JANUARY 2021 Volume 21, Issue 1







NLLC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Heidecker, President 701-866-7235 mheidecker@rdoequipment.com

Jessi Colby, Vice President 218-329-7496 jessibcolby@gmail.com

Brenda Balken, Secretary 701-771-0004 brendamae88@yahoo.com

Joyce Peterson, Evangelism, Family Life & Social Concerns Committee mjpeterson@rothsay.us

Diane Kunze, Worship Committee 218-671-0885

Stephanie Olson, Education Committee 218-867-2546 blahbob@yahoo.com

Jessica Nelson, Youth Committee 701-412-6512 jessica.l.krick@gmail.com

John Reber, Stewardship Committee 218-770-8145 john.reber@gmail.com

Gayla Western, Property Committee 218-770-2950 gaylahaukos@gmail.com

NEW LIFE & LITTLE BETHANY WORSHIP OPPORTUNTIES

Sunday Worship Times

Little Bethany - 8:45 a.m. New Life Lutheran 10:00 a.m.

Holy Communion:

Little Bethany ~ First Sunday each month New Life ~ First and Third Sunday each month

Coffee Fellowship:

Cancelled until further notice

Sunday School

Kids Power in Christ at NLLC 9:00 a.m. Sept-May

Youth Group at NLLC

Check the Youth Page

WELCA/Bible Studies:

Cancelled until further notice

CONFIRMATION VIA ZOOM

5:30 pm Wednesday, January 6th 7:00 pm Wednesday, January 6th

OFFICE CLOSED

January 5th – January 7th

SMART TEAM MEETING

6:00pm Saturday, January 9th

YOUTH ZOOM CAHOOT

1:00 pm Sunday, January 10th

NLLC COUNCIL MEETING

6:30 pm Wednesday, January 13th

YOUTH ZOOM BOB ROSS IN A BOX

8:00 pm Sunday, January 24th

CONFIRMATION VIA ZOOM

5:30 pm Wednesday, January 27th 7:00 pm Wednesday, January 27th

SERVICE GROUP LEADERS

January Elaine M. Balken

Casey & Stephanie Curtis

February Glenn & Tammy Lankow

Doris & Wayne Moen

Office Manager Hours

Tuesday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Wednesday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Thursday - 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

* Bold are just to help differentiate each individual and their contact information.

(If you are on this list and your information is incorrect or missing please contact Patrice in the office)

Committee	Name	Email			
Christian Education:	Hillary Langfeld Missy Amundson Nikki Oien	hillary_johnson@hotmail.com meshelman@hotmail.com n_august16@hotmail.com			
Church Property:	Brian Buchholz John Kunze Jon Reber	btbuch81@rrt.net			
Evangelism, Family Life, & Social Concerns:	Marlowe Rasmusson Nancy Aaberg	marlowe@rtelnet.net			
	Tracy Buchholz Faith Waldoch Linda Haarstad Gail Reber	btbuch81@rrt.net waldochf@yahoo.com haarstad.linda@gmail.com gail.reber@gmail.com			
Stewardship:	Tammy Lankow Bruce Brenden	tmoenlankow@gmail.com kbrenden@hotmail.com			
	Kristen Heidecker	kheidecker@rothsay.k12.mn.us			
Worship & Music:	Heather Reber Jennifer Honer Steph Curtis	hreber@rothsay.k12.mn.us stacyandjen@yahoo.com scurtis@rothsay.k12.mn.us			
outh:	Kari Carlsrud Kellie Barry Heather Nelson	jkcarlsrud@yahoo.com kopsahl11@icloud.com Heather.Nelson@state.mn.us			
NLLC Foundation Board:	Julie Brenden Eric Nelson	jbrenden@rtelnet.net enelson58@gmail.com			
	Mike Heidecker Chris Heier	mheidecker@rdoequipment.com			
Council Representative:	John Reber	john.reber@gmail.com			
ILLC Cemetery Board:	Harry Opsahl Kim Lang Tom Jensen Kevin Watterud Alan Brandt Warren Helgeson	kskj@rothsay.us			
Service Group Coordinators:	Elaine M Balken Tracy Buchholz Deb Opsahl	ewbalken@rtelnet.net btbuch81@rrt.net dopsahl59@icloud.com			
Nominating Committee:	Steph Curtis Doris Moen Heather Reber Mary Jo Gaugler	scurtis@rothsay.k12.mn.us wadomoen@prtel.com hreber@rothsay.k12.mn.us cupajo28@hotmail.com			
	Bruce Brenden Lynn Brenden	kbrenden@hotmail.com			
Audit Committee:	Arnie Moen Dan Froslie Natacha Evans	amoen@rtelnet.net danfroslie@gmail.com			
Synod Assembly Delegates:	Marlowe Rasmusson Faith Waldoch	marlowe@rtelnet.net waldochf@yahoo.com			

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace in the name of God: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! Once again, Merry Christmas to each and all of you! I pray that as the new year dawns upon us, you might be found healthy and happy; and, that the year 2021 might be a great and wonder-filled year for you and yours.

As I was doing my morning devotions the other day, I was moved by a short snippet taken from Walter Wangerin, Jr.'s 1989 book *The Manger Is Empty*. I share it with you now because I think it is a great reminder, to us all, as to why our faith--woven into the story of Christ--is meant to be shared:

This, good parents, is the reason why you are telling your child the story, why you are weaving its marvelous world around her: because of love.

It isn't enough just to say it. That piece of knowledge fits like a stone in the pocket, but not in the heart. It is necessary that she should be loved, that she dwell within the light of that love, that love lift her up and take her to its breast, that she breathe love and laugh love and sleep in its sweet dominion—and so experience its security, its peace, and so believe in love.

This is not a matter of the intellect, that she should think about it.

This is a matter of the heart. It isn't explained. It happens.

This is not a lesson to be learned. This is an event. And Jesus, whose story it is, encounters your child when she enters his story.

But you, good parents and goodly grandparents—this is also the reason why you must tell the tale unto your children.

For between you and the child already is trust, and sympathy, and a common memory, and mercy and discipline together, and triumphs, and failures, and anger, and forgiveness. These are the threads of an active love. But when it is you who tell the story in your own voice unto your own child, these also become the delicate threads that define and shape the story, in her mind first, and then in her heart. They weave Jesus. Better yet, Jesus rides the weave; so human experience is elevated to heavenly experience. God becomes the truer, holier, brighter parent.

You tell the story to your child, then, in order to deliver your child to God, that God should adopt her and keep her forever and forever safe.

Because you love her, you see.

At times, this sharing the faith thing is hard, an uphill battle with our children, and we are tempted to just let it be, let it slide—and let them be. Some, perhaps most, do give in. We choose what seems to be the easier way. Ultimately, though, it is the harder way, to give in and let it slide, . . . harder for our children, . . . harder for us, . . . and harder for God.

Because we love our children, we continue to tell the story, not just with our words, but with our daily, love-filled, grace-filled actions.

I wish you all the very best for 2021 and beyond. Thank you for all that you do in service of Christ Jesus!

Take care and God bless! Yours in Christ,

Fastor Randy

New Life Lutheran Church Unapproved Minutes December 9th, 2020

New Life Lutheran Church Council met at 6:30 pm on December 9th, 2020 at NLLC in Rothsay MN and some virtually. Present were: Mike Heidecker, Jessi Christ, John Reber, Diane Kunze, Jessica Nelson, Steph Olson, Randy Whitehead, Renae Froslie, Patrice Ziegler, and Gayla Western.

The meeting opened with devotions from Jessica.

- **1.0 Approval of Agenda:** John made a motion to approve the amended agenda with a few additions, Jessica seconded it, motion carried.
- **2.0 Approval of October 2020 Council Minutes:** Joyce made a motion to approve, Steph seconded it, motion carried.
- **3.0 Treasurers Report:** Steph made a motion to approve the October treasurer's report, Jessi seconded, motion carried. Joyce made a motion to approve the November treasurers report, Steph seconded, motion carried.

4.0 Ongoing Business

- **4.1 Constitutional update:** The constitution has been updated and is ready to present at the annual meeting. Additional items to look at is the size of committees. For example, the Evangelism & Mission committee has 6 members and only 4 active members, we will look at making a motion to change the size to 4 members at the annual meeting.
- **4.2 Smart Team update:** The SMART team met in November along with service group leaders. It was decided at that time with the large amount of positive cases it was best to postpone opening until cases were on the decline. The team also purchased a sanitizing station to be used as people enter the building. The team will meet and regroup once cases start to decline to set an opening date for indoor worship.
- **4.3 Technology update:** Purchased a new laptop for the office manager and looking at purchasing a docking station for the laptop. John brought up the possibility of having a tech committee added to the church, to be further discussed.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Correspondence: Ad for Christmas services with the Barnesville Record Review, the council decided to decline.

5.2 Upcoming events:

Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve see 6.0 Dec. 24th - Christmas Day see 6.0

5.3 Annual meeting: If the church is not yet open there was discussion of having the meeting online or in the parking lot with a mailer sent out prior to the meeting. January council meeting will be held sooner to determine a date for the Annual meeting and what it will look like. The deadline for

non-financial reports is January 13, 2021 with the deadline for financial reports January 15, 2021.

- **5.4 Microsoft office subscription:** John recommends the purchase of Microsoft office for the church. The subscription costs \$99/year for 5 computers with the latest version of office. Mike suggested talking to Chad or Sheila Sogge about the purchase. Diane made a motion to purchase the software, Joyce seconded, motion carried.
- **6.0 Pastor's report:** Pastor Randy gave us a handout and highlighted a couple items. He has been planning and preparing for an outdoor worship for Christmas eve. One service at 3:45pm and a second at 5:00 pm. He had 2 baptisms in November and another coming up in December, with hopes of planning a special event service this summer to recognize those that were baptized during this time. Pastor Randy is looking ahead at the Lenten season and beginning to plan and prepare. A huge thank you to John Reber for all of the different things he has been doing and volunteering his time at the church. Randy will be taking vacation December 25th January 2nd.
- 7.0 Youth Director's report: Jessica held a "chopped" zoom and had 4 kids show up, it was a lot of fun and the kids were very creative. The turkey trot brought in 179 lbs. of food, very grateful for all of those who donated. The youth is having their Christmas event on December 20th. Jessica has been making *Among us* themed advent posts on the youth page as well as posting on the NLLC Facebook page daily for the Christmas season. She is asking the council to interact with those posts, it is helping boost our page "likes" and bringing in new people.
- **8.0 Office Manager's report:** Patrice was out with COVID for 2 weeks and is slowly getting caught up on the work missed. There is 1 member that would like to discontinue their membership. Robbie & Traci Steiner along with their children have become new members to NLLC. Patrice has been having requests for bulletins mailed, the council agreed to continue the mailing of bulletins for those signed up. The new copy machine was installed on Dec. 10th and seems to be working well. She will post that there is no worship on December 27th on the NLLC Facebook page, the sign, and send it out on the app. Patrice will be taking time off January 5th thru the 7th.
- **9.0 WELCA:** Quilters are having a quilt sale, asking anyone who wants to purchase one to stop by the church or make an appointment.
- **10.0 NLLC Foundation report:** Foundation has approved \$731 to the church to cover any expenses, approved the purchase of a computer for the office, approved the Sharefaith membership but suggesting making this a line item for the church in the future. Foundation also approved \$1,000

Continued on next page

for the SMART team to use for any items they may need to get us back to indoor worship.

11.0 Committee reports:

<u>Worship & Music –</u> They have been scheduling readers and continuing to work on sound system scheduling. Thank you to Heather Reber for all of her help.

<u>Education – Hillary</u> made Advent bags for Sunday school families to pick up in the entry area of the church. There was a brief discussion on the kids singing for Christmas eve but we aren't sure of how that would work.

Evangelism & Mission/Family Life & Social Concerns – The committee met and worked on

coloring hearts so Patrice can get them ready to be mailed. The hearts will be sent out to Rothsay box holders.

<u>Church Property</u> – There are a few lights burnt out on the front of the building to look into getting fixed.

<u>Stewardship</u> – Discussion on sending out a letter for Christmas and New years with a pre-stamped envelope so members can mail in any donations they may want to make to the church.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm with the Lord's Prayer. Respectfully Submitted, Patrice Ziegler

Annual meeting report due dates are quickly approaching! Deadline for reports is **January 15th!**

As you get your reports completed please email them to Patrice at newlife@rtelnet.net or drop off a copy in the office. I appreciate your timeliness.

Christmas Capers

We want to say a huge Thank You to everyone who graciously donated to our Christmas Caper event. In only a week and a half you managed to donate enough items to give 2 local children, 2 children in the surrounding area, and many more family's through

Someplace safe in Fergus Falls a Merry Christmas.



We understand Christmas is not about the gifts but, it still feels great knowing that we were able to bring a smile to so many faces on Christmas morning.



CONFIRMATION FAMILIES

Confirmation classes will be held virtually until further notice. According to the Governors latest guidelines we are not able to gather and continue confirmation classes inside of the church building.

The Zoom ID for Confirmation to be held on January 6th and January 27th is: 355 966 9286

Password: NLLConfirm

Let Your New Year begin With Jesus!



8:45 am at Little Bethany Lutheran Church

10:00 am at New Life Lutheran Church
(Tune in your radio to 101.3, online
bulletins available at newlifeparish.net)

Please feel free to bring a lawn chair to sit outside, you can also bring an umbrella or canopy for shade.

Feel free to wave or yell "Hello" to others while practicing social distancing and maintaining 6 feet away from those not in your immediate household.

Masks are not required but are encouraged if you are sitting outside of your vehicle.

If you are unable to access the online version of the weekly bulletin for the parking lot worship service and would like a copy mailed to you please call Patrice in the church office at 867-6557. If no one is available please leave your name, number, and mailing address on the answering machine and we will add you to the list.

Steward Our Future Church

For clarifying our thoughts and helping us to reset priorities, there's nothing like a crisis – whether it's a job layoff, a death in the family, social upheaval or a health emergency.

With Covid-19 we've witnessed plenty of all of these, and more! Despite our natural resistance to change, we're learning new ways to live. As a disciple of Christ, what thoughts have clarified for you? As a follower of Jesus, what personal priorities have you reset?

The questions arise because you are the church, we are the church together and stewards of the church. We will pray the Holy Spirit will guide us to a "new normal" of holy living as both disciples and community that will be different – and better – than what we've known.

What might that look like? Here are some questions to pray over and discuss:

- When your church suspended in-person worship, what ways did you find to stay connected to God?
 To one another? What did this teach you about holy living? About being church together?
- Covid-19 forced us to "be church" without buildings. What has this revealed about the nature of community? About the value of buildings? As we go back into our buildings, how can things be different? Why must they be?
- In light of what we've learned, what values, ideas, traditions, habits should we let go of? Which should we keep? What really matters? And why?
- How can your insights, strengths and gifts help to shape the future of your life as a disciple and follower of Jesus? Of your congregation? What can you give to the future church in time, talent and treasure?

Covid-19's crises are still teaching us. As stewards of God's church, we can renew and restructure our church to fulfill God's mission. With God's guidance, we will.

--Rob Blezard

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Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.

NEW LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION

November 2020

November Income \$ 15,446.94

November Disbursements (\$ 20,908.59)

November Less in/out Income \$ 317.00

November Net Loss (\$ 5,144.65)

December 2020 Giving Outlook 100% Week Giving 6-Dec 2.788 80% 13-Dec 2.901 20-Dec 2,508 2,078 24-Dec 60% 27-Dec e-giving 40% **Monthly** Giving 20% Goal: 15,820 Total: 10275 Goal 0% 65%

Grow Old Along with me The Best is Yet To Be

The following is a list of our members who are either in a nursing home or are homebound. We understand that during this time you may not be able to stop by, but a phone call may go a long ways! You can always call ahead and see if a visit would be welcomed.

Berdella Sogn ~ 394 Woodland Dr. #211, Fergus Falls. (Phone 998-7241)

Debbie Faulkner ~ 1131 Mabelle Ave. Room B-209 Fergus Falls (Pioneer Care)

Lonny Western ~ 117 E Hilltop Dr. Fergus Falls (218-739-5613)

Delores Lerbakken ~ Rosewood on Broadway, 1351 N. Broadway, Fargo, (701-277-7999)

Phyllis Balken ~ 1315 S. Mable Ave. Fergus Falls, MN 56537 (218-998-9974)

Eleanor Opsahl ~ 215 E. Mill Ave. #101 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572

Donna Nord ~ 2401 11th St. S #109 Moorhead, MN 56560

If you know of someone who should be on this list, please call Patrice at the church office at: (218) 867-6557.



Circle Meetings

TENTATIVE DATES - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Little Bethany WELCA
Cancelled until further notice

NLLC WELCA MEETING
Cancelled until further notice



Quilts for sale! Made by the women of New Life Church! All sizes and price ranges. A great gift for Christmas. On display at the church or by appointment. If interested, you can stop by the church Wednesday afternoons or call: Elaine Balken, 218-867-2352 or Dar Rose, 218-867-2276.

Baptisms in December

With joyful celebration this child was baptized:

Rocco Anthony Steiner son of Robbie & Traci Steiner

TEN COMMANDMEN

Discover the hidden words.

C O M M A N D M E N T S B G S M U K E C V B Y V S U A T T M D O N Z Y F S J O L G E T O O O A S I T A B L E T S H V N K E D J E E R O U T T M W E E E G V A D S U G J W C H V T S F O F E C B E N S N H A G O C I S R A E L I T E S S V L I S B G O S O E O W S H R E E F T M F T S R H O U I I E K X K E Y W E K P A S C C G N E M G A O G N R S K O I R D P A R X L E U I F W Z A B N O U L I H M O I X K S J X F O U R S I N T H T A B B A S H O D P B O U I													/ /		
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Word Bank

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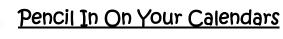
MOSES

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SABBATH

CALF





Youth Zooms

January 10th

1:00 pm Youth Cahoot zoom

Zoom meeting ID for both meetings: 355 966 9286

Password for both meetings: **NLLCyouth**

January 24th

8:00 pm

Bob Ross in a Box Youth Zoom

Please pick up your boxes at the church after worship on January 24th and be ready to make some great paintings during our Zoom! If you need them delivered please let Jessica know.

New Life Lutheran Church Cittle Bethany Lutheran Church

	Saturday	2	6:00 pm SMART team meeting	10	23	30
and Common	Friday	Sandary B.	00	Annual Reports Due	22	29
	Thursday		7 ry 7th	4-	21	28
	Wednesday		5 5:30 pm Confirmation via Zoom 7:00 pm Confirmation via Zoom Office closed January 5 th – January 7th	13 6:30 pm Council meeting	20	5:30 pm Confirmation via Zoom 7:00 pm Confirmation via Zoom
0	Tuesday		office c	12	<u>•</u>	28
	Monday		4	=	81	22
	Sunday		8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL	10 8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL 1:00 pm Youth Zoom Cahoot	17 8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL	8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL 8:00 pm Youth Zoom Bob Ross in a Box 31 8:45 am Worship at LB 10:00 am Worship at NL



The following is a list of birthdays as listed in our church records for this month. If your name should be on the list and isn't (or is on the list and shouldn't be), please call the church office.

1/1 ~ Jessica Brandt

1/1 ~ Charles Dupree

1/1 ~ Danielle Moen

1/1 ~ Treston Petersen

1/1 ~ Cory Rian

1/1 ~ Madison Tillman

1/2 ~ Donna Larson

1/2 ~ Marilyn Moen

 $1/2 \sim Nathan\ Ziegler$

 $1/3 \sim Roger\ Jorgenson$

1/4 ∼ Sandra Amundson

1/4 ~ Andrea Froslie

 $1/6 \sim Linda Froslie$

1/7 ~ Eian Erickson

1/7 ~ Diane Huso

1/7 ~ Justin Nord

1/11 ~ Summer Wigdahl

1/12 ~ Sarah Peterson

1/15 ~ Gary Brandt

1/15 ~ Caryn Brenden

1/15 ~ Gayla Western

1/16 ~ Linda Haarstad

1/17 ~ Sue Erickson

1/18 ~ Madison Johnson

 $1/19 \sim \text{Kim Lang}$

1/19 ~ Lucas Nord

1/19 ~ David Opsahl

1/19 ~ Ashley Watterud

1/21 ~ Luna Evans

1/22 ~ Myrna Anderson

1/22 ∼ Ian Boyce

1/23 ∼ Dan Amundson

1/23 ~ Cole Lang

1/23 ~ Cory Moen

1/24 ~ Elaine Amundson

1/24 ~ Sandra Fosse

1/24 ~ Diane Kunze

1/25 ~ Avis Wiese

1/26 ~ Wylie Brenden

1/26 ~ Madison Honer

1/26 ~ Chris Watterud

1/26 ~ Thomas Webster

1/27 ~ Jessica Holland

1/27 ~ Elise Whitehead

1/29 ~ Tahmor Brandt

1/29 ~ Joyce Peterson

1/30 ~ Brett Froslie

1/30 ~ Donna Nord

1/31 ~ Gene Amundson

1/31 ~ Cheryl Erickson

1/31 ~ Chad Sogge



The following is a list of Anniversaries as listed in our church records for this month. If your names should be on the list and aren't or are on the list and shouldn't be), please call the church office.

1/2 ~ Orrin and Bonnie Sorum

1/5 ~ Breck & Molly Eckley

1/11 ~ Adrian & Cindy Haugrud

1/12 ~ Llyal & Eileen Braton

1/22 ~ David and Laura Simmer

1/25 ~ Larry and Roz Teberg

SOUND SYSTEM OPERATORS FOR THIS MONTH

January 3 - Stephanie Curtis

January 10 - John Reber

January 17 - Nathan Ziegler

January 24 - Jessica Nelson

January 31 - Heather Reber

We are always looking for volunteers to run our sound system. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. Training is available.

SCRIPTURE READERS FOR THIS MONTH

January 3 - John Reber

January 10 - Jessica Nelson

January 17 - Katie Reber

January 24 - Eric Nelson

January 31 - Heather Reber



We are always looking for volunteers for future readings. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office.

Website/Mobile Directory/App

Website: www.newlifeparish.net

Mobile Directory: https://

mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/177579/new-life-

lutheran-church

Access Code: 92017

App: Download sharefaith app from google play or the

app store. Open sharefaith app Church is

NLLC Rothsay

Find us on Facebook at New Life Lutheran Church



New Life Lutheran Church PO Box 278

102 Main Ave. West Rothsay, MN 56579



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New Life News is a monthly publication of New Life Lutheran Church and Little Bethany Lutheran Church. Articles are due by the 15th each month.



Pastor: Office Manager: Youth Director Rev. Randy Whitehead Patrice Ziegler Jessica Nelson

(218) 867-6557 e-mail: newlife@rtelnet.net www.newlifeparish.net

January Bible Reading Schedule:

Jan 1: Gen 1-3 Jan 17: Gen 16-18 Jan 2: Gen 4-7 Jan 18: Gen 19-21 Jan 3: Gen 8-11 Jan 19: Gen 22-24 Jan 4: Job 1-5 Jan 20: Gen 25-26 Jan 5: Job 6-9 Jan 21: Gen 27-29 Jan 6: Job 10-13 Jan 22: Gen 30-31 Jan 7: Job 14-16 Jan 23: Gen 32-34 Jan 8: Job 17-20 Jan 24: Gen 35-37 Jan 9: Job 21-23 Jan 25: Gen 38-40 Jan 10: Job 24-28 Jan 26: Gen 41-42 Jan 11: Job 29-31 Jan 27: Gen 43-45 Jan 12: Job 32-34 Jan 28: Gen 46-47 Jan 13: Job 35-37 Jan 29: Gen 48-50 Jan 14: Job 38-39 Jan 30: Ex 1-3 Jan 15: Job 40-42 Jan 31: Ex 4-6 Jan 16: Gen 12-15