



“Belong, Believe and Become all that God Promises”

Vol. 66, No.5

January 2026

Many people feel sad when winter is approaching. The thought of the intense cold days and especially the snow often leads them to dwell on what they can't do during the winter months. For many, winter's challenges can feel overwhelming, making it hard to stay positive. However, it's important to remember that each season has its own unique beauty and opportunities, even amid the cold. Embracing winter's slower pace can help foster reflection and appreciation for the comforts we often take for granted.

Winter also can be an opportunity to honor the Lord and embrace the season's quiet for deep spiritual connection through prayer, bible study, and reflection. Thinking on creation's rest and renewal, using the darkness for increased worship, practicing gratitude for small blessings, and strengthening faith in God's steadfast presence. Recognize winter as a time for spiritual endurance and preparation for spring's fruitfulness.

Often, people focus on what they can't do in winter due to the harsh cold and frequent snow. Some may experience depression and anxiety, feeling uncertain about how to make those long days pass, and anxiously await the arrival of spring. The truth is, winter is part of nature, created by God, and everything He created is good for us. Everything God created on earth was thought out and planned by Him, and He saw that it was good for humankind.

Wintertime can be a good time to reflect on Our Lord. Perhaps in the quiet space of indoors, we can talk with Him, which brings us peace and gratitude for His greatness and goodness. Connecting with God's creation and others is beautiful. Find beauty in winter, even with bare trees all around us, recognizing the promise of spring and new life.

Pastor Emilce Erato



January

Mondays

11-12 p.m. Brew a New Life-AA

1/5 Council Meeting 10 a.m.

1/12 & 1/26 Girl Scouts 4-6:00 p.m.

Tuesdays

11-12 p.m. Brew a New Life-AA

Wednesdays

11-12 p.m. Brew a New Life-AA

Road to Recovery 7:15-8:30 p.m.

Fridays

11-12 p.m. Brew a New Life-AA

Saturdays

9-1 p.m. SDA Church-Sanctuary

1-3 p.m. in Parish Hall

9-11:15 a.m. Road to Recovery-AA

Sundays

10:00 a.m. Worship service



The following need your prayers...

Chuck Albers, Stephanie Baio, Tom Barrett, Teri Biancardi, Tina Bugalia, Terry Catalioti, Bill Ciampa, Corey Ciampa, Gray Collingwood, Marilyn Dreyfus, Richard Fritz, Brian and Dylan Gasperetti, Hunter George, Kathryn Graven, Joanne Kempel, Ken Kempel, Cynthia Listort, Jane Macchia, Bill McGowan, Chuck Miata, Nicki, Penny Petersen, Jim Quigley, Joseph Randazzo, David Sacks, Schneider family, Dawn Sekeres, Moira Sheldon, Carl Strievski, Court Stevenson, Peter Stevenson, Kevin Sullivan, Sanzio Vagnini, Miriam Valder, Russ Van Tine, and Deanna Ventura.

JANUARY OUTREACH



1/5 Fred Schoenfeld

1/8 Sandy Skarda

1/13 Patricia Chen Jones

1/15 Caren Prill

1/16 Emily Roach

1/27 Harriet Wheeler

1/29 Kristen Gasperetti

1/30 Regina Sala



Heavenly Father, I place this new year entirely in Your hands. Grant me clarity and discernment in every decision, and lead me along the path that honors You. Help me trust Your timing and rely on Your wisdom instead of my own understanding. Illuminate my mind with insight and my heart with peace, so that I may move confidently through each day, knowing You guide my steps. Strengthen my faith to follow Your direction and align all my plans with Your perfect will. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lucille Fritz's 100th Birthday Party

Lucille Fritz celebrated her 100th birthday on December 3, 1925. She had a beautiful day with all her 3 children, 11 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. A great time was enjoyed by all. Thank you for all the wonderful birthday wishes from her Ascension church friends.



Advent Concert



The most beautiful music filled our sanctuary on Sunday afternoon December 7th. Patricia Chen Jones, our music director, with her friends and fellow musicians, Dara Lemite, Olivia Lu-Correia and Gabriel Correa, performed a variety of classical, international and traditional music. The Spirit of Christmas truly graced our space.



G. Correa, P. Chen Jones,
D. Lemite, O. Lu-Correia