

ZION EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, MONROE, MI

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

IN JESUS' NAME WE WELCOME YOU!

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 12 & 16, 2025

WELCOME TO ZION. It is our hope and prayer that the message you hear today from God's Word will strengthen your faith and fill your heart with the peace only God can give and the joy we have in believing that JESUS CHRIST is our Savior from sin.

Worship Focus: Jesus reveals himself as the Lord who gives blessings.

This is the Sixth Sunday in the season of Epiphany. The readings during the Epiphany season carry forward the emphasis in the readings for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, the theme of Jesus revealing himself to us as God and Savior. In Christmas and Epiphany our attention is on getting to know Jesus, who he is and how he works; thus there is not so much emphasis on our response beyond the response of faith, which itself is always seen as his work and not ours.

LITURGY: Service of the Word & Sacrament

CW pg. 26

OUR FAMILY AT WORSHIP

PHONES AND ELECTRONIC DEVICES — We request that you please turn off all devices during the church service. You may keep it on if you are emergency response personnel or if you have an emergency call you are anticipating. Thank you for your cooperation.

BATHROOMS – Bathrooms are located in the East foyer and in the school hallway off the west foyer. Please ask an usher for help finding them.

HEARING ASSISTANCE EQUIPMENT is available as part of our sound system. Individual hand-held units are available. Please check with an usher if you would like a unit for today's worship service.

VISITORS are asked to please sign our fellowship registry in the back of church so that we will have a record of your visit. Thank you for joining us today!

OPENING HYMN: CW 379

JUSTIFICATION

379 Amazing Grace—How Sweet the Sound



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, st. 1-3, abr.; John P. Rees, 19th century, st. 4. Tune: NEW BRITAIN (CM) *Columbian Harmony*, Cincinnati, 1829, alt.

P: The grace of our Lord (†) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

P: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

The congregation may kneel.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (\P) and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie

P: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



P: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.



P: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



P: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

P: Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

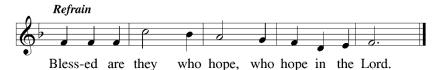


THE WORD

First Lesson Jeremiah 17:5-8

⁵This is what the LORD says. Cursed is anyone who trusts in mankind, who seeks his strength from human flesh, and who turns his heart away from the LORD. ⁶He will be like a juniper bush in the wasteland. He will not see good things when they come. He lives in a dry place in the wilderness, in a salty land where no one lives. ⁷But blessed is anyone who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. ⁸He will be like a tree planted by water. It sends out its roots to the stream. It does not fear the heat when it comes. Its leaves will remain green. It is not concerned about a time of drought. It does not stop producing fruit. (EHV)

PSALM 1 pg. 64



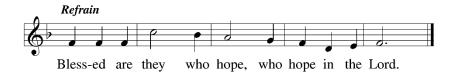


Blessed is the man

who does not walk in the counsel of the <u>wick</u>ed* or stand in the way of <u>sin</u>ners.

But his delight is in the law of the LORD,* and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season* and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.





Refrain

Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,* nor sinners in the assembly of the <u>right</u>eous.

For the LORD watches over the way of the <u>right</u>eous,* but the way of the wicked will <u>per</u>ish.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

Refrain Tune: Robert J. Thompson. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

SECOND LESSON

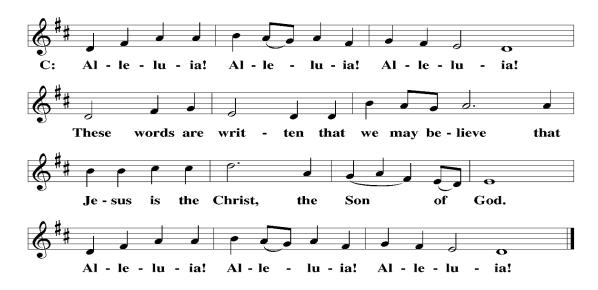
1 CORINTHIANS 15:12, 16-20

¹² Now if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how is it that some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead?

¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then it also follows that those who fell asleep in Christ perished. ¹⁹ If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. (EHV)

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. (John 6:68 cf. NIV)



GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷He went down with them and stood on a level place with a large crowd of his disciples and a large number of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, as well as from the coastal area of Tyre and Sidon. These people came to listen to him and to be healed of their diseases. ¹⁸Those who were troubled by unclean spirits were also cured. ¹⁹The whole crowd kept trying to touch him, because power was going out from him and healing them all. ²⁰He lifted up his eyes to his disciples and said: Blessed are you who are poor, because yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹Blessed are you who hunger now, because you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, because you will laugh. ²²Blessed are you whenever people hate you, and whenever they exclude and insult you and reject your name as evil because of the Son of Man. ²³"Rejoice in that day and leap for joy because of this: Your reward is great in heaven! The fact is, their fathers constantly did the same things to the prophets." ²⁴But woe to you who are rich, because you are receiving your comfort now. ²⁵Woe to you who are well fed now, because you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, because you will be mourning and weeping. ²⁶Woe to you when all people speak well of you, because that is how their fathers constantly treated the false prophets. (EHV)



HYMN OF THE DAY: CW 353

"Praise the One Who breaks the Darkness"

353 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



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Tune: BEACH SPRING (87 87 D) attr. Benjamin F. White, 1800–79.

SERMON TEXT AND THEME: Luke 6:17-26

This is What a Blessed Disciple of Jesus Looks Like

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING: (Sunday only) The collection of the offering in the service is an opportunity for the members of Zion to give back to God a small portion of what he has given us in order to support the Gospel ministry of Zion Lutheran Church and School and of the WELS throughout the world. If you are a visitor today, while we appreciate an offering from you, please do not feel obligated to give.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

P: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.



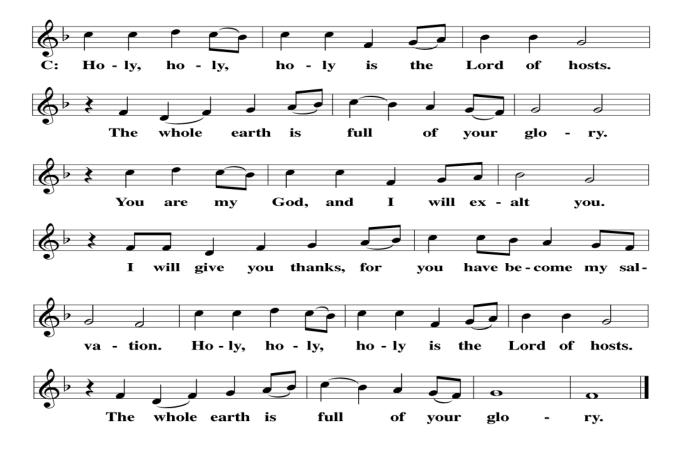
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

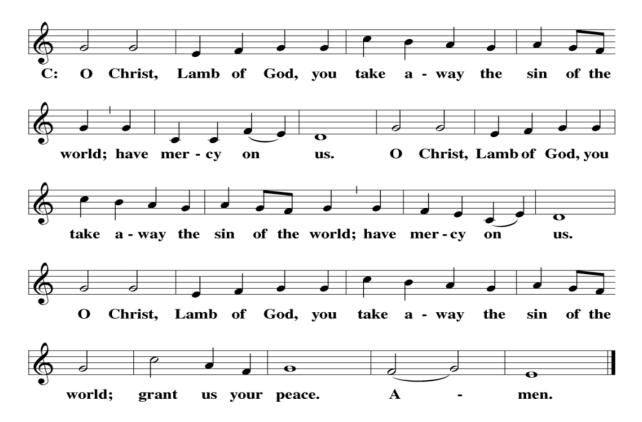
P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION

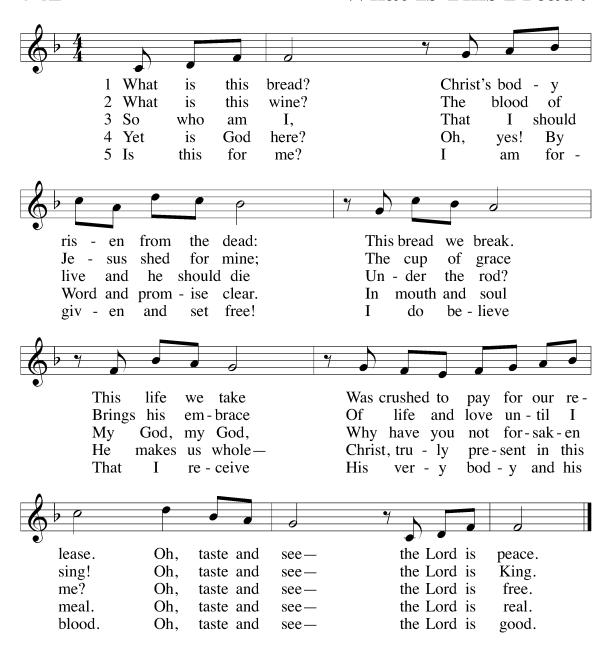
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS: CWS 742

CW 403

"What Is This Bread"
"I Know My Faith Is Founded"

742

What Is This Bread?



This hymn nicely summarizes Martin Luther's fine discussion on the institution and blessings of Holy Communion as outlined in his Small Catechism.

Text: Frederic W. Baue, b. 1946 © 1991, 1998 Fred and Jean Baue. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: PREPARATION (48 44 88) Jean Neuhauser Baue, b. 1951 © 1991, 1998 Fred and Jean Baue. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

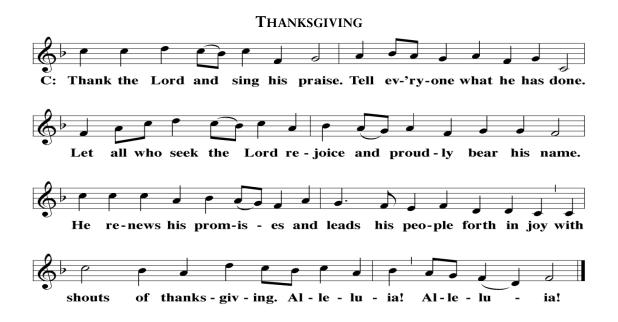
403

I Know My Faith Is Founded



Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. composite.

Tune: NUN LOB, MEIN SEEL (78 78 76 76 76 76) Concentus novi, Augsburg, 1540, alt.



P: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and $(\mathbf{1})$ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN: CW421

TRUST

421

All Depends on Our Possessing



Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, Nürnberg, 1676, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Alles ist an Gottes Segen (887 887) Johann Löhner, 1645–1705, alt.

Officiants

Accompanist: Wednesday – Abbey Johnson Sunday – Stepfanie Sitzman Liturgist & Preacher: Pastor Greg Sitzman

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Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church

Pastor Greg Sitzman: 734-309-7877; gsitzman@zionmonroe.org
Principal: Bryan Schneck: 907-331-7761; bschneck@zionmonroe.org

CALL MEETING— The Joint Call committee has called Pastor Benjamin Kempfert to be the Associate Pastor. Please keep him in your prayers as he deliberates his call.

PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR CALL MEETING: A meeting was held on Sunday, February 9th to call for a Preschool Director/Teacher. We have extended a call to Mrs. Kristi Coffin. Please keep her in your prayers as she deliberates her calls.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: Friends in Faith is holding a Christian Book Study – Living the Chocolate Life. Everyone is invited to join for the last Sunday on 23rd from 2-4 pm. Each meeting will involve discussing two chapters of the book, enjoying fellowship and tasting chocolates.

TUESDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS: THERE WILL BE NO CLASS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18th. CLASS WILL RESUME THE NEXT WEEK AT 10:00 A.M.

KILLARNEY LUTHERAN CAMP: Killarney Lutheran Camp is very blessed to have the churches and people support them like they do. Zion Lutheran Church is one of the biggest supporters when it comes to Boosters. For the last 10 years, Zion has had 30 + boosters. Along with the regular boosters we now have 18 life time boosters, the most from any other congregations. We sincerely thank you for your continued support. Please stop by and see all the improvements that have and still are going on at the camp. May 23rd-26th is Memorial Day weekend. Plan on camping or come up Sunday for the Chicken Bar-b-que.

FRIENDS IN FAITH WORK BEE- Friends In Faith will host a work bee on Sunday, February 16th, following Bible Class. We will be arranging pots of Easter Lilies for the upcoming Easter season and refurbishing our potted Poinsettias that decorate the back of our church at Christmas time. PLEASE JOIN US! No crafting experience needed. Many helping hands will make our task quick and easy!

Zion's Sweetheart – Daddy Daughter Dance: Zion school is having their annual Daddy/Daughter Dance on Saturday, February 22nd from 5-7:00 p.m. There is more information on the back table along with the form to fill out to purchase tickets. Please come and enjoy.

BOTTLE DRIVE: Our Congregation is participating in the Change for Life program to support the ministry of New Beginnings—A Home for Mothers. New Beginnings is a WELS-based ministry that helps single mothers pave the way to self-sufficiency in a Christ-centered home. We will give gifts of LOVE to support the mothers and babies they serve. The bottle drive display is located in the back of the church and the school hallway. The fundraising effort is going to run from January 1st through February 23rd. Pick up a baby bottle, take it home and have everyone in your household fill it with their spare change. On Sunday, February 23rd please make sure all bottles are returned so we can send the money to New Beginnings. Thank you.

ZION SCHOOL BI-ANNUAL AUCTION: It is that time again for Zion School CEA to hold its auction. This auction helps fund many activities, school sport uniforms, classroom supplies and even the curtains in the gym. This year the auction is on Sunday, March 2nd. If you would like to donate any NEW items, homemade items or baked goods, please pick up a slip at the back of the sanctuary and turn into the office. Thank you.

ZION FINE ARTS FAIR: Zion's annual fine arts fair will be held on Sunday, March 9th from 12-2. Not only are only members invited to attend they are invited to submit art! If you have any works of art to display, please have them to the office between Monday, March 3rd and Thursday, March 6. Make sure to label your art with your name. If you are interested in performing a musical piece, dance or reading, please email Stacey Sordahl at ssordahl@zionmonroe.org or send a text to (248) 345-3525. Suggested items to display – paintings, sketches, crafts, photography, sculptures, poetry, and short stories.

STEWARDSHIP GIFT OF TIME OPPORTUNITY: Zion is in need of members who would be willing to input the attendance information into Church 360 following the service each week. Training will be provided and this is something that can be done from home. We hope that if we get five or six people to help it would have to be done once every month to month and a half. If interested, please reach out to Rob Krueger at 734-770-1149.

FRIENDS IN FAITH: In the East foyer Friends in Faith is selling greeting cards for \$1.00 each. There are different occasion cards available. The money raised from the sales is going towards future Friends in Faith projects, such as the Kleenex box ministry project and other shut in projects they do throughout the year.

Coming up at Zion

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class11:30 a.m. Friends in Faith – Work Bee1:00 p.m. Jesus Cares Worship Service

Monday NO School – Pastor/Teacher Conference

Office Closed

Tuesday NO School – Pastor/Teacher Conference

8:00 a.m. Office will be open

NO Adult Bible Class

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service Sunday 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Bible Class

February Volunteers

	Jan. 29 & Feb. 2	Feb. 5 & 9	Feb. 12 & 16	Feb. 19 & 23	Feb. 26 & Mar. 2
Altar Guild			Linda Selvidge		
Live Stream Helpers	Miller Sordahl	William Robinson	Miller Sordahl	Steve Sordahl	Erich Freiny
Ushers	Jan. 29 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling Feb. 2 Mark Kipf Keith McBee Joe Schmeling	Feb. 5 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson Feb. 9 Dave Benge Alan Bober Matthew Hill Joe Koch Jeremy Robinson Jacob Robinson William Robinson	Feb. 12 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner Feb. 16 Ray Chandonnet Erich Freiny Rob Krueger Matthew Loos Zach Turner	Feb. 19 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick Feb. 23 Jake Burke Rich Heusman Jeff Heusman Jeff Heusman Juergen Koenig Matt McCormick Zach McCormick	Feb. 26 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier March 2 Tony Affholter Jeff Douglas Mark Fuerstenberg Bryce Mueller Ray Palmatier
Communion Helpers	<u>Jan. 29</u> Alan Bober		Feb. 12 Ken Vagt		<u>Feb. 26</u> Alan Bober
	<u>Feb. 2</u> Erich Freiny Ron Krueger		<u>Feb. 16</u> Jeremy Robinson Jeff Heusman		<u>March 2</u> Mark Kipf Ray Palmatier