:00am Sunday School 9:00 - 9:30	10	11 Bible Study 11:30 - 12:30pm -Council Meeting 6:30pm -Praise Team 6:30pm	12	13 Choir 6:30	14 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Pentecost 23 8:30 & 10:00am Sunday School 9:00 - 9:30		Bible Study 11:30 - 12:30pm Praise Team 6:30pm		Conni's Café 1-3pm Ribbon Cutting 2-3 Choir 6:30	Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	Fire Company delivery of food collected
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Christ the King 8:30 & 10:00am Sunday School 9:00 - 9:30 -Congregational meeting after 10am Service -Decorate for Advent		Bible Study 11:30 - 12:30pm			Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	
30 1 st Sunday of Advent 10:00 Service Contemporary w/ Praise Team						